

# The Paper

## OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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50¢

CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA

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**▶ TODAY'S VERSE**

Isaiah 59:19 So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.

**▶ FACES OF MONTGOMERY**

People who call our community their own.



Katherin Shelton was on a walk by our office this morning and was kind enough to offer a smile. Thank you for your smile!

**▶ THREE THINGS You Should Know:**

**1** Mayor Barton will be hosting his May Community Forum on Thursday, May 25th from 4 PM-5 PM at Pike Place. This will be the Mayor's 120th community forum. This event is open to the public to come ask questions, discuss concerns, and learn more about anything regarding the city.

**2** Indiana Scores Record Conservation Funding in Polarized Statehouse. As dust settles from the 2023 Indiana legislative session, Hoosiers may discover lawmakers made some decisions with which members from both sides of the aisle can agree. The contentious budget-making session generated its fair share of attention-grabbing headlines, but Mother Nature scored a record-shattering victory that may have been buried in the shadows. Hoosier Environmental Council executive director Sam Carpenter said advocates scored \$30 million for trails, \$2.5 million for lake and river improvements, plus a bump in funding for clean water. While Republicans - who control the Statehouse - refused to hand over a \$25 million request from Gov.

**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!



Photo courtesy of the Garden/Art Tour and the Holt Family

**Garden/Art Tour Holt Garden**

Kevin & Lori Holt would like to warmly welcome you to their garden. Since the 2019 Garden/Art Tour they have made a few changes.

The former sunroom has been opened up to become a covered porch. A bar area has been installed and an outdoor TV for a great place to watch a ballgame. A gas fire pit is available to enjoy during cool evenings. The Holt's invite you to come up on the deck, take a look around and enjoy the woodsy atmosphere with an abundance of perennial plants. A hobby greenhouse was installed last summer - which is an experiment in progress.

At the south end of the yard they have created a Daylily Garden. You will see the markers and the stone indicating that all were purchased from the Sugar Creek Daylily Gardens near Darlington In.

At the north end of the yard you will see the "Giving Garden". Time passes quickly and some flowers and plants are already in need of separating. The items planted in this area encourage friends and family to help themselves to starts of plants for their own gardens.

Please, linger as long as you'd like and enjoy the music of local musicians; Kenn Clark and Ryan Foxworthy who are being featured during the event.

Have a glass of tea or lemonade and enjoy a treat!

Kevin & Lori are happy to have you tour their gardens!

**Want TO GO?**

Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 25th, for the 16th Garden & Arts Tour sponsored by the Flower Lovers Garden Club.

**Teeter Named Assistant Chief of Police**

Ryan Teeter, has been promoted to Assistant Chief of Police by Chief of Police Aaron Mattingly.

Teeter is a 2012 Crawfordsville High School graduate hired by the Crawfordsville Police Department in November 2015 and attended the police academy in 2016. He has been with the Crawfordsville Police Department for eight years, started his career as a patrol officer, was promoted to a patrol sergeant, and in November 2020 he began working investigations.

"My goal has always been to serve this community and help the officers within the

department," said Assistant Chief of Police, Ryan Teeter. "With this new role, that goal doesn't change, the capacity of my role is just different".

He originally joined the police force because he cares about our Crawfordsville community and wanted to give back. He has family who has been involved in the community for generations and he, too,



RYAN TEETER

▶ See TEETER Page A5

**Random Thoughts and Observations**



**BUTCH DALE COLUMNIST**

Weird people...Woke ideas... Greedy politicians...Foreign adversaries...High prices...Open borders...Drugs...Rampant crime...and on and on. I feel like the character Howard Beale in the 1976 film "Network," when he yelled out, "I'm mad

as hell, and I'm not going to take it anymore!" National politics really gets me agitated, but if you look at it in another way, these Congressmen are hilarious performers. They absolutely crave your attention...just like those little organ grinder monkeys that clap, pull off their tiny red hats, and beg for pocket change. The only difference is that the monkeys smile and are friendly.

On the topic of politics, the campaigns for President have already begun. Shouldn't there be a law that no one can campaign until the actual election year? C'mon, we need a break! Most people have their minds

▶ See BUTCH Page A5

**John Simillie Honored By Montgomery County League Of Women Voters**



Photo courtesy League of Women Voters

John Smillie accepts Making Democracy Work Award from League of Women Voters Co-Presidents Summer Ervin (left) and Helen Hudson.

The Montgomery County League of Women Voters presented its annual "Making Democracy Work Award" to John Simillie at their annual meeting Thursday night. The League recognized John's work in dealing with climate change. In presenting the award, League co-president Summer Ervin reviewed John's extensive list of accomplishments both locally and nationally.

"John has been very busy," Ervin said. "Through his own personal initiative and his lead-

▶ See LWV Page A5

**▶ HONEST HOOSIER**

Here's a tip of the seed corn cap to all the drivers, officials and fans at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. We don't call it the Greatest Spectacle in Racing for nothing!



**▶ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP**

Walking with weights can increase your risk of joint injuries - walk hills instead.

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.



**▶ INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION**

Service Directory...A3  
Classifieds.....A4  
Slim Randles.....A4  
Brian Howey.....A4  
Readers' Choice...A6

**▶ THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE**

**Darlington Library Summer Reading Program**

The Darlington Library will be sponsoring its annual Summer Reading and Activity program for children age 12 and under from June 5th through July 14th. The program is for kids who live in Franklin and Sugar Creek townships. You may sign up in person or call the library at 794-4813 to sign up over the phone.

**▶ TODAY'S QUOTE**

"Looking fifty is great—if you're sixty."  
-Joan Rivers

**▶ TODAY'S JOKE**

How's the new job as a tailor?  
Sew-sew.

**▶ OBITUARIES**

None

The Paper appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank **Diane Thompson** for subscribing!



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**7 DAY FORECAST**

57/84 HAZY SUN	60/86 HOT LATE DRY COLD FRONT	49/72 SUNNY BUT MUCH COOLER	46/75 PLEASANTLY DRY AIR	52/78 PLEASANT AIR	55/80 MAINLY SUNNY FOR NOW	57/83 30% CHANCE LATE
TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON

## Historic Preservation & Archeology Grants To Be Awarded Statewide

Twelve archaeology and historic rehabilitation projects across Indiana will receive grants to research or restore cultural and historic sites.

These projects are funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service's Historic Preservation Fund Program, which is being administered by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation & Archeology.

Archeology and historic rehabilitation projects are anticipated to begin this summer and be completed by

June 30, 2025.

The proposed scope of work has been reviewed by DHPA staff and determined to meet the Secretary of the Interior's standards and guidelines for historic properties.

The projects that were awarded are:

At least two archaeological site records will be updated, and about 15 new sites are expected to be documented, including suspected lime kilns.

Rehabilitation Projects Crawfordsville (Montgomery County): A grant to the city of Crawfordsville will

assist masonry rehabilitation efforts at the 1901 Neo-Classical style Crawfordsville Masonic Temple. The HPF funds will focus on the east elevation (primary façade) of the building. The work includes repointing the brick and limestone wall and porch as needed, replacing cracked and broken bricks and at least 12 missing or broken limestone balusters, and patching or replacing any failed limestone units. The project is part of a larger effort to restore the building, secure it from water intrusion, and make it more usable.

## Indiana Poetry Contest For Grades 3 - 12

Poetry Society of Indiana announces the 2023 Young Voices Annual Poetry Contest. First place winners will receive public acknowledgement on the PSI website and social media platforms. The poems may be published in the annual anthology Ink to Paper.

Contest Guidelines: Open state-wide to public, private, and home-school students in grades 3-12

Recommendation by a teacher required  
Original unpublished work only

One poem submission per student

30-line limit (including blank lines)

No submission fees

Contest Categories:  
Category 1: Grades 3 & 4  
Category 2: Grades 5 & 6  
Category 3: Grades 7 & 8  
Category 4: Grades 9 & 10  
Category 5: Grades 11 & 12

Deadline for submissions is September 20, 2023.

There is no fee. Additional details are at this link:

PSI Young Voices Annual Poetry Contest (poetrysocietyofindiana.org)

About Poetry Society of Indiana: Poetry Society

of Indiana (PSI), founded in 1941, is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating the public and encouraging poets in Indiana. PSI seeks to unite poets in friendship and understanding while recognizing cultural heritage and linguistic contexts.

Prior to 2016, Poetry Society of Indiana was known as Indiana State Federation of Poetry Clubs (ISFPC).

CONTACT: All questions should be directed to poetrysocietyofindiana@gmail.com, with "Young Voices contest" in the subject line.



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# Republican Turned Democrat McCormick Seeks To Defy History



**BRIAN HOWEY**  
Howey Political Report

With Democrat Jennifer McCormick's official entry into the 2024 Indiana gubernatorial race, Hammond

Mayor Thomas McDermott Jr. has ruled out seeking the Democratic nomination.

"As for me, I don't see the stars aligning for a McDermott candidacy in 2024 at this time," McDermott texted told me on Wednesday. Allies of former senator and current Vatican Ambassador Joe Donnelly had told me last year that he was leaving his political options open for 2024.

But for now, that leaves McCormick as the lone Democrat seeking the nomination at this time. What she aims to do is exceedingly rare. There has been only one female Indiana gubernatorial nominee in history, when Jill Long Thompson won the Democratic nomination in 2008, only to lose to Gov. Mitch Daniels.

And, there have been only two party switchers to ascend to the governor's office since the current two-party system took shape in 1856: Legendary Civil War Gov. Oliver Perry Morton in 1860 as a Republican and Isaac Gray in 1884 as a Democrat.

Beyond Jill Long Thompson, female gubernatorial candidates are relatively rare. Indiana is one of 18 states that has yet to elect a female governor. Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch is currently seeking the GOP nomination in 2024. District Attorney Virginia Dill McCarty was the first

to run as a Democrat, losing to State Sen. Wayne Townsend in the 1984 primary. There were brief candidacies by Democrat State Sens. Vi Simpson in 2003, Karen Tallian and Superintendent Glenda Ritz in 2016 and Republican Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman in the 2012 cycle. Simpson, Tallian, Ritz and Skillman all failed to generate much fundraising traction and their candidacies were brief.

Ritz, who upset Republican Superintendent Tony Bennett in 2012, declared for governor in June 2015, before opting to seek reelection two months later. McCormick as a Republican would defeat Ritz in 2016 by a 53% to 47% margin.

In October 2018, McCormick stunned the Hoosier political establishment, announcing she would not run for reelection in 2020, in part because of the General Assembly's move in 2017 to make the superintendent position a gubernatorial appointment.

"As a parent, I would not be happy if my state superintendent were spending time on noise, and that's simply what this has become," McCormick said.

She toured the state with Democrat State Sen. Eddie Melton in 2019 exploring a potential run a year later. Democrats ended up nominating Woody Myers.

In her campaign video kickoff last Thursday, McCormick said, "In 2016, I successfully ran for state superintendent of public instruction to be a champion for Hoosier kids," McCormick continued. "As state superintendent, I took on politics that were negatively impacting our schools and fought for what was right for kids,

teachers, and parents. Now, I'm running for governor of Indiana because it's time to put Hoosiers first. I will bring common sense and bipartisanship back to the statehouse. I've already proved I will stand up to out-of-touch policies that are destroying public education, stripping Hoosiers of their rights and freedoms, and leaving rural communities behind."

The other historical anomaly beyond gender and education politics is the current GOP supermajorities in the General Assembly, which has extended to an unprecedented five cycles since the two-party system began in 1856.

That has brought many smoldering divisive social issues to the fore, like banning books, critical race theory, limiting LGBTQ+ rights, and a recent spate of transgender legislation. Speaking to the NWI Times' Doug Ross, McCormick framed her candidacy in the "distractions" that prompted her not to seek reelection in 2020. "The answer is nothing other than as a distraction from the real problems because they're complex and they're difficult to solve."

Speaking in front of the St. Joseph County courthouse in South Bend last week, McCormick focused on "beyond ridiculous" issues. "So we will start with book banning, really?" McCormick told WNDU-TV. "We'll start with the bans on LGBTQ health care rights. I mean the list goes on; we'll talk about you now, public education, which services 90% of our kids, was the most underfunded system of all the schools. The one that services the smallest

percentage of students got by far the majority of the money."

McCormick's campaign had \$42,341 as of Jan. 17, with funds migrating from her past superintendent campaign. By comparison, the three GOP candidates have big money leads. Friends of Suzanne Crouch reported a year-end cash balance of \$3.19 million. The campaign of Republican Eric Doden had \$2.8 million and U.S. Sen. Mike Braun reported a cash balance of \$2.9 million.

If McCormick is the only credible Democrat to seek the nomination, she can potentially make this a competitive race by capturing the divisive issue outflows on abortion, gun reforms, and LGBTQ+ rights.

For instance, last November's Ball State Hoosier Survey revealed that 56.7% believe abortion should be legal in all or most cases, while 76% find abortion to be an important issue. McCormick tweeted this past week, "Women want to live, work, and thrive where access to medical care is not banned or limited. States who respect this and operate accordingly win."

The Republican primary will likely find the three candidates shifting to the right on abortion and gun reforms. Crouch made it a point to note her tie-breaking Indiana Senate vote on an abortion exception amendment last July. That will be an asset in the primary, but a potential liability in the general.

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

# Man's Other Best Friend

Steve looked out from the turret of his cabin and watched the sun set behind the mountain. Branding is over for the spring, and he was able to get away from the ranch for a few days, so here he was, in his private castle, sipping private coffee, looking down at his private horse eating hay in his private corral.

For a man who has spent most of his life in someone else's bunkhouse, a suite at the Ritz couldn't be more wonderful than this little hole-up spot in the mountains.

He slid open one of the turret windows and let the warm breeze of early summer caress his magnificent mustache.

"That does it!" he said. He closed the window, climbed down the ladder and went out to saddle Ol' Snort. In a few minutes the two of them were heading along a little trail near Thompson Ridge, feeling the warm breeze, wondering how many more of these evenings they would share. Steve and Snort were both getting years on them, but they have this evening. They have this ride. They are together now.

And it was like taking a dry bath in paradise.

Steve reached down and patted Snort on the neck. "You know, O.S.," Steve said, "can you think of a luckier man/horse combination than us? I can't. Not right at the moment, anyway."

Snort was used to listening to Steve, but blissfully he wasn't required to do anything but walk along this mountain trail enjoying the evening.

"What do you think, old boy?" Ol' Snort reached his head out and blew his nose.

"I knew you felt the same way," said Steve, smiling. Sometimes heaven comes in small doses.

*-Brought to you by books written by Edward Abbey. Ed may be gone, but his published legacy is always amazing.*



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## TEETER

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wanted to do his part. "Ryan is someone that is trustworthy, driven, and works extremely well with everyone. He is a leader and I know he will make immediate impacts and connections within the police department and the community," said Chief of Police, Aaron Mattingly. "Ryan has goals and the determina-

tion to accomplish them." With his work in various roles, Teeter recognizes the opportunity in capabilities and technology within the police department. He looks forward to assisting with that growth and improvement to serve the community in Crawfordsville and Montgomery County.

## BUTCH

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made up anyway. Trump's MAGA Republican followers are steadfast in their loyalty no matter what the Donald does or says. Biden's Democrat liberal supporters aren't so sure about Ol' Joe, but they'll vote for any Democrat who runs against Trump. I predict neither of those two will get their party's nomination...So who will it be? If I were a betting man, I would go with Florida governor Ron DeSantis on the Republican ticket. The Democratic spot is up for grabs. I just read, for the second time, "Keeping the Republic," written in 2011 by former Indiana governor Mitch Daniels. You may disagree, but I sincerely believe Mitch would have been an outstanding President who could have prevented many of our present day problems, especially our dysfunctional bureaucracies and outrageously enormous national debt, which is an unmitigated disaster.

Switching topics...In my last column I mentioned some of the candies that were popular when I was a kid growing up in the 1950s. Well, I tried to remember some of the toys that I received as a small child, but the only ones I could remember were cap guns, army men, board games, and a Howdy Doody puppet.... so I searched the internet and found the following toys from the 1950s.

How many do you remember?...ant farm, hula hoop, Play-Doh, wooly willy, space ray gun, tiddly winks, Betsy Wetsy, Tiny Tears, color forms, magic 8 ball, cymbal monkey, Frisbee, silly putty, Mr. Potato Head, slinky, friction toy cars, bop bags, whiffle ball, paint-by-number sets, matchbox cars, farm playsets, Barbie, Gumby, electric pinball, space flashlight, tin clickers, Robbie the robot, water rockets, wheel-O, pop-it beads, and baking powder submarine. I seriously doubt if any kids today would even play with those toys!

My two youngest grandkids, ages 3 and 1, already have more toys than I ever had in my life. I picked them up last week, and drove them to our house, which is only a

mile away. Our son insisted that I install his safety child car seats in my vehicle and buckle them up. I know it's the law and that child seats are great, but seriously...25 mph for a mile down a seldom traveled gravel road? (If we see a car on our road, we become suspicious!) When I was a youngster, child safety seats hadn't been invented. My siblings and I had free range inside the Buick family truckster...teasing each other, fighting, sticking our heads and arms outside the windows, and causing general mayhem until Dad got fed up and tried his famous backhand slap. I also rode to town in the back of the old Dodge pickup hundreds of times (and with a load of corn to the elevator on a hot day...sometimes on top of the cab!) Well, times have changed, so I gave in and did the right thing. Besides, our son is a police officer...he could have given me a ticket!

In other pressing news, my wife and I usually go out to eat at a nice restaurant in Crawfordsville or Lafayette each weekend. I have noticed that prices just keep going up, and it's almost to the point of being ridiculous at many dining establishments, so we are going to be a little more selective in where we go. When a restaurant charges \$3.99 for a soft drink, you know you're getting the shaft! We may have to take frozen meals and our microwave oven to the restaurant for our weekly dining out.

On a final note, like Tim Timmons mentioned in one of his columns, I also wake up in the middle of the night and start thinking about many things...and then can't get back to sleep. Our world is more complicated, and our country is facing many problems right now. But then I just have to remind myself that things always work out eventually for the better, good will triumph over evil, and life goes on. And...I am so fortunate and grateful to live here in rural Indiana.

- 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.

## Young, Colleagues Introduce Bill To Enhance Competition In Organ Donation Network

U.S. Senators Todd Young (R-Ind.), Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa), Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), Ben Cardin (D-Md.), and Bill Cassidy (R-La.) introduced bipartisan legislation to crack down on anti-competitive practices in the U.S. organ donation system by modernizing the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN).

Since its inception decades ago, OPTN has exclusively contracted the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) to oversee the U.S. transplantation network. However, Finance Committee investigations have revealed consistent mismanagement and underperformance on the part of UNOS.

"Our bipartisan legislation will help ensure accountability and transformation in the organ donation and transplant system. The important reforms included in our bill will provide the flexibility necessary to conduct a thoughtful, full, and open competition process for the OPTN contract, which will improve the system and help save lives," said Senator Young.

"UNOS's monopoly over the U.S. organ donation system has been disastrous. Decades of corruption and mismanagement have left vulnerable patients to die on the waiting list while unused organs from generous American donors go to waste. Building on the Senate Finance Committee's investigation, I'm committed to working with my bipartisan colleagues to advance long-overdue competition in this life and death area of health care," said Senator Grassley.

"Major changes are needed to modernize the organ procurement system on behalf of Americans on the waiting list for an organ transplant that will save their lives. For too long UNOS has had a stranglehold on this contract, and as the

Finance Committee's investigation showed, that lack of accountability has had dire consequences. It's high time to bring in some competition so there can be more accountability and know-how to improve results and save lives," said Senator Wyden.

"The grave disparities in access to organ transplants are unconscionable. Our bipartisan bill will move us toward a more transparent and equitable system that will save lives by improving timely access to needed transplant organs, particularly for patients in underserved communities," said Senator Cardin.

"The management of the organ transplant system in the U.S. needs serious reform. Breaking up this monopoly will increase competition, save lives and improve the system. When it is referred to the HELP Committee, as ranking member and a physician who referred many patients for transplants, I look forward to advancing this legislation," said Senator Cassidy.

U.S. Senators Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), Jerry Moran (R-Kan.), and Cory Booker (D-N.J.) also co-sponsored this legislation.

Companion legislation was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by Reps. Larry Bucshon (R-IN-08) and Robin Kelly (D-IL-02).

### Background:

The Securing the U.S. Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network Act would remove barriers in OPTN contracting and give the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) statutory authority to improve management of the organ transplantation system in the United States. The current OPTN contract is set to expire on September 30, 2023, making the proposed changes all the more urgent in order for HRSA to make meaningful reforms before a new contract is awarded.

## LWV

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ership of the League's climate team, John has accomplished many things." The list includes working with local government, local organizations like the Boys and Girls Club and school officials, and nonprofit organizations.

In explaining his dedication, John said, "Climate change is the biggest collective action problem in human history and we're not going to overcome it unless we all pull together in mobilizing our democracy."

"John Smillie represents all that the League stands for," Ervin said. "As one of the most trusted organizations in Montgomery County, the League of Women Voters is proud to be part of a community with such a dynamic citizen and is honored to present this year's Making Democracy Work Award to John Smillie." Through his own personal initiative and his leadership of the League climate team, John has accomplished the following:

1. John has advocated for utility-scale solar development to be permitted in our county through newspaper columns, letters to the editor, attendance in county meetings and direct contact with county officials.

2. He was asked to speak and share our county's efforts with a national audience of Citizens' Climate Lobby volunteers.

3. John conducted the first "Lunch with the League" presentation after the COVID pandemic on the climate provisions in the newly passed Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), and the benefits of

solar power. His presentation was repeated for the Greater Lafayette League chapter, and again online. With his own personal donation, John helped fund and launch a 10kw solar power system for the Montgomery County Youth Service Bureau. This went live on June 15th, 2022.

4. Again, with donations from John Smillie, Marc and Helen Hudson and coming support from the IRA, he has initiated the Boys and Girls Club on the path to going solar. They hope to go live by the end of May.

5. John met with Crawfordsville school officials to discuss benefits and grant programs available for electric school buses, and shared this information with North and South school districts.

6. He has partnered with Solar United Neighbors to promote a solar buying co-op in Montgomery and Tippecanoe counties.

7. John organized the Nonprofit Energy Forum, a presentation for nonprofits, including houses of worship and public entities throughout Central Indiana, on how they could take advantage of incentives in the IRA, and the SUN solar buying co-op, to go solar or otherwise address their energy efficiency.

8. John has met with and shared with our local government, information from C40 Cities and the Indiana Environmental Resilience Institute on programs and grants in the Inflation Reduction Act that local governments could utilize them.

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