

The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery County's oldest locally owned independent newspaper

50¢

CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA

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➤ TODAY'S VERSE

Matthew 6:33 *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*

➤ FACES OF MONTGOMERY

People who call our community their own.



One of our roving photographers caught Cameron and Cooper outside and having fun and the boys were nice enough to offer a smile! Got a great photo of your loved one? E-mail it to news@thepaper24-7.com along with the pertinent info (and your contact information so we can reach you if we have questions).

➤ THREE THINGS You Should Know:

1 Prophetstown State Park invites you to create a one-of-a-kind scarecrow for its 14th Annual Trail of Scarecrows, Oct. 1–Nov. 5. Support your local community, highlight an organization, promote special events or just show off your creativity to thousands of visitors this fall. This event is open to businesses and families alike. The scarecrows will be featured along Prophetstown's paved accessible trail. Promote recycling and upcycling by repurposing used items and materials to create fun (and funky!) art for this special event. It's free to participate and there are no registration fees. The public will have the chance to vote for their favorite scarecrows by making donations to the Interpretive Services Fund for Education, Arts, Culture and History Programs at Prophetstown State Park. By donating at least \$1, park guests can cast 100 votes for their favorite. Prizes are awarded for the most votes so spread the word to vote for your scarecrow. If you are unable to sponsor a scarecrow, please consider donating merchandise or gift certificates for contest prizes or gifting a monetary contribution for interpretive services programs.

2 Come join artist Ellie Dieckmeyer for a fun class and make your own mixed media art piece. Instruction and supplies needed for students will be provided. Class will be on Thursday, October 12th. Choose either an afternoon session (1-3 pm) or an evening session (6-8 pm). Class is open to anyone 12 years and older. Cost is \$35. Classes meet at Athens Arts, 216 E. Main Street, Crawfordsville.

3 The Ladoga-Clark Twp Public Library will hold a special meeting to approve the library budget on October 17th at 5:30 pm at the library, 128 E Main St. Ladoga IN. This meeting will replace the regular October meeting of October 31st.

BTN

By The Numbers, a look at what's in the news . . . by the numbers. These are just numbers, not suggestions that they mean more or less than what they are. We do not suggest that one number is connected to another. These are simply facts with no extraneous details, bias or slanted reporting. To borrow (and perhaps mangle a bit) a quote from legendary fictional detective Joe Friday, it's just the numbers, ma'am!

100 Mil. Gallons

Officials hope to pipe 100 million gallons of water daily 35 miles from the aquifer to a massive — and controversial — high-tech park planned in Boone County: the LEAP Lebanon Innovation District. Wabash-reliant residents fear the proposal could jeopardize their water supply.

2 Billion Gallons

Analysis found that the Wabash River's average flow rate is 2 billion gallons of water daily, and that the aquifer is both deeper and wider than indicated in previous studies, according to the release.

30 Million

INTERA found that, at that site, water moves "easily" between the river and aquifer, and back — potentially alleviating concerns that the project would dwarf the aquifer's capacity. Two collector wells drilled at the site, it said, could "sustainably produce" upwards of 30 million gallons of water daily — and some scenarios studied suggested the wells could sustain "much higher" pumping rates.

\$3.2 Million Grant

The Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine is receiving vital new federal support for an innovative program addressing a national shortage of veterinarians in public health and rural/food animal practice in Indiana and beyond, as well as a significant lack of underrepresented individuals entering the veterinary profession. The Health Resources and Services Administration, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, has renewed a five-year, \$3.2 million grant to further the success and impact of Vet Up!® The National Health Careers Opportunity Program Academy for Veterinary Medicine.

More Than \$525,000

CDG noted Indiana for its user experience with Access Indiana, its single sign-on program is now connected with more than 120 applications and has grown to 2.1 million accounts. Additionally, the Office of Technology (IOT) was lauded for offering free and low-cost services to local government, including website development and hosting, payment processing, web domains and cybersecurity training. IOT provides more than \$525,000 in estimated value through its free and low-cost services to local governments.

530k Members

The Indiana Public Retirement System has nearly 530,000 members from more than 13,000 public employers across the state. It manages more than \$46.6 billion on their behalf. Small individual-level changes, therefore, can have multi-million-dollar impacts in the aggregate.

4.3 million

Do you have a heart on your driver's license? Then you're among 4.3 million Hoosiers registered to be organ donors — 99 percent of you made your decision while conducting a transaction with the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV).

September is National Bureau of Motor Vehicles Appreciation Month, when Donate Life Indiana celebrates its long-standing relationship with the Indiana BMV and everything BMV employees do to save Hoosier lives by asking one simple question, "Would you like to be an organ donor?"

\$374,200 Coming To MCCF

The Montgomery County Community Foundation (MCCF) is proud to announce that it has been selected as a recipient of the Early Years Initiative from Early Learning Indiana. The Early Years Initiative is a \$50-million competitive grant program focused on enhancing the learning and development of infants and toddlers in Indiana communities. The generous support for this initiative comes from Lilly Endowment Inc. Through this grant, MCCF will receive \$374,200 in funding to increase professional development opportunities for local child care programs and partner with the City of Crawfordsville to expand the Project Swaddle and Project Bundle programs. The Early Years Initiative places special emphasis on serving families in low-income households.

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:36 a.m.
SET: 7:41 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 80 °F
Low: 60 °F



Today is...

- National Comic Book Day
- Yom Kippur
- Family Day

What Happened On This Day

- **1992** NASA launches the Mars Observer. The robotic space probe's main goal was to study Mars. Almost a year later all communications with it were lost.
- **1977** Runners run the first Chicago Marathon. One of the world's six major marathons, which include the marathons in Berlin, Boston, London, New York, and Tokyo, the Chicago Marathon was initially called the Mayor Daley Marathon. The first race was won by Rhud Metzner.
- **1890** Sequoia National Park is established by the United States Congress. The park, situated in the state of California is famous for its giant sequoia trees

Births On This Day

- **1952** Christopher Reeve
American actor
- **1897** William Faulkner
American author, Nobel Prize laureate

Deaths On This Day

- **1971** Hugo Black
American jurist, politician
- **1929** Miller Huggins
American baseball player, manager

➤ HONEST HOOSIER

Here's a tip of the seed corn cap to our own Jeff Birk. Jeff is one of the owners of the little paper that could and was honored last week with Wabash College's Fred Urbaska Award for Meritorious Community Service! Good on you, Jeff!



➤ INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

Casey Williams.....A3
Classifieds.....A3
Carrie Classon.....A4

➤ THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Say Cheese!

Are you a proud parent or grandparent? Got a great photo of your loved one? E-mail it to news@thepaper24-7.com along with the pertinent info (and your contact information so we can reach you if we have questions). C'mon, let's show off as many bright and smiling faces as we can and make clear exactly why Montgomery County is such a great place to raise a family!

➤ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Remove ticks by grasping them with tweezers as close to the skin surface as possible.

Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Catch his column each week in The Paper and online at www.thepaper24-7.com.



➤ TODAY'S QUOTE

"Weaknesses are just strengths in the wrong environment."
-Marianne Cantwell

➤ TODAY'S JOKE

What's the best time each day? Six thirty. Hands down!

➤ OBITUARIES

NONE

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



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13 WTHR **7 DAY FORECAST**

81 CLOUDS BUILD	60/80 PARTLY CLOUDY STRAY SHOWERS	62/79 SCTD SHOWERS	60/76 SCTD RAIN & STORMS	59/76 SHOWERS EARLY, PARTLY CLOUDY	58/80 MOSTLY SUNNY	59/79 MOSTLY SUNNY
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT

1st Place And 2nd Place Teams Tie Growing Native Plants From Seed

The first place team of Dave Creech, Mike Fry, Steve Winningham and Alan Personnet scored ten-under-par with the second place team of Steve Priest, Jeff Claussen, Dick VanArsdel and Sonny Shelton tying. The third place team, trailing by only one stroke consisted of Denny

Wilson, Greg Rister and Ed Bayless. Proxies were won by Fry and Rhett Welliever on holes six and twelve, respectively. Longest drive of someone 80 years old or older went to Bill Boone. Let's congratulate our senior golfers on another close game of golf!

The Master Gardeners of Montgomery County will be hosting a seminar "Growing Native Plants from Seeds" next Monday, Oct. 2.

Come and learn more about raising native plants by growing from seed with Bill Daniels, Native Seed Communities Coordinator with the Indiana Native Plant Society. Daniels has been with the Indiana Native Plant Society since 2021 and has given talks promoting growing native plants. He retired in 2019 from a work-life spent primarily in horticulture and environmental, health and safety, and now spends much of his time collecting and preparing native

plant seeds for propagation. Restoring native plant habitat is vital to preserving biodiversity.

By creating a native plant garden, each patch of habitat becomes part of a collective effort to nurture and sustain the living landscape for birds and other animals. Native plants form the foundation of habitat for pollinators by providing them with pollen and nectar for food, cover from the elements and predators, and places where their young can grow. The best way to attract beautiful butterflies, busy bees, speedy hummingbirds, and other pollinators is to fill your yard with native plants. Most are familiar with

the milkweed plant for the beautiful Monarch butterfly. The Monarch lays her eggs on the leaves of the milkweed plants allowing for the eggs to hatch into larvae and they consume the leaves and stems of the milkweed plant growing over the next couple of weeks. Once the caterpillar is old enough, it will leave the plant looking for a place to form a pupa and after about two weeks a beautiful butterfly emerges from the chrysalis, thus continuing the lifecycle of the Monarch butterfly. Besides the Monarch, there are many other beautiful butterflies, moths, hummingbirds, and insects that require native plants to complete their own life-

cycle. In addition, many other birds take advantage of the native plants when their seeds are produced thus eating them and depositing the remnants across the land creating new plants.

The seminar will take place Monday, Oct. 2 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Exhibit Hall on the 4-H Fairgrounds in Crawfordsville. Reservations are requested by sending an email to montcoinemg@gmail.com.

And be sure to attend the annual Plant Exchange, Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at the Exhibit Hall on the 4-H Fairgrounds. Bring a plant, trade a plant, need a plant, take a plant!



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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.

Thank You for Reading The Paper!

The **PAPER** of Montgomery County



Photos courtesy of Subaru, Ford, Chevrolet and BMW

IIHS Finds Muscle Cars Rank Among Deadliest Vehicles, But Automotive Safety Is Not Always What It Appears

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, famous for their impact tests and accident research, recently found muscle cars to be among the deadliest vehicles. Six of the 21 vehicles with the highest driver death rates are variants of the Chevy Camaro, Dodge Challenger/Charger, and Ford Mustang. Eight others are small cars. Eighteen of the 23 vehicles with the lowest death rates are minivans, SUVs, or luxury vehicles.

Safety In Decision

"We typically find that smaller vehicles have high driver death rates because they don't provide as much protection, especially in crashes with larger, heavier SUVs and pickups," said IIHS President David Harkey. "The muscle cars on

this list highlight that a vehicle's image and how it is marketed can also contribute to crash risk."

This is nothing Ralph Nader hasn't been telling us since he wrote "Unsafe at Any Speed" in the 1960s, so let's be clear: Human drivers contribute more to a car's statistical death rate than what's under the hood. Cars that go fast are bought with the intention of going fast, ending in a fast demise. However, that's not preordained.

I've driven all of models cited by IIHS. I once drove a Jeep Grand Cherokee Trackhawk and its supercharged Hellcat V8 to work in an ice storm. I also recently drove a Ford Mustang Bullitt two hours in pounding snow. Electronic throttles and traction systems allow these vehicles to be gentle

when driven gently.

High-Tech Gear

Not long ago, a car only needed a good crash rating to get top safety scores. And, the IIHS did a great job of ramming vehicles into fixed barriers. These tests eventually embarrassed the worst into better engineering, so most cars on the road today perform well structurally to protect passengers.

But, vehicle safety goes beyond high-strength steel as driving a modern car is often a cacophony of beeps and blinks as cameras and sensors buzz seats, nudge steering wheels, and flash lights to get your attention.

Blind spot warnings, lane departure mitigation, and lane keep assist are great systems, but my favorites are rear cross

path detection, automatic emergency braking, and rear child reminder. The last counts door openings or use motion sensors to leave parents from leaving their kids in a hot car. Rear sensors keep drivers from backing into "things".

One of my latest favorites is automatic evasive steering, enabled by the new three-camera EyeSight system on the 2024 Subaru Crosstrek and Impreza. It detects obstacles in front, alert drivers, and if nobody responds, will take the initiative to steer around the object. This and similar systems have the potential to save lives.

Best and Rest

With IIHS tests and data crunched, vehicles with the lowest rates of driver deaths surface. Volvo, Mercedes-Benz,

and Subaru to perform predictably well, but so do others.

The BMW X3, Lexus ES 350, Mercedes-Benz E-Class sedan, and Nissan Pathfinder top the list with 0 deaths per million registered vehicle years. Among other top performers are the Audi Q5, Volvo XC60/XC90, Subaru Outback/Ascend, Toyota Sienna/C-HR, Chevrolet Traverse, Honda Odyssey, BMW X5, and Acura RDX/MDX. GMC Canyon and Toyota Tacoma pickups also performed well.

And, the other end of the list? You might double-think the Mitsubishi Mirage, Hyundai Accent, Chevrolet Spark, Kia Rio, and Ford EcoSport - all subcompacts. And, those muscle cars are down there too.

IIHS data is only one point to consider when



CASEY WILLIAMS
Auto Reviews

buying a new vehicle. High-performing crash structures, advanced safety systems, and the human purchasing them matter too. Almost all of today's vehicles can be driven safely...if driven safely.

Storm Forward!

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

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What Causes Shingles And What To Do About It



JOHN R. ROBERTS, M.D.
Montgomery
Medicine

I've had a number of requests to re-run my column on shingles. This may be due to the successful marketing campaign for Shingrix® vaccine,

developed to reduce the incidence of this often painful malady. The ads are quite accurate and compelling.

Shingles is a condition caused by the Varicella-Zoster Virus (VZV). The virus is also known as chickenpox virus, varicella virus, and zoster virus. It is one of eight types of herpes viruses that infect humans.

The biology of herpes viruses is very interesting. They infect humans through the skin and the mucus membranes that line body openings. The initial or "primary" VZV infection causes the typical chicken pox rash that develops shortly after exposure to the virus. This usually causes itching and redness of the skin followed by development of small fluid-filled blisters known as vesicles. Some older readers may have seen chicken pox, but virtually all of today's parents have not. Thankfully, it is becoming a very rare condition since the introduction of the childhood varicella vaccination in the U.S. 1995.

Interestingly, herpes viruses are never completely cleared from the body. Once the initial infection has subsided, the viruses take refuge in collections of nerve cells called ganglia that reside deep in the body.

Shingles is a condition where VZV reactivates and begins to reproduce causing a recurrent outbreak. As the viruses begin to multiply, they migrate from the ganglia near the spinal cord and propagate along the nerve fibers of one or more (usually adjacent) spinal nerves to the surface of the skin.

The appearance of the shingles rash can be explained by knowing a bit about the anatomy of

the nervous system. The peripheral nervous system is made up of sensory and motor nerves that enter and exit the spinal cord in the neck and back. The sensory nerves carry nerve impulses for feeling (touch, pain, etc.) from specific bands of skin called dermatomes (see diagram). These sensory nerves enter the spinal cord at specific levels. Dermatomes stop at the midline of the body (i.e. there are right and left dermatomes supplying feeling at each level of the spinal cord).

When VZV reactivation occurs, the person usually feels some itching, burning or tingling along the involved dermatome(s). This is typically followed a day or two later by the formation of blistering skin and pain. The pain may precede the rash by a few days, sometimes fooling the patient and the doctor into thinking it's something else. I have had patients thought the pain was from kidney stones who underwent expensive workups in the emergency room, only to develop the rash shortly after their visits.

It's important to point out that Shingles almost always presents in a single dermatome on one side of the body. It rarely crosses the center of the body (there is no truth to the adage that a person with shingles will die if the rash crosses the center of the body).

The varicella virus can also affect the nerves that supply sensation to the eye, a condition called herpes zoster ophthalmicus. These infections can be quite severe and can lead to scarring of the front of the eye (cornea) that may require corneal transplantation. People with shingles on the tips of their noses often have involvement of the eye as well.

Shingles may last a week or two, sometimes longer. Unfortunately, about 15 percent of people, primarily seniors, develop severe pain that persists after the rash is gone. This condition is called post-herpetic neuralgia (PHN). It can be extremely devastating and may require potent medication to keep the pain tolera-

ble. One of my friends has not found anything to help the pain he's had for many years. He describes it as a "blowtorch" on his skin.

About a third of adults who have had a primary varicella infection will develop shingles. The main reason for developing a reactivation is reduced or waning immunity. Ninety-five percent of adults in the U.S. have antibodies to VZV. This is either through natural immunity from having had chicken pox as a child or from vaccine-associated immunity from receiving varicella vaccine.

As people age, their immune systems become weaker and they are less likely to be able to keep VZV in the resting stage. Other conditions such as infections or malignancies can also trigger an outbreak of shingles. Most cases of shingles are not the result of severe underlying problems.

It is important to see a physician as soon as you suspect you may have shingles. There are anti-viral medications available that slow the spread of VZV and can also greatly reduce the risk of developing PHN. To be most effective these medications should be started within 72 hours of the start of symptoms.

Since post-herpetic neuralgia can be so devastating, it is important for people over 50 years of age to consider vaccination against VZV with the Shingrix® vaccine. It is one of the most effective vaccines we have, offering up to 97% protection, even in the elderly. It is available in most doctors' offices or pharmacies. Most insurance companies cover the cost of the vaccine. Beginning this year, the vaccine is covered for people who have a Medicare Part D plan or a Medicare Advantage plan. The vaccine is given in two doses, two to six months apart. Most people who have had severe shingles would be very quick to advise everyone to get vaccinated.

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

Talking With Strangers



CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

"Not so fast! We have more work to do."

Usually, this has to do with my writing: "Is it good enough? Does she hate it?" But not always. Sometimes I will post something on Facebook, and someone will take offense. Since I make an effort to never post anything controversial or unkind, this always shocks me and makes me wonder if I have any idea how I sound when I write. Since writing is pretty much all I do, this concern starts to bang around in my brain like a kitten knocking things off the shelf.

"What was I thinking?" I wonder. But I don't actually remember thinking anything at all. I will make comments I imagine are helpful or clarifying, and end up offending someone and wondering why I did not just remain silent.

The best thing to do at this point is to take a walk.

On my walk, I usually encounter a few homeless people. The Catholic Church nearby feeds them and provides other ser-

vices, so there are usually a handful of folks, who have some kind of problem that I have never had to deal with, waiting in the summer heat or the winter cold for the doors to open so they can get the help they need. I talk to these folks as I walk by. Some of them ignore me. Most of them smile and return the greeting.

But occasionally, I meet someone who just stares at me, like, "What is her story?"

And the funny thing about this is that they assume I have one.

"It's going to be cooler tomorrow!" I announced yesterday to a gentleman sitting on the steps. Only as I got closer did I notice he had his head under his T-shirt. He pulled it out when he heard me.

"It's going to be really cool," I repeated to the confused-looking fellow. "Much cooler than normal!"

He stared at me as if I was speaking in code. I could tell that—whatever he thought of me—he assumed I knew what I was talking about. He thought I had it together. He had no way of knowing how many days I wondered if hiding under my own T-shirt might not be the best strategy.

I realized by then that he had some cognitive problem, but I felt I needed to

wrap the conversation anyway—just for the sake of politeness.

"So, you take care, OK?"

I waved and headed off, realizing I had just embarrassed myself in front of a man who was hiding under his own T-shirt.

We are all making up stories for one another without knowing what the real story is.

The story I make up for myself when I am anxious is that I am failing—somehow, somewhere—and no one has told me how or why. But I have no idea why that man was hiding under his T-shirt, and I'm betting his reasons were a lot better than mine.

By now I know that my anxiety is a mood, that it will pass. As uncomfortable and demanding as it is in the moment, it is almost impossible to remember after the fact. Walking helps. And talking to people—even folks who seem a little confused—helps as well.

It is cooler today—just as I promised the fellow on the steps it would be. I am going to put on my shoes right now and talk to some strangers.

Till next time,
Carrie

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



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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