

**➔ TODAY'S VERSE**

Matthew 25:40 "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'" (NIV)

**➔ 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** Tickets are available now for the Rotary Jail Museum Ghost Hunts. Please pay attention to the date and time you select, some events take place just before or just after midnight. The Fan Meet & Greet with the Fourman Brothers from Paranormal Nightare is a FREE event - we are only selling pre-purchase tickets for the Ghost Hunts on October 28 & 29. Night Tours on October 27 are \$10 at the door.

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

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

# The Paper

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Photo courtesy of Wabash College

**Pioneer Chapel is the centerpiece of the Wabash College campus. The 191-year-old liberal arts college in Crawfordsville, Indiana, just completed the Giant Steps Campaign, largest comprehensive campaign in school history, by raising more than \$250 million.**

**Wabash College Makes History With Giant Steps Campaign More Than \$250 million Raised From 12,00 Donors In Record-Setting Effort**

Wabash College celebrated the conclusion of Giant Steps—the largest and most successful comprehensive campaign in its 191-year history—with a gala event Friday evening in Knowling Fieldhouse.

Since its open on July 1, 2017, to its conclusion on June 30, 2023, the Giant Steps Campaign raised more than \$250,638,000 in gifts and

pledges from 12,029 unique donors who made 82,272 gifts.

"This is a remarkable achievement in the long and storied history of Wabash College," said President Scott E. Feller. "To exceed our audacious goal of \$225 million for Giant Steps—through a presidential transition, the pandemic, and economic uncertainty that followed—speaks volumes about

the generosity of our alumni and friends. Giant Steps has given us so much momentum as we look to our bicentennial in 2032."

The Giant Steps Campaign was led by co-chairs Paul Woolls '75 and Betty O'Shaughnessy Woolls and Steve '68 and Joanie Bowen;

➔ See GIANT Page A5

**Life, Liberty, And The Pursuit Of Happiness**



**BUTCH DALE COLUMNIST**

When I taught 5th grade Social Studies, each student was required to know and memorize several things. For instance, they had to know the Pledge of Allegiance,

the words to the Star-Spangled Banner, the states and capitals, the Bill of Rights, and all of the U.S. Presidents in chronological order, just to name a few. They also had to memorize this section of the Declaration of Independence:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with

certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

In the past few years, the American people have lost many of their freedoms. Our federal government, along with the hundreds of bureaucratic agencies, now control almost every aspect of our lives. Administrative rule is now America's system of government. We were once a republic, but now we are governed by edicts, mandates, and executive orders, with less and less freedom each passing day. This situation has certainly curtailed my "pursuit of Happiness."

One party controls almost every institution in America. Barack Hussein Obama promised "fundamental change." He was successful. Individual

➔ See BUTCH Page A7

**Athens Arts Seeks Artists!**

Are you a talented artist seeking an exciting opportunity to showcase your work and connect with a broader audience? Look no further!

We are currently booking artists for our six featured exhibitions, and we want to invite you to be pART of this fantastic opportunity!

Our featured artists' exhibitions allow artists to exhibit their creations, whether you're a painter, mixed media artist, photographer, illustrator, or any other type of visual artist. We believe in promoting creativity and providing a space for artists to express themselves.

Our number one question asked is why we charge a commission on your art sales.

The commission helps ensure the arts remain accessible to a broad and diverse audience,

➔ See ATHENS Page A7

**The Daily Almanac**

**Sunrise/Sunset**  
RISE: 7:51 a.m.  
SET: 7:17 p.m.

**High/Low Temperatures**  
High: 62 °F  
Low: 38 °F

**Today is...**

- National Angel Food Cake Day
- Own Business Day
- Powers of Ten Day

**What Happened On This Day**

- 1967 Outer Space Treaty is Enforced. Also known as the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, it regulated the exploration and use of outer space and created the field of international space law.
- 1964 The Tokyo Summer Olympics Begin. 93 countries participated in the first Olympics to be held in Asia. As a tribute to the horrors of the Second World War, Yoshinori Sakai, who was born in Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, the day an atomic bomb destroyed the city, was chosen as the torchbearer to light the Olympic flame during the opening.
- 1933 United Airlines Boeing 247 explosion. In one of the oldest unsolved cases in aviation history, the airplane which was flying from Newark, New Jersey to Oakland California exploded mid-air and crashed near Chesterton, Indiana

**Births On This Day**

- 1930 Harold Pinter English playwright, screenwriter, director, actor, Nobel Prize laureate
- 1813 Giuseppe Verdi Italian composer

**Deaths On This Day**

- 1985 Orson Welles American actor, director, producer, screenwriter
- 1875 Aleksey Konstantinovich Tolstoy Russian poet, author, playwright

**➔ HONEST HOOSIER**

Want to know the most haunting word in the English language? Impeachment!



**➔ INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION**

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**➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP**

Your skin can be damaged by UV light on cloudy days too. Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Paper and online at www.thepaper24-7.com.



**➔ THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE**

**Darlington Library Board Meeting:**

The regular monthly meeting of the Darlington Library board will be held on October 24th at 6 p.m. at the library.

**➔ TODAY'S QUOTE**

"There is a child in every one of us who is still a trick-or-treater looking for a brightly lit front porch." -Robert Brault

**➔ TODAY'S JOKE**

What do you get when you cross Bambi with a ghost? Bamboo!

**➔ OBITUARIES**

**Lois M. Kohl Fischer**

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



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**WTHR 13 7 DAY FORECAST**

<b>59</b> COOL BUT MOSTLY SUNNY	<b>38/62</b> MOSTLY SUNNY	<b>39/67</b> RAIN LIKELY BY EVENING	<b>55/76</b> BREEZY AND WILD	<b>56/71</b> WINDY, PM SHOWERS AND STORMS	<b>50/55</b> WINDY, SPOTTY SHOWERS	<b>50/55</b> CHILLY AND WINDY
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

## OBITUARIES

### Lois M. Kohl Fischer

December 11, 1938, Wednesday, October 4, 2023

Lois M. Kohl Fischer, 84, passed away peacefully on October 4, 2023 at The Lane House in Crawfordsville. She was born on December 11, 1938 to John and Maxine (Johnson) Buster in Attica.



Lois was a graduate of Attica School, Class of 1956. She worked at the Indiana Veterans Home in West Lafayette, as the Recreational Supervisor, retiring after 20 years. Lois was in charge of celebrations, parties and activities for the residents. After retirement, she enjoyed making ceramics and knitting.

Lois is survived by three children, Tony Kohl, Lisa Kohl and Kristal Kohl; three grandchildren, Travis (Sarah) Kohl, Toby Kohl and Amanda Kohl; two great grandchildren, Evelyn and Harper Kohl; a sister, Sandra Barton; and a brother, William Buster.

She was predeceased by her parents John Buster and Maxine Dill; a son, Nicholas Kohl; a granddaughter, Katharine Kohl and a brother, Edward Buster.

Cremation was chosen with burial at St. Mary's Cemetery in Lafayette to be held at a later date. Sanders Priebe Funeral Care is entrusted with care. Share memories and condolences at [www.SandersFuneralCare.com](http://www.SandersFuneralCare.com).

## Close Round Of Golf Between First And Second Place Teams

This week our senior golfers keep the top two teams neck and neck for the third week in a row with the first place team of Scott Baker, Greg Bayless, Dale Wilson and Mike Dozier scored nine-under par. The second place team make a tying score of nine strokes under par and consisted of Jim Lowe, Jack Phillips,

Greg Rister and Pat Henry. The third place team of Mac Ingram, Larry Manlove, Fred Phelps and Bob Stephens scored seven-under par.

Proxies were won by Rhett Welliever and Phillips on holes nine and fourteen, respectively.

Longest drive of someone 80 years old or older was awarded to Manlove.

## Music On Grant Fall Recital



Photo courtesy of Music On Grant

Music on Grant Studios held their annual Fall Recital Saturday, September 30, at Pike Place in downtown Crawfordsville. Students played a variety of instruments including voice, piano, guitar, violin, double bass, ukulele, trumpet, cornet, trombone, tuba, and baritone sax. Pictured are: Front—Collins Bechtel, Lucy Weedman, Cora Vanderhoof, Haley Myers, Clara Brown, Korbin Leonard. Row 2—Debbie Turner, Carter Hodges, Pearl Weedman, Liam Bernhardt, Conner Brown, Nolan Sizemore, Crew Rose, Ozzie Rose, Avery Sarver, Fletcher Petrie. Row 3—Katherine Cherry, Madeline Nelson, August Ashment, Jaxon Cohee, Evelyn Ashburn, Prudence Madsen, Paige Rose, Graham Petrie, Angelina Leon-Leyva, Rilynn Hansen. Back—Jackson Persack, Gage Frazee, Lydia VanHuysen, Eleanor Hessler, Lindsey, Brendan, & Jordan Young, Noah Warren, Barb Wilson & Pamela Myers, Instructors. Performing, but not pictured were: Beth Siple, Mathew & William Hershberger, Aarav Desai, Krista Myers, Zachary Hicks.

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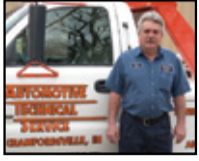
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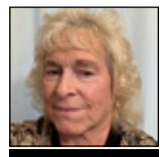
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Thank  
You  
for

Reading

The Paper!

# Nutrition Programs Need Protected And Restructured



**DeANTHA WRIGHT-THORNBURG**  
Guest Column

Just a few weeks ago, our U.S. Congress had top billing in the news with its threat of shutting down. I had no idea

how close to home this threat was until I visited our local FISH Pantry. What does Congress have to do with putting food on our table and paying our bills? This is just the beginning of a long and difficult road for many.

Unfortunately, many people struggle to make ends meet. FISH Pantry is a non-profit organization providing food assistance to needy people. The organization faces several challenges in delivering food to those in need, including limited funding, limited resources, and limited volunteers. The organization also faces the issue of people abusing the system by taking more than they need or selling the food for profit. Each Food Pantry can establish its guidelines based on need. They share information from different pantries from around the state.

Our local FISH Pantry and Grace & Mercy Church are funded through donations from individuals, businesses and organizations. TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program) is a federal program that helped 193 food banks in the Feeding America network distribute 874 million meals in 2022. Providing food assistance to low-income individuals

and families through food banks and pantries. These programs need to be streamlined, allowing the State to Prioritize Projects for Donated Food or Food Purchases at a lower cost from local growers.

SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) is the cornerstone of our nation's federal nutrition programs. In 2022, SNAP helped feed more than 41 million, giving people access to nutritious foods. Again, this program must be protected and restructured while addressing the application process and its barriers.

Our SNAP programs must streamline their eligibility and enrollment processes. The program is complex, confusing, and difficult for seniors with disabilities. The enrollment process or criteria vary and do not reflect mobility and transportation challenges to get to the pantries.

The program is extended to those seeking employment. SNAP is one of the few food resources available during a job search. However, the policy is harsh in some cases. It increases food insecurity while having a positive impact on employment. When recipients find work, SNAP ends after three months of hire. The program needs to be fixed. The government can help SNAP participants find work by removing the time limit on benefits to allow participants to find jobs, improving state employment and training programs, and ensuring recipients are offered training opportunities.

At least long enough for

the recipients to make a sustainable wage increase. Fifteen dollars an hour isn't enough to support a family of two. That family of two would be eligible for SNAP benefits of \$36,482. The only way this couple could live above the poverty level is to both hold a job. Each person makes more than \$15 an hour. If that couple has a baby or loses their job, they could become a program recipient. In today's job market, nothing is promised. As food costs rise and our elderly get poorer with their SSI pension, feeding America will become a more significant challenge.

Understanding hunger in America, it exists in every community, every state. Nearly 34 million people, including more than 9 million children, are hungry. In 2021, more than 53 million people turned to charitable for food. In 2022, food costs are 9.9 percent, and we predict they will continue to rise.

More to come, the 2023 Farm Bill Feeding America. Congress must strengthen our nation's commitment to end hunger, and passing and improving the 2023 Farm Bill is critical. Will be sharing more about Feeding America in the coming weeks. Oct. 16 is World Hunger Day. Support your local food pantry and make a donation.

*- DeAntha Wright-Thornburg worked for the Indiana Department of Transportation for more than 30 years and is also a freelance journalist.*

# Carrie's Thinking Of A Story



**CARRIE CLASSON**  
The Postscript

I've been thinking about forgiveness.

A lot has been said on the subject by people a lot smarter than I, so I don't have anything valuable to add to the discussion at large, but I've been thinking of how it affects me, and what a powerful thing it is.

I've had very little to forgive compared to most people. People have always been kind to me. I am always astonished by how kind people have been—for no reason. As a young person, I received help and advice from strangers at every turn. As I got older, I lived in different places and continued to meet a wide variety of people from different cultures, with different experiences, and time after time, people were kind to me when they had no reason to be. They were kind because it was who they were.

But very occasionally, I've been treated poorly. It usually takes me a long time to even realize it. I always assume I have made some dreadful mistake and, as soon as that is cleared up, their behavior will change.

When it turns out I am wrong—that no change on

my part will change them in the slightest way—then I tend to get very hurt.

Probably because I am so spoiled by the kindness of others, this less-than-charitable behavior strikes me to the core.

A few months back, I wrote a column about a friend who hurt my feelings. He had written a long essay and quoted my column about finding beauty in unexpected places. He accused me of being an idealist, someone who would rationalize mass shootings and natural disasters. He said I'd go "looking for a pony in a pile of horse poop." He urged his readers not to be like me. It made me feel awful.

I wondered what I had done to cause him to write such a mean-spirited thing about me, and (as usual) I got very hurt.

But then I did something new. I gathered those feelings, and I did something with them. I took his point of view, and I wrote a story about a man who believed as my friend did. I tried to imagine what might happen to that man that could cause him to change his mind.

Writing that story put me inside this friend's head in a way I had never been before. He annoyed me, but he also touched me, and I came to appreciate him in a new way—even if he was only

a fictional character.

And this is my new idea about forgiveness.

Sometimes—most of the time—I can never know what causes people to say hurtful things. I don't know why friends betray me or strangers curse at me on the street. These things have happened and will probably happen again.

My new idea is to make up a story.

My story will give that person a reason to be so hurt or angry that they would do these things. My story will help me to empathize with them, even though I know my story is fiction. Because even without a made-up story, I will make assumptions about why that person was unkind, and those assumptions will almost certainly be fiction—I will just imagine they are true.

So I might as well make up a better story, a more compassionate story. Yesterday, I wrote a note to this friend who had been unkind. I thanked him for the inspiration. He had no recollection of what he had written.

And that might just be the best part of the story.

Till next time,  
Carrie

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

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Photos courtesy of Casey Williams and Subaru

## 2024 Subaru Crosstrek Wilderness Gets All Campy At Utah's Zion National Park

I woke up in a tent this morning with coyotes howling near Zion National Park in Utah thinking about the day ahead. If you've never been to Zion, it's extraordinary with valleys of sheer rock high and deep, but I didn't just come to awe and eat. I came to drive the 2024 Subaru Crosstrek Wilderness in its natural habitat.

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### First Impressions

Wilderness editions are Subaru's most capable line of vehicles and the compact Crosstrek crossover is distinguished by angry black body cladding, black anti-glare hood patch, and 17" matte black wheels shod in all-terrain tires. Given Subaru owners are an active bunch, the roof rack is rated 700lbs. for pop-up tents. A drive from camp to the park confirms it's not just for looks.

The 2.5-liter horizon-

tally-opposed "Boxer" four-cylinder engine routes a peppy 182 horsepower and 178 lb.-ft. of torque to a continuously variable transmission. The smallest Wilderness tows up to 3,500 lbs. – plenty for a small camper or a couple of jet skis. Fuel economy rates 25/29-MPG city/highway. Fat tires and ride height diminished MPG's.

It's a slow slog through the park, but I fill time examining the car's interior.

A giant tablet-style touchscreen takes center stage, but proper volume and tuning knobs plus buttons for key climate functions flank it for convenience. I'm also a fan of the heated StarTex "vegan leather" seats that are all-day comfortable and easy to wipe off dirt. A power sunroof and Harman Kardon audio put a soundtrack to it. Looking closer, I notice copper accents on the

### 2024 Subaru Crosstrek Wilderness Five-passenger, AWD Crossover

Powertrain: 2.5-liter H4, CVT  
Output: 182hp/178 lb.-ft. torque  
Suspension f/r: Ind/Ind  
Wheels f/r: 18"/18" alloy  
Brakes f/r: disc/disc  
Towing: 3,500 lbs.  
Fuel economy: 25/29 mpg city/hwy  
Assembly: Lafayette, IN  
Base price: \$31,995

steering wheel, shift knob, gauges, and seat stitching.

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### Getting Dirty

Not far out of the park, we hit dirt roads, climb rocky trails, and skip pavement until dinnertime.

Wilderness ground clearance increases from

### LIKES

- All-road capability
- Butch style
- Everyday practicality

### DISLIKES

- No NAV
- No front camera
- Limited production

the Crosstrek's standard 8.7" to 9.3" to clear ruts, logs, and even parking lot speed bumps. Add Dual Mode X-Mode, a traction control system that allows the car's AWD system to claw through deep mud/snow and use hill descent control to automatically creep down steep inclines. The suspension soaks up rough roads and articulates over rocky trails en-route to our lunch overlook.

It was a busy morning, clawing up and down rugged trails deep rutted by Jeeps and Broncos. I had to straddle the deepest ruts to keep the car from banging skid plates, but this compact car that's

very happy commuting to work daily was doing very trucky things. There are many more miles to pound.

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### Final Verdict

Even more than Jeep drivers, Subaru owners take their cars off-road. They also attack freeways, dodge potholes, carry dogs, and take kids to bassoon lessons. Features that make it capable also make it a very nice car. Vegan leather repels trail dust, but also welcomes dog dribbles and baby burbles. Under-hatch lights aid loading gear and unpack strollers at grandma's. Wilderness represents



CASEY WILLIAMS  
Auto Reviews

the top Crosstrek trim, but is the least expensive way to enter the club. A base Crosstrek starts at \$24,995 with the Wilderness rising from \$31,995. That's a lot of car for the money, whether you live in Utah or Utica.

Storm Forward!

-Send comments to Casey at [AutoCasey@aol.com](mailto:AutoCasey@aol.com); follow him on YouTube @ AutoCasey.

## WABASH From Page A1

presidential families Gregory and Lora Hess and Scott and Wendy Feller; and staffed by Dean for College Advancement Michelle Janssen and Campaign Director Joe Klen.

"When we undertook the process of raising twice the amount of the goal of the College's last campaign during the early days of Giant Steps, Betty and I quietly hoped that we could at least get close to \$225 million," said Paul Woolls, a retired attorney who now owns Progeny Winery in Napa, California. "We need not have worried. Thanks to the generosity and resolve of the Wabash nation, the campaign exceeded the \$225 million goal by a full 15 percent."

The Woolls' \$40 million gift kick-started Giant Steps at the public launch in November 2018, at which time the College had secured \$150 million in funding. "It has been an honor to serve with such a dedicated group of volunteer leaders," said Betty Woolls, a former real estate developer who founded O'Shaughnessy Estate Winery in Napa in 1996. "We have bonded as a group and are greatly pleased by the results of this historic effort."

Focused on strengthening opportunities for Wabash students and faculty through investment in scholarships, endowed professorships and program funds, the College's Annual Fund, and capital projects, Giant Steps delivered by raising more than \$313,000 per student

and nearly \$18,000 per alumnus. Respectively, those figures rank seventh and 19th nationally among liberal arts colleges with campaigns in the same time frame.

"My colleagues in Advancement are astounded by the extraordinary results of the Giant Steps Campaign—clearly we punched way above our weight given our size," said Dean Janssen. "I attribute our astounding success to a donor- and relationship-focused Campaign Executive Cabinet whose unstinting generosity and commitment has no comparable peer."

During Giant Steps, Wabash established 123 new endowed funds, including six endowed professorships and faculty chairs; 36 academic departments, internship, special program, and immersion experience funds; and 81 new scholarship funds.

Two new academic majors were established through Giant Steps – computer science and philosophy, politics, and economics (PPE)—and 10 new student initiatives or centers were funded, including the Center for Innovation, Business, and Entrepreneurship; Global Health Initiative; Greater Chicagoland Initiative; President's Distinguished Speaker Series; Stephenson Institute for Classical Liberalism; Wabash Democracy and Public Discourse; Walsh Center for Political Economy; Wabash Liberal Arts Immersion Program, and the Wabash Women's

Collective.

"Receiving more than 82,000 gifts from 12,000 benefactors is a very clear vote of confidence in the important work our faculty, staff, and coaches do each day to educate, mentor, and guide our students," Klen said. "I thank all who took part in Giant Steps and call on them and others to continue to strengthen all we do at Wabash with annual philanthropic generosity. This ongoing support will add to the momentum created by the campaign and position the College for even greater success in our third century."

While capital projects were not the focus of Giant Steps, Wabash built stunning new student housing in the Ott Residential Life District and remodeled Martindale Hall; a new campus gateway was dedicated, along with the construction of the Shelbourne Wrestling Center and Little Giant Stadium, while the Allen Athletics and Recreation Center got major upgrades in its weight and fitness rooms and Chadwick Court.

"The Giant Steps campaign provided funding for scholarships, faculty and academic programs, immersive experiences, and our physical campus," said Steve Bowen, a retired attorney and former chair of the Wabash Board of Trustees. "My wife Joanie and I were honored to help lead this historic effort and are astounded at the remarkable response from alumni and benefactors from far and wide."

# Dreaming of a new home?

find it here!

the paper

# The House Is A Circus (But Don't Blame The Real Clowns)



**BRIAN HOWEY**  
Howey Political Report

I grew up in a city that featured the Peru Amateur Circus. I played trumpet in the circus band, my younger

sister was an aerialist. I knew the first human cannonball, W.W. Wilno, and went to school with the granddaughter of famed lion tamer and circus mogul Clyde Beatty.

And I knew my clowns. The famed tramp clown, Emmett Kelly, was part of the Hagenbeck-Wallace circuses that wintered along the Wabash and Mississinewa rivers in the mid-20th Century. His son, Patrick, took his father's "Weary Willie" persona into the Peru circus. One of my family physicians was Dr. Lloyd Hill, who played a hobo clown in the Peru circus for years. These were all accomplished men and performers.

Earlier this week, I wrote a State Affairs column titled "House of Clowns," my take on the disposal of House Speaker Kevin McCarthy after just 269 days in that office. He assumed the third-highest constitutional office in the U.S. on the 15th ballot. He was the first speaker to be kicked out of office, with eight Republicans joining 208 Democrats to seal his fate after Republican U.S. Rep. Matt Gaetz of Florida ignited the fateful "motion to vacate."

All seven Hoosier Republicans voted against this historic motion to vacate while Democrat Reps. André Carson and Frank Mrvan joined their unified caucus to accede to McCarthy's downfall.

Thus, beltway pundits have been invoking images of "clown cars" and "clowns with flamethrowers" in describing what the Wall Street Journal editorial board has characterized as the "degraded state of the Republican Party in this era of rage."

What is happening in the U.S. House is an affront to real clowns.

The seeds of McCarthy's demise were planted after the 14th ballot last

January. U.S. Rep. Erin Houchin, who is president of the freshman GOP class and at the House leadership table, told me in August that after McCarthy failed on the 14th ballot, "There was one thing that came up at the end, which was how to vacate the chair. We had toyed with 20 members or five members. Ultimately it went back to one."

That was a fateful decision, with historic impacts to be determined.

On Tuesday, Houchin could be seen on the House floor, huddling with McCarthy lieutenants as he went down. She later posted on X a Gaetz fundraising appeal. "This tells you all you need to know about Matt Gaetz ... literally fundraising from a manufactured crisis of his own making," Houchin said. "No one is working with Dems to expel him. He is the one working with Dems. Don't be duped."

U.S. Rep. Larry Bucshon was also unamused. He called Gaetz "a charlatan" for "threatening to remove Speaker McCarthy using at least 200 Democratic votes. He has been reaching out to them for votes! Is the hypocrisy lost on anyone? At least 200 House [Republicans] will be voting to support the speaker, including me."

At a town hall two weeks ago in Westfield as a government shutdown loomed, U.S. Rep. Victoria Spartz predicted McCarthy's demise. "I was ultimately frustrated by my speaker," she said. "We Republicans in the House have to take responsibility. Washington, D.C., has been governed, not by leadership but by crisis, for a very, very long time. Unfortunately, it's a very bad way to govern. This is probably going to be the end of Kevin. This is just politics and Democrats probably have the winning hand by now."

As this drama reached its crescendo, Spartz threatened to resign, saying, "I will not continue sacrificing my children for this circus with a complete absence of leadership, vision, and spine. I cannot save this Republic alone."

This circus, eh?

As McCarthy exited, announcing he wouldn't seek a return to the office he was just shoved out of, he said with a straight face, "I may have lost this vote today, but as I walk out of this chamber I feel fortunate to have served. I wouldn't change a thing."

Really, Kevin, really? What's just over the horizon could be epic anarchy.

Fox News host Sean Hannity, MAGA influencer Steve Bannon and several congressmen have floated the idea of "drafting" former President Donald J. Trump for the role. "I have been told that Trump might be open to helping the Republican Party, at least in the short term, if necessary," Hannity dutifully reported during his show Tuesday night.

U.S. Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, a once fringe member of the radical GOP who became an elevated McCarthy ally, said on X, "The only candidate for speaker I am currently supporting is President Trump. We can make him speaker and then elect him president!" There's one little flaw with that scenario. Trump is facing 91 criminal charges across four federal and state jurisdictions.

The GOP conference has "Rule 26" which states, "(a) A member of the Republican Leadership shall step aside if indicted for a felony for which a sentence of two or more years imprisonment may be imposed. (b) If a member of the Republican Elected Leadership is indicted, the Republican Conference shall meet and elect a Member to temporarily serve in that position."

Here's my suggestion: The 208 Democrats recruit eight moderate Republicans and install Liz Cheney as the new speaker.

Yes, this is a surreal political circus, but please, please, don't you dare blame the real clowns.

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

## Remodeling Your Kitchen With The Earth In Mind



**Dear EarthTalk: My kitchen is overdue for an update. I'm wondering what's the latest, greatest and greenest today in countertop materials, flooring, paint and appliances?**

Kitchens have traditionally had one of the worst environmental footprints in the home. However, technological advancements have brought more eco-friendly materials and tools for greener kitchens. Choose components wisely and you can do the planet a favor while you make the most lived-in room in the house better for everyone.

The first place to start thinking greener is paint. Conventional paint, especially oil-based varieties, contains lots of volatile organic compounds (VOCs). These are off-gassing synthetic chemicals that not only can cause human health issues like headaches and nausea and have been linked to some cancers and also contribute to the build-up of ground-level ozone, a noxious pollutant in its own right. If you want to avoid VOCs in your new kitchen, paint it with water-based paints bearing either the Greenguard or Green Seal logos—these certifications ensure the paint in the can has little if any VOCs. Popular eco-friendly brands include AFM Safecoat, ECOS Paints, Bioshield and Behr

Premium Plus.

Countertops are another kitchen area where we've come a long way with eco-friendly options. Teragren's "carbon-negative" counters are made of bamboo, which grows quickly and sequesters carbon dioxide in the process. Another great green choice for counters is Greenguard-certified Granite, which uses recycled quartz, ceramics and acrylic to create countertops that are affordable and resistant to heat, stains and scratches. If you're looking for a colorful or more distinct option, take a look at Richlite, also certified by Greenguard as well as the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). This innovative material is created by stacking recycled paper sheets, saturating them with phenolic resin, and applying heat and pressure.

Eco-conscious choices now also abound in flooring. Bamboo works as well on floors as countertops. Another increasingly popular green flooring option is cork. Contrary to hardwood, production of cork only requires the outer bark of a tree. Cork contains a natural waxy substance called suberin that prevents water and gasses from penetrating through. Accordingly, cork flooring offers excellent insulation, energy conservation, durability of up to 30 years, and natural hypoallergenic and insect-repellent properties. However, cork floors are often stained

and coated, so look out for VOCs in the additives. Yet another great green choice for kitchen floors is Marmoleum, a naturally germicidal, waterproof and VOC-free form of linoleum composed of 97 percent natural material.

Upgrading to modern, energy-efficient appliances is another way to make your kitchen remodel pay dividends for the planet. Keep an eye out for appliances bearing the EnergySTAR certification, which ensures that the appliance you are eyeing meets or beats U.S. Department of Energy standards for energy efficiency. This will help lower your greenhouse gas emissions and also reduce your energy bill. Another earth-friendly upgrade would be to ditch the gas stove for an all-electric induction model; you'll not only lower your carbon footprint but also probably improve the indoor air quality inside your home.

*-CONTACTS: UL GREENGUARD Certification, <https://www.ul.com/services/ul-greenguard-certification>; Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), <https://fsc.org>; EnergySTAR, <https://www.energystar.gov/>; Teragren, <https://teragren.com>; Grenite, <https://grenite.com>.*

*EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at <https://emagazine.com>. To donate, visit <https://earthtalk.org>. Send questions to: [questions@earthtalk.org](mailto:questions@earthtalk.org).*

## Baird Releases Statement After Two Bills He Promoted Signed into Law

Congressman Jim Baird recently released the following statement after two bills he promoted were signed into law by President Joe Biden. Among several bills signed by the president were H.R. 5110, the Protecting Hunting Heritage and Education Act, and S.112, which strengthens benefits for the children of Vietnam veterans born with spina bifida.

"I'm pleased to report that during a time of intense gridlock in Washington, we are making progress on my legislative priorities and delivering on the promises made to Hoosiers," Baird said. "These bills passed both chambers unanimously, confirming we can secure legislative

victories without resorting to unproductive political games. I would like to thank my colleagues who helped shepherd these bills through Congress and get them on the president's desk. Together, we are delivering much-needed victories for the American people."

On June 7, Baird introduced H.R. 3888, the House companion to S.112, to strengthen benefits for children of Vietnam veterans born with spina bifida. The children of Vietnam veterans have an increased risk of spina bifida, a neural tube defect in the spine, due to their parent's exposure to Agent Orange and other herbicides. This legislation will strengthen existing benefits

for Vietnam veterans and establish a plan to contact eligible individuals.

President Biden also signed H.R. 5110, a bipartisan and bicameral bill to restore Federal funding for hunting, archery, and sport shooting classes in schools. On July 31, the Department of Education (ED) confirmed they had prohibited the use of Federal funds for these programs under the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) signed in 2022 by the Democrat-controlled Congress. H.R. 5110 clarifies that ED cannot withhold funds from schools that offer these programs under the authority granted to them by the BSCA. Baird is a proud sponsor of this legislation.

## Protecting Hoosiers' Data



**SPENCER DEERY**  
Guest Column

Last year the Indiana Office of the Attorney General recorded over 1,200 security breaches in our state.

Increasingly, these attacks are against local governments and schools. When successful, they lead to fraud, identity theft and other criminal activity.

As a member of the Interim Study Committee on Commerce and Economic Development, I participated in a hearing on Monday to discuss ways state and local govern-

ments can work together to protect Hoosiers' data and personal information. Our committee will make recommendations to protect municipalities, schools and other government entities from such attacks.

By coincidence, the timing of our hearing aligned with Cybersecurity Awareness Month, which highlights the importance of keeping data secure and protecting critical infrastructure from cyber threats.

Another challenge to cybersecurity is that an increasing number of businesses have access to Americans' personal information. Last session I supported a new law that

provides Hoosiers a data privacy "bill of rights" to help them monitor how their data is being used and even have it deleted.

The Indiana Cybersecurity Hub and Emergency Manager Cybersecurity Toolkit provide best practices, tips and resources to keep you protected. For more tools or advice on how to keep your data or your organization's data protected, visit [in.gov/cybersecurity](http://in.gov/cybersecurity).

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

## A Good Walked Wasn't Spoiled



**Slim Randles**  
Home Country

We didn't have the Chipper Invitational Golf Tournament this year. It wasn't a

good summer for anything that takes place outdoors, for one thing. Just too dang hot.

For another, people we knew all over the world by internet or pen pals were having a tough time surviving any disaster du jour.

Thirdly, it just wasn't a good year to celebrate

Doc's legendary pet squirrel. Chipper came to life several years ago when Doc placed an ad in The Valley Weekly Miracle offering a reward for finding his missing pet squirrel. Five dollars and fifty cents.

Since it's really hard to find a non-existent squirrel, even in the best squirrel habitat, the reward money went unclaimed, but our valley got a new story and legend and laugh.

The Chipper Invitational Gold Tournament came about to raise money for charity. Doc and the guys each took a shovel and a t-bar fence

post and walked out onto a farm for a ways and then dug a shovel's worth of dirt, slammed in the t-post, and taped a number to it. Multiply by eighteen, and our golf course was born.

Each year "Chipper" would pick another farm, and the legend grew.

So this year we had to be content with raising our coffee mugs to the best non-existent squirrel a valley ever had, and look forward to a better summer for fun next year.

*-Insomnia getting you down? Watch a golf tournament on television.*

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# Everything You Need To Know About Head Lice



**JOHN R. ROBERTS, M.D.**  
Montgomery  
Medicine

I've heard about a few cases of head lice now that kids are back in school and the weather is cooling down. Head lice are white, and about

the size of a sesame seed. They are known as obligate ectoparasites. Obligate means they require a placental mammal like a human host to survive and ectoparasite means they live outside the host's body. Lice must feed on the host's blood to survive and can't live off of a body for more than a day or so. They move from person to person by direct head to head or hair to hair contact. They can also spread by sharing personal items such as hats, towels, brushes, helmets, hair ties or even car seat headrests. They do not jump or fly and are not transmitted by pets.

Adult lice survive on a person for about one to three months. A female louse lays about three to five eggs (nits) each day and glues them to the hair shafts of the host close to the scalp. The eggs require the warmth of the scalp to incubate. A louse may lay up to 300 eggs in her adult life. The eggs take about ten days to hatch and the new lice need an immediate blood meal to survive. They then take another seven to ten days to mature to the stage they can start laying eggs.

Lice are not usually harmful to their human host. There is evidence that the head louse is genetically identical to the body louse that is known to carry the organisms causing typhus, trench fever, and relapsing fever. There is some concern that as lice become more resistant to chemical treatments that they will become more prone to spreading diseases, but this is currently not a concern in America.

Screening someone's head for lice requires a bright light and a good lice comb. Most experts recommend using a fine-toothed comb like the LiceMeister that gets very close to the surface of the hair shafts. Lice like to live on the scalp around the upper neck and backs of the ears. Again, the nits are usually less than one centimeter from the base of the hairs. Dandruff, hair spray residue, and dust can be mistaken for lice and nits.

Treatment of lice requires a lot of patience. There really is no substitute for manual removal using meticulous combing with a lice comb. The patient or parent(s) of a child must take the time to properly comb out every strand of hair to remove the lice

and nits. Most experts recommend combing every three days for a couple of weeks. Re-infestations are usually the result of improper removal of lice and nits that hatch later.

Chemical treatments kill live lice, but not the eggs. The treatments therefore have to be repeated in seven to ten days to kill lice after they hatch. Chemical treatments come in two varieties: insecticides and those that suffocate the lice. Insecticides are not benign. They should be used with caution in those with asthma, seizures, brain tumors, cancer, HIV, and pregnant or nursing mothers.

The most commonly used insecticides are permethrin, pyrethrin and malathion. Unfortunately, lice have begun to build up resistance to these agents. Spinosad was approved in 2011 and remains very effective. Some providers prescribe ivermectin that is not FDA approved for the treatment of lice, but is very effective (unlike for COVID).

Benzy alcohol lotion is the most commonly used suffocation agent that plugs up the breathing pores of the lice. Cetaphil skin cleanser can also be applied to every strand of dry hair, the excess combed out, dried with a hair dryer, and washed out eight hours later. The treatment needs to be repeated at seven day intervals a total of three times.

As far as treatment of a person's environment, most evidence points to proper treatment of the lice on the person as being the most effective deterrent, not treating their environment. Vacuuming is the best way to remove fallen hairs with attached nits from furniture, rugs, stuffed animals, and car seats. Bagging stuffed animals is not necessary, but they can be run through a hot clothes dryer for 30 minutes along with other linens, hats, etc. to kill lice and nits. Pesticide sprays are not recommended since they do more harm than good.

Family members or other people who live in close contact with someone who has lice should be screened using the LiceMeister comb. Schools have discontinued "no nit" policies due to the very limited risk of transmission in the school setting. Kids should not miss school unnecessarily for infestations that are much more of a nuisance than a health threat.

The best resource I have found for up to date lice information is the National Pediculosis Association at [www.headlice.org](http://www.headlice.org). Happy hunting!

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

## Attorney General Todd Rokita Provides Tips For Small Businesses To Protect Themselves Against Rising Cyber Threats

During Cybersecurity Awareness Month, Attorney General Todd Rokita is alerting small businesses to rising cyber threats and providing tips for them to protect themselves and their customers.

"Cybercriminals view small businesses as easy targets and look for any weaknesses they may have in their security systems," Attorney General Rokita said. "It's critical for small business owners to have safeguards in place to protect their data and customers' personal information."

Making sure any Hoosier business has the appropriate cybersecurity controls has become a necessary step in today's economy. The average cost incurred by a business from a data breach is now more than \$4 million, and approximately 40% of small businesses worldwide have reported losing essential data due to cyber-attacks.

According to the US National Cyber Security Alliance, 60% of small businesses that suffer a cyber-attack go out of business in less than a year.

To keep your small business and consumers protected, Attorney General Rokita encourages Hoosiers to follow these tips:

- Train employees in security principles. Establish basic security practices and policies for employees, such as requiring strong passwords.
- Passwords and authentication. Require employees to use unique passwords and change passwords regularly.

Consider implementing multi-factor authentication that requires additional information beyond a password to gain entry.

- Protect information, computers, and networks from cyber-attacks. Having the latest security software, web browser, and operating system are the best defenses against viruses, malware, and other online threats.

- Provide firewall security for your Internet connection. A firewall is a set of related programs that prevent outsiders from accessing data on a private network.

- Make backup copies of important business data and information. Regularly backup the data on all computers.

- Secure your Wi-Fi networks. If you have a Wi-Fi network for your workplace, make sure it is secure, encrypted, and hidden.

- Employ best practices on payment cards. Work with banks or processors to ensure the most trusted and validated tools and anti-fraud services are being used.

The Attorney General's Office is responsible for enforcing the Disclosure of Security Breach law to better protect Hoosiers from identity theft. If a business has a breach, they are required to inform their customers that their personal information is in jeopardy.

If you believe you are a victim of a security breach, please fill out this form here and email it to [DataBreach\[at\]atg.in.gov](mailto:DataBreach[at]atg.in.gov).

For more information, visit [indianaconsumer.com](http://indianaconsumer.com) or call (800) 382-5516.

## National Fire Prevention Week Shines A Light On Preventing Cooking Fires

National Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 8 - 14

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) proudly joins communities nationwide in promoting fire safety awareness. This year's theme, "Cooking safety starts with you. Pay attention to fire prevention" emphasizes the importance of kitchen safety in preventing devastating cooking-related fires.

Cooking fires are a leading cause of home fires and injuries according to the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA).

"It is easy to get distracted while preparing dinner for your family. TVs, cell phones and even talking with family members can pull our attention away from what we are doing at the stove. Fire safety cannot be forgotten. It will save you a lot of heartache in the future," said State Fire Marshal Steve Jones.

Jones is available for interviews about Fire Prevention Week on Wednesday, Oct. 11 from 1 p.m.

– 3 p.m. Contact the IDHS Office of Public Affairs to schedule an interview.

\*\*\*  
**Quick cooking safety tips**

1. Stay alert: Never leave cooking unattended. Whether you are frying, boiling or baking, always keep an eye on the stove or oven. If you need to step away, turn off the heat or set a timer to remind you when to return.

2. Keep flammable items away: Clear the area around your stovetop of flammable materials, such as dish towels, paper towels and oven mitts. Keep a lid nearby when frying, so you can quickly cover a pan if it catches fire, and use a fire extinguisher rated for kitchen fires.

IDHS is committed to raising awareness about fire prevention and encourages everyone to share these tips with their families, friends and neighbors during National Fire Prevention Week.

For more information on fire safety and resources, visit [GetPrepared.in.gov](http://GetPrepared.in.gov).

## ➤ BUTCH From Page A1

rights and responsibilities, and individual freedoms, are cast aside in favor of progressive socialism. The federal government considers itself to be our caretaker. Accordingly, we should be glad they are looking out for us. After all, they know what is best for everyone, don't they? They, and they alone, make the decisions. I have no issues with our local Democratic party, all of whom have common sense and care about Montgomery county. But the national Democrat party, which at one time represented the average working men and women and their families, now only cater to the large cities, liberal fanatics, Hollywood, the minorities, and the woke crowd. And if a conservative or outsider dare challenge their authority and power, these politicians will seek to squelch any uprising. The news media and social media, the motion picture industry, the teacher unions, and the majority of the federal courts are simply extensions of the Democrat party. Welcome to Obama's world. You have to admit; he was a great actor. And what about Ol' Joe? We need to remember what Obama said about Joe Biden during the 2020 election... "Don't underestimate Joe's ability to \*\*\*\* things up." Joe is just a puppet on a string... Howdy Doody reincarnated.

So to you all-knowing, power hungry politicians in Washington, D.C. who want to control my life, I will remind you... I do not want you to advocate for "social justice programs" that seek to defund the police and institute "no cash bail" for dangerous felons. I want a wall built to keep out illegal aliens, terrorists, cartels, and drug smugglers. I do not want the FBI to intimidate parents who show up at school board meetings to protest insane liberal policies. I do not want my taxes to

subsidize abortion clinics. I do not want my school-age granddaughters forced to use "gender neutral" restrooms. I do not want you to read and monitor my E-mails. I will not give up my right to buy a gun for self-protection if I so choose. I do not want an electric-powered car. I don't want you to tell me what type of light bulbs, showerheads, gas stoves, refrigerators, ceiling lights, and washing machines I can buy. I am not going to be forced into wearing a mask or getting a vaccination just because you say so. I am tired of high-priced gas and high interest rates because of your ridiculous policies. And don't think you can increase the number of judges on the Supreme Court when their decisions don't go your way. Finally...to all of you politicians, both Democrat and Republican, who have been in Congress much too long, I want term limits...NOW!

In retrospect, I should have also had my students memorize this section of the Declaration:

"That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its power in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to affect their Safety and Happiness."

In the 1976 movie "Network," Howard Beale shouted, "I'm mad as Hell, and I'm not going to take it anymore!" Many people in our great country are starting to feel that way. Unless things change, I believe that the above stated "Right of the People" may be fast approaching.

*- 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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fostering creativity, education, and cultural enrichment. Commissions Athens Arts retains- allows the gallery to continue to celebrate the creative life of the community and contribute to support various aspects of the arts, such as educational programs, classroom experiences, school field trips, and community outreach efforts.

Here's why you should consider applying for an exhibition:

1. Networking: Connect with fellow artists and art professionals. You'll have the chance to build valuable relationships that could lead to collaboration opportunities, mentorship, or the chance to learn from others in the field.
2. Sales Opportunities: If you want to sell your artwork, our shows offer a great platform. Many art collectors attend our events.
3. Feedback and Recognition: If you want, you can get valuable feedback from art enthusiasts and professionals. You may also receive recognition and accolades for your work.
4. Promotion: Alongside your own promotions, we actively promote our featured artists and their work through our website, social media, and email marketing. You'll benefit from our marketing efforts to help you gain more visibility.
5. Exposure: Your exhibition will attract a diverse and art-loving audience, including art collectors, enthusiasts, and potential buyers. This exposure

can help you expand your reach and gain new followers and clients.

6. Distance: Athens Arts is only 45 minutes away from Indianapolis and 30 minutes from Lafayette

To be considered for one of the 2024 exhibitions, you must complete an application (link below). The following is what you will need to apply:

1. A brief artist's statement: Tell us about your background, inspiration, and artistic style.
2. A portfolio of your work: Share high-quality images or samples of your art.
3. Contact information: Provide us with your email address and phone number so we can contact you.
4. Availability: Let us know your choice of dates.

Our jurors will review all submissions and get back to you with more details if you are selected to participate.

Take advantage of this opportunity to showcase your art to a broader audience and connect with fellow artists and art enthusiasts. We can't wait to see your work and have you join us for our upcoming shows!

If you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to contact us at [director@athensartsgallery.com](mailto:director@athensartsgallery.com).

We look forward to hearing from you and celebrating your artistry through a featured artist's exhibition at Athens Arts!

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