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➔ TODAY'S VERSE

Isaiah 50:10 "Who is among you that fears the LORD, That obeys the voice of His servant, That walks in darkness and has no light? Let him trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God." (NASB)

➔ FACES OF MONTGOMERY

People who call our community their own.



Judi Kleine sent us here a smile from Grandpa Greg Kleine holding Granddaughter Phoebe on a recent hike at Turkey Run. Thank You Judi!

➔ THREE THINGS You Should Know:

1 Greater Indiana, in partnership with the Indiana Chamber of Commerce and Air and Waste Management Association Indiana Chapter, proudly presents the 2023 Indiana Environmental Conference and Winter Technical Meeting. The event is scheduled to take place on December 6-7 at the Wyndham Indianapolis West Hotel.

2 Celebrate the holiday season with a treasured Wabash Valley tradition! The Terre Haute Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Artistic Director, David Bowden, will take the stage for its annual holiday concert, A Symphony Christmas, on Saturday, December 2nd at 7:30pm at Tilson Auditorium. Music-lovers of all ages will enjoy holiday favorites such as Sleigh Ride, Festive Sounds of Hanukkah, selections from The Nutcracker plus an audience singalong! The performance will feature Angela Brown, world-renowned soprano, singing Sweet Little Jesus Boy, O Holy Night, My Simple Christmas Wish and more. Tickets are going really fast, so make plans soon to attend this festive musical celebration! Additional tickets will be released for purchase after November 20...

3 MCCF will award the final round of grants for 2023 on Thursday, November 30, 4 p.m., here at our building, second floor. We invite you to attend. I will have a press release ready that day listing the fifteen awards. We appreciate all you do to promote the good work of the grant recipients and the generosity of our donors.

The Paper

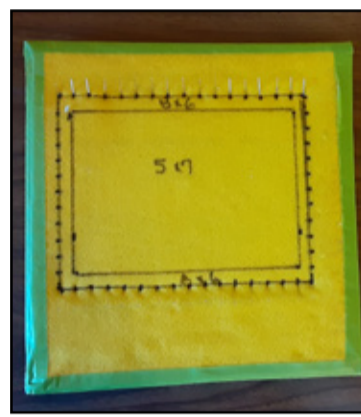
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Photos courtesy of Athens Arts

A couple of examples of Pin Weaving for the upcoming class.

Art On Thursday – December 14, Pin Weaving

Pin weaving is a form of weaving that is done on a small-scale. We use a small DIY loom, straight pins, and scrapes of yarn to weave a small, interesting project. Wonderful and relaxing: it will bring out the artist in you.

The loom is so portable that you can easily store it in a tote bag along with your collection of yarn and complete a project anywhere.

The instructor will provide

all supplies needed for students to create their own pin weaving panel to take home.

Class will be on Thursday, December 14th. 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, IN.

To reserve a spot for the December 14th, stop by Athens

Arts Thursdays and Fridays 10 am to 6 pm or on Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm or call 765.362.7455 anytime and leave a message.

Come be pART of it!

Art on Thursday Classes are made possible in part by The Arts Federation (TAF), a Regional Arts Partner, Indiana Arts Commission (IAC), a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), a federal agency.

Thanksgivings Of Yesteryear



BUTCH DALE
COLUMNIST

Mabel (Graham) Cook was born in Sugar Creek township in 1898 and graduated from Bowers High School in 1916. In fact, she was the only senior graduate that year! She married Raymond Cook, and they resided on their farm north of Darlington. She passed away at the age of 97 in 1995. During her entire life Mabel enjoyed writing stories and poems about people she knew, events, and her many precious memories. In 1985 she wrote the following story about Thanksgiving when she was a little girl in the early 1900's...

"Yesterday, when I was young, as Thanksgiving day approached, the anticipation and impatience almost smothered me. Then when the big day did arrive, after what seemed like an eternity, I could hardly wait until time to go to Grandmother's house.

"Certainly our arrival was far from the least exciting event of the day as we swept up the



Photo courtesy of Butch Dale

drive to the front porch in our bob-sled or carriage (depending on the weather), drawn by a matching team of steel gray horses...Lady and Prince, who seemed to share the excitement of the day.

"We always went early so that Mom could help prepare the food. And such a clatter and chatter you never heard coming from the kitchen filled with the aroma of plum pudding, spicy pumpkin pie, and a big turkey filled with Grandma's (and

mine) favorite stuffing, roasting in the oven of the wood burning range. It was the kids' job to be sure there was plenty of wood piled near the stove in the old woodbox. Dinner was finally announced and we gathered around the long table, groaning under the load of holiday goodies and waited impatiently for Grandpa's 'Amen' at the end of his blessing.

"When we had stuffed

➔ See BUTCH Page A5

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:38 a.m.
SET: 5:28 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 54 °F
Low: 43 °F



Today is...

- World Television Day
- Pumpkin Pie Day
- False Confession Day



What Happened On This Day

- 1979 Mob burns down US embassy in Pakistan. The mob was allegedly incensed by a rumor that the United States was involved in an attack on a mosque in the holy city of Mecca.
- 1941 Tweety Bird makes its debut. The fictional cartoon canary also just called Tweety made his first appearance in A Tale of Two Kitties, a Warner Bros. Merrie Melodies cartoon. Tweety was created by animator Bob Clampett who worked on Looney Tunes cartoons.
- 1920 Bloody Sunday in Ireland. A key event in the Irish War of Independence, which was a conflict between the British government and Irish revolutionaries in Ireland, Bloody Sunday began with the killings of 14 people by the Irish Republican Army (IRA) under the leadership of Michael Collins.

Births On This Day

- 1969 Ken Griffey, Jr. American baseball player
- 1694 Voltaire French philosopher

Deaths On This Day

- 1996 Abdus Salam Pakistani physicist, Nobel Prize laureate
- 1959 Max Baer American boxer, actor

➔ HONEST HOOSIER

How about joining me in celebrating that great Hoosier Hoagy Carmichael's birthday tomorrow. He was born Nov. 22, 1899!



➔ INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

Service Directory...A3
Classifieds.....A4
Slim Randles.....A5
Earth Talk.....A5

➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Teens need about ten hours of sleep while school-age kids should get 10-12. 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.



➔ OBITUARIES

None

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



➔ THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Volunteers Needed:

VMHMC is looking for volunteers for the Downtown Party Night on November 25. They will be located on the second floor of Fusion 54 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Feel free to drop off a donation, get a free candy cane and check out some reindeer games for the kids as well! For more information, please visit; vmhmc.org!

➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

In celebration of our beginning our 20th year as a media company, we're sharing some famous quotations about newspapers this month. "In America, the president reigns for four year, and journalism governs forever and ever." -Oscar Wilde

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

Newspapers lack nuance. Too many things are black and white.

13 WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST

36/62 SUNNY, WARMER	32/60 SUNNY, MILD	34/63 PARTLY SUNNY	39/64 PARTLY SUNNY	50/58 SCATTERED SHOWERS	35/54 CLEARING, COOLER	34/54 MOSTLY SUNNY
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

Meeting Notes

Montgomery County Plan Commission Meeting

AGENDA
 WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 22 4 p.m.
 MONTGOMERY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER COMMUNITY ROOM
 1580 CONSTITUTION ROW
 CRAWFORDSVILLE
 I. Call to Order
 II. Approval of October 2023 meeting minutes
 III. Reports
 IV. Agenda Modifications

V. New Business:
 a. RZ2023-5 – Public Hearing of re-zone from agriculture to commercial
 b. DPR2023-3 – Public Hearing of Development plan for Landstar Truck Crawfordsville.
 c. Nucor Road Economic Development Area - Order Amending Declaratory Resolutions and Economic Plans.
 VI. Old Business
 VII. Adjournment

Indiana Chamber Reveals Top Legislative Priorities For 2024 Session On List: Enhancing Childcare, Career Readiness and XBE Certifications

The Indiana Chamber of Commerce unveiled its upcoming priorities at the 2024 Indiana Legislative Preview today. A panel discussion featuring General Assembly caucus leaders from both parties headlined the event.

“Enhancing our talent pipeline remains a critical focus,” says Indiana Chamber President and CEO-elect Vanessa Green Sindere. “We look forward to working with lawmakers, employers and learning institutions across the state to continue momentum on workforce development and keeping Hoosiers gainfully employed.”

able, high-quality childcare across Indiana is impacting Hoosier families and businesses all over the state. It’s certainly one of the outside factors most negatively impacting attracting and retaining workers,” Bearce shares.

Health – and health care – matters continue to resonate for the Indiana Chamber and its members as well. Among these is increasing Medicaid reimbursement rates to medical providers.

“Reimbursement rates are too low and that results in a shift to commercial payers making up for the losses providers incur on Medicaid patients,” offers Ashton Eller, Indiana Chamber vice president of health care policy and employment law.

While 2023 saw a great deal of investment toward mental and physical health challenges in the state, the Indiana Chamber once again is asking legislators to tackle the state’s smoking rate – the eighth highest in the nation – by increasing the cigarette tax by \$2 per pack.

The cigarette tax has not been raised since 2007, and Eller says “increasing it by \$2 per pack would reduce the number of smokers in Indiana by about 100,000 and generate over \$370 million in new revenue in the first year.”

That amount, he states, “would provide ample revenue to help fund increasing Medicaid obligations,” adding the tax increase would also “keep an estimated 24,500 youngsters from becoming adults who smoke or vape and help 50,000 adults quit smoking – and save nearly 20,000 lives.”

To spur economic development, the Indiana Chamber supports administrative and legislative changes at the state and local levels to minority, women and veteran business enterprise (XBE) policies and practices to make certification, recertification and bidding activities efficient.

The list of Indiana Chamber top legislative priorities and objectives for the upcoming session are as follows:

- Support tort reform to improve legal climate
 - Support local recognition of state XBE certification for improved efficiency
 - Support driving privilege cards for undocumented residents
 - Support additional efforts to enhance early childcare access and quality
 - Support further strengthening career-connected learning expectations and opportunities for Indiana students, building on last year’s House Enrolled Act 1002
 - Support revised Indiana Code definition of PFAS/PFOA, a type of chemical used in various industries
 - Support increasing Medicaid reimbursement rates to medical providers
 - Support cigarette tax increase of \$2 per pack
 - Support expanding the scope-of-practice for low-level providers that would increase access to care
 - Support banning union-only project labor agreements
 - Support increasing the threshold for business personal property exemption
- A detailed rundown of the Indiana Chamber’s 2024 key legislative initiatives is available at www.indianachamber.com/priorities.



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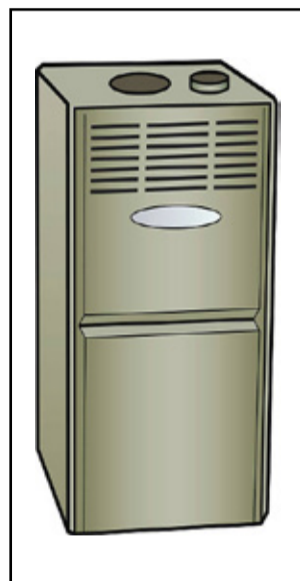
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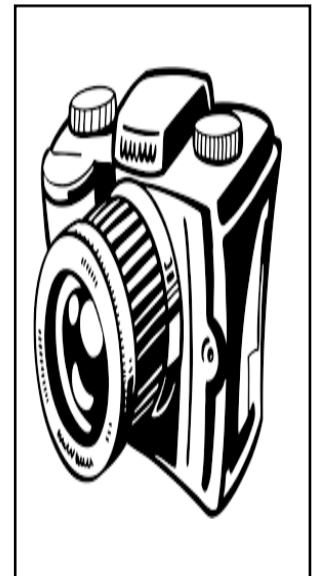
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2023 Trends: Red Cross Responds To Growing Disaster-Driven Humanitarian Needs

Donate on Giving Tuesday or give blood during the holidays to help for future crises

This year, the intensifying extreme disasters took a devastating toll on people in the U.S. who turned to the American Red Cross for help coping with a record number of billion-dollar disasters.

So far in 2023, an all-time high of 25 billion-dollar disasters – including devastating tornadoes in our region on March 31st and April 1st – ravaged communities across the country. This year, more than 240 Red Crossers from the Indiana Region have deployed to join disaster relief operations at home and across the county.

In addition, families sweltered in the nation's hottest summer on record, including in communities that rarely experience such extreme temperatures. And back-to-back disasters led to a series of blood drive cancellations, which further strained the national Red Cross blood supply that was already dwindling from summer travel and back-to-school activities.

The Growing extreme disasters are causing more humanitarian needs for families here at home and across the country. This holiday season, please remember those who need support in the face of emergencies — and join us to provide care and comfort by making a financial donation or by giving blood or platelets.

Help on GivingTuesday and during the holidays by visiting redcross.org to make a financial donation or an appointment to give blood or platelets. Individuals can also register for volunteer opportunities in their area.

INCREASING SUPPORT AMID THE EXTREME DISASTERS With the growing frequency and intensity of disasters, the Red Cross is racing to adapt its services and grow its disaster response capacity across the country. As part of this national work in 2023, the Red Cross distributed \$108 million in financial assistance directly to people after disasters of all sizes,

including major disasters such as Hurricane Idalia, the Hawaii wildfires and a spate of tornadoes across multiple states, including in the Indiana Region.

Due to increased needs, the Red Cross has expanded financial assistance programs for major extreme weather disasters to help families bridge critical recovery gaps, such as security deposits for new housing and costs for home repairs.

Across the country, the Red Cross is delivering this vital financial assistance on top of its immediate relief efforts — including safe shelter, nutritious meals and emotional support — which have been provided on a near-constant basis for this year's relentless extreme disasters. In fact, this year's onslaught of large disasters drove an increase in emergency lodging provided by the Red Cross with partners — with overnight stays up more than 50% compared to the annual average for the previous five years.

Our volunteers have also been extremely busy responding to local home fires and helping families impacted.

RESPONDING TO ADDITIONAL EMERGING NEEDS Beyond extreme disasters, people stepped up through the Red Cross to address other emerging needs for communities, including:

- **BLOOD DONATIONS:** As the nation's largest blood supplier, the Red Cross is grateful for the millions of donors who rolled up a sleeve throughout the year for patients in need. To further improve people's health outcomes, the Red Cross has been working with community partners to introduce blood donation to a new and more diverse generation of blood donors — which is critical to ensuring that a reliable blood supply is available to the 1 in 7 hospital patients who need a lifesaving blood transfusion. The holidays can be a challenging time to collect enough blood for those in need. To book a time to

give, visit RedCrossBlood.org, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

To celebrate the upcoming Prime Video release, Candy Cane Lane, those that come to give blood in December will be automatically entered to win a holiday prize package, including a \$1,000 Amazon.com Gift Card and 65-inch Omni QLED Series Amazon Fire TV. There will be 12 winners. Plus, those who come to give Dec. 1-17 will get a \$10 Amazon.com Gift Card by email. Terms for both offers apply. See redcross.org/Amazon. Candy Cane Lane features an all-star cast, including Eddie Murphy and Tracee Ellis Ross, and directed by Reginald Hudlin.

- **LIFESAVING TRAINING:** This year, the Red Cross expanded its training to empower people to act during current-day crises — which is vital considering that nearly half of U.S. adults report being unprepared to respond to a medical emergency. This included launching the new "Until Help Arrives" online training course last spring for opioid overdoses, severe bleeding, cardiac arrest and choking emergencies, and partnering with professional sports leagues through the Smart Heart Sports Coalition to help prevent tragedies among student athletes by offering CPR training and increasing access to AEDs.

- **MILITARY FAMILIES:** Red Cross workers helped service members on U.S. military installations and deployment sites worldwide — including in Europe, the Middle East and Southeast Asia. As part of our support this year, we delivered emergency communications messages connecting more than 87,000 service members with their loved ones during times of family need, while also engaging members in morale and wellness activities during deployments.

Visit www.redcross.org/indiana for more information about how our volunteers and staff helped people in 2023.

30 Years Later, How Is The Northern Spotted Owl Faring?



Dear EarthTalk: How is the Northern Spotted Owl—the once endangered poster bird for old growth forest conservation in the Pacific Northwest—doing these days?

Distinguished by dark-brown white-speckled feathers, the Northern Spotted Owl was the symbol of conservation in the Pacific Northwest in the 1990s. This period saw scientists and conservationists rallying against the rapid destruction of old-growth forests that the owl relied upon for survival.

In 1990, the U.S. government listed the species as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act, leading to the establishment of "critical habitat" areas. Despite these measures, deforestation and resulting habitat loss have been shrinking the bird's population by about 2.9 percent annually. In British Columbia, where these owls also once thrived, over 97 percent of the old-growth forests are now gone. And the increase in forest fires, worsened by rising global temperatures, has further reduced the shrinking habitat.

Furthermore, the emergence of an invasive species, the Barred Owl, has pushed the Northern Spotted Owls to the brink of extinction. Historically inhabiting East Coast forests, Barred Owls have expanded their range

westward in the last 50 years, enabled by habitat changes, human activity and climate change.

Barred owls are generalists, consuming a variety of food ranging from small mammals to reptiles and even other birds. In contrast, Northern Spotted Owls are specialized, predominantly relying on small mammals, particularly flying squirrels and woodrats. Northern Spotted Owl pairs typically do not breed annually. When they do reproduce, they only lay one to two eggs and use large amounts of resources to invest in their roles as parents. The presence of barred owls has prompted Northern Spotted Owls to disperse from their preferred breeding territories, impacting their already limited reproductive habits.

Beyond protections against logging, Northern Spotted Owls would benefit from the prohibition of pesticides in areas surrounding their habitat. Recent studies in Washington, Oregon, California forests showed a presence of anticoagulant rodenticides (ARs). This raises concerns about the Northern Spotted Owls due to their rodent-heavy diets. Though some raise concerns over the ethics of lethally removing barred owls, studies show that the resulting reduction of competition for resources would help Northern Spotted Owls' adult survival rates, breeding attempts, and reproductive viability. Efforts to increase the

wild Northern Spotted Owl population have been attempted with limited success. A Canadian program spent over 15 years diligently incubating eggs and hand-rearing chicks. In August 2022, the program released three captive-born male owls into a forest. However, by May 2023, two had died and another had been hit by a train and put into rehabilitation. Despite these disappointing results, scientists continue to improve their practices by studying other species of owls.

The Northern Spotted Owl faces a web of challenges from habitat loss to invasive species, but ongoing conservation efforts underscore a collective commitment to securing their survival.

-CONTACTS: 'It's never too late': Canada taken to court for near-extinction of spotted owls, <https://thenarwhal.ca/spotted-owl-federal-court-case-guilbeault/>; One left: British Columbia's last chance on northern spotted owls, <https://news.mongabay.com/2023/05/one-left-british-columbias-last-chance-on-northern-spotted-owls/>; It's the Moment of Truth for Saving the Northern Spotted Owl, <https://www.audubon.org/magazine/fall-2022/its-moment-truth-saving-northern-spotted-owl>.

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Noblesville Mayor Pushes State To Invest In Local Mental Health Programs

By Whitney Downard
Indiana Capital Chronicle

In recent years, Indiana leaders have jumpstarted conversations about mental health crises but, for one Central Indiana mayor, more could be done to dedicate state dollars to the cause.

"I appreciate state leaders talking about erasing the stigma ... (but) I think I was desiring to see more. I want to see something in place to incentivize cities and towns across the state to really invest," Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen said in an interview with the Indiana Capital Chronicle. "That's why I decided, 'Well, if no one else is going to run with it, then I'm going to.'"

To tackle Indiana's burgeoning mental health crisis, Jensen is pushing the General Assembly to establish the Indiana Community Cares Initiative, a grant program to shore up local paramedicine programs that proactively address issues in their communities.

As an example of the proposal in action, Jensen points to his community's NobleACT, which launched in February of 2020 and took on an outsized role during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We started with one officer, Ben Lugar, and one therapy canine, Luna," Jensen said of the program, which now has two other specially trained dogs, four other employees and will soon hire a licensed clinical social worker. "They have been an instrumental part of our public safety outreach."

The donor-funded dogs — Luna, Carbon and Sadie — can comfort children on a domestic violence call as law enforcement addresses their parents or connect with a suicidal veteran, helping community members process their emotions.

Sadie works specifically with the city's law enforcement, a career with high rates of substance abuse, suicide and domestic violence, so those officers can address their own mental health.

"It's just a little way that shows... the state has a role to play in this too," Jensen said. "Let's move beyond erasing the stigma and actually put a program in place that saves lives."

Mental health is personal

The COVID-19 pandemic itself came with

many surprises, exacerbating existing shortfalls in child care, learning disparities and addiction supports. But the drag on mental health is ongoing and unprecedented, costing billions in unrealized economic potential.

After a particularly harrowing week in Noblesville, where suicides spiked and overtook COVID-19 deaths in April of 2020, Jensen himself was struggling like many Hamilton County residents. A local therapist, Kristen Dale, approached Jensen and offered to do a Facebook Live video of a therapy session.

Jensen's first reaction was "hell no," but after some reflection he concluded that takeaway was "selfish."

"I probably overshare way too much but it's easier to live if you just tell everybody your stuff. And everybody's got stuff so I did it," Jensen said. "We talked about the emotions around that, the scariness of having three little kids at the time and all of our kids are at home and my wife's teaching online and what does that look like."

The first video got 2,000 views and the moment of vulnerability from a "white, male Republican in Central Indiana" inspired others to reach out to Jensen about their struggles, especially older generations unaccustomed to addressing their own mental health.

"Over any road I build or job I helped create, if I can help save a life or lead people to a better life ... I can walk away from this job someday feeling like I've done something to better my community," said Jensen, who still hosts Facebook Live therapy sessions on "Mental Health Mondays."

Getting the bill across the finish line

Jensen recognized the unusualness of a mayor pushing state legislation but has found a champion in Sen. Scott Baldwin, a Noblesville Republican, who agreed to author the proposal.

Baldwin declined an interview with the Indiana Capital Chronicle, saying details hadn't yet been fully worked out but that he'd speak once he had more information.

However, he added that he had a passion for expanding veteran resources to combat PTSD and suicide — the latter of which

received a \$1-million-line item in the last biennial budget.

"As a retired police officer, I've seen firsthand the challenges of untreated mental health in our communities. The success of Noblesville's NobleACT program underscores the need for proactive approaches like the Indiana Community Cares Initiative," Baldwin said in an earlier release. "I'm committed to advancing this vital initiative, enabling Indiana to partner with communities in an effort to ensure every Hoosier receives the support they deserve."

The current proposal suggests a three-year sunset with grants up to \$150,000, but Jensen emphasized the need for local flexibility.

"The idea is that, ultimately, these programs should see such great success that they should pay for themselves over time by the reduction of 911 calls," Jensen said. "But we'll give you up to \$150,000 to place additional personnel within your department, that could be a licensed clinical social worker or that could be a public therapy canine."

"We are going to try to keep the language as broad as possible in order to let communities decide what they need in their space," he continued.

Previously, Jensen interned at the Statehouse and worked under former Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman. He currently serves as the chair of the Accelerate Indiana Municipalities Legislative Committee — all experiences that will help him navigate this proposal.

Talking through the grant process with the Family and Social Services Administration, for example, would prepare the agency for such a duty and potentially win their support for such legislation.

And, from beginning to end, incorporating data will be paramount.

"I would love to look ahead, ten years from now and be able to pull the data from the Indiana Community Cares database to show how many communities have adopted it ... how many people have been served," Jensen said.

Advice for others

This form of "proactive paramedicine" tries to identify and assess a community's most vulner-

able, relying heavily on a network of people who understand the area and its inhabitants.

For a city like Noblesville, public safety comprises just over 50% of their annual operating budget of roughly \$120 million. Department responsibilities have evolved over time from just fires and speeding tickets to include calls dealing with mental health crises, homelessness and drug overdoses.

Rather, the slips, trips and falls of senior citizens living at home independently are making up a "huge proportion" of 911 calls, Jensen said.

"I knew when we came into office, we needed to look at public safety completely differently," Jensen said.

For another locality looking to implement such a program, Jensen says to start with the data on mental health and public safety, such as pulling call data on 911 services.

"That's going to help tell your story going forward as to why this need is there," Jensen said.

Secondly, building those relationships with first responders and healthcare providers to identify hurdles and what's needed.

Additionally, calls initially increased in Noblesville after they launched and people began recognizing the importance of mental health support, Jensen said.

The work of Community Cares would build upon what legislators have done in the past, such as 2023's effort to codify and fund 988 suicide hotline services. But moving forward means incorporating mental health services into public safety's overall, ongoing plan and not just a spurt of temporary funding.

"I think the stigma is well on its way to being erased, but now we have to put real boots on the ground and sometimes that's where government gets hung up," Jensen said.

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ourselves until food no longer looked good, it was time for the children to enjoy games and giggles, while the women cleared away the 'wreck' and the men sat around the pot-bellied stove telling tall tales. Late in the afternoon it was time for fond goodbyes and 'God be with you till we meet again's' all around, after which the families departed for their respective homes...tired but happy.

"Now nearly eighty years later I sit alone by my window, looking out over God's wonderful

world, remembering those never to be forgotten Thanksgiving days of yesteryear, when I was just a child. And as twilight falls, I nod and finally fall asleep to relive in dreams those golden days of yesteryear when I was young."

Very special memories from a great lady... Thank you, Mabel

- 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.

Windy Wilson Talks Turkey



Slim Randles
Home Country

Alphonse Wilson here, you know ... yore pal Windy? And I'm here to set the record

straight, once and forever more, on turkeys.

Now for those folks out there who think a turkey is something hot and brown and tasty and is full of stuffing, this here'll come as a shock. You see, before he becomes a tasteful delicacy, the turkey is a big ol' bird who lives in the woods, or on a farm, and ain't too awful smart, neither. Iffen a turkey was smart, we'd probably have to eat vegetables for Thanksgiving. Now that's a fact. Truth be told, if you had a big ol' dial thingie with Alfred Linestein on one end of the smart meter ... you know, like to measure who is the intellectual prairie fire and who ain't? ... wellsir, at the

very other end of that dial you'd have a flat brown rock, and then, 'way off in the distance ... the other side of the rock, there'd be a turkey.

And that there turkey'd be there all by hisself, too. So you might think he'd get kinda lonesome out there all solitaried, right? Nossir. That's 'cause he ain't smart enough to get lonesome.

Ain't but two things a turkey can do proper, folks. Just two, and you can take this to the blank, too. For one thing, he companionizes right well with cranberry sauce twice or once a year. Yes he does. And for another? Well, he just might make a likely candidate for the United States Congress of America!

And you can tell 'em I said so.

-This year, disguise your turkey as something that doesn't taste as good. You know, like a porcupine, or squash. Ideas at www.simpleeverydaymom.com.

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