

➤ TODAY'S VERSE

Isaiah 40:31 *But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.*

➤ FACES OF MONTGOMERY

People who call our community their own.



One of our roving photographers caught a smile from the hardworking gentleman of Greenleaf Construction & Outdoor Services as they finished up building and installing a new ramp for a local wheelchair bound kiddo. Thanks for the smile and the hard work!

➤ THREE THINGS You Should Know:

1 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..

2 Dorothy Hoffner of Chicago, IL celebrated her 100th birthday by jumping out of an airplane. She turned 104 recently and she decided to make another jump to observe the occasion. You can bet that the judges at the Guinness World Records will honor her achievement pretty soon by announcing that she is the oldest skydiving woman on record. The folks at Skydive Chicago have already petitioned the Guinness judges to certify her achievement.

3 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.

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Lunch With The League This Friday Taking Care Of The Animals At AWL

Taking care of our community's unwanted animals is a large responsibility. From scheduling vet visits to taking care of on-site medical needs, Nickee Sillery has valuable insight into the care and needs of the animals at the Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County ("AWL"). AWL has been in existence for 50 years, with its current facility built about 21 years ago. Opportunities abound to support the AWL. Volunteering is one of the best ways to be involved: walking the dogs, playing with the cats, helping with laundry and cleaning are great ways to help out. Donating supplies, like cat litter and cat and dog food, is always welcomed. The AWL started a Capital Campaign a year ago to raise money to remodel the shelter facility to better house the animals and to also provide better support for the volunteers and learning opportunities for veterinarians. Find out more information at <https://mcaawl.com> and follow them on Facebook at Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County Indiana.



Photo courtesy of LWV

ee Sillery, Medical Director of AWL, will talk about the AWL! She will discuss how they are caring for the animals there and how you can help meet their most important needs. Ms. Sillery will also correct misperceptions about AWL, including the thought that they house only pitbulls. Besides cats and dogs, the AWL takes in all unwanted animals, even horses and chickens!

Join Lunch with the League at noon on October 6, to hear Nickee Sillery talk about her experiences and her concerns for the animals at our local animal shelter, the AWL.

Is It The Spooky Season, Or Just Silly?



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

Scattershooting while wondering whatever happened to Abe Martin . . .

DID YOU hear that we're spending

more and more and more and more . . . no, not talking about government. I'm talking about Halloween. According to the National Retail Federation, we the people are going to pony up \$12.2 billion on candy corn and costumes.

As Tom Carnegie would say, that's a new track record.

The record it broke was just a year old when we spent \$10.6 billion.

There are more facts and figures from the retail organization.

- 73 percent of consumers are expected to participate in the holiday
- Per-person spending is projected to be \$108.24
- Seven in 10 of us plan to hand out candy
- A little over half of us (53 percent) plan to decorate their

home or yard

- Half of us are going to wear a costume
- A third of us are going to an in-person party
- A quarter of us are taking the little ones trick-or-treating

And when it comes to costumes, the kids are going for Spiderman, a princess or another superhero at a cost of \$1.4 billion. Us grown-up types are more expensive. We're going to spend \$2 billion to dress up like witches, vampires or Barbie.

But wait, it gets sillier. We're going to spend \$700 million on pet costumes. The older I get the more I understand why my grandpa would just shake his head sometimes.

OK, SO YOU can blame us at your favorite Montgomery County daily for adding to the insanity. But hey, ours is all free!

The Paper is sponsoring a Halloween-themed writing contest – and we're still accepting last-minute entries.

In fact, you can see one of those stories in today's edition. The deal is simple. Write a Halloween story, make sure it's

➤ See TIM Page A6

Tempur Sealy Donates Mattresses For New CFD Recruits

On Monday, Tempur Sealy, a global leader in premium sleep innovation, donated three brand new Tempur XL single mattresses to the Crawfordsville Fire Department, for the three new recruits, just before Fire Prevention Week next week.

Two years ago, Tempur Sealy also generously donated mattresses to the Crawfordsville Fire Department. As the department has grown, there is a need for more mattresses and Tempur Sealy saw this as an opportunity to support those in such an important role.

Firefighting requires physical and mental strength and a restful sleep plays a crucial role in maintaining health and performance of the CFD firefighters. The Crawfordsville Fire Department is deeply appreciative of Tempur Sealy's generosity. The donation of mattresses will make a significant difference in the lives of the CFD team. Chief Scott Busenbark is thankful for the contribution and for the support of companies like Tempur Sealy, who recognize the importance of taking care of those who take care of our community.

How And Why To Decarbonize Your Home: A Profile Of John Smilie



The League of Women Voters, open to men as well as women, is a nonpartisan, multi-issue political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. For information about the Montgomery County LWV, visit: www.lwvmontco.in.org or message to LWV, PO Box 101, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933.

John Smilie remembers learning in the fourth grade that most of the world's energy came from non-renewable sources and one day they'd run out. Yet as he grew up reading science and tech news, most of it seemed optimistic.

There was always an innovation on the horizon, except when it came to the rise in the earth's temps. As the years passed, the news grew more grim.

Smilie didn't refer to histo-

➤ See LWV Page A6

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:45 a.m.
SET: 7:27 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 87 °F
Low: 62 °F

Today is...

- National Golf Day
- National Taco Day
- National Vodka Day

What Happened On This Day

- **1957** World's first artificial satellite launched. The Soviet Union launched the Sputnik from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. Baikonur Cosmodrome is the world's oldest and largest space launch facility still in operation.

- **1895** First US Open for Golf. The now annual event was played at the Newport Country Club in Newport, Rhode Island, for the first time. 11 people played the 36-hole competition in a single day. Horace Rawlins, a 21-year old Englishman won the tournament and took home a trophy and \$150 cash.

- **1582** Last day of the Julian Calendar in Catholic countries. The next day, the Gregorian calendar took effect in Italy, Poland, Portugal, and Spain by the order of Pope Gregory XIII. The calendar was put in place to realign events like equinoxes and solstices with the calendar, ensuring that Easter is always celebrated around the Northern Hemisphere's spring equinox.

Births On This Day

- **1895** Buster Keaton American actor, director, producer
- **1822** Rutherford B. Hayes American politician, 19th President of the United States

Deaths On This Day

- **1974** Anne Sexton American poet
- **1669** Rembrandt Dutch painter

➤ HONEST HOOSIER

Remember the little rectangle box that had a mask and very thin costume in it we got for trick or treating?



➤ INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

Public NoticesA4
Classifieds.....A3

➤ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Exercise is one of the best ways to treat stress.

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



➤ TODAY'S QUOTE

"You wouldn't believe on All Hallow Eve what lots of fun we can make, With apples to bob, and nuts on the hob, and a ring-and-thimble cake."
-Carolyn Wells

➤ TODAY'S JOKE

What's a vampire's favorite fruit?
A neck-tarine!

➤ OBITUARIES
Charles Thomas Gallatin



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



13 WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST

60/87 RECORD 90 / 1984	62/87 RECORD 90 / 1981	65/70 SCTD RAIN & STORMS	56/66 COOLER, BREEZY, SHOWERS LATE	46/59 CLOUD, BREEZY & P.M. SHOWERS	41/58 A.M. SUN, CLOUDS BUILD	40/63 PROST POSSIBLE, SUNNY
TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON

OBITUARIES

Charles Thomas Gallatin

August 14, 1942, Saturday, September 30, 2023

Charles Thomas "Tom" Gallatin, age 81, of Crawfordsville, passed away on Saturday, September 30, 2023, at Indiana University Methodist. He was born in Crawfordsville on August 14, 1942, to the late Charles Samuel and Elva (Hughs) Gallatin.



Tom graduated from Crawfordsville High School in 1960. He married the love of his life, Helen Keedy, on August 31, 1962, at Milligan Memorial Park. He retired from RR Donnelly and Sons after 42 years of service. He enjoyed bowling, playing baseball, and watching professional wrestling.

Tom is survived by his wife of 62 years; three children, Beth Link, Bill (Sandy) Gallatin, and Rich (Cindy) Gallatin; five grandchildren James Link, Jennifer (Dominic) Rigsby, Erica (Mike) Monson, Rebecca Gallatin, and Sawyer Gallatin; and three great-grandchildren, Evelyn Rigsby, Alexander Rigsby, Sterling Monson.

He was preceded in death by parents; and his sister, Janet Stoneking.

Cremation was chosen with no services. Sanders Priebe Funeral Care is entrusted with care. Share memories and condolences online at www.SandersFuneralCare.com.

Ink-redible Scares

The Last Fifteen Minutes

By Taylor Arnold

The bell over the door rang, alerting that a new customer had entered the bookstore. It was nearly closing time now but that was okay. The day had been slow and I welcomed any last minute sales. From behind the stack of shelves I called out, "hey there. If you need help finding anything, just let me know."

Silence followed.

The store remained eerily quiet as I rounded the shelf, the book I'd been looking for now in hand. Where there should have been a person, there was no one. Stranger things had happened. Probably just another person mistaking the store for the gallery next door. I didn't think much about it.

The last fifteen minutes passed in a blur of preparing for the start of the next day. Bags were restocked and displays were straightened. I added more copies of The Paper of Montgomery County in the rack along with the latest Book Page. When I finally turned the closed sign I felt a sense of relief. Today had been the first day I'd worked the store mostly alone, the manager having left that afternoon with a family emergency. Things had gone well. The store and myself had survived.

With the overhead speakers off, there was only the hum of the furnace as I walked back to the break room, cash drawer in hand. It was like any other day except this time I was evening out the drawer instead of vacuuming and wiping down display cases. It felt good, having that new level of responsibility. Crash.

Partway through counting, a noise jolted me. My shoulders tensed as I waited for another noise to accompany it. But nothing came. Just the constant hum of the furnace.

The partial saloon style doors creaked as I pushed them open and peeked my head out. It was hard to see the rest of the store around the tall shelves. I blamed my first day closing alone for why I was

so on edge. Things fell in here all the time. If that's what it was.

After a small lap around the store, I found the culprit. Lying face down on the black and white tiled floor was a new hardback copy of You Shouldn't Have Come Here. The tension in my shoulders had begun to fade, but something about that title pulled at something in my mind. It didn't feel quite right. How had it fallen off the stand?

Shaking it off, I put the book back in place and retreated to the break room to finish the count. I didn't make it far.

CRASH.

This time it was louder than the last and I didn't hesitate to go investigate. When I rounded the shelf the same book was laying on the floor. This time there were several others laying with it. The entire top shelf of displays had fallen to the floor.

A sudden feeling of dread washed down my spine. An icy cold feeling that had me eager to leave the store. Because there was no way the entire shelf of displays fell on their own. Not like that, and certainly not with You Shouldn't Have Come Here positioned in the middle of it all. The books were almost circled evenly around it. A perfect bullseye.

"Nope," I said to myself.

With that urge to leave still so strong, I quickly stacked the books onto the front counter and left them there. It would be someone else's problem tomorrow morning. I was getting out. There was something off about what happened, and I didn't want to stick around to find out what exactly it was.

Back in the break room, I began finishing up the last of the count. The clinking of change into each slot in the drawer felt too loud, like a siren call announcing my location for anything to hear. The quicker I left, the better.

As I was closing the cash box and stashing it above the counter, I got the distinct feeling of

being watched. A prickling sensation at the back of my scalp. Every nerve in my body told me not to turn around. I did anyway, just in time to watch one of the doors begin easing open. Through the slats in the door, I could see that there was nothing on the other side of it. No, it was opening on its own with a quiet creak that set my teeth on edge.

A startled gasp escaped my lips. I watched as the door swung closed again, settling back into place like nothing had happened. But everything had changed. The urgency to leave took over and I grabbed my bag off the counter. Despite that need to flee, I found I couldn't make myself move. My feet were frozen to the tile, the sound of my blood pumping in my ears as I watched those two doors intensely. There was something out there and it clearly didn't want me here.

Moments passed and when I finally gathered the courage to move, I burst through the swinging doors. They slapped noisily against the shelves as I moved swiftly toward the front of the store. Something wasn't right though. Outside the two large front windows, night had fallen. The street lamps glowed faintly, illuminating the now empty Jefferson Street, and the church directly across from the store. I checked my phone to see that it was 12:05AM.

"How?" I asked aloud, voice barely a whisper.

Suddenly the lights flickered out, bathing everything in darkness. I held my breath, waiting for whatever was going to happen. It was when I finally exhaled that I heard it. Distinct footsteps moving across the tile. Like someone was running through the store.

The sound came from the back of the store, but quickly they were approaching. In my hand I fumbled for my phone's flashlight. The rapid sound of the steps came ever closer and I finally hit the icon and raised my phone like a shield,

illuminating the shelves. In the dim light the phone gave off, I saw it as something ducked behind the nearest shelf. A brief glimpse of something... not quite human. It was humanoid in shape but there was something off about it. The proportions all wrong.

My breathing filled the silence and slowly I eased toward the door. I kept the flashlight aimed toward where I had last seen the thing. Each step was silent thanks to the rug laid out in front of the counter. The same one I realized I hadn't vacuumed earlier, and then I admonished myself for thinking something like that at a time like this.

The sudden sound of movement to my right had me snapping the flashlight in that direction. The thing ducked behind another shelf, closer this time.

It felt like an eternity before I finally reached the door, and when I did my fingers circled around the cool metal handle. I turned it, tugging the door open harshly as the bell dinged overhead. That urge to run was back and I lunged outside. What should have been cold, night air still had the faint smell of old books.

From the back storage room doorway, I stared out toward the front of the store. How could it be that I was still inside the building? I took a step forward, fully prepared to try this escape again, but I stopped. Whatever that thing was, it was behind me now. I could feel its presence. Hands grabbed at my shoulders, yanking me back into the total darkness of the storage room as the yellow door slammed shut. And then the lock clicked into place.

-Taylor Arnold lives in Brown County and has her whole life. She's an avid reader and a dog mom to two sassy dogs. By day she's a bookstore manager that many have probably met before. By night she's a writer. She's currently working on her first horror anthology set to be published in 2024.

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Growth-Focused Task Force Reckons With Development Patterns, Barriers

By Leslie Bonilla Muniz
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Indiana's communities face population declines, farm sales, child care shortages, hospital closures and more but lawmakers hope to turn the tide and enable growth.

In a wide-ranging, day-long meeting Monday, an interim Land Use Task Force examined problematic development patterns and barriers to growth, but found that suggested fixes come with their own consequences.

Legislation creating the task force gave it five issues to examine: growth trends, growth barriers, developer siting, local self-investment and food insecurity.

Despite the task force's "land use" moniker, "it's all relevant," co-chair Rep. Kendall Culp, R-Rensselaer, told the Capital Chronicle.

Losing people, farmland

Rural Indiana is struggling, multiple witnesses told the task force.

Indiana's metropolitan areas grew more than 6% between 2010 and 2020, but the population outside those places shrank slightly — 0.09% over the same time period — according to Indiana University's Kelley School of Business.

Pandemic-induced migration led to declines in some urban counties, and growth of 0.1% in their rural counterparts, said Matthew Kinghorn, senior demographic analyst at IU's Indiana Business Research Center. But those trends could be

temporary.

Those areas are also losing farmland, testified the D.C.-based American Farmland Trust. Between 2001 and 2016, Indiana converted 265,500 acres of cropland, pastureland and woodland to other uses — mostly low-density residential housing.

With top quality farmland going for \$13,500 acre, the trust's Cris Coffin said, new farmers may struggle to break into the industry. Farms, she said, should exist in a variety of places and scales to ensure a resilient food supply.

Without intervention, the group projected the state would lose another 450,000 to 600,000 acres of farmland by 2040.

But, it said, a lower conversion rate could contain that loss to 260,000 acres.

That doesn't account for the wide swaths of farmland used in utility-scale solar panel set-ups.

The group pushed lawmakers to avoid incentivizing development of productive agricultural land, or to incentivize more compact developments elsewhere. Coffin also proposed agricultural districts — which bundle benefits for farmers — and farmland preservation via paid easements.

But when the city of Elkhart tried to rein in its sprawl, task force co-chair Blake Doriot, R-Goshen, recounted, Amish residents — who typically live on several acres apiece — threatened to leave.

And longtime farm-

ers may also struggle to commit to keeping their land agricultural, with farmland at a premium for solar uses or other development.

"Take someone that's over 65 ... If they don't have a kiddo that wants to farm, jeez. How can you get them on board to save this (land) for a neighboring farmer to farm?" asked Sen. Jean Leising, R-Oldenburg. "Because they're thinking about how they could have retirement for them, for their grandkids, for everybody."

"There's a lot of hard choices that farmers are going to have to make," said the trust's Dylan Cook. "Affording them options through policy choices ... allows some opportunity for stabilization in the chaos that's going to come."

Bad momentum

There are stumbling blocks on the path to growth.

New employees need housing, child care, health care and more. And that's expensive.

Lawmakers tackled the first last session, with a revolving loan fund for infrastructure. The Residential Housing Infrastructure Assistance Program will give local governments low-interest loans for public infrastructure, cutting key housing development costs.

The Indiana Finance Authority expects to open applications for the \$75 million program in January, author Rep. Doug Miller, R-Elkhart, told

the task force.

But there's room for action elsewhere, witnesses said.

"There are currently zero funding streams at the state level to either build child care capacity, or financially support operations of child care centers in Indiana," said Adam Alson, a farmer and leader of a child care nonprofit.

His organization, Applesed Childhood Education, is responsible for all 73 licensed child care seats in Rensselaer.

It hasn't opened all those seats, however, because it can't find the employees. Before Applesed, Alson said, the area went five years without a provider. Still, it has more than 70 children on its waitlist.

Despite the demand, the nonprofit operates at a loss of \$300,000 annually.

Providing care costs \$14,000 per child on average, according to Alson, and that's out of reach for many families. Applesed subsidizes its families based on income, and fills the gap by fundraising.

Families also need health care. But many rural hospitals are providing less care or nearing insolvency.

Brenda Reetz, CEO of Greene County General Hospital, asked lawmakers to raise decade-old reimbursement rates for Medicaid and Medicare.

She detailed how the double-five-star facility had provided emergency room and birthing care costing thousands

of dollars to patients on government insurance — 75% of the hospital's patient mix. But Indiana Medicaid and Medicare paid the hospital only a tiny percentages of those bills.

And hospitals pay millions annually in Hospital Assessment Fees to see those Medicaid and Medicare patients, Reetz added.

"When you want to know the biggest barriers in our rural communities, it is that you are not going to have health care if we do not see some sort of changes to the reimbursement model in Indiana, because this is not sustainable," she said.

And those changes need to come "in the next budget."

But lawmakers fear such increases. Half the state's budget goes education, and an increasing slice is going to Medicaid and Medicare.

"We cannot afford Medicaid going higher than schools because we still have to do prisons, we have to do natural resources — we have to do everything. And there's just not enough money!" exclaimed Doriot. "And if you say 'tax increase,' you're gonna have a new legislature in here real quick."

Taking suggestions

Those interested in the task force have "homework" directly from Culp and Doriot: solutions, please.

"We need direction," Doriot said.

And the assignment is

due in a month, so the duo have two weeks for review. The task force will convene its final meeting on November 14, when it will adopt a report with answers to the five questions and legislative recommendations.

The Indiana General Assembly begins meeting in January for a short, non-budget legislative session. Because lawmakers typically shy away from expensive proposals in such years, Culp said he hoped to get most of the eventual recommendations accomplished across two sessions.

Culp himself is developing an idea for a "model community" to serve as a "discussion starter" for local units.

"We know a lot of those decisions have to be made today to have an effect 20 years from now — or a lack of decisions today will have an effect 20 years from now," he told the Capital Chronicle.

Such a proposal could include a checklist of ideas that participating communities would prioritize according to their needs, then begin planning and executing.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION (CAN-39)

State Form 48110 (R9 / 9-21)
 Indiana Election Division (IC 3-10-2.2; 3-10-8.4)
INSTRUCTIONS: Each circuit court clerk (or, in Lake or Porter County, the election director), or town clerk-treasurer in the towns conducting the elections, must publish this legal notice in accordance with IC 5-3-1 at least twenty-one (21) days before the general or special election. A copy of the complete notice must be filed with the Indiana Election Division and in the minutes of the county election board.
LEGAL NOTICE OF MUNICIPAL ELECTION
 The voters of Montgomery County are notified by the county election board in accordance with Indiana Code 3-10-2-2 that Crawfordsville City Municipal election will be held in the county on November 7, 2023, with the polls open for voting from 6:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m., prevailing local time.
 In accordance with the list of candidates and the certificates of candidate selection filed in the office of the circuit court clerk of this county, the following offices will be on the general election ballot:

OFFICES TO BE FILLED BY VOTERS

Attachment A			
Candidate Name	Address	Office Sought	Party
TODD D BARTON	4 TROTWOOD CT, CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN 47933	MAYOR - CITY OF CRAWFORDSVILLE	Republican
KARYN D DOUGLAS	674 E 150 S, CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN 47933	CLERK/TREASURER - CITY OF CRAWFORDSVILLE	Republican
ANDY BIDDLE	504 EASTFIELD DR, CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN 47933	COUNCIL MEMBER AT-LARGE - CITY OF CRAWFORDSVILLE	Republican
SCOTT A MOLIN	2206 KAFAYETTE RD, CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN 47933	COUNCIL MEMBER AT-LARGE - CITY OF CRAWFORDSVILLE	Republican
MIKE REIDY	105 S BARR ST, CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN 47933	COUNCIL MEMBER AT-LARGE - CITY OF CRAWFORDSVILLE	Democrat
JEFFREY LUCAS	1304 W WABASH AVE, CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN 47933	COUNCIL MEMBER WARD 1 - CITY OF CRAWFORDSVILLE	Republican
ETHAN HOLLANDER	615 SUGAR TREE RD, CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN 47933	COUNCIL MEMBER WARD 2 - CITY OF CRAWFORDSVILLE	Independent
KENT S PRIEBE	1715 LEBANON RD UNIT 2, CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN 47933	COUNCIL MEMBER WARD 3 - CITY OF CRAWFORDSVILLE	Republican
JENNIFER JESS LOWE	803 PROPECT ST, CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN 47933	COUNCIL MEMBER WARD 4 - CITY OF CRAWFORDSVILLE	Republican
STAN HAMILTON	350 DRY BRANCH DR, CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN 47933	COUNCIL MEMBER WARD 5 - CITY OF CRAWFORDSVILLE	Republican

IN-PERSON ABSENTEE OR "EARLY" VOTING INFORMATION

The dates, times, and locations of in-person absentee voting at the circuit court clerk's office and, if applicable, at satellite offices are as follows:
 Saturday Oct. 28, 2023 Courthouse 8:00-3:00
 Saturday Oct. 28, 2023 Rock Point Church 9-12
 Monday thru Friday Oct 30th - Nov 3 Courthouse 9-4:30
 Saturday Nov 4, 2023 Courthouse 8:00-3:00
 Saturday Nov 4, 2023 Rock Point Church 9-12
 Monday Nov 6, 2023 Courthouse 9:00-12

DATED, THIS 27th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2023.
 Karyn D Douglas
 Circuit Court Clerk

PL4736 10/4 1t hspaxlp

SUMMONS - SERVICE BY PUBLICATION
 STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MONTGOMERY CIRCUIT COURT
) SS:
 COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY) CAUSE NO. 54C01-2305-MF-000400
 CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC,
 Plaintiff,
 vs.
 BRACKEN A. MCHUGH, BLUE WORLD POOLS, INC. and THE
 UNKNOWN TENANT,
 Defendants.

NOTICE OF SUIT

The State of Indiana to the Defendant(s) above named, and any other person who may be concerned.
 You are hereby notified that you have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit against you is:
 Complaint on Note and to Foreclose Mortgage on Real Estate
 Against the property commonly known as 1452 E 400 S, Crawfordsville, IN 47933-7102 and described as follows:
 Part of the southwest quarter of section 21, township 18 north, range 4 west, in Montgomery County, Indiana being described as follows:
 Beginning at a railroad spike marking the southeast corner of said quarter section; and running thence north 89° 10' 35" west along the south line thereof 303.58 feet to a railroad spike; thence north 00° 14' 45" east 203.37 feet to a 5/8" rebar, thence south 89° 10' 35" east 303.38 feet to a 5/8" rebar and the east line of said quarter section; thence south 00° 14' 45" west along said existing fence line 203.37 feet to the point of beginning, containing 1.42 acres more or less.
 This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following named defendant(s): Bracken A. McHugh and The Unknown Tenant
 This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following named defendant(s) whose whereabouts are unknown: Blue World Pools, Inc.
 If you have a claim for relief against the plaintiff arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer or response. You must answer the Complaint in writing, by you or your attorney, within thirty (30) days after the Third Notice of Suit, and if you fail to do so a judgment by default may be entered against you for the relief demanded, by the Plaintiff.
 FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C.
 By /s/ BARRY T BARNES
 BARRY T. BARNES
 Attorney No. 19657-49
 Attorney for Plaintiff
 BARRY T. BARNES
 FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C.
 8415 Allison Pointe Blvd., Suite 400
 Indianapolis, IN 46250
 (317) 237-2727

**NOTICE
 FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR.**

PL4732 10/4 10/11 10/18 3t hspaxlp

A NOTICE OF POLLING PLACES

I, Karyn D Douglas, Clerk of the Montgomery Circuit Court, certify to the Montgomery County Election Board that the following are the polling places in Montgomery County, Indiana, for the City of Crawfordsville Municipal Election to be held November 7, 2023.
 Montgomery County 4H Building 400 Parke Ave, Crawfordsville
 Rock Point Church 429 W 150 S, Crawfordsville
 Karyn D Douglas
 Clerk, Montgomery Circuit Court
 Montgomery County, Indiana

PL4737 10/4 1t hspaxlp

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me, directed from the Clerk of Montgomery Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Indiana, in Cause No. 54C01-2306-MF-000501, wherein Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC was Plaintiff, and Tori L. Lamb and Paige L. Lamb were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree, with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder on the 15th day of November, 2023, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 600 Memorial Drive, Crawfordsville, IN 47933, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Montgomery County, Indiana.
 Part of the West Half of the Northeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 19 North, Range 4 West, bounded as follows:
 Beginning 25 feet East of a point 364.5 feet North of the Southwest corner of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 32, the same being on the East line of Whitlock Avenue in the City of Crawfordsville, Indiana; running thence East 142 feet; thence South 42 feet; thence West 142 feet to said Whitlock Avenue; thence North 42 feet to the place of beginning in Montgomery County, Indiana.
 More commonly known as 512 Whitlock Ave, Crawfordsville, IN 47933-1442
 Parcel No. 54-07-32-113-093.000-030
 Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisalment laws.
 /s/ BARRY T BARNES
 BARRY T. BARNES, Plaintiff Attorney
 Attorney # 19657-49
 FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C.
 8415 Allison Pointe Blvd., Suite 400
 Indianapolis, IN 46250
 (317) 237-2727
 Ryan Needham, Sheriff
 Union Township
 The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein.

**NOTICE
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PL4730 10/4 10/11 10/18 3t hspaxlp

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
 CRAWFORDSVILLE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Zoning Appeals of the City of Crawfordsville will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, in the Common Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, Municipal Building, 300 E. Pike Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana, to hear the request for a development standard variance from the signage standards and regulations of the City Zoning Ordinance in a B-3, business zoning district.
 The property location 1401 Darlington Avenue, Crawfordsville, Indiana (Parcel No: 54-07-33-331-041.000-030)
 The petition is on file and available for examination (and purchase at cost) in the Department of Planning & Building Services on the 2nd floor of the Municipal Building, 300 East Pike Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933 (765.364.5152); office hours are 8:00-12:00 noon and 1:00-4:00 p.m., weekdays except holidays.
 The public is invited to attend the hearing and to comment on the proposed request. Oral comments concerning the request will be heard. Written comments and objections to the requests may also be submitted to the Director of Planning & Building Services, City of Crawfordsville, at the address above prior to the hearing and will be considered.
 In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if anyone wishes to attend, hear or present evidence at the public hearing and is in need of reasonable accommodation, please contact the Crawfordsville Department of Planning & Building Services at the address or phone number above so accommodation can be made.
 Department of Planning & Building Services
 Megan Huckstep, Director, City of Crawfordsville

PL4733 10/4 1t hspaxlp

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
 CRAWFORDSVILLE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

Notice is hereby given that the Plan Commission of the City of Crawfordsville will hold a public hearing at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, in the Common Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, Municipal Building, 300 E. Pike Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana, to hear the request for primary subdivision plat approval for a new 182 lot residential subdivision known as Hawkview Subdivision.
 The property location: East Side of US Highway 231 South, 720' South of Purple Heart Parkway,
 Block 1 of Sterling Minor Subdivision Plat, Crawfordsville, Indiana (Parcel No. 54-10-17-500-002.000-029)
 The petition is on file and available for examination (and purchase at cost) in the Department of Planning & Building Services on the 2nd floor of the Municipal Building, 300 East Pike Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933 (765.364.5152); office hours are 8:00-12:00 noon and 1:00-4:00 p.m., weekdays except holidays.
 The public is invited to attend the hearing and to comment on the proposed request. Oral comments concerning the requests will be heard. Written comments and objections to the requests may also be submitted to the Director of Planning & Building Services, City of Crawfordsville, at the address above prior to the hearing and will be considered.
 In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if anyone wishes to attend, hear or present evidence at the public hearing and is in need of reasonable accommodation, please contact the Crawfordsville Department of Planning & Building Services at the address or phone number above so accommodation can be made.
 Department of Planning & Building Services
 Megan Huckstep, Director, City of Crawfordsville

PL4734 10/4 1t hspaxlp

NOTICE OF PUBLIC TEST

Notice is hereby given that the Public Test of the automatic tabulation equipment and election voting equipment, to be used at the Indiana General Election on November 7, 2023, will be conducted in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Montgomery County Courthouse, 100 E Main St, Crawfordsville, Indiana at 10:00AM on Wednesday, October 4, 2023.
 This Public Test is open to representatives of political parties, candidates, news media, and the public.
 Indiana Code 3-11-14.5-2
 Karyn D Douglas
 Secretary, Montgomery County Election Board

PL4735 10/4 1t hspaxlp

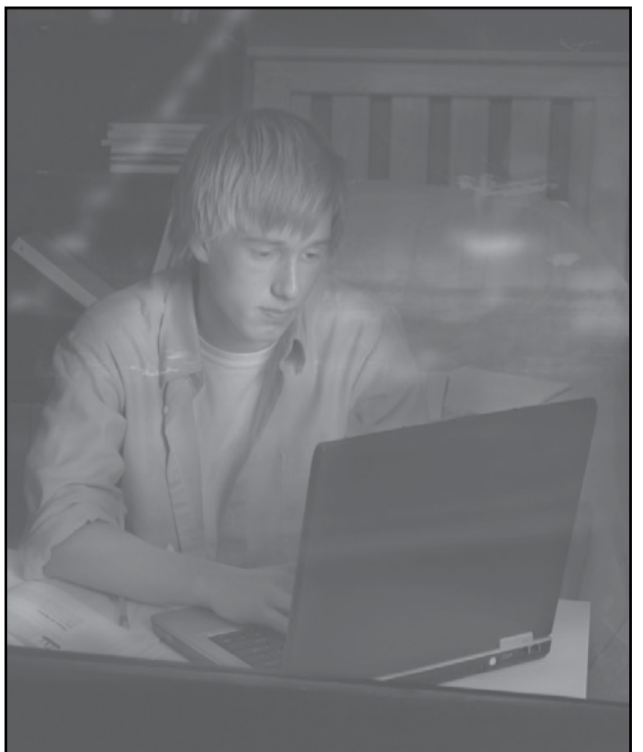
Obituary deadline
 The Paper publishes obituaries daily at
www.thepaper24-7.com.
 All obituaries must come from a funeral home.
 A photo may be included and should be sent as a high-resolution JPEG.
 Daily obituary deadline is 3 p.m. for the following day's print publication.
 To read more obituaries, visit www.thepaper24-7.com.

**TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE
 AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES
 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE**

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Indiana, in Cause No. 54D01-2306-MF-000486 wherein U.S. Bank National Association was Plaintiff, and Jeffrey R. Radcliff, was Defendant, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 15th day of November, 2023, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 600 Memorial Drive, Crawfordsville, IN 47933, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Montgomery County, Indiana.
 A Part of the West half of the Southeast Quarter of Section 16, Township 20 North, Range 4 West, in Madison Township, Montgomery County, Indiana, more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a county referenced bolt spike marking the Southwest corner of said West half and thence North 00 degrees 11 minutes 16 seconds West (astronomic bearing/basis of bearings) along the West line of said West half for a distance of 220.00 feet to a 5/8" x 24" capped rebar stamped D. Deckard P.L.S. SO #273 (hereinafter referred to as Deckard rebar) thence leaving said West line and running South 87 degrees 20 minutes and 07 seconds East for a distance of 223.02 feet to a point witnessed by a Deckard rebar 1.50 feet South 87 degrees 20 minutes 07 seconds East; thence south 00 degrees 48 minutes 27 seconds East for a distance of 208.22 feet to a point on the South line of said West half and in the approximate center line of County Road 900 North; thence south 89 degrees 38 minutes 05 seconds West with said South line and approximate center line for a distance of 225.00 feet to the place of beginning. Subject to a 20 foot wide easement for the purpose of ingress and egress off of and from the entire Westerly and Northerly Boundaries of the above described tract, subject to a right of way for County Road 900 North along the Entire Southerly boundary of the above described tract and together with and subject to all other right of way, covenants, easements and restrictions of record.
 More commonly known as: 1540 E 900 N, Crawfordsville, IN 47933
 Parcel No. : 54-02-16-400-012.001-016
 Together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisalment laws.
 Nathan A. Dewan
 35006-82
 Doyle & Foutty, P.C.
 41 E Washington Street
 Suite 400
 Indianapolis, IN 46204
 Madison Township
 1540 E 900 N, Crawfordsville, IN 47933
 Street Address
 SHERIFF FILE NO:
 The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein
SERVICE DIRECTED TO:
 Jeffrey R. Radcliff
 1540 E 900 N
 Crawfordsville, IN 47933
MANNER OF SERVICE: Sheriff

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PL4731 10/4 10/11 10/18 3t hspaxlp



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Conservative Congressman Jim Baird Announces Campaign For Re-Election To U.S. House of Representatives

Current U.S. Congressman Jim Baird is formally announcing his campaign for the U.S. Congress. Baird is enthusiastic about his work for the people of Indiana's 4th district. Baird has been working throughout the year on his plans to continue serving Hoosier families and communities. Jim Baird is seeking his fourth term in the United States House of Representatives. Indiana's 4th Congressional District encompasses West Central Indiana.

Baird stated clearly why he is seeking re-election, "Now more than ever, we need capable, conservative leaders to fight the far left extremists who want to take our nation down a path of fiscal ruin and moral depravity." Baird added, "I will continue to fight with my conservative colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives for life, liberty, and the opportunity for every Hoosier I represent."

Baird's current committee assignments include:

- Committee on Agriculture
- Chairman, Subcommittee on Conservation, Research, and Biotechnology
- Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry
- Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture and Horticulture
- Committee on Science, Space and Technology
- Subcommittee on Energy
- Subcommittee on Research and Technology
- Committee on Foreign Affairs
- Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia
- Subcommittee on Africa

Congressman Baird's Bio

Jim Baird is a lifelong resident of the Fourth U.S. Congressional District, a Vietnam Veteran, a farmer and a small business owner for more than three decades. Baird has served in numerous capacities with several civic and community organizations.

- Military Service:
- ROTC, Purdue University - 1963 to 1965
 - OCS 2-70, Ft. Benning GA - 1969 to 1970

- Vietnam War - 1970 to 1971, 1st Lieutenant U.S. Army
- Awards:
 - Bronze Star with V device, Purple Heart with an Oak Leaf Cluster, Vietnam Campaign Medal with 60 Device, Army Commendation Medal with V Device, National Defense Service Medal, Meritorious Unit Citation, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm for valorous combat achievement, Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal, Expert Rifleman and Expert in Jungle Warfare. Unit: 523rd Transportation Company, first unit from Vietnam to be placed in the Army Transportation Corps Hall of Fame at Fort Eustis, Virginia as a result of valor displayed during Operation Lam Son 719.

Professional Experience & Public Service

State Representative IN-44, Indiana House of Representatives

Representing Putnam County and portions of Clay, Morgan, Owen and Parke Counties. Member of the Ways and Means, Chairman of the Health and Medicaid Subcommittee, Agriculture and Rural Development, Veteran Affairs and Public Safety Committees and the Statutory Committee on Ethics.

• Putnam County Commissioner; Greencastle 2006 to 2010

• Owner, Baird Family Farms; Greencastle 1980 to Present

• Owner, Indiana Home Care Plus; Greencastle 1984 to Present

• Swine Program Director, Feed Division, Landmark Cooperative

• Director of Sales and Nutrition, Agmax; Fort 1987 to 1992

• Agriculture and Community Development Agent, Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service; Greencastle 1975 to 1988

Livestock specialist for Parke, Putnam and Vermillion counties.

Employment provided first-hand experience with the benefits of applying scientific knowledge to improving and/or solving problems associated with human existence and food production. Also had community development

responsibilities.

Education:

Purdue University - Bachelor of Science in Animal Service, 1967

Afforded the opportunity to learn about numerous agricultural, social, economic, and practical principles in preparation for a professional business career as well as improving the quality of life for people. Worked at a brickyard during summer to pay for college.

Purdue University - Master of Science in Animal Science. 1969

Research focused on the evaluation of three swine gestation management systems and the impact of each system on animal performance and productivity. The study also included the use of artificial insemination and the development of techniques that were compatible with various systems.

University of Kentucky - PhD, Animal Science Mono-gastric Nutrition, 1975

Research involved nutrition for early weaned pigs, 18-21 days of age. Early weaning allowed females to return to gestation sooner thus increasing pigs per sow per year. We searched for the appropriate level of dried whey to incorporate in the diets of these pigs. Statistical analysis indicated 15% of the diet provided the best results.

Community Involvement:

• Plan Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals - President

• Metal Health Provider - President of the Board of Directors

• MPO - West Central Indiana Economic Development District

• Greencastle Rotary Club - President

• Other non-profit organizations too numerous to mention

Organizations:

• VFW

• American Legion

• Indiana Farm Bureau

• OCS 2-70

• Indiana Beef Cattle Association

• American Quarter Horse Association

• Purdue Dean of Agriculture's Advisory Council

Religious:

Gobin United Methodist Church - 1975 to Present

Veterans Newsletter And Summary For September

By Joe Ellis
joe.ellis@montgomerycounty.in.gov

I hope everyone is well. I will be at the American Legion Post on Oct 19th from 8am till 12:00 noon longer if I have someone who needs to see me. Other than that I will not be at either of our post this month. I have had 19 visitors that have come into my office in Sept. We have had 57 phone calls into my office the Month of Sept. We have had six veterans taken to their appointments to the VA in Sept.

Our Veterans Expo will be on October 19th from 8:00 am till 12:00 noon with Breakfast being served. We will be having Walgreens here at the

American Legion Post 72 for flu shots for Veterans and their spouse as long as they have Medicare Cards A/B. Please try and be here! Free eye exams by Sugar Creek Eye Care will also be available.

There will be several Veterans organizations in attendance to include the DAV, and the VFW along with Joe Ellis the CVSO of Montgomery County and the American Legion National Service Officer John Hickey. Also we will be giving flu shots along with Covid-19 shots by the Montgomery County Health Department on the 24th & 28th of October for those Veterans that are Uninsured or under insured and don't have a Medi-

care card or only part A. Your wife can come as well.

PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT at 765-364-7255. The Health Department Is located just behind Hubler Chevrolet on US 231 North Go to The Government Center at the Back lot then enter through door 4.

APPOINTMENTS ONLY.

If you would like to speak to me please call 765-361-4133 or you may email me at joe.ellis@montgomerycounty.in.gov I am located at 1580 Constitution Row Suite F, Crawfordsville. I am also located in the Government center behind Hubler Chevrolet on North US 231.

Steps To Take Before Contractors Begin Work On Your Home

(StatePoint) Achieving your dream home through a remodeling project is an exciting prospect. Just ask the 55% of homeowners who reported renovating a part of their home in the past year.

As eager as you are for the work to get started, taking the time to ensure the job is done smoothly, safely and securely is important. Before contractors begin, take the following steps first:

1. Ensure that any contractor working on and having access to your home is adequately insured and bonded should there be a mishap, injury on site, or damage to your property. It is appropriate to ask for your contractor's license as well as proof of insurance, coverage limit details and a lien waiver.

2. Read the contract carefully and ensure it includes a construction schedule, detailed hard and soft cost estimates, and any other information that may be required by your city's building inspection department, such as construction drawings or permitting plans.

3. Make a good investment by checking references and reviewing any Better Business Bureau ratings or complaints that have been filed against the company. Some states also provide public access

to civil and small claims cases that have been filed against companies or individuals. This is important, considering homeowners spend significant sums to renovate their spaces according to their vision. In fact, the Joint Center for Housing Centers of Harvard University estimates that Americans will spend \$485 billion on home improvement projects in 2023.

4. You can't be there at all times to let in contractors. Certainly, don't start giving out your garage door code or leaving your door open -- this comes at high risk for theft. Instead, invest in a versatile lock box for which only you control the combination so you can grant access to a particular contractor on a given day, and then change the combination for the next need or worker.

From the front door to the pool gate to the storage shed, find lock boxes that fit your project's needs. The newest models from Master Lock include #5480D, which features a removable shackle for easy installation in many locations; #5481D, which is wall-mountable, and #5482D, which features a removable cable that provides flexibility to secure it in hard-to-reach and discreet locations. All feature double the storage

capacity to accommodate keys, fobs, garage door openers or key cards in all shapes and sizes.

"We studied customers' needs and reimagined our product solution to provide bigger, easier to use lock boxes that work for any door, piece of property or access point," says Becky Fellows, senior category manager at Master Lock. "And after the remodel, you can repurpose it to provide a dog walker or short-term renter access to your property."

5. Make a plan for pets. This could be as simple as using gates to separate them from construction. However, if the project is kicking up dust and debris, or your pet is sensitive to loud noises, consider having them stay elsewhere, whether that's with friends or at a pet hotel.

6. Protect your property and make life easier for your contractor by clearing their work area of furniture and other items. Determine whether you'll relocate these items to rooms not being remodeled, store them in the garage or shed, or use a third-party storage space.

No matter the size of your home project, if contractors are involved, you'll want to ensure they are up to the task, and that your home is prepared for their arrival.



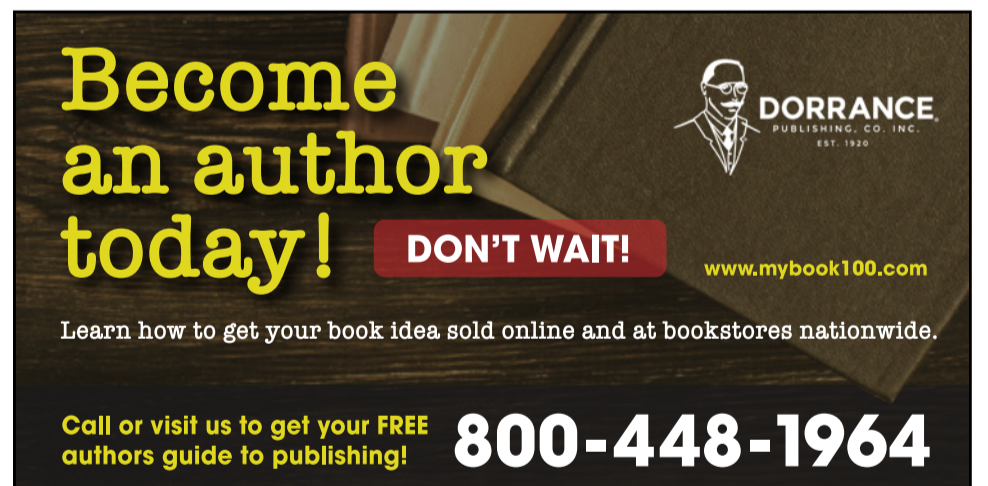
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LWV From Page A1

ry lessons about the Industrial Revolution, when the U.S. and Europe rapidly deforested their rural lands and hollowed the earth for coal which darkened the skies with smog when burned, water was polluted and safe sewage systems didn't exist. As late as the eighties, we read of the smog that hovered over L.A. and Shanghai like the Canadian wildfire smoke we experienced in Indiana this summer.

By then, the industry that produced carbon-based fuel had been warned for at least two decades. In 1959, Edward Teller, one of the inventors of the hydrogen bomb, told petroleum industry professionals at the "Energy and Man" conference that burning carbon-based fuels created a greenhouse effect. In 1965, the president of the American Petroleum Institute Frank Ikard referred to a report that pointed to catastrophic consequences of pollution from the industry. By the late '70s, the industry formed a secret committee to quietly monitor climate science. In 1980, Stanford scientist John Laurmann told the committee that global warming would be noticeable by 2005 (but barely) and catastrophic by 2060. By the late '90s, the rest of the population became aware of the significance of the problem. Depending on your generation, the urgency that accompanied the significance varied.

Smilie's generation grew up knowing their future required change. His sense of urgency amped up in 2017.

"I realized there wasn't any leader, anyone bigger than the ordinary person to take charge," said Smilie. From January 2017 to January 2021, the executive branch of the federal government rolled back 112 environmental rules. By the time the 2019 heat wave scorched Europe, Smilie's wife Katie realized her husband's worry was becoming unhealthy, so she urged him to transform his anxiety into action. He joined the Citizens Climate Lobby, got politically active and began to think about the home they'd purchased in 2017.

Built between 1890 and 1920, his home needed upgrades, including the furnace, which was 30 years old and the AC unit was 28 years old. The furnace died in December 2018, so Smilie found himself in the usual situation, needing to replace his HVAC under duress, when he didn't want pipes to freeze. Wanting to make a financially sound choice -- Smilie is a corporate financial planning and analysis advisor -- he chose a high-efficiency furnace to reduce his gas and electricity usage. In 2018, he was using 7,600 kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity and just under 28,000 kWh of gas, for a total of about 35,500 kWh. By 2019, the new furnace dropped his kWh to 27,600, but most of those were still from gas, which is less expensive but also emits toxins inside the home.

A little over a year later, in January 2020, curiosity had him asking about the

old ducts in his ceilings and insulation, so he hired a contractor to conduct a blower door test and advise him on how to waste less energy and another to blow cellulose insulation into the attic, filling the hobbit-sized closets. He kept one open, laying down foam board so he could still store his Christmas tree. Then he began doing some basic DIY work, spray foaming his crawl space, weather stripping and caulking around windows and doors. On a cold day in February, he walked around his house feeling for the cold air, a task he revisited over the next couple of winters, once feeling cold air in a surprising gap in the glass on his front door. The wood frames had no insulation. He replaced five single-pane windows.

Smilie also learned that at the rim joists, a key area at the top of the foundation and basement where the house rests, there is rarely insulation. This is where contractors often drill holes for plumbing, cable, gas and AC. With some foam board and rope caulk, both of which are very inexpensive, he sealed the rim joists and any cracks where cold air seeped in around windows.

By the end of 2020, he was using less gas -- about 20,000 kWh -- but more electricity (about 6,600 kWh). Overall, his usage dropped by 1,200 kWh with just a few hundred dollars of DIY work. He was also falling under the average 28,000 kWh usage of a Hoosier household.

Knowing that he'd have to replace his water heater soon, Smilie researched heat pump water heaters, which eliminate the heating element and instead draw warm air from around the unit to heat the water. They are three to three and a half times more efficient; whereas a gas water heater uses about \$5 to \$7 of gas a month, a heat pump water heater uses \$4 to \$5 of electricity. Some heat pumps have downsides -- they can be noisy if close to a bedroom or living area and in the winter, if they're in the basement it will use more energy because it's colder in the basement.

In 2021, Smilie had a few more projects including sealing of the chimney to keep bats out of the house and plumbing upgrades. Then there was that old AC unit. This time, he and his wife planned to replace the unit before it went kaput. Knowing that a heat pump was far more efficient and could both cool and heat his house, they invested in a heat pump, so they could shut off the furnace until the very coldest days of winter. At the time, he couldn't purchase one of the newly released cold-climate-rated heat pumps which work at full output at 5 F and at some level down at -13 F. Presently these work so well that the state of Maine gives rebates for its residents to install them. They're popular in cold climates like Sweden.

By the end of 2021, his total kWh dropped to 22,171 and down to about

16,500 in 2022. While his reliance on electricity increased, his gas usage was under 8,500, huge compared to the Indiana average of 20,729 kWh.

He completed all these projects, including adding an electric panel upgrade, an attic radiant barrier and thermal curtains and blinds for about \$35,900, though much of it he had to invest to upgrade his old home. He spent more than most would on the furnace and heat pump, knowing that he would reduce his energy bills drastically. Had he done all this after the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act, he could have used tax credits and rebates. Smilie encourages anyone updating any aspect of their house, from inexpensive weatherization and replacing windows and doors, to visit energy.gov/save. It outlines all the ways renters, homeowners and drivers can save. Almost all of it qualifies for rebates or tax credits. His heat pump water heater gets a tax credit for 30 percent of the cost up to \$2,000.

Some incentives include an energy audit, replacement appliances, HVAC, energy production and storage, heat pumps, energy-efficient air conditioners, clothes dryers, electric stove/ovens and induction cooktops. Some other incentives cover electric panel upgrades, battery storage and solar and ventilation. Like Smilie, this may take you years. Most everyone has to take these investments in small chunks and budget for them, but the weatherization -- the caulking and sealing -- is not only affordable and makes an immediate difference, but you can do it yourself.

Doing all these things made a world of difference for more than Smilie's finances. He knew he was contributing, and that collective action now helps him fight that climate depression and grief he once felt. As a parent, he realizes it's critical to contribute for the future of kids. Though he knows the world may be unrecognizable for future adults, it's not clear to him how it will be.

"There will be a multi-decade transition," he said. "By 2050, things will be different, we will have wind, solar, EV automobiles, enhanced geothermal and carbon fiber materials. When my son is 36 the world is going to be unrecognizable, but I'm not sure how yet. It could go bad or go well, what will happen is a bit of both at the same time. We may have reduced pollutant sources, but we may also spend a chunk of summer with the boreal forests of Canada burning, and he will deal with bad air day today due to this," he said. In short, there's still work and innovation to pursue.

-The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, multi-issue political organization which encourages informed and active participation in government. For information about the League, visit the website www.lwvmontcoin.org; or, visit the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, Indiana Facebook page.

TIM From Page A1

connected to Crawfordsville or Montgomery County and e-mail it to news@thepaper24-7.com. Each Wednesday in October, we'll publish one of the entries.

Again, there's no charge. We're just doing it for fun.

AND ONE MORE Halloween note -- we'll also run photos of your decorated house if you like. Just snap the photo, include a few details (like who you are, where the house is, etc.) and e-mail it to news@thepaper24-7.com. We'll share those with our readers and help you get a few more folks wandering by to look at your handiwork!

I LIED, HERE'S one last spooky season note: Have you seen any of the "maker" podcasts and such on the Internet connected to Halloween? Folks are sharing all kinds of ways to very cheaply make some pretty cool Halloween decorations. There are

bunches, but my favorite is a family friendly couple named Jaimie and Jay. You can find their DIY Halloween projects on YouTube.

MOST HOOSIERS are well-acquainted with Abe Martin. The folksy cartoon was created by Frank McKinney "Kin" Hubbard and appeared in newspapers around the state and nation. Recently, a state historical marker dedicated to Kin and Abe was unveiled at the Abe Martin Lodge in the Brown County State Park. Abe used to share his wit and wisdom with things like, "We're all mighty unselfish when it comes t' handin' out advice we could use ourselves."

-Two cents, which is about how much Timmons said his columns are worth, appears periodically on Wednesdays in The Paper. Timmons is the publisher of The Paper and can be contacted at ttimmons@thepaper24-7.com.

Letters

Master Gardeners Say Thanks

Dear Editor, The Master Gardeners of Montgomery County would like to thank those of you who attended our annual Fall Plant Exchange at the fairgrounds. Even with all the other events going on around the area, we had a great turnout with people bring plants for trades and those who did not have plants to trade were able to leave with something interesting. Again thanks to Montgomery County for supporting your local Master Gardeners.

Sheri Bethard
President
Master Gardeners of Montgomery County

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5 Ways To Get Your Pet Ready For Fall

(Family Features) Pets provide unconditional love to their companions; in return, it's important to make sure they live happy and healthy lives by providing the best care possible. This means making sure that in addition to food, treats and toys, they receive daily care for their eyes, ears and overall health.

With a desire to bring a dog into his family's lives, Albert, a Bausch + Lomb employee, rescued a terrier mix named Watson. However, it soon became apparent Watson needed some extra love and care to help protect his eyes and ears from irritation and excess buildup. When finding a remedy proved difficult, Albert worked with veterinarians to develop Project Watson Health Care for Dogs, a comprehensive line of quality products targeting these specific areas.

To help ensure your furry member of the family has the best head to tail health possible, consider these tips.

Schedule Regular Vet Visits

Routine wellness checks are an essential part of your pet's care. Annual screenings, even if your dog seems healthy, allow your veterinarian to provide vaccines to combat disease and uncover any health issues that may have otherwise gone undiagnosed until symptoms advanced.

Watch Your Pet's Diet

Feeding your pet a proper diet based on his or her breed, age, size and lifestyle plays a big role in overall health. A balanced diet that includes high-quality food can lead to a shiny coat, healthy skin, bright eyes and may also help strengthen your pet's immune system, maintain intestinal health, increase mental acuity, regulate weight, keep muscles and joints healthy and more.

Support Clean Ears and Eyes

Often overlooked, the eyes and ears are vital areas to the overall health and wellness of your pet. To help keep these areas free of any buildup of bacteria that may cause irritation, consider an option like the line of Project Watson Health Care Products for Dogs, which includes an eye wash, eyelid wipe, ear wash, ear wipe and supplements made using high-quality and naturally inspired ingredients.

Excessive blinking or pawing at the eyes can be signs of buildup, irritation or infection. Dirt and debris trapped around the eyes can also clump in fur, leading to skin irritation and infections while excessive tear production can lead to fur staining, which can develop an unpleasant odor. Eye wipes can be used daily to relieve staining and remove

excess buildup. Washing your dog's ears may help reduce dirt, debris and wax buildup; help prevent itching; and reduce the chance of infection while keeping ears smelling fresh.

Create an Exercise Routine

Walks, games in the backyard and social time with other pets can help keep your furry friend in good physical condition. While different breeds and species often have different needs, adequate activity can provide benefits beyond the physical, including reducing boredom, which can potentially lead to anxiety or destructive behaviors.

Prevent Pests

In addition to regular vaccinations, ensure your pet is up to date on parasite prevention. This includes fleas, ticks, mites, heartworm and more which can cause reactions ranging from mild to severe (or even fatal in some cases of heartworm or Lyme disease). Look for pests and skin abnormalities when grooming your pet and contact your vet if your pet excessively scratches, chews or licks his or her fur or ears, or persistently shakes his or her head.

For more solutions to keep your four-legged friend happy and healthy, speak with your veterinarian or visit tryprojectwatson.com.

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