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➔ TODAY'S VERSE

Isaiah 55:12 For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

➔ FACES OF MONTGOMERY

People who call our community their own.



Lily, Doris (Owner) and Kimberly of the Breakfast Club offered one of our roving photographers winning smiles while accepting their Readers' Choice 2023 Award. Thank you for your smiles!

➔ THREE THINGS You Should Know:

**1** Three strategic initiatives were announced in the last fiscal year and continue into the new year: Purdue University in Indianapolis, the Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr. School of Business, and Purdue Computes. These, along with other related efforts, will be regularly updated on the university's strategic initiatives summary website.

**2** Purdue University researchers have been working on the problem of vaccine stability for years — using rocket science to advance a freeze-drying technology that lengthens product shelf life. A Purdue-led team has been awarded nearly \$1 million to pursue a technology of using microwaves to make the freeze-drying process twice as fast and more cost-effective. Like astronaut ice cream, many vaccines are made stable for transport and storage through freeze-drying, also known as lyophilization.

**3** Jennifer Smith, a clinical associate professor of special education in Purdue University's College of Education, goes over the benefits and challenges that come with a four-day school week. Smith says many rural districts are adopting a shorter school week in order to reduce budget costs and attract more teachers. However, parents of elementary schoolchildren in these four-day districts may have to pay more for child care, but at a cost.

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Butch's Book Recommendations For Biden Times



**BUTCH DALE**  
Columnist

clothing, medical care...and on and on. You can't even afford to get buried. I told my wife that when my time is up, to just have our neighbor bring over his backhoe, dig a hole, and dump me in. Suits me.

I guess I should have been a Congressman or Senator. Those yah-hoos have plenty of money. But no, I am in the same predicament as all of you...trying to decide whether I should go with my usual order and buy a regular hamburger...or splurge and get the Big Mac.

But guess what? Since I work in a library, I have compiled a list of books to help all of you get through the remainder of the Bidenflation years...so here are some recommended book titles to consider which will save you some money, help you stay within your budget...and perhaps even make you wealthy!

- How to Make a Living as a Homeless Person
- Nutritious Dog Food Substitutes for Your Family Meals
- How to Save on Expenses by

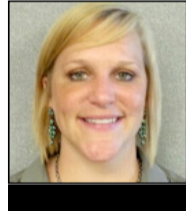
- Printing Your Own Money
- Shoplifting Can Be Fun for Everyone!
- Hunter Biden's Book of Art Skills: Learn to Paint and Make Millions!
- The Complete List of Ugly, Rich People Who You Can Marry
- How to Obtain a Free College Degree Without Studying!
- Ten Places to Hide When the IRS Comes to Arrest You
- 1001 Recipes for Oatmeal
- Save Money on Hair Salons by Using a Weedeater and Blowtorch
- Make Money Fast: the Mafia Bribery and Intimidation Handbook
- How to Get Free Stuff by Pretending to be an Illegal Immigrant
- 100,000 Cheap Christmas Gifts at Wal-Mart That Are Made in China
- How to Decorate a Cardboard Box as Your New Home
- Stealing Gas from Your Neighbors Made Easy!
- ATM and Bank Vault Electronics Diagrams
- Become a Millionaire: The Savvy Politician's Handbook of How to Lie
- Making Clothes for Your Kids from Toilet Tissue Scraps
- How to Build Your Own Car With Plywood and Duct Tape
- Save Tons of Money by Learning to Recycle Bath Water
- The Complete List of Tasty

- Insects That Kids Can Eat
- The Manual of Electric Drill Home Dental Procedures
- Earn Big Money: Learn to Do Hip Replacements on Friends
- Bank Robbery for Beginners
- How to Start Your Own Church and Receive \$\$\$ Donations
- Top Ten Bridges in the U.S. to Live Under
- Living the Good Life: the Official Welfare Fraud Guidebook
- Casino Slot Machine Basics for Nincompoop Gamblers
- How to Build Your Own Dixie-Cups & String Cellphone
- 100 Strategies to Sue Rich People for Fun and Profit!

There is also a free government publication you can pick up, entitled "Learn How to Spend Money Without Having Any." This book was compiled by the U.S. Congress, based on their vast experience as legislators. And then there is the last book which is certain to be a classic... "The Biden Encyclopedia of Financial Knowledge." It's a short read...very short...one-half page.

- 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.

Setting A Table For One



**MONICA NAGELE**  
Purdue Extension Office



In a world that often emphasizes communal dining and family gatherings, navigating the world of solo cooking and dining can be challenging. Even with a bank of nutrition knowledge, I find myself settling for a bowl of cereal or PB and J. That's not too fun...or sustaining.

#1 Let the freezer become your best friend.

Consider making brown rice or barley and freeze in individual portions using a muffin pan. Once frozen, the discs can be stored in a zip-top bag. Fresh meat can also be cooked, seasoned and stored in individual portions. Consider buying a pound fresh ground beef, adding a packet of reduced-sodium taco seasoning and put in 1/2 cup portions in the freezer to easily add to a taco, burrito bowl, taco salad, or quesadilla any day of the week. Consider

also making a whole meal such as a lasagna and put it into two pans. One to bake now, and another in the freezer to bake next month.

#2 never throw food away

Cut down on waste at the grocery store, by buying only the produce that you can reasonably eat before the produce goes bad. Take extra grapes or cherries out of the bag and pare down that bunch of bananas to what you'll eat. If the produce looks like it's going to go bad before you can get to it, chop it into slices and (again) freeze it to make a quick vegetable stir fry or some yummy fruit smoothies or blueberry pancakes.

#3 keep some not-so-perishable staples on hand

You can get more creative with more ingredients to mix and match with. Keep your favorite type of canned beans, canned vegetables (such as corn or tomatoes) or jar of salsa on hand to sprinkle on top of a pizza, salad or throw into a stuffed pepper or soup. Eggs can be cooked different ways and with different seasonings to spice up your meal. Kept in the refrigerator, they keep for months so

➔See TABLE Page A5

Crawfordsville/MoCo Chamber Of Commerce Annual Dinner

By Tim Timmon  
news@thepaper24-7.com

Anyone in attendance at the Crawfordsville Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce annual dinner Sept. 7 is in for a treat.

The speaker will be Nate Feltman — a talented, smart and ultra-accomplished man who is currently the CEO, publisher and co-owner of the Indianapolis Business Journal. Feltman has been the secretary of commerce, the top guy at the Indiana Economic Development Corp. (when it was first formed

Want TO GO?

Tickets are still available for Chamber members for the Sept. 7 dinner. Although the event is approaching a sell-out there were still some tickets left as of press time. Contact the Crawfordsville-Montgomery County Chamber for more information.

➔See DINNER Page A5

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset  
RISE: 7:07 a.m.  
SET: 8:32 p.m.

High/Low  
Temperatures  
High: 92 °F  
Low: 77 °F

Today is...  
• Forgive Your Foe Day  
• Kiss and Make Up Day  
• National Whiskey Sour Day

What Happened On This Day

- 2012 First Spacecraft to Enter Interstellar Space. NASA's Voyager 1, which was launched on September 5, 1977, left the heliosphere — the part of space that is influenced by our Sun — on this day. In February 1990, the spacecraft took the first overview picture of the solar system. It is the most distant man-made object in space.
- 1944 Liberation of Paris. The battle to liberate Paris, which had been under Nazi control since 1940, began on August 19, 1944, and ended on this day. The battle was fought between Nazi soldiers and members of the French resistance group, who were helped by the American Armed Forces headed by General George Patton.
- 1835 First Installment of the Great Moon Hoax is Published. The New York-based newspaper The Sun published a series of articles, starting on this day, that detailed the discovery of civilization on the Moon.

Births On This Day

- 1949 Gene Simmons Israeli/American singer-songwriter, bass player, producer, actor
- 1930 Sean Connery Scottish actor, producer

Deaths On This Day

- 2012 Neil Armstrong American pilot, engineer, astronaut, first person to walk on the moon
- 1900 Friedrich Nietzsche German philosopher

➔ HONEST HOOSIER

Gene Simmons of KISS turns 74 today. How did that happen?



➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Men who swim for exercise have lower mortality rates than walkers and runners. Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Paper and online at www.thepaper24-7.com.



➔ INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

- Kenny Thompson.....A3
- Classifieds.....A3
- Dick Wolfsie.....A4

➔ THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Get Another TASTE! Of Montgomery County: The TASTE! of Montgomery County begins at noon on Saturday and runs until 10 p.m. At the gate, admission is \$7 for adults and \$3 for students. Visitors can purchase advance sale Taste tickets at the Carriage House Interpretive Center of the General Lew Wallace Study & Museum, home of the Taste; the Montgomery County Visitors and Convention Bureau on the first floor of Fusion 54 at 101 West Main Street; Milligan's Flowers & Gifts at 115 East Main; Crawfordsville Parks & Recreation Community Center at 922 E. South Boulevard. Advance tickets are \$5 for adults and \$2 for students.

➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

"I've learned from experience that the greater part of our happiness or misery depends on our dispositions and not on our circumstances."  
-Martha Washington

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

What's a bee do when it gets hot? Takes off its yellow jacket.

➔ OBITUARIES

None

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



## Meeting Notes

### Montgomery County Board Of Commissioners And Montgomery County Council Meeting Agenda

August 29 at 6 pm 1580 Constitution Row - Room E109  
 Crawfordsville  
 Call to Order: Council President David Hunt  
 Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer  
 Public Comment on Agenda Items  
 Old Business  
 Second Reading of Ordinance 2023-1 Wheel Tax & Surtax Rate Departmental 2024 Budget Presentations (order of appearance subject to change)  
 Assessor (remote)  
 Purdue Extension Treasurer Recorder Surveyor Mapping Veterans Officer EM-HS  
 Building Maintenance  
 Highway Engineering  
 Weights & Measures  
 EMS  
 Commissioners IT,

CCD, Rainy Day Redevelopment Solid Waste Public Comment Next regular meeting  
 September 12 at 9:00 a.m. at Montgomery County Government Center, 1580 Constitution Row - Room E109  
 Binding Reviews, 2024 County Budget Hearing, 2024 Montgomery County Solid Waste District Budget Hearing  
 Special Meetings: Budget Presentations by Department Heads  
 August 30, at 6:00 p.m. at Montgomery County Government Center, 1580 Constitution Row - Room E109  
 Adjournment  
 Next Resolution: 2023-4  
 Next Ordinance: 2023-2

### Montgomery County Council Meeting Montgomery County Board of Commissioners Meeting Agenda

August 30 at 6 pm 1580 Constitution Row - Room E109  
 Crawfordsville  
 Call to Order: Council President David Hunt  
 Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer  
 Public Comment on Agenda Items  
 Departmental 2024 Budget Presentations (order of appearance subject to change)  
 Coroner  
 Soil & Water Superior 1 Superior 2 Circuit Court Clerk Prosecutor Prosecutor IV-D Public Defender Probation

CCC Health Council Auditor Sheriff/Jail/Security Public Comment Next regular meeting  
 September 12 at 9:00 a.m. at Montgomery County Government Center, 1580 Constitution Row - Room E109  
 Binding Reviews, 2024 County Budget Hearing, 2024 Montgomery County Solid Waste District Budget Hearing  
 Adjournment  
 Next Resolution: 2023-4  
 Next Ordinance: 2023-2

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# Big Ten Predictions And Only Coach To Leave Bloomington With Winning Record



**KENNY THOMPSON**  
Columnist

Over the past 100 years of Indiana University football, only one coach left Bloomington with a winning record.

Bo McMillin compiled a 63-48-11 mark from 1934 to 1947. McMillin is also the only IU football coach not to have a losing record in Big Ten Conference play, at 34-34-6.

So it was no surprise that a national sports media outlet predicted Tom Allen's seventh full season as the Hoosiers coach will be his last. That overlooks an Indianapolis Star report that Allen gets a \$20 million buyout if fired before Dec. 1. Asking big money boosters like Mark Cuban and the Simon family for millions just three years after they helped pay off basketball coach Archie Miller may be a longshot.

That's assuming of course the worst case scenario The Athletic had for the Hoosiers, 0-9 in Big Ten Conference play and 2-10 overall.

A cursory look at the Indiana schedule and there's opportunity early to defy the gloomy forecast.

Opening against Ohio State in CBS' return to the Big Ten football, even in Bloomington, is too much to ask for a defense that gave up nearly 34 points a

game in 2022 and lost its best player when linebacker Dasan McCullough transferred to Oklahoma.

Indiana State will be a feel good game in Week 2, as will Akron on Sept. 23.

The most intriguing game in the first month is a Lucas Oil Stadium matchup with Louisville and former Purdue coach Jeff Brohm. This is not a game on paper that favors Indiana as Brohm enjoyed great success against the Hoosiers while at Purdue. If Indiana can pull off a win here, it sets up the possibility of having a 5-3 record at the end of October. At Michigan and at Penn State is too much to ask for any team that doesn't have Buckeye stickers on its helmets.

On paper, 1-3 looks like the ceiling for the month of November with Wisconsin and Michigan State at home alternating with trips to Illinois and Purdue.

With a margin so slim between victory and defeat, Allen's theme for the season is "toughness."

"We define that as a mental and physical strength to persevere," Allen says. "We had eight games last season that were decided in the fourth quarter. So for the past seven months we've been building our toughness and developing this football team to be able to finish in those opportunities."

Just like 10 other Big Ten rivals, the Hoosiers are likely to start 2023



Photo courtesy of Kenny Thompson

## Tom Allen from the Big Ten Conference media day

with a new quarterback. With Dexter Williams still recovering from a knee injury suffered against Purdue, the focus is on Tennessee transfer Tayven Jackson and redshirt freshman Brendan Sorsby.

Whichever quarterback wins the job, he will have to be as adept running with the ball as he is as a passer.

"I'm a defensive coach by trade, and I just know what gives us trouble: anytime a quarterback can extend plays," Allen says. "Moving forward that's what we want to have at that position to be able to extend those plays."

"But at the same time once you pick who that individual is, you've got to make sure you're building everything around them so they can be at their best and be able to be comfortable. Obviously (it's) going to be a younger guy that's going to have to grow up really fast."

Here's how I see the fi-

nal season of the Big Ten's East Division shaking out:

**1. Michigan (11-1, 8-1 Big Ten)** - Three good reasons to pick the Wolverines: Running backs Blake Corum (1,494 yards, 18 TDs) and Donovan Edwards (1,018 yards, 7 TDs) and quarterback J.J. McCarthy (2,719 yards passing, 22 TDs, 5 INTs).

The Wolverines could have as many as 10 NFL draft picks on the roster. That much talent, plus a schedule that doesn't look challenging until Week 8 at Michigan State, gives Michigan a slim edge over ...

**2. Ohio State (10-2, 8-1 Big Ten)** - Heaven help Ryan Day if he loses a third consecutive time to Michigan. It's not a good sign that disgruntled fans are comparing Day to former Buckeyes coach John Cooper, whose 2-10-1 mark against Michigan overshadowed three Big Ten titles.

Uncertainty at quarterback makes it too difficult to pick the Buckeyes. Former five-star prospect Kyle McCord, a junior, and redshirt freshman Devin Brown are competing for the job. The winner will be helped by an elite wide receiving corps led by Marvin Harrison Jr.

**3. Penn State (10-2, 7-2)** - Drew Allar, the top-rated quarterback in the 2022 recruiting class, is now the man after sitting a year behind Sean Clifford. He'll be surrounded by

five returning starters on the offensive line, two talented sophomore running backs in Nick Singleton and Kaytron Allen, and a veteran defense that paved the way to an 11-2 record and a Rose Bowl victory against Utah. Another 10-win season seems likely but Ohio State and Michigan will have the Nittany Lions settling for third-best in East.

**4. Maryland (9-3, 6-3)** - A healthy Taulia Tagovailoa threw for more than 3,000 yards and 18 touchdowns a year ago. Add new offensive coordinator Kevin Sumlin, who coached Heisman Trophy winner Johnny Manziel at Texas A&M, and the Terrapins expect to improve on last season's 8-5 mark.

The schedule could be favorable with Michigan and Penn State coming to College Park. Maryland gets a decimated Northwestern squad and avoids Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota.

**5. Michigan State (5-7, 3-6)** - Whoever said you get what you pay for didn't account for the crashing thud Big Ten fans heard coming from East Lansing a year ago.

Taking advantage of an 11-2 season and rumors of interest in the LSU job, Mel Tucker parlayed his first season at Michigan State into a 10-year, \$95 million contract extension.

As a down payment last season, the Spartans tumbled to a 5-7 record. Quar-

terback Payton Thorne bailed and is now the starter at Auburn. Highly regarded wide receiver Keon Coleman departed for Florida State.

Buyer's remorse will spread in Spartan country unless Tucker finds magic once again from the transfer portal.

**6. Rutgers (5-7, 2-7)** - A favorable front-end of the schedule will raise hopes for the Scarlet Knights. Northwestern, Temple, Virginia Tech and Wagner come to Piscataway, N.J. during the first five weeks. A trip to Michigan won't be much fun, but it's feasible Rutgers will be 4-1 heading into October and a trip to Wisconsin.

Any hopes for a bowl game begins with finding a reliable quarterback. Evan Simon and Gavin Wimsatt combined for just over 1,500 yards, 13 interceptions and nine touchdowns. Add an ineffective running game and the Scarlet Knights put too much pressure on their defense to foresee a winning record.

**7. Indiana (3-9, 1-8)** - Until the defense proves it's no longer the Big Ten's worst, picking more than one conference victory would be optimistic.

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

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# Experts Carefully Optimistic About State's Fiscal Footing As Lawmakers Look To Cut Taxes

Indiana's budget chiefs offered a measured sense of optimism on the state's finances at a potentially transformational task force's first meeting — as Republican-aligned speakers pushed for big moves on taxes and Democrat lawmakers expressed frustration with the group's structure.

The Interim State and Local Tax Review Task Force will examine Indiana's corporate tax, individual income tax, property tax, sales tax, and others. Policy recommendations are due to the General Assembly ahead of the 2025 budget-writing session.

"Perhaps this will be the beginning of the discussion to overhaul, in a major way, the tax structure of the Hoosier State," Chair Travis Holdman, R-Markle, said Wednesday. "Perhaps we'll find that it isn't the will of the Legislature or our constituents to do much more than tweak the work ... done over the last couple of decades."

"Nothing is off the table," he added — although, he was firm that the task force wouldn't touch education funding.

**Financial outlook**  
Indiana has consistently stuck to balanced budgets, in which the state spends less than it collects in taxes — something the Office of Management and Budget Director Kris Johnston said was a priority.

Tax collections have outperformed state estimates in recent years, State Budget Director Zac Jackson said.

Indeed, the state's surpluses triggered automatic taxpayer refunds in 2021 and 2022, and prompted lawmakers to make large one-time payments toward pension liabilities and other causes.

The mismatch is expected to stabilize over the biennium, according to Jackson's slides. But some developments may endure.

While the state typically has had between \$1.8 billion and \$2 billion in reserves on hand, Jackson said the "new normal" may be in the \$2.7 billion to \$2.9 billion range.

But Jackson also noted large increases in funding for K-12 tuition, higher education, Medicaid, the Department of Child Services and the Department of Corrections over the last decade. Payments to a pre-1996 teacher's pension fund have also swelled, but only through one-off supplemental checks.

Overall, he said the state had been proactive about funding its pension liabilities and tackling deferred maintenance.

Indiana Public Retirement System Executive Director Steve Russo said the state's pension funding progress demonstrated "how the impossible can become possible," but suggested maintenance

strategies for the pre-96 fund to avoid more big appropriations decades down the line.

And Indiana has maintained highest-possible AAA credit ratings from the three big rating agencies for well over a decade. The designation means Indiana qualifies for the lowest interest rates possible — even if it's paid for recent projects in cash.

Indiana Finance Authority CEO Jim McGoff said Indiana's credit strengths include strong reserves, oversight, management, liquidity, flexibility and more — along with low debts and a lower cost of living.

Indiana does have \$2.8 billion in outstanding debt, however, according to McGoff's slides. The state pays more than \$100 million in debt service annually, although that's expected to drop to \$20 million in 2030 and even lower in 2033.

**Making proposals**  
Two non-government witnesses also testified — both conservative-leaning, and both with suggestions.

Americans For Prosperity (AFP) Senior Fiscal Policy Fellow Kurt Couchman, who called taxes "deadweight losses on society," said Indiana should cut its state income taxes and rely more heavily on its sales taxes.

Couchman suggested "adjusting" the rate and broadening the range of things taxed, asserting that the approach would "strongly support greater opportunity, increased prosperity and more vibrant communities."

Democrats pushed back, arguing that the sales tax is "regressive," meaning that lower-income people spend a larger percentage of their salaries than higher-income people on sales taxes.

"A regressive tax system that satisfies Americans for Prosperity, a conservative political advocacy group founded by the Koch brothers, should not be the baseline that informs the policy outcomes of the task force," said Sen. Fady Qaddoura, D-Indianapolis.

Couchman also recommended reexamining spending programs and tax credits, and cracking down on tax increment financing districts — a mechanism commonly used by local governments. And, Couchman said, Indiana should consider ditching its biennial budgeting process in favor of what AFP calls a "structurally balanced" format spread across more years.

Former state Sen. Brandt Hershman, who was deeply involved in fiscal policy during his 18-year tenure, advocated to get rid of the corporate tax.

He said that tax was volatile and easy for better-resourced companies to

avoid, and that because the revenue goes to the state, ditching it wouldn't impact local governments.

Hershman also encouraged lawmakers to keep in mind the basic purpose of taxes, to link spending policy with outcomes, and seek bipartisanship.

"In 2010, we found ways to agree, and I hope you're able to do so as well," he said.

**Democrat quibbles and what's next**

Four pairs of Senate Republicans will lead research groups focused on each of the broader task force's policy areas, drawing criticism from Democrats of both chambers.

"I ask you to rethink your position on this and put a minority member in an appropriate place on each of those committees," Rep. Ed DeLaney, D-Indianapolis, told Holdman.

Qaddoura also asked for greater geographic diversity, noting that — although central Indiana is a significant portion of the state's population and tax base — just one of the Republican research group leaders represents the region.

Holdman said that to participate, lawmakers need only contact their colleagues leading the research groups.

Democrats additionally advocated for greater ideological diversity in non-government witnesses, with some pushing Americans for Prosperity's Couchman on a range of policy differences.

"We have opened the door," Holdman told reporters after the meeting. "... We do have one rather left-sided group coming, that we've reached out to to come and speak to us. But it just seems that the predominant folks — such as the Tax Foundation — tend to lean more conservatively than others."

"Thumb's not on the scale," he added. "We told them that if you have others you want to come and speak, bring it on."

The task force will meet next on September 29, with testimony expected from the nonpartisan Pew Research Foundation, the American Legislative Exchange Council — the conservative-leaning model legislation-maker better known as ALEC — and former Republican tax powerhouse Luke Kenley.

At an October 20 meeting, the group plans to take public testimony on the individual income tax.

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

# 2023 Indiana State Fair Celebrates Historic 166th Year

Unveiling of the NEW Indiana Farm Bureau Fall Creek Pavilion Tops the Charts.

The 166th Indiana State Fair wrapped up Sunday following 18 days full of summertime fun, competition, education, and entertainment. Hoosiers from all corners of the state enjoyed fairgoer favorites, including the traditions of food, animals, exhibits and rides. Many popular new attractions were also unveiled this year, including the Illuminate Lantern Display, Basketball themed exhibits (Hoopfest & Land of Legends), daily free concerts, Baby Otters and so much more!

The stars of the show this year were the unveiling of the NEW Indiana Farm Bureau Fall Creek

Pavilion, hosting its first event in the Indiana State Fair Swine Competitions and the celebration of the Year of Basketball.

"This year marks such a special moment in our history. Not only did we unveil the World-Class, premiere livestock facility in the Indiana Farm Bureau Fall Creek Pavilion, but we also celebrated the State that Grew the Game of Basketball, with our great partners at Pacers Sports & Entertainment. 2023 was a remarkable and memorable year!" said Cindy Hoye, Indiana State Fair Commission executive director. "Watching 4-Hers and families showing livestock and making memories in our newly renovated swine barn, which is already packed full of a

century of traditions, was nothing short of remarkable."

\*\*\*

**Highlights From The 2023 Indiana State Fair**

•Despite navigating very challenging weather, 2023 State Fair attendance reached 840,414. (Slight increase over 2022)

•Implementation of new safety measures, including the new Minor Policy, proved very successful.

•Final numbers show that fairgoers spent their entire day enjoying the Fair, with many vendors and partners reporting record sales.

•6,700+ exhibitors showed or displayed a combined nearly 50,000 animal and non-animal projects

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# ART WALK

Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023 • 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

Featuring a range of artists' works on exhibit in the Athens Arts Gallery, Green Street Gallery, Public Library, Carnegie Museum, Wabash College, and more.

Works by local artists will grace shop windows all along the historic downtown route. Brochures and maps will be available on Sept. 22 & 23.



If you would like to display your art please contact:  
**Linda Weaver** (Art Walk Chair) at  
CrawfordsvilleArtWalk@gmail.com by September 10.

Learn more on Facebook by checking out @CrawfordsvilleArtWalk.

Come be a pART of it!

# Bubble, Bubble, Toil and Trouble



**DICK WOLFSIE**  
Funny Bone

I don't remember the last time I cleaned out the fridge in our basement. It's kind of my fridge. Mary Ellen keeps her distance. She has her own upstairs. I've been heaving leftovers in the old appliance for a decade, like it is some kind of trash compactor. I don't believe in wasting food, so it was just killing me yesterday to throw away perfectly good six-month-old tomatoes and what must have once been a very crisp cucumber.

It was when I finally removed one of the vegetable bins for a quick hosing that I first set my eyes on it. Now I know the excitement Richard Leakey must have felt when he gazed upon the skeletal remains of our early human ancestors. There, wedged behind very Hidden Valley Ranch on the bottom shelf, was an unopened bottle of Three Stooges Beer. Moe, Larry and Curly were grinning at me after several years chilling out in the back of our Whirlpool. Yes, gentlemen, there once was a Three Stooges Beer. No longer. No Curly Light or Moe Extra Dry, either. Sorry!

The bottle was part of an assortment of exotic brews I received years ago for emceeing a fund-raising event. Why didn't I know about this beer when I was in college? Why would I sprawl out on my dorm room bed with a can of Budweiser when I could have drunk myself stupid with the world's funniest threesome?

So, what happened to Three Stooges Beer? Forgive me, but I blame the ladies. Stranded in the Sahara Desert, mouth parched, near death, no woman would drink a Three Stooges Beer. You

know this, of course. We all instinctively recognize that women hate anything that has to do with The Three Stooges. If they won't laugh at them, they certainly won't chug them. You might as well offer them a Jerry Lewis Chablis. In fact, that's why most of you men have never even heard of Three Stooges Beer. For years, a dedicated band of women were buying this product and dumping it at chemical waste sites.

When women shop for food, they prefer brand names like Mrs. Paul and Sara Lee. But, honestly ladies, did your Aunt Millie or Mama Mancini ever make you laugh?

So, in my opinion, more food should be named specifically after old-time comedians. Sadly, I don't think Madison Avenue would take the chance of alienating women shoppers. I asked my wife if she'd ever buy Abbott and Costello Jello?

"Not a chance, Dick. I don't want my food to taste funny. But I would buy Brad Pitt Olives. And I'd love some Idris Elba Macaroni. I already have stocked away 14 bottles of Paul Newman's Own salad dressing."

Personally, I'd buy Laurel and Hardy Beef Stew. Doesn't John Cleese Cream Cheese sound good? And wouldn't a bottle of Betty White Vinegar look good on your pantry shelf.

I know what you are wondering: "Dick, will you open that rare treasure and guzzle what might be the last bottle of Three Stooges Beer?"

I might. But I'll regret it. And then I'll smack myself upside the head.

*- Dick Wolfsie spent his career sharing his humor, stories and video essays on television, radio and in newspapers. His columns appear weekly in The Paper of Montgomery County. E-mail Dick at Wolfsie@aol.com.*

## DINNER

From Page A1

under then-Gov. Mitch Daniels) an attorney with Baker & Daniels and more.

Feltman said that growing local economies is a challenge – and one that Crawfordsville and Montgomery County seem to be handling well.

"There are a few (challenges) that are obvious but worth stating," he said. "Outside the metro areas, the ability to attract talent – people (with the right skillsets), a strong and adaptable workforce, that's hard to find. Then we have all the new technologies that are hitting us constantly. Those are even bigger challenges for more rural and smaller communities."

He said there's more. "Population growth is a challenge for our overall state," he explained. "We are one of the few out of the surrounding states that have had a positive – our population is going in the right direction, but it is a small growth. We have good growth going on in the donut counties, but Indianapolis is actually shrinking."

Feltman said that economic development can be summed up as a kind of chicken and egg concept.

"The first thing (companies) are looking at is workforce, people they are going to use to fulfill that economic investment they just made. And then a lot of our counties have working age adults who are simply opting out of the workforce. That maybe was exaggerated during the pandemic. That's tough, but it's also an opportunity. How do we solve that? And child care is an issue that is preventing some from being in the workforce."

Feltman said that housing is next.

"The housing challenge – shortage – is real," he said, "and it's across the entire state. If you can't house the workers that come to the job, they either live somewhere else and you don't get what they

spend, or they simply find somewhere else."

Feltman said the economic work being promoted by Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton, County Commissioner John Frey and others is important.

"Crawfordsville and Montgomery County are blessed to have those people, Wabash College and Ivy Tech, and some of the bigger companies like Nucor and Lakeside. There's a lot going here."

Feltman said working with Daniels was an experience.

"Those were heady days," he said. "The concept (of IEDC) was alive, but not the actual IEDC. That started when Mitch took office. It was meant to move a lot faster and a lot more nimbly than government. That was a big deal, but the game changer was that for the first time the governor was in charge of economic development. He said we were elected to do this job, now let's go do it."

They were certainly busy.

"For the first time we started going back to places like Japan where no governor had been to for a long time, saying Indiana is open for business. At the same time Mitch was working on reforming the tax structure, Major Moves and the infrastructure. (Mitch) came in with an entrepreneurial attitude. He believed sincerely, as do I, that if you give more opportunities to Hoosiers that eventually a lot of good things happen."

It's clear that entrepreneurship is close to Feltman's heart.

"The big businesses get the big headlines – but today, as it has been for decades, most of the jobs have been smaller businesses and entrepreneurs. Anytime you can support entrepreneurship growth that sparks growth. Everybody talks about Lilly, but that started with Col. Eli Lilly and a one-man shop."

## TABLE

From Page A1

these are an easy way to get in a quick protein.

#4 Eat mindfully

Don't let your dinner alone be a bag of chips while doing laundry. Use the space to slow down, spark some creativity and do something for yourself. While cooking light a candle and enjoy some relaxing music. While eating, tune into and notice the texture, flavor, color, and aroma of the food you are enjoying. Be proud of yourself for taking care of your physical and emotional health. This can help you feel accomplished for whatever life throws your way.

If this is something you

are struggling with join Dusk to Dawn Bereavement and Monica Nagele from Purdue Extension on a culinary adventure that not only equips individuals with practical meal planning and storage skills but also aids in the healing process after experiencing grief and adjusting to cooking for one. This support group will be held at Christ Lutheran Church Wednesdays in September from noon to 1 PM.

*- Monica Nagele is the County Extension Director and educator of health and human science for the Montgomery County Purdue Extension.*

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Thanks for reading The Paper!

On Saturday, September 16th, Athens Arts will host the opening of:

**[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.

September 16 - November 11, 2023

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!

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

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HONOR of: \_\_\_\_\_  
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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.  
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