

Brought to you by:



Have a very Merry Christmas!





2 Corinthians 5:6,7 Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: For we walk by faith, not by sight



Happenings

Saturday, Dec. 16, 2023

(Boys Freshman) North Montgomery at CHS 6 p.m. (Girls Varsity) North Montgomery at CHS 6 p.m. (Boys Varsity) North Montgomery

at CHS 7:30 p.m. (Boys JV) South at Western Boone

6 p.m.

(Girls Varsity) South at Western Boone 6 p.m.

(Boys Varsity) South at Western Boone 7:30 p.m.

(Girls JV) South at Western Boone 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 18, 2023

NORTH MONTGOMERY SCHOOLS

North Montgomery School Board meeting at Central Office, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2023 GOVERNMENT

Crawfordsville Redevelopment

Commission at City Building, 8:30

Crawfordsville Plan Commission at City Building, 5 p.m.

WABASH

Wabash College basketball at Catholic University Holiday Classic,

Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2023

GOVERNMENT

Crawfordsville Board of Zoning Appeals at City Building, 7 p.m. County Commissioners at Government Center (US 231 North),

Special Solid Waste Management District Meeting at Government Center (US 231 North), 8:30 a.m.

NORTH MONTGOMERY SCHOOLS North Montgomery H.S. Choir Concert at NMHS, 7 p.m.

WABASH

Wabash College basketball at Eastern University, 2 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 22, 2023

NORTH MONTGOMERY SCHOOLS

North Montgomery Schools, end of second semester

Monday, Dec. 25, 2023

GOVERNMENT

City, County buildings closed **CRAWFORDSVILLE SCHOOLS** Winter Break **NORTH MONTGOMERY SCHOOLS** Winter Break WABASH COLLEGE Offices closed



Montgomery County's oldest locally owned independent newspaper

CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA

WWW.THEPAPER24-7.COM



🖟 Boomer Bits 🎁



Ask Rusty - I'm 65 and Working; Can I Collect Ex-spouse Benefits?

Social Security Matters

ASK

Rusty

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

Dear Rusty: I turned 65 earlier this year, and I still work full time. I was divorced four years ago after 38 years of marriage, but my ex-husband has been collecting Social Security for at least 10 years now. Can I start collecting Social Security and still work full time? And can I collect my ex-

knowing that. **Signed: Working Divorcee**

they had no way of

husband's amount if it is

more than mine (and what

is the best way to achieve

this)? When I went to my

local SSA office, they said

Dear Working Divorcee: Although you are eligible to and will be higher when claim Social Security at age you claim later. The 65, because you are working full time you may wish to wait a bit longer to do so. That's because Social Security has an "earnings test" which applies to anyone who collects benefits before full retirement age, and you have not yet reached yours.

The earnings test imposes a limit on how much you can earn before SS takes away some of your benefits. If you exceed the annual earnings limit (\$22,320 for 2024), Social Security will want back \$1 in benefits for every \$2

you are over the limit and you will need to repay that, usually by having future benefits withheld. If you significantly exceed the limit, you may even be temporarily ineligible to receive SS benefits until you either earn less or reach your full retirement age (FRA) of 66 years and 8 months. So, if your earnings from working will significantly exceed the annual earnings limit (which changes yearly), it's likely that your wisest move would be to wait longer to claim your Social Security. As a bonus for doing so, your monthly payment will have grown earnings test no longer applies after you reach

Regarding benefits from your ex-husband, you cannot collect his instead of yours. What you may be able to do, when you claim your own benefit, is to get an additional amount which brings your monthly payment up to 50% of his. In order for that to happen, you would need to satisfy the following criteria:

• You are not currently married.

See RUSTY Page A8

Six Steps to Avoid **Package Theft**

The Better Business Bureau reminds us that the rise of online marketplaces and expedited delivery services is convenient for many consumers nationwide, allowing shoppers to search for the perfect gift for friends and family. Unfortunately, purchasing and having the item delivered to the proper address does not guarantee you will receive it. According to a Security.org study, approximately 79 percent of consumers experienced package theft in 2022.

Package thieves, also known as "porch pirates," often take advantage of an opportunity and may frequent a neighborhood or community multiple times before moving on to another. They will often target houses that provide a quick in-and-out route, especially if the porch or area where packages are delivered is within 25 feet of the street and is easily visible.

As a crime of opportunity, preventing or discouraging package theft can be accomplished in several ways, depending on the location of your residence, type, and community. For instance, preventing package theft at an apartment complex in the middle of the city differs from a suburban residential community. However, consumers can use specific strategies to discourage the act no matter where they live.

BBB provides the following tips to prevent package thieves from affecting your plans:

Check with neighbors.

Sometimes, your package may not be stolen simply at the wrong address. Before filing a report or contacting the sender,

See THEFT Page A8

The Daily Almanac

50¢

Sunrise/Sunset

RISE: 8:03 am SET: 5:23 pm



High/Low **Temperatures**

HIGH: 49°F LOW: 40°F



Today is...

- Boston Tea Party Day
- National Chocolate Covered Anything Day



What Happened On This Day

• 1773 Boston Tea Party. Considered as one of the key events in the American Revolution, the Tea Party occurred when protesters in Boston, a territory controlled by the British, dumped heavily taxed British tea into Boston Harbor.

• 1707 Last eruption of Mount Fuji. The highest volcano in Japan erupted for the last time in what is known as the Hōei Eruption. The eruption lasted for 17 days.





Births On This Day

- **1775** Jane Austen
- English author
- 1485 Catherine of Aragon

Deaths On This Day

- 1988 Sylvester -American singersongwriter, pianist, producer
- **1980** American businessman, founded KFC

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

THREE THINGS

You Should Know

When foods carry healthy labels like "low sugar," we often eat more of them and end up eating more calories.

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

There will be a a free jazz piano concert featuring Luke Gillespie at 10:30 a.m. on Christmas Eve at Freedom Baptist Church near Waveland. Gillespie, an acclaimed performer and educator of jazz piano, is a professor of jazz piano at Indiana University's Jacob School of Music. Freedom Baptist Church is located just minutes west of the intersection of US234 and US47, between Crawfordsville and Waveland. The program is free.

The annual United Way fund drive is in its final hours and is pushing to hit the goal of \$375,000. The money is needed to support 19 non-profit agencies serving Montgomery County and your help is important. Every penny counts – and can not only benefit those in need but can help you at tax time! Won't you please consider a gift where a gift is most needed? Go to www.ummontgomery.org or mail a check to United Way in Montgomery County, PO Box 247 Crawfordsville, IN 47933.

State Sen. Spencer Deery seemed happy at some recent news out of Purdue. "The return of commercial air service at the <u>Purdue University</u> airport may be long overdue, but that doesn't mean it was easy to get done. This would not have happened without Tippecanoe County's ability to get local leaders, university leaders and state elected officials working in harmony. We also need to thank the <u>State Budget Committee</u> for approving 3.6 million in funding for runway repair and rehabilitation during a <u>meeting in September</u>. This service will help our community continue to grow in smart, sustainable ways that will lead to even more air service and economic prosperity in years to come. Tippecanoe County's best days are still ahead of us."



TODAY'S QUOTE

"Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful." Norman Vincent Peale

TODAY'S JOKE

What did one Christmas tree say to the other Christmas tree? "I wish Christmas would last forever because there would be no Septimber!"



It's the holiday season and what better way to get in the mood than to listen to some wonderful Christmas music! Where can you go to find it? Well, your friends at Montgomery County's friendliest newspaper suggest you check out the North Montgomery High School Choir! They'll be performing in concert at North Montgomery High School on Wednesday at 7 p.m. See you there!

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







PAGE A2 • SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2023

How to Safely Dispose of Used Medical Sharps During Holiday Travel

traveling by plane, train, car or staying home this holiday season, it's important to know how to safely dispose of used medical sharps. Millions of arthritis, cancer or auto- users navigate safe people in the United States immune diseases. use needles, lancets and syringes – otherwise users and people using

It doesn't matter if you are known as sharps - to puncture the skin and dispense medication to help manage short- or long-term chronic conditions like diabetes, tool can help sharps For both existing sharps

sharps for the first time, disposal can be confusing, especially while traveling. An easy-to-use online

See SHARPS Page A8

INDOT Receives Funds to Explore Expansion of Passenger Rail in Indiana

Indianapolis - Chicago Corridor selected through FRA's Corridor ID Program

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) announced Friday that the Indiana Department and state support that of Transportation (INDOT) will receive up to \$500,000 to support service. There are no the assessment and potential development of the Indianapolis -Chicago passenger rail corridor through the Corridor Identification and Development (Corridor ID) Program. "This is a first step toward expanding passenger rail in Indiana," said INDOT Commissioner Mike Smith. "Receiving this funding allows us to gather essential information to make more informed decisions going forward." INDOT put forth its application in the spring. The federal funds will go toward preliminary work in preparation for a Service Development Plan. The plan would be is a comprehensive comprehensive in nature intercity passenger rail and include information about necessary track

improvements and facilities, operating costs, ridership statistics would be necessary to begin sustainable state matching funds required for this stage of the program. Other corridors selected for Corridor ID funding in Indiana include:

- Chicago Fort Wayne - Columbus -Pittsburgh (Midwest Connect Corridor), applied for by the City of Fort Wayne
- Louisville -Indianapolis, applied for by the Kentuckiana Regional Planning and **Development Agency** (KIPDA)
- Daily service on the Cardinal long distance route, applied for by Amtrak

The Corridor ID Program planning and development

program that will help guide intercity passenger rail development throughout the country and create a pipeline of intercity passenger rail projects ready for implementation. Stay Informed Get updates on INDOT projects and programs

- Facebook: facebook.com/indian <u>adepartmentoftransp</u> ortation
- Twitter: @INDOT • TrafficWise: 511in.org
- Mobile App: <u>iTunes</u> App Store and the Google Play store for **Android**

About the Indiana Department of

INDOT continues to solidify the Hoosier State as the Crossroads of America by implementing Gov. Eric J. Holcomb's \$30 billion Next Level Roads plan. With six district offices and 3,500 employees, the agency is responsible for constructing and maintaining more than 29,000 lane miles of highways, more than 5,700 bridges, and supporting 4,500 rail miles and 127 aviation facilities across the state. INDOT was recently ranked #1 in the United States for infrastructure in CNBC's 2022 "America's Top States for Business"

ranking. Learn more about INDOT at

Baird Votes No



Baird said the bill did not protect Americans from their own government.

Hoosier Congressman Jim Baird, the representative for Montgomery County, voted against the Conference Report to the 2024 National Defense Authorization Act on the grounds that it failed to protect personnel and the the American people from spying by their own government and included measures that allow taxpayer dollars to fund abortion procedures. "Nobody in Congress the military than I am," Baird said. "I was proud to support the House version of the NDAA in July. Unfortunately, this legislation has been watered down to include provisions that important provisions allow the Federal government to violate our right to privacy and spy on American citizens. Moreover, I'm disappointed that this legislation failed to include important

provisions that prevent our tax dollars from funding abortions and gender reassignment surgeries. It is unacceptable that the House passed an NDAA that fails to uphold our promises to our military American people." In July, Congressman Baird voted for the House version of the NDAA, which would have ended many of the Left's most radical proposals. This includes is a bigger supporter of ending Biden's taxpayer funded abortion travel fund, ending taxpayer funding for gender reassignment surgeries, and dismantling powers that allow spying on American Citizens. The legislation also included that protected service members who were discharged for refusing the COVID-19 vaccine and created an Inspector General for Ukraine aid accountability.

Fire Investigators Want Help

Indiana State Fire Marshal investigators seek information from the public about any suspicious activity near the Rod & Gun Steakhouse in Rosedale, Ind., which was destroyed by a Monday evening fire. The historic eatery near the Wabash River west of Rosedale was once known as a hideaway for gangsters and politicians during the Prohibition Era. The fire resulted in a near-total loss for the current owner, who noted a significant amount of memorabilia was lost during the fire. The original club burned in 1970 and a new building was built on the same site. The Otter Creek Fire Department arrived on the scene at 2525 E. Lambert Ave. just after 10 p.m. Monday to find flames coming through the roof of the building. The fire grew so large that more than a dozen departments responded. Fire investigators reported the current owner called 911 after noticing the fire from an upstairs apartment in the building. The fire patterns indicate the fire likely started in a van adjacent to the house, although the actual cause of the fire remains under investigation. Due to the somewhat remote location of the business, investigators are hopeful somebody may have witnessed activity in the area while driving by. Anyone with information is asked to call the Indiana Arson hotline at 1-800-382-4628.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

in.gov/indot.

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Montgomery Superior Court of Montgomery County, Indiana, in Cause No.: 54C01-2304-MF-000317, wherein PennyMac Loan Services, LLC, was Plaintiff, and Megan L. Winschief, was/were Defendant(s), requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 10th day of January, 2024, at the hour of 10:00am or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 600 Memorial Drive, Crawfordsville, IN 47933, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Montgomery County, Indiana. Lot numbered 11 as the same is known and designated in Stow S.

Detchon's Third Addition to the Town of New Richmond, in Montgomery County, Indiana.

More Commonly Known As: 114 West Washington Street, New Richmond, IN 47967

54-03-09-114-017.000-013

Together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisement laws.

Jennifer L. Snook MARINOSCI LAW GROUP, P.C. 455 West Lincolnway, Ste. B, Valparaiso, IN 46385 Telephone: (219) 386-4700 Sheriff of Montgomery County City of New Richmond 114 West Washington Street, New Richmond, IN 47967

Street Address

The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein

Type of Service: Personal SERVICE DIRECTED TO: Megan L. Winschief 114 West Washington Street New Richmond, IN 47967 Megan L. Winschief P.O. Box 154 New Richmond, IN 47967

NOTICE: MARINOSCI LAW GROUP, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

12/9 12/16 12/23 3t hspaxlp PL4788

For The Record

Crawfordsville Schools Crawfordsville Community IX. Personnel a. Consider School Corporation Board of Education - Regular Meeting Thursday, December 14, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. Mollie B. Hoover Elementary - 1301 S. Elm St., Crawfordsville, IN 47933 AGENDA I. Roll Call II. CHARACTER COUNTS Corporation - Pillar of Responsibility III. Pledge of Allegiance IV. Spotlight on Excellence a. CHS Academic Letter sponsor and recipients b. CHS Wrestling Team V. Building Principal Report - Principal Marci Galinowski - Mollie B. Hoover Elementary VI. Consent Agenda: **Approve Previous Meeting** Minutes, Construction Accounts Payable Voucher, Payroll Claims Vouchers, Register of Accounts Payable Voucher, and Surplus Items VII. Old Business VIII. New Business a. Consider Choir Trip - Music Emily Fullenwider from in the Parks - Kings Island -CMS/CHS Choir Policy 8550 Service Animals - Public Events (First Reading) c. Classified and Non-CBA Pay Rates Revised d. Consider Classified Handbook e. Consider Substitute Handbook f. Consider Consumer Price Index Amendment for SSC Agreement g. Resolution

for Transfer From Rainy

community preschool

name of the new

Day Fund h. Consider the

Christina Eldrenkamp Resignation - CMS Life Skills Teacher b. Consider Sendy Torres Resignation -Nicholson Teachers Aide c. Consider Rebekah Mason Resignation - Nicholson Special Education d. Recommend Debbie Brading - CMS Life Skills Teacher e. Recommend Lisa Kidd - CHS Teachers Assistant f. Recommend Hayden Stevens - CMS **Physical Education** Teacher g. Recommend Madison Dossett - CMS Front Office Secretary h. Recommend Grant Bailey -**CCSC Speech Therapist** (Fall 2024) i. Recommend Javan Callison - CHS Math Teacher (Fall 2024) j. Recommend Sara Stout -Hose Life Skills Assistant k. Recommend Taran Hatch -Nicholson Life Skills Aide X. Change of Position a. Renae Tebbe (Bronnenberg) from CHS Receptionist to to CHS Administrative Assistant b. CMS Guidance/Assistant Athletic Director to CHS Representative b. Consider Administrative Assistant c. Emily Daley from CMS Administrative Assistant to CMS Guidance/Assistant Athletic Director XI. Business Manager Report XII. Assistant Superintendent Report XIII. Superintendent Report XIV. Other

XV. Board Member

XVI. Patron Comments

Communication

XVII. Adjournment

Purdue football reaches mountain top in 2000s



KENNY THOMPSON Columnist

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is part 9 of a series celebrating 100 seasons of Purdue football at Ross-Ade Stadium.

Joe Tiller's turnaround of the Purdue football program reached its zenith in 2000 with a Big Ten Conference trichampionship and the school's second Rose Bowl berth.

Two other Tiller teams came close to reaching the Big Ten mountain top again but cruel fate at Ohio State in 2003 and Kyle Orton's injury in 2004 proved too much to overcome. By the end of the decade, Tiller was retired and the Boilermakers went into yet another decline with athletic director Morgan Burke's second coachin-waiting hire, Danny Hope, not coming close to Matt Painter's success in men's basketball.

Best Ross-Ade games of the 2000s

Oct. 7, 2000: Purdue 32, No. 6 Michigan 31 -Given a second chance by the Boilermaker defense, Travis Dorsch atoned for an earlier miss by kicking a 33yard field goal with four seconds left.

Purdue overcame a 28-10 halftime deficit by amassing 530 total yards, the most allowed by Michigan in school history. Touchdown runs by Steve Ennis and Montrell Lowe brought the Boilermakers within 28-23 going into the fourth quarter. Drew Brees brought Purdue within 31-29 with 6:45 to play on a 10-yard touchdown pass to John Standeford. Brees became Purdue's career passing leader, surpassing Mark Herrmann to become the first Boilermaker to throw for more than 10,000 yards.

Oct. 28, 2000: No. 16 Purdue 31. No. 12 Ohio State 27 - Dorsch wasn't the only Boilermaker to make the most of a second chance. Brees had thrown a seemingly backbreaking interception in the fourth quarter that set up the go-ahead touchdown for the Buckeyes. Told by teammate Ike Moore on the sideline "if you break it, then fix it," Brees threw a 64-yard touchdown pass to a wide open Seth Morales with 1:55 remaining.

Nov. 18, 2000: No. 17 Purdue 41, Indiana 13 -The Boilermakers earned a Rose Bowl berth for the first time in 34 years, easily wrapping up a share of the Big Ten championship. Montrell Lowe rushed 38 times for 208 yards and four touchdowns. Brees rushed for a touchdown and tossed a 13-yard TD to Tim Stratton.

Nov. 22, 2008: Purdue **62, Indiana 10** - "I can now ride off into the sunset and feel like the iob is done." Those were among Joe Tiller's final words to Purdue fans, who watched the winningest coach in school history (87-62) go out with the largest margin of victory in Ross-Ade Stadium history. The Boilermakers scored on their first 10 possessions, with Curtis Painer throwing for 448 yards and five touchdowns. Kory Sheets scored three times to set the Purdue single-season rushing TD record with 16.

Oct. 17, 2009: Purdue 26, No. 7 Ohio State 18 -The Buckeyes were denied a chance to tie the Big Ten record of 17 consecutive road

victories by a Boikermaker team that was 1-5 coming into the All-American defensive

end Ryan Kerrigan sacked Terrelle Pryor three times and forced him to fumble twice. Joey Elliott threw two touchdown passes to Aaron Valentin, and Carson Wigs kicked four field goals. Fans rushed the field

and a few picked up souvenirs from head coach Danny Hope: his Purdue hat, whistle and a black raincoat.

Top players of 2000s Ross-Ade

Tim Stratton – The first winner of the John Mackey Award given to the nation's best tight end, Stratton caught 204 passes for 2,088 yards and 15 touchdowns in his career. Stratton was a threetime first-team All-Big Ten selection, joining Bob Hadrick (1963-65), Chuck Kyle (1966-68) and Rod Woodson (1984-86) as the only Boilermakers to accomplish the feat.

Travis Dorsch – The 2001 Ray Guy Award winner as the nation's outstanding punter, Dorsch earned All-America honors as a kicker as well. He was the first player in Big Ten history to earn first-team all-conference member of Purdue's honors as both a punter and a kicker.

winning Big Ten Freshman of the Year honors in 2000, Schweigert went on to set Purdue's career interception record with

The safety was a firstteam All-Big Ten selection in 2001 and 2003.

John Standeford - The Monrovia native left Purdue as the Big Ten career leader with 266 receptions and 3,788 receiving yards.

Taylor Stubblefield -Departed Purdue as the NCAA record holder with 316 receptions and a consensus All-American in 2004. Stubblefield's career 3,629 receiving yards fell

just shy of teammate John Standeford's school record. He did set (54) and rushing a school record with 16 receiving touchdowns as (16). a senior.

Kyle Orton – The only Purdue quarterback to start four consecutive bowl games, Orton passed for 8,918 yards and 61 touchdowns. Orton went on to play for Chicago, Denver, Kansas City, Dallas and Buffalo from 2005-2014. He passed for 18,037 yards and 101 touchdowns.

Dorien Bryant - The speedy wide receiver set Conference players 10 records during his Boilermaker days, most

Ukraine that saps

Western support for

notably 6,219 allpurpose yards. He caught 292 passes for star recruit from 3,548 yards and is among Purdue's all-time greats with 2,125 kickoff return yards.

Dustin Keller – The last 2003 recruiting class, the Lafayette Jeff Stuart Schweigert - After into an NFL first-round draft pick at tight end. Once bound for Toledo before accepting a scholarship offer from Joe Tiller, Keller was Purdue's team MVP in 2007. His career numbers include 135 receptions for 1,732 yards and 15 touchdowns.

> **Anthony Spencer** – The defensive end from Fort Wayne led the nation as a senior with 26.5 tackles Cuonzo Martin (29) for loss.

Spencer had 21 career sacks and was a firstround draft pick by the Dallas Cowboys in 2007.

Kory Sheets - The running back found the end zone often during his career, setting school records for career rushing touchdowns (58), total touchdowns touchdowns in a season

Sheets became the sixth Boilermaker to rush for 1,000 yards, piling up 1,131 as a senior in 2008. His 3,341 career rushing yards are second to Mike Alstott.

Noteworthy

Purdue safety Dillon Thieneman earned his first Freshman All-American honor late last week from The Athletic. Thieneman and Michigan State punter Ryan Eckley were the only Big Ten selected to The Athletic's first team.

be bipartisan. It needs

The Big Ten's Freshman of the Year was a three-Westfield, Ind., who started right away and put up big numbers," The Athletic stated. "Thieneman ... finished fifth in the conference in tackles with 106 and tied for second nationally in interceptions with six. standout molded himself His 74 solo tackles broke a Purdue freshman record previously held by Rod Woodson." ... Purdue sophomore point guard Braden Smith scored a career-high 27 points in the fourthranked Boilermakers' 92-86 victory against Alabama in Toronto on

> the most by a Purdue dup since Glenn Robinson (44) and combined for 73 points against Kansas in the 1994 NCAA tournament. Staking an early claim for All-Big Ten honors, Smith is averaging 13.2 points, 7.2 assists and 5.9 rebounds while shooting 45.5 percent from 3-point range (15 of

Zach Edey and Smith

combined for 62 points,

Dec. 9.

Edey passed Robbie Hummel for 10th place on Purdue's career scoring list. With 1,781 points, next up for Edey is Walter Jordan at 1,813 points.

- Kenny Thompson is the former sports editor for the Lafayette Journal & Courier and an award-winning journalist. He has covered Purdue athletics for many years.



About that 'clear path' in the Ukraine war



BRIAN HOWEY Columnist

INDIANAPOLIS - Two years after the American **Continental Congress** had declared independence, George Washington's army settled in for its third bitterly cold winter encampment at Valley Forge. Things looked bleak in 1778. In 1863, two years after the Civil War began, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee disheartened the Union army with a spectacular victory at Chancellorsville, Virginia. A few days later more than 100 people were killed during antiwar riots in New York And in World War II, it wouldn't be until May 1943 that the allies turned the tide against

Nazi Germany in North

defeated the Nazis at

Africa. The Soviets

Stalingrad as winter began. It would be another six months before American, British and Canadian soldiers stormed the beaches at Normandy, breaching Hitler's Fortress Europe. It would take U.S. victories in previously obscure places such as Monmouth, N.J., Gettysburg, Vicksburg, and Normandy that the tides of great wars shifted; that ultimate victory could even be fathomed. It's been a little less than two years since Russian tyrant Vladimir Putin made the unilateral decision to invade Ukraine, unleashing his genocidal armies to bomb civilian targets, power plants during the long winters, and commit wave after wave of atrocities using rape, drones and missiles against apartment buildings, schools, churches and hospitals. In doing so, U.S. intelligence estimates are that Russia has lost 87% of its invasion force and two thirds of its tanks. Now further U.S. funding for Ukraine is being held up in Congress, with Republicans insisting that \$111 billion the Biden administration has requested for Ukraine

and Israel also including

funding to "fix" the porous southern border. "We stand at a real inflection point in history," President Biden said with Zelenskyy at his side at the White House on Tuesday. Failing to approve more aid would give Putin, "the greatest Christmas gift they could possibly give him." While the new

Republican House Speaker Mike Johnson said, "We stand with him against Putin's brutal invasion," he accused the White House of failing to articulate a "clear path" to Ukraine's victory. Zelenskyy reportedly

spoke to U.S. senators entirely in English, with one GOP senator telling PBS reporter Lisa Desjardins the gesture was "poignant." Desjardins writes that there were a few times Zelenskyy had to look up definitions of words used by senators. "One word he didn't know: Stalemate." But that is where Zelenskyy and Ukraine find themselves after

two years of war. "The

U.S. assesses that Russia

believes it is helped by a

military stalemate with

Kyiv, making its war easier to win," Politico reported of a U.S. intelligence assessment. A new Pew Research Center survey (Nov. 27 to Dec. 3, 2023, among 5,203 members of the Center's nationally representative American Trends Panel), finds that: 48% of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents say the U.S. is giving too much aid to Ukraine, while about half say that the U.S. is providing the right amount of support (29%) or not providing enough (18%). In December 2022, Zelenskyy described the states at a joint session of Congress as a hero. "It will define whether it will be a democracy of Ukrainians and for Americans – for all," he said. "This battle cannot be frozen or postponed. It cannot be ignored. There is a lot to unpack here.

First, there is a crying -

no, screaming -- need

Mexican border. There

to address the U.S.-

immigration reform

since President Reagan

hasn't been

comprehensive

done on the fly and within days while Ukraine and Israel writhe in crisis, is not good governance. Second, it is nearly impossible to articulate a "clear path to victory" at the two-year mark. Gen. Washington couldn't do it in 1778, President Lincoln and Gen. U.S. Grant couldn't in July 1863, and President Roosevelt and Gen. Eisenhower were unable to fathom how long it would take Berlin and Tokyo to fall in early 1943. Third, Ukraine cannot defeat Russia without air power, just as the U.S. wouldn't have won D-Day or the Battle of the Bulge without it. "Who controls the skies controls the war's duration," Zelenskyy said at a press

conference. Johnson said in a letter to President Biden last week, "President Biden must satisfy congressional oversight inquiries about the administration's failure thus far to present clearly defined

was in office. It needs to to provide essential weapons on a timely to be comprehensive. To basis." Providing suggest that this can be "essential weapons" on a "timely basis" is the path toward "clearly defined objectives." Everyone involved from Kyiv to Washington to Brussels must up their game. Fourth, if we abandon Zelenskyy and Ukraine to Putin, it will be just a matter of years until NATO and the U.S. will be spending blood and treasure to fend off Putin's expansion. These are lessons to be learned after his repeated incursions into Georgia, Chechnya, Crimea and now Ukraine over the past two decades. Finally, U.S. Rep. Victoria Spartz has faded as an advocate for her homeland. She was hyperinvolved for the first few months after the invasion, before tangling with Zelenskyy's chief of staff. She subsequently announced she wouldn't seek reelection in 2024, essentially becoming a lame duck at the very time House Republican support

Brian Howey is senior writer and columnist for <u>Howey Politics</u> Indiana/State Affairs. Find Howey objectives and its failure on Facebook and Twitter @hwypol.

for Ukraine began to

evaporate.

OBITUARIES

Jessie Lou Stewart

Nov. 20, 1932 - Dec. 13, 2023

Jessie Lou (Walters) Stewart, 91, was welcomed to her heavenly home on Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at Wellbrooke of Crawfordsville. She was born on November 20, 1932, the daughter of Homer Laurence and



and Louise (Paddack) Walters.

Jessie graduated from Crawfordsville High School in 1950. She married Alan Stewart on August 22, 1952 at Trinity Methodist Church, spending over 54 years together until his passing on February 24, 2006. She worked at RR Donnelly in cost/payroll department, was the co-owner of Stewart Bishop Chuck Wagon and was the owner of Stewart's Cafeteria at Nucor Steel, until her retirement in 1997.

Jessie was a longtime member of the New Ross United Methodist Church, Bryon Cox American Legion Aux. and Roachdale VFW Aux. She was a volunteer at Hendricks County Hospital in Danville, IN and Golden Girls of New Ross and Mace Churches. Jessie organized and located 80 veterans of 151st Combat Engineers of the Korean War and started annual reunions in 1997. Her faith in God and love of family and friends were everything to her. Jessie had a great sense of humor and a laugh that could fill a room. She enjoyed traveling, watching IU and Pacer basketball, playing cards and reading. Jessie is survived by her daughter, Marta (Mick) Sweek of Crawfordsville; son, Steven Stewart of Crawfordsville; daughter-in-law, Debbie Stewart of Plainfield; grandchildren, Chris (Jamey) Craig, Erika (Jeremy) Johnson, Michael (Susan) Stewart, Jessica (Greg) Thomas, Nathan Stewart, Morgan Halupka and Austin Fleming; and greatgrandchildren, Gabrielle and Marissa Craig, Emily and Brandon West, Zachary Hutchison, Bryor and

She was preceded in death by her husband, Alan; parents; son, Rev. Dr. Larry Stewart; and brother, James Walters.

Elliot Johnson, Boone Fleming, Alan Stewart and

Ezra and Wyatt Thomas.

Donations may be made in Jessie's memory to the Montgomery County Community Foundation, PO Box 334, Crawfordsville, IN 47933 or New Ross United Methodist Church, PO Box 95, New Ross,

Visitation will be held on Saturday, December 16, 2023 at New Ross United Methodist Church, 108 State Street in New Ross from 11:00 am until the time of the service at 2:00 pm. Burial will follow at New Ross Cemetery. Share memories and condolences at www.SandersFuneralCare.com.



OBITUARIES

Terence R. Willis

July 16, 1948 - Dec. 13, 2023

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Terence R. Willis, our beloved dad and grandpa, who left this world on December 13, 2023, for his eternal life in Heaven. He was 75 years old. Terry was born on July 16, 1948 in Crawfordsville, Indiana to Juanita Willis. Terry served in the Army both stateside and in Germany from 1967-1969.



After Terry finished in the army, he returned home to Montgomery County where he found the love of his life in Sally Jean Fine. They were married on July 31, 1971 and had 41 happy years together before her death. He embraced not only his love for Sally, but also for her four children, whom he loved dearly and cared for as if they

Terry worked for Mid-States Steel and Wire for over 28 years, before retiring from Acuity Brands after over 10 years of service.

Terry had many joys in life. He loved to hunt, search for morel mushrooms, fish, golf with his buddies, and he was the fiercest Euchre player we know. He loved to watch IndyCar, Nascar and NFL, rarely missed a college football or basketball game, followed the Cubs closely - even through the long losing years and had a deep love for old Westerns... especially anything with John Wayne in the starring role (and at the absolute loudest volume level the TV could go!).

Terry was an active member of the American Legion, The Fraternal Order of Eagles and The Moose Lodge in Crawfordsville. He leaves behind a host of friends at each establishment who will

Terry's greatest love of all though was his family. He was so very proud of each and every one of us. His home became our family hub after Sally Jean passed. His grandchildren were constantly in and out of the house. His children often stopped by to eat lunch, grab a beer or drop off a home cooked meal for him. It was a home away from home for all of us, and we will be forever grateful for him always leaving his doors unlocked for us. Terry was preceded in death by his mother Juanita, his loving wife, Sally, and his son, Gary West. He is celebrated and honored by his 3 remaining children, Elizabeth (Jim) Halfhill of Lexington, KY, Lori (Neal) Miles and Charley (Kathy) West of Crawfordsville, his daughter-inlaw, Phyllis West, sister-in-law, Susie Stump, and his uncle, Tom Willis, all of Crawfordsville. Terry also is deeply loved and mourned by his 10 grandchildren and their spouses, his 24 great grandchildren, and 6 great, great grandchildren. What a beautiful legacy he is leaving behind! In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to the Montgomery County Shriners Transportation Fund or the charity of your choice. Cremation was chosen with a graveside service on Thursday, December 21, 2023 at 1:00 pm in Oak Hill Cemetery North in Crawfordsville. Share memories and condolences at www.SandersFuneralCare.com.



Photo courtesy DeAntha Wright-Thornburg

Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton told those in attendance that the city's drainage and building codes are so specific anything built will have to meet quality criteria.

Mayor talks apartment complex plan with residents

DeAntha Wright-Thornburg

For The Paper

Residents of County Road 150 South filled the City Building Conference Room on Thursday. The afternoon meeting was Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton's Community Forum, where each month he meets with the public at different locations around the city to discuss any issues or concerns in our community. Thursday's conversation centered around the upcoming ordinance changing zoning classification for real estate located near CR 150 South and Northeast of the Purple Heart Parkway Extension. The Crawfordsville zoning board recently met and approved the 30.2 acres from R1 to R3, a multi-family residential development. The forum was a civil exchange of questions and answers detailing the responsibilities and procedures of city governments vs. the duties of any outside developer petitioning to build within the city limits. Jared Grable of Global Construction Management LLC has presented a concept drawing of plans to build a 400-plus multi-family

apartment complex

11, the city council

north of Purple Heart

Parkway Extension and

US Highway 231. On Dec.

voted to move forward

with the rezoning on the

first reading of the ordinance. Residents voiced their concerns about the increase in traffic, lack of privacy, increased noise and other environmental issues. Their biggest concern was the lack of privacy and increased crime in the area. Barton assured residents the plans were only on the drawing board and that nothing had been approved. The rezoning of the property is the first step in a very long process of building to completion. Barton said, the city's drainage and building codes are so specific it will be a quality complex. He emphasized to those gathered that there would not be subsidized housing. Those leaving the forum found it to be informative and helpful. Putting to ease the minds of many by explaining the process and procedures, which take a very long time for such a development of this magnitude to happen. Barton assured the residents there are checks and balances in place to get a quality product. If they have concerns, reach out by email or listen to his podcast to stay updated on the city's many projects happening. He advised he plans to meet again with Global Construction Management LLC, Engineer, and owner Jared Grable in the







Waynetown Baptist Church

Service: Sunday 10:30 am

Children's Church

Casual Clothes, Everybody Welcome

Traditional and Comtemporary

First Baptist Church

Sunday School/Growth Groups: 9:00 AM

Worship Service: 10:30 AM

Youth Group Wednesday at 6:30

You can watch us on YouTube and Facebook Watch Sunday Mornings

CHRIST'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

upcoming weeks to

review the project.

909 E. Main Street • Crawfordsville

Coffee Fellowship @ 10:45 a.m.

Worship @ 11 a.m.

Dr. David Boyd

A community still committed to the UMC

765-362-2383

christsumc@mymetronet.net

View live and archived services on our FB page.

INCLUDE YOUR INFORMATION The Paper of Montgomery County is asking churches to send us church news by noon on Thursday. Information can be e-mailed to: news@thepaper24-7.com

The following is a listing of church services and various programs that organizations around Montgomery County have sent The Paper. If you would like to have your church information included in this free listing, simply e-mail it to news@thepaper24-7.com by Monday for the Wednesday Print Edition.

FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday's schedule will include Sunday School at 9:30 and morning worship at 10:30 followed by a pitch-in dinner. After dinner there will be a special service in which Pastor Roe will step aside and Bro. Keith Harris will become the pastor. Meetings will continue with the Danfords Monday through Thursday at 7 each evening.

The public is invited to all the services anytime but especially during our revival with the Danfords. The location is 5113 S 200 W, Crawfordsville. Or just five miles south of Crawfordsville on State Highway 47. For more information call 866-1273 or visit www.faithbaptistcville.com.

NEW MARKET CHRISTIAN CHURCH

THE SANCTUARY AS WELL AS THE DRIVE-IN PARKING LOT ARE OPEN FOR WORSHIP HELD AT $10:00~\rm{AM}$. TONY THOMAS WILL SPEAK ON "HOW TO MAKE YOUR LIFE MORE EFFECTIVE FOR CHRIST". HIS TEXT IS FROM 1 PETER 5:1-14.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS AT 9:00 AM. COFFEE & DONUT FELLOWSHIP IS AT 8:30 AM THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH. THE NEXT FELLOW-SHIP IS DECEMBER 3.

THE WORSHIP SERVICE AND SUNDAY SCHOOL ARE OPEN TO EVERYONE.

NEW MARKET FIRST BAPTIST

FIRST BAPTIST OF NEW MARKET WILL WORSHIP GOD THIS SUNDAY AT 10:00 A.M. HOLY GROUNDS WILL BEGIN AT 8:30 A.M WITH COFFEE AND HOME MADE TREATS. AT 9:00 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES ARE OFFERED FOR ALL AGES. THEN AT 10:00 A.M. WE WILL WORSHIP IN SONG AND MESSAGE. WE WELCOME ALL TO JOIN US THIS SUNDAY! WE ARE LOCATED AT 200 S. FIRST ST. IN NEW MARKET.

YOUNG'S CHAPEL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

If contemporary worship is not your preference, then you Might want to visit us. A small country Bible based church made up of very friendly, compassionate, loving people. A church where everyone knows everyone's name. You will be warmly welcomed here. Why not try us out? 4527 North 200 East, Crawfordsville Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 am.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sundays: Worship (Casual Traditional/Family Friendly/Childcare) - 10:15 am, Adult Faith Learning/Sunday School - 9:15 am, Good News Cafe - 9:15 am, Wednesdays: WOW! - Mid-week Youth Program (Grades 1-12) - 4:30 - 7 pm, Faith Learning and Dinner, Rev. Darla Goodrich, We are located at: 211 S. Walnut St. Crawfordsville IN 47933 Telephone: 765-362-4812

WOODLAND HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

468 N Woodland Heights Drive Crawfordsville IN 47933-9689 Telephone Number: 765-362-5284 Fax Number: 765-362-6641 Lead Minister: Tim Lueking Worship Minister: Wayne Wilkinson Youth Minister: Bryson Feese

Worship Service Times for Sunday: Worship Service Times for Sunday:

Traditional service at 8:15a.m. & Contemporary service at 10:30a.m. All Sunday School classes at 9:30a.m., Children's classes for birth to 5th grade at 10:30a.m. All services will be streamed live on our live whcc.us platform, Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter.

The Heart of Christmas "Hope is at the Heart of Christmas" Hebrews 1:1-4

Tim Lueking

NEW MARKET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Reverend William "Bill" Pike Office: 765-866-0703 email: bill.pike@ inumc.org. Please come join our small town church for a friendly church service using hymnals and the rituals of church that you grew

101 East Main Street, P.O. Box 326, New Market, IN 47965. Office Phone: 765-866-0703 www.newmarketumc.org Facebook.com New Market United Methodist Church Indiana Open Hearts--Open Minds--Open Doors Sunday School 9:30 and Worship Service 10:45

Southside Church of Christ

153 E 300 South • Crawfordsville southsidechurchofchristindiana.com

> Sundays: Worship at 10:30 am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7 pm



One Way Pentecostal Apostolic Church

802 Mill St. • Crawfordsville

Pastor Steve Lee and his wife, Tamara, invite you all to their spirit-filled church

Services

Sunday at 2 pm

Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7 pm

Saturday evening (speaking spanish service) at 7 pm

Hickory Bible Church

104 Wabash - New Richmond

Sunday Services:

Breakfast and Bible - 9:30

Church - 10:30

a small church with a big heart!

Dr. Curtis Brouwer, Pastor 765-918-4949



Service times:

10:02 am on Sundays

Wednesday night prayer meeting at 6:30 pm.

vinechurchlife.org

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New Market Christian Church

300 S. Third Street • New Market (765) 866-0421 Dr. Gary Snowden, Minister

Sunday Worship at 10:00 am in the Family Life Center (Masks Encouraged) or in the Parking Lot Tuned to 91.5 FM No Sunday School at This Time

nmcc@sbcglobal.net • newmarketcc.org Visit Us on Facebook

> We Exist to Worship God, Love One Another & Reach Out to Our Neighbors



Helping people to follow Jesus and love everybody!

2746 S US Highway 231 Crawfordsville

Services:

Thursday night at 6:30 Sunday mornings at 10:30

Both services are streamed



Church Service at 10 am

124 West Elm Street • Ladoga (765) 942-2019 ladogachristianchurch@gmail.com www.ladogacc.com



Liberty Chapel Church

Phil 4:13

Church Services:

Sunday School 9 am

Church 10 am

Wednesday Children's Awana Program 6 pm-8 pm



Sunday Worship 10:00 AM

Sunday School 9:00 AM

Rev. Clint Fink

Website: northcornerstonechurch.org

609 S. Main Street • Linden (765) 339-7347



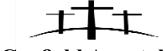
Friendship **Baptist Church**

1981 West Oak Hill Road • Crawfordsville

Romans 15:13

Follow us on Facebook

Sunday school 9:30 am Church 10:30 am Wednesday Bible Study 4 pm



Garfield Apostolic Christian

4485 E 300 N • Crawfordsville

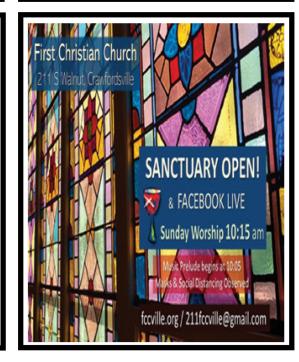
Services

Sunday at 10 am

Tuesday Prayer Meeting

6 pm - 7 pm

Thursday Bible Study 6:30 pm - 8 pm





Congregational Christian Church

"Be a blessing and be blessed"

101 Academy Street • Darlington 765-794-4716

Sunday School for all ages 9:30am Worship 10:30am

You can find us on Youtube and Facebook



FIRST UNITED Follow in The Sun

212 E. Wabash Avenue Crawfordsville (765) 362-4817 www.cvfumc.org

Virtual services at 9:00 am Can be watched on channel 3

All are welcome to join and all are loved by God



2000 Traction Rd • Crawfordsville 765-362-1785 www.eastsidebc.com

> **Services:** Sunday School at 9 am Church at 10 am

Help and hope through truth and love



NEW ROSS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The BRICK CHURCH on State Street

Sunday Worship 9:00 AM

Children's Sunday School during Sunday Worship

In person or on Facebook at Facebook.com/NewRossUnitedMethodistChurch

Pastor Dr. David Boyd

John 3:16

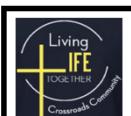
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Sunday School 9:30AM Sunday Morning 10:30 AM Sunday Evening 6:00 PM Prayer Mtg Wednesday 7:00 PM

Where church is still church Worship Hymns Bible Preaching



Crossroads Community Church of the Nazarene

SUNDAY 9:00 AM: Small Group 10:15 AM: Worship 5:00 PM: Bible Study

WEDNESDAY 6:00 PM: Mid-week Service

117 E State Road 234 • Ladoga 765-866-8180



Woodland Heights Christian Church

Invites you to join us as we welcome our new lead minister: Dr. Tim Lueking Beginning Sunday, February 28th, 2021

Weekly Sunday Schedule:

Traditional Service - 8:15 AM Sunday School for all ages - 9:30 AM Contemporary Service - 10:30 AM Woodland Heights Youth (W.H.Y.) for middle schoolers and high schoolers - 5-7 PM

Visit us online at WHCC.US

Woodland Heights Christian Church 468 N Woodland Heights Drive, Crawfordsville (765) 362-5284

"Know Jesus and Make Him Known"



Fremont Street Baptist Church

1908 Fremont St • Crawfordsville Sunday school 9:30 am

Church 10:30 am Sunday Evening 6 pm Wednesday Night Bible Study 7 pm



110 S Blair Street Crawfordsville, IN 47933 www.hopechapelupci.com

Service Times:

Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Starting August 1: 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship

Wednesday 6:30 Bible Study

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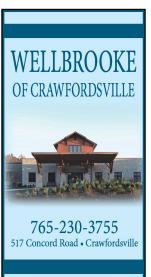
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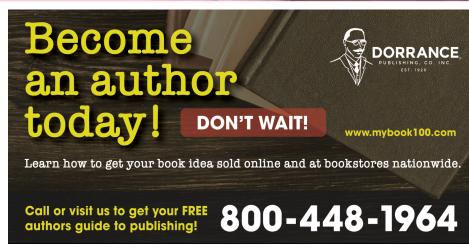
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Home Sales Dipped in November

finished 8 percent below 2022 in November with 5,870 closings; this yearover-year gap tightened into single digits for the first time since March. Monthly pending sales dropped just 1 percent behind last year (5,375 versus 5,440 in '22) as falling mortgage rates and more homes for sale helped stabilize statewide sales, according to data released by the Indiana Association of Realtors. Indiana's median sale price remained consistent from October to November at \$240,000, 3 percent above 2022 but down more than 6 percent from this year's mid-summer peak of nearly \$257,000. Homes sold in just over two weeks (15 days from listings to pending) for 95.4 percent of their original listing price. 6,657 new listings were added to Indiana MLSs in November, also 3 percent ahead of 2022. Total inventory

also rose for a seventh straight month, with 13,241 homes available as a daily average through November. "November is typically a slow month for real estate and these numbers are consistent with this year's market," said Lynn Wheeler, IAR president for 2023. "Mortgage rates and home prices are higher today than they were last autumn – but sales were falling faster to close out 2022 as homebuyers were reeling from rates that had doubled in just ten months."

But with the thirty-year rate falling nearly a full percentage point in the last six weeks, Wheeler is optimistic about a buyer rally to start 2024. "We got off to a strong start in the first quarter of 2023 because rates had dropped and the inventory of homes for sales had grown," she explained. "We're seeing the same trends today." But Wheeler added that 2023 saw a "roller coaster" of mortgage rates rising and falling nearly two percentage

stifling the rebound as rates increased and inventory tightened in March

"Most buyers are also sellers, and the up-anddown climate caused many homeowners to put off any plans to move this • year," she finished. "2024 can be different if there's more confidence in rates continuing to improve and more listings hit the market to meet demand." .

- November's 5,870 closed sales bring the 2023 year-to-date total to 70,786, 14 percent below 2022.
- Year-to-date listings grew to 86,374 with 6,547 homes newly listed in November, 12 percent below the first eleven months of 2022
- Listings fell sharply from October to November (-18 percent), while closed sales dropped 8 percent month over month - within seasonal expectations.
- Year-over-year sales continued to hold up better in rural counties (+1 percent vs. November '22) with a more

• affordable median sale price (\$176,000), compared to the state and suburban counties (-11 percent) - with Boone County (+28 percent) as a notable

Urban core counties including Marion (-10 percent with 899 closings in November).

· Among Indiana's largest metropolitan regions, only Evansville outpaced the state sales trend: Indianapolis-Carmel (-11 percent), Fort Wayne (-17 percent), Evansville (-7 percent).

region saw sales fall 11 percent \$292,000 (+5 percent above

Butch Buys

Old Firearms

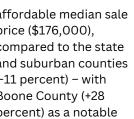
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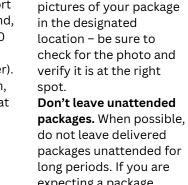
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John "Butch" Dale (765) 404-1354



- suburban exception. (-12 percent) fell short of the statewide trend,
- In addition to Marion, other counties with at least 250 sales included Allen (359 closings, down 18 percent year-overyear), Hamilton (411 sales, -16 percent), Lake (386, -16 percent) and St. Joseph (254, virtually unchanged from last November's 255 closings).

The MIBOR REALTOR® Association behind November 2022 with 2,223 closings at a median sale price of



long periods. If you are expecting a package, attempt to schedule its delivery when you know you will be home. Ask your neighbors if they mind holding on to packages delivered if you plan to be gone for an extended time. Ship to store. If purchasing an item from

THEFT

neighbors and see if the

delivery service may

have dropped off your

package at the wrong

companies will take

address. Many delivery

check with your

a retailer with a physical location near your home, consider shipping it there instead. Retailers will require proof of purchase or identification before releasing packages they have received, and this is a sure way to avoid porch pirates.

Use a security camera. Installing a <u>home security</u> system with cameras or a camera-enabled doorbell is a great way to deter package theft, especially when highly visible. Consider including a sign that specifically states that the residence is under surveillance. Even if a package is stolen from your porch, the video evidence will help law enforcement track down the thieves (but be wary of the risk of internet-connected devices and research before you purchase). research before you purchase).

Require a signature. Many delivery companies

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include the option to require a signature before leaving a package, letting you take physical possession of the item as soon as it is delivered. While this option works well for those often at home, especially for expensive items, it may create difficulties in receiving packages if your schedule and the delivery service differ. Be sure to check with the delivery company on their policy for packages that are not signed for; they may return it to the sender after a certain number of attempts. Consider a package receiving service. Some major retailers, such as Amazon, offer secure package-receiving locations away from your home that you can access with a key or code. Some independent businesses also specialize in this service, allowing you to designate a different delivery location for your packages and the ability to pick them up on your way home. If you fear your package being stolen, file a report with your local police department and the delivery company. Depending on your delivery service, they may offer insurance or other policies to reimburse you for your losses. For more information and to learn how to protect yourself, Google "BBB 10 Steps to Avoid Scams". If you spot a scam, whether you have lost money or not, report it to BBB's Scam Tracker at BBB.org/ScamTracker

and the FTC at ReportFraud.ftc.gov. Your story can help

similar scams.

protect consumers from

RUSTY

• The personal benefit you are entitled to at your FRA must be less than 50% of your ex-husband's FRA entitlement.

If the above are true, when you claim your own SS retirement benefit you will also get a "spousal boost" to bring your payment up to what you're entitled to as an ex-spouse. The amount of the spousal boost, if you claim Social Security at your FRA, will be the difference between half of his FRA entitlement and your FRA entitlement. If you claim your benefit before your FRA, not only will your own benefit be reduced for claiming early, but the amount of your spousal boost will also be reduced (benefits claimed before FRA are always reduced). Whenever you decide to

claim Social Security, you will be automatically deemed to be filing for benefits from your exhusband as well (you shouldn't need to apply separately). You've already satisfied the basic criteria of at least 10 years married to get benefits from an exspouse and, if you satisfy the above criteria as well, you will be entitled to a spousal boost when you

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claim. But your current earnings from working full time will likely affect your eligibility to collect Social Security benefits at this time, so waiting until your full retirement age to claim may be your best choice. If you will only slightly exceed the annual earnings limit you can consider claiming earlier, as long as you are comfortable with receiving a permanently reduced amount, and the prospect of not getting benefits for a number of months if you exceed the earnings limit (the number of months you will go without benefits depends on how much you exceed the limit by).

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disposal rules wherever they are. An option like <u>SafetyIsThePoint.org</u> helps people learn how to safely discard their used sharps and find disposal locations across the United States. People who use sharps can often dispose of them at home or on the road. It's as simple as 1-

SHARPS

- 1. Place used sharps in a strong, plastic container like a laundry detergent or bleach bottle.
- 2. When the container is 75% full, seal it tightly with duct tape • and label it "do not recycle."
- 3. Place the sealed container in regular household trash.

Disposal rules are different in every state, so it's important to confirm local disposal regulations. To help travelers comply with local regulations, SafetyIsThePoint.org includes a clickable map and ZIP code finder that explains disposal rules by location, as some states legally prohibit disposing of sharps in the trash or recycling containers and require sharps to be transported to a collection center in an approved sharps container. Free printable resources and a step-by-step guide for at-home sharps

disposal are available on

downloaded and sent to

the website for sharps

users, health care

providers, patient

educators and advocates. The resources can also be

family members and friends ahead of travel, so they know what to expect.

Learn more about the rules of safe sharps disposal this holiday season at SafetyIsThePoint.org.

Commonly Used Medical Sharps

- Needles fine, slender, hollow pieces of metal, typically attached to syringes, used to inject medication under the skin or withdraw fluid from the body
- Lancets, also called "fingersticks" – often used by people with with diabetes to get drops of blood for testing

- Auto injectors, including epinephrine pens syringes pre-filled with fluid
- · Auto injectors, including epinephrine pens syringes pre-filled with fluid medication designed to be selfinjected into the body
- Infusion sets tubing systems with needles used to deliver drugs to the body
- Connection needles - needles that connect to a tube used to transfer fluids in and out of the body designed to be self-injected into the body





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