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# The Paper

## OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery County's oldest locally owned independent newspaper

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CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA

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**BTN** By The Numbers, a look at what's in the news . . . by the numbers. These are just numbers, not suggestions that they mean more or less than what they are. We do not suggest that one number is connected to another. These are simply facts with no extraneous details, bias or slanted reporting. To borrow (and perhaps mangle a bit) a quote from legendary fictional detective Joe Friday, it's just the numbers, ma'am!

### The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset  
RISE: 7:51 a.m.  
SET: 5:23 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures  
High: 44 °F  
Low: 31 °F



Today is...

- National Cookie Day
- National Dice Day
- Walt Disney Day



What Happened On This Day

- 1991 Pan Am ceases operations. The Pan American World Airways, the largest airline in the United States began operations in October 1927.
- 1978 Dianne Feinstein became the first female mayor of San Francisco. A United States Senator from California, Feinstein became the 38th mayor of San Francisco after the murder of George Moscone.
- 1791 First Sunday paper published. The Observer, a British newspaper became the first newspaper in the world to be published and read on a Sunday.



Births On This Day

- 1949 Jeff Bridges American actor, singer, producer
- 1923 Charles Keating American lawyer, businessman

Deaths On This Day

- 1976 Benjamin Britten English composer, conductor, pianist
- 1893 John Tyndall British physicist

### TODAY'S VERSE

Revelation 1:8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

### FACES OF MONTGOMERY

People who call our community their own.



One of our roving photographers caught Cameron and Cooper outside and having fun and the boys were nice enough to offer a smile! Got a great photo of your loved one? E-mail it to [news@thepaper24-7.com](mailto:news@thepaper24-7.com) along with the pertinent info (and your contact information so we can reach you if we have questions).

### THREE THINGS You Should Know:

**1** 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.

**2** Congressman Jim Baird released the following statement after voting against expelling former Congressman George Santos from the U.S. House of Representatives. "Only two other Members of Congress have been expelled since the Civil War. In both cases, each Member was convicted of a crime. Congressman Santos' pattern of deception is incredibly concerning but it is a mistake to remove him before he's received due process," said Rep. Baird. "In Congress, transparency and honesty should be a priority. But removing a Member of the House before they've been afforded due process sets a dangerous precedent for Congress and the country." Former Congressman Santos was expelled from the U.S. House of Representatives by a vote of 311-114, with two members voting present.

**3** Monroe Lake will once again kick off the new year with its First Day Trail Run and Walk at Fairfax State Recreation Area in Bloomington, on Monday, Jan. 1 at 3:30 p.m. This is an untimed, noncompetitive run/walk. Participants complete a 3.7-mile, 2.9-mile, or 1.3-mile course before ringing in the new year by tapping the bell as they cross the finish line. Advance registration is \$15 per person and available online only through Dec. 30 at [bit.ly/monroefirstday](http://bit.ly/monroefirstday). Same-day registration, cash or check only, will be available at the Bay View Shelter inside Fairfax SRA from 2:15 to 3:15 p.m.

## \$109 Million

Following major tax cuts, taxpayers are projected to save \$109 million in property-tax relief and more than \$100 million in income-tax relief in 2024 alone.

## 9,000 Seniors

A new law expands property-tax deduction and property-tax credit eligibility for senior-citizen homeowners, so an estimated 9,000 more seniors can be eligible for Indiana's existing over-65 homestead deduction and credit.

## \$5 Million

The new 2024-25 state budget allocates \$5 million for homelessness prevention grants to help those struggling to keep their homes and \$75 million for the Residential Housing Infrastructure Assistance Program to spur housing development in Indiana communities. Hoosiers should never live without a roof over their head.

## 43 Percent Decrease

CenterPoint Energy's customers in central and northern Indiana will see a decrease on their monthly Budget Bills beginning this month. Due to stable weather and a decrease in energy costs, natural gas customers will see a 43% decrease in their monthly bills. For the average Budget Bill customer, this will result in a reduction of approximately \$50 per month.

## 12.6 Percent Food Insecurity

Stock the Trailer is a community-wide food drive to help meet the needs of those in our community. We understand that there are many locally that are in need of food items, as our own local FISH Food Pantry reports that on average they have 50-60 visitors a day. We also know that Montgomery County's food insecurity rate is 12.6%, which is 15.6% higher than the national average. All food items collected during the week of the fair will stay local and be donated to Montgomery County food banks. At the end of fair week, we will weigh the food items donated and report that number to representatives at Farm Credit Mid-America. There will be cash prizes for counties that place 1st-3rd.

## \$21,240

At age 62, you are subject to Social Security's "earnings test" which limits how much you can earn while collecting early Social Security benefits. The 2023 earnings limit is \$21,240 and, if that is exceeded, SS will take away \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit.

## \$29 Million

Capping interest rates on Indiana "payday" loans at 36% Annual Percentage Rate (APR) could have saved Hoosier borrowers more than \$26 million in 2021, according to a recent analysis released by the Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute. Loans during that period averaged just \$386 but payday lenders collected over \$29 million in finance charges.

## More Than \$200 Million

Let's look at those who make government function – those behind the scenes. On the county side of the coin, they refer to job positions having a 'value.' I love the description that defines a job classification system to provide an equitable pay structure for county and city employees – the many individuals who handle payroll, insurance and taxes. More than \$200 million dollars pass through the books between the city and county monies. Several of our elected officials want to marginalize the duties held primarily by women.

### TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Ear wax is normal. If you must, clean out ear wax with an over-the-counter ear wax removal kit, not a cotton swab. Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Catch his column each week in *The Paper* and online at [www.thepaper24-7.com](http://www.thepaper24-7.com).



### INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

Casey Williams.....A3  
Classifieds.....A3  
Carrie Classon.....A4

### THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Say Cheese!

Are you a proud parent or grandparent? Got a great photo of your loved one? E-mail it to [news@thepaper24-7.com](mailto:news@thepaper24-7.com) along with the pertinent info (and your contact information so we can reach you if we have questions). C'mon, let's show off as many bright and smiling faces as we can and make clear exactly why Montgomery County is such a great place to raise a family!

### TODAY'S QUOTE

"May you never be too grown up to search the skies on Christmas Eve."  
-Unknown

### TODAY'S JOKE

Why does Santa have three garden?  
It's so he can Hoe, Hoe, Hoe!

### OBITUARIES

JUNE M. MCCLELLAN

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



The Paper OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

7 DAY FORECAST

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
31/44 MAINLY DRY	31/44 WET SNOW TO SLEET	32/42 CHILY AND DRY	32/52 BREEZY	43/56 RAIN LATE DAY	45/53 RAIN LIKELY	34/43 MUCH COOLER

## OBITUARIES

### June M. McClellan

June 3, 1945, Thursday, November 30, 2023

June M. McClellan, age 78, of Crawfordsville, passed away on Thursday, November 30, 2023 at Franciscan Health Crawfordsville. She was born on Antioch Hill in Casey County, KY on June 3, 1945 to the late Richard and Lorene (Sallee) Baldock. June married Jerry Joe McClellan on July 21, 1979 in Crawfordsville, spending 39 years together until his passing in 2018.



June worked at Raybestos for over 35 years, retiring in 2006. After retirement she worked at Wendy's until 2016. She enjoyed playing weekly Bingo at the Park and Rec and flower gardening. June's greatest joy in life was her family. She will be missed by her darling cat, Socks.

June is survived by her 4 children, Anita (Mike) Eyer, Dale (Carol) Hayes, Rusty (Marcy) Hayes and Rhonda (Anthony) Smith; 8 grandchildren; Lyndsie (Donnie) Farrow, Kayla (Chris) Barnes, David Barney, Vanessa (Chris) Rische, Kiersten (Austin) Long, Nathan (Heather) Hayes, Cody (Skye) Smith, Brieana (Joe Zuk) Smith; 15 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Jerry; her sisters, Nellie Dowell, Elizabeth Grider and Callie Baldock and her brother, Bud Baldock.

Visitation will be held at Sanders Priebe Funeral Care, 315 S. Washington Street in Crawfordsville on Tuesday, December 5, 2023 from 4-7pm. The funeral service will be held on Wednesday at 11:00 am. Burial will follow at Oak Hill Cemetery North. Sanders Priebe Funeral Care is entrusted with Care.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be given to the Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County, 1104 Big Four Arch Road, Crawfordsville, IN 47933. Share memories and condolences online at [www.SandersFuneralCare.com](http://www.SandersFuneralCare.com).

## 'Tis The Season For Our Christmas Story Contest!

Chestnuts roasting . . . sleigh bells ring . . . dreaming of a white Christmas? Well, stop hearing the songs in your head and start writing your own Christmas story!

We're having our first-ever Christmas story writing contest. The rules are pretty simple – write a story about something Christmasy and be sure to connect it to Montgomery County somehow. It could be a touching story from your childhood and a special memory. It could be a complete work of fiction where you go for a ride on Santa's sleigh? Hey, maybe someone will write that Santa spends his summers baling hay on a Montgomery County farm?

What you write and where your story goes is up to you.

If you want a chance to be published and want to tell your very own tale of Christmas, write it up and

### About The Contest

1. E-mail entries to [ttimmons@thepaper24-7.com](mailto:ttimmons@thepaper24-7.com). Please copy and paste the story in the body of the e-mail. (We cannot accept attachments.)
2. We will gather the entries and get them to our panel of judges.
3. 750-1,000 word limit
4. Story must have a Montgomery County connection
5. Writer's name and contact information must be included
6. The work must be original and all rights must be owned by the writer – and the writer grants permission to The Paper of Montgomery County to publish the work
7. Winners will be notified and will be asked to submit a photo and brief bio to run with the story.
8. All decisions by judges final

send it to us. And keep an eye on The Paper of Montgomery County as the holidays draw closer and we publish the top entries – as judged by our expert panel of top-notch judges!

## Carnegie Museum To Host Photos With Santa

The Carnegie Museum of Montgomery County is pleased to announce that Santa Claus will be visiting the museum for "Photos with Santa" on Saturday December 9, 2022, from 2:30-4:30 pm. Bring your camera and take pictures with Santa. This time with Santa is not only for kids; it can be a great time to bring

the whole family together for a photo with Santa and his sleigh. Winter-themed craft stations will be available throughout the museum. All ages are welcome. This event is free and open to the public.

In addition to Santa visiting the museum on December 9, the Carnegie Museum will offer addi-

tional activities throughout the month. On Saturday, December 2, come and make a light up snowman ornament. On Saturday, December 16, families can make snowflake ornaments. Stomp rockets will be featured December 23 and 27-30. All activities are on demand from 10 am to 5 pm. Winter backdrops and photo props

will also be available all month long for additional holiday photo opportunities.

The Carnegie Museum is located at 222 S. Washington Street, Crawfordsville. Admission is free, and the Museum is wheelchair and stroller accessible. Open Wednesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Local Schools Receive Literacy Grants



**SPENCER DEERY**  
Guest Column

Last year, roughly one in five third graders in our state could not read at grade level. Reading rates were at their best a decade ago after the implementation of the I-READ exam, but a slow decline followed the peak until the pandemic, when reading proficiency dropped significantly.

To address this, I supported a new law as a member of the Senate Committee on Education and Career Development that requires school corporations to adopt an evidence-based curriculum known as The Science of Reading. Schools will now be required to use phonics, fluency, vocabulary and

comprehension to teach kids to read, and they must shift away from programs that studies show are less effective.

To support that goal and to help schools make the transition, we included in the 2024-25 state budget \$20 million to expand science of reading instruction. To date, the Indiana Department of Education has awarded more than \$655,000 in grant funding locally to implement this instruction into classrooms.

The following schools in Senate District 23 have already received grants:

- Clay Community Schools received \$259,958.
- MSD of Warren County received \$118,805.
- North Vermillion Community School Corporation received \$127,250.
- South Vermillion Community School Corporation received \$150,000.

You can view a full list of grant recipients here, or learn more about the science of reading here.

I am proud of this funding and the leadership shown by the General Assembly to pass this law. It will empower more Hoosiers to become proficient readers who go on to live fulfilling, successful lives.

Even still, we have more work to do. Literacy will continue to be a focus in the approaching 2024 legislative session as it should be in every session until all Hoosier students are on track for the educational success they deserve.

### Preparing for Winter Weather

Winter weather conditions in Indiana can be beautiful with the holiday season in full swing but dangerous to navigate, especially for communi-

ties experiencing freezing temperatures and heavy precipitation.

With that in mind, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security and Indiana Department of Education encourage Hoosiers to: Prepare a Disaster Kit and Vehicle Emergency Kit to remain safe in the event of a power outage or travel emergency; Ensure children dress warmly for winter temperatures while waiting at the bus stop or traveling to and from school; and Check the county travel status map for traffic conditions and weather advisories, watches and warnings before traveling.

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

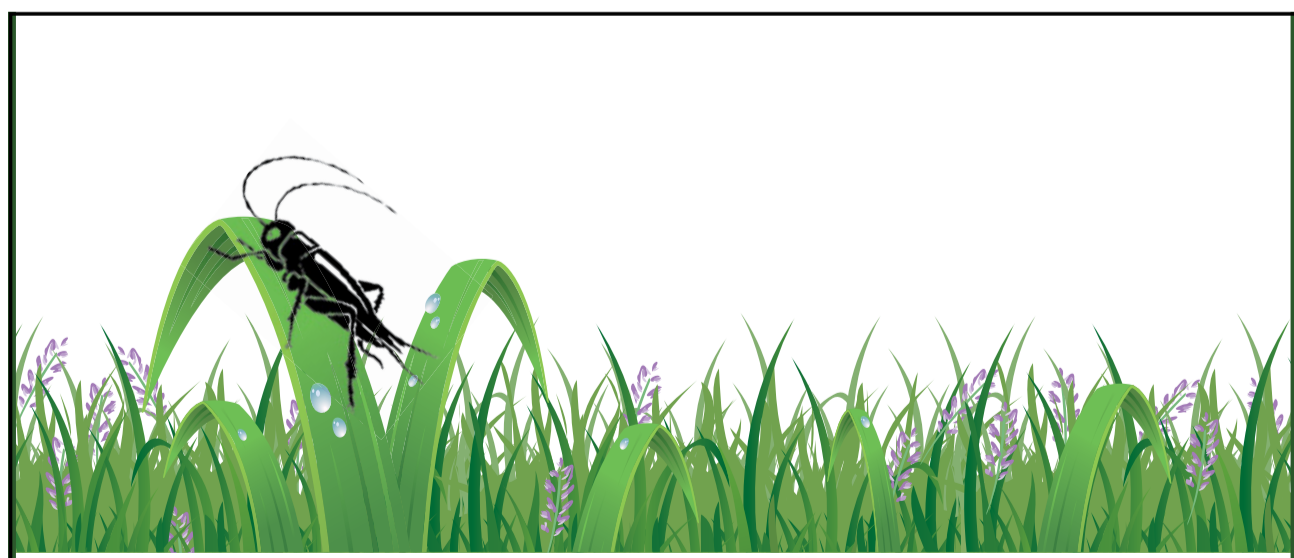
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Photos courtesy of Ford

## 2023 Ford F-150 Raptor R Makes Quick Work Of Thanksgiving Endeavors

I had plans for the Thanksgiving holiday. After watching The Parade, we'd drive sixty miles to my parents' and enjoy some turkey. We planned to catch the new Priscilla movie, do a little shopping, and drop off a box of books for donation downtown. There would be no pulling RVs, tackling mountain trails, nor out-running exotic sports cars. And yet, when I checked the schedule, my ride would do all of that and then some. Yep, I'm chasing fat bird in a Ford F-150 Raptor...R.

Now, understand what is this thing. Some evil little engineers and designers took a Ford F-150 Super Crew pickup, jacked it up to run Baja, and stuck a ferocious engine behind its custom black grille with FORD stamped across. Cast aluminum running boards, 17" black wheels with deep all-terrain tires, black hood extractor, and

skid plates beneath signify this is no normal Ford pickup. There's no missing the RAPTOR graphics on the rear haunches either. Momma's gonna love this monstrosity in her driveway.

It's a heave-ho to get inside, but once there, pure comfort. Big thick sueded seats grip you during extreme off-roading, but are also plush with heat and ventilation up front and heat in back. A thick heated leather-wrapped steering wheel soothes weary hands. Flatscreen gauges and a massive 12" infotainment screen are crisp and clear, but the screen is surprisingly cumbersome when connecting devices and finding satellite radio stations. Wireless charging and thumping B&O audio make up for it, though I'd also love a head-up display.

I've driven the Raptor before and really liked its 3.5-liter twin-turbo V6

### 2023 Ford F-150 Raptor R Five-passenger, 4WD Pickup

Powertrain: 5.2-liter SCV8, 10-spd trans  
Output: 700hp/640 lb.-ft. torque  
Suspension f/r: Ind/Ind  
Wheels f/r: 17"/17" alloy  
Brakes f/r: disc/disc  
Towing: 8,700 lbs.  
Fuel economy: 10/15 mpg city/hwy  
Assembly: Dearborn, MI  
Base/as-tested price: \$76,775/109,740

that delivers a potent 450 horsepower and 510 lb.-ft. of torque. But... I kept reading and really lost myself. The R bumps that up to a 5.2-liter supercharged V8 delivering - oh yes - 700 horsepower and 640 lb.-ft. of torque! In a pickup. With four-wheel-drive and a 10-speed automatic

### LIKES

- Supercharged V8
- Comfy ride
- All-road capability

transmission. I can't wait to drive it, but am giving thanks I don't have to feed it given 10/15-MPG city/highway.

Since my 9-year-old daughter is home from school, we do a trial run to drop the books. It took the two of us to lift them onto the rear floor given the truck's height, but it was not challenged by the load. The Raptor feels a little wide on city streets, and finding a parallel parking spot wasn't easy, but with tight steering, cameras, and sensors, it's not especially difficult to maneuver. The terrain management system and Trail Control with one-pedal driving would aid tight maneuvers where

### DISLIKES

- High climb
- Touchscreen conundrum
- Roudy price

no coffee shops exist.

It's much happier on open highway to my parents' where the big V8 settles down and no longer rattles my neighborhood through booming dual exhausts. The same fat tires, independent rear suspension, and FOX racing Shox with active live valve technology that that slay open desert provide an incredibly comfortable ride. The electronic throttle tames the supercharged engine so thoroughly that it's only when I step down to pass that Hell's fury erupts and the truck bolts towards the horizon.

I'm not sure I'd want the Raptor as my daily driver, but it fulfilled our holiday mission with aplomb. It



CASEY WILLIAMS  
Auto Reviews

was comfortable, easy to drive, and ferociously fast. Ford could touch up some of the tech idiosyncrasies, but it's an amazingly capable truck that isn't a chore to use. It's a bit pricey, though. Base Raptors start at \$76,775, but our R came to - take a swig of oxygen - \$109,740!

Storm Forward!

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

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## A Frightening And Complex Subject



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

I've had some questions recently about cancer of the ovaries so I'll try and tackle this complex subject. Ovarian cancer is frightening

because it is often very advanced before a woman receives a diagnosis. Most women present with stage 3 disease meaning the cancer has spread outside the ovary into the abdominal cavity and/or lymph nodes. This delay in diagnosis results in less than half of women surviving five years after diagnosis.

Ovarian cancer cases in the U.S. in 2022 numbered about 20,000 and approximately 12,800 died from the disease. It accounts for less than three percent of all female cancers. It is the fifth leading cause of cancer deaths in women following breast, lung, colorectal, and uterine cancers.

The chance of developing ovarian cancer increases with age and peaks in the late 70s with an average age of 63. Fortunately, the prevalence of ovarian cancer is relatively low with about a 1.3 percent lifetime risk of developing it. Also, the incidence has been trending downward since the late 1980s.

Women have an increased risk of ovarian cancer with increasing age, infertility, endometriosis, polycystic ovarian syndrome, cigarette smoking, estrogen use, obesity, or a family history of breast or ovarian cancer (especially those who test positive for one or both of the BRCA1 or BRCA2 genes).

Women with one first-degree relative (mother or sister) with ovarian cancer have an

increased risk of about 4 to 5 percent while those with two first-degree relatives have about a 7 percent risk. Women have a decreased risk if they have had a previous pregnancy, have breastfed, taken oral contraceptives, used an intrauterine device, or had a tubal ligation.

Signs and symptoms of ovarian cancer may be quite subtle or absent entirely. The most common symptoms, described by about half of women, are bloating or enlargement of the abdomen and abdominal or pelvic pain. Decreased appetite, a feeling of getting full quickly, urinary urgency and/or frequency, and a change in bowel habits, particularly constipation, may also be present.

Like most cancers, diagnosing ovarian cancer at earlier stages leads to improved survival. However, there is no evidence that supports a benefit of routine screening of average risk, asymptomatic women. All screening strategies in this group are associated with a high rate of false-positive tests that can cause psychological stress and, more importantly, carry a risk of harm from invasive testing and surgery.

The disease is occasionally detected on routine pelvic exam, often when it is in an advanced stage. Women who are at increased risk for ovarian cancer or who have persistent, unexplained pelvic or abdominal symptoms, may benefit from a combination of pelvic examination, pelvic ultrasound and a blood test called CA-125.

The CA-125 blood test has been touted in social media posts as a screening tool for ovarian cancer. Some readers may have even received an e-mail describing the benefits of having a yearly CA-125 blood test to screen for ovarian

cancer. Various versions of this e-mail have been circulating since 1998. The message states that if you don't have the test done regularly, you may be putting your life in danger. It also accuses the medical community and insurance companies of intentionally withholding the test from women.

While the CA-125 test is useful for following women with diagnosed ovarian cancer in order to gauge their response to treatment, ongoing studies looking at the utility of the test as a screening tool continue to confirm its poor performance. Screening with CA-125 has never been shown to improve survival from ovarian cancer.

The test is not very sensitive since it's only elevated in about half of women with ovarian cancer and it frequently doesn't become elevated until the cancer has already spread. In other words, a negative test does not mean a woman doesn't have ovarian cancer.

The test is also very non-specific. It can be elevated for a number of reasons including normal menses, endometriosis, pregnancy and benign tumors of the uterus. It can also be elevated with pancreatitis, appendicitis and other cancers such as breast, lung and colon.

So, when should a woman be concerned? If she has any of the symptoms mentioned above for more than a few weeks, she should consult her medical provider to give her medical history and undergo a pelvic examination. Her provider may then recommend additional testing based on her overall risk and physical findings.

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

## Just A Few More Words



**CARRIE CLASSON**  
The Postscript

We had dinner with friends last night.

There is nothing unusual about that, except these were all people I did not

know; people my husband, Peter, had met while taking his daily hike in Mexico.

This was not the first gathering of Peter's friends we've had. My self-professed introvert of a husband has become something of a social butterfly outside of the U.S. He goes to the same botanical nature reserve to hike every day and he meets new people and forms new friendships. Peter still professes to be a shy person. He is not.

But last night was particularly special because these were not visiting Americans or Canadians or even Norwegians—all of whom Peter has met and introduced me to. These friends were the Mexican employees of the nature reserve.

We invited them over to our hotel, which usually serves only breakfast and lunch. But our kind host, Jorge, insisted they would love to serve dinner to us, and they put together a feast. The temperature was cool, but everyone brought a coat (they know the

climate, after all). There was a tasty appetizer and fish tacos and a chocolate mousse for dessert, and it was a perfect night—in spite of the fact that Peter really speaks no Spanish at all, I only speak a little, and three of our four guests spoke either very little English or none at all.

It helped that there was one truly bilingual person. Emiliano is only 18, but he speaks excellent English, and when conversation got completely gummed up, he would sort things out. But it was astonishing how few words we needed to have a good conversation.

I am all about words. Words are what I do, so I am used to thinking that having precisely the right word is important. And sometimes it is. But there are many ways to say the same thing, and a few hand gestures, a facial expression, maybe a moment of pantomime, and the missing word can be guessed, and the conversation can continue. Most of the time, Emiliano didn't have to bail us out at all.

What did we talk about for this two-hour dinner? We talked about our families, of course. We talked about what Emiliano was going to study at college (he still doesn't know).

We talked about this town and the celebrations that had just passed and the celebrations that were

about to begin. Peter asked if anyone had pets, and Marcela laughed and said she had 11 dogs.

"You have 11 dogs?" I asked Marcela in Spanish, sure I must have misunderstood.

She nodded and laughed again. "And three cats! All from the streets."

And all the while, I wished I had a few more words. I wished I could understand just a bit better. I no longer care if I use the wrong form of a verb, or forget a word, or say something embarrassing. It makes no difference at all. What I care about, more than ever, is being able to understand these people—my new friends.

We said goodnight. Marcela gave me a headband and a pair of fingerless gloves she knit herself. Peter said he would see them all the next morning at the nature reserve. Jorge was pleased that the dinner went well, and took some pictures of the beautiful meal to put on his website.

It was a wonderful night and, for a person who is always trying to find the best words, a reminder of how much can be said using very few words at all.

Till next time,  
Carrie

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

## Elise Nieshalla Sworn In As Indiana's State Comptroller

Hoosiers from around the state gathered at the Statehouse today to join Elise Nieshalla as she was sworn in as Indiana's next State Comptroller.

Governor Eric J. Holcomb provided opening remarks followed by Honorable Geoffrey Slaughter who administered the oath of office.

"Having the privilege of serving several years on fiscal side of local government, I'm eager to continue building upon those relationships with our state leaders in pursuit of continued efficient and effective delivery of services with a big Hoosier heart," said Comptroller Nieshalla today.

Prior to her appointment on November 28, Comptroller Nieshalla was serving as President of the Boone County Council, President of the Indiana County Councils Associ-

ation and Chairwoman of the Association of Indiana Counties 2023 Legislative Committee.

As a hard-working entrepreneur and economic development professional, Comptroller Nieshalla has also worked 22 years in real estate overseeing property acquisitions and business management for a variety of investments. From managing and appropriating millions within her local county budget to reviewing revenue projections and planning for future needs, Comptroller Nieshalla has a proven portfolio herself showing her commitment to the highest standards of fiscal stewardship of hard-earned tax dollars.

"Today, I took the oath of office and placed my hand on the book that is the rock-solid foundation of my life," said Comptroller Nieshalla, who was

accompanied by many family members during today's ceremony. "It is truly only by God's amazing grace that I have this honor to serve you.

"With great gratitude to the Almighty for the justice, public order and liberty perpetuated by our state government, as established by our Constitution, I take my oath to serve faithfully."

Comptroller Nieshalla has four primary responsibilities, including accounting for all state funds, overseeing and disbursing county, city, town and school tax distributions, paying the state's bills and over 30,000 state employees, and administering Indiana's Deferred Compensation Plan (known as Hoosier START).

For more information about Comptroller Nieshalla and her office, visit [www.in.gov/comptroller](http://www.in.gov/comptroller).

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