



TODAY'S VERSE Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of

righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Happenings

Swimming vs. Valparaiso and Univ.

of Indianapolis at Wabash, noon

Wrestling at Manchester Spartan

Basketball vs. Hiram at Wabash, 2

Robotics Trivia Night, 6 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 12, 2024

WABASH COLLEGE

Wabash, 6:30 p.m.

WABASH COLLEGE

Classic

p.m.

2 p.m

God, and His

Zahn's FLOOR Govering Carpet • Hardwood • Luxury Vinyl Tile • Laminate • Ceramic Tile • Bamboo 310 N. Green St. • 364-0517

Family owned and operated

The Faber OF MONTGOMERY

Montgomery County's oldest locally owned independent newspaper

50¢

CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA

WWW.THEPAPER24-7.COM



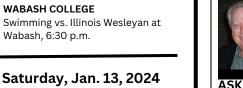
Ask Rusty - Can Someone Work While **Collecting Social Security Disability?**

We're

everywhere

you and

Social Security Matters



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 question, visit our website

Rusty (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

Dear Rusty: If a person is collecting Social Security disability benefits, can they, at any point, work at all? If they can, what is the maximum they can earn and still keep the disability benefit? I am asking because my husband is still young, but his injuries will not allow him to go back to the job he had prior to his injuries and surgeries. He does not just want to sit at home doing nothing!

Signed: Concerned Wife

the Social Security Administration (SSA) encourages those collecting SSDI (Social Security **Disability Insurance**) benefits to attempt to go back to work and they provide considerable leeway for them to do so. The monthly earnings limit for those collecting SSDI benefits in 2024 is \$1,550 and as long as your husband earns less than the limit

Dear Concerned: Actually,



What Women Need to Know About Stroke Risks

It may not be widely known that women face unique risk factors for stroke throughout their lifetime. Things like pregnancy,

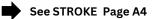
preeclampsia and chronic stress can increase the risk for high blood pressure, a leading cause of stroke. Cardiovascular disease,

What You Need to Know About Cholesterol

Understanding and improving cholesterol is important for people of all ages, including children and teens. Maintaining healthy cholesterol levels can help keep your heart healthy and lower your chances of getting heart disease or having a stroke. High cholesterol usually has no symptoms. In fact, about 38 percent of adults in the United States are diagnosed with high cholesterol, according to the American Heart Association. Understanding what cholesterol is, the role it plays, when to get screened and how to manage it are important aspects of protecting your overall

See CHOLESTEROL Page A5

including stroke, is the leading cause of death among women, according to





Trey Etcheson Retires From HHSB

After 40 years of dedicated service, Hoosier Heartland State Bank announces the retirement of William "Trey" Etcheson III. Trey has been a driving force behind the growth and community impact that Hoosier Heartland State Bank has experienced under his visionary leadership. "It is with great gratitude I express our sincere appreciation for Trey's 40+ years of dedication and hard work at HHSB" Brad Monts, President, and CEO of HHSB, said. "His contributions have played a significant role in the success and growth of our organization. His guidance and expertise have left a lasting impact and legacy to both our team and the organization." Etcheson started his career at Farmers State Bank/Hoosier Heartland State Bank in 1983 as Assistant Cashier and was later promoted to Cashier in 1987. In 1992, he ascended to the role of President and CEO. a title he held until 2021, when the succession planning began for his retirement. While he steps away from his daily duties, Etcheson will continue to serve HHSB as Chairman of the Board. In 2003, he spearheaded a cultural transformation within the bank, introducing a new mission statement that redefined what it means to be a Community Bank. This commitment was further solidified through the initiation of the "HHSB Gives Back' philanthropy program, which has surpassed \$1.5 million in community donations. His vision and dedication have not only shaped the bank but have also left an indelible mark on the communities it serves. Etcheson's passion for community service extended to supporting local veterans. His instrumental role in

Sunday, Jan. 14, 2024 NORTH MONTGOMERY SCHOOLS North Montgomery High School Robotics Fundraiser at Fieldhouse,

Monday, Jan. 15, 2024

CRAWFORDSVILLE SCHOOLS No school MLK Day NORTH MONTGOMERY SCHOOLS No school MLK Day WABASH COLLEGE Classes begin

Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2024

WABASH COLLEGE Faculty meeting, 4:15 p.m

Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2024

NORTH MONTGOMERY SCHOOLS FFA Fun Night, at Commons and Gym, 6:15 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 21, 2024

WABASH COLLEGE All Campus Reading at Scholars Lounge Lilly Library, 11:15 a.m.

Monday, Jan. 22, 2024

WABASH COLLEGE All Campus Reading at Scholars Lounge Lilly Library, 11:15 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2024

WABASH COLLEGE All Campus Reading at Scholars Lounge Lilly Library, 11:15 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2024 WABASH COLLEGE

Artist Talk at Fine Arts Center, noon Art Exhibition Reception at Fine Arts Center, 4 p.m Basketball at DePauw, 8 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024

ATHENS ARTS Class: How to draw eyes (1-3 p.m. or 6-8 p.m. - reservation required) WABASH COLLEGE Board of Trustees meeting

Friday, Jan. 26, 2024

WABASH COLLEGE Board of Trustees meeting

Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024

WABASH COLLEGE Board of Trustees meeting

Sunday, Jan. 28, 2024

NORTH MONTGOMERY SCHOOLS High School Robotics Fundraiser at Fieldhouse, 2 p.m

Clores: big, small, we'll take 'em all!

At one point in the lower southwest part of Montgomery County and **KAREN** upper Parke

ZACH there was a very Around The large Clore County family. There are still several around with that name but sure not as



Erastus Clore

They were mainly large fellows with big hearts! Erastus was born in Howard Twp, Parke County March 9, 1857 son of Berriman and Mary (Rice) Clore and lived there much of his life.His father was born in Boone

photo), was one of them.

See KAREN Page A4

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Fred for

the day.

Erastus

Clore,

here

the

Obesity in middle age can increase your risk of developing dementia.

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

THREE THINGS You Should Know

The Indianapolis Home Show is coming back to the Indiana State Fairgrounds for the 102nd time and guess who will have free tickets once again? That's right, your favorite Montgomery County newspaper! Mark the dates on your calendar – Friday, Jan. 19 through Sunday, Jan. 28. This Indiana tradition is the oldest home show in North America and to get your FREE tickets from us, all you'll have to do is send a selfe with your smiling face, our front page (electronic or print) and your name and contact information And hey, if you want to say something nice about us, we wouldn't object! E-mail it to news@thepaper24-7.com, but hurry, supplies are limited!

Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton has scheduled his 128th community forum with the public. This month's meeting is scheduled for Jan. 22 from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. at Mc McDonald's North, 1000 Smith Rd. As always, the public is invited to come and talk about anything and everything related to the city

Don't forget, we're now e-mailing The Paper piping hot and fresh at 4 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays – except for holidays and this coming Monday is a holiday. The price is still \$42 and you can renew or buy a subscription at www.thepaper24-7.com. And since Monday is Martin Luther King Day – you won't see us then, but we'll be back Wednesday!

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



TODAY'S QUOTE

"It isn't so much what's on the table that matters, as what's on the chairs.' W.S. Gilbert

TODAY'S JOKE

Did you know a frog has more lives than a cat? Of course, because they croak every day.

THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Want to learn how to draw eyes? Then Athens Arts might just be your ticket. A class on exactly that is set for Jan. 25. You can choose either ar afternoon session (1-3 p.m.) or an evening session (6-8 p.m.). Class is open to anyone 12 years and older. Cost is \$35. Classes meet at Athens Arts, 216 E. Main St. in beautiful downtown Crawfordsville. To reserve a spot stop by Athens Arts Thursdays and Fridays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. or on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or call (765) 362-7455 and leave a voice message.



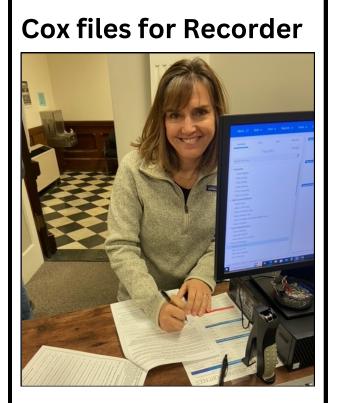






127 E. Main St. Suite 103 • P.O. Box 272 • Crawfordsville, IN 47933 MAIN: 765- 361-0100 • CLASSIFIEDS: 765-361-8888 • FAX: 765-361-5901 www.thepaper24-7.com • TWITTER @ThePaperNews @ThePaperSports

PAGE A2 • FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 2024



Nancy Cox has filed paperwork to run on the Republican ticket for Montgomery County Recorder. She has worked in the treasurer's office for five years, currently as chief deputy, and told The Paper that she hopes her experience will serve to benefit Montgomery County. She said she has lived in Montgomery County for 28 years and loves serving its citizens.

Celebrate MLK Day With DNR

Honor the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. by volunteering at a DNR property on Jan. 15, Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

On MLK Day, some properties will have self-directed service opportunities such as litter pickup along trails. Check calendar.dnr.IN.gov for lists of activities that day and for other volunteer events throughout the year. Work needed yearround includes maintaining trails, helping in nature centers, and sharing photography or art.

Projects can also be tailored to volunteers' skills. Contact your nearest DNR property to learn how you can help.

"Volunteering gives you a great sense of accomplishment," said Jody Heaston, volunteer coordinator for Indiana State Parks. "You are helping manage and conserve our natural and cultural resources for future generations to enjoy." For more information on volunteering see on.IN.gov/dnrvolunteer or email DNRvolunteer@dnr.IN. gov.

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



Do you recognize this person?

HINT: She just LOVES flowers!

Answer on Page A4





Pet of the Week. Spud



Spud is an 8-year-old male American pit bull terrier mix available for adoption. He has been at AWL for 1,583 days, or 4 years, 4 months. Spud is SUPER ready to start 2024 in a home!! Spud is on the smaller side, super adorable, and enjoys lounging with his best bud, Indy. Spud loves going out for walks/jogs, looking cute, and has even won the prestigious award of ULTIMATE FENCE JUMPER! AWL keeps Spud in a covered fully fenced enclosure when outside to make sure he's stays safe. Spud has excellent leash manners and is a perfect gentleman on walks. Spud is looking for his best friend and a nice comfy place to call home for retirement. Could that be with you? Spud is available to foster, adopt, or just simply take out for walks (with signed waiver, 18 years or older). To see more adoptable pets like Spud, please visit our website (link below): https://mcawl.com/

Visit our website www.thepaper24-7.com

INDIANAPOLIS





JAN. 19-28

INDIANA STATE FAIRGROUNDS WEST PAVILION & EXPO HALL

DISCOVER. PLAN. DO.

10 DAYS ONLY!

Shop, compare and save with 400+ home experts in kitchen & bath, landscaping, flooring and more!



Explore the **Centerpiece home**, an exquisite Craftsman-style home that blends meticulous artisan details with earthy elegance, built by **Davis Homes**.

See HGTV stars and twin sisters **Leslie Davis** and **Lyndsay Lamb** from their hit show **Unsellable Houses** on Friday, Jan. 19 and Saturday, Jan. 20!



buy online & SAVE \$2

VALID ON REGULAR ADULT ADMISSION ONLY.

DISCOUNT COURTESY OF:



IndianapolisHomeShow.com

Breaking Down Big Ten Basketball Race

While there's no such thing as a sure thing,

it's looking KENNY THOMPSON like the Big Columnist Ten men's basketball

championship once again goes through West Lafayette. Purdue will likely suffer two or three more losses on the path to March but through 14 games, the

Boilermakers look like the class of a mediocre Big Ten.

Who might challenge Purdue? Here's my breakdown of the contenders, spoilers and those who will begin planning for the 2024-25 season.

THE FAVORITE

Purdue - Southern Illinois transfer Lance Jones is the difference between this year's top-ranked Boilermakers and last year's squad, which managed to rise to the top of The Associated

Press poll while starting two freshman guards.

Jones plays without fear. His three 3pointers to start the second half Tuesday night at Maryland settled what could have been a rough road outing. Instead, Purdue put its foot down on the Terrapins' collective throats and coasted to an easier victory than the 14point margin suggested. Jones, who averages 10.8 points a game, has helped alleviate one of Purdue's weaknesses from a year ago dealing with pressure defense. He has taken some of the burden off sophomore Braden Smith, whose improved statistics across the board (12.9 ppg., 6.7 assists, 5.4 rebounds, 49 percent 3-point shooting) make him a first-team All-Big Ten candidate. Fletcher Lover's shooting also has improved dramatically.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Montgomery County Board of Zoning Appeals Notice of Public Hearing to Consider Variance to the Montgomery **County Zoning Ordinance**

Notice is hereby given the Montgomery County Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 24, 2024, at 10:00 am to consider a Variance, of Development standards (Urban Overlay), from the Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance. The meeting will be held in the Montgomery County Government Center Community Room, 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933

The proposed Variance (ZV2401), to the development standard of the Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance Chapter 159 of Montgomery County Code. The request is for variance from the 18 feet height restriction in the Urban Overlay district requirement for accessory buildings on properties in the ½ mile district. The property in the request is located at 1609 S Ladoga Rd. Parcel: 54-10-09-300-014.000-025

Citizens appearing at the public hearing will have an opportunity to provide comments concerning the proposed variance. All interested citizens are encouraged to attend. The Board of Zoning Appeals may continue the hearing from time to time as may be found necessary. Citizens may file written commer or objections with Marc Bonwell, 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933 (marc bonwell@montgomerycounty.in.gov) prior to the public hearing. All such written objections will be considered by the Board of Zoning Appeals. A copy of the proposed Variance is on file and may be examined at the Montgomery County Building and Zoning Department office at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933 (765-364-6490), office hours are 8:00-4:30 weekdays except holidays.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if anyone intending to attend the public hearing needs reasonable accommodation, please contact the Montgomery County Commissioners Office, 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, IN 47933, 765-361-2623

This notice dated January 8, 2024 Marc Bonwell, Building/Zoning Administrator Montgomery County, IN PL4800 1/12 1t hspaxlp

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING To consider a Re-zone of Real Property in MONTGOMERY COUNTY

The Montgomery County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on Monday, January 22, 2024 at 8:00 am to consider a re-zone from Agricultural o Commercial of a property in Montgomery County. The meeting will be held in the Community Room of the Montgomery County Government Center, 1580 Constitution Row, CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN 47933 Petitioner: Larry Smith

compared to last year's 32 and 34 percent respectively. It says a lot about Purdue's talent that a former Indiana Gatorade Player of the Year, Trey Kaufman-Renn, is the fifth option on offense. Last but not least, reigning National Player of the Year Zach Edey has established himself as the favorite to repeat that honor. Even with an improved supporting cast, Edey is averaging one point a game higher than last season. Barring injury, he will break Joe Barry Carroll's career rebounding record and has a chance to catch Rick Mount's all-time scoring record of 2,323 points. Edey also has improved his NBA Draft stock in the view of ESPN.com writer Jonathan Givony. Edey jumped from 32nd to 14th in ESPN's draft rankings. "The runaway favorite to repeat as national player of the year, Edey has found another gear with his conditioning, mobility and productivity, looking noticeably

to 39 percent from 3-

point range and 41

percent overall

more impactful on both ends of the floor. He has shown better versatility stepping outside the paint defensively, blocking shots prolifically while drawing fouls and dunking even more than usual, finding some real swagger to his game this season. "Edey has done it against many of the top teams in college basketball, with big performances against Arizona, Alabama,

prospect in a class lacking sure-fire contributors."

THE CONTENDERS

Illinois - The Fighting Illini get their shot to make a statement to the Big Ten on tonight at Purdue but their chances of winning the conference took a major hit when firstteam All-Big Ten guard Terrence Shannon Jr. was indefinitely suspended after being charged with rape in Douglas County, Kansas. Illinois showed no adverse effects of Shannon's absence during its 96-66 rout of Northwestern on Tuesday night in the other Assembly Hall, now known as State Farm Center. The Fighting Illini shot nearly 56 percent from 3-point range while getting a dominant 32point performance from Marcus Domask. Quincy Guerrier and Coleman Hawkins have helped Illinois average nearly 84 points a game, trailing only Iowa (86.7) and Purdue (85.4). Interestingly, Illinois closes the regular season at home against Purdue (March 5) and at Iowa (March 10). Wisconsin - A physical style of play continues to work for the Badgers, whose top two players (Tyler Wahl, Steven Crowl) seem to have been in Madison for a decade. The Badgers have pulled off big victories already this season at home against then-No. 3 Marquette and at Michigan State. January looks very favorable with

a huge jump offensively. The Huskers' 77.6 scoring average going into the Indiana game is a nearly 10-point increase from this time a year ago. Brice Williams, Juwan Gary and Rienk Mast each are averaging between 13 and 14 points a game. Keisei Tominaga is not far behind with his 12.7 average. Northwestern - Boo

Buie is on his way to another first-team All-Big Ten honor, averaging 18.1 points a game. Lafayette Jeff's career scoring leader, Brooks Barnhizer, has fulfilled most expectations as the Wildcats' No. 2 scorer (13.0). Inconsistency has been an issue, getting up for Purdue then suffering an embarrassing loss at home to Chicago State. How will it respond to Tuesday night's shellacking at Illinois? Ohio State - The Buckeyes' 11-2 start has quieted some of the discontent aimed at coach Chris Holtmann. If Ohio State comes out of January above .500 in the Big Ten, it could finish in the top four. Trips to Indiana and Michigan, sandwiching a home game with Wisconsin, in the next couple weeks will be an indication. Point guard Bruce Thornton has taken over the go-to scoring role at 16.9 points a game. Minnesota transfer Jamison Battle is shooting better than 42 percent from 3point range and averages 14.3 points.

WAIT UNTIL NEXT YEAR Michigan – The

The Hawkeyes were dead last defensively last season (74.7 ppg.), next to last in 2021-22 (71.2 ppg.) and 11th in 2020-21 (72.7). Notice a trend? Iowa hasn't claimed a Big Ten title since 1979, when it shared the championship with Magic Johnson's Michigan State Spartans and Purdue. That title-less streak will continue in 2023-24.

Rutgers - With the second- and thirdranked high school prospects coming to New Jersey next season, the Scarlet Knights trail only Kentucky and Duke in 24/7 Sports composite recruiting rankings. (Purdue is 9th). While the future looks promising, not even coach Steve Pikiell's prowess can help a team that is dead last offensively in the Big Ten (67.5 ppg.). Rutgers' top-ranked defense (61.4) hasn't been able to carry the load. Center Clifford Omoruyi averages nearly a double-double but his teammates are shooting 29 percent from 3-point range and less than 40 percent overall. Minnesota - The Gophers have shown improvement in coach Ben Johnson's third season. Point guard Elijah Hawkins leads the nation in assists (101) and assists per game (7.8). Dawson Garcia has missed some time with an ankle injury but still leads Minnesota at 17.6 points and 7.3 rebounds per game. Depth, however,

Purpose of Request-

A request to re-zone a 47 acre parcel of real property from Agricultural to Commercial

Location: 2600 S Block of US Highway 231

Citizens appearing at the public hearing will have an opportunity to provid comments concerning the proposed re-zone. All interested citizens are encourag to attend. The Montgomery County Commissioners may continue the hearing from time to time as may be found necessary. Citizens may file written comment objections with Montgomery County Building/ Zoning Administration ATTN: Marc Bonwell, 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933 or by All such written objections will be considered by the Commissioners. A copy for the proposed re-zone is on file and may be examined at the Montgomery County Building and Zoning Administration office at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933 (765-364-6490), office hours are 8:00-4:30 weekdays except holidays.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if anyone ntending to attend the public hearing needs reasonable accommodation, please contact the Montgomery County Commissioners Office, 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, IN 47933, 765-361-2623

 This notice dated January e, _____
Marc Bonwell,
Building/Zoning Administrator Montgomery County, IN PL4801 This notice dated January 8, 2024

DON'T WAIT!

Tennessee, even showing some new facets to his game as a passer when doubleteams inevitably come. While there will surely be some skepticism around his age (21), lack of perimeter shooting and ability to hold his own as a pickand-roll defender, Edey has some clear virtues NBA teams can tap into early in his career and is worthy of a fresh look, possibly 1/12 1t hspaxlp as a lottery-level

Marquette and

Michigan State coming to the Kohl Center. The three road games (Ohio State, Penn State, Minnesota) all seem winnable. Indiana - On the other Visit our website www.thepaper24-7.com DORRANCE if the game is in www.mybook100.com Assembly Hall. Learn how to get your book idea sold online and at bookstores nationwide. 800-448-1964 odds in home

Nebraska, Indiana,

Northwestern and

hand, one prominent college basketball website has predicted a gloomy first month of 2024 for the Hoosiers. The site predicts a 1-7 month for Indiana, but I will be surprised if that occurs even though the Hoosiers lost at Nebraska on Wednesday night. Games at Rutgers, Wisconsin and Illinois will test an Indiana offense that struggles with outside shooting (32 percent on an average of less than five shots a game from 3-point range). Purdue will be no picnic, even Minnesota is the most likely victory. However, I give Indiana favorable matchups with Ohio State and Iowa. But which Hoosiers team will show up on any given night? The one that put up a fight against Kansas or the squad that looked like it didn't belong on the same floor as Connecticut and Auburn? Oregon transfer Kel'el Ware has been a welcome addition inside and Malik

Wolverines are below .500 entering January, not totally unexpected with Hunter Dickenson's cashdriven transfer to Kansas and the losses of Jett Howard and Kobi Bufkin to the NBA. Dug McDaniel is developing into one of the Big Ten's best point guards at 19 points and 5 assists per game. Tennessee transfer Olivier Nkamhoua averages 17.2 points and 7.5 rebounds. Maryland - To paraphrase Kevin Costner in "Bull Durham," the Terrapins couldn't hit water if they collectively fell out of a boat. Dead last in the Big Ten with 27 percent shooting from 3-point range and 13th in overall field goal percentage (40.9). Jahmir Young once again is one of the league's top scorers (19.8 ppg.) but doesn't get nearly enough help. In the 67-43 loss at home to No. 1 Purdue on Tuesday night, the rest of the Terrapins were a collective 9 of 40 from the field. Iowa - Unlike the Hawkeyes' football team, Fran McCaffrey's bunch is poor defensively. Iowa is off to an 0-4 start in conference play largely because it allows almost 78 points game.

the player exodus following Micah Shrewsberry's move to Notre Dame, the Nittany Lions are adjusting to new coach Mike Rhoades. Rhodes' top six are all transfers, including guards Ace Baldwin Jr. and Nick Kern Jr. who followed the coach from VCU. Winthrop transfer Kanye Clary (18.2) and Baldwin (13.6) are Penn State's only double-figure scorers.

Penn State – Gutted by

weakness.

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.



Please visit us online: thepaper24-7.com

SAVE \$500!

Generic and Herbal versions of Viagra® right now as low as \$2 a pill.

Call now for rush delivery in your unmarked package.



Call or visit us to get your FREE authors guide to publishing!

Become

today!

an author



County, Kentucky and came at age 13 to this area with his parents, the next generation back born in Virginia, being Israel and Frances (Deer) Clore. Erastus farmed but also owned a mill and a resort called Pleasant View on Sugar Creek in the late 1800s and early 1900s. This farm was sold in 1967 to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and is now part of the Shades State Park (Parke County History and Families p 177). He owned quite a bit of **Brown Township** MoCo property, as well.

Arminta (Minnie) Carter was taken as the wife of Erastus in 1881 but she passed away just ten years later.Their children were Earl, Pearl and Jewel. He then married Elvie Keeling, daughter of Dexter and Mary Lowe Keeling who mothered Bernard, Vern, Gladys and Betty. Elvie passed away in 1962 at age 91, the last of the charter members of Byron Christian Church.

The Byron Christian Church just over the Montgomery County line was organized by Erastus and Elvie and they were active in it throughout their lives. He was a deacon for many years and Elvie took his place upon his death. After Ras passed, Elvie continued living on the farm with her brother, Owen Keeling who was quite famous raising and selling gladiolas.Sadly, their home burned down in the late 1940s and she moved into Waveland where she spent the rest of her life, passing April 30, 1962 at her son,

in April 1935. They are buried in Maple Ridge Cemetery just outside of Waveland, with Erastus and his two wives on the same stone. Pearl Clore was born 16 April 1883 and passed away the 2nd day of 1897, so sadly didn't really get a chance at life. She has a little personal tombstone (those are awesome) at Maple Ridge with the very large, impressive Clore tombstone centering around the small ones! Earl was born 11 Jan 1887 and farmed in the Wallace area, also doing carpentry work. I think of the Clores (I knew at least) as fairly big men but on Bernard's WWII draft card he certainly didn't fit that as being 5'6" and 135#. His half-brother, Earl's WWII card listed him as 5'7" and 150#. So, thinking that was a wrong assumption on my part! Earl married Mable Porter and they were parents of two daughters, Edith Arminta and Naomi B. Jewel married local farmer Claude Thomas Mitchell and they were parents of an infant son 1907; Paul (1908-1990); Mae (1912-2004); Vern (1917-1985); Idel (1920-2015); Maude (1925-1973); Robert Lee (1928-2966). Bernard, born (9 Dec 1893) to this family was in Co G, 151st Infantry in World War I and went overseas 14 Oct 1918. He farmed the Clore property near Byron church. On Aug 23, 1928 he married Helen Garland and don't believe they had

Bernard's. Ras passed

Lodge and life member of the Byron Christian Church. Appropriately, he was buried in Crawfordsville's Masonic Cemetery (now Oak Hill Grant Avenue). LaVerne (Vern) Clore was born 18 May 1897, married in Crawfordsville to Georgie Fulwider and passed at Waveland 9 May 1972 at the Small Rest Home. Vern was a super guy one of my dad's good buddies and he raised some nice horses and mules. Vern would roll in to our driveway, hope out of his car and say, "Hey, Fred, got a joke for you," every time! I remember Georgie very well, too and they had one daughter, Carole. Gladys (born 6 Feb 1905 near Waveland) married Raymond Spencer, a farmer and they had one of the nicest fellows I've ever met, Robert "Keith" Spencer (born Nov 12, 1931). Believe she graduated from Crawfordsville HS in 1923.Gladys passed away 16 Aug 1996 in Hawaii (probably visiting Keith who lived there for quite a number of years) but buried in Mt. Moriah. Betty lived but a few days, born 27 March 1911 and dying on the 10th following. She is buried with her parents at Maple Ridge north of Waveland with one of the cool small stones. I have enjoyed all the Clores I've known (especially our wonderful writer, Chuck) so whether they are big or small, I'll take 'em all!



while working, his SSDI benefits will not be in jeopardy. Your husband should contact Social Security's Ticket to Work program directly to protect his disability status and discuss returning to work while collecting SSDI benefits. The Ticket to Work program assists those now receiving SSDI benefits who wish to test their ability to return to work without putting their SSDI benefits at risk. The program provides considerable assistance, including new career training opportunities and connection to potential employers, and it is voluntary and costs nothing. Here is a link to Social Security's information on the Ticket to Work program: https://choosework.ss a.gov/ It's not mandatory for your husband to enroll in the Ticket to Work program but, in addition to other available assistance, he can request a Trial Work Period (TWP) which would allow for 9 months, over a rolling five year period, during which he can earn any amount (even over the normal monthly limit mentioned above) without risking his SSDI benefits. Within the Trial Work Period, only those months he earns over the normal monthly SSDI limit would count as a Trial Work Month. So, for example, your husband could work part time regularly earning under the normal monthly limit and if, in some

So, your younger disabled husband can, indeed, work while on Social Security disability, for as long as he wishes while earning under the monthly SSDI limit (the SSDI earnings limit changes yearly). He may also wish to enroll in Social Security's Ticket to Work program for assistance with developing a new career. Plus, he can take advantage of using trial work months in the event his work earnings will, at times, exceed the monthly SSDI limit. If your husband earns over the SSDI limit for more than the 9 trial work months and his benefits are consequently stopped, he can within the 5-year Trial Work Period - have his benefits reinstated (without again going through the full application process) if his disability, once more, renders him unable to work full time. For starters, I suggest your husband contact Social Security's Ticket to Work program directly at 1.833-889-0108 to discuss returning to work part time. Social Security will guide him through the entire process. This article is intended

for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. Russell Gloor is the, National Social Security Advisor at the AMAC Foundation, the nonprofit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/pr

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia

You guessed correctly, it's

Susie Weliever Birdsong

of Country Hearts & Flowers

2, 3, and 4 Bedroom Rental Homes Call Hooks (765) 918-8700

www.hookshomesindiana.com



Montgomery County's oldest locally owned

children. He was a 50year-member of the Wallace Masonic THE PAPER months (up to nine), he earned more it wouldn't affect his SSDI benefits. ograms/social-securityadvisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfounda tion.org.

newspaper

HHSB

helping secure funding to bring the Traveling Vietnam Memorial to Crawfordsville in 2016 and assisting the American Legion in acquiring a van for funeral services showcased his commitment to honoring those who served. The establishment of the Flag Box Program, ensuring the dignified display of burial flags for fallen veterans, further exemplifies his dedication to community values. In addition to his local initiatives, he has been a staunch supporter of Holocaust education. He played a pivotal role in bringing Holocaust survivor Eva Kor to Montgomery County, leading to the establishment of HHSB's teacher scholarship program. This program grants four local teachers a bank-sponsored trip with the CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center, fostering continued education about the

From Page A1 Holocaust among our

youth. Under his leadership, Hoosier Heartland State Bank achieved remarkable milestones. The bank's assets grew from \$8 million to an impressive \$300 million, employees increased from 5 to 65, and branches expanded from one to seven, including a Virtual Branch and microbranch at Nucor Steel. Trey's legacy is further reflected in the construction of the bank's new Operations Center and the HHSB Success Center in 2019. The Success Center, a training and education facility, stands as a testament to his commitment to fostering growth not only within the bank but also within the community. As Etcheson embarks on the next chapter of his journey, Hoosier Heartland State Bank expresses profound gratitude for his dedication and transformative leadership.

STROKE From Page A1

the Centers for Disease **Control and Prevention** (CDC), and 1 in 5 women will have a stroke. However, a large majority of strokes can be prevented. Caring for yourself by understanding your risk factors can help reduce your risk for stroke and provide a better quality of life. Start managing your stroke risk with these tips from the American Stroke Association, a division of the American Heart Association:

Monitor Your Blood Pressure

The first step you can take in reducing your risk for stroke is knowing your blood pressure and keeping it in a healthy range. High blood pressure is the No.1 preventable cause of stroke, according to the American Heart Association. The best way to know your blood pressure is to have it measured at least once per year by a health care professional and regularly monitor it at home then discuss

the numbers with a doctor. For most people, a normal blood pressure should be 120/80 mm HG or less. In addition to properly monitoring blood pressure, maintaining a healthy weight, being physically active, eating healthfully and reducing or eliminating alcohol and tobacco usage can help control blood pressure. If you do develop high blood pressure, work with a health care professional on a plan to help manage it.

Take Care of Your Mental Health

Some stress is unavoidable but constant stress is not healthy. Chronic or constant stress may lead to high blood pressure and other unhealthy behavior choices, which can increase risk for stroke. Based on findings in a Stress in America 2020 survey conducted by the American Psychological Association, the top sources of stress are

money, work, family responsibilities and health concerns. Managing your stress and blood pressure can improve your overall health and well-being. Reclaim control of your schedule and build in time to invest in your health. Find 10 minutes every day to do something for you, like listening to music, meditating or going for a walk.

Learn the Warning Signs

A stroke can happen to anyone at any point in life. Immediate treatment may help minimize the long-term effects of a stroke and even prevent death. Learn how to spot a stroke F.A.S.T:

* Face drooping - Does one side of the face droop or is it numb? Ask the person to smile. Is the person's smile uneven?

* Arm weakness - Is one arm weak or numb? Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?

* Speech difficulty - Is speech slurred? Is the

person unable to speak or hard to understand? Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence like "The sky is blue." * Time to call 911 - If someone shows any of these symptoms, even if the symptoms go away, call 911 and get to a hospital immediately. Check the time so you'll know when the first symptoms appeared. Talk to your doctor about ways to improve your well-being and help prevent stroke. Find more wellness tips at stroke.org.



Please visit us online: thepaper24-7.com

Visit our website www.thepaper24-7.com

Two Local

Dean's List

In recognition of

achievement, the

Shelly Blunt, USI

Interim Provost,

outstanding academic

University of Southern

Indiana Dean's List has

2023 Fall Semester. Dr.

been released for the

announced a total of

2,008 undergraduate

students were named

students must achieve

semester GPA (on a 4.0

system) to be named

Crawfordsville: Karlie

A. Pfledderer and

Four Local

Dean's List

Olivet Nazarene

accredited Christian,

liberal arts university,

Dean's List and four

Montgomery County

students earned the

honor. To qualify for

List, a student must

attained a semester

3.50 or higher on a

4.00 grading scale.

The four are: Kayla

Abraham, Emmalee

and Krista Sixberry.

Dorsey, Kennedy Kiger

a full-time

and must have

have been enrolled as

undergraduate student

grade point average of

inclusion on the Dean's

has announced the fall

University, an

Ember R. Shepherd

Students Earn

to the Dean's List.

Undergraduate

a 3.5 or better

to the list.

Students Earn

A Look at Our Past: The Lincoln School for Colored Children

The Lincoln School for Colored Children operated in Crawfordsville from its inception in 1881 to 1947. The first location opened in September of 1882, at the corner of Spring and North Walnut, with 42 students. The land and buildings of the school provided a safe space for the black community to socialize and learn. In 1952, the last building of the school was converted into a recreation center under the Crawfordsville Parks and Recreation Department. That building was demolished in 1981. The city of Crawfordsville has plans to create a green space at the location thanks to an anonymous donor. Two local residents, Shannon Sullivan Hudson and Vicke Elmore Hudson Swisher, received a grant to conduct research and write a book about the Lincoln School for Colored Children. The book, To Remember the Forgotten School, is available at the Carnegie Museum of Montgomery County for \$20. The Museum is hosting an exhibit based on the book's research through the end of February. You can visit the exhibit Wednesday through Saturday from 10 am-5 pm.

There will be a series of talks on the Lincoln School at the library's Genealogy Club meetings throughout the year. Everyone is welcome to attend the programs; there is no need to be a member of the genealogy club. The Club meets every second Tuesday of the month. The January talk is available online on our website under our "Recorded



The Lincoln School for Colored Children

Programs" and it features the laws creating schools and early education in Indiana, as well as the buildings housing The Lincoln School through the decades. Thanks to the research done by Shannon and Vicke, the Indiana Historical Bureau has announced that the Lincoln School will be one of sixteen new historical markers placed in the state of Indiana. To be eligible for a historical marker the topic must be of national or statewide significance and supported by proper documentation. You may have seen the black markers at other places around Montgomery County and Crawfordsville like the Carnegie Museum or Lane Place. A full list of state markers can be found at the Indiana Historical Bureau website Historical Markers by County. Currently, fundraising is happening to cover the installation of The Lincoln School marker. To make an appointment for further research about our local history, please contact our Local History Specialist, Dellie Craig at (765)362-2242, ext 119. The Crawfordsville **District Public Library**

can find more information about library programs on our website at https://www.cdpl.lib.in. us/.





Dellie Craig is a Local History Specialist and Michelle Ogden is a Reference Library Assistant. Both work in the Reference and Local History Department at the Crawfordsville District Public Library

Local Scholarship Offered

Community Action Program, Inc. of Western Indiana (CAPWI) is offering a scholarship in memory of Joan E. Cline, former Executive Director and long-time supporter of community intervention services, to graduating seniors in the amount of \$1,000 for each year they attend higher education up to a maximum of 4 years. The scholarship will be provided for four-year, two-year, or Trade Association degrees through an accredited institution. The applicant must be enrolled for a minimum of 12 credit hours, or full-time equivalency, and maintain a 2.5 GPA. Preference will be given to low-moderate income families. The scholarship is awarded to an applicant within our six-county service area, which includes

Montgomery County,

as well as Benton, Fountain, Parke, Vermillion and Warren counties. Completed applications must be received by CAPWI by the close of business on March 1, 2024. The Joan E. Memorial Scholarship Application is available on our website at https://www.capwi.org/ about-us/joan-clinememorial-scholarship/. You may contact Julie Pettit at 765-793-4881, ext. 123 or via email at jpettit@capwi.org for additional information. All services are provided without regard to race, age, color, religion, sex, disability, national origin, ancestry, familial status, or status as a veteran. Visit our website at www.capwi.org for information about services offered by CAPWI.

Baird Thanks Retiring Hoosier Lawmakers

Congressman Jim Baird "Rep. Bucshon has (IN-04) said thanks for a couple of fellow Hoosier lawmakers for their service in Washington after Congressmen Greg Pence and Larry Bucshon announced they were not running for re-election. "Rep. Pence has been a courageous legislator and great friend during his time in Washington," Baird said. "We have collaborated on dozens of bills to improve the lives of Hoosiers, including expanding rural broadband access and allowing Federal State Department employees to report government waste. I want to thank Greg and the entire Pence family for their service to Indiana and the entire country. His presence will be sorely missed in Washington.

been a relentless advocate for Hoosier values during his tenure in the House, securing countless victories for his constituents and the people of Indiana," Baird continued. "It has been a privilege to work with him on key legislation, including bills to protect homeowners, support our farmers, and get veterans the care they deserve. On a personal level, Larry is a dedicated family man who has been a friendly and productive collaborator during my time in Washington. I want to thank Larry for all his hard work over the past thirteen years, and I wish him the best in retirement."

is open on Sundays from 1-5pm, Mondays through Thursdays from 9 am-9 pm, and Fridays and Saturdays from 9 am-5 pm. You







CHOLESTEROL From Page A1

health and prevent a heart attack or stroke.

Understanding Cholesterol

A waxy, fat-like substance created by the liver and consumed from meat, poultry and dairy products, cholesterol isn't inherently bad for you. In fact, your body needs it to build cells and make vitamins and other hormones. However, too much cholesterol circulating in the blood can pose a problem.

The two types of cholesterol are lowdensity lipoprotein (LDL), which is considered "bad," and high-density lipoprotein (HDL), which can be thought of as "good" cholesterol. Too much of the "bad" kind, or not enough of the "good," increases the risk of cholesterol slowly building up in the inner walls of the arteries that feed the heart and brain. Cholesterol can join with other substances

to form a thick, hard deposit on the inside of the arteries called plaque. This can narrow the arteries and make them less flexible - a condition known as atherosclerosis. If a blood clot forms, it may be more likely to get stuck in one of these narrowed arteries, resulting in a heart attack or stroke.

Understanding Risk

Your body naturally produces all the LDL it needs. An unhealthy lifestyle can make your body produce more LDL than required. Behaviors that may negatively affect your cholesterol levels include lack of physical activity, obesity, eating an unhealthy diet and smoking or exposure to tobacco smoke. In addition to unhealthy habits, which are the cause of high LDL cholesterol for most people, some people inherit genes from their parents or grandparents - called familial hypercholesterolemia (FH) - that cause them to have too much cholesterol and can lead to premature atherosclerotic heart disease. If you have a family history of FH or problems related to high cholesterol, it's important to get your levels checked.

Getting Cholesterol Checked

Adults age 20 and older should have their cholesterol and other traditional risk factors checked every 4-6 years as long as their risk remains low. After age 40, your health care professional will use an equation to calculate your 10-year risk of heart attack or stroke. People with cardiovascular disease, and those at elevated risk, may need their cholesterol and other risk factors assessed more often.

Managing Cholesterol

If you have high cholesterol, understanding your risk for heart disease and stroke is one of the most important things you

can do, along with taking steps to lower your cholesterol. Often, simply changing certain behaviors can help bring your numbers into line. Eating a heart-healthy diet that emphasizes fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean or plant-based protein, fish and nuts while limiting red and processed meats, sodium and sugarsweetened foods and beverages is one of the best ways to lower your cholesterol. While grocery shopping, look for the American Heart Association's Heart-Check mark to help identify foods that can be part of an overall healthy eating pattern. Other lifestyle changes include losing weight, quitting smoking and becoming more physically active, as a sedentary lifestyle can lower HDL. To help lower both cholesterol and high blood pressure, experts recommend at least 150 minutes of

moderate-intensity

aerobic exercise a week, such as walking, biking or swimming. For some people, lifestyle changes may prevent or manage unhealthy cholesterol levels. For others, medication may also be needed. Work with your doctor to develop a treatment plan that's right for you. If medication is required, be sure to take it as prescribed. Controlling your cholesterol may be easier than you think. Learn more about managing your cholesterol at heart.org/cholesterol.



Four Wabash Seniors Earn Fellowships



Orr Fellowships, guaranteeing two-year salaried positions with some of Indiana's most dynamic, high-growth businesses. Joe Barnett, Evan Kanetkar, Nick Logan, and Champ McCorkle will receive executive mentorship and participate in a curriculum designed to develop understanding and skills vital to entrepreneurship and business leadership. Further, as Orr Fellows, they will grow professionally through an active and supportive network with opportunities for cultural and civic engagement. "Congratulations to our newest Orr Fellows. Your hard work over the last four years in the classroom, pursuing professional experiences, and serving in campus leadership positions has paid off," said Cassie Hagan, director of professional development and Center for Innovation, Business, and Entrepreneurship (CIBE). "It's an exciting time to be part of the tech and startup ecosystem in Indiana and I'm glad these seniors have chosen to start their careers in Indianapolis. I'm grateful the Orr Fellowship continues to match our talented grads with these positions and look forward to the personal growth the Orr Fellowship will afford you." arnett, a native of Westfield, is a member

Four Wabash College

seniors have earned

fraternity, Sons of Wabash, and the cross country and track and field teams. Previously, he has interned with Spot Freight, the State of Indiana Legislative Services Agency, and Techpoint. He will work with Resultant, a consulting firm based in Indianapolis. "I am excited to be a part of such a great organization and see that my hard work at Wabash has paid off," said Barnett, a PPE major and Spanish minor. "I look forward to meeting the other fellows and to start building connections with others who are just at the start their professional careers." Kanetkar, a native of Evansville, Indiana, is a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies, and the track and field team, and leads campus tours for the admissions office. He has also served as chairman of the Wabash diversity, equity, and inclusion committee. Kanetkar has interned with four different organizations during his Wabash career. He has paired with Offprem, which specializes in cloudbased Salesforce implementation services, and will be based in Fishers. "People always ask me why I went to Wabash," said Kanetkar, a computer science major and film and digital media minor. "When I found out I got the Orr, it felt like that

of Lambda Chi Alpha company."

question had finally been answered. This fellowship will be a great learning and growing experience and I'm eager to experience the opportunities the Orr will provide." Logan, a native of Elkhart, is a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity, and the baseball team. Previously, he has interned with Northwestern Mutual. He will work with The Annex Group, which specializes in affordable housing from development through property management, and be based in Indianapolis. "It feels great to accept a position with the Orr Fellowship, especially so early during my senior year," said Logan, an economics major and rhetoric minor. "I look forward to many continued learning and community service experiences and am thankful for the opportunity provided by the Orr Fellowship and my partner McCorkle is a native of Greenwood, is a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, the Center for Innovation, Business, and Entrepreneurship, and the basketball team. Previously, he has interned with Eli Lilly and Capturely. He has paired with Telamon, leaders in the telecommunications space, and will be based in Carmel. "I am absolutely thrilled to be selected as an Orr Fellow," said McCorkle, a financial mathematics and

end your travel dollars when you get there not getting there!

800-419-9625

philosophy double major. "What captivates me most is the unique opportunity to contribute to and learn from a company of Telamon's caliber, a dynamic organization that embodies innovation and excellence." Orr Fellows work in a variety of job functions, ranging from marketing to engineering to consulting, sales, and more. Fellows are matched with industries of all types and partner with companies from small start-ups to enterpriselevel global organizations. To be considered for an Orr Fellowship, a student must demonstrate leadership on and off campus, have a cumulative 3.2 GPA or higher, and have a strong interest in entrepreneurial business or organizational leadership. A total of 32 Wabash students have earned Orr Fellowships since 2007, including 27 in the last seven years.

Registration Open for Small Farm Conference

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. Registration is open for the 2024 Indiana Small Farm Conference -Indiana's premier annual event for the state's farming community. The 12th annual conference and trade show will take place Feb. 29-March 1 at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds in Danville, Indiana. Join this year's keynote speaker, Michael Kilpatrick, founder of Growing Farmers and host of the top-rated "Thriving Farmer Podcast," to network and learn about thriving in challenging times and adding help to your farm. Since 2013, the Indiana Small Farm Conference has brought together novice and experienced smallscale farmers to benefit from comprehensive, instructive and enjoyable programming about diversified farming and local food systems. This year's conference

will offer eight tracks from which attendees can choose sessions that interest them:

- Urban agriculture
- Vegetable • production
- **Business**
- Livestock
- Resilient agriculture
- Niche opportunities Equity and food
- security Flowers

"A new and exciting session called fiber farming will include a presentation about sheep, alpaca and rabbit farming for fiber," said Amy Thompson, Purdue Extension's beginning farmers coordinator and a conference organizer. "There will also be a fruit grafting demonstration during the social hour on Thursday evening and several farmer panels and opportunities for networking." For more information or to sign up, visit the Indiana Small Farm Conference website at purdue.ag/sfc.





Butch Buys Old Firearms

Retired Sheriff and Licensed FFL

I will buy your old guns: Winchester, Colt, H&R, Ruger, Savage, Browning, Smith & Wesson, Marlin, & others Call me anytime for a free estimate !! John "Butch" Dale (765) 404-1354



Up to 75%

- more than 500 Airlines
- / and 300,000 Hotels across the world!

Let us do the research for you for free... we'll save you time and money

We're not allowed to publish fares online so call for the best rates now



Visit our website www.thepaper24-7.com



Whether you are selling your existing home or moving to your dream home, you need a real estate professional you can depend on. Clark Dale is a life-long Montgomery County resident, a graduate of Texas Tech and Indiana State universities, and a U.S. Army veteran. Clark is trained in all aspects of buying and selling a home. You can count on him to help meet your real esate needs.



Ag Merger Going Through

President, Scott

Indiana-based agriculture & energy cooperatives Ceres Solutions Cooperative, Inc. and Co-Alliance Cooperative, Inc., announce today that both boards and memberships have overwhelmingly approved the merger. The effective date of the merger is March 1, 2024, and the company will be named Keystone Cooperative, Inc. This merger creates a farmer-owned cooperative focused on delivering an unmatched customer experience, with the resources needed to support farmer-owners as they grow into the future. Keystone Cooperative will serve customers in Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois. It will have four core divisions, including Energy, Agronomy, Grain, and Swine & Animal Nutrition. Keystone will employ over 1,700 dedicated team members throughout the states served, with expected annual revenue of \$3 billion.

The boards have chosen Kevin Still, current President & CEO of Co-Alliance, to be the President & CEO of Keystone Cooperative. Ceres Solutions current CEO Jeff Troike will become the Executive Vice President of Keystone Cooperative, Inc. alongside Co-Alliance's current Executive Vice

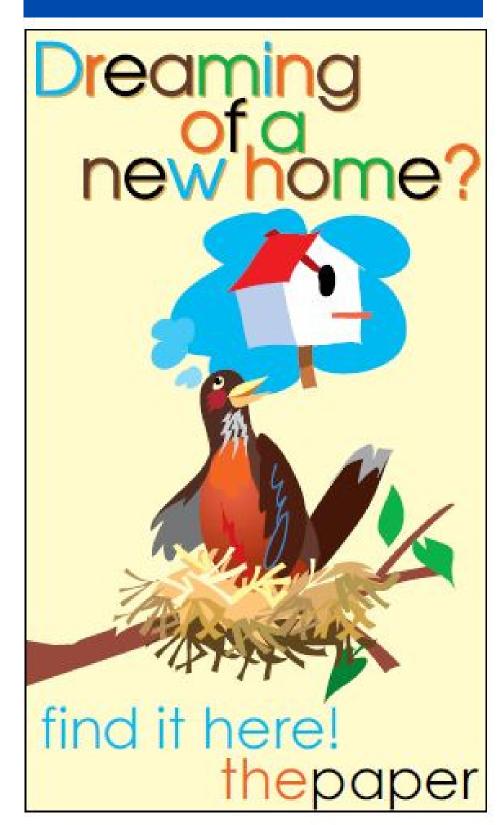
Logue. "Keystone Cooperative brings together two financially strong, legacy-rich and highly successful cooperatives. This historic merger creates a cooperative that is equipped to navigate the ever-changing markets of today's agriculture and energy industries," said Kevin Still. "This powerful combination will build a cooperative that maximizes efficiencies, capitalizes on technology, and has the resources to enhance our customer experience while preparing for the needs of our future stakeholders." concluded Still. "Our membership has recognized the value of this combination, and we are looking forward to achieving our promise of a cooperative that is focused on the success of our members, the vitality of our rural communities, and providing an unparallelled return for our farmer-owners," Jeff Troike added. This merger announcement comes after a thorough due diligence process and the collaborative joint venture, Endeavor Ag & Energy, which serves Central Michigan in agronomy, propane and feed. Rick Brubaker, Chairman of Ceres **Board of Directors**

underscored the value of the merger, saying, "Our successful partnership with the Endeavor business in Michigan helped exhibit the collaborative capacity of our organizations. We look forward to seeing this team find even more synergies with our broader businesses." Tim Burke, Chairman of Co-Alliance Board of Directors affirmed the merger opportunity, stating, "This merger is a testament to our shared vision and unwavering commitment to delivering exceptional value to our customers. Together we will create a stronger, more resilient cooperative that will remain successful for our future generations." Keystone Cooperative will be headquartered in Indianapolis.



Montgomeny County:s oldest locally owned independent newspapen

We appreciate our readers!



Visit us online: thepaper24-7.com

