

➤ TODAY'S VERSE

1 John 3:18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

➤ FACES OF MONTGOMERY

People who call our community their own.



Cub Scout Tucker Riddell and Mayor Todd Barton offer a smile while Tucker was being recognized for being the number one popcorn seller for Cub Scout Pack 509.

➤ 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 It's time to register for TAF's Fall 2023. After School Arts Program! Covering the full spectrum of creative disciplines, TAF's After School Arts Program makes a meaningful difference in the lives of youth in our community. ASAP classes give students the opportunity to learn new visual and performing arts skills while also reinforcing academics, improving self-esteem, and inspiring creativity. All classes are free! The program meets at The Arts Federation, located at 638 North Street in Downtown Lafayette. Please note that perfect attendance is expected.

3 The Crawfordsville / Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce is hosting a City / County Legislative Lunch at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, September 22, on the 3rd floor of Fusion 54, 101 W. Main Street, Crawfordsville. The panel will consist of Mayor Todd Barton, City Council Andy Biddle, County Commissioner Dan Guard, and County Council Jake Bohlander. The sponsor for this event is Lakeside Book Company. Lunch will be catered by Maxine's on Green. This event is open to the public. The cost for the event is \$10 for Crawfordsville/Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce members and \$15 for non-chamber members. Space is limited so please register to attend online at crawfordsvillechamber.com by Friday, September 15. For more information regarding the breakfast or the chamber, please contact Stacy Sommer at ssommer@crawfordsvillechamber.com

The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

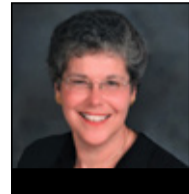
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Artists Share Their Creative Spirit And Talents



KATHY STEELE
Guest Column

Are you ready to enjoy an art-filled, joyous stroll through our beautiful downtown? On Saturday, September 23 from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm red balloons will mark the

businesses downtown that will have art in their windows. This annual event is sponsored by The Art League of Montgomery County. You will see some art going up prior to this date and it will remain in the windows for a few days after September 23. Brochures listing all artists and maps of all locations will be available on September 22 and 23 at the library, Athens Arts, and all locations that have art in their windows. You will be amazed at the quality and diversity of art forms on display from all artists represented.

Starting at the Crawfordsville District Public Library you can enjoy over 100 pieces of art on display from Art League members. This is also a great place to park and pick up your map and brochure of artists. Start your art tour at the McGowen Insurance Company, 121 S. Washington Street to

see creative photography from former Wabash Professor and man-around-town with his camera, John Zimmerman. At 113 S. Washington Street, In His Time Books & Gifts, you will be able to view oil paintings of landscapes, sunsets, or birds by the talented artist and vocalist, Judith Lynn Smith.

To add to the precious sparkle of jewelry in the windows of Creek Jewelers at 111 S. Washington Street, Sharon Owens, glass artist and owner of Inspired Fire Glass Gallery and Studio in Lafayette, will attract your attention to her glass vases, paperweights, and ornaments. Crawfordsville senior, Elli Jefferies, will be exhibiting her whimsical illustrations of creatures and environment with watercolor and ink at Healthies located at 109 S. Washington Street. Cross Main Street to Heathcliff at 102 N. Washington St. to see former teacher, Karen Patton's peaceful paintings of people or places that have inspired her to pick up a paintbrush and share her talents so we can all enjoy. Toni Ridgway-Woodall, local librarian, and trained artist will share her visual storytelling artform at the offices of Taylor, Minette, Schneider & Clutter P.C. at 105 N. Washington Street. Will Bernhardt (father)

and Liam Bernhardt (son-Hoover student) will grace the windows of CK & Company at 107 N. Washington Street with photographs. Both enjoy taking pictures and sharing this hobby together. Liam received a Champion ribbon for his photography at our local 4-H Fair and took his winning photograph to the Indiana State Fair. Kenn Clark, our local window washer, will make us look in amazement at his reflection pictures. He noticed these reflections as he cleaned windows at our downtown businesses. You will be able to see his artistic work at Hive Realty located at 111 N. Washington Street and at The Created By... Artisan Gallery at 301 W. College Street. You will be intrigued. Your last stop on Washington Street will be at 121 N. Washington Street, Crossroads Furniture. It is worth the extra steps to see the realistic, oil portraits created by Dana Ellis. She has mastered a technique to bring skin tones to glowing perfection. Also sharing the windows will be watercolorist, Leslie Warren who recently illustrated the book *Abuela's Sombrero* written by Julie Bergfors.

After enjoying all this incred-

➤ See KATHY Page A6

The "Little Things" In Life....



BUTCH DALE
COLUMNIST

We live in a hectic, fast-paced world. Yes, even here in good ol' rural Montgomery County. Many of you are on the go from morning until late at night. I was stuck in that mode for many years, but I have slowed down the pace in the past few years. As I approach my 75th birthday I have started to appreciate many things in my life that I used to take for granted. Although national politics sometimes gets me riled up, I very seldom complain about anything. I dread listening to others go on and on about how terrible their lives are. I honestly enjoy each and every day!

There are many "little things" in life in which we should take more notice and appreciate. Here are few that I am thankful

for now which I never really thought much about when I was younger...

... the beauty of clouds, a gentle rain, and those amazing rainbows...falling leaves and the smells of autumn...colorful flowers...all of the wild animals and birds...horses...a cozy chair, a good book, and a cup of coffee...my comfortable old slippers...hot showers and warm sheets...treasured photos of family...old time movies and songs...handwritten letters and thank you notes from friends and relatives...and great neighbors who are always helpful and friendly!

... a Coney dog from the Dog 'n Suds...homemade ice cream...fresh home baked chocolate chip cookies...bacon and eggs on Sunday morning...hot chocolate on a cold day...that first fried sponge mushroom in the spring...Wick's sugar cream pie...shrimp and Caesar salad at Red Lobster...

➤ See BUTCH Page A6

Franciscan Health Hosting FREE Community Baby Shower

The event is scheduled to take place from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Sept. 30 at Montgomery County 4-H Fairgrounds, 400 Parke Avenue, Crawfordsville. The Community Baby Shower is for parents or guardians that are currently pregnant or have given birth within one year of the event date (Sept. 30). This event aims to reach out to new and expecting parents and provide them with free education, vendor resources and gifts. The first 100 parents to register and attend the Community Baby Shower will receive one large gift estimated at \$75 to \$100 (limit one per household), along with diapers and baby wipes. The event is free, but registration is required due to limited space. Those interested can go to <https://franciscanhealthcare.formstack.com/forms/babyshower> to register.

➤ HONEST HOOSIER

Went to Big Lots the other day and they asked me if I wanted to pay 10 cents extra for a bag to put my stuff in. When did that start?



➤ INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

- Service Directory...A3
- Classifieds.....A4
- Slim Randles.....A3
- Brian Howey.....A5
- Earth Talk.....A5

➤ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Low doses of antidepressant medications can help hot flashes in some women. Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Paper and online at www.thepaper24-7.com.



➤ THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Community Announcement: Crawfordsville Investment Club to Meet Today

The Crawfordsville Investment Club will meet today at 6:30 p.m., at the Crawfordsville District Public Library. The program is about Morningstar Reports. The Crawfordsville Investment Club meets for educational purposes only. Visitors are welcome. For more information call (765) 362-2826.

➤ TODAY'S QUOTE

"If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen."
-Harry S. Truman

➤ TODAY'S JOKE

A man threw a boomerang in 2022. He lives in constant fear now.

➤ OBITUARIES

Raymond Keith French

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



The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:24 a.m.
SET: 8:03 p.m.

High/Low Temperatures
High: 72 °F
Low: 64 °F

Today is...

- Video Games Day
- National Day of Encouragement
- National Report Medicare Fraud Day

What Happened On This Day

- **1992** First African American Woman goes into Space. Mae C. Jemison, a physician, was a Mission Specialist on STS-47 which was the 50th space flight of NASA's Space Shuttle Program. It was the space shuttle Endeavour's second flight. During over 190 hours she spent in space, she conducted experiments on weightlessness and motion sickness.
- **1970** The Soviet Union launches the Luna 16. It was the first robotic probe to land on the Moon and return to Earth with rock samples. Luna 16 landed on Earth on September 24.
- **1943** The Gran Sasso Raid is conducted by the German paratroopers at the behest of Hitler. The purpose of the airborne operation, also known as Operation Eiche, was to free Italian dictator Benito Mussolini from a ski resort where he was being held on the orders of the Italian king, Victor Emmanuel III. Using gliders, German troops entered the ski resort and successfully rescued Mussolini.

Births On This Day

- **1980** Yao Ming Chinese basketball player
- **1892** Alfred A. Knopf, Sr. American publisher, founded Alfred A. Knopf Inc.

Deaths On This Day

- **2003** Johnny Cash American singer-songwriter, guitarist, actor
- **1977** Robert Lowell American poet



OBITUARIES

Raymond Keith French

February 18, 1935, Sunday, September 10, 2023

Raymond Keith French, age 88 of Waveland, went to be with his Lord and Savior on Sunday, September 10, 2023 at Hickory Creek at Sunset in Greencastle. He was born in New Ross on February 18, 1935 to the late Ralph & Alleen (Morrison) French.

Raymond proudly served his country in the United States National Guard. He married the love of his life, Carole Beasley, on March 6, 1981, she survives. He was a machinist at California Pallet Mill for his entire career, retiring in 2000. He loved golfing, and enjoyed hunting, gardening, fishing, playing cards, and drives in the country.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Carole; eight children, Keith (Mel Jones) Hograve, Shirley (John) Morken; Cheryl Caples; Brenda Hograve; Darrell Hograve, Tim French, Tammy (David) Richards, and Kevin (Gina) Haile; 13 grandchildren; 6 great grandchildren; and a sister, Peggy Ferrand.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Brian Haile; a daughter, Sandy Hograve; four brothers, Richard, Dennis, Henry, and Donald French; two sisters, Patricia Earl and Beverly Sanders; and an infant sister, Mary French.

Visitation will be at Sanders Priebe Funeral Care, 315 S Washington St, in Crawfordsville on Thursday, September 14, 2023 from 11:00am till the time of the funeral service at 1:00pm with Pastors Mark Roberts and Henry Schaadt officiating. Military honors will be provided by the Indiana National Guard and Legion Post 72 Honor Guard. Family request casual dress. Cremation will follow the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be given to Life's Journey Hospice, 10241 E County Road 100 N, Indianapolis, IN 46234. Share memories and condolences online at www.SandersFuneralCare.com.



Dr. Chris Winter, Leading Expert On Sleep And Peak Performance To Visit Wabash College

He will discuss why Wabash men need more sleep

Wabash will host one of the nation's leading experts on sleep and peak performance on Wednesday, September 13, when Dr. Chris Winter visits campus as part of the President's Distinguished Speaker Series.

Dr. Winter will speak at 7:30 p.m. in Salter Concert Hall on Sleep and Peak Athletic Performance, a talk generally geared for the athletically inclined, but everyone is welcome.

He will also give a Chapel Talk on Thursday, September 14 at 11:15 a.m.

Dr. Winter is a nationally recognized sleep expert who has written and spoken extensively on good sleep habits

and peak performance. While his current research focuses on sleep and athletic performance, he has studied sleep medicine and research since 1993 and is the author of *The Sleep Solution: Why Your Sleep Is Broken and How to Fix It*, as well as *The Rested Child: Why Your Tired, Wired or Irritable Child May Have a Sleep Disorder - And How to Help*.

His podcast, *Sleep Unplugged* with Dr. Chris Winter, is one of the most popular medical podcasts in the country. He works with a wide range of college and professional sports teams in baseball, football, and basketball, including the Indiana Pacers.

Dr. Winter's visit to Wabash will debunk the myth that college students can get by on very little sleep. Ideally, high-performing students need seven-to-nine hours per night, particularly during stressful times - in sports, extracurricular activities, and at key periods during the academic semester like mid-terms and final exams.

Dr. Winter is an Echols Scholar graduate of the University of Virginia and received his medical degree from Emory University. He completed his neurology residency at the University of Virginia and as Chief Resident, won a national American Academy of Neurology Teaching Award. He completed his Sleep Medicine fellowship at the University

of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

The President's Distinguished Speaker Series is funded by generous alumni and friends, including Larry Landis '67, with a goal of bringing thought-leaders to campus to inspire conversations far beyond classroom walls. The PDSS will also help bring to campus Vanessa Otero, founder of Ad Fontes Media and the Media Bias Chart, September 19-20, and Dr. Richard Reeves, best-selling author of *Of Boys and Men: Why the Modern Male Is Struggling, Why It Matters, and What to Do about It*, February 19-20, 2024.



Dr. CHRIS WINTER

Meeting Notes

Crawfordsville Council Meeting Agenda

September 11, 2023 at 6PM

- I. Pledge Presenter: Jeff Lucas
- II. Prayer Presenter: Mike Reidy
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Approval of Minutes - August 14, 2023.
- V. Acknowledgment of receipt of the monthly Financial Reports
- VI. Roll Call for additions to the Agenda
- VII. Committee of the Whole

A. A Resolution Of The Crawfordsville Common Council Regarding Approval Of The Establishment Of The 2023 Residential Housing Tif Economic Development Area

VIII. Public Hearing
 A. An Ordinance to Annex Property Known as approximately 100 acres located north of the planned extension of Purple Heart Pkwy and the associated right-of-way

B. An Ordinance for the 2024 Budget
 IX. Fiscal Affairs
 A. Second reading of an 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. Second reading of an Ordinance Establishing City Code Section 37.18 Capital Asset Policy
 C. First reading of an Ordinance Fixing Salaries for the Mayor, Clerk-Treasurer, and Common Council of the City of Crawfordsville, Indiana for the Year 2024
 D. First reading of an Ordinance Fixing the 2024

Salaries of the City of Crawfordsville's Appointed Officers and Employees

E. First reading of an Ordinance for the 2024 Budget

F. A Resolution Of The Crawfordsville Common Council Regarding Approval Of The Establishment Of The 2023 Residential Housing Tif Economic Development Area (if passed through Committee of the Whole)
 X. Ordinances & Petitions

XI. Traffic, Parking & Safety

A. Second reading of an Ordinance Amending Parking Restrictions to Add One Disabled Parking Space located in the first parking space south of E Wabash Avenue, on the west side of S Green Street, directly in front of 301 S Green Street

B. First reading of An Ordinance Designating Wallace Drive a One-Way Street—North Between Pike Street and East Main Street in the City of Crawfordsville, Indiana

C. First reading of an Ordinance Creating a New Section 72.16 of Chapter 72 of the Crawfordsville City Traffic Code

XII. Annexation
 A. A Resolution Approving Proposed Annexation Fiscal Plan

B. First reading of an Ordinance to Annex Property Known as approximately 100 acres located north of the planned extension of Purple Heart Pkwy and the associated right-of-way

XIII. Miscellaneous
 A. Council appointment to Board of Zoning Appeals
 XIV. Adjournment

Montgomery County Drainage Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, September 13th, 2023 at 9:30 am

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & PRAYER
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - July 12th, 2023 - Regular meeting
- IV. PETITIONS
- V. OLD BUSINESS
 - JAMES WILSON #588 - Reconstruction Contract change order Approval of final pay-

- VI. NEW BUSINESS
 - FOXES RUN SUBDIVISION Establish regulated drain and classification Schedule assessment hearing
 - VII. OTHER BUSINESS
 - Regulated drain reconstruction - Discussion
 - VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT
 - IX. ADJOURNMENT

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Halloween-themed House

We're looking for some of the spookiest and most fun Halloween houses around Montgomery County.

If you decorate for Halloween, take a picture of your house and e-mail it to news@thepaper24-7.com.

Be sure to include the address and your contact info and we'll share some of the photos with our readers in The Paper and online.

Fall Is Truly The Best Time Of The Year



Slim Randles
Home Country

Fall is the polishing time. Why? Your guess is as good as mine. For some reason,

the spirit that guides us made our experiences in fall the peak of the year's efforts.

For animals, both wild and domestic, it is the rut, the breeding time. The bulls and bucks have never looked better. Their antlers and horns are hardened into weapons and sharpened against trees. Their bodies are lean and aggressive and they tend to lose all good

sense.

I don't think for a minute that it is just a calendar coincidence that fall is when most festivals, fairs and exhibitions occur. Because by the time fall rolls around, we have jars of jelly ready for competition. The hunters have been practicing out at the range for weeks now and are ready to take the rifle or the bow into the woods to see how their skills measure up to those who they'd love to subdivide and put in the freezer.

The kids are all back in school now, where they can try out all the new crazy stunts on their friends that they learned from their uncles last summer. It is a holy, blessed time for

that. Family tradition, you know.

The uncles have been polishing these stunts for decades now and have them down to a science. And the older folks may not be building cabins or climbing mountains after elk as much these days, but there is a lot to be said for just passing along stories to the youngsters. And it works out fairly well when we realize that 'most everyone who could challenge the truth of one of those stories has already graciously died on us.

Fall is just a wonderful time to be alive.

-Brought to you by the new paperback edition of 'Ol' Max Evans: the First Thousand Years.' From UNMPress.com.

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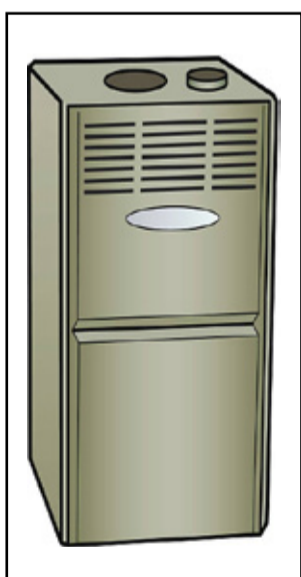
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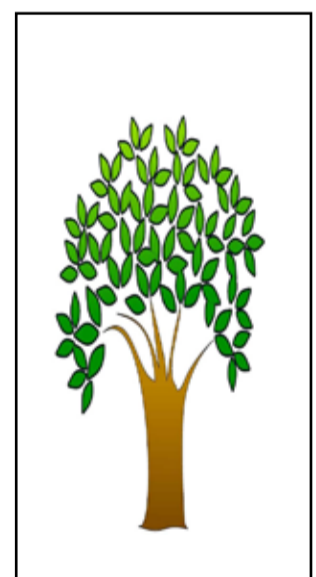
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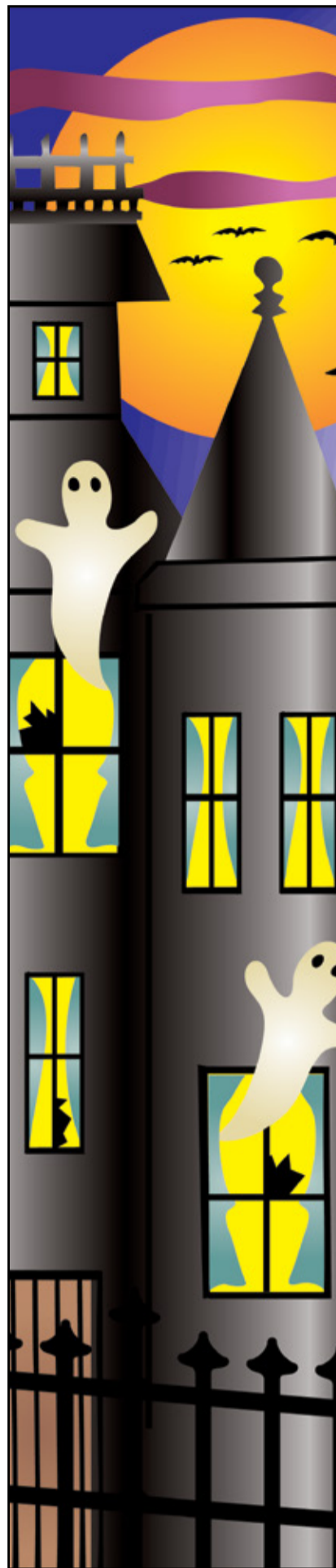
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Halloween Writing Contest

We're having our fun and frivolous Halloween Writing Contest and the entries are being accepted now.

Here's how it works:

Four winners will be selected and those stories will be published, along with the author's name and photo, in October. If the judges select any stories as honorable mentions, those will be published on our web site.

We'd suggest dusting off the cobwebs – unless cobwebs, creaky stairs and paintings with moving eyeballs are appropriate to your story – and getting busy. You know the first rule of writing, right? Butt in chair!

So get yourself situated in front of a keyboard and let those fingers fly!

Tell us a ghost story, a spooky tale, perhaps a fiction piece about the ghost of Gen. Lew or Henry Lane, or perhaps a tale spun up from one of the pre-consolidation high schools. That's the great thing – it's a Halloween writing contest, so the who, what, where, and when are all up to you!

Write your Halloween-themed story and e-mail it to news@thepaper24-7.com or drop it off at our office, 127 E. Main St. in Crawfordsville (If you e-mail, please copy and paste the story in the body of the e-mail and not as an attachment)

Do not exceed 750 words

Connect your story to Crawfordsville and / or Montgomery County somehow.

The writing must be your own and original. You must own the rights to it and sign a release stating as such and giving us permission to publish it.

Get it to us by noon, Sept. 29.

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Mike Pence's 'Populism Siren Song' Warning To The GOP



BRIAN HOWEY
Howey Political Report

Mike Pence posed the most important question of his lengthy career to conservatives and Republicans from

beneath the deep shadow of Donald J. Trump while campaigning in New Hampshire earlier this week.

"Republican voters face an important choice next year," the former vice president and Indiana governor said. "It will determine both the fate of our party and the course of our nation. Will we be the party of conservatism, or will we follow the siren song of populism unmoored to conservative principles? The divide between these two factions is unbridgeable."

He was conspicuous in naming Trump, his former presidential boss, while speaking at the New Hampshire Institute of Politics at Saint Anselm College in Manchester on Wednesday. "The truth is the Republican Party did not begin on a golden escalator in 2015," Pence said of Trump's campaign kickoff at his Manhattan skyscraper. "He promised to govern as a conservative, and together we did. But it's important for Republicans to know that he and his imitators in this Republican primary make no such promise today."

Pence connected Trump to current and distant progressive populists - Vermont Socialist Sen. Bernie Sanders, thrice-defeated Democrat presidential nominee William Jennings Bryan, and the late Louisiana strongman governor and senator Huey Long - saying they were "fellow travelers on the same road to ruin. Donald Trump, along with his imitators, often sound like an echo of the progressive they would replace in the White House."

Pence, who is expected to testify against Trump in future trials that will determine the former president's fate after 91 criminal indictments in four jurisdictions, said that Republican populists

would "erode our constitutional norms." Trump faces a federal indictment, alleged to have tried to persuade Pence to break with the Constitution over the counting of Electoral College ballots, leading to the Jan. 6 U.S. Capitol insurrection.

He then cited "a leading candidate last year" (Trump) who called for the "termination of all rules, regulations, and articles, even those found in the Constitution, while his imitators have demonstrated willingness to brandish government power to silence critics. Republican populists would have us trade in our time-honored principles for passing public opinion."

"That isn't a trade I am willing to make."

"But a populist movement is now rising in the Republican Party," Pence warned. "This growing faction would substitute our faith in limited government and traditional values for an agenda stitched together by personal grievances and performative outrage. Should the new populism of the right seize and guide our party, the Republican Party as we have long known it will cease to exist. And the fate of American freedom would be in doubt."

This is a Republican Party that has lost the popular vote in seven out of the last eight presidential elections, including twice by Trump. President George W. Bush was the only Republican to carry the popular vote in his 1988 reelection bid since 1992.

Pence cited the nation's "brilliant system of checks and balances, divisions of authority, coequal branches of government and sovereign state governments. Conservatives understand that to advance an agenda. We must work through this system."

Are Hoosier Republicans willing to follow Pence into this historic GOP battle?

U.S. Rep. Jim Banks, the Republican U.S. Senate frontrunner in 2024, tweeted the jail mugshot of Trump following his Georgia indictment and arrest, saying, "There can be no other candidate in 2024." It was an incredible

departure from American political norms where an indicted candidate in the past fades and folds.

Gov. Eric Holcomb, House Speaker Todd Huston and U.S. Reps. Greg Pence and Larry Bucshon have endorsed Pence's presidential bid. Holcomb told me in late June that the coming campaign sequence will be defining. "We'll be in a different place in September than we are today," he said. There are signs that the Trump fever is breaking here in Indiana. Beyond Banks, the Republican congressional delegation is mostly uncommitted.

U.S. Sen. Todd Young urged Republicans to nominate a candidate who can win, saying Trump can't. U.S. Sen. Mike Braun told reporters he is undecided, while expressing interest in Vivek Ramaswamy.

U.S. Rep. Rudy Yakym told me earlier this that he is "confident we will have a Republican president. At this point, I have not endorsed, or am backing, anyone."

In late August, Bucshon told the Evansville Courier & Press, "I think a lot of people who are still supporting President Trump, the support is soft, and you're hearing that when you actually talk to people. I don't think he's going to drop out; I just think people are going to overtake him and win the nomination because of all the things around him."

U.S. Rep. Erin Houchin told me on Aug. 24, "I am not backing anybody as yet in the presidential race. I've made my support known for Trump-era policies in the past. I think we're better off with a Republican in the White House. I think primaries are good for the party. I think it will vet out who our party wants the nominee to be. It looks like it could be Donald Trump. We shall see."

Republican U.S. Reps. Jim Baird and Victoria Spartz - who is Mike Pence's congresswoman - have not announced who they are supporting.

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

EARTHTALK

Dear EarthTalk: What can I do this fall to ensure my garden looks its best next spring?

Preparing your garden in the fall is an important step to ensure it's in ideal condition for the next spring. Depending on the size and scope of your garden, you might have a lot to do...

Cleaning up and removing any dead plants, weeds and debris from your garden beds now helps prevent diseases and pests from overwintering. Prune any dead or overgrown branches from trees and shrubs. Also, trim back perennials and grasses to about 2-3 inches above the ground. Rather than discarding fallen leaves and garden debris, consider composting them to create nutrient-rich compost for future use.

If you have perennials that have become overcrowded, fall is a great time to divide and transplant them to rejuvenate the plants and improve their health. If you have tender perennials, shrubs or trees that are susceptible to winter damage, consider protecting them with burlap or other insulating materials.

Consider testing your soil to determine its nutrient and pH levels. This will help you know what soil amendments are needed. Based on results,

add organic matter like compost, well-rotted manure or leaf mulch to improve soil structure and fertility. Incorporate these amendments into the top 6-8 inches of soil. And it's never too late to apply a 2 to 3-inch layer of mulch over your garden beds to help retain moisture, regulate soil and suppress weeds. Use organic mulch like wood chips, straw or shredded leaves.

Fall is the ideal time to plant spring-flowering bulbs like tulips, daffodils and crocuses. Follow planting depth and spacing guidelines for each type of bulb. Likewise, many perennial flowers and herbs—daylilies, peonies, lavender—can be planted in the fall so they have time to establish strong root systems before the growing season starts in the spring. Fall is also an excellent time to plant deciduous trees and shrubs because they can focus on root development without the energy demands of leaves. And if you're growing food crops that like cooler temperatures—broccoli, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, spinach, carrots—get them in the ground this fall for an early spring harvest.

Also, continue regular lawn care, including mowing, fertilizing and aerating. Fall is a good time for overseeding if your lawn needs it. Keep watering your garden as needed until the ground

freezes. Plants still need water even as the weather cools down.

Most important, use the fall season to plan your garden for the next spring. Consider what new plants you want to add, any changes in design and any additional improvements. Address any pest or disease issues before winter. Prune and dispose of affected plant material, and consider applying appropriate treatments. If you have bare garden beds, consider planting cover crops like clover or rye to improve soil health and prevent erosion over the winter.

By taking these steps in the fall, you'll set the stage for a thriving garden in the spring. Proper preparation and care during the fall months will help your plants establish strong root systems and ensure they have the nutrients they need for vigorous growth when warmer weather arrives.

-CONTACTS: Penn State Extension Fall Garden Tasks, extension.psu.edu/fall-garden-tasks Fall Vegetable Garden Cleanup Checklist, almanac.com/fall-vegetable-garden-cleanup-11-things-do-now.

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KATHY From Page A1

ible artwork, you may need to stop at Francis and Mount for lunch or a beverage, or head to Miss Sugar Ray Chocolatier at 120 W. Main Street for some chocolate delights and to view the brightly colored pieces by Rebecca Bailey, who is a student at Crawfordsville High School. Next stop will be at 122 E. Main Street, Henthorn, Harris, & Weliever, P.C. to enjoy the precise, detailed, portrait drawings of Valerie Consoer.

At the corner of Main and Green you can take a quick jog to see the work of several other local artists. At 119 N. Green Street, Country Hearts and Flowers, Kym Bushong will display her Tree of Life Sculpture and Lizandrie Dicken, Crawfordsville High School Student, will share her drawings that help her escape from reality. She allows her hands and God to guide her inspired work. Ryan J. Williams is another Crawfordsville High School student who is exhibiting his creativity. He has been spurred on by animated media. You can see his creations at 124 N. Green Street at Shop Small. At the Jarcho Mini Market at 128 N. Green Street you can take a tour of Cuba through the photographs of Kathy Steele. You can reminisce over old cars and see the fishing village where Ernest Hemingway wrote The Old Man and the Sea. Two artists share the windows of Just Because Flowers at 210 E. Market Street. Suzanne Zadai enjoys bringing SAD UGLY FURNITURE back to life. She also restores frames, mirrors, jewelry boxes, and lamps. Diana Bell loves to quilt and she shares her love of quilting in every stitch she takes. Please make the effort to carefully cross Market Street to see these loving creations.

As you return to Main Street, you will be dazzled by Don Gould's pin-stripping sculptures. He has turned his interest of pin-stripping cars into another form of art. His work is on display at Top Line Athletics at 212 E. Main Street. Enjoy Alice Harpel's impressionistic style of art at DES at 214 E. Main Street. She uses various tools to create depth and shapes in her paintings as well as bright colors that will draw you into her florals and streetscapes. Right next door is the Athens Art Gallery which is hosting a national exhibit of juried art. Make sure you take time to visit during regular operating hours or when you see the OPEN sign on the sidewalk. John Oilar's black ink drawings on white canvas can be viewed at Tri

County Bank located at 224 E. Main Street. John also sketches portraits at local events.

Start your art quest on the south side of Main Street at the Peach Insurance Agency, 309 E. Main Street, where you will experience the fine photography of Christian Webb. He enjoys taking photographs close to home and in the surrounding areas. He finds beauty in architecture, landscapes, and abandoned locations. Stroll back to Green Street where you can stop for refreshments and great desserts at Maxine's on Green and walk across the street to the Green Street Gallery, 119 S. Green Street, where you will drool over the masterpieces of Jerry Smith's award-winning watercolors and oils. Brian McCafferty, Wabash librarian and musician,

will also be displaying at this gallery. Brian carves small limestone figures and creates intricate, symmetrical designs on paper.

Your final lap of the art circuit will take you back to the South side of Main Street. You do not want to miss the whimsical Witch Houses and Witch dresses created by Roberta Bowman at Nogginz Haircare Co. at 125 E. Main Street. Roberta has created Witch Houses for several years and recently branched out to design Witch Dresses. She loves to create and makes at least one new Witch House every year. Anne Viray Siphimalani will dazzle you with her intricate and delicate bead weaving and wearable art jewelry found at Milligan's Flowers & Gifts at 115 E. Main Street. Stacie Cook will share her miniature pets and buildings that she builds and paints. She enjoys art as a hobby. In the same location, The Joshua Cup at 111 E. Main Street, Sandy Clark will set up some of her creative works where she combines materials such as wood, fiber, metal, and paint. Sandy's work can also be seen and purchased at The Created By... Artisan Gallery at 301 E. College Street. Darla Goodrich will display two oil paintings at Sugar Creek Eyecare, 109 E. Main Street. Darla, who is a minister at the First Christian Church, recently took a sabbatical where she had the opportunity to learn to paint with oils. You will enjoy two paintings that she has recently created. Carol Baird, an artist at Athens Arts, will share her delightful watercolor nature paintings at Bush Design Co., located at 107 E. Main Street. Lakin Wilcox Photography at 105 E. Main Street will showcase the nature-inspired works of Susan Chester. She uses dried flowers, resin, and alcohol inks to design functional works of art. Ronnie Walters was encouraged by Jenna Morello, when she painted the mural next to Milligan's last year. Stop at PRKD Properties at 103 E. Main Street to enjoy Ronnie's newest creations. Shari McCollough will be displaying her nature photography of primarily birds and wildlife at Four Seasons at 128 S. Washington Street. If you still have any energy left, stop by the Carnegie Museum to see The Magic of Water, a collection of art with a focus on water.

As you can tell, our community has a wealth of creative artists who love to produce art. It makes them happy, fulfilled, and energized. Some sell their art; others give it away. It may be a way to make a living or a way to share their love of art. This walking exhibit, organized by the Art League of Montgomery County, was designed to showcase artwork from our local artists. It is supported by all the businesses that allow artists to put work in their windows. It can and should be enjoyed by all. Please take time to take a tour of our beautiful downtown. We are fortunate to have a Main Street organization and a city government that has a desire to keep our downtown clean, safe, and active. The Art Walk is just one way for the community to enjoy the craftsmanship and talent of artists.

- Kathy Steele is the President of The Art League of Montgomery County and retired Superintendent of Crawfordsville Schools.

Red Cross Facing A National Blood Shortage
Donors needed now as hospital demand outpaces blood donations

The American Red Cross is experiencing a national blood shortage. Fewer donors than needed gave this summer, drawing down the national blood supply and reducing distributions of some of the most needed blood types to hospitals. Hurricane Idalia further strained the blood supply with blood drive cancellations and reduced blood and donations in affected areas.

Donors of all blood types are urgently needed, and there is an emergency need for platelet donors and type O blood donors to make an appointment to give now to ensure patients across the country continue to receive critical medical care.

When Idalia slammed into the Southeast - leading to widespread power outages, travel hazards and flooding - the storm also forced the cancellation of over a dozen blood drives and caused hundreds of blood and platelet donations to go uncollected. This compounded a shortfall of about 30,000 donations in August. Right now, blood product distributions to hospitals are outpacing the number of blood donations coming in. The Red Cross needs blood and platelet donors now. Schedule an appointment to give by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

In thanks for helping rebuild the blood supply, all who come to give Sept. 1-18 will receive a limited-edition Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last. Those who come to give throughout September will also receive a coupon for a free haircut by email, thanks to Sport Clips Haircuts. Plus, they'll be automatically entered for a chance to win a VIP NASCAR racing experience. Details are available at RedCrossBlood.org/RaceToGive.

September is Sickle Cell Awareness Month

One in 3 African American blood donors is a match for people with sickle cell disease. To help ensure patients have the blood products they need, the Red Cross launched the Sickle Cell Initiative in 2021 to grow the number of blood donors who are Black and improve health outcomes for patients. Together longtime and first-time blood donors are helping patients with sickle cell manage their symptoms and showing support for their community.

Joined by Blood is the initiative's focus during Sickle Cell Awareness Month in September and continues through October. This year, the Red Cross is proud to partner with organizations focused on mentorship, including 100 Black Men of America, Inc.; Kier's Hope Foundation, Inc.; historically Black colleges and universities and member organizations of the National Pan-Hellenic Council; as well as the Black Radio Hall of Fame and others, who are all showing up for patients with sickle cell by hosting blood drives. To learn more, visit RedCrossBlood.org/OurBlood.

How to donate blood
To make an appointment, simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

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The **PAPER** of Montgomery County

BUTCH From Page A1

my wife's homemade chili...bagels with raspberry jelly...and Krispy Kreme doughnuts...I'm getting hungry!

... repairing or building something on my own...driving my old 1951 Farmall tractor... doing a good deed for a stranger...giving money to my grandkids...receiving a hug from a former student...giving our dogs a special treat...buying a vintage item that reminds me of my childhood... walking down the road to the creek after supper... watching my grandkids play sports...driving my old truck slowly around the countryside and just enjoying the sights... mowing grass on the weekend (you can do a lot of thinking on a riding mower!) ...helping a patron find a good book at the library...being with my family, especially during the holidays...and yes, even taking a nap before coming to work... ah, the peace and quiet! I have a happier life.

I am more relaxed and have a better outlook. I don't sweat the small stuff anymore. I don't get upset when things don't go my way. If something breaks and needs to be replaced, so be it. I have no desire to "keep up with the Joneses," but I never did anyway. As a police officer, I witnessed many tragedies. I was involved in situations in which I honestly thought I might not make it out alive. Those events affected how I look at life.

Your life is how you make it...no matter what your age. It all depends on you. But always remember that along the way, you need to appreciate the little things in life...and "stop and smell the roses."

- 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.

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