

➤ 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.



Stacey Cornett, Crossroads Furniture Owner, gave one of our roving photographers a winning smile while receiving her Readers' Choice Award. The Paper is always at the tip of your fingertips. All you have to do is get on your phone, tablet or whatever device you use and subscribe to our Online Edition. Just head over to www.thepaper24-7.com

➤ THREE THINGS You Should Know:

1 Senator Braun released the following statement on the Indiana Supreme Court's ruling to uphold the state's abortion laws. "Life wins in Indiana. I'm proud that with today's court decision, Indiana will continue to be a national leader for protecting the unborn and saving thousands of lives. I join the countless Hoosiers who helped win this victory for life in celebrating this historic day." – Senator Mike Braun

2 It has been an extremely busy storm week in the Hoosier State. State Farm agents, claims adjusters, and insurance representatives won't be taking the July 4th holiday off as we continue to help customers recover from storms at the beginning of the week and yesterday. In fact, from Sunday, June 25 to this morning, June 30, State Farm has received more than 2,925 home and auto claims. Many more are expected as tree debris is removed from homes, power lines are restored, and damage is assessed and reported. With many customers still without power following the high wind storms from yesterday, it will be a busy holiday weekend.

3 If you or a loved one is experiencing a power outage you can find the estimated times of restoration and help at your power company's website. If you are in immediate need of help or need access to electricity, go to your local fire station. Remember, we are all in this together and we need to work together to get through these troubling times.

The Paper

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Photo courtesy of MDT

Cooper Fitch (Huckleberry Finn) and Matthew Porter (Tom Sawyer) on Aunt Polly's porch talking about the adventures ahead of them!

Mark Twain Is Coming To MDT!

MDT is thrilled to bring you our first Theatre for Young Audiences production of 2023, Twain's Tale of Tom and Huck! It is a wonderful adaptation of Mark Twain's The Adventures of Tom Sawyer written by Georgette Kleier. We are guided through this familiar classic by none other than Mark Twain himself. The cast will feature all MDT veterans. Included will be Don Hart (Mark Twain), Matthew Porter (Tom Sawyer), Cooper Fitch (Huckleberry Finn), Love Ruddell (Becky Thatcher), Jamie Rediger (Aunt Polly), Trent Mosty (Judge Thatcher/Doc Robinson), Henry Allan (Muff Potter), Eli Miller (Sidney), and Matthew Hawkins (Joe). This TYA musical, with music and lyrics by Bill

Corcoran, is sure to bring lots of laughter and enjoyment to your students and give them a fresh take on a well-known story of friendship and integrity.

Twain's Tale of Tom and Huck opens Thursday, July 6th, and will feature Thursday and Friday matinee performances through July 21st. The matinee seating is at 11:30 a.m. with the performance at 1:00 p.m. A sack lunch will be provided. Tickets may be purchased by phone at 765-798-4902, ext. 2, or by visiting the MDT website at www.myersdt.com.

Ticket Prices for our TYA shows are Adults (\$20.00 + tax) and Students (\$15.00 + tax). Myers Dinner Theatre is located at 108 Water St in Hillsboro and is handicap accessible.

Some Choices Last An Eternity



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

Getting older changes things, doesn't it? (Yup, that was rhetorical.) When I was younger, I used to look forward to Saturdays. When I

was really young, it meant no school, sleeping in, Saturday morning cartoons and in general playing all day. A few years after that, there was softball tournaments, golf outings and hanging out with buddies. Then came family outings, taking the girls to the zoo, amusement parks, state parks and so on. Now? Well, one of the great

things about Saturdays is a quiet office and a chance to catch up on all the stuff that I didn't have time to get to during the week. I wonder exactly when a happy Saturday went from play to work? I wonder what that says about me? Maybe I should quit wondering? But then I realized that my wandering mind was getting in the way of me getting anything done so I turned back to my desk and –

AAAGGH!
John Hammer, the incredibly massive John Hammer was standing in my door. I hadn't heard him come in. Had no idea he was there or how long he had been. All I knew was he scared the living bejeezus out of me.

➤ See TIM Page A6

What We're Talking About Regarding Vouchers



The League of Women Voters, open to men as well as women, is a nonpartisan, multi-issue political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. For information about the Montgomery County LWV, visit: www.lwvmtcoinc.org or message to LWV, PO Box 101, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933.

Last tax year, Indiana went past go with a tax surplus. The state is now set to collect a \$1.5 billion surplus, part of which legislators earmarked for the teacher retirement fund, a blessing. Yet it hardly offsets educators' concerns about an enormous expansion of the voucher program. Once purported to help low-income families with students in "under-performing" schools find better educational options, this expansion signals that lobbyists have multifarious intentions. They are dividing and conquering, preying upon unified approaches that serve the greater good.

This year, Indiana joined five other states in expanding vouchers, all while setting aside previous assertions that vouchers serve the underprivileged. Now they allow funding to follow the students of upper middle class, further pressing schools and educators to cater to the whims of the market, pinching off the commitment to each student.

What we were always talking about with vouchers wasn't about opportunity for at-risk communities. It has been something else. For some, it represented the implementation of Milton Friedman's economic vision – competition produces inherently better results. Except what is "better"? Better is a vague word. An undefined superlative. Some have played a long game, aiming ultimately for privatization of education. At times, it goes back to libertarian, small government aspirations. Other times, it conjures conspiracy fears of a nanny state. Who doesn't love speculative fiction that helps us ask hard questions – a la Aldous Huxley's Brave New World? But speculative fiction should not be conflated with reality. It's a checkpoint, not a call to action about some culture war.

Every school day, public school teachers – many of whom

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 6:23 a.m.
SET: 9:21 p.m.

High/Low Temperatures
High: 88 °F
Low: 72 °F

Today is...
• Bikini Day
• National Apple Turnover Day
• National Workaholics Day

What Happened On This Day
• 1996 World's first live cloned mammal is born.
• 1973 Coup in Rwanda.
• 1811 Venezuela declares independence from Spain.

Births On This Day
• 1853 Cecil Rhodes English/South African businessman, politician, founded De Beers
• 1810 P. T. Barnum American businessman, founded Ringling Bros., Barnum & Bailey Circus

Deaths On This Day
• 2006 Kenneth Lay American businessman
• 1819 William Cornwallis English Admiral

Great School Memories From Tom Thompson



BUTCH DALE
COLUMNIST

NOTE: In 1988 I wrote a book about the history of Darlington School, and I interviewed several former students. The following was written by Tom Thompson, who graduated

from DHS in 1950 and taught and coached for 34 years in the Crawfordsville schools. He passed away in 2017 at the age of 85.)

"Darlington School holds many wonderful memories

➤ See BUTCH Page A4

➤ HONEST HOOSIER

Man, I so love a good picnic, hot dog and fireworks show!



➤ INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

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➤ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Just like drinking and driving, drinking and boating don't mix. Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Paper and online at www.thepaper24-7.com.



➤ THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Upcoming Crawfordsville District Public Library Events

July is packed full of fun and informative events at our local libraries and Crawfordsville's library is no different. On Thursday, there will be preschool story time from 10 am to 10:30 am, community prayers from 10 am to 11:30 am and Kiwanis from noon to 2 pm.

➤ TODAY'S QUOTE

"It does not take a majority to prevail, but rather an irate, tireless minority, keen on setting brushfires of freedom in the minds of men."
-Samuel Adams

➤ TODAY'S JOKE

How does the government plan on fixing Social Security?
By deleting the word "security."

➤ OBITUARIES

None

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



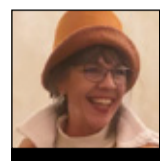
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71/89 STAY WEATHER AWARE	70/83 RAIN AND STORMS	66/84 SOME SUN	68/87 STORM LATE!	72/88 CHANCE	73/87 CHANCE	66/83 SCATTERED
SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI

A Few Words From The Director



DIANA MCCORMICK
Guest Column

Athens Arts has had a busy first six months! I am delighted to share Athens Arts latest news as we continue

to celebrate the arts with you! Art is a universal language that has the power to inspire, connect, and transform lives. Athens Arts continue to find and bring vibrant opportunities to engage the community in Art.

I am excited to highlight the incredible achievements, events, and initiatives within the art world that have shaped us in 2023 within our community.

Spotlight on Local Artists:

If you have not stopped by 216 East Main St., you are missing the remarkable work of local and regional guest artists. From painters and jewelry to photographers and glass, their creativity knows no bounds! Athens has created an artist wall so that you may read about each artist; please stop by and chat with the docents working at the gallery to learn more about our artist's unique journeys and the stories behind their captivating creations.

Community Art Projects:

I believe Art can bring people together and foster a sense of belonging- if you ever have had a one-on-one conversation with me, you know I truly believe this! Athens continues to explore how to reach our community through art projects that have united individuals and will showcase the power of collective creativity. The Unity in Creativity was a way to showcase the inspiring and creative arts in our arts community!

Inspiring Arts Education and Exploration:

I believe education is a crucial aspect of nurturing the young, a precursor for critical thinking, and ensuring the longevity of Athens Arts. Our pre-school program continues to inspire the young, and our art classes each month on the third Thursday show that our community wants to create and explore. Our classes made efforts to hire dedicated educators who have been instrumental in providing enriching arts education programs to students of all ages. Athens has a book group and a poetry group that meets each month at Athens Arts to create and explore the Art of literature! We are busy!

Upcoming Events and Exhibitions:

Please follow us on Facebook, Yodel, and Athens YouTube channels for upcoming events, exhibitions, and classes

you would want to attend. From gallery openings and courses to new Art and events, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

You will not want to miss:

CLASSES- third Thursday of each month- check list on website

Sea and Sand, artist Tom Slack July 20- Sept 9. Reception: July 28, 6-8 pm

[untitled]3, a national exhibition- SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023 AT 6 PM - 8:30 PM (ticketed event)

Call for Participation:

Thank you for subscribing to our newsletter. I ask you to engage with the arts! We invite our readers to participate in upcoming workshops, competitions, and community initiatives. Whether you're an artist, enthusiast, or simply curious about exploring your creative side, you have numerous opportunities to get involved. Our campaign is well underway to help sustain Athens Arts by becoming an advocate for the arts. Please consider joining others by becoming an advocate for Athens Arts. We are also seeking sponsorships for our next NATIONAL exhibition! [untitled]3, a national exhibition. Please reach out if you would like more information on how to support this imitative through sponsorship.

I hope Athens Art's vision of celebrating the creative life of our community will inspire and captivate you as we continue to offer a vibrant world of creativity. Athens Arts believe that Art has the power to ignite imaginations, foster empathy, and create positive change. See below for what is upcoming in July!

Please share this newsletter with your colleagues, friends, and family to spread the pleasure of Art throughout our community.

Should you have any questions or suggestions, or if you would like to contribute to future editions of this newsletter, help with the ongoing operational expenses of the gallery, or learn more about volunteer opportunities, please feel free to reach out to us. We greatly value your input and involvement in promoting the arts.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the arts. Together, let us celebrate the beauty and significance of Art in making society whole.

- Athens Arts' mission is to enrich our community through education programs, workshops and through the introduction of individual artists and their work. We strive to provide both a rich arts facility dedicated to the presentation of quality exhibits for the public as well as an open studio environment that fosters artistic interaction and the creative spirit.

The Healing Power Of Rhythm And Sound

By Catherine Beck

Dusk to Dawn Bereavement Services announces its next monthly learning series event on Wednesday, July 12th at noon in the Christ Lutheran Church sanctuary. The session, titled The Healing Power of Rhythm and Sound, is presented by Jai Miranda, a professional musician, sound healing practitioner, and certified grief coach. "I like to call sound healing a modern-day practice with ancient roots", said Miran-

da, referring to the origins of sound therapy in the work of the ancient Greek philosopher Pythagoras. Throughout history, humans have used sound and rhythm to communicate, celebrate, play, remember, and heal. Miranda notes that a growing body of research is demonstrating that drumming, toning, and other sound therapies help reduce stress and anxiety, improve circulation and immune function, and balance the body's energy systems. When we

bring the body into rest, it can begin to heal, and this deep relaxation can support healthy grieving.

Jai will discuss and demonstrate a variety of healing instruments including drums, singing bowls, specially tuned pipes, and other special instruments. They will also share recent research findings about how sound healing supports general wellbeing and talk about how drumming and sound healing can play a part in healing grief. The Learning Series

event will conclude with a group activity for those who want to experience the instruments directly. No experience is necessary.

Learn more and register at dusk-to-dawn.org or email contact@dusk-to-dawn.org to reserve your space.

-Catherine Beck is a Dusk to Dawn Bereavement Services staff member. Learn more about this non-profit association at www.dusk-to-dawn.org

Witham Health Services Volunteer Organization Donates Funds To Support EMS Ambulance Equipment Upgrade

Amy Mitchell, Director of the Witham Volunteer Organization stated Witham EMS Director, John Merson approached her regarding a project of installing new capnography equipment in the ambulances, and a request for a donation from the Volunteer Organization, and Mitchell knew right away the volunteers would want to help. The request was presented to the Witham Volunteer

Board by Mr. Merson and one of his team members. They shared a detailed presentation about the equipment and its life-saving use in the Witham ambulances. The Volunteer Board voted unanimously to approve the donation request with the Volunteer Organization donating approximately \$6,000 to support the upgrade of one piece of equipment.

Ms. Mitchell com-

mented, "The Volunteer Organization hosts several fundraisers throughout the year to support the needs of the hospital. We are grateful to support the hospital in this way and to be able to give-back to the hospital financially, when needed. We are all here to support one another, and this is just one way among many that the Volunteer Organization supports the hospital. We are honored to support the

EMS department and are also grateful to the staff and community at large who support our fundraiser events throughout the year so that we are able to fund these types of requests when asked."

For information about the Volunteer Organization or volunteering at Witham, contact Amy Mitchell, Director of Volunteers at (765) 485-8175 or by email at amitchell@witham.org.

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Photos courtesy of Nissan

2023 Nissan Ariya Crossover Brings Turntable Styling To All-Electric Driving

My favorite magazines as a kid were Car and Driver issues from the late '80s with all of the glossy concept cars. The 1986 Buick Wildcat, 1986 Pontiac Trans Sport, and 1988 Pontiac Banshee had the sleekest next-century style. The Wildcat even flashed a flatscreen instrument cluster. They predicted today's rides, but none fully match the 2023 Nissan Ariya electric crossover.

I find it beautiful. Where a grille would normally be is a swathy black panel adorned with the new Nissan badge, illuminated by 20 LEDs and flanked by angry headlamps. The fluid design embraces the Japanese term *iki*, which implies cutting-edge nature. I'll take that to mean it looks to be shaped by water and microchips. It's especially fetching

2023 Nissan Ariya Platinum+ Five-passenger, AWD Crossover

Powertrain: Li-Ion batteries/motors
Output: 389hp/442 lb.-ft.
Suspension f/r: Ind/Ind
Wheels f/r: 19"/19" alloy
Brakes f/r: regen disc/disc
Driving range: 267 miles
0-60 mph: 4.8s
Recharge (10-80%): 40m
Economy (comb): 90 mpg-e
Assembly: Tochigi, Japan
Base/as-tested price: \$43,190/62,770

set over 19" slicer alloy wheels.

Interiors embrace *ma*, or a belonging to both space and time. Designers aimed for the feel of a starship lounge that GM only wished for 35 years ago. The minimalist space with curved

LIKES

- Turntable style
- Rapid acceleration
- Interior delights

twin flatscreens benefits from a wide flat floor and center console that powers back and forth. There's no transmission tunnel, so legroom is abundant. A panoramic moonroof, crisp 10-speaker Bose audio, and heated steering wheel add filthy luxury.

Details delineate. Take a close look at the wood panel across the dash. It's not wood and climate controls are flush integrated to the panel with capacitive haptic switches. It's like changing temperature by clicking your finger on thin timber. I doubted I'd like the bluish-gray color of the Nappa leather seats against red paint,

DISLIKES

- Firm suspension
- Long charging
- Lofty price

but they feel light and are heated/ventilated up front. Wireless phone charging keeps phones humming while a head-up display focuses eyes forward.

GM formed its aerodynamic concepts to excite drivers and improve fuel economy, but Nissan employs its next-decade vibe to enhance driving range. Our vehicle delivers 267 miles, but also lays down 389 horsepower and 442 lb.-ft. of torque through the all-wheel-drive system. Skip the spirited Sport mode and leave it in Eco for the best economy. Also depress the e-Step button for regenerative braking. Recharging 10-80% on

a fast charger takes 40 minutes - longer than competitors - and expect a 14-hour recharge on a 240v home or commercial charger.

Driving further into the future, our car was equipped with Nissan's ProPILOT Assist 2 system that allows for hands-off cruising on designated highways. It's not as smooth as some competitors, but it was a nice addition to the adaptive cruise control for a relaxed cup of coffee en-route. Automatic emergency braking, lane keep assist, and rear cross path detection with auto brake added to the margin of safety.

The suspension can be a little harsh and range could be better, but the Ariya is an absolute work of art that happens to be easy to use. Base models start at a very reasonable \$43,190, but our Plat-



CASEY WILLIAMS
Auto Reviews

inum+ e-4ORCE with the larger battery pack, AWD, and Nappa leather interior came to a lofty \$62,770. Competitors include the Ford Mustang Mach-E, Kia EV6 GT, Cadillac LYRIQ, and upcoming Chevy Blazer EV.

Storm Forward!

-Send comments to Casey at AutoCasey@aol.com; follow him on YouTube @AutoCasey.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me, directed from the Clerk of Montgomery Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Indiana, in Cause No. 54C01-2212-MF-001099, wherein Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC was Plaintiff, and Stacia L. Hiller and PNC Mortgage, a division of PNC Bank, National Association were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree, with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 9th day of August, 2023, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 600 Memorial Drive, Crawfordsville, IN 47933, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Montgomery County, Indiana.

PART OF THE WEST HALF OF LOT NUMBERED SEVEN (7) AS THE SAME IS KNOWN AND DESIGNATED ON THE ORIGINAL PLAT OF THE TOWN OF LONGVIEW, NOW A PART OF THE CITY OF CRAWFORDSVILLE, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A POINT 50 FEET SOUTH OF THE NORTH WEST CORNER OF SAID LOT AND RUNNING THENCE EAST 150 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO A POINT IN THE EAST LINE OF THE WEST HALF OF SAID LOT; THENCE SOUTH ALONG THE EAST LINE OF WEST HALF OF SAID LOT 50 FEET; THENCE WEST 150 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO A POINT TO THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT; THENCE NORTH 50 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, INDIANA.

More commonly known as 204 S Barr St, Crawfordsville, IN 47933-2303 Parcel No. 54-07-31-334-098.000-030 Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws.

/s/ Matthew S. Love
MATTHEW S. LOVE, Plaintiff Attorney
Attorney # 18762-29
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**NOTICE
FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR.**
PL4668 6/28 7/5 7/12 3t hspaxlp

**54D02-2306-EU-000047
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION**

In the Montgomery Superior Court 2 of Montgomery County, Indiana Notice is hereby given that Jeffrey D. Stuckey was on June 16, 2023, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Randall A. Stuckey, deceased, who died on the 11th day of May, 2023, and authorized by the Court to proceed with unsupervised administration of said estate.

All persons having claims against said estate, whether or not now due, must file the same in said court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or said claims will be forever barred.
Dated: June 16, 2023

Karyn Douglas, Clerk
Montgomery Superior Court 2 for
Montgomery County, Indiana

Robert S. Laszynski, Attorney
For the Personal Representative
LASZYNSKI & MOORE
P. O. Box 848
324 Main St., Suite E Lafayette, IN 47902
(765) 423-5626

PL4670 6/28 7/5 2t hspaxlp

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CRAWFORDSVILLE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Zoning Appeals of the City of Crawfordsville will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 19, 2023, in the Common Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, Municipal Building, 300 E. Pike Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana, to hear the request for a use variance from the schedule of uses of the City Zoning Ordinance to allow an HVAC business in a R-3, residential zoning district.

The property location 605 E Market Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana (Parcel No: 54-07-32-443-020.000-030)

The petition is on file and available for examination (and purchase at cost) in the Department of Planning & Building Services on the 2nd floor of the Municipal Building, 300 East Pike Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933 (765.364.5152); office hours are 8:00-12:00 noon and 1:00-4:00 p.m., weekdays except holidays.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to comment on the proposed request. Oral comments concerning the request will be heard. Written comments and objections to the requests may also be submitted to the Director of Planning & Building Services, City of Crawfordsville, at the address above prior to the hearing and will be considered.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if anyone wishes to attend, hear or present evidence at the public hearing and is in need of reasonable accommodation, please contact the Crawfordsville Department of Planning & Building Services at the address or phone number above so accommodation can be made.

Department of Planning & Building Services
Megan Huckstep, Director, City of Crawfordsville

PL4678 7/5 1t hspaxlp

On Wednesday, July 12, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, the Montgomery County Drainage Board will open sealed bids on the reconstruction of the James Wilson #588 regulated drain. Notice is hereby given that the Montgomery County Surveyor will be receiving sealed bids for the reconstruction of the James Wilson #588 until 9:00 am on Wednesday, July 12, 2023. The project is located in Montgomery County, Indiana.

James Wilson #588
Sugar Creek / Madison Townships
T20N, R3W, sections 7 & 18; T20N, R4W, sections 12 & 13
Install 1,303 feet of 24" smooth-corr pipe
Install 933 feet of 18" smooth-corr pipe
Install 3,648 feet of 12" smooth-corr pipe
Install 756 feet of 10" smooth-corr pipe
Montgomery County Surveyors Office
Montgomery County Drainage Board
1580 Constitution Row Suite F
Crawfordsville, IN 47933

PL4681 7/5 1t hspaxlp

On Wednesday, July 12, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, the Montgomery County Drainage Board will open sealed bids on the reconstruction of the Richard Virts #560 regulated drain. Notice is hereby given that the Montgomery County Surveyor will be receiving sealed bids for the reconstruction of the Richard Virts #560 until 9:00 am on Wednesday, July 12, 2023. The project is located in Montgomery County, Indiana.

Richard Virts #560
Ripley / Wayne Townships
T18N, R6W, sections 2, 3, 10, & 11
Jack and bore under SR 32
Install 84 feet of 18" OD A36 steel pipe w/0.312" min. wall thickness
Install 700 feet of 24" smooth-corr pipe
Install 2,283 feet of 18" smooth-corr pipe
Install 1,917 feet of 15" smooth-corr pipe
Install 2,215 feet of 12" smooth-corr pipe
Install 1,002 feet of 10" smooth-corr pipe
Install 418 feet of 8" smooth-corr pipe
Install 608 feet of 6" smooth-corr pipe
Montgomery County Surveyors Office
Montgomery County Drainage Board
1580 Constitution Row Suite F
Crawfordsville, IN 47933

PL4680 7/5 1t hspaxlp

**TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE
AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE**

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Indiana, in Cause No. 54C01-2302-MF-000144 wherein Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC was Plaintiff, and The Unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, beneficiaries of Allen Beasley and their unknown creditors; and, the unknown executor, administrator, or personal representative of the Estate of Allen Beasley, Unknown Occupants and Jon B. Beasley, as Possible Heir to the Estate of Allen Beasley were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder on the 9 day of August, 2023, at the hour of 10:00 am or as soon thereafter as is possible, at Sheriff's Office at 600 Memorial Drive, Crawfordsville, IN 47933, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Montgomery County, Indiana.

Part of the East Half of Section 21, Township 18 North, Range 3 West, described as follows:
Beginning 3201 feet North of the Southwest corner of the East Half of the Southeast Quarter of said Section and running thence East 320.2 feet; thence North 109.5 feet; thence West 320.5 feet, thence South 109.5 feet to the place of beginning, containing .805 of an acre, more or less, in Montgomery County, Indiana.

More commonly known as: 3376 South 775 East, New Ross, IN 47968 Parcel No. 54-09-21-100-016.000-032

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

"Subject to all liens, encumbrances and easements of record not otherwise extinguished in the proceedings known as Cause 54C01-2302-MF-000144 in the Circuit Court of the County of Montgomery, Indiana."

Attorney for Plaintiff: J. Dustin Smith
ATTORNEY NO. 29493-06 Sheriff of Montgomery County
Manley Deas Kochalski LLC
P.O. Box 165028 Walnut Township
Columbus OH 43216-5028
3376 South 775 East
Street Address

The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein.

**NOTICE
MANLEY DEAS KOCHALSKI LLC IS A DEBT COLLECTOR.
THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY
INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
PURSUANT TO INDIANA LAW, YOU ARE TO VACATE THIS
PROPERTY BY THE DATE OF THE SALE SET OUT ABOVE UNLESS
THE SALE IS CANCELLED. PLEASE CONTINUE TO CHECK THE
STATUS OF YOUR SALE AT www.sri-sheriffsale.com.**
PL4676 7/5 7/12 7/19 3t hspaxlp

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CRAWFORDSVILLE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Zoning Appeals of the City of Crawfordsville will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 19, 2023, in the Common Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, Municipal Building, 300 E. Pike Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana, to hear the request for a special exception from the City Zoning Ordinance to allow a boutique as a home occupation in a R-2, residential zoning district.

The property location 619 E Wabash Avenue, Crawfordsville, Indiana (Parcel No: 54-10-05-112-014.000-030)

The petition is on file and available for examination (and purchase at cost) in the Department of Planning & Building Services on the 2nd floor of the Municipal Building, 300 East Pike Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933 (765.364.5152); office hours are 8:00-12:00 noon and 1:00-4:00 p.m., weekdays except holidays.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to comment on the proposed request. Oral comments concerning the request will be heard. Written comments and objections to the requests may also be submitted to the Director of Planning & Building Services, City of Crawfordsville, at the address above prior to the hearing and will be considered.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if anyone wishes to attend, hear or present evidence at the public hearing and is in need of reasonable accommodation, please contact the Crawfordsville Department of Planning & Building Services at the address or phone number above so accommodation can be made.

Department of Planning & Building Services
Megan Huckstep, Director, City of Crawfordsville

PL4677 7/5 1t hspaxlp

STATE OF INDIANA IN THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURT
COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY CAUSE NO. 54D02-2305-DN-000380
IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:
Tonya Siler
Petitioner
v.
Gerald L Siler
Respondent.

SUMMONS

[For Dissolution of Marriage Cases Only]

The State of Indiana to Respondent: Gerald Siler
815 N 12th street
Lafayette, IN 47904

You have been sued by your spouse for dissolution of marriage. The case is pending in the Court named above.

If this Summons is accompanied by an Order Setting Hearing, you must appear in Court on the date and time stated on the Order Setting Hearing. IF YOU DO NOT APPEAR, EVIDENCE MAY BE HEARD AND A DECISION MAY BE MADE BY THE COURT. If a Temporary Restraining Order is issued, it is effective immediately upon your receipt or knowledge of the Order.

If you wish to retain an attorney to represent you in the matter, it is advisable to do so before the date stated on the Notice of Provisional Hearing.

If you take no action in this case after receipt of this Summons, the Court can grant a Dissolution of Marriage and/or make determinations that may include but not limited to any of the following: paternity, child custody, child support, maintenance, parenting time, property (real or personal), and other distribution of assets and debt, attorney fees and costs.

Dated: May 1, 2023

Karyn Douglas
Clerk, Montgomery County

PL4674 6/28 7/5 7/12 3t hspaxlp

On Wednesday, July 12, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, the Montgomery County Drainage Board will open sealed bids on the reconstruction of the Charles McFarland #545 regulated drain. Notice is hereby given that the Montgomery County Surveyor will be receiving sealed bids for the reconstruction of the Charles McFarland #545 until 9:00 am on Wednesday, July 12, 2023. The project is located in Montgomery County, Indiana.

Charles McFarland #545
Ripley Township
T18N, R6W, sections 1, 2, & 12
Jack and bore under SR 25
Install 67 feet of 18" OD A36 steel pipe w/0.312" min. wall thickness
Install 1,933 feet of 18" smooth-corr pipe
Install 3,491 feet of 15" smooth-corr pipe
Install 1,666 feet of 12" smooth-corr pipe
Install 579 feet of 10" smooth-corr pipe
Install 193 feet of 8" smooth-corr pipe
Montgomery County Surveyors Office
Montgomery County Drainage Board
1580 Constitution Row Suite F
Crawfordsville, IN 47933

PL4679 7/5 1t hspaxlp

BUTCH

From Page A1

for me. In grade school, all of my teachers--Mae Hunt, Lola Rankin, Lucille Cox, Alberta Royer, Mid Edwards, and Raymon Brown--were good teachers and disciplinarians. And I'll tell you, you did not want to go to the cloak room with Brownie! In the first grade, I remember being sent out into the hall, along with Ed Butler, Lyle Lidikay, and John Marshall, for putting pencils in our ears and up our noses. In fourth grade, we finally got Albert Parker to play with us, and then he broke his arm at recess! And watching Barry Booher break teacher Ed Miller's glasses in a softball game...I never saw a kid hate to go inside after recess as on that day. Ed let him live, by the way. And if you wanted basketball time in the gym, you saw how fast you could get your gym shoes on and get in line.

This era was a proud and happy time because World War II was coming to an end. I remember going to Crawfordsville the night the war was over and seeing the victory celebration. This was quite a sight to see from the eyes of an eighth grader. One of the things I remember well was being able to walk to school with Sam Thompson and Charlie McCafferty... they were four years older than me, and this was my first sex education...just kidding! I also found out there were other people going to school with me besides boys. My first hay ride, my first kiss, my first show date, my first crush on an older woman (still in high school)...what a great time! I got high on just being alive. I wouldn't have needed drugs even if they had been around.

I didn't miss many varsity games when I was in junior high. My Dad hauled me and anyone else who wanted to go as far as an "A" gasoline card would take us. I think we cheated and used a little farm gas for this patriotic

adventure. I had watched guys like Mutt Warren, Bill Dale, and Bill Stewart when I was in grade school, then I would pick out the players who I wanted to copy...also players like Bob Gooding and Charlie Arvin of Waveland, and Charles McCafferty of Darlington.

There were many funny incidents in our class, but I'll only mention a couple. Watching Leonard "Couch" Davenport to his thing in class was great... this guy was world class pantomime. The expression on Don Goldsby's face as he was escorted to the cloak room by Brownie... Bill Tincher trying to order drinks sent up to our room on our Senior trip... Our trip--what a joyful enlightenment!

In trying to think of the worst moments, I'm sure there were some. I imagine that my folks closed their eyes to some of the things I did, but time has graciously faded the memory of anything that I thought was really bad. If I'm labeled a sentimentalist, then I plead guilty.

I've always felt that I got a good basic education by going to Darlington. The teacher to student ratio was much better than it is now, and the teacher-parent relationship was close. Today that does not exist. From the first grade to Senior class, we were our own miniature community. This opportunity of closeness has been a part of our heritage which the following generations will miss out on.

Darlington School was a comfortable place which I liked going to. I knew each day it had something to give me, and it was up to me to receive it. I am far richer because of all the lifelong friends I made in the twelve years that I attended DHS."

- 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.



From Page A1

you worship next to at church – coach, sit with students during lunch hour, attend IEP meetings, listen to emotional burdens or household issues and mentor. They operate in schools that are short-staffed. They are consistently expected by legislators and communities to be on the front lines of suicide prevention, housing and food insecurity, and social-emotional trauma the kids bring from home. They need trained social workers, special education teachers, vocational teachers, music and arts teachers, choir and theater directors and minority representation in each area.

There are only so many hours in a day, so a public school teacher chooses. Should they call home to praise or troubleshoot a situation with a student who needs more emotional support and better school-home collaboration? Should they conference more to provide personal and caring feedback on projects, writing or complex mathematical problems? Should they spend evening hours sorting huge classes into smaller groups so they can

individuate levels of learning for students? Who will monitor all those small groups? What a luxury to have aides to balance the workload. God forbid smaller class sizes.

What We Talk About When We Talk About Education Misses The Mark

This voucher expansion is accommodating the people with the means to lobby. They have the time and funds. Low-income parents trying to juggle acute concerns – the car problems, a lack of health insurance and childcare – making it hard to write letters, call, or show up at the statehouse or a 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. “talk session” with a local legislator. No factory or kid accommodates that. Those who bend the ears of legislators have margin. And presently, those folks don't ascribe to the ethos of Spock from Star Trek III The Wrath of Khan where the goal is “for the good of the many, not of the one.”

Consider the numbers. According to the Indiana Capital Chronicle, “The state spent \$311.8 million on the program in the 2022-23 school year – 29 percent more than the year prior.” Now that there's broad eligibility for vouchers, the projected number of students who use the program is 95,000 students by 2025, “doubling the state money spent on the Choice Scholarships, costing taxpayers \$1.1 billion over the next two years.” Fewer low-income students are likely to be served. “In 2022-23, only 28.1 percent of

voucher households had an income below \$50,000, compared to 37.4 percent in the 2021-22 school year. Instead, most voucher recipient households were more likely to make over \$100,000 than under \$50,000.”

In 2018, the Center for American Progress reported on studies of states, including Indiana, where vouchers were implemented under the guise of improving educational outcomes for students. In the study of only Indiana students, researchers “examined the outcomes of students using vouchers for two, three, or four years between the 2011-12 and 2014-15 school years. At the time of the report, the Indiana study has the largest sample size – and the largest voucher program.” More than 34,000 Hoosier students received vouchers in the 2016-17 school year. The study found that students who used vouchers did not see academic gains in their new schools and that they performed worse, on average, than their matched peers in the public schools. Students with disabilities did profoundly worse.

Because they are schools of choice, private schools, homeschools and some charter schools are not obligated to serve all students. They can accept students with disabilities and needs without providing services, or they can turn those students away. When students are turned back to their local public school, that school is required by law to provide the full array of services the child needs. It's costly, but a worthwhile endeavor to educate every student.

While some state legislators supported voucher expansion to create more competition, purportedly to spur public schools to improve, the contingency who want a privatized education system haven't offered evidence that the market will improve service equitably for all students.

This is why the League of Women Voters here and incidentally in other states such as South Carolina (another expansion state) stand against the voucher expansion. Laws can be repealed, and likely this one, which experiments with Indiana's fiscal responsibility and educational quality should be.

- The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, multi-issue political organization which encourages informed and active participation in government. For information about the League, visit the website www.lwvmontcoin.org; or, visit the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, Indiana Facebook page.

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Can Mike Pence Win The Indiana Presidential Primary?



BRIAN HOWEY
Howey Political Report

In 1968, former vice president Richard Nixon pulled off what no other modern candidate for the White House had done, which was to win the presidency without carrying his home state primary.

There was a reason why Nixon didn't win the GOP California primary. Its favorite son, Gov. Ronald Reagan, was on the ballot, so Nixon didn't even bother qualifying.

Another former vice president named Mike Pence is seeking the presidency in 2024. For the former Indiana governor, the idea that he can use his home state as a bulwark and springboard over the 10-person (and growing) field remains in doubt. Pence picked up the endorsement of Gov. Eric Holcomb last week. But so far as I can tell, that is not translating into any degree of widespread support.

Last Tuesday, Hamilton County Republican Chairman Mario Massillamany announced a July 12 fundraiser for Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, coming in Pence's current home county. "This event is being hosted by State Rep. Chris Jeter and Bob Grand," Massillamany said in an email to his constituents.

Grand gravitating toward DeSantis is a big deal. He didn't want to comment when I talked to him on Wednesday, citing his long-time friendship with Pence. While he played a big role in elevating Pence toward the 2012 gubernatorial nomination which essentially coaxed the congressman out of the presidential cycle that year at a time when Gov. Mitch Daniels was pondering a candidacy, he has decided to back the Florida governor.

Holcomb offered his support for Pence in a tweet last Thursday, saying, "I've known Mike Pence for decades. Throughout those years, he's remained as honest as the day is long. As one Hoosier governor to

another, I look forward to supporting him as the weeks and months ahead unfold."

Holcomb told me in Evansville last Friday, "It was a no-brainer for me. I'm for the home team. I've known him the longest." Pence had elevated Holcomb to the vacant lieutenant governor job in February 2016, creating his historic "107-day campaign" when Pence resigned his second gubernatorial nomination to run for vice president that July.

Holcomb added that Pence articulated worthy issues on NBC's "Meet The Press" the week before, mentioning balancing the budget, forging immigration reform and restoring America's standing in the world. "Just in that one interview, he addressed all three of those buckets," Holcomb said.

But that so far has not translated to widespread support. I talked with several Republican legislators in Evansville last Friday; none was poised to jump on the Pence bandwagon. State Rep. Wendy McNamara said that there have been no caucus conversations about backing Pence, or the presidential race, for that matter.

That Rep. Jeter has signed on to the DeSantis effort reveals a third option. Trump will likely be backed by a significant portion of the 70-strong GOP caucus despite the fact that he faces more than 70 felony charges, about half of them stemming from his keeping classified documents at his Florida resort on a ballroom stage and next to his toilet.

While there has been no recent public polling in Indiana so far this year, the perception is that Trump remains popular with Hoosier Republicans. In a December 2022 Bellwether Research Poll in Indiana, Trump led with 39%, DeSantis was at 28% and Pence had 13%.

In 2022, Pence backed Republican Ron Turpin for the open SD14 seat in Fort Wayne. But it had little impact as Tyler Johnson won easily with 52% in a three-way race (Turpin received 38%). Pence was in Fort

Wayne last week, enthusiastically welcomed to headquarters by Allen County Chairman Steve Shine. According to WBOI, Pence met with about 50 supporters and asked for them to donate, volunteer and pray for him and his campaign as he goes against his former boss and running mate Donald Trump. "I'm more convinced than ever that Republicans know our party needs new leadership to carry us to victory," Pence said.

Thus far, Pence has been a distant third in the Real Clear Politics national composite with 5.8%, compared to 52.1% for Trump and 21.5% for DeSantis. Pence appears to be staking his long-shot hopes in Iowa, saying that it is the early state most like Indiana. In the RCP Iowa polling composite, he is a distant fourth at 3.7%, trailing Trump (46%), DeSantis (24.7%) and Haley (3.7%).

But it's early. Future presidents named Barack Obama and Jimmy Carter were polling in single digits at this point in their races.

Home state strength is important. Only Presidents James K. Polk, Woodrow Wilson, Nixon, and Trump have won the White House while losing their home state in a general election. DeSantis finds himself in a similar situation as Pence. A Florida Atlantic University poll in May showed Trump leading in that state with 59% to 31%.

In a 2020 Washington Post article titled "If you don't win your own state in the primary, you're probably not going to be the president," national columnist Philip Bump observes, "No party nominee has ever lost his or her home state since" Nixon. "In fact, it's fairly uncommon for candidates to lose their home states at all, unless they've already dropped out of the race."

Can he now pick up widespread support among his fellow Hoosiers? We'll see.

-Brian Howey is managing editor of Howey Politics Indiana/State Affairs. Find Howey on Facebook and Twitter @hwypol.

Are Electric Bug Zappers Safe For The Environment

EARTHTALK

Dear EarthTalk: Is it OK for the environment to use an electric bug zapper to keep the mosquitoes at bay in summer?

With summer comes, many of us seek solutions to combat the nuisance and potential health risks of mosquitoes. Electric bug zappers have gained in popularity, but while these little electrocution stations do kill some adult mosquitoes, many wonder what costs they may bring to ecosystems in general.

Electric bug zappers attract mosquitoes and other flying insects using ultraviolet light. Upon contact, they are electrocuted. By eliminating these pests, bug zappers help mitigate the risk of mosquito-borne illnesses like malaria, dengue fever and West Nile virus, while of course minimizing mosquito bites. Bug zappers do not rely on harmful toxins, offering a chemical-free approach to mosquito control. This is particularly significant where children, pets and beneficial insects like bees and butterflies are present.

That brings up the dark sides of electric bug zappers. For one, they can disrupt local ecosystems by indiscriminately killing various insect species, including beneficial ones. Aside from bees and butterflies, beetles and other insects that play vital roles in pollination and local ecological balance,

also get destroyed, leading to overall negative consequences for plant reproduction and biodiversity.

Another drawback to electric bug zappers is that they need electricity to operate continuously. Depending on the model and usage, they can consume a significant amount of energy, thus contributing to climate change and environmental degradation if it is derived from non-renewable sources like coal or natural gas. If powered by renewable energy, such as solar or wind, their environmental impact can be mitigated.

Another downside of bug zappers is their effectiveness. Studies have shown that they aren't highly effective in controlling mosquitoes. While they may attract and kill some adult mosquitoes, they do not address the root cause of mosquito infestations: breeding grounds. Mosquitoes primarily breed in stagnant water, thus eliminating these sources remains crucial for effective control. Relying solely on bug zappers may provide a false sense of security while neglecting essential preventive measures.

That said, adopting an integrated approach to mosquito control is essential. This includes eliminating standing water, using mosquito repellents and wearing protective clothing. By combining these measures, individuals can reduce their

reliance on bug zappers while effectively managing mosquito populations.

Yet another way to marshal nature in keeping mosquitoes at bay is to use natural predators such as bats, dragonflies and birds to aid in mosquito control. Creating habitats that attract these beneficial species, such as water features for dragonflies or installing bat boxes, can provide long-term, sustainable solutions.

Don't have the time or wherewithal to invest in such holistic long-term solutions? Then smear on bug repellent or buy so-called mosquito control gear to keep an outdoor area the size of a typical deck or patio mosquito-free are options. Consider Thermacell's E90 Rechargeable Mosquito Repellent which runs off a rechargeable battery and can keep bugs away from small outdoor spaces as long as the wind is minimal.

CONTACTS: The Best Mosquito Control Gear for Your Patio or Yard, nytimes.com/wirecutter/reviews/mosquito-control-gear/; Bug Zappers are Harmful, Not Helpful, hortnews.extension.iastate.edu/1996/6-14-1996/bugzapper.html.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at https://emagazine.com. To donate, visit https://earthtalk.org. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org

CRAWFORDSVILLE ROTARY AND HHSB PRESENT

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AUG 25
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SEPT 8
MONA & THE HITCHHIKERS
Opener: Big Henry & the Human Jukebox

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- 223/225 N Green St, Crawfordsville, 1300 square feet, built to suit. 2-entry access from N Green St. Has a fridge and counter space. Access to bathrooms and kitchenette. Parking available. We pay water, sewer, trash.
- The Journal Review building (119 N Green St) has 300-several thousand sq ft available for storage and/or office space! Climate controlled. Commercial spaces built to suit. Parking coming soon. We pay water, sewer, trash.

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TIM From Page A1

“Lord, John! You do realize that one day you are going to give me a heart attack, don’t you?” I managed – trying to get my breathing back to normal. It’s not that I’m afraid of the man they call Hammer – well, mostly. It’s just that he always does this. It’s like being in your house and you turn around and your spouse is right there. It gives you a start.

If you aren’t familiar with him, John is an incredibly large man. His calloused hands are the size of baseball mitts and the result of decades of honest, hard work. His neck is twice the size of mine and the skin is the texture of rough, yet worn-out leather. When he talks, which isn’t all that often, his gravelly voice sounds like it’s been drug over two miles of bad country roads. And if there is anyone who loves his country more, I haven’t met them yet.

“Well, since it appears the EMTs aren’t necessary, what can I do for you, John?”

“You know I don’t wear my religion on my sleeve,” he began, a little quieter than usual.

“Sure.”

“But Timmons, I swear, there is evil in this world.”

I smiled. “John, there’s always been evil. Look at Sodom and—”

“I know that,” he snapped. “I’m not saying there has never been, but Timmons, I swear there’s stuff going on that is getting worse by the day.”

“What do you mean?”

“Well, we know that politicians lie,” he said. “Nothing new with that. But the level they’re doing it now is pretty unbelievable.”

“I don’t know John, do you remember Richard Nixon?”

“It’s not just that,” he said in a tone that clearly said I wasn’t catching on. “Look at the violence in the world today. Indianapolis has turned into, well, I don’t know what. And that shooting in Nashville, Tenn. That shooter went in and targeted Christian kids.”

“Look, John, you can’t take one isolated incident and—”

“Isolated?” Hammer boomed. “Isolated? Have you not been paying attention, Timmons? There’s been more criminal acts against churches in the last few years than ever, and 2023 is even worse.”

Hammer was referring to a report I read from the Family Research Council that documented more than 400 incidents against churches from 2018 to 2022. Things like bomb threats, arson and vandalism. According to the study, 2023 is on track to be the worst year yet.

“And we’re fighting about putting sexually explicit books in school libraries, Timmons . . . SCHOOL LIBRARIES! And good people, people who are smart and seem to mean well, are screaming that those who don’t want the books in front of school kids are like the Nazis, that they’re banning books. Hell,

Timmons. Books like that have been available in our public libraries for a long time and no one has suggested getting rid of them. There’s no banning of books here. It’s just plain common sense that you don’t put that stuff in front of kids.”

“Look, John, I get it. There’s a debate—”

“There shouldn’t be, Timmons,” he shot back. “The point is that the world has changed and now people are saying that kids, little kids and kids in general, should be exposed to things that not too damn long ago would have been called pornographic.”

Hammer paused. He almost seemed out of breath.

“I’ll tell you this, Timmons. There’s something at work in the world today. You can call it good and evil on a God-kind-of-scale or you can call it whatever you want. I’m not smart enough to know the answer. But I do know this. In my heart I believe it’s time to think about what we believe and start making some choices.”

“What kind of choices, John?”

“The kind that last an eternity.”

With that, the Hammer walked away. But his words stayed.

-Two cents, which is about how much Timmons said his columns are worth, appears periodically on Wednesdays in The Paper. Timmons is the publisher of The Paper and can be contacted at timmons@thepaper24-7.com.

Keeping Stubby Company



CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

I spent the week visiting my parents at their retirement home “up north,” and so I got to see them and

my mother’s outside pet, Stubby, the red squirrel.

I hadn’t seen Stubby since last winter, when he had made an elaborate network of tunnels in the deep snow outside my parents’ window facing the lake. My mother fed him on the ground beneath the bird feeder, and Stubby would pop out of one of his several tunnel entrances to eat, then pop into his tunnel and emerge on the other side. He occasionally had some red squirrel visitors. I named one Evald, after a greatuncle, and my mother named the second one Sigfrid, after another one of her uncles. But the squirrel visitors were just that—they stayed for a short time, enjoyed Stubby’s handouts and left, leaving Stubby alone with my parents.

Stubby seemed happy to see us.

We all sat outside on the deck after dinner, and Stubby came out and chattered at us. He popped under the deck and re-emerged on the other side. He ran along the deck railing and then stopped

and stood up, his front paws together, his fingers knitted, as if he was about to make a speech or say the blessing.

“I think he likes the company,” my mother said. I think my mother enjoys Stubby’s company, and this is quite a change.

My mother has been battling with red squirrels since they moved “up north” more than 30 years ago. The red squirrels do everything in their power to get in to the bird food, although my father’s technique of wiring a length of stovepipe onto the pole that holds the bird feeder thwarts their efforts to make it to the mother lode. Instead, they have to sit below the feeder and wait for the chickadees to drop seeds—which is slow going.

They also dig up my mother’s garden and her flowerpots. They hide seeds in the pots and make a terrible mess, leaving potting soil all over the deck. My mother spent a portion of many days over the last 30 years chasing red squirrels off the deck.

But all that changed with Stubby.

Stubby has been my mom’s friend and charity case for a full year now, ever since he lost the end of his tail and gained a name and my mother’s sympathies. Now he is her year-round outdoor pet, and he sits just outside the window watching her

activities inside.

My mom buys a special bag of bird food, just for Stubby, and puts some outside below the feeder or along the top of the deck railing, for him. If the food gets low, Stubby climbs up a Norway pine and chatters loudly to alert my mother to the shortage. By now, Stubby has her very well trained.

My mom knocks on the window to let him know she sees him. Stubby stands up and looks at her, fingers knitted. They have a good relationship.

I don’t think my mother ever expected to have a red squirrel as a pet. I know she resisted for a long time. But Stubby has changed her mind about at least one red squirrel, and I think that is kind of remarkable. Getting to know Stubby has changed what my mother thinks about red squirrels.

“He’s pretty smart,” my mother says.

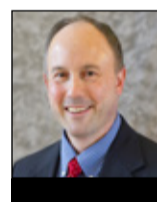
“He knows a lot more than we think,” my dad agrees.

Stubby stands on his hind feet, his fingers knitted together, and watches them through the window. I like to think Stubby has reconsidered his opinion of people as well.

Till next time,
Carrie

- Carrie Classon is a freelance writer and author and lives in New Mexico. Her columns appear each week.

“Swimmer’s Ear” Season



JOHN R. ROBERTS, M.D.
Montgomery Medicine

We’re in the middle of swim season and “swimmer’s ear” is becoming more commonplace. Doctors tend to see more of this malady

in hot, humid weather, but it can also be the result of other conditions as well.

The medical term for swimmer’s ear is otitis externa, indicating inflammation of the ear canal and less frequently, the external ear. This is in contrast to the more common otitis media, an infection of the middle ear (the air-filled cavity just behind the ear drum).

The number of people who suffer from swimmer’s ear in the U.S. is about four per 1,000 per year. It afflicts males and females in equal numbers and tends to present between seven and twelve years of age, though older people can certainly be affected.

The ear wax (cerumen) that everyone is always trying to clean out of their ears is actually there to protect the external ear canal. There is a delicate balance of too much or too little cerumen. If there is not enough present, the ear canal can dry out, crack, and become infected. If there is too much, the ear canal can become too moist. This leads to swelling and breakdown of the skin lining the ear canal.

The majority of cases of swimmer’s ear are caused by too much wax. This allows water contaminated with bacteria or fungi to enter the ear canal and invade the broken down skin. Since swimmers often swim in contaminated water, they are more prone to develop this problem.

There are other con-

ditions that can lead to otitis externa. Trauma to the ear canal is one of the more common ones. This is where one should heed grandma’s advice to never put anything smaller than your elbow in your ear. Items such as Q-tips, bobby pins, and paper clips do not belong in the ear canal. Repeated use of earplugs, ear buds, or hearing aids can also cause trauma and trapping of moisture.

Other skin conditions such as dermatitis and seborrhea that can increase the risk for infection. People with small ear canals are also prone to more frequent infections.

Species of Pseudomonas bacteria are the most common organisms causing otitis externa. Staphylococci and Streptococci can also cause the infection. Fungi play a role in about five percent of cases.

Most people recover from otitis externa with minimal intervention. However, people with certain medical conditions can develop severe problems. Diabetics and those with compromised immune systems need to be careful. Simple otitis externa can lead to a severe condition called malignant otitis externa.

The malignant form results from the infection spreading to the tissues around the ear. It should be suspected in those who have a lot of redness and/or swelling around the ear. These people need hospitalization for intravenous antibiotics. If left untreated, this condition can be fatal in up to half the cases.

People who have swimmer’s ear typically have some exposure to water. Itching may be the initial symptom followed by worsening pain over the next couple of days. The ear may start to drain white material with a foul odor.

Patients may experience

a pressure or fullness in the ear and may also develop hearing loss if the infection causes the ear canal to swell shut. Pain when tugging on the ear or when pushing on the little flap in front of the opening to the ear canal is a reliable physical finding for otitis externa. This usually doesn’t cause pain with middle ear infections.


Treatment is curative over 90 percent of the time. Most people improve in two to three days and are back to normal in a week or so.

There are many treatments available, but prescription antibiotic drops work best. One of the oldest agents around is a milky fluid that contains two different antibiotics and a steroid. However, one of the antibiotics can sometimes cause some hearing loss and the other antibiotic may cause a local allergic reaction.

The antibiotic drops ciprofloxacin and ofloxacin are most commonly recommended. If there is fungal involvement, doctors may prescribe simple acetic acid (vinegar) solutions or topical antifungal medication. Occasionally the pain is so intense that oral narcotics may be required.

Patients who suffer from recurrent bouts of swimmer’s ear should employ preventative measures. A half-and-half mixture of white vinegar and 70 percent isopropyl alcohol works well. A couple of drops in each ear after getting the ears wet can be very effective at prevention. I also recommend directing a blow dryer on the lowest setting into the ear canal after bathing or swimming. Avoid dryers that are noisy that may cause hearing damage.

- Dr. John Roberts is a retired member of the Franciscan Physician Network specializing in Family Medicine.



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New Students:
Families of new students (including kindergarteners) need to schedule an appointment ASAP to register. The following documents are required at the time of registration:

- Copy of student’s birth certificate
- Immunization record
- Proof of residency
- Any custodial or guardianship records

Returning Students:
Returning families, please register online through the PowerSchool Parent Portal.

Do you need help registering?


To schedule an appointment or receive assistance with PowerSchool please contact Mrs. Melissa Norman at (765) 866-0203.
No payment will be due at the time of registration.



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