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➔ TODAY'S VERSE
Romans 12:1 "Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship." (NASB)

➔ FACES OF MONTGOMERY
People who call our community their own.



Santa and The Paper are ready for the season. The Paper is giving away free tickets to the Christmas Gift + Hobby Show at the Indiana State Fairgrounds, and Santa, aka Gary Behling, just snagged a couple! Want to win your own? Just take a selfie of you with our front page (online or print) and e-mail it to news@thepaper24-7.com. Once you see your smiling face on our front page, you've won! Be sure to include your name and phone number - and hey, if you'd like to say something nice about The Paper, we wouldn't mind!

➔ THREE THINGS You Should Know:

1 Join our community for the Christmas Parade in Historic Downtown Crawfordsville on Sunday at 2 pm!! We can't wait to see your smiling faces!

2 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.

3 Looking for something to do on Dec. 9? Then you might want to head over to Russellville for the Second Annual Russellville Small Business Market Holiday Showcase. Things kick off at 10 a.m. and wrap up around 4 p.m. There will be more than 50 vendors offering a variety of items, as well as plenty of things to do for both grown-ups and little ones. Santa will even make an appearance and photo prints will be available for a low price.

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CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA WWW.THEPAPER24-7.COM

Butch Takes Care of a Few Problems....



BUTCH DALE
Columnist

My cell phone kicked the bucket last month. I was ecstatic. No more calls. No more texts. No more searching the house to see where I had set it down. No interruptions while sitting on the bathroom throne. No more damn fraud phone calls while taking a nap. Just peace and quiet. That settles that! Until my dear wife reminded me that she might have to call me during an emergency...such as every Friday evening when we are buying groceries, each pushing a cart and going our separate ways. "Where are you at? Are you almost done? Did you get the butter? You didn't forget the dog food, did you? I'll meet you up front in five minutes." To her, this is an emergency call.

and videos on it, you can shop on it, you can obtain directions, you can do lots of things with a smartphone." "First of all, I don't even like to text. Secondly, I have thousands of photos and videos...stored right up here in my tiny little brain. Furthermore, I am not buying anything by using a phone because I do not want anyone stealing my credit card numbers, bank information, or personal information. And as you know, men don't need directions or a map. Lastly, a flip phone is a lot smaller, and fits perfectly in my front pocket." When I told the AT&T guy the same thing, he agreed with me. "Well, Mr. Dale, flip phones are actually making a comeback. Here's your new one...\$79.00" Case closed. While my wife is buying Little Debbie's on aisle six, she can continue to make those "emergency" calls to me while I am examining the fiber content of cereal on aisle seven.... "Yes, dear, I did not forget the dog food!"

you want me to put it in for you?".... "Sure, that would be great!" And in a few seconds, she removed the back of the watch, discarded the old battery, and placed the new one inside. But then...trouble. After several tries, the back would not snap back into place. "I'll have to get the watch guy. He's an expert on this." Well, the "watch guy" looked like he may have just been released on parole or escaped from an insane asylum. A half hour later... "Sorry, dude, I just can't figure it out. Do you still want to buy the new battery?" ... "I guess so. I'll try it myself when I get home." Back home, standing at my workbench, I tried for an hour to press, push, clamp, fasten, impel, propel, shove, drive, force, and squeeze the back of the watch into position. My wife, watching TV in the front room, heard me let out few select curse words. Finally exasperated, I did what every skilled watch repairman would do. I gently laid the watch face down, inserted the battery, delicately placed the back of the watch into position...and then hit the freaking thing with a ballpeen hammer. It closed... and started ticking again... GOOD AS NEW! Except the

➔ See BUTCH Page A4

Lily Yates Completes CDPL Program



Photo courtesy of CDPL

Lily Vi Yates, age 4, has completed the Crawfordsville District Public Library program "1000 Books Before Kindergarten". She is the daughter of Nikki Yates. Lily Vi's favorite book is You Get What You Get by Julie Gassman. Mom said, "Thank you to the library for encouraging reading and goal completion. Lily Vi has become so goal oriented wanting to now finish 5,000 books. When asked why she loves reading she says "the pictures are the best!"

Republican Caucus Held For County Clerk Vacancy

Leah Denbo has been elected to serve as the next County Clerk following a Montgomery County Republican Central Committee caucus on Tuesday. She will take over for Karyn Douglas, who submitted her resignation following her election for Crawfordsville City Clerk Treasurer in November's General Election.

Denbo, who was the only candidate to file for the upcoming vacancy, will take office January 1 and complete the final year of Douglas's term. Denbo has worked in the County Clerk's Office since August 2012 in various capacities, including her most recent role as Chief Deputy. "I am cross-trained in all aspects of the office," Denbo said. "With my knowledge and skillset, I believe this will be a smooth transition for the County Clerk's office." Douglas's resignation takes effect December 31. She will be sworn in as Crawfordsville City Clerk Treasurer on January 1.

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:48 a.m.
SET: 5:24 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 53 °F
Low: 43 °F



Today is...
• Rosa Parks Day
• National Cookie Butter Day
• World AIDS Day



What Happened On This Day

- 1943 Tehran Conference ends. The Tehran Conference between the US, the UK, and the Soviet Union ended with the three countries deciding to open up a second front against Germany in France, and the Soviet Union agreeing to declare war against Japan.
- 1919 Nancy Astor becomes to the first woman to join the British House of Commons. Nancy Witcher Langhorne also known as Nancy Astor became the first woman to join the British House of Commons.
- 1918 Kingdom of Iceland established. The Kingdom of Iceland was established with the signing of the Act of Union with Denmark.



- Births On This Day**
- 1970 Sarah Silverman American comedian, actress, singer
 - 1945 Bette Midler American singer-songwriter, producer, actress

- Deaths On This Day**
- 1947 Aleister Crowley English magician, author
 - 1135 Henry I of England

➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

See your dentist regularly - dental disease can contribute to a number of health problems like heart disease. Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Paper and online at www.thepaper24-7.com.



➔ INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

Kenny Thompson.....A3
Classifieds.....A3
Dick Wolfsie.....A4

➔ OBITUARIES

Norma Carrol (Newell) Rooze

➔ THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Community Forum:

Mayor Barton will be hosting his December Community Forum on Thursday, December 14th from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Mayor's Office. This will be the Mayor's 127th community forum. This event is open to the public to come ask questions, discuss concerns, and learn more about anything regarding the city.

➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

"I believe . . . I believe . . . It's silly, but I believe."
-Susan, Miracle on 34th Street

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

What goes Ho Ho Whoosh, Ho Ho Whoosh?
Santa going through a revolving door!



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13 WTHR **7 DAY FORECAST**

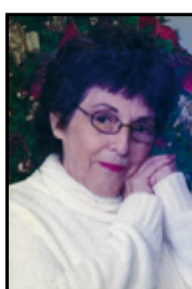
54 WINDY, MILD THU	43/53 RAINY FRI	42/50 CLOUDY SAT	39/48 SCATTERED SHOWERS, BRISK SUN	37/45 MIXED SHOWERS POSSIBLE MON	32/43 CLOUDY TUE	28/38 CLOUDY, CHILLY WED
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OBITUARIES

Norma Carrol (Newell) Rooze

February 11, 1937, Sunday, November 26

Norma Carrol (Newell) Rooze 86 went home to her Lord and Savior on November 26th. Norma was born February 11, 1937 at Bainbridge, Indiana to Glenn and Margaret (Moody) Newell.



Norma was a graduate of Waveland High School in 1955. She attended Freedom Baptist Church where she was baptized. She married Philip Wayne Rooze on November 13, 1955. She spent the majority of her life as a homemaker raising their five children and doting on her grandchildren and great-grandchildren every chance she got. She enjoyed photography, sewing, and gardening.

She is survived by her husband Wayne, sons Gary (Ellen), Greg, and Phillip (Leslie) and daughters Nancy (Jim) and Darla (Rod). She is also survived by grandchildren Doug, Stephanie, Dan (Elizabeth), Michael, David (Courtney), Nathan, Angela (Trey), Waylon, and Maggie; great grandchildren Owen, Lucas, Wyatt, and Evelyn. She is survived by 2 sisters Loretta Seybold and Mary Ann Davis.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers Bill and Daryl Newell and her sister Shirley Derrington.

Honoring Norma's wishes, cremation was chosen. A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, December 16th, at The Vine Church located at 1004 Wayne Avenue. Visitation will begin at 10:00 followed by the celebration of life at 12:00.

Donations in Norma's memory may be made to Riley's Hospital for Children, 308 Meridian St. Suite 200, Indianapolis, IN 46204-3509.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS AND ALL OTHER PERSONS AFFECTED OF ADOPTION AND CONTENT OF RESOLUTIONS OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS ON RESOLUTIONS

Taxpayers of the Montgomery County Redevelopment District, and all other persons affected hereby, are notified that the Montgomery County Redevelopment Commission ("Commission"), on February 17, 2010, adopt a declaratory resolution, as amended on October 12, 2011 (collectively, as amended, "Declaratory Resolution"), establishing the Nucor Road Economic Development Area ("Area") and the Nucor Road Economic Development Allocation Area ("Original Allocation Area"), and the Declaratory Resolution was confirmed by a confirmatory resolution adopted on March 31, 2010, as amended on November 8, 2011 (collectively, as amended, with the Declaratory Resolution, the "Area Resolution").

The Area Resolution approved the Economic Development Plan, as amended (collectively, as amended, "Original Plan"), which Original Plan contained specific recommendations for economic development in the Area.

On November 8, 2023 the Commission adopted resolutions amending the Area Resolution and the Original Plan (collectively, "Amending Declaratory Resolutions") to, if confirmed: (A) (i) reduce the Original Allocation Area by removing the Nucor Towers Parcels (as defined in the Amending Declaratory Resolutions) from the Original Allocation and designating the Nucor Towers Parcels as a new tax allocation area designated as the Nucor Towers Allocation Area; (ii) designate Nucor Corporation, d/b/a Nucor Towers & Structures as a "designated taxpayer" for purposes of capturing increases in depreciable personal property assessed value; and (iii) add the Nucor Towers Project (as defined in the Amending Declaratory Resolutions) to the Original Plan; (B) (i) further reduce the Original Allocation Area by removing the Nucor Coatings Parcels (as defined in the Amending Declaratory Resolutions) and combining the Nucor Coatings Parcels into one new parcel designated as Parcel No. 54-10-25-200-003.999-025 ("Nucor Coatings Property") from the Original Allocation Area and designating the Nucor Coatings Property as a new tax allocation area designated as the Nucor Coatings Allocation Area; (ii) designate Nucor Corporation, d/b/a Nucor Coatings, as a "designated taxpayer" for purposes of capturing increases in depreciable personal property assessed value; and (iii) add the Nucor Coatings Project (as defined in the Amending Declaratory Resolutions) to the Original Plan; and (C) (i) further reduce the Original Allocation Area by removing the Nucor 2023 Parcels (as defined in the Amending Declaratory Resolutions) from the Original Allocation Area and designating the Nucor 2023 Parcels as a new tax allocation area designated as the "Nucor 2023 Allocation Area"; (ii) remove Nucor Corporation as a designated taxpayer in the Original Allocation Area with a base assessment date of March 1, 2010 and designate Nucor Corporation, as a "designated taxpayer" for purposes of capturing increases in depreciable personal property assessed value in the Nucor 2023 Allocation Area with a base assessment date of January 1, 2023; and (iii) add the Nucor 2023 Project (as defined in the Amending Declaratory Resolutions) to the Original Plan.

The Amending Declaratory Resolutions and supporting data, including maps of the Original Allocation Area, the Nucor Towers Allocation Area, the Nucor Coatings Allocation Area and the Nucor 2023 Allocation Area have been prepared and can be inspected at the office of the Department of Redevelopment, 100 Main Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Notice is further given that the Commission on December 13, 2023, at the hour of 1:00 p.m., local time, at the Montgomery County Government Center, Community Meeting Room, 1580 Constitution Way, Crawfordsville, Indiana, will receive and hear remonstrances from persons interested in or affected by the proceedings pertaining to the Amending Declaratory Resolutions and will determine the public utility and benefit of such actions. At the time fixed for the hearings or at any time prior thereto any person interested in the proceedings may file a written remonstrance with the Secretary of the Commission in the Department of Redevelopment, Attention: Tom Klein, County Administrator, 1580 Constitution Way, Crawfordsville, Indiana. At such hearings, which may be adjourned from time to time, the Commission will hear all persons interested in the proceedings and all remonstrances that have been filed. After considering this evidence, the Commission will take final action by either confirming, modifying and confirming, or rescinding the Amending Declaratory Resolutions.

Dated: December 1, 2023.
 MONTGOMERY COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
 PL4780 12/1 11 hspaxjp

31 Indiana Community Projects Approved In First Round Of Federal Government Cyber Security Grant Program

Governor Eric J. Holcomb announced today that Indiana was one of the first states awarded funding from the federal government's State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) to support statewide cybersecurity programs. The first round of local projects that support cybersecurity improvements were approved to receive a portion of a \$20 million grant program that Indiana was awarded in 2022.

"The State of Indiana is doing its due diligence to maintain the highest level of cyber security necessary to protect Hoosier data," Gov. Holcomb said. "Indiana is committed to leading the way by improving its cybersecurity posture and protecting our critical digital infrastructure."

The Indiana Office

of Technology and its partner, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, which respectively chair and co-chair, Indiana's SLCGP Committee, have received federal approval for the state and local cybersecurity plan, and are actively working to implement the strategy.

The federal government created the SLCGP program through the Investment Infrastructure and Jobs Act (2021) and tasked the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) to deliver the appropriated financial assistance to state and local governments to help them improve their cybersecurity posture.

Indiana's SLCGP Planning Committee, comprised of staff from state and local government, higher education

and related association partners, voted to support the first round of projects to purchase cybersecurity protection for communities around the state.

This project is the first of many steps already taken to help reduce cyberattacks and protect Indiana's digital services.

At Gov. Holcomb's direction in prioritizing cybersecurity statewide, IOT has been traveling the state meeting with community leaders to learn about the landscape of cybersecurity resources and policies in local government, participating in nearly 100 listening sessions or conferences. IOT is leading an increased effort to partner state and local resources to jointly improve cybersecurity across all levels of government through policies and free or discounted

services. Examples include cybersecurity risk assessments, cybersecurity awareness training, hosted websites, secure email and office productivity suite.

Hundreds of local governments are already taking advantage of these services, providing immense value for Hoosier taxpayers. Through the no-cost cybersecurity awareness training for local government staff, IOT has provided more than \$500,000 in value for local government.

To keep local government informed about new programs or SLCGP funding opportunities, IOT hosts a monthly townhall. Details on the townhall meetings, as well as additional cybersecurity and digital government tools are available at <https://www.in.gov/iot/local-government-services/>.

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Indiana Teachers Union Presses Reticent State Lawmakers To Reopen Budget In 2024 Session

ISTA's president said millions more are needed for the school funding formula, textbooks and teacher retention.

By Casey Smith
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Indiana's largest teacher's union is calling for better collective bargaining, increased pay for support staff and more say over curriculum in the upcoming legislative session.

Indiana State Teachers Association (ISTA) President Keith Gambill said Tuesday that Hoosier educators are also seeking new social and emotional learning support for students.

"These priorities ... reflect what educators need to create better learning environments for their students, and better working environments for all educators," Gambill said during a news conference, where he released the union's 2024 legislative priorities.

The General Assembly reconvenes Jan. 8. Although Republican legislative leaders have said they do not plan to reopen the state budget during the short session, ISTA's latest agenda includes multiple funding requests that total at least \$540 million.

More money for traditional public education

ISTA will advocate for a \$500 million increase to basic tuition support for traditional public schools in the 2025 fiscal year — the second year covered by Indiana's current biennial budget. Gambill said that amounts to a boost of 7.98% compared to what schools are currently on track to receive.

Under current law, K-12 public schools are projected to see average per student funding increases of 1.7% next year.

"While we recognize the 2024 legislative session is not a budget year, we are calling on legislators to reopen the budget to fix several inadequacies that require immediate attention," he said. "If we want Indiana to be a leader in the region or country, we're going to have to do right by our schools."

He emphasized, too, that the legislature needs to earmark more money in the second year of the biennium to "fully fund" the cost of textbooks and curricular materials.

State lawmakers dedicated \$160 million in the new state budget to eliminate textbook and curriculum fees, starting with the 2023-24 academic year. While the new law

was championed by state officials, school districts are still on the hook to pay for those materials.

The ISTA leader said the union is aware of "several" school districts that are "concerned" about their ability to pay for textbooks in the 2024-25 school year. Gambill said more data needs to be collected before ISTA can recommend an exact dollar for curricular fees.

"If schools are forced to either make changes in staffing or other programming in order to fully fund the textbooks, then we're not getting the best for our students," he said. "It shouldn't be upon them — and not born on the backs of school employees — to make that happen."

Gambill said while charter and voucher schools benefited from significant funding boosts in the 2023 session, traditional public schools still lack "appropriate" appropriations.

"We have over 90% of all Hoosier families send their children to a traditional public school, and if you look at the way that that funding was distributed this past year, that was not equal, especially when you look at the amount that was increased for voucher schools," he said.

ISTA is also continuing to lobby for professional pay benefits and support for parent educators, bus drivers, food service workers and other "vital support staff." Gambill said Indiana also "must recognize the commitment of our retired teachers and public employees" by giving a 2% cost of living adjustment for Indiana's retired educators.

"We certainly know that the state has the surplus available," he continued. But he said ISTA has not outlined a specific location in the budget for lawmakers to draw on the requested dollars.

Better support systems for students

To address ongoing gaps in social and emotional learning support for students, Gambill said the union is proposing a three-year pilot program focusing on student wellbeing. The ask comes with a \$20 million annual price tag.

The pilot seeks to reduce student-to-staff ratios by hiring additional guidance counselors, social workers and school psychologists. The initiative would span from elementary to high

school and involve 30 school districts. Gambill said the goal is to address physical and mental health issues — and if successful — could later be applied statewide.

ISTA is further seeking to restore discipline as a mandatory discussion item, or under restored collective bargaining rights. Gambill said doing so would help teachers better address student disciplinary issues that have become more common since the pandemic.

In recent years, the Republican legislature has rolled back collective bargaining rights.

To improve student discipline, the union also called for statewide class size data to be gathered, and for a grant program to be created to hire additional teachers. Gambill said ISTA is also seeking to establish a task force to improve student behavior.

After a slew of so-called "culture war" issues in the 2023 session precipitated into new laws — like those concerning the use of pronouns in classrooms and the ability for Hoosiers to challenge books in school libraries — Gambill said it's not fully clear how teachers have been affected.

"It's a little bit different from school district to school district as to how they're interpreting the law and in which ways they're moving forward. We're still learning from that," he said. "But we also know that we have to continue to address the social-emotional welfare of our students, and we believe that in doing so, that will have an impact in other areas such as absenteeism and behavior within the classrooms."

Gambill said educators are hoping "those types" of hot-button bills don't return in 2024.

"The challenge really has not been with our parents at large. The challenge has been those who have preconceived notions of what is actually occurring in the classrooms, oftentimes without having a student attending the class," Gambill noted. "When you look at the school communities, and the engagement with parents in the classrooms, and when we're speaking directly about the parents who have students attending the classes, those connections have been and remain very strong."

Bargaining and teacher recruitment

More broadly, the teachers union is continuing to press for restored and expand collective bargaining rights, in addition to mandatory discussion.

Lawmakers stripped Hoosier educators of the right to collectively bargain over working conditions like class sizes and schedules under a 2011 law. The topics that teachers can currently bargain over during the fall bargaining window are salaries, wages and benefits, including pay increases.

Gambill said ISTA's membership is calling on policymakers to allow teachers to negotiate working hours, influence and determine class size and caseloads, and provide input on textbooks, teaching methods and student support.

Educators should also "have the freedom to teach accurate, age-appropriate lessons about America, from our greatest triumphs to our darkest moments," according to ISTA's legislative agenda.

Recruitment and retention of educators of color will additionally require more state funding, Gambill said.

"Students should not have to look much further than their own classes to find mentors or materials with roots in their own community. Our public schools should reflect the cultural diversity and identity of the communities they serve," he said.

As part of that effort, ISTA wants to see more paraprofessionals become licensed teachers. Enhanced mentoring programs for educators of color and increasing funding for professional development "with a focus on Black, Indigenous and all educators of color" will also help, Gambill said.

The union also hopes lawmakers will establish a statewide commission to address diversity in staffing and support pipelines to teach.

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Grounds For A Law Suit



DICK WOLFSIE
Funny Bone

The other day my wife and I stopped at a Panera's for a quick bowl of soup. "Do you want an apple with that or an apple?" said the cashier.

I was confused, but the cashier explained that they were out of rolls and that little joke seemed to amuse the customers. I was not amused. You can't dunk an apple in your last drop of creamy tomato soup. I wanted a hunk of sour dough bread. Minutes later, a manager came over and said they just found a piece. I probably should have asked exactly where they found it. I'm not into gluten-free, but I'm a big fan of germ-free.

A similar thing happened to me at a Starbucks many years ago. I walked into one of their coffee shops, the one on the corner of whatever street I was on and asked for a cup of coffee. The clerk looked a little sheepish and said:

"I'm sorry for the inconvenience, but we are presently out of coffee."

There was a glimmer of hope in the word "presently," suggesting that this was not a permanent state of affairs. I'm no Wharton School MBA, but being out of java could impact profits.

He stared at me for about six seconds, which in the world of high-octane caffeine is a creepy amount of time to have eye contact. He explained that they needed to make a fresh pot, which would have been a totally acceptable justification if I had stopped at June Cleaver's unexpectedly before the Beave got home from school.

The grumpy old man in me started to percolate.

At the time, nothing like this had ever happened before. Never had the clerk at Staples said, "Sorry, but we're out of, um, staples." Never had the woman at Barnes and Noble ever said, "I'm

sorry, sir, we have no books today, but we are printing up some fresh ones even as we speak." And a Panera's would never run out of bread. Or so I thought.

"Do you only make a pot at a time?" I asked the barista.

"Yes, that's our new approach to delicious coffee. We brew it fresh when we need it. And because of you, we need it."

"Okay, I don't have a brain like Einstein's (Although they ran out of coffee, once too), but it seems to me if the one pot is getting low, you could start another pot so when people like me come in and desperately need an over-priced libation, it's ready to go."

"Not a bad idea, sir. Let me check our new employee manual about that. In the meantime, would you like a scone?"

"Were they baked today?"

"Oh, I'm not sure, but the good news is that they can't get any harder than when they are fresh."

I was very sleepy and spacey, my normal state before purchasing a hot cup of coffee. I needed a pick-me-up. I made my way down the street to a sweets shop.

"I'd like a coffee ice cream cone," I told the young man behind the counter.

"Sir, I'm sorry, but we don't have any ice cream."

"How can you stay in business without having any ice cream?"

"Because this is Wild Birds Unlimited."

That never happened, of course, but the story is based on an old joke that I have always wanted to work into a column.

Well, that's it for this week. I'm a writer, and guess what? I am out of words.

- Dick Wolfsie spent his career sharing his humor, stories and video essays on television, radio and in newspapers. His columns appear weekly in The Paper of Montgomery County. E-mail Dick at Wolfsie@aol.com.

BUTCH

From Page A1

glass watch face has a crack in it. Maybe Santa can bring me a new Timex for Christmas.

Problems continued. I made my monthly payment for some land we purchased a few years ago. While waiting for the receipt to be printed, I spied a candy dish on the counter...containing peppermint Life-Savers. I stuck three in my pocket. Hey, why not... it's the least they can do for me forking over \$848 each month. On the drive back home, I popped a Life-Saver into my mouth. No...just could not wait for it to dissolve. Had to bite it. Chipped off a piece of my front tooth. Later that evening after work, I told my wife, who stated unequivocally, "That's gonna cost you at the dentist's office." I had another idea. But I decided to wait until the next morning when she had left for work. Found my Dremel

tool, inserted the little grinding wheel, tightened it up with a wrench, said a little prayer...Yep, in a few seconds, Butch Dale, DDS-TCW (Doctor of Dental Surgery-The Cheap Way), had ground off the bottom of the chipped front tooth. Maybe no one will notice that it's a little shorter than the one next to it. But thankfully, when I had my dentist fill a cavity the next week, he ground off the other tooth to make both look even. His assistant, who was laughing, told me that she had heard of a few crazy people using a Dremel grinder tool on their teeth, but she had never actually met such a person. Thanks...I think.

-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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