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Anything Goes!

by ShawMark

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➔ TODAY'S VERSE

Isaiah 12:2 Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.

➔ 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:

1 A main artery in downtown Indianapolis is set to open this weekend to the relief of motorists, three Evansville city workers are arrested in a kickback scheme and an Indiana logistics company is closing its doors, leaving almost 300 people without jobs.

2 Earlier this week, Congresswoman Erin Houchin (R-Ind.-09) released the following statement on the passage of the Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023. "They said it couldn't be done, but Republicans have delivered a real solution to limit spending for the American people once again. Let's be clear: Democrats created this mess by adding trillions upon trillions to the debt. Families in my district are sick and tired of it and want to see action. The House Republican bill will right this wrong with a reasonable solution to limit spending, save taxpayer money, and grow the economy," said Congresswoman Houchin.

3 The open Grief Support Group continues to meet on the first and third Thursday of each month. The next meeting is Thursday, May 4 at 7 p.m. at Gobin Memorial United Methodist Church in the Peace Chapel on the north side of the Sanctuary. Please register at www.dusk-to-dawn.org or call (765) 267-1760. The group meets again on May 18 at 7 p.m. Celebrating its 10th anniversary as a non-profit association, the organization helps alleviate the suffering associated with loss and grief by providing free access to support, counseling, education and resources for anyone in need. These services are made possible through community donations and grants such as the one awarded by the Putnam County Community Foundation.

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Photo courtesy of Ben-Hur.com

Arial view of the General Lew Wallace Study

Study Gearing Up For Summer Camp

This June the General Lew Wallace Study & Museum will be a host site for ArchiCamp in partnership with Indiana Landmarks. The camp will be held June 27-28 and registration is now open.

ArchiCamp is an architecture-based camp that uses historic architecture to educate and excite children about local history and instills stewardship and responsibility for our cultural heritage. During the two-day camp, students will learn about Crawfordsville's architectural heritage, including the historic Study building.

Among the activities, campers will take walking tours of the neighborhood around the Study, learn architectural terms, make architecture-based crafts, build local buildings from cardboard boxes, and learn about careers in historic preservation and discuss preservation successes in our community.

Camp begins at 9 a.m. and runs until 3 p.m. Drop-off and pick-up are at the Carriage

House on the grounds of the Lew Wallace Museum off Elston Avenue. Snacks and drinks will be provided each day, but campers should bring a sack lunch. For more information about ArchiCamp and to download a registration form, visit <https://www.ben-hur.com/programs/archicamp/>.

In order to provide this experience to families for only \$25, the Study relies on donations from organizations, businesses and individuals to sponsor students for \$75. The Study said it is grateful to the 2023 donors to date: American Legion Byron Cox Post 72, Crawfordsville Main Street, Marie Stocks, Montgomery County Extension Homemakers, Montgomery County Retired Teachers Association, and Psi Iota Xi - Gamma Xi Chapter.

If you are interested in sponsoring a local child, or if you would like to register a student for ArchiCamp, please contact Tom Meeks at trmeeksjr@ben-hur.com or by phone at (765) 362-5769.

About The Study

The General Lew Wallace Study & Museum is deeply committed to the protection and preservation of Lew Wallace's legacy now and for generations to come. The museum is located on Wallace's home site in Crawfordsville, Indiana, and is where he wrote Ben-Hur. His unique and personal Study, built in the 1890s, is a National Historic Landmark and the home of the world's largest collection of General Wallace's personal memorabilia. For more information, please visit the museum website: www.ben-hur.com.

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 6:46 a.m.
SET: 8:36 p.m.

High/Low Temperatures
High: 62 °F
Low: 50 °F

Today is...

- National Arbor Day
- National Blueberry Pie Day
- National Superhero Day

What Happened On This Day

- 2004 The first Abu Ghraib torture pictures are published.
- 2001 Dennis Tito becomes the first space tourist in history.
- 1994 Former CIA officer Aldrich Ames admits he forwarded U.S. secrets to the Soviet Union.

Births On This Day

- 1916 Ferruccio Lamborghini created Lamborghini
- 1908 Oskar Schindler Czech/German businessman

Deaths On This Day

- 1992 Francis Bacon Irish painter
- 1945 Benito Mussolini Dictator of Italy

Wabash College Again A "Best Value" Pick By The Princeton Review

Wabash ranked #2 in Best Alumni network, #4 in Best Internships, #26 in Best Value.

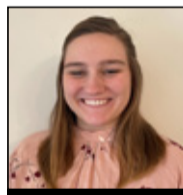
Wabash College continues to rank among the best institutions nationally when it comes to the value and support its students receive.

In its annual college guide: The Best Value Colleges, The Princeton Review rated Wabash as No. 2 in Best Alumni Network, No. 4 in Best Schools for Internships, and No. 26 in Best Value Colleges for private schools.

According to The Princeton Review, the 209 Best Value Colleges for 2023 comprise only eight percent of the nation's four-year colleges and feature each of the following

➔ See WABASH Page A4

Love Your Lawn



I know I get in the bad habit of thinking lawns are forever. They can be, with some work and maintenance.

TRICIA HERR
Purdue Extension Office

But honestly, even with all the proper practices, pests, weeds, and diseases can take over and make a homeowner feel defeated. It is important to take care of our lawns with the proper tools and with proper techniques to maintain a healthy lawn for our homes and our environment.

If you have a yard that is

➔ See TRICIA Page A4

Butch Says Kids Need Some Freedom



BUTCH DALE
Columnist

Recently I spoke on the phone with a former classmate of mine who

fourth grade, his family moved to Lafayette, where his father worked...to save on that driving distance each day.

As I mentioned in a few columns previously, my parents gave me quite a bit of freedom as a youngster...sometimes a little too much freedom, as I often did a few things I shouldn't have done, and subsequently got into trouble. Part of the problem was that I was "hard-headed," as my folks used to say. "One of these days...maybe you'll listen, young man!" Yes, I heard that many times. I had to learn my lessons the hard way... "Now bend over and grab your ankles...you're going to get a

I had not seen or heard from since 1959. When we were youngsters, I visited with him and stayed overnight at his house on numerous occasions. His mother graduated with my Dad in 1942, and his father, who graduated in 1943, was one of Dad's best buddies in high school. Billy and I attended school at Darlington during our first four years, but in 1958, after we had finished

➔ See BUTCH Page A4

HUE Invites The Public To A Family Fun Event

The local nonprofit organization Humans United for Equality (HUE) will host a Montgomery County Family Fun event on May 7th from 1-4pm at Pike Place. Hoosier Ice Queen will be on hand to sell shaved ice, and lawn games such as corn hole, giant Jenga, and giant Connect Four will be available to play for free.

Those attending can learn about HUE's upcoming events and opportunities to get involved by visiting the Welcome Table or gathering for a brief information session at 2pm. If the weather is poor, that meeting will occur at Fusion 54, 4th floor, instead. More information can also be found at the Facebook page for Humans United for Equality or on their website at www.huemoco.org.

HUE's mission is to be a place for individuals who believe that diversity and equality make our community stronger and our lives richer.

➔ HONEST HOOSIER

Day two of the NFL draft is still a big story. Remember when we used to be a baseball nation?



➔ INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

Obituaries.....A2
Kenneth Thompson.....A3
Classifieds.....A3

➔ THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE Plant Sale & Show Saturday

The Montgomery County Master Gardeners' Plant Sale & Show is set this year for Saturday on the 4-H grounds in Crawfordsville next Saturday, April 29, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. In addition to a wide range of plants, Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer gardening questions. This year nine booths will be on premise to accentuate your plant buying.

➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

"There's nothing wrong with the younger generation that becoming taxpayers won't cure."
Dan Bennett

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

What do you call someone who sees an Apple store getting robbed?
An iWitness!

➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Here is a good resource that explains how the health care law affects you: Healthcareandyou.org Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Paper and online at www.thepaper24-7.com.



➔ OBITUARIES

None

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



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7 DAY FORECAST

68 SUNNY AND MILD	50/62 SCATTERED SHOWERS	45/66 MILD PM LATE DAY RAIN	43/57 SCATTERED SHOWERS	39/52 COOL SHOWERS AROUND	41/58 WINDY, RAIN CHANCE	39/65 BREEZY WARMER
THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED

Wabash College's Alex Litts '24 Earns Goldwater Scholarship

First Wabash student to win the scholarship in natural sciences, engineering, and mathematics.

Wabash College student Alex Litts '24 has earned a Barry Goldwater Scholarship, one of the United States' oldest and most prestigious national scholarships in the natural sciences, engineering, and mathematics.

A native of Medina, Minnesota, Litts is the first Wabash student to earn a Goldwater Scholarship. The scholarship covers the cost of attendance (tuition, mandatory fees, books, and room and board) up to \$7,500 per academic year through graduation.

"I am extremely honored to be awarded this scholarship and to be recognized in this way," said Litts, one of seven recipients from the state of Minnesota. "I enjoy doing research, learning new topics, and gaining as much experience as I can. This award has been very motivating for me to continue working hard, learning, and conducting research. I imagine this scholarship will open many doors on this path through research toward graduate school and a Ph.D. in chemistry."

Annually awarded to sophomores and juniors, the Goldwater Scholarship is the pre-eminent undergraduate award in these academic fields and often serves as a springboard to post-graduate STEM awards like the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship and the Churchill, and non-STEM-based fellowships like the Gates-Cambridge, Marshall, and Knight-Hennessy Scholarships.

"I am incredibly proud of Alex for being named Wabash's first Goldwater Scholar," said Susan Albrecht, Wabash Fellowship Advisor. "He is the kind of student who asks clarifying questions and appreciates feedback. He takes great care with his work, which will serve him well in graduate school and in research endeavors down the road."

A chemistry major with a minor in Latin, Litts is one of 413 Goldwater Scholars named during the 2022-23 academic year from 1,267 natural science, engineering, and mathematics majors nominated by 427 academic institutions.

Litts was one of 10 students attending Indiana colleges and universities to be selected for the Goldwater, and the only one of those 10 from a liberal arts college. He has conducted research in the labs of professors Joe Scanlon and Paul Schmitt in each of the last two years and served as a chemistry intern with Sherwin-Williams in the summer of 2022, and will serve again in that capacity for the Minneapolis-based company this summer.

"Alex is pursuing a career in research because he finds real joy in translating his careful technique and analysis into discovery and exploration," said Laura Wysocki, associate professor of chemistry and department chair. "He has an outstanding balance of attention to detail and consideration of the broader perspective that convinces me that he has a fruitful career in research ahead of him. Very few students



ALEX LITTS

in my 12 years of teaching have been as focused on and delighted by research as Alex is."

Litts plays bassoon in the chamber orchestra, is a member of the Wabash tabletop gaming club, serves as a chemistry stock room assistant, and as treasurer of both the chemistry club and Newman Center.

Litts is among the many Wabash men who have earned highly competitive fellowships in the last decade, including the Rhodes, Marshall, Truman, Obama Voyager, Yenching, and Point Foundation Flagship Scholarships. Additionally, Wabash students have earned the Center for the Study of Presidency and Congress' Presidential Fellowship and NCAA Postgraduate Scholarships, to go with 26 Fulbrights and 25 Gilman Scholarships.

"Since starting here, I've seen announcements about classmates earning national scholarships and never expected to earn one myself," said Litts. "I am extremely grateful for all the chemistry department has done and for the support the professors have given me. I am very honored to be Wabash's first Goldwater Scholar and I hope I am the first of many from the College."

Montgomery County Marching Band Invited To Perform In The 67th Annual AES 500 Festival Parade

The 500 Festival has selected nine marching bands from across the U.S. to perform in the 67th annual AES 500 Festival Parade, on Saturday, May 27, in downtown Indianapolis. The Montgomery County United Band and Guard has been invited to perform and help celebrate this year's theme, Fueling May.

On the day before the Indianapolis 500, these nine nationally recognized bands will march the streets of downtown Indianapolis for one of the nation's largest parades, the AES 500 Festival Parade. The selected marching bands will perform for more than 200,000 spectators lining the 2-mile parade route. An additional one million TV viewers from around the country will tune in to the AES 500 Festival Parade's Indianapolis market broadcast on WTHR, Channel 13 and national broadcast on Peacock.

Band lineup for the 2023 AES 500 Festival Parade:

- Montgomery County United Band, Montgomery County United (Crawfordsville, Ind.)
- Clearfield Bison Band, Clearfield Area Jr./Sr. High School (Clearfield,

Pa.)

- Indiana All-Star Marching Band, National Band Association (Zionsville, Ind.)
- Indianapolis Public Schools All City Marching Band (Indianapolis, Ind.)
- Purdue "All-American" Marching Band, Purdue University (West Lafayette, Ind.)
- Speedway 500 Regiment, Speedway High School (Speedway, Ind.)
- The Force of Winchester, Winchester Community High School (Winchester, Ind.)
- Tiger Pride Band, Northwestern High School (Kokomo, Ind.)
- 38th Infantry Division Band, Indiana National Guard (Indianapolis, Ind.)

"We are thrilled to have these talented musicians as a part of this year's AES 500 Festival Parade," said Bob Bryant, president and CEO of the 500 Festival. "Their lively performances will bring an elated energy and spirit to the city's biggest race-weekend celebration!"

One of the 500 Festival's original events, the AES 500 Festival Parade is one of the nation's largest, most respected parades, consistently earning national acclaim alongside the Pasadena Tournament

of Roses Parade and the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. More than 200,000 people will line the streets of downtown Indianapolis to experience the magic, fanfare, and excitement of the AES 500 Festival Parade. An iconic race-weekend tradition, the Parade will feature spectacular floats, larger-than-life helium balloons, marching bands from across the country, celebrities and everyday heroes, and the 33 drivers that will be competing in the 107th Running of the Indianapolis 500, presented by Gainbridge.

The 2023 AES 500 Festival Parade will take place on Saturday, May 27, with festivities starting at 11:45 a.m. ET in downtown Indianapolis, and the Parade starting at noon.

AES 500 Festival Parade tickets can be purchased at 500festival.com/tickets or by calling (317) 614-6400. The AES 500 Festival Parade will be broadcast nationally on Peacock and to the Indianapolis market on WTHR, Channel 13.

For more information about the AES 500 Festival Parade, please visit 500festival.com/parade or search #aes500Parade on social media.

WABASH COLLEGE



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Wabash College seeks candidates for a Senior Administrative Assistant to the Dean of Students. The Senior Administrative Assistant to the Dean of Students performs a wide range of administrative, clerical, and support functions for the Dean of Students office. General duties include, but are not limited to, direct daily support to the Dean of Students and the Associate Dean of Students, and support as needed to other positions within Student Life.

To learn more about this position and how to apply, please visit the College's employment website at www.wabash.edu/employment.

Wabash College, a liberal arts college for men, seeks faculty and staff who are committed to providing quality engagement with students, high levels of academic challenge and support, and meaningful experiences that prepare students for life and leadership among diverse populations around the globe. Wabash is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes applications from persons of all backgrounds.

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Big Ten Pits Conference Opener Against Friday Night Lights



KENNY THOMPSON
Columnist

Once upon a time, Friday nights in the fall were set events and

alumni to gather at their high school's football game.

Bonfires, fish fries and post-game dances helped form lifelong memories for teen-agers.

Like many good things, money comes along and spoils everything.

Case in point, Wednesday's announcement by the Big Ten that Purdue football would host Wisconsin in the conference opener on Friday, Sept. 22 in Ross-Ade Stadium.

In the previous 135 seasons of Boilermaker football, Purdue had never hosted a Big Ten opponent on a Friday. The last time Purdue played a home game on a Friday night, beating Ohio 44-21 to give Jeff Brohm his first victory as head coach, the athletic department made amends by offering to host a high school football doubleheader the following day.

Lafayette Jeff beat Harrison 49-39, while West Lafayette fell to Crete-Monee (Ill.) 44-29. Neither story in the Lafayette Journal & Courier mentioned attendance figures, but it's likely every

young man who played that day will be bragging for years that they played in Ross-Ade Stadium.

Purdue-Wisconsin is just a down payment on what's coming down the road with the Big Ten partnering with Fox, CBS and NBC. Once USC and UCLA join in 2024, don't be surprised if the Big Ten will agree to a Thursday night game, a Friday doubleheader and Saturday kickoffs ranging from noon to 10 p.m.

Thanks to John Harrell's website, here's some of the high school football games competing for attendance:

- Just five miles down the road from Ross-Ade Stadium, Harrison welcomes Lafayette Jeff. On the other end of Tippecanoe County, McCutcheon is at home against Kokomo.

- The annual Crawfordsville-North Montgomery rivalry will be hosted by the Athenians.

The Purdue-Wisconsin storyline will be an interesting one for viewers. It will be the Big Ten coaching debut for Purdue's Ryan Walters and Wisconsin's Luke Fickell. With both offenses shifting to a variation of the late Mike Leach's Air Raid attack, it probably won't be a dull game.

For Walters and the Boilermakers, the Wisconsin game comes in the midst of a potentially



Graphic courtesy Purdue Athletics

Drew and Brittany Brees helped bring Tiller Tunnel to reality.

favorable schedule. Four of the first five Purdue games this fall will be at home, including the Sept. 16 matchup against Syracuse. Fresno State comes to West Lafayette for the Sept. 2 opener and the month closes with Walters' former employer, Illinois, coming to town Sept. 30.

Tiller Tunnel This September 30th will mark the sixth anniversary of Joe Tiller's death. Almost from the moment of his passing, his family and players have been working with Purdue officials for a suitable tribute to the winningest football coach in school history.

Thanks to another gift from Drew and Brittany

major award winners (Brees, Maxwell Award as college football's best player; tight end Tim Stratton as the first John Mackey Award winner and punter Travis Dorsch, Ray Guy Award).

"Coach Tiller was an important person in my life and to so many other guys who played for him. He did so much more than teach us how to win," Drew Brees said in a statement announcing the Tiller Tunnel initiative.

"He taught us life lessons and how to be great leaders and men. We hope to inspire others to join us in donating to Tiller Tunnel to honor a man who did so much for so many Boilermakers." Big Ten basketball schedules.

It will seem like déjà vu for Purdue basketball when it starts Big Ten play in December.

Tuesday's announcement of the single-play and home-and-away conference opponents revealed the Boilermakers will play the same schedule it had in 2019-20. That season will be remembered for Purdue's struggles (16-15) and its sudden halt due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

In addition to its protected rivalry with Indiana, Purdue will have home-and-away games with Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Northwestern, Rutgers and Wisconsin. The Boilermakers' lone

contests with Michigan State, Minnesota and Penn State will take place in Mackey Arena. Purdue drew Maryland, Nebraska and Ohio State for road-only games.

Indiana will have to travel to Illinois, Michigan and Rutgers for its single-play road games. The Hoosiers went 2-1 away from Assembly Hall against that trio in 2022-23, falling to the Scarlet Knights in one of their worst performances of the season.

Iowa, Michigan State and Northwestern come to Bloomington for IU's home single-play games.

A quick glance at schedules for possible contenders for the Big Ten title seems to favor Ohio State. In addition to Purdue, the Buckeyes get Illinois and Maryland as home single-plays. Iowa, Michigan State and Northwestern are their road single-plays.

Michigan State drew the double-whammy of only playing Indiana and Purdue on the road. At least the Big Ten threw the Spartans a bone by making the third road single-play a trip to Nebraska.

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

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Don't Bury The Hatchet



DICK WOLFSIE
Life in a Nutshell

Recently in this column I admitted that the last thing I

wanted to do was to attend Mary Ellen's 50th college reunion. Now, I have my own reunion coming up. It's a get-together of the folks who worked on my college newspaper, The Hatchet, in the late '60s and early '70s at The George Washington University. It was a heady time to be in the nation's capital and working as a journalist. But I wasn't really a journalist; I was a humor columnist. As I reread some of my stuff almost 55 years later, I realized my writing then wasn't really very good. My journalism teacher said my column was sophomoreic, which I took as a compliment because I was only a freshman at the time.

In preparation for this event, the organizers asked every attendee to submit a brief summary of what he or she has accomplished since graduating. Many of my old classmates wrote lengthy bios detailing some pretty weighty positions in the journalism field. I was a little intimidated by some of these, but I also thought many had rambled on and not stuck to the suggested length of 500 words. I decided to opt for brevity. The sign of a good humorist is knowing the value of being succinct. Here's my employment history in a few words:

- Hired
- Fired
- Hired
- Fired
- Rehired
- Fired again
- Hired
- Retired

A few days later, I did send one addendum. I had forgotten to mention that I had recently been elected to the Indiana Broadcasters Hall of Fame. I wanted my GW friends to know this as soon as possible. I was concerned that by the time I got to the reunion, they might take back the award. That brief bio above was just my first 15 years of

employment. After that I settled down to 30 years at WISH-TV. I compare this to my friend Seth who after graduation from GW in 1968 went on to visit 46 countries enjoying all the different cultures based on his interest in anthropology. Another classmate became an executive editor of the Chicago Sun Times. The more I read these mini-resumes the more I knew that being a goofy field reporter and a humor columnist was not going to get me selected to address the group on the topic: How working on The GW Hatchet led me to experience the world and do my part to make it a better place.

By the way, I saw an old girlfriend from back in the '60s on the invitee list who I hadn't seen or heard from in 55 years. I sent her an email telling her I hoped she was coming to the reunion.

"I'm sure I will recognize you after all these years," I told her.

"I bet you will," came the response, "I'm still 6'2" with a full-length beard."

I had sent the email to Seth by mistake.

Just a final note. Ten years ago, a similar reunion was held. My wife and I were excited to return to DC for a visit. I made the hotel arrangements, which I seldom do because I always mess something up. A week before the trip, Mary Ellen asked me to confirm the reservations and to be sure we were located near The White House, a site we planned to visit and close to the restaurant where the reunion dinner was to be held. I called...

"I'm just confirming our rooms and I wanted to know how far we are from The White House."

"About 3,000 miles," he told me.

I had booked a hotel in the state of Washington.

- 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.

Tobacco Companies Continue To Pay Indiana Annually

Attorney General Todd Rokita continues Indiana's battle to help Hoosiers stop smoking and decrease the number of youth smokers throughout the state by holding tobacco manufacturers accountable.

Last week Indiana received more than \$136 million from tobacco product manufacturers under the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement.

"The harmful effects of tobacco take the lives of thousands of Hoosiers every year," Rokita said. "My office is working hard to ensure our kids live a long and healthy life and they avoid the dangerous path of smoking."

Under this agreement, Indiana receives annual payments as long as the tobacco manufacturers continue selling cigarettes in the state.

The agreement also forbids participating cigarette manufacturers from

targeting youth, imposes restrictions on advertising and promotional activities, and product placement in media, branded merchandise, free product samples, and sponsorships.

The Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement remains the largest civil settlement in U.S. history. The funds received by Indiana under the settlement agreement go to health-care, prevention, and reduction of smoking.

The TMSA payments received during Rokita's administration totals to more than \$433 million.

Cigarettes cause cancer and other diseases, as the Surgeon General first concluded in its historic 1964 report. So, improving Hoosiers' health remains a priority of the Attorney General, as it should for all elected officials.

For more information on quitting smoking, call Indiana's Tobacco Quit Line at 1-800-QuitNow.



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whack!"

On the other hand, my childhood friend Billy, had very little freedom. His mother kept a tight rein on anything he did. Billy's father was easy going and laid back, but his mother ran the household and kept a firm grip on what Billy could or could not do...period! Billy lived in Darlington just two blocks from the school. "Now you stay here. You don't need to go to the school playground. I don't know who might be up there right now. You have plenty of things you can do right here at home." ... "I don't want to see you come in with dirty clothes on. You know better than to play in the dirt!" ... "You don't need to play baseball. It's too dangerous, and you might get hurt." To put it bluntly, Billy's mother was a very controlling parent, and Billy's younger sister, Nancy, was in the same boat... she couldn't do anything without her mother's permission. "Now Nancy, be sure to wear your sweater outside. You might catch cold.... Now Nancy, you don't need to go to that girl's party... We just don't know that much about their family" ... "Now Nancy, you shouldn't have a boyfriend at your age." Well, you get the picture.

During the summer of 1958, my folks dropped me off at Billy's house in Lafayette to play and stay overnight...since it was his birthday. I was surprised that Billy received a Daisy B-B rifle, but found out his Dad had bought it for him. As soon as he opened his gift, his mother frowned and stated with no uncertainty, "Now Billy, you really shouldn't have this B-B gun, but you are to only shoot it when we are watching you, and you must only shoot at a target in the yard." Well, I had other ideas. When his parents left to go to the grocery, Billy and I climbed over his backyard fence, crossed over US Highway 52, and went "hunting for wild game" in a woods nearby. We were gone for two hours. As the sun settled, we made it back to his house. His mother was not a happy camper! "No

supper for you two. Get in the bathtub, get washed up, and get to bed... NOW!" Billy's father sat there in silence, shaking his head...not at us, but at his wife.

That was the last time I visited or stayed overnight at Billy's house. Billy's father often visited my Dad and other friends in Darlington, but Billy's mother never visited anyone here. Billy's father worked for a firm in Lafayette and retired after 50 years. However, after just a few months at home, he headed back to work...likely to get away from his wife, and he continued working another 15 years. He passed away a few years ago at the age of 89. Last year I found out where Billy resided, and I started sending him copies of the Darlington newsletter, which I publish four times a year. The newsletter has information about the library, but it mostly consists of articles about Darlington history and people. Billy called to thank me, and we talked for several minutes, catching up on the last 64 years. Billy was married, had worked in banking, and retired a few years ago. His sister Nancy, now age 70, never married and lived with her parents her entire life. That did not surprise me at all.

By my calculation, Billy's mother would be 98 years old. "How is your mother getting along?" I inquired.

There was a brief silence..."I have no idea," he responded matter-of-factly.

To you parents out there...Yes, it is a somewhat more dangerous world we live in today. We must keep a watchful eye on circumstances, events, and strangers. But remember to let children have some freedoms, and to learn from their mistakes. Kids can't be perfect. No, you can't let them run wild, but you can "just let kids...be kids."

- 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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struggling or you just want to maintain here are some easy steps to follow.

1. Mower settings and care. The recommended height to mow is three inches for the typical lawn species of Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, and tall fescue. Set your mower at three inches or higher (your preference) and leave it there all year. Secondly, get your blades sharpened! Dull blades cause damage to the grass's leaf blades and inhibit healthy regrowth.

2. You should never remove more than one-third (1/3) of the leaf blade in a single mowing. So, if your mower is set to three inches, you mow the lawn when it reaches four inches.

3. Don't mow on the road! I always cringe when I see grass clippings on our roads. Firstly, mowing with the grass chute pointed towards the road is a safety hazard. Grass clippings are slippery on the road and you are blowing debris toward cars which could cause damage. Secondly, IT'S SUCH A WASTE. The grass blown on the road has important nutrients like Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium, Magnesium, and Zinc. I could go on and on. Our grass clippings are important to maintaining a healthy lawn. Clippings break down and return nutrients to the soil for the grasses to use. Thirdly, there is an environmental concern about blowing lawn clippings on the road. If

you have recently applied pesticides, herbicides, or even fertilizer, you lose your investment. The clippings on the road get dispersed and embedded across the road surface. Then, it rains. Our grass clippings on the roadways can contaminate the water runoff. High nutrient contents in our water sources can be deadly to native ecology. Stormwater runoff can easily be contaminated by the grass clippings blown on the road. This negatively affects the water quality of Sugar Creek and the greater Wabash River basin.

4. Fertilize in the fall, it helps prompt healthy turf, instead of stimulating excessive leaf growth. My two general rules on lawn fertilizing are:

- Do not more than 1.5 lb of Nitrogen/1000sqft per application (any time of the year)

- Do not apply more than 4lbs of Nitrogen/1000sqft to your lawn per calendar year.

If you have any troubles with your lawn or need help identifying weeds in your lawn, go to: <https://turf.purdue.edu/>

Upcoming events:
Master Gardener Plant Sale: Saturday, April 29th 8am-1pm

- Tricia Herr is the Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator for the Montgomery County Purdue Extension Office. She can be reached at triciaherr@purdue.edu.

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attributes: stellar academics; affordability via low costs or generous financial aid; and strong career prospects for graduates. The college admissions services company said, "We commend their administrators, faculties, staff, and alumni for all they are doing to educate their students and guide them to success in their careers. These colleges are also exceptional for the generous amount of financial aid they award to students with need and/or for their comparatively low cost of attendance."

"I am pleased to see us again recognized for the incredible strength of our alumni network," said President Scott Feller. "Our alumni set themselves apart by their willingness to support each other, our current and prospective students, and their alma mater. The dedication of our alumni to mentoring individual students and to supporting the College philanthropically is unsurpassed and all of us on campus are immensely grateful."

The Princeton Review chose the Best Value schools based on return on investment (ROI) ratings it tallied for more than 650 schools under consideration last year. The selection process considered more than 40 data points, broadly covering academics, affordability, and career preparation.

Wabash stood strong in rankings associated with faculty accessibility and interest, receiving scores of 98 and 96, respectively. The College also received an overall academic rating of 91 and a financial aid rating of 94. The College's return-on-investment rating was 92.

"I'm thrilled to be in a position to help remove financial barriers to a Wabash education," said Alex DeLonis, Director of Financial Aid. "This could not be possible

without the generosity of Wabash alumni, family, and friends. One of the best parts of my job is being able to help families realize that Wabash is more affordable than they expected. Those are fun conversations to have."

According to payscale.com, a Wabash graduate with a bachelor's degree can expect an early career median salary of \$76,400 with a mid-career median salary of \$155,800.

"We place a high level of importance on internships in the professional development process, across all majors and career interests," said Cassie Hagan, director of professional development and the Center for Innovation, Business, & Entrepreneurship. "Whether conducting research in our own labs, learning the business of an art gallery, or training in a corporate setting, these experiences are critical in building competitive resumes for whatever our students desire to accomplish. We send our students out into the world with confidence each summer knowing we've partnered with top-notch supervisors and organizations who will provide mentorship, constructive feedback, and opportunities for growth and reflection. Many of these mentors are Wabash alumni, faculty, and staff, and our students benefit from the connections and support of this professional network."

Last fall, The Princeton Review included Wabash in its Best 388 Colleges list, which ranked the 191-year-old liberal arts college for men in the top-25 nationally in 16 categories specific to the college experience. The College was included on more than one-third of the 50 lists -- 11 placements in the top-10 -- and is consistently rated highly for outstanding professors, classroom experience, financial aid, and career services.