

➔ TODAY'S VERSE

Psalms 88:2 Let my prayer come before thee: incline thine ear unto my cry

➔ 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 An "air chair" is not as comfy as it may sound – especially if you are a nonagenarian. But that didn't stop 94-year-old Einar Dyrr from sitting back on his hydrofoil, a sit-down platform pulled by a motorboat, as it skimmed across the Pineview Reservoir in Ogden Valley, UT. His 8 children, 27 grandchildren and 30 or more great-grandchildren were on hand to cheer him on. The feat is likely to win him a page in the Guinness Book of World Records. Dyrr learned how to ride an air chair when he was younger – at the age of 88.

2 How loud can you burp? Kimberly "Kimycola" Winter can belch as loud as a power lawn mower, 107 decibels loud. Indeed, her loud hiccup earned her a page in the Guinness Book of World Records recently. The sound she made is just 5.7 decibels short of the 112.7 decibel burp Neville Sharp of Australia made to win the men's record in 2021.

3 It's likely that David Rush and his partner, Arthur Lewbel did it again. They recently made 914 nonstop juggling catches and now they are awaiting word from the Guinness judges that they made it into the record book. In 2018 they earned the title by making 532 side-by-side juggling catches. Rush has earned some 250 Guinness Records in his lifetime for feats such as the world's fastest juggler, juggling the most bowling balls and making the most consecutive ax-juggling catches. Oh yeah, he also won the Guinness World Record for using his nose to blow up 10 balloons in one minute.

The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

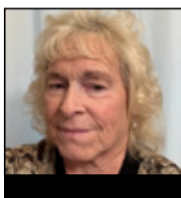
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Memories Of Gen. Chastain, A Life Well-Lived, Last Forever



DeANTHA WRIGHT THORNBURG
Guest Column

I sat at home Saturday night at my desk, staring at my computer screen and looking out the window. I couldn't get the words out. My little critters, as I call my hummingbirds, were coming in for an evening drink.

Why couldn't I write? Because I couldn't move, the entire day was a sad tragedy. For weeks and weeks, I had poured myself into a celebration of a well-lived life. I have worked so many hours this past month, so much so that I was exhausted to the point that I fell asleep in the bath last Friday night before the party on Saturday.

It was supposed to be a day of celebration: family, friends, neighbors and former colleagues from the past 40 years of military service. You see, it wasn't about me, it was all about showing a gentleman of 90 years just how important

his life was and how much our community appreciated all he had accomplished. This was our time and our opportunity to say thank you. Operation Salute was meant to celebrate a well-lived life. One that Major General Richard (Dick) Chastain had lived serving Montgomery County, his community and his country proudly.

As they say in the military, Major General Chastain never wore his rank on his shoulder. Here in the community, he was Dick Chastain, a local farmer from the northern part of the county. He graduated from Purdue University with a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education. He was a leader, a mentor and a friend to hundreds around the state of Indiana.

In the blink of an eye, a moment in time, all is gone forever. At 9:06 am Saturday morning, I got a phone call. I had a dozen balloons on the table — the two most prominent had bold writing, Happy 90th Birthday. The day was to be a celebration. One to be a gift to a gentleman who had given his all to the community he served and loved dearly. This couldn't be

happening. I had two cakes to pick up, and a museum exhibit opened as part of the reception.

With that phone call, all I could hear was. "There won't be a party today. They are gone; both are gone. The house blew up. They are dead." I am on my way to Indy to be with my brother. I need to be with my brother. I'll call you when I know more. That was all Cindy Chastain could say.

I was in a state of disbelief, this can't be real. I had to call my friend. I had to see for myself. Is this true? It couldn't be; it's all too sad to be true. I had two cakes yet to pick up. Instead of purchasing balloons, I returned and got poster board, black markers and tape. There was no way that two loving and kind individuals could die simultaneously. Is it all true? It can't be for real. I had to see it for myself. I was in no condition to drive. I know that sounds silly, but I knew my weakness and knew I was out of control. My hands shook as I attempted to write the message to put on the door at the Armory. Due to

➔ See MEMORIES Page A6

Art On Thursday – August 10- Alcohol Ink

What are alcohol inks?

Did you know? All paints consist of a pigment (color) and a binder.

For alcohol inks, the pigment is the ink and the binder is isopropyl alcohol. The isopropyl alcohol evaporates quickly leaving highly pigmented ink.

Did you know? In the 1980s, scrapbookers were looking for a way to make different background designs. They used their inks on plastic paper and make interesting abstract art.

Come learn and have some fun! Learn ways to manipulate these inks and discover how artists continue to use this medium.

➔ See ARTS Page A6



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

Tim Timmons is out this week, but should be back next Wednesday with his regular column.

Women Still On Short End Of Multiple Laws, Practices



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.lwvmontcoin.org or message to LWV, PO Box 101, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933.

"The family, in all its variety of forms, is the basic unit of society. Both the state and local authorities have various obligations to promote the well-being of every family, taking their differing needs and circumstances into consideration."

-The Government of Iceland

On Nov. 20, 2020, the government of Iceland approved 12 months of family leave for parents of children born, adopted or permanently fostered, with each parent having the right to six months of leave and the ability of one parent to transfer one month to the other parent – allowing for one parent to take seven months while the other takes five months. This

policy, which applies for the first 24 months of a child's life, accompanies a policy that childcare from age 1-2 is subsidized, reduced from ages 2-5, and free as kids enter school at age 6, allowing Iceland to boast the highest employment rate of women in Europe. While there remains a nearly 20 percent pay gap between men and women, the number of women in the workforce is slightly lower than men because more women caregiving for children at any given time. Iceland is a nation with a high rate of parity between men and women. Thirty of the 62 government representatives are women. At least 40 percent of all boards must be female.

Contrast that with the opening scenes Period. End of Sentence, the 2018 Oscar-winning documentary from Netflix about rural Indian women's access to sanitary products. Until community activists made it possible for girls to make their own pads, they were forced to stay home when they began menstruating. They stopped going

➔ See LWV Page A6

➔ HONEST HOOSIER

So a country singer writes about small towns and most of the country goes crazy. Wouldn't it be nice if we all got that fired up about finding a cure for cancer, or improving mental health, or something that really mattered?"



➔ INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

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➔ 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

Healthy adults should not take more than 4,000mg of Tylenol (acetaminophen) in a 24-hour period. 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.



➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

"Those who stand for nothing, fall for anything."
Alexander Hamilton

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

What's the hardest tea to swallow sometimes?
Reality!

➔ OBITUARIES
None

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



The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 6:52 a.m.
SET: 8:54 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 84 °F
Low: 65 °F

Today is...

- Book Lovers Day
- National Polka Day
- National Veep Day



What Happened On This Day

- 1945 An Atomic Bomb is dropped on the Japanese city of Nagasaki. 3 days after the United States dropped an atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Hiroshima, the city of Nagasaki was destroyed by a 21 kiloton atomic bomb nicknamed Fat Boy.
- 1930 Betty Boop Makes Her Debut. The animated cartoon character made her first appearance in the cartoon, Dizzy Dishes. Thought to be modeled after singer Helen Kane, Betty was shown as a woman with an exaggerated body and a child-like face.
- 1854 Henry David Thoreau Publishes Walden. An American transcendentalist, Thoreau wrote the book in a span of just over two years while residing near Walden Pond, a lake in Concord Massachusetts.

Births On This Day

- 1963 Whitney Houston American singer, actress, producer, model
- 1922 Philip Larkin English poet

Deaths On This Day

- 2012 David Rakoff Canadian/American author, actor
- 1995 Jerry Garcia American singer-songwriter, guitarist

13 WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST

61/84 A.M. Fog SPITZ P.M. STORMS	65/84 P.M. STORMS, SOME SEVERE	67/82 A.M. STORMS, P.M. SUN	66/87 MAINLY SUNNY, 20% CHANCE	67/84 MAINLY SUNNY, 20% CHANCE	61/82 SUNNY AND PLEASANT	62/84 MAINLY SUNNY
TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON

OBITUARIES

Kenneth Eugene Moore

October 31, 1933, Sunday, August 6, 2023

Kenneth Eugene Moore, age 89 of Waynetown, passed away on Sunday, August 6, 2023 at Ben Hur Nursing & Rehabilitation. He was born in Tippecanoe County on October 31, 1933 to Ralph & Dora Mae (Brolsma) Moore.



Kenny graduated from Alamo High School in 1952 and was drafted into the United States Army in 1955 and was honorably discharged. He was a grain and livestock farmer and started farming with his grandfather and father and now farms with his son, Gary. He loved being outdoors, driving his tractor and enjoyed watching baseball and basketball.



He is survived by his wife, Nancy (Quisenberry) Moore of Waynetown; three children, Michael (wife-Jane) Moore of Ohio; Gale (boyfriend-Aaron Murphy) Moore of Crawfordsville and Gary Moore of Waynetown; a sister, Janet (husband-Don) Engler of Michigan; a brother, Bob (wife-Karen) Moore of Evansville; two grandchildren, Misty and Matt; and his grand dog, Angus.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and a sister, Jean Rhoda.

Visitation will be at Sanders Shoemaker Funeral Care, 202 Bratton Road, in Waynetown on Friday, August 11, 2023 from 1:30 pm till the time of the funeral service at 3:30 pm with Michael Moore officiating. Burial will follow at Waynetown Masonic Cemetery with military honors by the United States Army and Legion Post 72 Honor Guard. A special thanks to Franciscan Hospital, Ben Hur Nursing & Rehabilitation and Lane House for their wonderful care. Share memories and condolences online at www.SandersFuneralCare.com.

Local Child Completes CDPL Program



Photo courtesy of CDPL

Ella Rauch, age 5, has completed the Crawfordsville District Public Library program "1000 Books Before Kindergarten" for the fifth time. Along with her parents, Torey and Bethany Rauch, Ella has read 5,000 books. Her favorite reading material is the magazine High Five by Highlights. Mom said, "We finally reached our goal of 5,000 books before kindergarten! We greatly appreciate the fun programs, and the wonderful librarians who encouraged us to keep reading over the years."

Letter From Athens Arts Discussing New Exhibition

Dear Friend of the Arts-

Athens Arts, the nonprofit art gallery in Montgomery County, will host the opening of: "[untitled] 3 a national juried exhibition" on Saturday, Sept 16, 2023! The show runs from Sept 16- Nov 11, 2023. The evening will be an art, music, and culinary pleasure event! We will celebrate the artists and announce the award winners of the juried exhibition.

Athens Arts is a tremendous asset to downtown Crawfordsville, the county, and the community bringing vibrant opportunities to engage the community in art and celebrating creativity! We appreciate your support and advocacy for the arts in our community. The national exhibition needs monetary award donors. This is where you come in!

Your monetary support is vital in keeping the gallery open for local artists to share their talents, sell

their art, and bring visual arts to the community.

We thank you! For this special exhibition, we would like to extend the opportunity for you to be pART of the [untitled]3 celebration! Athens looks forward to allowing you to choose the award winner within levels. Athens Arts' board and artists appreciate your continued support. This prize money will go a long way to celebrate the artists!

Please find the form to select your level of prize giving enclosed. Kindly fill out the attached and return to be received no later than Sept 6, 2023. A representative of Athens Arts Gallery will contact you soon after your gift is received to confirm your award parameters.

If you have any questions or would like to help sponsor part of the event, do not hesitate to contact Diana at the gallery or best by email: director@athensartsgallery.com.

Thank you so much for supporting Athens Arts.

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September 16 - November 11, 2023

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[untitled]3 a national juried exhibition

The evening will be an art, music, and culinary pleasure event!

We will celebrate the artists and announce the award winners of the juried exhibition.

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Kindly fill out this form and return to be received no later than September 6, 2023.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

Amount of award donation*:

_____ \$35* _____ \$50* _____ \$100 _____ \$250 _____ \$500

*Donations may be combined with other awards - award would be listed as: award given by ZXY company and CBA family

PLEASE PRINT

1. How business/individual to be listed on the program: _____

2. Is this in honor or memory of someone?

HONOR of: _____
 MEMORY of: _____

3. (circle) YES NO

Do you want to come to the gallery and choose the art piece for your award? (date/time TBA, Sept 14 or 15) A representative of Athens will contact you to set up a time.

Please make checks payable to Athens Arts.

Mail this completed invoice with the check to:

PO Box 207, Crawfordsville, IN 47933. Attention: Diana McCormick, Director.

If you prefer to pay by card, please contact the Director.

Deadline to be included in the program is September 6, 2023

DOC Plans To Close Indiana State Prison As Part Of New Westville Project — Which Now Tops \$1.2B

By **CASEY SMITH**
Indiana Capital Chronicle

The Indiana Department of Correction plans to close the state prison in Michigan City after a new, \$1.2 billion prison facility was approved last week by budget regulators.

That's a change from the DOC's previous plan to keep both the old and new prison sites open.

The Indiana Budget Committee on Friday gave the greenlight for the new prison on the site of the existing Westville Correctional Facility. DOC officials said the 4,200-bed site will combine and replace the current Westville and Michigan City facilities. "It's outdated like Westville is, and it doesn't come without emergency repairs on an annual basis totaling about \$1 million to \$2 million a year," DOC Commissioner Christina Reagle said of the Michigan City prison.

She noted the state has more than \$380 million in planned capital at the site already. Reagle said that although closing the state prison wasn't part of the original plan, doing so will save the state \$45 million a year in operating costs.

The DOC said renovations of the existing prisons would not be cost

effective and wouldn't address many of the needs included in the new facility.

"The annual operating savings alone of closing the Indiana State Prison would create a payback of less than 20 years on this project, and we avoid nearly \$400 million in capital asks," she continued, saying "it just overall makes sense" to close the facility.

But some Democratic members of the state budget committee called into question the cost of the new prison project and expressed concerns about the abrupt decision to close the Michigan City site.

"I was on the Ways and Means Committee, and I don't remember being advised that we were suddenly talking about two prisons rather than one prison," state Rep. Ed Delaney, D-Indianapolis, said during Friday's committee meeting. "This is a very interesting evolution, to say the least."

Change of plans
The Westville project was originally approved in the 2021 biennial budget. The state legislature earmarked over \$362 million then for a new facility, and an additional \$800 million was approved in the latest budget approved earlier this year.

Indiana lawmakers and DOC officials said the increased price tag was attributed to inflation and supply chain challenges. The design of the new prison has not changed from 2021, however.

The Indiana State Prison originally opened in 1860 as the state's second prison. State Rep. Jeff Thompson, R-Lizton, who chairs the budget committee, said a visit to the facility earlier this summer "convinced" him that consolidating the prison into the new facility "is the right thing" to do.

He especially emphasized the expected cost savings, given that the current prison needs about \$400 million in infrastructure improvements.

"We avoid that cost by combining the two prisons, closing the two and having it at one facility," he said. "That's what sold me."

Reagle said the decision to add the Michigan City prison's closure to the project was made just in the last few weeks.

She pointed to language in the new state budget, which appropriates the extra \$800 million for "correctional facility upgrades," rather than specifying it for replacement of the current Westville facility.

Thompson said Friday that the shift to "open

language" in the budget intended to make a reevaluation of other facilities possible.

"I was insistent on that language. I wanted that broad because I knew there were other options we might look at in place of building a new Westville," Thompson said, adding that he was "not on board" with \$1.2 billion solely for replacement of the current Westville prison.

Pushback from Democrats

Still, some budget committee members questioned spending more than \$1 billion in taxpayer funds on the new facility.

Sen. Fady Qaddoura, D-Indianapolis, called the \$800 million increase "extremely high," and said he hoped the project finances would continue to be an "ongoing discussion."

"We added \$800 million to build one prison just for the cost of inflation," Qaddoura said. "I still believe that \$800 million of additional cost on any project should help us pause and rethink how we can move forward."

Rep. Gregory Porter, D-Indianapolis, additionally called the appropriation "astronomical."

"I'm just trying to watch the taxpayers' money, make sure it's done

correctly," he said.

Reagle maintained that Indiana is not the only state facing these kinds of costs for updated correctional facilities, though.

"The size of this facility contributes to the dollar amount," Reagle said. "We've visited facilities of a similar size, and all of them have been about a billion dollars."

What happens next

The new facility will include security upgrades, expanded health care and education services, recidivism programming, and improved operational efficiency, Reagle said. There's also a 24% increase from the current maximum of 3,400 inmates housed in the Westville facility, which first opened in 1951 as a state mental health facility before it was later converted into a prison.

About 416 people currently work at the Indiana State Prison — which is about 15 miles away from the WCF — and no jobs will be lost as a result of the consolidation, she added.

Once completed, the new Westville facility will be the largest in the state.

Reagle said the design work for the facility itself is 95% complete.

Construction on the new prison is anticipated to begin later this summer

and take about four years to complete. Some site work — including sewer and water system connections — has already started, Reagle said.

As of May 1, there were 2,329 men incarcerated at the Indiana State Prison and 2,284 men in Westville, for a total of 4,523 inmates, according to the latest DOC report.

Reagle said prisoners will be moved to the new facility, or to other facilities in the state as needed, after the new prison opens.

The Indiana State Prison also currently houses Death Row, where eight men await death but the state doesn't have the needed cocktail of drugs. Indiana hasn't put a man to death since December 2009.

It's still unclear what will happen with the former Westville and Michigan City facilities once the new prison building is operational.

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'We Cannot Afford To Be Complacent': Chamber Releases 2035 Economic Vision For State

By **LESLIE BONILLA MUNIZ**
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Indiana's influential Chamber of Commerce on Monday released its third long-term economic plan for the state — two years ahead of schedule, and as both Indiana and the chamber itself prepare for major leadership changes.

The ambitious vision seeks to advance workforce, education, business climate, infrastructure, quality of place and health initiatives.

"Indiana Prosperity 2035 is more than just an update to a prior plan. It's a new vision with a goal of accelerating the move of Indiana's economy to an even greater high," chamber board chair Paul Perkins said at a virtual news conference Tuesday. He's also president of Amatrol Inc., a technical education provider.

The organization's previous plan was set to extend through 2025. But longtime chamber President and CEO Kevin Brinegar said board and staff members decided to "pivot" in 2020, during the pandemic-induced "tremendous upheaval in our economy."

The 20-page document will guide the chamber's advocacy work with policymakers and others, Brinegar said. That includes the state's next governor.

Brinegar said his team would ask each declared gubernatorial candidate "for the opportunity to go through it with them, to encourage them to embrace it and adopt as much of it as they see fit." The general election is November 2024.

The 12-year plan also comes with Brinegar himself on the way out. He's set to retire in January 2024 after 31 years with the chamber.

Goals run the gamut
Forty policy experts, business leaders and others spent 18 months putting the latest plan together, which focuses on similar pillars as in the past: workforce, education, business climate, infrastructure, quality of place and health.

But Brinegar said the goals within each area had changed.

In workforce, for example: over the last decade, the percentage of Hoosiers with a postsecondary credential rose from 32%

to 54%, according to the chamber. Now, the organization wants to aim for 70%.

"I am optimistic that (even) if we don't quite get there, we're going to be close and we're going to be better served for having had this goal to work towards since 2012, and continuing on into the future," Brinegar said.

The chamber also hopes to see double the number of Hoosiers with STEM-related postsecondary credentials by 2035, and more with bachelor's degrees. It additionally wants the state to keep more college graduates, especially international students with STEM degrees, and to get workforce participation from 63% to 70%.

Higher participation would fill the 100,000 jobs open statewide, Brinegar said.

"To do this we have to lift up the skills of the folks at the lower end of the education attainment level," he said. "It's unacceptable to have 60% of our high school dropouts not in the workforce. We've got to get them off the sidelines and onto the playing field."

In education, the

chamber said it wanted more Hoosier students proficient in math and English, higher graduation rates — not counting waivers — and publicly funded pre-kindergarten programs accessible statewide. Brinegar also highlighted a desire to consolidate small school districts.

Lawmakers have already fulfilled one goal, with recent legislation enabling automatic enrollment of qualifying students into the 21st Century Scholars program.

When it comes to business, the chamber offered congratulations on the state's "competitive business and regulatory environment" but said the state should focus on some investment, entrepreneurship, productivity, patent and intellectual property metrics.

"It is so important for us to be successful in this area (entrepreneurship), because we have to grow our own," said volunteer task force chair Larry Gigerich, who also leads economic development group Ginovus. "Indiana is not likely to be a state where we're going to get a lot of headquarters to relocate here. It's just

not something that is necessarily a perfect fit for us."

In infrastructure, the chamber announced goals of high speed communication connectivity for all and carbon neutral targets. Lawmakers have already taken action on two other goals: a state energy strategy and a road improvement program.

But water and wastewater needs still need to be addressed.

"We've seen the struggles that have happened in the Boone County area with the LEAP district, which was laid out — but perhaps not enough thought (was) given to where the water for these massive manufacturing and laboratory facilities was going to come from," Brinegar remarked.

The chamber highlighted quality of place initiatives to help retain and attract more residents, as well as water, air quality and affordable housing goals. Though the state has gained population overall, Indiana's smallest communities are losing people.

And finally, on health, the chamber hoped to lower smoking and addiction levels, "contain"

health care costs and boost civic engagement.

"The cost in lives, lost futures and lost productivity is simply staggering," the report notes. "... Indiana's unhealthy population is a drag on economic growth and a tremendous cost to taxpayers."

Tracking metrics
Brinegar said the chamber would release its first baseline report card this fall, and would likely continue releasing them on a biennial basis.

Indiana's business community, philanthropic community and governmental entities are most effective when they are aligned, Gigerich said. And he advocated for all to resource the plan and "seize this opportunity."

"We cannot afford to be complacent," he said.

- Indiana Capital Chronicle is part of States Newsroom, a network of news bureaus supported by grants and a coalition of donors as a 501(c)(3) public charity. Indiana Capital Chronicle maintains editorial independence. Follow Indiana Capital Chronicle on facebook.com/IndianaCapitalChronicle and twitter.com/INCapChronicle



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PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power has made a filing for a purchase power and energy tracking factor with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission in order to implement an average change in its rates for electric service charged by its supplier, Indiana Municipal Power Agency, pursuant to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Order in Cause Number 36835-S3. The filing, if approved by the Commission, will be effective for energy consumed on or after the date of approval.

Rate RS	\$ 0.017987 per kWh
Rate GP	\$ 0.018022 per kWh
Rate GPL	\$ 1.127423 per kVA
	\$ 0.014818 per kWh
Rate PP	\$ 1.273478 per kVA
	\$ 0.012098 per kWh
Rate OL	\$ 0.014698 per kWh
Rate SL	\$ 0.014737 per kWh
Rate TS	\$ 0.014240 per kWh

Applicable: October, November and December, 2023

Any objection to this filing may be addressed to the following:

Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC)

115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South

Indianapolis, IN 46204

Toll Free: 1-888-441-2494

Voice/TDD: (317) 232-2494

Fax: (317) 232-5923

www.in.gov/iure

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Montgomery County Board of Commissioners will receive sealed bids for the construction of Bridge 182 on CR 750 E over UNT Big Raccoon Creek. Bids will be received at the Montgomery County Commissioners' Office, 1580 Constitution Row, Suite 3, Crawfordsville, IN 47933 before 3:00 P.M. local time on September 8, 2023.

Bids may be delivered in person or by mail addressed to the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners, Montgomery County Government Center, 1580 Constitution Row, Suite 3, Crawfordsville, IN 47933. All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners Meeting held at 8:00 A.M. at the Montgomery County Government Center on September 11, 2023. Any bid not in a sealed envelope or any bid submitted after the designated date and time will be returned unopened.

THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION CONSISTS OF CONSTRUCTING A PRECAST FLAT TOP STRUCTURE WITH PRECAST FOOTERS, HEADWALLS, AND WINGWALLS (MONTGOMERY COUNTY BRIDGE 182 ON CR 750 E OVER UNT BIG RACCOON CREEK), GUARDRAIL, ROADWAY APPROACH WORK, SITE GRADING, AND DEMOLITION OF THE EXISTING STRUCTURE ACCORDING TO THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS.

The Contract Documents, including plans and specifications, are on file for public inspection and may be procured for bidding purposes at the Montgomery County Highway Department Office, 818 N Whitlock Ave, Crawfordsville, IN 47933. Paper plans and specifications will be available for pickup only at the Montgomery County Highway Department. Digital plans and specifications are available from CivilCon, Inc. Additional plans and specifications can be obtained for a fee from CivilCon, Inc. A check for the plan fee shall be made payable to "Civilcon, Inc.". All questions regarding the project must be submitted in writing no less than 7 days prior to the bid opening to Daniel Book at (812) 280-8360 (dbook@civilcondsb.com).

Proposals shall be properly and completely executed on the proposal form furnished to bidders. A certified check, bank draft, or a satisfactory bid bond executed by the Bidder and a surety company in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the bid shall be submitted with each bid. The Contractor awarded the work will be required to furnish an acceptable Surety Bond in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price. As part of the bid, bidders must demonstrate past experience in bridge construction and provide references for five (5) previously completed projects similar in nature.

The Montgomery County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to waive any informalities in the bids.

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Experiments Identify Important New Role Of Chemical Compounds In Plant Development

Genetic manipulations of lignin research yield surprise finding.

Researchers who manipulate lignin, a molecular fiber that allows plants to grow tall and transport water, unexpectedly discovered its synthesis has more far-reaching effects on plant development than previously suspected.

"My lab has had a long interest in studying the extent to which we can modify plants, specifically the lignin biosynthetic pathway," said Clint Chapple, Distinguished Professor of Biochemistry at Purdue University. "Of all of the components that make up the plant body, lignin is the one that's easiest to manipulate. And it has an impact. The pulp and paper process is really about removing lignin."

Lignin also affects the quality of animal feedstocks and of plant biomass to produce biofuels. "We've had some significant success with it over the years. But we ran into a set of observations that we couldn't explain," Chapple said.

Chapple's team genetically engineered the flow of chemical precursors that feed the pathway leading to lignin biosynthesis in *Arabidopsis thaliana*, a widely used experimental plant species.

"When we took two strategies that worked quite well on their own and combined them, instead of getting a synergistic effect, we got plants that were only a

few inches tall. And we were really puzzled by that," Chapple recalled.

Researchers proposed four main ideas to explain this phenomenon. "There was a lot of uncertainty over which one, or ones, were correct," said Fabiola Muro-Villanueva, who earned her PhD in biochemistry at Purdue in 2020.

To learn more, Muro-Villanueva spent several years conducting laborious experiments, testing the effect of various plant-derived chemicals on thousands of plants. In the end, she found a way to restore growth to the plants by providing a compound called pinoresinol. Muro-Villanueva, Chapple and nine co-authors from Purdue and elsewhere published their findings in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

"It seems to be a hormone-like growth compound," said Muro-Villanueva, now a postdoctoral fellow in molecular and cellular biology at Harvard University.

In the work's early stages, Muro-Villanueva observed changes in the plants' production of lateral roots, the branches that make up the root system. And they had changes in the production of root hairs, which are important for water absorption.

"Those are aspects of plant development that don't really have very much to do with lignin,"

Chapple said.

The researchers added back to the plants a compound called coniferyl alcohol, a key precursor compound to lignin formation. This resulted in root hairs that grew big and normal instead of short and deformed-looking.

"That was really very unexpected," Chapple noted. "It seems that there's some function for these compounds in plants that we hadn't appreciated before."

Until now, plant scientists had widely assumed that pinoresinol serves only as a lignin building block. "Our evidence shows that it's more than just replacing a building block in lignin. We don't know the mechanism, but we think there is a much bigger story here," Muro-Villanueva said.

The findings add new insights to the long list of plant capabilities. "Plants are excellent chemists. They make a wide variety of compounds that are intrinsically interesting," Chapple said. Collectively, they make hundreds of thousands of compounds, although individually they often specialize in specific compounds we associate with particular plants.

"They perform many functions. They allow the plant to resist ultraviolet light. So basically, plants make their own sunscreen," he said. They also deter insect and bacterial attack. And from a human perspective, some of these compounds give our food flavor or aroma,

while others provide medicinal properties.

"This is basic research," Chapple said. "But if we are to move biofuels forward with manipulation of plants to optimize those processes, it's important that we have a thorough understanding of the roles these pathways and chemicals have in plant development."

Otherwise, he fears that researchers could put a newly developed variety into the field only to see it fail to perform as expected because they lack a critical understanding of what they can and cannot do with critical biosynthesis pathways.

"We need to have a better understanding of how plants perceive and respond to these compounds," Chapple said. "And how does their absence lead to these dwarfing effects and alterations in root development?"

This study was supported by the Direct Catalytic Conversion of Biomass to Biofuels (C3Bio), an Energy Frontier Research Center funded by the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Science.

Writer: Steve Koppes
Media contact: Maureen Manier, mmanier@purdue.edu

Sources: Clint Chapple, chapple@purdue.edu; Fabiola Muro-Villanueva, fmurovillanueva@fas.harvard.edu

Agricultural Communications: 765-494-8415; Maureen Manier, Department Head, mmanier@purdue.edu

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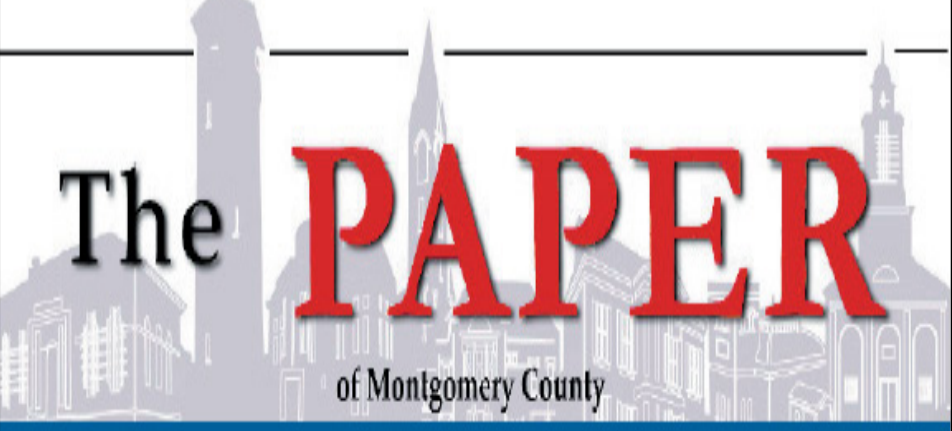
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The **PAPER**
of Montgomery County



LWV From Page A1

to school. Religious leaders told them that God won't hear their prayers while they are menstruating. In this enormous country where outhouses can be rare in some remote areas, women face a higher risk for sexual assault while using the restroom.

Astonishing how small a development, like access to sanitary products - or bathrooms for those of you who recall that scene in Hidden Figures - becomes a barrier to women in the workplace. In some countries, religious and cultural laws are the barriers. Khalid Hosseini, author of The Kite Runner, captured a modern Afghanistan, with women in skirt suits working all manner of professions in the 1970s until fundamentalist religious sects decided to re-engineer Afghanistan into a religiously-idealized society and imposed laws that forced women to be covered - hair, neck, wrists and ankles. First females could only go to school separate from males, were not allowed to attend after puberty, and finally were, and recently, they are again restricted to their homes. They cannot see male doctors for health care, nor can they become doctors. Even women working in cosmetology have been shut down.

At present, women in the U.S. run the gamut regarding cultural, legal and practical norms. In bathrooms in Scotland and close to home, at Purdue, a woman can find free menstrual products, but that's uncommon. Sanitary products are a constant ask for shelters and food banks because they're taxed and costly.

On the bright side, in 2021 Indiana passed a law to ensure pregnant Hoosiers can ask for accommodations to continue working during pregnancy, but time off after remains prohibitive. The lower the educational attainment of new parents the less time (especially paid) off they'll get off after delivering, adopting or fostering a child. Then there's childcare. The World Economic Forum finds that the U.S. is in the top three most expensive places for childcare. It's one of the biggest reasons that one parent drops out of the workforce - usually the woman, usually because she earns less. Where there is subsidized childcare and universal preschool, women's participation in the workforce rises and local economies improve. A better income stabilizes the finances and emotional health of a household, reducing addiction and abuse, and children tend to grow up with a stronger "theory of mind" - the ability to better understand the thoughts, beliefs, desires and emotions of others. That leads to better social skills, higher educational attainment, and ability to work in larger organizations - as Purdue economist Victoria Prowse's research demonstrates.

While the U.S. is generally stable with women re-entering the workforce, gaining more college degrees and inching toward a closed gender pay gap, there are yellow flags. Ambiguous legislation about women's healthcare - so ambiguous that even pro-life people facing dangerous pregnancies are worried after last summer's post-Dodd decision and the state-by-state bill mill experiments - has drawn back a curtain, revealing the wizard.

In Indiana, the wizard is Todd Rokita, who is only one of a dozen-plus state attorneys general, demanding that women's health records from other states be made available to their offices. Rokita (who 'compels' his employees to sign Non-Disclosure Agreements - NDAs - other

states do NOT require them) and the other AGs are asking for the right to investigate women who seek healthcare in another state. Women in Texas are suing to sort out the legally ambiguous language that has risked the lives of women and some of their fetuses. Meanwhile, OBGYNs now have to enter the state of Texas to pass their board certifications (risking arrest if they speak of doing D&Cs that might have saved lives.)

Then there's access to birth control. Myths persist that some forms of birth control are abortifacients - that they terminate pregnancies. In fact, IUDs, Plan B (the morning-after pill), and regular birth control pills prevent fertilization, but national networks and organizations like Care.net (a national network of crisis pregnancy centers) have created lovely, glossy brochures messaging that birth control could be causing an abortion. (They also still promote the disproven notion that abortions are connected to breast cancer.) The message in the religiously conservative sphere that most or all birth control is potentially an abortifacient relies on a faulty line of reasoning that lacks evidence and is based on a possibility rather than certainty.

What's worrisome are the machinations of people "behind the curtain." Some are strategizing to charge women who terminate a pregnancy where it's legal with homicide or murder when they return home. Some seek to cut off and further restrict to birth control and plan B.

Since the development of birth control, like that of sanitary napkins, women have been able to participate in work, pursue education and compete in sports, using their unique talents and gifts as engineers, teachers, nurses, managers, or they just helped their family survive by working the line at our local manufacturer.

Now is not the time to take for granted that women can and will be able to continue accessing what they need so they can best contribute to their households and communities. Now is the time to continue to let our leadership know all we need.

Correction from last week's column on water transfer.

Last week's column framed the water transfer as an agreement process between two counties. In fact, decisions made about water transfer are not up to Tippecanoe County but are being initiated and directed by IEDC, which is not a formal official part of state governmental structure, but rather "a public private partnership" as they define themselves: "The Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) is charged with growing the state economy, driving economic development, helping businesses launch, grow and locate in the state. Led by the Indiana Secretary of Commerce and governed by a 15-member board chaired by Governor Eric J. Holcomb. The IEDC is organized as a public private partnership and manages many initiatives, including performance-based tax credits, workforce training grants, innovation and entrepreneurship resources, public infrastructure assistance, and talent attraction and retention efforts."

-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.

MEMORIES From Page A1

an unforeseen Emergency, there will be no party today.

I asked my friend Lynn Grayson to help me with the program months ago. She is a former military nurse, and her husband was on active duty before he joined the National Guard years ago. I called her as I drove to Darlington to hang the sign on the door. I don't like to ask for any kind of help. But I knew I couldn't drive, I was numb. I found myself driving more than 100 mph on SR 47 North. That is something I could never do again. I finished the sign and taped it to the door, my hands still shaking.

I started to send text messages to all my military contacts. Hoping those who were coming in from a great distance wouldn't have to make the long trip. All I could write was the same message I left on the door at the Armory. Mostly because I thought it all was a bad joke. This couldn't be happening. I asked Lynn to drive, I wanted to see the house for myself. She reassured me it couldn't be a joke, but we will go anyway. We drove through the beautiful countryside from Darlington back west to the Chastain house. Lynn was the calm one between the two of us. I shook in tears; my stomach was tied in knots. I kept texting messages through social media. It was the only avenue I had to reach many of Chastain's family, friends and military colleagues.

As we turned off the highway, we saw a Coal Creek tanker truck approaching us. I remember holding my breath. The only words I could get out were "It is real." Then there was silence between Lynn and me. We continued west until we could still see Crawfordsville's ladder truck still showering the debris with water. There was nothing left, just blackened, charred timbers. There was no house, no roof, nothing. This beautiful two-story house that General Chastain built was gone.

For hours I sorted through pictures and newspaper clipping from the past 40 years. Going over video tapes trying to find that perfect segment to use. I wanted Operation Salute to be the ideal gift for a 90-year-old. A gift he could share with the people who knew him best. Those whom he served with in the Indiana Army National Guard. Those he sat beside at the Montgomery County Council, those who knew him in the Kiwanis. The soldiers he served beside him. They respected and loved him. He was a dedicated individual who made everyone who entered their home feel like family.

I attempted to reach out

to as many as possible using the social network. Still, we had a small crowd gathering at the armory, wanting to help in any way they could. It was a somber moment, seeing the tables and decorations on the court.

We returned to Darlington knowing there was nothing to do but put the chair and tables away. I continued to share with those who failed to get the social media message that there would be no party. Sadly, no celebration whatsoever.

Some family friends arrived and offered to help. I packed up the items that General Chastain had selected to be put on display. There were several. A few weeks back, we toured his home, and he pointed out the most important items he wanted to share for Saturday's party. I remember him standing near a favorite piece of memorabilia and proudly telling me the story about when and where he received the honor. He continued chatting, taking the time to tell me more about his favorite pieces.

What I remember most was how happy he was to show me around the house, sharing the hundreds of honors he had been awarded during his 40-plus years of military career. When my husband and I left his home, our SUV was filled with several precious pieces of memorabilia that he valued most.

The few pieces of memorabilia we took from the house that day are all that is left. I remember his smile and his pride in sharing the family pictures. He shared the memories of his late wife and many grandchildren. He was so happy and proud of his family and his life. The Chastain family has the items he treasured most. The pictures, his military hats, his honors and awards, and the boots he wore. The boots he wore throughout many years of his career. To many, they might be just an old pair of boots. But those who have walked the path of a military career know the hills our soldiers climb.

Major General Dick Chastain, thank you for serving our community, our country. But most of all, thank you for being a mentor and friend to so many. Operation Salute will go down in history as a beautiful success and a celebration. By proclamation from Mayor Todd Barton and the City of Crawfordsville. August 5th, 2023, will be remembered by proclamation Major General Richard Chastain Day forever, Rest In Peace, General.

-DeAntha Wright-Thornburg worked for the Indiana Department of Transportation for more than 30 years and is also a freelance journalist.

ARTS From Page A1

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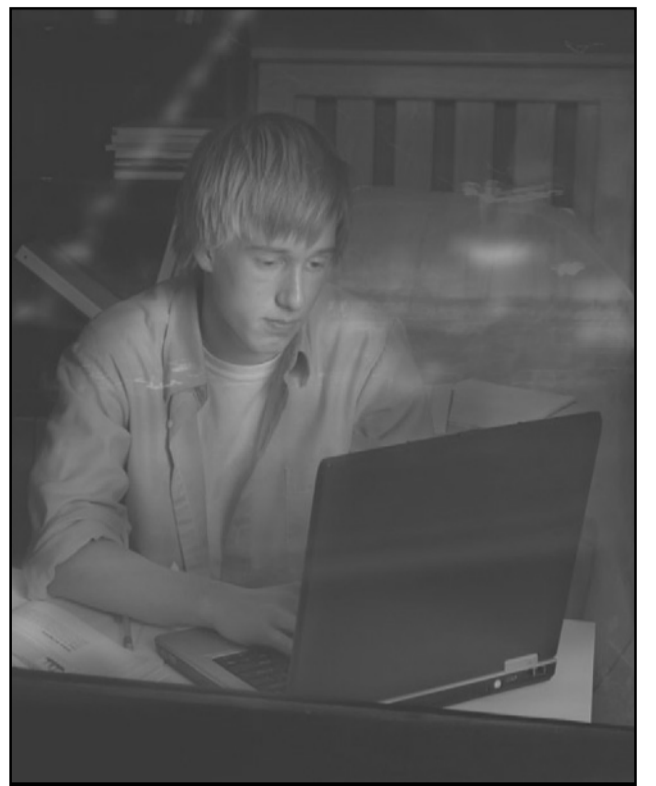
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