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Have a very Merry Christmas!

The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery County's oldest locally owned independent newspaper **50¢**

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Athens Arts December Hours And Events!

I wanted to share some exciting news with you. If you're looking for unique holiday gifts, consider shopping at Athens Arts. They have a great selection of items to choose from, and you can even purchase gift certificates for original artwork and or classes! When you make a purchase at Athens, you're not just getting a great gift - you're also supporting the community's creative life. Your purchases and donations help bring the arts to preschools, field trips, clubs, classes, and our seniors besides helping the artists that choose to showcase their work at Athens. So why not check out Athens Arts and see what they have to offer? You might just find the perfect gift for someone special, and make a difference in a community member's life at the same time.

Athens Arts will be also closed from December 25, 2023, through Wednesday, January 11, 2024. We will resume normal business operations and respond to all emails and calls starting Jan. 11, 2024.



Photo courtesy of Athens Arts

The poetry club and the book club will meet as usual during December and January.

2024 Featured artist schedule is complete! Look soon for the lineup and save the date for opening receptions!

I will be answering emails and monitoring the phone for messages, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Diana

Art on Thursday - Decem-

ber 14- Come Create!
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. A fun class! Make a gift for you or to give! Bring a friend or come make some new ones! Just don't miss this fun, relaxing class!

"Old School" Memories From The '50s And '60s....



BUTCH DALE
COLUMNIST

When I wrote a book in 1988 about Darlington school, I interviewed hundreds of former students. Each person related to me some of their favorite memories. I discovered that similar memories were also shared by students who had attended the other small schools in the county. When the high schools closed in 1971, most remained as elementary and middle schools. But after 1988, all that was left were the memories. Here are a few from my school as told by former students...

(Elementary grades)...carrying my new Roy Rogers lunch bucket and riding the bus on my first day...reciting the Pledge of Allegiance each morning...drinking milk from tiny glass bottles in the old lunchroom...playing on the merry-go-round and teeter-totter...having my first grade teacher, Lucille Cox, pull my tooth...being chosen to wash the blackboard and then clean the erasers on the machine in the furnace room...making a Valentine box and re-

ceiving a special valentine from an admirer...having a crush on my 4th grade teacher...practicing cheers in the gym so I could be a yell leader someday...receiving a uniform and playing in my first basketball game...having Mr. Brown read the Sugar Creek Gang books each morning...playing softball at recess...swallowing my chewing gum as the teacher approached my desk...playing the song flute in 6th grade music class...buying ice cream in the "subway" at noon...watching a high school basketball game and seeing my favorite player make the winning basket.

(Junior High)...attending my first "pep session" with the high school students...doing the "bust exercises" in girls' PE class...boxing in Mr. Muterspaugh's PE class...getting caught with a love note and having to read it in front of the entire class...going "steady" and trading bracelets with my first real boyfriend...getting my first physical for sports from Doc Otten...walking uptown after school to the drug store for ice cream and a Coke...opening my satchel at a ballgame and discovering I had forgot my tennis shoes...seeing a fellow student get sent to the principal's office to receive a spanking...dissecting a frog in



Photo courtesy of Butch Dale

science class...learning to play my band instrument...singing a solo at the yearly Christmas program...having a "crush" on a high school cheerleader...attending the County tourney at Crawfordsville and cheering for our team.

(High School)...receiving "instructions" from my senior "master" for freshmen initiation...going to my first county music festival...getting my first pair of pegged pants and penny loafers...snatching "fruit loops" from boys' madras shirts...receiving my first band uniform...having towel fights in the shower after basketball practice...passing notes around in study hall...wrapping my boyfriend's ring with angora yarn...baking a cake in home economics class...making a wood cabinet in shop class...selling magazines and working

➔ See BUTCH Page A5

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:58 a.m.
SET: 5:24 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 44 °F
Low: 26 °F



Today is...

- Gingerbread House Day
- National Ambrosia Day
- National Ding-a-Ling Day



What Happened On This Day

- 2009 Houston, Texas elects Annise Parker. The City of Houston becomes the most populous city in the United States to have an openly gay mayor.
- 1969 Piazza Fontana bombing. A bomb exploded at the building of the National Agrarian Bank, Milan, Italy, killing 17 people and injuring 88.
- 1787 Pennsylvania becomes the second state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. It was the first of the larger states to vote to ratify the document.



Births On This Day

- 1923 Bob Barker American game show host
- 1915 Frank Sinatra American singer, actor

Deaths On This Day

- 1999 Joseph Heller American author, playwright
- 1889 Robert Browning English poet

TODAY'S VERSE

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

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 The Paper has an immediate opening for someone who is good with computers and creative to help build our daily pages. The job pays between \$12 and \$15 an hour, depending on experience. If interested, please send resume to ttimmons@thepaper24-7.com.

2 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. 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.

3 The Collins family of Hollywood, FL found an unwelcome guest recently in their guestroom toilet—a rather large iguana. How it got there is anybody's guess. It seemed to be dead at first, but when Mr. Collins brought in a neighbor to help catch the cagey cadger it tried to wriggle its way to freedom. In fact, Mr. Collins and his neighbor managed to trap the lazy lizard in a garbage bag and released it into the great outdoors where it belonged.

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Kids work harder in school when their parents are involved in their education. 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

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

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.

OBITUARIES

None

TODAY'S QUOTE

"Christmas isn't a season. It's a feeling."
-Edna Ferber

TODAY'S JOKE

Why do cats take so long to wrap presents? They want them to be purr-fect!



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



13 WTHR **7 DAY FORECAST**

26/41 SUNNY AND COLD	26/44 SUNNY AND CHILLY	29/42 MOSTLY CLOUDY	24/46 MOSTLY SUNNY	26/48 ABOVE AVERAGE	38/48 CLOUDS & SUN	30/50 SOME SUN
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

Meeting Notes

Crawfordsville Council Meeting

December 11, 2023 at 6 p.m.

I. Pledge Presenter: Mike Reidy

II. Prayer Presenter: Jeff Lucas

III. Roll Call

IV. Approval of Minutes - November 13, 2023.

V. Acknowledgment of receipt of the monthly Financial Reports

VI. Roll Call for additions to the Agenda

VII. Committee of the Whole

A. A Resolution Approving the Attempted Purchase of Certain Real Property under Indiana Code § 36-1-10.5's Requirements

VIII. Public Hearing
A. An Ordinance Making Additional Appropriations for the Year 2023 (Crawfordsville Street Department Post-Barn Construction Project)

B. An Ordinance of the Crawfordsville Common Council Making a 2023 Additional Appropriation (Crawfordsville Fire Overtime/FLSA)

C. Resolution Approving Application for Tax Abatement - International Paper Company

IX. Fiscal Affairs
A. Second reading of an Ordinance Making Additional Appropriations for the Year 2023 (Crawfordsville Street Department Post-Barn Construction Project)

B. Second reading of an Ordinance of the Crawfordsville Common Council Making a 2023 Additional Appropriation (Crawfordsville Fire Overtime/FLSA)

C. A Resolution Regarding Receipt and Approval of Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power Company's Proposed 2024 Budget and Salary Worksheets

D. A Resolution Regarding Receipt and

Approval of the Crawfordsville Storm Water Department's Proposed 2024 Budget and Salary Worksheets

E. A Resolution Regarding Receipt and Approval of Crawfordsville Street Department's Proposed 2024 Central Garage Budget and Salary Worksheets

F. Resolution Regarding Receipt and Approval of the Crawfordsville Sanitation Department's Proposed 2024 Budget and Salary Worksheets

G. A Resolution Regarding Receipt and Approval of the Crawfordsville Waste Water Department's Proposed 2024 Budget and Salary Worksheets

H. A Resolution Finding That A Property Owner Is In Substantial Compliance For Tax Abatement Purposes

I. Resolution Approving Application for Tax Abatement - International Paper Company

J. A Resolution Approving the Attempted Purchase of Certain Real Property under Indiana Code § 36-1-10.5's Requirements

X. Ordinances & Petitions

A. First reading of an Ordinance Changing the Zoning Classification for Real Estate Located South of CR 150 South and North East of the Purple Heart Parkway Extension and US Highway 231, 30.208 Acres of Parcel No. 54-10-08-300-087.001-029

XI. Traffic, Parking & Safety

XII. Annexation
A. Second reading of an Ordinance to Annex Property Known as approximately 46.46 acres located at 429 W. 150 S. and the associated right-of-way

XIII. Miscellaneous
XIV. Adjournment

Montgomery County Drainage Board Meeting

1580 Constitution Row; Suite F

David Rhoads - Chair
Crawfordsville, IN 47933

John Frey - Vice Chair
(765) 361-3234 office;
(765) 361-3238 fax

Matt Mitchell - Secretary
drainageboard@montgomerycounty.in.gov

Lance Sennett - Member

Doug Mills - Member

Tom Cummins - Surveyor

DRAINAGE BOARD AGENDA

Wednesday, December 13th, 2023 at 9:30 am

Montgomery County Government Center, Community Meeting Room

1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, IN 47933

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & PRAYER

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

• November 8th, 2023 - Regular meeting

IV. HEARING

• FOXES RUN #N/A - Assessment hearing

V. PETITIONS

• JOEL TOBIN #576 - Petition to attach; Larry Bullerduck

VI. OLD BUSINESS

• 2023 Reconstruction update

VII. NEW BUSINESS

• 2024 Reconstruction schedule

• CHRINEYANCE SCHENCK #506 / GUY LITTLE #534 - Discussion

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

• Board meeting dates for 2024

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

X. ADJOURNMENT

Hannah Olin Celebrates 5 Years With Hoosier Heartland State Bank

HHSB is pleased to announce the 5-year work anniversary of Hannah Olin, Branch Manager, Crawfordsville South Branch.

Hannah Olin is a graduate of Crawfordsville High School. With a decade of retail experience, 8 years of which are in the banking industry, Hannah's comprehensive background has been an asset to the organization.

"We are thrilled to celebrate Hannah Olin's 5-year anniversary with HHSB," stated Sandy Webb, Director of Retail. "Her leadership, dedica-

tion, and positive impact on both the team and the community are truly commendable. We look forward to many more years of success and collaboration."

Hannah and her husband Logan have two sons, Nash and Holden, and currently live in Wingate but are excited for their upcoming move to their forever home outside of New Richmond.

Outside the office, Hannah is involved in various hobbies and interests. Her love for camping, boating, and exploring the outdoors reflects her adventurous

spirit. Additionally, she enjoys ranger rides and cherishes moments spent with family and friends.

As HHSB celebrates this milestone in Hannah's career, they express their gratitude for her hard work, leadership, and the positive energy she brings to the workplace.

Contact Hannah Olin today at holin@myhhsb.com or 765-364-0784.

HHSB is a locally owned and operated Montgomery County bank which consists of a team of individuals who value customers, family and community. HHSB offers

consumer and commercial banking products, investment services, phone, online & mobile banking and bill pay, unmatched personal service, and a genuine commitment to bettering the communities in which they live.

For more information or to arrange an interview via phone or in-person, please contact Lacey Rogers at 765.323.4833 or Brad Monts at 765.942.2000 or visit www.myhhsb.com.



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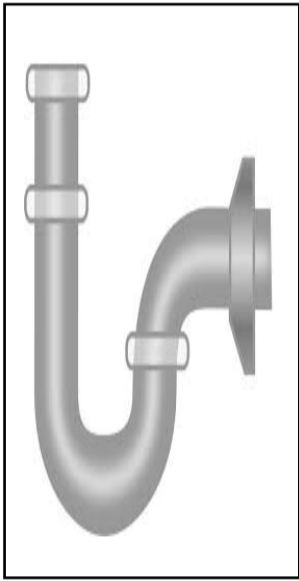
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LEAP Water Plan Costs Could Fall To Customers, Utility Watchdog Cautions

Report comes amid growing skepticism of water plan

By Leslie Bonilla Muniz
Indiana Capital Chronicle

The state's plan to supply water to a planned economic development project could leave utility customers on the hook for associated costs, a ratepayer advocacy group warned in a report released today.

Indiana economic development officials want to pipe water from an aquifer in Tippecanoe County to a mammoth industrial campus in Boone County — dubbed the Limitless Exploration/Advanced Pace (LEAP) Research and Innovation District. The pipeline could stretch 50 miles and carry up to 100 million gallons of water daily.

Indianapolis-based pharmaceutical giant Eli Lilly & Co. has planned a \$3.7 billion facility at LEAP;

the state is also competing to attract a water-guzzling semiconductor manufacturing facility worth \$50 billion and other large plants. But Boone County doesn't have enough water to support such activities.

The quasi-public Indiana Economic Development Corp. (IEDC) has already committed about \$972 million to the project, Citizens Action Coalition estimated in its report.

"While the LEAP project is almost wholly speculative in nature, IEDC has committed nearly \$1 billion in taxpayer funds already, tossing taxpayer money around like Wall Street speculators," the coalition wrote. "Hundreds of millions of dollars, much of it for land purchases that far exceed the actual value of the

land, have been expended prior to the microchip firm or data center committing to locate in Boone County."

Costs all around

The final cost would likely be higher, according to the coalition. The initial accounting uses early estimates, and there's been no public discussion of how to handle the large amounts of waste and wastewater the industrial users would produce.

But it's not just taxpayer money involved. Utility companies are expected to take on some project components.

Citizens Water, which owns and operates Indianapolis' water and stormwater system, had filed with state regulators to build and maintain a

second pipeline up to 50 miles supplying water to the Lilly portion of the project. But it pulled out in October.

And it's unclear which electric utility will provide power to the campus.

The coalition said it feared utility customers would bear the costs. The pipeline concept alone could cost about \$2 billion, Based in Lafayette reported.

That's because the IEDC has the statutory authority to approve utility water projects, as well as electric and gas projects, as "targeted economic development projects."

The coalition noted that a \$2.5 billion electric vehicle battery manufacturing plant in Kokomo will bring rate increases to gas and electric customers of Duke Energy Indiana and the Northern Indiana Public

Service Company.

"The state is viewing water solely as an economic development tool," the report says. "This is short-sighted and opportunistic as it assumes that water can be shipped wherever and whenever needed, regardless of the near- and long-term interests of or impacts on communities and costs to taxpayers or ratepayers."

"This has created a water resource shell-game that will ultimately diminish water resources, increase costs to ratepayers, and foment water wars between communities and regions," it says later.

The coalition said Hoosier officials should put the project on hold indefinitely, or, if water testing holds up, move ahead with just Lilly's portion. And it said Lilly should pay for the water infrastructure it

requires.

The group also suggested new legislation regulating large water withdrawals, in line with Democrat and Republican lawmakers from the area, and legislation returning authority over groundwater to local units.

And it recommended either replacing the IEDC — reverting it to a traditional commerce department — or reforming it to promote greater transparency and public engagement.

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War And The Environment

EARTHTALK

Dear EarthTalk: What sort of environmental toll are the major military conflicts going on around the world now taking?

No one questions the fact that war is horrible, and it is no less so for the environment. And recent major conflicts in Eastern Europe and the Middle East couldn't come at a worse time politically as international negotiators try to broker a deal to rein in carbon emissions against the backdrop of two active wars.

In the Russia-Ukraine conflict, environmental damage has been widespread. An August 2023 study by Chinese and German researchers found an "abrupt exacerbation in air quality over Europe after the outbreak of the Russia-Ukraine war." Levels of both particulate matter and nitrogen oxide have spiked about 10 percent each—and ground-level ozone surged by almost eight percent—in regions where fighting has occurred. The researchers blame ongoing explosions and fires as the main drivers of this predicament. Due to the war, Ukraine has experienced a 45-fold increase in the total area of forest fires across the country. The result has been the release of hundreds of millions of tons of noxious pollution in various forms that not only foul the air but also

contaminate soils and groundwater across the region.

Meanwhile, the more recent Hamas/Israel conflict is wreaking havoc on the environment in the Middle East. Israel's campaign to eradicate Hamas following the initial October 7 attack has turned much of Gaza into an apocalyptic destruction zone where polluted air and water now joins mass casualties and lack of food and supplies in making life extremely difficult for millions of Palestinians.

"These environmental impacts exacerbate the toll of death and injury directly caused by acts of war, but the environmental death toll will continue for decades due to respiratory diseases, cardiovascular diseases and cancer caused by exposure to elevated levels of pollution," United Nations Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment David R. Boyd tells TRT World.

Besides damaging the environment and increasing our global carbon footprint, these recent conflicts are also taking a toll on longer term prospects for hammering out a binding agreement for the nations of the world to work together in reining in carbon emissions. CNN reports that world leaders attending the long-awaited November 2023 Abu Dhabi follow-up to 2015's Paris Climate Agreement were spending more time meeting behind closed

doors trying to broker diplomatic solutions to military conflicts than hammering out carbon emissions reduction plans. Jordan's King Abdullah II told gathered delegates that "we cannot talk about climate change in isolation from the humanitarian tragedies unfolding around us," adding that "the massive destruction of war" makes environmental threats like water scarcity and food insecurity even more severe. Meanwhile, Iranian negotiators left the climate talks because its sworn enemy Israel had delegates present.

Environmentalists advocates around the world are keeping their fingers crossed that the wars in Ukraine and Israel/Palestine don't derail international cooperation on environmental issues altogether.

-CONTACTS: Israel devastates Gaza's environment for years to come, warn experts, <https://www.trtworld.com/middle-east/israel-devastates-gazas-environment-for-years-to-come-warn-experts-15904788>; Abrupt exacerbation in air quality over Europe after the outbreak of Russia-Ukraine war, <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0160412023003938>.

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BUTCH

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concessions to make money for our senior trip... going to the restaurant with my friends after a ballgame...driving my car to school for the first time...watching a freshman boy get "de-pants'd" downtown by senior boys...receiving my honor jacket for lettering in sports...wearing my "senior cords" to school... dancing to records in the gym at noon...seeing all of my friends and students from other schools at the Country Diner...going to the Junior-Senior prom... performing in the senior play...having our senior class photo taken in front of the covered bridge and crying at commencement...hanging the "tassel" on my car mirror on graduation night.

From former students... "The advantage of

attending Darlington was all the lifetime friendships we developed...knowing all the teachers and pupils. Everyone knew and cared for each other." Patty Ryker Parry

"We had a small class, and therefore I got to be in sports, glee club, class plays, yearbook staff, etc. Each student had an opportunity to be in just about every activity that was offered." Max Lough

"At Darlington we had a special closeness and received an excellent education, with manners and a regard for others being stressed. We had role models with good values. We were taught by example. The high moral values of our parents and their parents were an inspiration and a challenge to do our best." Kay Cox Norton and from one

of Darlington's favorite teachers..."I will always remember my teaching at Darlington, and I treasure all the memories of my children I've had in the classroom. I feel like a grandmother to all of the school--the school that I love." Lucille Peebles Cox

To those of you who attended a small county school...Darlington, Bowers, Ladoga, New Ross, Alamo, New Market, Waynetown, Coal Creek (including Wingate and New Richmond), Waveland, Linden...what were your favorite memories?

- 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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