

➤ TODAY'S VERSE

Psalms 89:1 I will sing of the mercies of the LORD for ever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations.

➤ 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 909.

➤ 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 Town of New Richmond is having a Work Session Meeting on September 28 at 5:30 p.m. at the New Richmond Town Hall.

The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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Photo courtesy of MCCF

Pictured are Veterans Memorial Park board members left to right, Bob Carstensen, Mark Eutsler, Marc Gabel, Kevin Cobb, and Mike Spencer, accepting the check from MCCF staff Kelly Taylor and Cheryl Keim.

MCCF Grant Supports Veterans Memorial Park

This week we had the honor of presenting a \$12,000 grant to the Veterans Memorial Park organization. This group is developing the Veterans Memorial Park south of the Byron Cox American Legion Post on South Washington Street, Crawfordsville. If you drive by, you may notice that a great deal of concrete work is taking place. The centerpiece of the park will feature monuments, the American flag and the Indiana State flag, along with flags representing each branch of the US military. On the outer

corners of the park, various military vehicles and equipment will be displayed, including a 1969 Huey helicopter. With an estimated budget of \$151,400, donations are welcome. To make a contribution to the Veterans Memorial Park, one may mail a check made out to Veterans Memorial Park to P.O. Box 804, Crawfordsville, IN 47933.

The grant was made possible by the DeVon W. and Mary Jane Flaningam Fund. A World War II veteran, DeVon served in the Army Air Corps from

1941-76, when he retired from the Air Force Reserve with the rank of lieutenant colonel. He was a 1934 Darlington High School graduate, a 1940 Wabash College graduate, and a 1954 Indiana University School of Law graduate. Mary Jane taught high school home economics and business classes. She established this fund through a bequest. The Flaningam Fund provides support to Montgomery County veterans and their families, the Boys & Girls Club, and the Youth Service Bureau.

Small Town Saturday Nights



BUTCH DALE
COLUMNIST

Some of the best memories of my childhood were those many trips to town on Saturday nights. Just about all of the stores in downtown Darlington were open. On many occasions, there were no parking spaces open on Main street, and Dad had to park on North Franklin street. On that corner, in front of the Dry Goods store, was a bench where the "regulars" sat... Clarence "Doozy" Dain, Rufus "Bullet" Remington, Harley Cain, and Frank Cox. You can bet that each one had a little bottle of whiskey in their back pocket.

Bob and Thelma Peebles ran



Photo courtesy of Butch Dale

Teens having fun at the drug store in 1954

The dry goods store. My mother would usually head there to look for sale items...and various types of cloth, as she made many of our school clothes and also sewed for others. She would then sit and chat with the other women the rest of the evening. As three more of my siblings came along, Mom was stuck at home most of the time

➤ See BUTCH Page A6

Hoosier Heartland State Bank Named A Top AG Lender In The U.S.

HHSB has been named a Top Agriculture Lender by the Independent Community Bankers of America (ICBA).

The bank earned a national ranking as the 11th best ag lender in the United States in the \$300 million to \$1 billion in assets category. They are one of just two Indiana banks to be named a top ag lender and the only Indiana bank in their asset size to receive this national recognition.

"Our ag lenders have deep roots in the farm community," stated Trent Smaltz, Chief Lending Officer. "They understand the challenges of working the land and are dedicated to

➤ See HHSB Page A6

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:37 a.m.
SET: 7:40 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 78 °F
Low: 60 °F

Today is...

- Johnny Appleseed Day
- National Dumpling Day
- The Last of Us Day

What Happened On This Day

- **1959** Typhoon Vera hits Japan. The category five typhoon is thought to be the strongest typhoon to impact the island country in recorded history. The resulting rain, landslides, and damage caused the deaths of about 5000 people in Japan.
- **1914** Establishment of Federal Trade Commission (FTC). The Federal Trade Commission (FTC), an independent government agency in the US, responsible for consumer and market protection was established by the Federal Trade Commission Act on this day.
- **1786** Protestors shut down the court in Springfield, Massachusetts starting the Shay's Rebellion. Named after the rebellion's leader Daniel Shays, the revolt began as a response to an economic crisis where people who owed debt were imprisoned. After a bloody conflict, the Shaysites were crushed by the government. This was the first armed internal conflict in post-revolutionary America.

Births On This Day

- **1897** Pope Paul VI
 - **1888** T. S. Eliot
- American/English publisher, playwright, critic, Nobel Prize laureate

Deaths On This Day

- **2008** Paul Newman
- American actor, director, race car driver, businessman
- **1820** Daniel Boone
- American explorer

➤ HONEST HOOSIER

Five weeks from today is Halloween. A little over eight weeks from today is Thanksgiving. And 13 weeks from today is Christmas. I'm thinking that time and my hair are all going somewhere - and at about the same speed.



➤ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Mosquito repellants containing DEET are the most effective and are safe for anyone those older than two months. 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

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

➤ THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Community Event: Harvest Festival

Come join us at our annual Harvest Festival! Bring the whole family and enjoy live music, yummy fall food, artisan vendors, a Car Show on Saturday and Family Fun Zone on Sunday! This is a year you don't want to miss. Where: Davidson Greenhouse & Dispensary; 3147 E Ladoga Rd. Crawfordsville. When: Saturday, September 30 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. & Sunday, October 1 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

➤ TODAY'S QUOTE

"I used to love September, but now it just rhymes with remember."
-Dominic Riccitello

➤ TODAY'S JOKE

Why do farmers talk to their chickens? They're just trying to egg them on.

➤ OBITUARIES

Michele Dee Wright

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



13 WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST

59/80 WARM	60/78 WIDELY SCATTERED SHOWERS	59/74 WIDELY SCATTERED SHOWERS	59/74 SHOWERS EARLY	58/77 MOSTLY SUNNY	57/79 MOSTLY SUNNY	58/79 MAINLY SUNNY
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

Meeting Notes

Montgomery County Board Of Zoning Appeals Agenda

Wednesday September 27, 10 a.m.
 1580 Constitution Row Crawfordsville
 I. Call To Order
 II. Approval Of August Meeting Minutes
 III. New Business:
 A. ZV2306- Public Hearing For Variance Of Use, Avista Estates LLC
 IV. Other Business
 V. Adjournment

Montgomery County Plan Commission Agenda

Wednesday September 27, 4 p.m.
 Montgomery County Government Center Community Room
 1580 Constitution Row Crawfordsville
 I. Call to Order
 II. Approval of August 2023 meeting minutes
 III. Reports
 IV. Agenda Modifications
 V. New Business
 VI. Old Business:
 A. Discussion of bulk standards text amendment to the Montgomery County Zoning Code.
 VII. Adjournment

Union Township Notice Of Meeting

The Union Township Board will meet on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. at the Union Township Trustee's Office, 1311 Darlington Avenue, Crawfordsville. This is a public meeting.

Psi Iota Xi, Gamma Xi Chapter Meeting

The September meeting of the Gamma Xi Chapter of Psi Iota Xi was held on Sept. 11, 2023. President Tonya Michael called the meeting to order with the opening verse and announced the theme of the year. Happy Bucks about summer activities were announced. Members were very happy to be together again. Treasurer Pam Karle reported that a donation was made to the Montgomery County United Band. Wendy Schmitzer-Torbert reported on the National Convention that she and Angie Griggs attended in June. Our chapter received the award for the largest amount per capita spent on speech and hearing. Awards were presented to Jennie Hessler, Tonya Michael, and Julie Swick for perfect attendance at meetings last year. Vicky Reynolds received an award for 20 years of service to Psi Iota Xi. Nancy Buckles received an award for 35 years of service to Psi Iota Xi. Committee reports were presented. Julie Swick, Summer Speech Clinic Chair and therapist, reported that 48

students were served this summer. Julie thanked the therapists, members, alumni, and high school volunteers that served as receptionists. Pam Karle reported that the cheeseball fundraiser will be held before Thanksgiving. Cheeseballs will be \$6 again this year. Orders can be given to members now through November 5th. Jenny Slavens reported that the literacy grant was spent on a donation to the Trail Tales located near the Animal Shelter on the Sugar Creek Trail. We hope the community will

enjoy the two stories, Fall Friends and Little Dandelion Seeds the World, while walking the trail. Julie Swick reported that the Doris Larsen Fund Scholarship money will be given to three children in the community for speech therapy. The State Meeting Chair, President Michael, reported on plans for the April State Meeting that Gamma Xi will host. The next meeting will be held on Monday, Oct. 2 at 7 p.m. at the public library. The meeting was adjourned with the closing verse.



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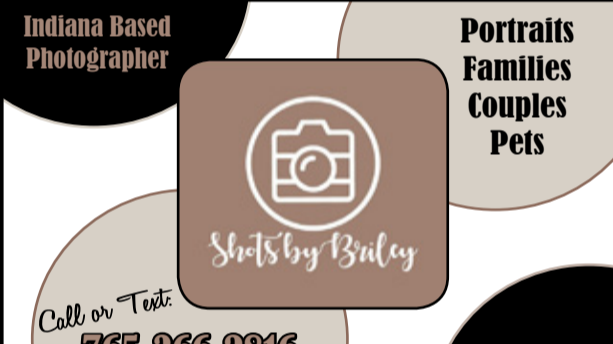
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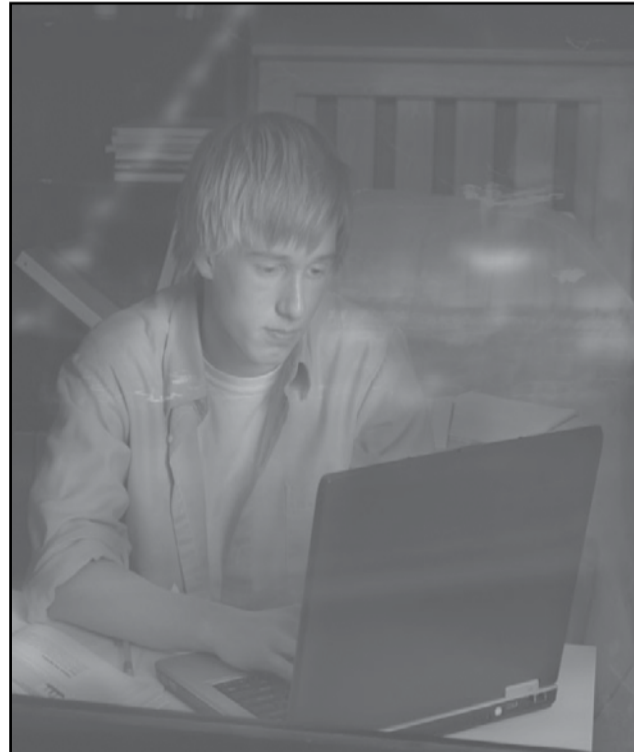
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Halloween-themed House

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.



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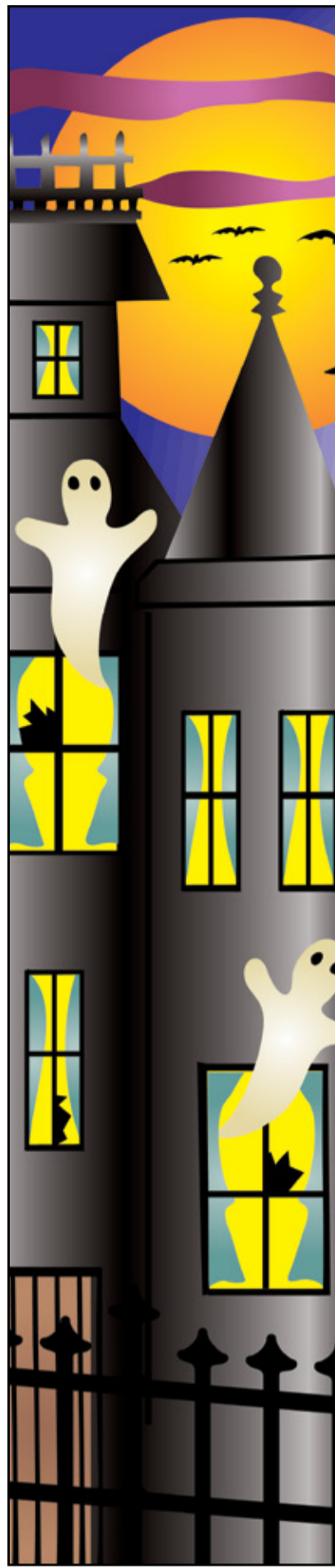
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Contact our advertising department at 765-361-0100 ext. 1 to be included in our next Service Directory.



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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Brad Chambers' Long Shot Race For Governor



BRIAN HOWEY
Howey Political Report

About this time five years ago, Mike Braun was a relatively unknown state rep from Jasper, preparing to take on

few of them knew. His message was a simple one: "I know how to grow the economy."

Afterwards, I asked Chambers how he could win the nomination when so few people know him, or even of him.

"You work hard and you be yourself," he responded. "It took me a bit to get to yes on this. I'm not a career politician, I've never run for office. You hear me say that a lot. But I believe in the product through my career as a business person, I've been a consumer of the state's economy and then my two years as secretary of commerce. I saw up close and personal the potential of this state. It gets me excited."

Can he win from a starting point that mirrored Braun's?

"I wouldn't do it if it was impossible," Chambers said. "My story is my story. Be authentic, and we'll see what happens and whether the voters respond to that."

Braun's pitch to GOP voters is that he has a record in the Senate. "My record has got high favorables and low unfavorables," Braun told me. "I'll let my record speak for itself," urging Republican voters to look it up.

For Lt. Gov. Crouch, she presents herself as a community facilitator and collaborator and has proposed her "axe the tax" plan on ending the state's income tax. "The next chapter in Indiana's history is going to be quality of life," she told me in Evansville. "Why? Because quality of life is how we grow our population and our economy. It used to be that people followed businesses. Today, businesses are following people."

For Doden, it's his tenure similar to Chambers' at the Indiana Economic Development Corporation and his opposition to the Indiana Chamber's recommendation to consolidate sparsely populated school districts.

For Chambers, it's the \$33 billion he says he secured for Indiana investments (including a record \$22.2 billion in his final year at IEDC) and the thousands of high-paying

jobs that will be created if all that money materializes.

"When I walked into IEDC, they were playing defense," Chambers told these Republicans in Warsaw. "I want to play offense." He added that of the \$22 billion in investment this past year, 53% came in rural counties.

"My pitch is that I've never done this before, but I've run a business for 40 years that was founded in Indiana from nothing," he told me. "I'm an Indiana entrepreneur. I've been running a business, hiring people, inspiring people, leading, planning, measuring performance for a very long time. That's what a governor is. The No. 1 job of a governor is to grow the economy."

Former Indiana Republican Chairman Jim Kittle Jr., who was instrumental in Mitch Daniels' 2004 run for governor, is backing Chambers. "Of all the candidates, he has the ability to be the most transformational and move Indiana ahead like Mitch Daniels," Kittle explained. "We need another jolt."

On Wednesday, the U.S. Department of Defense notified Indiana that it would receive \$32.9 million in the CHIPS+-Science legislation signed by President Biden for the state's Silicon Crossroads program. "As Indiana's Secretary of Commerce, my team and I implemented a bold, strategic vision to position Indiana as a top competitor for these very investments," Chambers said. "With \$33 billion of statewide capital investment, 30% higher average wages, and new high-wage industries calling Indiana home, I've proven that with the right leadership, Indiana's future is, and will continue to be, bright."

Most GOP nomination races come to one or two candidates. Hoosier Republicans will have an unprecedented choice next May.

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

How Are Heat Waves Affecting Wildlife?

EARTHTALK

Dear EarthTalk: How are recent heat waves around the world affecting wildlife?

It would be hard to ignore the heat waves that have plagued North America, Europe and Asia in recent months. If you did not experience them yourself, chances are that you read about them, or their effects. Abnormal thermal extremes like this have become more regular, intense and long-lasting over the last few decades as global temperatures have risen. In addition to their severe consequences for vulnerable human communities, heat waves have a drastic effect on many wildlife populations. While there is no one single consequence felt by all wildlife populations, heat waves universally disrupt the ecosystems where they occur, which, due to the interconnectedness of biodiversity, has implications for all living things.

Heat waves are different from the rising global average temperature. They are the peak, extreme, temperatures that happen for a finite duration of time. If the global average temperature warms by 4.4 C (the highest emission scenario projected by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), 41 percent of species will experience extreme heat waves. But if global average temperature maxes out at 1.8 C of warming (the IPCC

identifies 1.5C of warming to be the lowest emissions scenario), only 6.1 percent of species will experience extreme heat waves.

In any circumstance, the change in wellbeing or population size of one species in a local area sets off a ripple effect in that ecosystem. The secondary consequences of heat waves' effect on oyster populations are a case in point. Heat waves reduce oyster population size as oysters are a stationary species and cannot move from uninhabitable water temperatures. When at a healthy population size, oysters limit algal bloom and are thus key to ensuring consistent oxygen levels in bodies of water. Therefore, experts warn of consequences for other marine animals in those bodies of water now faced with reduced oxygen levels.

Some wildlife populations, particularly insects, have actually increased in size due to heat waves over the last few decades. The length of mosquito season has increased in some parts of the world by 30 days or more over the last four decades, spiking reproduction rates and therefore population size. However, for some regions in the Southern hemisphere that are already very hot, increased temperature and dryness has actually shortened mosquito season, prompting a dip in reproduction rates.

In addition to mass mortality events, certain wildlife populations have

been forced to migrate or change existing migration patterns. In the ocean and other bodies of water, the phenomenon that occurs when species migrate due to temporary changes in ocean surface temperatures caused by marine heat-waves is called thermal displacement. Some groups of non-stationary species like whales or sea turtles have moved tens of thousands of kilometers to reach a new region at their preferred temperature. This changes the food chain and equilibrium of the ecosystem they have moved to and that they have moved from.

Ultimately, global average temperature rise will have many of the same effects on wildlife populations, but recent heat waves have had large effects in a small fraction of the time. Limiting global average temperature rise will limit the extremity of heat waves and reduce potential consequences for wildlife.

-CONTACTS: Mitigation pathways compatible with 1.5°C in the context of sustainable development, .ipcc.ch/sr15/chapter/chapter-2/; With Temperatures Rising, Can Animals Survive the Heat Stress? e360.yale.edu/features/with-temperatures-rising-can-animals-survive-the-heat-stress.

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OrthoIndy Opens New Hospital & Clinic In Brownsburg

OrthoIndy announced today the grand opening of its newest orthopedic hospital and facility in Brownsburg. The new and improved location offers clinic and urgent care services, imaging, physical therapy, and outpatient surgery. The move to this new location comes on the heels of expansions in Westfield and Lafayette.

"Our new location in Brownsburg has been thoughtfully designed from the ground up to welcome patients and their families and promote healing and recovery," said John Ryan, CEO of OrthoIndy. "We've seen tremendous growth in the Brownsburg area and are pleased to offer our full

range of clinic, surgical, and rehab services in a new facility more convenient for patients and employees."

The new location is on 9070 East 56th Street in Brownsburg near Ronald Reagan Parkway, and will take the place of our former hospital and clinic in Brownsburg, which is now closed.

Key features of the new Brownsburg facility include:

- State-of-the-art operating rooms with advanced surgical technology.
- Comfortable patient rooms designed for recovery and healing.
- A dedicated team of orthopedic physicians in various subspecialties.
- Comprehensive,

sunlit physical therapy facilities.

- X-ray and MRI
- A convenient, walk-in urgent care clinic dedicated to orthopedic injuries only.

As part of the new facility, the OrthoIndy Urgent Care center provides immediate access to bone, joint, spine, and muscle care by orthopedic physicians and advance practice practitioner's without having to schedule an appointment. For more information, please visit OrthoIndy.com/Urgent-Care.

OrthoIndy Brownsburg Urgent Care hours
Monday through Friday: 8am to 5pm (closed 12pm-1pm daily for lunch)

Janelle Waye Celebrates A Decade Of Dedication

Hoosier Heartland State Bank is proud to announce and celebrate the remarkable career milestone of Janelle Waye, our Underwriting Generalist, as she commemorates a decade of dedicated service with the company. From her beginnings as a teller to her current role as Underwriting Generalist, Janelle's journey has been nothing short of impressive.

Janelle, a Crawfordsville High School graduate from the Class of 2013, joined our team just four months after completing her education, marking her continuous dedication and loyalty to our organization. Over the past ten years, she has demonstrated exceptional professionalism and a commitment to learning.

Throughout her career, Janelle has exemplified the values and spirit of HHSB. Her journey within the company is a

testament to her unwavering determination and dedication to personal and professional growth. Starting as a teller, she quickly rose through the ranks to become a Consumer Loan Underwriting Assistant. Today, as our Underwriting Generalist, she plays a pivotal role in portfolio management, loan documentation, and actively seeks opportunities to enhance her skill set, thereby benefiting all facets of our department.

In the words of April Smekens, HHSB's AVP of Underwriting, "Janelle is a great asset to HHSB and our Underwriting Department. She takes advantage of learning opportunities, shares her knowledge, and is always up for a new challenge. I appreciate her humor and willingness to do 'whatever it takes' to serve our bank, our customers, and our HHSB communities."

As she reaches this re-

markable milestone, HHSB is excited to honor Janelle's exceptional service and looks forward to witnessing her continued growth and contributions in the years to come.

HHSB is a locally owned and operated bank in West Central Indiana which consists of a team of employee-owners who value customers, family, and community. HHSB offers consumer and commercial banking products, investment services, digital banking and bill pay, unmatched personal service, and a genuine commitment to bettering the communities in which they live.

For more information or to arrange an interview via phone or in-person, please contact Lacey Rogers at 765.323.4833 or visit www.myhhsb.com.



JANELLE WAYE

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in later years. Dad normally went to the Darlington Cafe for a cup of coffee and to talk with all of the other farmers. The cafe was owned by various people though the years, Raymon and Grace Brown, Kate Newby, and Clyde and Billie Hall... just to mention a few. One thing I remember about Billie is that she never shaved under her arms. Dad asked me one time if I knew how Billie made hamburgers. I fell for it, and asked how. He said she rolled up a ball of hamburger, placed it in her armpit, and squeezed it into a patty. I realized he was joking, but I never ordered a hamburger after that. No use taking chances!

After his coffee, Dad walked to the Cigar Store to play pool and try to win some "pool chips," which were worth 5 cents in trade. Dad could beat just about everyone! In those days, the cigar store was owned first by Damon "Skeet" Wray, and then later by Haskell Renick. Most of the kids made a beeline to the Sunshine Theater to watch the newest movie, which was usually a western, a horror movie, or comedy...25 cents admission and a dime for buttered popcorn. After it was over, we dashed across the street to the drug store, operated by Arthur and Pauline Friend. Cones were 5 cents a dip, and a sundae was 15 cents. Sometimes I ordered a 10-cent cherry phosphate or "green river" soda drink, and bought some cashews, which were located up front in a heated tray near the candy rack. If I had extra money, I forked over a nickel for a pack of Topps baseball cards, always hoping to get a star player. The round stools by the counter were always taken, and most of the teenagers sat in the wooden booths, so I sat outside the front door on a bench with my friends. Sometimes Lulu Chambers also sat on that bench. She was quite old and wore one of those large old-fashioned hearing aids. Lulu owned the hotel, which was located above the restaurant. I also remember that square dancing was held on Main street for a few years, and it was always fun to watch.

Oftentimes there was a hundred or more people in town on Saturday nights. Several men visited the two barbershops, run by Emil "Slim" Greve and Oscar Endicott, for a shave and a haircut... and hear the latest gossip. I sometimes took my ice cream cone and walked to Slim's to read the comic books, which he kept on a ledge by the front window. Many folks enjoyed a full supper meal at the cafe, perhaps their only

time for "eating out" that month. Brown's furniture store was also open, along with the appliance store, owned by Norman "Red" Hiatt. The American Legion Hall was located above the appliance store. Many WWI and WWII veterans could be found there, playing cards, having a beer, or playing the "punch cards" or the "one-armed bandit" slot machines, which I found out later were likely illegal. On a few occasions, a veteran offered me a taste of beer. "Have a sip, it's good for what ails you." I never tried it, but I did peek at a Marilyn Monroe calendar once. She had on a bathing suit, but when I lifted up the front cover, she was nude...Oh, my Lord!

During the winter, the high school boys often had basketball games on Saturday nights. If the team won an upset victory, the coach took the boys and cheerleaders to the cafe and bought all of them hamburgers, fries, and a milkshake, but I think the PTO actually paid for it. Of course many of the spectators joined in on the celebration, and the restaurant made some good money on those nights.

The Darlington Telephone Company was located just east of the Dry Goods store...in the upstairs of a house. I walked over there a couple of times to watch the operator take calls and plug wires into the switchboard...fascinating!

However, it closed in 1958 when Bell Telephone took over and everyone got dial phones.

Probably the most fun on a Saturday night was when the Legion sponsored a fish fry and carnival during the summer. There were hundreds and hundreds of people in town. Kids played games and went on the rides. Adults ate, talked, and listened to the musical entertainment...while waiting for the much anticipated drawing for prizes. My Dad served as the emcee during most of those years, as he could always adlib and come up with some humorous comments. The big prizes were cash, but most of the prizes were donations from local merchants. The prize I remember most was when Ollie Crull won a free hairstyle from Kay's Cut and Curl beauty salon. The crowd roared with laughter...you see; Ollie was as bald as a billiard ball!

Those Saturday nights in Darlington when I was a child will forever be a pleasant memory for me.

- 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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helping their customers' ag operations grow strong. At the end of the day, we as banks all sell the same products for similar prices, but our customer service, beneficial relationships, and added value as experienced farmers and lenders are what differentiate our team."

To rank community banks, the ICBA uses FDIC data for 2022 to calculate a lender score that combines lending concentration and loan growth over the past year, as well as adjust for charge offs in each lending category. Banks across the country were reviewed and the top 20 in each asset category were named.

"We are honored to be recognized as one of the top ag lenders in the country," stated Brad Monts, President & CEO. "We believe that farming is a business built on relationships, and we are committed to supporting farmers, their families, and the ag-affiliated businesses in our community. We are grateful to our customers for entrusting their farm's financials to HHSB."

Hoosier Heartland State Bank has been devoted to the communities they

serve for over 100 years. This recognition underscores the bank's dedication to supporting the ag sector and ensuring the economic prosperity of rural communities.

For more information about HHSB and their commitment to agriculture, please visit www.myhhsb.com. To learn more about the ICBA Top Lenders of 2023, visit <https://www.independentbanker.org/article/2023/07/03/who-are-icba-s-top-lenders-of-2023>.

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For more information or to arrange an interview via phone or in-person, please contact Lacey Rogers at 765.323.4833 or Brad Monts at 765.942.2000 or visit www.myhhsb.com.

Purdue University Earns Top Honors



SPENCER DEERY
Guest Column

Purdue University has earned its best ranking by U.S. News & World Report as the nation's 43rd best

college, an improvement from 51st in the 2022 report.

The rankings were released Monday and use 19 measurements of undergraduate academic quality.

Purdue ranked high as a top public school and best value school and ranked as the country's seventh most innovative school.

Congratulations to the students, faculty and staff at Purdue for making the university a top-notch institution that all Hoosiers can be proud of.

District 23 Highlights

A recent highlight included attending a very moving naturalization ceremony in West Lafayette, where 93 citizens from 30 countries took an oath to support and defend the United States Constitution.

Another highlight was welcoming several colleagues who are members of the State Budget Committee.

The committee meets in different locations across the state and had not met in West Lafayette for about four years.

During the committee hearing, representatives from Purdue University requested permission to renovate a runway at Purdue University Airport in hopes of bringing commercial service back to West Lafayette.

I'd like to thank the budget committee for visiting West Lafayette and seeing what the city has to offer.

Explore Indiana this Fall

This weekend officially kicks off the fall season. Our state offers many ways to enjoy the fall weather and explore the outdoors by way of festivals, orchards, corn mazes, pumpkin patches and events at Indiana State Parks. Here are some resources to help you and your loved ones make the most of the

season. Visit Indiana lists events across the state and provides regional information on local attractions. To learn more, click here.

Indiana Festivals details festivals across the state, including the famous Covered Bridge Festival from Oct. 13 - 22. Click here to learn more.

The Indiana Recreation Guide details outdoor recreation sites in our state, including state parks and events at those locations through the end of the year. Click here to download the guide.

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) offers a mobile app for users to view state park property information and maps. Click here to download the app.

The Indiana Department of Transportation offers the Trafficwise mobile app for users to receive statewide up-to-date information on Indiana roads.

In addition, foster families and foster youth now receive free admission to DNR properties thanks to a new law I supported during the 2023 legislative session. Indiana residents who are former prisoners of war and their surviving spouses are also entitled to a free Indiana Golden Hoosier Passport, which grants unlimited admission to DNR properties on an annual basis.

INDOT to Host Winter Seasonal Hiring Events

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) will host hiring events for winter seasonal positions, which run from November to early April, Tuesday, Sept. 26 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. (local time) at 13 locations across the state.

Registration is not required to attend the event. Interviews will be conducted on-site and INDOT team members will be available to answer questions.

- Spencer Deery is an Indiana State Senator serving District 23 which includes Fountain, Parke, Vermillion, Warren and portions of Montgomery and Tippecanoe counties.

Attempting To Swoop In To Save The Day



Slim Randles
Home Country

It was just one of those crazy mix-ups, you know. Like when one thing goes

wrong it triggers another thing that goes wrong and that sets off a multiplicity of crash-and-burns that are remembered long after people are dead and nations fall to Visigoths and such.

That's what happened with our buddy, Dud. You see, he was there at a time when something was needed, and he stepped forward and assumed the role.

It was the high school band, of course. We love them. There aren't that many of them, but they're great kids and try hard, and Mr. Garcia has really whipped them into something that can carry a tune. Every honk and wheeze was special to us. So when the planets lined up the wrong direction and Sagittarius was in the outhouse or something, Dud was there.

It began when Mr. Garcia got called away on a family emergency. His dad, I think. So he wouldn't be at the pep

rally before the football game. Another teacher was planning to step in and lead the band through the cheers, but the entire horn section, all four of them, came down sick.

So it was decided that the band wouldn't play at the pep rally this time, and the cheerleaders would just cheer a capella, as it were.

We were surprised when Dud walked into the auditorium carrying his accordion and waving to the crowd. He sat down out front and began to play waltzes and a couple of polkas. The cheerleaders didn't know what to do to "The Tennessee Waltz," so they just sat down and waited for Dud to run out of tunes. It didn't take long.

We sorta clapped at the end there, mostly for relief.

Later, over coffee, Dud was still on a high.

"Did you guys like the music? I knew I could help."

"Well," said Doc, "maybe if you could find some Sousa marches for the accordion."

"That would help, eh?"

"Well, that, and having Mr. Garcia back."

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