

**➤ TODAY'S VERSE**

John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name.

**➤ FACES OF MONTGOMERY**

People who call our community their own.



Molly, Assistant Manager at Sunflower Herbs & Vitamins offered one of our roving photographers a smile, with Sunflower's Readers' Choice Award. Thank you for your smile!

**➤ THREE THINGS You Should Know:**

**1** From Indiana Department of Veteran Affairs; Indiana Veteran Families experiencing financial hardship can apply for \$500 per dependent child for back-to-school expenses. Students must live in a veteran's home. Children K-12 up to age 18 and Full-Time college students, up to age 23 qualify. Must provide Application, DD-214, Bank Statement, Proof of income, Proof of child's dependency, proof of child's residency. Use this link: <https://www.in.gov/dva/files/2023-BTS-app.pdf> to fill out the application.

**2** The Indiana Department of Transportation announces restrictions on State Road 75 starting on or after Monday, August 21 for bridge work near Jamestown. Traffic will be down to one lane over West Fork Big Walnut Creek and controlled by temporary traffic signals. The restrictions will be between W. County Road 1025 N. and W. Co. Rd. 900 N. through mid-September, weather permitting. This contract was awarded to Rieth Riley Construction for \$7.2 million. Crews will be performing a bridge deck overlay on S.R. 75 over Branch Ramp Run, an HMA Overlay between S.R. 234 and U.S. 136, and preventative maintenance from U.S. 36 to S.R. 234. The entire contract is expected to be completed in June of 2024. INDOT urges motorists to slow down, use caution, and consider worker safety when traveling through a work zone.

**3** The Drainage Board meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, August 9th has been canceled, due to lack of agenda items.

# The Paper

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Photo courtesy of Crawfordsville Kiwanis

**Luke Rice received the adaptive bicycle, and makes his first trip around his home.**

## Luke Get's A Bike!

Crawfordsville resident Luke Rice is a 15-year-old boy with a sweet and happy spirit who enjoys wearing hats and watching people. At seven days old Luke had open heart surgery due to a heart defect at birth. At 6 months old Luke was diagnosed with cerebral palsy and he is currently doing physical therapy to help with his muscle tone.

Luke's therapist at Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis, Sarah Gonzalez, suggested to Luke's parents that the Crawfordsville Kiwanis Club might be able to help by providing some adaptive equipment that would help Luke exercise his legs. The Crawfordsville Kiwanis Club was happy to help. Through a short fundraising campaign and with the help of the Montgomery County Community Foundation the club was able to order a new adaptive bike for Luke.

On Thursday, August 3rd, the club presented the bike to Luke and his parents at their regular meeting. Luke was very excited and even took the bike out for a test ride when he got home.

The Crawfordsville Kiwanis Club is thankful to the donors in the community that were able to help in providing this piece of adaptive equipment to Luke. If you would like to hear more about the club's efforts in working with kids in the Montgomery County community, you are invited to attend one of their meetings held every Thursday at 11:30 am in the Donnelly room at the Crawfordsville District Public Library.



Photo courtesy of Nicholas Shotwell

**Montgomery County United Marching Band member Crawfordsville High School senior Beth Turner performs during Indiana State Fair Band Day, where the band won 10th place of 37 bands.**

## Montgomery County Wins 10th At State Fair Band Day

By Betsy Reason  
news@thepaper24-7.com

Montgomery County United Marching Band & Guard earned 10th place in Friday's Indiana State Fair Band Day presented by Music Travel Consultants and Paige's Music.

Montgomery County United Marching Band & Guard features 75 members of band and guard and is made up of students from Crawfordsville, Southmont Senior and North Montgomery high schools.

"My colleagues and I were super happy with our placing at Band Day," Jonathon Tebbe, Crawfordsville's band director, said on Monday.

"It was our highest placing

ever and the first time Montgomery County (United Marching Band & Guard) has been represented in the Top 10 since 2010," Tebbe said.

"The kids were electric. They knew what they wanted and went and got it, and we couldn't have been more proud of their passion and work ethic this year," he said.

The Band Day competition show theme was "Rise Above" and was "meant to represent the struggles of life and overcoming them to become the best version of yourself." The repertoire used "Pictures at Bald Mountain" by Randall

➤See BAND Page A5

## Butch Loves Cloudy And Rainy Days!



**BUTCH DALE**  
COLUMNIST

Why do most people look forward to summer and sunny days? And why do these same people think that a cloudy or rainy day is miserable? Do they enjoy looking up

at the sun, sweating in 95-degree weather, putting on their sunglasses, and slapping on the sunscreen? This makes them happy?

Well, my wife is one of those people. I am just the opposite. I'll take clouds over sunshine any day of the week, and I love rainy days...no downpours,

just a light, gentle rain. The fall and winter seasons are also my favorites, even though I have to shell out money for LP gas. Many people become depressed on cloudy and rainy days. And a large percentage of the population become depressed during the winter months, especially after the Christmas season. Psychologists have a term for this depression... "SAD"... Seasonal affective disorder. I also experience this depression....in the summer!

I suppose my feelings about cloudy days must stem from some event in my childhood. I do recall being in the haymow of our barn on a cloudy or rainy day, and just feeling at peace...watching the clouds roll

➤See BUTCH Page A6

## The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset  
RISE: 6:51 a.m.  
SET: 8:55 p.m.

+ -

High/Low  
Temperatures  
High: 82 °F  
Low: 63 °F



Today is...

- International Cat Day
- The Date To Create
- National Frozen Custard Day

### What Happened On This Day

- 1974 President Richard Nixon Resigns. In an evening televised address on August 8, 1974, President Richard M. Nixon announces his intention to become the first president in American history to resign.
- 1975 The term "Global Warming" appears for the first time in print. The term "global warming" appears for the first time in print on August 8, 1975, with the publication of Wallace Smith Broecker's paper "Climatic Change: Are We on the Brink of a Pronounced Global Warming?" in the journal Science.
- 1945 Soviet Union declares war against Japan. On August 8, 1945, the Soviet Union officially declares war on Japan, pouring more than 1 million Soviet soldiers into Japanese-occupied Manchuria, northeastern China, to take on the 700,000-strong Japanese army.

### Births On This Day

- 1937 Dustin Hoffman American actor
- 1902 Paul Dirac English physicist

### Deaths On This Day

- 2010 Patricia Neal American Actress
- 1965 Shirley Jackson American Author

**➤ HONEST HOOSIER**

It's the one-year anniversary of the infamous raid on Donald Trump's Florida estate. Isn't it amazing how much the government and life has changed?



**➤ INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION**

- Service Directory...A3
- Capital Chronicle...A4
- Classifieds.....A4
- Slim Randles.....A5
- Earth Talk.....A5

**➤ THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE**

**Midwest Railroad Fair:**

The 3rd annual Midwest Railroad Fair, presented by the Linden Depot Museum, is scheduled for Saturday Aug. 12 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Linden Depot Museum. The fair is a tribute to railroads past, present, and future. Enjoy the exhibits, the vendors, the food, and explore the museum and model railroad attractions.

**➤ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP**

If you're over 50, make sure to see your doctor for screening for colon cancer.

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](http://www.thepaper24-7.com).



**➤ TODAY'S QUOTE**

"Better three hours too soon than a minute too late."  
-William Shakespeare

**➤ TODAY'S JOKE**

What do you call a chicken staring at lettuce?  
Chicken Sees-A-Salad!

**➤ OBITUARIES**

None

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



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**13 WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST**

80 DRY DAY, STORMS LATE	68/76 SHOWERS & STORMS	63/82 LESS HUMID	64/83 CLOUDS BUILD, P.M. STORMS	66/83 SHOWERS & STORMS	66/85 MAINLY DRY	65/82 PARTLY CLOUDY
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT



➤ Meeting Notes

**Crawfordsville Council  
Committee Meeting Agenda**

August 7 at 6 p.m.

- I. Fiscal Affairs
  - A. Ordinance Authorizing The City Of Crawfordsville To Issue Its "Taxable Economic Development Revenue Bonds, Series 2024 (Arbor Housing Project)" And Approving And Authorizing Other Actions In Respect Thereto
  - B. A Resolution finding that a property owner is in substantial compliance for tax abatement purposes - Kroger Pace Dairy
  - C. A Resolution Approving Application for Tax Abatement—Mercury Real Estate Holdings, LLC
  - D. A Resolution finding that a property owner is in

- substantial compliance for tax abatement purposes - American Innovation
  - E. An Ordinance Establishing City Code Section 37.18 Capital Asset Policy
- II. Ordinances & Petitions
  - III. Traffic, Parking & Safety
    - A. Ordinance Amending Parking Restrictions to Add One Disabled Parking Space located in the first parking space south of West Wabash Avenue, on the west side of South Green Street, directly in front of 301 S Green Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana
  - IV. Annexation
  - V. Miscellaneous
  - VI. Adjournment

**Crawfordsville District Public  
Library Board Of Trustees  
Meeting Notice and Agenda**

August 10, at 4 p.m.  
Conference Room

- Call to order
- Public Comments
- Minutes – action
- Claims – action
- Reports: Main Street, Park Board, Friends of CMMC
- Old Business
- Director's Report
- Financial Reports
- New Business
- Classification Schedule and Pay Scale Revision – action
- 2024 Budget Proposal – action

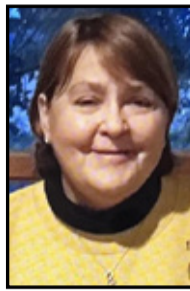
- Resolution to Join the Indiana State Library Consortium for Public Library Internet Access – action
  - Circulation Policy Revision – action
  - Adjournment
- Upcoming board meetings
- September 14, 2023 – 4:00 p.m. (2024 budget hearing)
  - October 12, 2023 – 4:00 p.m. (2024 budget adoption)
  - November 9, 2023 – 4:00 p.m.

➤ OBITUARIES

**Becky S. Lietz**

April 11, 1952, Friday, August 4, 2023

Becky S. Lietz, 71, of Crawfordsville, IN, formerly of Tuscola, IL, passed away Friday afternoon, August 4, 2023 at Whitlock Place Senior Living, Crawfordsville.



Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10 a.m., Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at the Forty Martyrs Catholic Church, 201 East Van Allen Street, Tuscola, IL with Father John Titus as celebrant. Burial will be in the Tuscola Township Cemetery, Tuscola, IL

Visitation will be held from 8:30 a.m. until 9:45 a.m. on Wednesday prior to the mass at Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home, 705 South Main Street, Tuscola, IL

Becky was born on April 11, 1952 in Tuscola, the daughter of Lewis F. and Frances A. Teeters Hettinger. She married David L. Lietz.

Survivors include her daughter: Tammy (Mark) Martin of Tuscola, grandsons: Zack (Heather) Martin of Clinton, IN and Austin (Breanna) Martin of Tuscola, 6 great-grandsons: Bradley Russell, Caleb Russell, Brentley Martin, Lucas Martin, Ethan Martin and Kyler Martin, siblings: Steve (Becky) Hettinger of Tuscola, Ken (Lena) Hettinger of Hindsboro, Larry (Debbie) Hettinger of Tuscola and Kathy (Rich) Page of Paxton, Special Friend Don Meuser of Crawfordsville, and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded by her parents and daughter: Marci S. Lietz.

Becky was a member of Forty Martyrs Catholic Church and formerly worked as the church secretary for several years. She then worked as a secretary at the East Prairie Middle School in Tuscola prior to her retirement. After moving to Crawfordsville, she also attended St Bernard Catholic Church. She enjoyed crafts, sewing, decorating cakes and collecting angels and snowmen.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to American Diabetes Association, American Cancer Society or to the donor's choice. Online condolences may be shared via hilligossshraderfh.com

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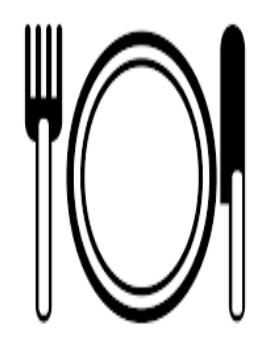
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# National Dog Month: Everything Dogs In Wake Of Yellow Collapse, Can Trucking Get Greener?



**STEPHANIE MORRISSETTE**  
Fresh Off The Shelf

Man's best friend is celebrated every year in August. Dogs provide unlimited joy and companionship, wagging tails, and wet kisses. I can remember all the dogs that have blessed my life throughout the years, and I thought we all should give our thanks to our furry friends.

humans and change the lives of those they encounter. Or, if you prefer reads about pit bulls, read I'm a Good Dog: Pit Bulls, America's Most Beautiful (and Misunderstood) Pet by Ken Foster (636.755 Fos).

Two great picture books are Peanut Butter Dogs by Greg Murray (636.70022 Mur) and Underwater Dogs by Seth Casteel (779.329 Cas). These books will make you laugh at all the silly faces dogs make when just being dogs. The color images add a real-life look at dogs being themselves.

If you would like to read about how military dogs have helped our soldiers, check out Unconditional Honor: Wounded Warriors and Their Dogs by Cathy Scott (362.4 Sco), or No Better Friend: One Man, One Dog, and Their Extraordinary Story of Courage and Survival in WWII by Robert Weintraub (355.424 Wei). More great options include From Baghdad to America: Life Lessons from a Dog Named Lava by Jay Kopelman (956.7044 Kop) and Dog Heroes of September 11th by Nona Bauer (636.7 Bau).

Some classic dog books include Rin Tin Tin: Life and Legend by Susan Orlean (636.737 Orl) and Lassie by Eric Knight (j FIC Kni). There is also How Stella Learned to Talk by Christina Hunter (591.59 Hun). If you

are interested in breed standards or specific information, we have The Dog Encyclopedia (636.7 Dog), Kennel Club's Illustrated Breed Standards (636.71 Ken), and The New Complete Dog Book: Official Breed Standards and Profiles for over 200 Breeds (636.7 New).

We have fiction titles too, that may suit your love of dogs. A popular title is A Dog's Purpose by Bruce Cameron (FIC Cam). Cameron also wrote A Dog's Way Home (FIC Cam), A Dog's Promise (FIC Cam), and A Dog's Courage (FIC Cam). Additionally, we have popular titles such as Call of the Wild by Jack London (FIC Lon) - a classic of course - and The Art of Racing in the Rain by Garth Stein (FIC Ste).

So, for everything dogs, stop by the second-floor reference desk and check out our display. There is something for everyone when it comes to dogs, so let's celebrate our best friends with fresh reads. Happy National Dog Month Mont. Co!

CDPL is open Monday through Thursday from 9 am to 9 pm; Fridays and Saturdays from 9 am to 5 pm and on Sundays from 1 pm to 5 pm.

*-Stephanie Morrissette is an avid naturalist and is a Library Assistant at the Reference and Local History Department at CDPL.*

## EARTHTALK

**Dear EarthTalk: Is the widely publicized failure of Yellow Trucking actually an opportunity for the U.S. trucking industry to reduce its carbon footprint?**

While no one likes to see companies fail and people lose their livelihoods, some environmental advocates do see the recent collapse of Yellow Trucking as a way to force the industry down a greener path. After all, the transportation sector is the largest U.S. carbon dioxide (CO2) polluter, generating 20 percent of all domestic emissions. The freight trucking sector alone is responsible for roughly half of that. Given the slowness of trucking to adopt greener fuels, drivetrains and operations, environmental advocates see a lot of low-hanging fruit for reducing transportation's carbon footprint.

What can trucking do to start becoming part of the solution to climate change? The obvious place to start is the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs). There is no reason the same technologies now so widespread for passenger cars can't be implemented at a scale for trucks, too. Indeed, Tesla is showing the way with the recent roll-out of its all-electric Semi, currently in use by a handful of major corporations and soon to be more common on U.S. highways. To that end, Tesla recently

applied for \$100 million in grant funding to develop a recharging infrastructure for EV trucks traveling between Texas and California. Tesla isn't alone in trying to electrify trucking: At least 17 other manufacturers (e.g., BYD, Mercedes-Benz, Freightliner, Volvo, Tata) are competing for pieces of the EV truck pie.

Besides a wholesale move to EVs, there's a lot we can do to green the truck operations. Encouraging the use of alternative fuels such as natural gas and biodiesel where applicable is a no-brainer. Meanwhile, enhancing the aerodynamics of trucks and trailers can reduce fuel consumption and emissions. Installing technologies like side skirts, boat tails and better tires can make a big difference in fuel efficiency.

Another way to green trucking is to implement so-called "smart logistics"—using advanced technology for route planning and load optimization to reduce fuel consumption and emissions. Likewise, providing training to truck drivers on fuel-efficient driving practices and rewarding drivers for fuel-efficient behaviors can lead to significant fuel and emission savings. Employing real-time monitoring and data analytics to track fuel consumption, emissions and operational efficiency can help identify areas for improvement and further optimize trucking operations. And promoting freight consolidation and

intermodal transportation—combining multiple "modes" like rail and truck—can reduce emissions by shifting some of the freight transport load to greener modes like rail, thus reducing the trucks on the road.

In 2022, the Biden administration unveiled stricter standards on emissions from trucks, vans and buses starting in the 2027 model year, the first update to clean air standards for heavy-duty vehicles in more than 20 years. Environmental advocates see this as a long time coming and still not enough—and the trucking industry is challenging the new regulations, claiming they are too onerous. We'll see how things shake out for the trucks of the near future when the dust settles in this fight over regulations.

**CONTACTS: Biden unveils stricter emissions rules for heavy-duty trucks, cncb.com/2022/12/20/biden-unveils-stricter-emissions-rules-for-heavy-duty-trucks.html; Trucking Interests Ask Biden to Reduce Emission Rule, tnews.com/articles/trucking-biden-emission-rule; Tesla Wants to Build a Semi Truck-Charging Route From Texas to California, bloomberg.com/news/articles/2023-08-01/tesla-semi-truck-charging-route-pitched-at-100-million.**

*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.*

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# BAND From Page A1

Standridge, which featured two classical favorites fused together, "Pictures at an Exhibition" and "Night on Bald Mountain" for a wonderfully dark score and powerful and exciting competition set.

Tebbe said, "We are very, very excited with how the show went." Elizabeth Newnum, Southmont director of bands, and Andrew Simpkins, North Montgomery director of bands, join Tebbe as band directors for Montgomery County United, plus assistant director Kevin Brooks of North Montgomery and auxiliary director Thomas Hillenbrand.

While Friday's heat was "definitely a factor," Tebbe said the band had "great parents" who were making sure the students could rehearse and perform

while staying hydrated and healthy. "It has been great to have them around so we can focus on making this group the best it can be from a performance standpoint."

Earlier this year, Montgomery County United earned first place at Montgomery County, seventh place at Jay County and seventh place in Anderson.

"Tebbe said, "We are proud of what this group has achieved this year, and we appreciate the support that Montgomery County has given us this year."

*-Betsy Reason writes about people, places and things in Hamilton County in The Times, a subsidiary of Sagamore News Media and a sister paper of The Paper of Montgomery County*



Photo courtesy of Nicholas Shotwell

Montgomery County United Marching Band & Guard performs Friday during Indiana State Fair Band Day, where the band won 10th place of 37 bands.



Photo courtesy of Nicholas Shotwell

Montgomery County United Marching Band guard member Crawfordville High School sophomore Bristol Presley performs during Indiana State Fair Band Day.



Photo courtesy of Nicholas Shotwell

Montgomery County United Marching Band members CHS junior Georgianna Hernandez (from left), SouthMont grad Cailin Phillips, CHS junior Mercedes Randles and SouthMont freshman Isabella Elless perform Friday during Indiana State Fair Band Day, where the band won 10th place of 37 bands.



Photo courtesy of Nicholas Shotwell

Montgomery County United Marching Band & Guard performs Friday during Indiana State Fair Band Day, where the band won 10th place of 37 bands.



Photo courtesy of Nicholas Shotwell

Montgomery County United Marching Band and Guard members, Crawfordville High School juniors Ruth Garcia (left) and Ximena Montero, perform Friday during Indiana State Fair Band Day, where the band won 10th place of 37 bands.



Photo courtesy of Nicholas Shotwell

Montgomery County United Marching Band Guard member Crawfordville High School sophomore Jaylan Wilson performs Friday during Indiana State Fair Band Day, where the band won 10th place of 37 bands.



Photo courtesy of Nicholas Shotwell

Montgomery County United Marching Band member, Crawfordville High School sophomore Ian Hurt, performs Friday during Indiana State Fair Band Day, where the band won 10th place of 37 bands.



Photo courtesy of Nicholas Shotwell

Montgomery County United Marching Band guard member Crawfordville High School junior Xcaret Aguilar performs during Indiana State Fair Band Day.

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# Preparing For The Trial (And Election) Of The Millennium



**BRIAN HOWEY**  
Howey Political Report

After reluctantly coming out of retirement to lead a fledgling nation, in 1796 President George Washington gave up power, which at that point in human history had been unthinkable. In his "Farewell Address" he warned that the preservation of the Union was at the core of nationhood.

"We must guard our inheritance," Washington said. "If we allow sectional jealousies to eclipse national interests, the republic will be in peril."

Four years later, after President John Adams was defeated for reelection by Vice President Thomas Jefferson, the idea of a "peaceful transfer of power" was further established. Adams was bitter over the defeat to his rival, but abided by the verdict of the American people.

For 220 years, these precedents by Wash-

ington and Adams endured, enshrined in our rollicking politics through 44 presidencies, until the people, by a plurality of more than seven million votes, rejected a second term of President Donald J. Trump in 2020.

On Tuesday, special counsel Jack Smith filed four criminal charges against Trump, alleging that the attack on the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, was "fueled by lies — lies by the defendant targeted at obstructing a bedrock function of the U.S. government."

Starting around Nov. 13, 2020 by using "baseless fraud claims" that had been rejected by some 60 courts (with many of these cases presided over by Trump-appointed judges), Trump pushed seven state legislatures - Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin - to establish alternative electors. He attempted to convince Vice President Mike Pence to embrace the fraudulent electors scheme, reject legitimate Electoral College verdicts, throwing the

election outcome back to these states. After Pence refused, Smith alleges that Trump attempted an outright coup d'etat on Jan. 6, with a mob moving from a Trump speech on the Ellipse to erecting gallows on Capitol Hill while chanting, "Hang Mike Pence."

"Today's indictment serves as an important reminder: Anyone who puts himself over the Constitution should never be president of the United States," Pence said. "Our country is more important than one man. Our Constitution is more important than any one man's career. I chose the Constitution and always will."

Former Republican New Jersey governor and Trump ally Chris Christie was far more blunt: "The events around the White House from election night forward are a stain on our country's history and a disgrace to the people who participated. This disgrace falls the most on Donald Trump. He swore an oath to the Constitution, violated his oath and brought shame to his

presidency." That Trump is seeking the 2024 Republican presidential nomination, has a 30 to 40% lead over his closest rival in many polls while facing more than 70 criminal charges filed against him in two federal jurisdictions (along with one in New York) is a collision of epic forces with the peaceful transfer of power as well as the rule of law hanging in the balance.

Sometime in 2024, either jurors or American voters will render a verdict in what will be the trial (and the election) not just of the century, but, perhaps, the millennium.

"This is the moment that will decide our future as a democracy," observed Tom Nichols of The Atlantic. Or as New York Times reporter Peter Baker writes, "At the core of the United States of America v. Donald J. Trump is no less than the viability of the system constructed during that (1787) summer in Philadelphia. Can a sitting president spread lies about an election and try to employ the authority of

the government to overturn the will of the voters without consequence? In effect, Jack Smith ... charged Mr. Trump with one of the most sensational frauds in the history of the United States."

The conservative Wall Street Journal editorial board observed: "Donald Trump's post-election behavior in 2020 was deceitful and destructive, and his malfeasance on Jan. 6, 2021, was disgraceful, but was it criminal? We've argued that an indictment of a former President should be based on serious charges with enough evidence to convince most Americans that it is justly brought. We doubt most Republicans will see this one in that light, and that means we are headed for more difficult and dangerous months ahead."

To put this in Hoosier parlance, if Purdue defeats Michigan State on the hardwood or gridiron, and then the loser claims the rules weren't fair or the refs stole the game, they would be branded "poor losers." Pence told Fox News, "The President specifically asked me

and his gaggle of crackpot lawyers ... to literally reject votes. They asked me to reject votes, return votes, essentially, to overturn the election."

In writing this, I am mindful of Donald Trump's political strengths in Indiana, winning the contested 2016 primary and carrying the state's 11 Electoral College votes twice. But it is worth noting that key Hoosier Republicans (Pence, former National Intelligence Director Dan Coats, former Surgeon General Jerome Adams, and former Medicaid/Medicare Director Seema Verma) who served under Trump are not backing him for a second term.

Such a second Trump administration would likely be festooned with crackpots and cranks. Whether he returns for a second term will be in the hands of voters in November 2024.

*-Brian Howey is senior writer and columnist for Howey Politics Indiana/State Affairs. Find Howey on Facebook and Twitter @hwypol.*

## Giving Multiplied With School Supplies For Children Overseas

As the school year approaches, shoebox packers are making use of back-to-school prices to purchase gifts and essential items for children in need around the world. Residents in Crawfordsville are collecting school supplies, along with personal care items and fun toys, to pack in shoeboxes. Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, will deliver these gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 100 countries.

For many children, access to these simple items is essential to an education. This was the case for Justin Thomas, a shoebox recipient in Southeast Asia whose parents could not afford the supplies needed for school. Thomas remembers the specific day he received a gift-filled

shoebox from Operation Christmas Child and found it filled with toys and most exciting to him—school supplies!

Growing up with hand-me-down clothes and used items, Thomas used to write with a pencil so short that he held it using a pen cap. Having an entire packet of new pencils and a pencil sharpener all his own was a treasure to him. This simple gift made a life-changing impact for Thomas because it opened the doors for him to receive an education.

For more information, visit [samaritanaspurse.org/occ](http://samaritanaspurse.org/occ). National Collection Week is Nov. 13-20. Participants can donate \$10 per shoebox gift online through "Follow Your Box" and receive a tracking label to discover its destination. Those who

prefer the convenience of online shopping can browse [samaritanaspurse.org/buildonline](http://samaritanaspurse.org/buildonline) to select gifts matched to a child's specific age and gender, then finish packing the virtual shoebox by adding a photo and personal note of encouragement.

Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, seeks to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world and, together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 209 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 170 countries and territories. This year, Operation Christmas Child will celebrate its 30th year of ministry!

## ↳ BUTCH

From Page A1

by, listening to the rain on the metal barn roof, feeling a cool breeze while sitting by the barn haymow window...Reading a book in my upstairs bedroom as snow swirls by my window...Going for a walk down the road as a storm gathers in the west...Getting caught in the rain as I pedaled my bike home from baseball practice. These are all pleasant memories for me.

My brain also seems to function better, and I have more creative energy when it's cloudy or rainy. I just can't get as much done on a sunny day. For me the worst part of any day is the early morning, just as the sun is coming over the horizon. My favorite part of the day is evening, after the sun has disappeared. Many folks are absolutely terrified of lightning...not me. And some people refuse to drive in the rain. That doesn't bother me at all. When it's cold and cloudy outside, I love to curl up in a chair and

read a good book, and sip a cup of coffee or hot tea. When it's snowing or raining while I am working at the library, of course very few patrons show up. I enjoy talking with people, but times like

that offer me a bit of a respite, a sense of isolation, and some down time from a sometimes hectic day. Everyone needs to be alone at least part of each day...to think, relax, and take a break. Rainy and cloudy days improve my mood and make me happy.

On a similar note, I much prefer working at night rather than the daytime. During most of the years when I was a deputy on the Sheriff's department, I worked the night shift...by choice. Even after I was elected Sheriff, I worked at night. First of all, the most serious crimes and accidents occur more often at night, and I wanted to be there. But secondly, I just preferred working at night. I was able to get more done.

However, it seemed that I ended up working both day and night as county sheriff...averaging around 73 hours a week!

As I get older (I will soon be 75 years old), I have found that I love dark, cloudy, and rainy days even more. Perhaps God is hinting that I might not even be waking up to see any sunrises in a few years. Suits me, as long as I don't end up in the hot, firelight cavern of Hell down below. If I am lucky, I hope God will let me sit by the window in his Heavenly haymow, supply me with coffee and some good books, and send over a steady stream of dark clouds and gentle raindrops...with perhaps a bolt of lightning once in a while.... I will be eternally grateful!

*- 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.*

## Touchstone To Our Past



**Slim Randles**  
Home Country

The other night it was hot. Hot during the day, hot at night. Heat seems to

later the glow of the coals, we can see things that we can't see at any other time. We can hear music in the crackling. We can be comforted by the fire, which is our best friend as well as a potential destroyer, at the same time.

How many times have we looked into the flames of a small fire, just like this? It's beyond counting. Sometimes the fire has been in a fireplace with all kinds of louvers and vents and controls, and yet even then we shut off the lights and sat quietly, looking into the fire and taking ourselves back to our beginnings. It is important that we do this, so important to our emotional health that we willingly pay extra for a modern city house or apartment that has a fireplace.

It doesn't make any sense at all.

No sense at all until you look into the fire and those same questions come along. Who am I? Am I doing what I'm supposed

to be doing? Is my life being spent for the right things? What more can I be doing?

Do we remember other fires in faraway places? Places where the weather is different, the animals are different, the people are different. Remember using wood from other kinds of trees? Remember sitting around the fire with others who are only with us now during these quiet times by the fire and in the sanctuary of memory?

We ask ourselves these questions, but the answers can only be found in the silent glowing of the coals, and we can only hope we stack up right in the long run.

Because when we look into the coals, at the end of a long day, it's our way of going home.

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