



We're everywhere you are!

Zahn's FLOOR Covering

Carpet • Hardwood • Luxury Vinyl Tile • Laminate • Ceramic Tile • Bamboo

310 N. Green St. • 364-0517

Family owned and operated

TODAY'S VERSE

Deuteronomy 6:4-5 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with thy might.

Meet Dodger



Dodger is an 11 month old male black Labrador retriever mix that has been at AWL since 11/13/23. Dodger is friendly, LOVES to play fetch, and is a super snuggler. Dodger is looking for his best friend! Could that be you? Dodger is neutered, dewormed, and up to date on his shots. Dodger is available for adoption, to foster, or just simply going out for walks. AWL is open Monday - Friday from 12:15p-5p and Saturday's from 9:30a-3p. Come snuggle cats in one of the community cat rooms, walk dogs, or lend a helping hand!

# The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery County's oldest locally owned independent newspaper

50¢

CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA

WWW.THEPAPER24-7.COM

## County Gets Big Check to Start Paving Nucor, Other Roads



Photo courtesy Montgomery County

INDOT Commissioner Mike Smith, County Commissioner President John Frey and Gov. Eric Holcomb.

When the city, county and a small town all come together, it's the best example of government working.

This week, that's exactly what happened when the state awarded \$1,294,465 to Montgomery County, \$790,523 to the city of

Crawfordsville and \$623,553 to the town of New Market. The money comes from the state's Community Crossings Matching Grant Fund Program.

The money, which comes with some requirements, will be used for road and

bridge preservation, road reconstruction, intersection improvements and other items. The \$2.7 million total for the county is part of \$207 million going to 252 communities around the state.

➔ See CHECK Page A5

## Boomer Bits

### Ask Rusty – Can I Claim Social Security and Still Work?



ASK Rusty Social Security Advisor

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

**Dear Rusty:**  
I will be turning 63 soon. Can I apply for Social Security and continue to work? Would I be limited to how many hours or how much I could make? I know my monthly SS amount would be cut by 30%, or somewhere around there, but how would working

affect me? I was trying to read up on this, but the \$1 and \$2 thing confused me. I have an offer to take a work-at-home position and need to decide soon, but it is a cut in income. The cut would be okay if I could draw my Social

➔ See RUSTY Page A3

### Phony Investment Opportunities' Can Cost You Big

(NAPSI)—Huge returns and little to no risk? Who wouldn't want an investment opportunity like that? If you receive a pitch by phone, mail or email that makes such incredible financial promises

➔ See PHONY Page A3

### What to Know About RSV

(NAPSI)—You may remember the old saying, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." That's never been more true than it is right now about good health and older adults,

➔ See RSV Page A5

### U.S. Congressman Taking Part in Chamber Event Tomorrow



U.S. Congressman Jim Baird

The good just keeps getting better. The legislative breakfast series sponsored by the Crawfordsville / Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce that in recent years has grown from local to state, has now gone national. Saturday's event won't just feature State Sens. Brian

➔ See BAIRD Page A5

## Dr. Albert Hamilton, a Good Soul



KAREN ZACH Around The County

Meet Dr. Albert N. Hamilton born, raised and passed in Montgomery County. His father, James was a farmer from Ohio, and lived in Coal Creek Township, mother Margaret. He was one of at least six children (Catherine, Nathaniel, Mary, James and Sarah). I love his picture, very nicely dressed, hair in perfection, a cute 'lil mustache but such sad eyes.

Dr. Hamilton was born near Wingate 17 October 1847 (our son was born on that day 122 years later) and stayed in the northeast section of the county all his life, living in Waynetown and



➔ See KAREN Page A4

### TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

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

Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Paper and online at www.thepaper24-7.com



### THREE THINGS You Should Know

- More than 50,000 guests from all 50 states and 33 countries around the world flocked to Indianapolis Motor Speedway to stare at the greatest show in the sky during the Total Solar Eclipse Event. Guests arrived early for a full day of exhibits, experiments, panel-led discussions, demonstrations, photo opportunities and, of course, the total solar eclipse. More than 80 percent of the guests were first-time visitors to the Racing Capital of the World. Among the guests were members of Indiana's congressional delegation, Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb, NASA Deputy Administrator Pam Melroy, and Mark and Rick Armstrong, the sons of Purdue graduate and first man on the moon Neil Armstrong.
- According to our friends at Test Prep Insight, a survey involving 3,000 parents shows a shift toward 'authoritarian parenting.' The data indicates a near-majority shift to stricter parenting, with 49% of parents reporting a tightening grip on their children's academic life, driven by an anxiety to navigate them toward future job security. A striking 37 percent of parents expressed the need to organize their children's leisure with structured activities, suggesting a preference for regimented skill-building over free play. Moreover, 65 percent of parents admitted they would reduce their child's allowance as a penalty for declining grades, indicating a punitive approach to academic performance.
- Indiana Sen. And gubernatorial candidate Mike Braun spoke on the Senate floor earlier this week and called for a full impeachment trial of DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas. Braun said Democrats are trying to "sweep this under the rug" to avoid talking about what President Joe Biden did to open the border in his first days in office, and the steps taken by Secretary Mayorkas to "catch-and-release" illegal aliens into the country. Braun previously called on Secretary Mayorkas to resign over the border crisis.

### TODAY'S QUOTE

"Our new Constitution is now established, everything seems to promise it will be durable; but in this world, nothing is certain except death and taxes."

Benjamin Franklin

### TODAY'S JOKE

The student studied the test question carefully: What is the difference between tax avoidance and tax evasion. After some pondering he wrote down a one-word answer – jail. He passed.

### MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Wabash Avenue Church, 307 S. Washington, has its annual tree giveaway Saturday. A variety of deciduous and evergreen trees will be available. Sale begins at 9 but ends when all trees are distributed. So get there early!



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



The Paper of Montgomery County presents...

Exploring Britain & Ireland

September 14 – 28, 2024

For more information contact Collette

1-800-581-8942

Please refer to booking #1240271



## Honor Flight Will Include Local Retired Deputy

By DeAntha Wright-Thornburg  
 For The Paper

Did you know that the Honor Flight of Greater Lafayette has been operating for several years now? This non-profit organization aims to honor America's veterans by providing them with an all-expense-paid trip to Washington D.C. to visit the memorials dedicated to their service and sacrifice. Through this program, veterans are allowed to reflect on their experiences and share them with fellow veterans, family members, and volunteers. It's a wonderful initiative that recognizes and honors the brave men and women who have served our country.

How do you honor an individual who has spent his entire life serving others? For me, it will be serving as a personal escort for a retired Montgomery County Sheriff Deputy, Jim Truax.

How do you count the accomplishments of a wayward youth who was kicked from his home to the street at 16?

One of nine children, it was customary in the '40s and '50s after the death of a parent for siblings to be split up and placed in foster homes. Finding a suitable foster home for a young man at 16 wasn't an easy task.

Jim shared that "they put me in one foster home, when they found out I was Protestant, and they were Catholic, an Italian family they told me I couldn't stay.

Welfare took me to the Whites Manual Labor Institute, at Wabash, Indiana."

A few weeks after graduation Truax joined the army in 1959. He served his time and returned home. He had orders for Germany but was drafted and sent to Vietnam where he served two tours.

Every soldier leaves the military with a DD-214. SFC, Sgt 1st Class James Andrew Truax, SR. was honorably discharged after 20 years of service.

A humble man, you would never know he was a two-time Purple Heart recipient, serving two tours in Vietnam. Truax accomplishments were many.

- Master Parachute Badge
- National Defense Service Medal
- Army Commendation 3rd Oak Leaf Cluster
- Bronze Star, with V Device
- Purple Heart 1st Oak Leaf cluster
- Overseas Service Bars 4
- Vietnam Service Medal
- Vietnam Campaign Medal
- Combat Infantryman Badge

- Air Med
- Good Conduct Medal 3d AWD
- Army Service Ribbon
- Battalion Training Management System Workshop
- Unit Training Noncommissioned Officer School
- Senior Noncommissioned Officer
- Senior Noncommissioned Officer Firing Btry Course
- Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention Medal

Truax shared his first Purple Heart was awarded after he stepped on one of many Viet Kong foot traps, impaling his left foot. The second Purple Heart was awarded after he was hit with shrapnel in a firefight. Truax was told they were not going to remove the shrapnel in field conditions. The wound got worse and hindered his parachute straps. An army doctor took the shrapnel out while Truax was under a local. The medics pulled an AK 47 bullet from his side. Truax crashed twice onboard two different gunner helicopters racking up more than 138 hours as a door gunner.

After Vietnam ended Truax returned home and took a GF7 Civil Service, later moving to the active guard reserve.



Jim Truax

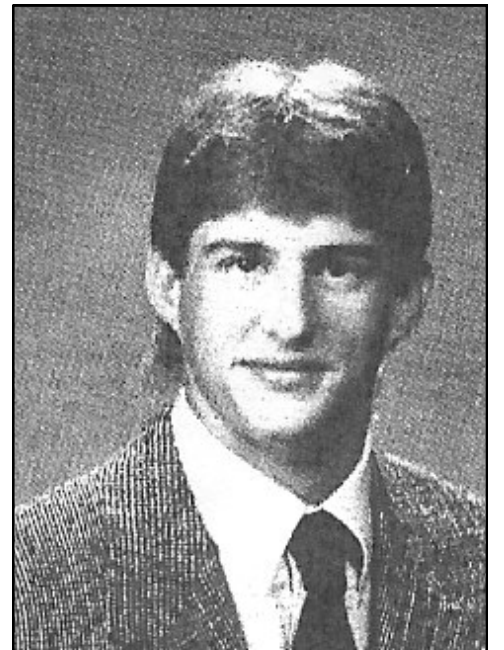
Once Truax retired from the Army at 20 years, he joined local law enforcement and began serving his community again with the Montgomery County Sheriff Deputy. Truax retired after 10 years of service.

How do you say thank you to a soldier, a man who has served his community, and county for more than 30 years of service to others?

Come join us for 'OPERATION HOMECOMING'. We need your help giving our WWII, Korean, and Vietnam Veterans a welcome home from their Honor Flight they will never forget!

Bring American flags, signs, banners on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the Purdue University Airport. Many of these Heroes never received a homecoming... please help us change that by filling the airport with grateful family and friends. To paraphrase the late Will Rogers, We can't all be heroes, some of us get to stand on the curb and clap as they walk by.

## Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



Do You Recognize This Person?

**HINT:**  
*You can always find this 1990 Southmont graduate at the county 4-H fair... to find him, just walk through the swine barn!*

Answer on Page A4

## BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stetson Lee Hedrick came into this world on Eclipse Day, April 8 at Witham Health Services. The parents are Anndra Kerby and Raymond Hedrick of Crawfordsville.

Stetson weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce and will be greeted by two brothers, Walker and Rhett Hedrick.

Raylee and Dakotah Payne of Crawfordsville celebrated the birth of a baby girl on April 3 at Witham Health Services.

Joevlynn Ann-Marie Payne came into the world at 6 pounds, 11 ounces. She will join siblings Kavyn and Maevlynn at home.



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 estate needs.



**CLARK DALE**  
 www.exprealty.com  
 PHONE: (765) 918-1773

Visit us online:  
[thepaper24-7.com](http://thepaper24-7.com)



Thank you for subscribing!



## ↓ RUSTY From Page A1

*Security too.*  
**Signed: Wanting Work at Home**

**Dear Wanting:**  
If you claim your Social Security to start in the month you turn 63, you'll be claiming 4 years before your full retirement age (FRA) of 67, which means your monthly benefit at 63 will be about 25% less than it would be if you claimed SS at age 67. And if you are working before your FRA, you'll be subject to Social Security's "earnings test."

The 2024 earnings limit for those collecting early Social Security benefits is \$22,320 (this limit changes annually). If your annual earnings exceed the limit, Social Security will assess a penalty of \$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit. They will recover that penalty amount by withholding future benefits until they recover what you owe. If your work earnings are under the annual limit, you will get all your monthly SS benefits. But if you exceed the limit, they will find that out after you submit your income tax return (the following year) and issue you an overpayment notice, telling you how much you owe for exceeding the limit last year. They will then withhold your benefits until they get back what you owe, or you can repay them in a lump sum. To avoid the overpayment notice, it is best to inform Social Security in advance that you will exceed the annual earnings limit, and they will simply withhold your monthly SS benefits during the year for enough months to avoid overpaying you.

So, what you should do depends largely on

how much your earnings from your new work-at-home position will be. If your earnings are below the annual limit, no penalty will be assessed. If you only exceed the annual limit by a little bit, then you can still work and earn and simply repay them what is owed for exceeding the limit (or have your SS benefit temporarily withheld). If you only exceed the earnings limit by a little, you'll still get benefits for most months of the year. But if you significantly exceed the annual earnings limit, you could even be ineligible to receive SS benefits until you either earn less or reach your full retirement age (the earnings limit goes away at your FRA).

So, what you should do depends on what "a cut in income" means in terms of your expected annual earnings amount. If your total annual earnings will be under the annual limit, your SS benefit won't be affected. If you only exceed the limit by a little bit, then you will get SS benefits for most months of the year. But if your annual earnings are significantly over each year's annual earnings limit, then you won't get SS benefits for most months of the year and may even be temporarily ineligible to receive benefits.

*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 non-profit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.*

## ↓ PHONY From Page A1

as high returns with a low risk, you might ask yourself, "How is this possible?" Generally, it's not.

**The Problem**  
Postal Inspectors say investment opportunities or "get rich quick" schemes are a favorite of fraudsters. Whether they sell bogus securities or commodities, oil wells, rare coins, or cybercurrency, these fraudulent promoters try to get you to invest your money—and lots of it. Some swindlers even surround themselves with the trappings of legitimacy—rented office space, a receptionist, investment counselors, and professionally designed color brochures describing the investment.

**Who Gets Hurt**  
Older Americans are prime targets because they possess most of the nation's individual wealth. People who live on fixed incomes from Social Security and small pensions are especially vulnerable, as they frequently need supplemental sources of income to make ends meet, or are motivated to help younger family members seek out extra funds.

They may be manipulated into believing phony investment offers at a rate disproportionate to the rest of the population. Scammers know some older adults can be more easily disarmed by their convincing messages. These Americans may have difficulty discerning a fraudulent promotion from a legitimate one. It might be alarming to discover how vulnerable an older friend or loved one can be. It's important for family members

and friends to understand why older adults are at risk and what steps can be taken to minimize the chance they'll be taken advantage of by fraudsters.

**Some Scams**  
Every year, thousands lose between a few dollars and their entire life savings to fraudsters. Even the most experienced investors can be caught up in an investment scam. A perfect example of this is the number of professional money managers who placed their clients' money with Bernie Madoff. And that's just one example.

In a case investigated by Postal Inspectors, a con artist acting as the CEO of an investment firm defrauded investors out of more than \$4 million through a purported financial services firm he controlled. He lied to investors about how much money had been raised, who had invested, how close the firm was to an IPO (initial public offering), and how he would use investors' money. The scammer appropriated most of the money for his own use or to pay off investors in a Ponzi-like fashion. He was sentenced to prison for his crimes.

Another man was sentenced to four years in prison for his role in two high-yield investment fraud schemes. Postal Inspectors said he and his co-conspirators defrauded vulnerable victims out of millions of dollars. The scammers have been handed down sentences ranging up to 12 years in prison. In another Postal Inspection Service investigation, a real estate investment scammer defrauded numerous investors who invested in more

than a thousand real estate investment properties. The real estate scammer convinced investors by misrepresenting returns, promoting fraudulent information and over-inflating appraisals. He was convicted and sentenced to 10 years in prison and ordered to pay \$17 million in restitution.

**Some Solutions**  
So, what do you do to protect yourself from these scammers who try to separate you from your hard-earned money?

Education and information are your best defenses against investment fraud. Postal Inspectors urge potential investors to independently research registration of investment firms and be extremely cautious about unsolicited offers to invest through social media or the internet. Think about these things before jumping into an investment:

- Anyone can be anyone on the internet. Scammers spoof websites and use fake social media accounts to obscure their identities. You can identify phony accounts by looking closely at content. Pay careful attention to domain names.
- Take your time in deciding to invest—don't rush into accepting these "high-profit, low-risk" offers.
- Get all information in writing before you consider investing.
- Beware of unsolicited offers and fake client reviews. Scammers often reference or publish positive, yet bogus testimonials purportedly drafted by satisfied customers.
- If it sounds too good to be true, it probably

is. Be careful of claims that an investment will make "incredible gains," is a "breakout stock pick," or has "huge upside and almost no risk!" "Guaranteed returns" aren't. All investments carry some degree of risk, and the potential profits are typically correlated with the degree of risk.

Learn More  
For more info on avoiding scams, visit the Postal Inspection Service website at [USPIS.gov](https://www.uspis.gov).



**NEWS**

THE PAPER OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

**The Paper OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY** Visit us online: **thepaper24-7.com**

SAVE ON YOUR **Travel Plans!** Spend your travel dollars when you get there not getting there!

- ✓ 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 **800-419-9625**

LIVING WITH DIABETES CAN BE **PAINLESS**

If you administer insulin 3 or more times per day or using an insulin pump, **CALL NOW** and learn how a Continuous Glucose Monitor **CAN HELP YOU**.

Get **FREE** shipping of your new CGM, plus we will bill your insurance for you... **AT LITTLE OR NO COST!**

**CALL NOW! 866-641-0141**  
COPAYS AND DEDUCTIBLES MAY APPLY

**Become an author today!** **DON'T WAIT!** **www.mybook100.com**

Learn how to get your book idea sold online and at bookstores nationwide.

Call or visit us to get your **FREE** authors guide to publishing! **800-448-1964**

**BLUE PILL PROMOTIONAL OFFER** **SAVE OVER \$500!**

Generic and Herbal versions of Viagra® right now as low as \$2 a pill. Mention the discount code **[STEELMAN]** and get the special **BUY 1 GET 1 FREE!** Call now for rush delivery in your unmarked package.

Change your life and call today! **1-800-515-6311**



**↓ KAREN**

From Page A1

practicing there for close to five and a half decades.

Interested in several things, he was a bit into politics and as a member of the Citizens Party won the election over Democrat Alexander Bible by just four votes for trustee in 1890. Interesting, too, was that he was the only one not a Democrat who won a place in that particular election! He often went beyond the call of duty in his patient work. For instance, in late October 1890, David Parker was judged insane by a panel. Dr. H. took responsibility accepting the guardianship of the poor man. He could be found appraising estates and loved sprucing up his own place (May 1898 building a 60' veranda onto his home) and putting in new sidewalks and such.

Although he and wife Mary (Fouts, daughter of John and Sophia Bunnell Fouts) lived in Waynetown he loved his 47-acre farm near town, buying a cow or sheep or especially a horse here and there. In fact, he was quite into horses, needing a fast one to get to his patients, and later loving to breed and race them. He never fudged when purchasing a good equine, for sure!

As far as I could discover, Dr. Hamilton was sued but once. The gal who sued him and her family were always in courts with a beef. She said that when he worked on her eye (he was one of the best in the state) he used rusty instruments which poisoned her eye, thus she couldn't see. Come on, a professional using rusty instruments. Well, the court certainly didn't think so and he owed her nothing because there was no sense in it and he won the case! He was in court at another time as a witness in the Stull-Runyan murder case. Someone had been on the stand saying that Runyan shot Stull in the back. Dr. H. performed the autopsy and swore that the three bullets that killed him were fired from the front!

Speaking of his doctoring, he was exceptional at cataract surgery, he and Dr. William Johnson Hurt, another highly successful and well-loved Waynetown physician often doing the surgeries together. The two of them were found in another aspect of camaraderie as they were both highly against drinking as were at least Dr. Hamilton's wife (known as the "militant prohibitionist worker"); thus, they started an institution to cure drunkenness and opium addiction. "They used the double chloride of gold and

sodium cure with other remedies given four times a day hypodermically with internal medications every two hours while awake." (CWJ 14 May 1892). They let the patient have at whatever their problem was but after three or four days of the remedy, evidently they would become "thoroughly disgusted with it." The doctors guaranteed a cure within 30 days and had referrals from many they had treated!

As with some diabetics, Dr. Hamilton desired sweets and there was a humorous piece in the C'ville Review Feb 26, 1898 telling about him hearing a noise in his dining room. Investigating, he found a burly tramp getting ready to grab the good doc's custard pie. Doc's gun snapped. The tramp ran and guess that was a lesson to all to not mess with Doc Hamilton's sweets (especially his custard pie)!

As secretary of the board of health in the early 1900s, he at least twice warned against possible epidemics, once to make sure your children got their small pox vaccination and for the adults to strongly think on the same and in June 1904 he headed-up a large clean-up of creeks and other areas that had been flooded in the huge rains. "Clean-up any foreign matters at your home; otherwise, we will have a typhoid fever epidemic!"

Several times Dr. Hamilton happened to be (depending on the view) in the right place at the right time or the wrong place at the wrong time. Example: he was at church one morning and a Mrs. Edward Hall quietly opened the door and asked him without disturbing the sermon and another man to please come with her. Doc noticed blood on her head that she had wrapped in a scarf. They followed her and found Ed's face smashed into gravel, he being extremely bloody and a bit senseless. After caring for him, he looked over the Mrs., who was the worst of the two, having had her scalp stripped from her head, her bones showing below her eyes and clear up to the top of her head. He gave little thought they would make it but according to find a grave they lived onward. This happened in January 1889, he passing in 1906 and wife, Emma in 1917. Scary stuff!

The Hamilton's had no children or at least none to grow-up but had custody and raised Scott Switzer part of his maturing years. I've barely touched the life of this interesting man but

suffice to say that he was a good soul, highly intelligent and wanted to help everyone!

– Karen Zach is the editor of *Montgomery Memories*, our monthly magazine all about Montgomery County. Her column, *Around the County*, appears each Thursday in *The Paper of Montgomery County*. You can reach her at [karen.zach@sbcglobal.net](mailto:karen.zach@sbcglobal.net).

**Thank You For Reading The Paper**



**QUALIMAX CONCRETE LLC**  
Residential and Commercial

**765-365-4525**

**Stamp Concrete Driveways Patios • Pole Barn Sidewalks**

**Residential & Commercial**

**Pomp's**  
TIRE SERVICE, INC.  
"The Tire Professionals"

**\$15 OFF OIL CHANGE SPECIAL**  
Complete visual inspection & air pressure check. No other discounts apply. Not valid with any other offers. Expires 6/30/24

114 N. Water St. • Crawfordsville  
(765) 364-0584  
Weekdays 7:30 am - 5pm  
Saturday 8 am - Noon  
[pompstire.com](http://pompstire.com)

**NEWS**

**THE PAPER OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

**Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia**

**Answer: Jeff Norman**

*The Paper of Montgomery County presents...*

**Exploring Britain & Ireland**

**September 14 – 28, 2024**

**CO**  
**collette**

**For more information contact Collette**

**1-800-581-8942**

**Please refer to booking #1240271**



# ↓ CHECK From Page A1

To qualify, smaller municipalities like ours must provide a 25 percent match in local funds. State law requires 50 percent of the available matching funds be awarded annually to communities within counties with a population of 50,000 or fewer. Since 2016, Community Crossings has awarded more than \$1.6 billion to improve local roads and bridges.

According to county sources, the 25 percent will be paid from the wheel tax and gas tax. Here in Montgomery County, county government plans to pave Nucor Road and some neighborhood roads in 2024.

The roads and/or neighborhoods to be paved include Nucor Road, Golf View, Carrington Hills, Lye Creek, Del Mar Drive, Winslow Drive, Fairway Drive, Big Four Arch, Cadillac Drive, Stonecrest, Watson Drive, Manning Place, Country Club Court, Oak Hill Farms, Chigger Hollow and Farmington Hills.

The county was also awarded funding from this program in the fall of 2023 to pave seven miles of roads this spring.

“This is a big deal for

our county,” said Commissioner President John Frey, “Nucor Road is an important road for our businesses and residents. I am glad that we can also pave more roads in our neighborhoods through this grant.” “Using our local revenue from the wheel tax and gas tax has allowed us to fund our match. Paving more roads through this program will help our residents and businesses,” Commissioner Dan Guard said.

“We continue to work on improving our infrastructure and this grant will help make that happen,” Commissioner Jim Fulwider added.

The Community Crossings initiative has provided more than \$1.7 billion in state matching funds for local construction projects since 2016. For 2024, \$207 million has been awarded from the program to local governments.

Since 2020, the County has been awarded funding from the Community Crossings Matching Grant Fund Program that has allowed the County to pave 29 miles of roads. The County maintains 500 miles of paved roads and 300 miles of gravel roads.

# ↓ RSV From Page A1

especially when it comes to protecting yourself during what is commonly known as respiratory disease season (fall through early spring).

Last year saw the devastating effects of an increase in COVID, flu, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and pneumonia on the wellbeing of older Americans. Fortunately, most people had access to vaccines for all but RSV last year. And in good news for this year, for the first time ever, there is a vaccine approved by FDA for preventing RSV in older adults.

**The Problem**  
RSV is a serious respiratory virus whose full toll on seniors is just now being recognized. Each year, RSV results in up to 160,000 hospitalizations among people aged 65 and over and leads to as many as 10,000 deaths in older people in the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

It can also prove serious for anyone with chronic conditions such as asthma, COPD, heart or other lung problems, certain autoimmune conditions and those receiving chemotherapy or radiation treatments. It is easily spread from contact with a contaminated surface as well as through the air (when someone infected sneezes or coughs), so anyone at any age can get it.

**A Solution**  
RSV vaccines are now approved and available throughout the U.S. and the cost is covered fully for Medicare beneficiaries. These vaccines can truly protect your health across your lifespan as they are now available for adults aged 60 years or older, as well as for infants through maternal immunization.

**What Else You Should Know**  
It is always a good idea to review your health plan. When contacting Medicare, make certain that you are contacting the actual government agency itself. Only government agencies can use the .gov ending and the best number to use to reach trained Medicare experts is 1-800-633-4227. It’s easy to remember—it’s 1-800-Medicare.

The National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP) created a resource outlining the five things to know about RSV to help get the word out about this important opportunity to protect the health of older adults. English and Spanish versions can be found at <https://www.nanasp.org/vaccines>.

It’s a good idea to talk to your pharmacist or healthcare provider about whether you should get the RSV vaccine, and any other recommended vaccines.

## Safely Dispose of Prescription Drugs at Drug Take Back Day

On Saturday, April 27, the Harm Reduction Committee of the Montgomery County Drug Free Coalition will host the biannual Prescription Drug Take Back event from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the courthouse parking lot.

This free event provides the opportunity to carefully dispose of expired, unused, or unneeded prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications.

What can happen if you keep old prescriptions and other medications around the house? Expired medications can be less effective or risky because of a change in the chemical composition or a decrease in strength. Certain expired medications are at risk of bacterial growth and sub-potent antibiotics can fail to treat infections, leading to more serious illnesses and antibiotic resistance.

According to the DEA, many people don’t know how to properly clean out their medicine cabinets and failing to dispose of

old medications, especially opioids, can often lead to dangerous drugs ending up in the wrong hands. Reducing the misuse of these expired medications can play a key role in combating the substance abuse issue often serving as a gateway to using more harmful substances.

Can’t attend this event? Don’t worry! Prescription drug disposal is also available year-round at the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office and the Crawfordsville Police Department.

The Harm Reduction Committee would also like to highlight the importance of proper disposal for not only medication, but for sharps/needles. Sharps can be safely disposed of at the Montgomery County Health Department, located at 1580 Constitution Row, Suite G and at the Crawfordsville Police Department lobby, located at 311 N. Green Street.

For more information, visit [www.drugfree.moco.org](http://www.drugfree.moco.org).

# FOR THE RECORD

## CRAWFORDSVILLE DISTRICT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Board of Trustees Meeting Notice and Agenda April 11, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

- Conference Room
- Call to order
- Public Comments
- Minutes – action
- Claims – action
- Reports: Main Street, Park Board, Friends of CMMC, Finance
- Old Business
  - o Expiring board terms – information
  - o Parking lot/Speedbumps – information
- Director’s Report
- Financial Reports
- New Business
  - o Update to Library Assistant Job Descriptions – action
  - o Internal Controls Policy – information
- Adjournment

Upcoming board meetings  
May 9, 2024 – 4:00 p.m.  
June 13, 2024 – 4:00 p.m.  
July 11, 2024 – 4:00 p.m.

## SOUTHMONT SCHOOLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Regular School Board Meeting  
Corporation Board Room  
Monday, April 15, 2024 - 6:00 p.m.

Executive Session  
The Southmont Schools Board of Trustees will meet in Executive Session on Monday, April 15, 2024 @ 5:00 p.m. where authorized by federal or state statute. For discussion of the assessment, design, and implementation of school safety and security measures, plans, and systems, discussion of records classified as confidential by state or federal statute, and to discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees.

- Public Meeting
- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Welcome and Recognition of Visitors.
- We will be recognizing Student/Staff of the Month.
- V. Revisions to the Agenda
- VI. Public Comments
- VII. Consent Agenda:

( minutes, monthly claims, field trips/facilities usage, contributions/gifts and personnel )  
Minutes from previous meetings  
Claims/Payrolls  
Personnel:  
-Mrs. Wendy Myers - move to Assistant Superintendent.  
-Jeanna Russell - District SLP - 2024-2025 school year.

-Approve resignation of Elizabeth Stokes - Instructional Assistant - Ladoga Elementary.  
-Approve maternity leave for Mercedes McCormick - May 22, 2024 through November 2024.  
-Chris Sering - JH Boys Golf Coach - Volunteer.  
-Donations made to Southmont High School in the amount of \$3345.00, to Walnut Elementary in the amount of \$200.00 and to Ladoga Elementary in the amount of \$75.00.

-BPA Field Trip to National Leadership Conference in Chicago, IL on May 10-14, 2024.  
-Approve GSF Proposal for Custodial & Maintenance Services.  
-Handbooks for Ladoga Elementary, New Market Elementary, Walnut Elementary, Southmont Jr. High and Southmont High Schools.  
VIII. Items for Action:

- IX. Report from Superintendent:
  - X. Items for Discussion by the Board
  - XI. Adjournment
  - Future Meetings:
  - May 13, 2024 - Regular Meeting - Corporation Board Room - 6:00 PM
  - June 10, 2024 - Regular Meeting - Corporation Board Room - 6:00 PM
- This meeting site is handicap accessible. Any person requiring further accommodation should contact the Superintendent at the School Corporation office.

*For The Record is a public service and regular feature in The Paper of Montgomery County. It is designed to tell you what is scheduled to happen and what actually does happen in meetings paid for with your tax dollars. The Paper encourages all citizens to take an active role in being involved in local government.*

# ↓ BAIRD From Page A1

Buchanan (District 7) and Spencer Deery (District 23) and State Reps. Sharon Negele (District 13), Jeff Thompson (District 28), Mark Genda (District 41) and Beau Baird (District 44). This year’s event now includes Congressman Jim Baird representing Indiana’s 4th Congressional District’s 16 counties – including Montgomery. Baird also serves on the House Committee on Agriculture, House Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology. Tickets are still available. Things get started at 9 a.m. tomorrow on the 3rd floor of Fusion 54 located at 101 W. Main St. in beautiful

downtown Crawfordsville.

The State Legislative Breakfast is sponsored by Valero Energy in Linden and will include a breakfast. The event is open to the public. The cost to attend the event with or without breakfast is \$10 for Crawfordsville / Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce members and \$15 for non-members.

Space is limited so please register as soon as possible to attend online at [CrawfordsvilleChamber.com](http://CrawfordsvilleChamber.com). For more information regarding the breakfast or the chamber, please contact Stacy Sommer at [ssommer@crawfordsvillechamber.com](mailto:ssommer@crawfordsvillechamber.com).

The Paper of Montgomery County presents...

## Exploring Britain & Ireland

September 14 – 28, 2024




For more information contact Collette  
1-800-581-8942  
Please refer to booking #1240271

### The Paper OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

An Independent Newspaper - Founded 2004

Vol. 20  
Sen. Phil Boots, President  
USPS Publication Number: 022-679

Issue 43  
Tim Timmons, Publisher  
Report address changes to [circulation@thepaper24-7.com](mailto:circulation@thepaper24-7.com)

Annual Print Subscription: \$89  
Annual Online Subscription: \$42

To subscribe: [circulation@thepaper24-7.com](mailto:circulation@thepaper24-7.com)  
To contact news: [news@thepaper24-7.com](mailto:news@thepaper24-7.com)  
To submit legal notices: [legals@thepaper24-7.com](mailto:legals@thepaper24-7.com)  
For billing: [business@thepaper24-7.com](mailto:business@thepaper24-7.com)

Visit us online:  
[thepaper24-7.com](http://thepaper24-7.com)





# Future Looks Bright for Painter, Purdue Boilermakers



**KENNY THOMPSON**  
Columnist

Once the disappointment subsides from Monday's loss to two-time national champion Connecticut, this will be remembered as arguably the best season in Purdue men's basketball history.

The Boilermakers' 34 victories blew past the previous record of 30 set during the 2017-18 season. Zach Edey, Mason Gillis, Ethan Morton, Lance Jones, Chase Martin and Carson Barrett depart with a 110-29 record, the most wins by a senior class in school history.

Westfield's Braden Smith set the Big Ten record for most assists in a season with 292, one more than Michigan State's Cassius Winston in 2019.

Edey's 37 points against Connecticut were the most scored in a national championship game in 46 years. Only UCLA's Bill Walton and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar have also had at least 37 points and 10 rebounds in national championship game history.

Space does not permit listing every record the 7-4 center set this season but here are some highlights:

- Edey finished his career with 90 consecutive double-figure scoring games and 116 double-figure games in his career, tying E'Twaun Moore.
- Edey and Shaquille O'Neal are the only players in NCAA history to average at least 25.0 points, 12.0 rebounds and shoot 60.0 percent from the field in a single season.
- Edey leaves Purdue with 2,516 points and 1,321 rebounds in 138 games. Rick Mount's 54-year scoring record was 2,323 points in 72 games. Joe Barry Carroll's 44-year-old rebounding standard was 1,148 in 123 games.

## Purdue Extension: There's a Fungus Among Us



**MONICA NAGELE**  
Guest Columnist

It is spring time in Indiana and that can mean only one thing mushroom hunting season. I have already started to see Morels popping up in our wooded areas. Morels are fun to go out and find but they are also yummy to eat.

Morel Mushrooms are a low calorie, low fat vegetable that can add a little variety to your plate. While they are low in calories and fat they are a good source of Potassium, Iron and Vitamin D and a moderate amount of protein. Potassium is important for muscle contraction making it vital for a healthy heart.

- With Wednesday's Wooden Award announcement, Edey is the first player to sweep the National Player of the Year honors in consecutive seasons since Walton in 1972 and 1973. Edey also was named the Kareem Abdul-Jabbar Center of the Year for the second season in a row.
- Edey joins Dave Schellhase (1966) and Glenn Robinson (1994) as national scoring champions from Purdue. Edey averaged 25.2 points along with 12.2 rebounds, which was second-best in the nation.

After the Connecticut loss, Purdue coach Matt Painter was asked if Edey should be remembered as one of college basketball's greatest centers.

"When you look at his numbers against the greats, there's no question he's in the conversation," Painter said. "But he's also the winningest player at Purdue.

"Everybody wants to have the argument about . . . who is the greatest. That's the ultimate separator because every person in that conversation is great. I think he was great in how he did it, too. People have no idea the burden you carry when you're as good as he is, produce like he does going into opposing arenas.

"A lot of those old-timers, they didn't have to hear it on social media. For young people that are successful, they have to go through a lot of stuff. But in a way you kind of like it 'cause it toughens you up, allows you to focus, allows you to push through things.

"I just told him in the locker room, you're not going to go on in life and push past here and not deal with adversity. In the workforce, in relationships, everything. You're going to deal with adversity. He was superior dealing with adversity. He was a guy that didn't get recruited, then all of a

sudden he started to get recruited, then that picked up. That got him on edge. All the great ones stay on edge.

"He's going to be a terrific NBA player. We're really proud of him."

Smith, whose deliveries to Edey helped him set the Big Ten assists record, also praised his teammate.

"He taught me so much. I went from 6-4 center (in high school) to a 7-4 center. Definitely a huge change," Smith said.

"The most unselfish person you'll ever meet. Like coach Paint said, he gets more hate for no reason. For what? He's out there dominating everybody?"

Now the ceiling has been raised for Purdue basketball. Early predictions have the Boilermakers favored to three-peat as Big Ten champions for the first time since 1994-96. Of course, those expectations could change after their rivals shop from the transfer portal. Indiana, Illinois and Michigan are expected to heavily invest in filling major holes in their rosters.

Painter welcomes the pressure, which is nothing compared to being reminded for 12 months about losing to Farleigh Dickenson as a No. 1 seed.

"I told our guys in the locker room, like, when you have the most wins in school history, you're the first team to win back-to-back championships by multiple games since 1976, which was the last undefeated team in college basketball, and you get an eyelash away from winning it all, that's the standard," Painter said.

So, like, now just like any other year we're going to take two to three weeks off, then get back to work. We like our young guys that are coming in next year, so we're excited."

The class of 6-8 forward Kanon Catchings of Brownsburg via

Overtime Elite, 6-4 guard Gicarri Harris of Loganville, Ga., 6-6 guard Jack Benter of Brownstown, 7-3 center Daniel Jacobsen of Brewster Academy, 6-10 forward/center Raleigh Burgess of Cincinnati and 6-2 guard CJ Cox of Milton Academy is ranked second in the Big Ten and 11th nationally by 24/7 Sports composite rankings.

Catchings, the nephew of University of Tennessee and Indiana Fever great Tamika Catchings, is ranked 34th in the nation by 24/7. Harris, the son of Glenn Robinson, is 90th. Here's a sample of the early expectations awaiting Purdue.

ESPN's Jeff Borzello has Purdue ranked sixth behind the Worldwide Leader in Sports' unofficial favorite school, Duke, Gonzaga, Kansas, Connecticut and Iowa State. Maryland is the second Big Ten school in Borzello's rankings at No. 20. Rutgers is 21st and Wisconsin 24th. "The post-Zach Edey era in West Lafayette has officially begun but don't expect Matt Painter's team to fall too far in the national discussion," Borzello writes. "The Boilermakers will still bring back one of the best backcourts in the country in Braden Smith and Fletcher Loyer, and Trey Kauman-Renn is ready for a bigger role in the frontcourt. The questions will be whether Smith and Loyer can take the jump from being complimentary players to go-to guys and which reserve or freshman breaks out. A good bet would be Camden Heide. Yahoo Sports' Ryan Young is the most bullish on the Boilermakers, ranking them second behind Duke. His reasoning, though, may be flawed unless Young knows something the rest of us don't.

"Zach Edey is off to the NBA, but head coach Matt Painter won't have to adjust much with freshman Will Berg, his 7-foot-2 Swedish center," Young writes. "Fletcher Loyer and Braden Smith will be

back, too, so Purdue should return atop the expanded Big Ten next season. It might finally be time for the conference (national title) drought to end."

Young has Rutgers ranked 16th and Maryland 19th.

At the opposite end of the optimism spectrum are The Athletic's CJ Moore and Sam Vecenie, who have Purdue 12th behind Duke, Gonzaga, Houston, Iowa State, Connecticut, Alabama, Kansas, Tennessee, North Carolina, Auburn and Arizona.

Moore and Vecenie project a starting lineup of Smith, Loyer, Kaufman-Renn, Heide and Caleb Furst.

"It will now be time for Kaufman-Renn to become the featured low-post scorer. The Boilermakers got a preview of that last summer when Edey was off with Team Canada and Kaufman-Renn led the Boilers in scoring during a foreign tour. Smith is already one of the best point guards in college hoops and could elevate himself to All-America status when he takes on more of a scoring role.

"It's rare to have so much experience and production returning. It's going to be difficult to replace Edey, but Matt Painter has two giants lined up to possibly be next. Berg, a 7-2 freshman this season, shot 75 percent from the field in limited minutes, and Painter signed a 7-foot-3 center in Jacobsen. He's got a type!"

Moore and Vecenie have Rutgers 16th, Maryland 20th and Michigan State 22nd. Like his peers, Sports Illustrated's Kevin Sweeney has Duke No. 1 ahead of Iowa State, Kansas, Gonzaga, Connecticut, Arizona and Houston. Purdue comes in at No. 8.

"The end of the Zach Edey era in West Lafayette will take some getting used to, but that shouldn't bring an end to Purdue as a national contender," Sweeney

writes. "Braden Smith is an easy projection as one of the nation's best floor generals after a massive season in 2023-24, and Purdue has quietly stockpiled athletic, versatile wings with the likes of Cam Heide, Kanon Catchings and Myles Colvin. Don't expect a big drop-off from the Boilermakers."

Sweeney has five Big Ten teams in his Top 25: Maryland (18), Ohio State (19), UCLA (20) and Rutgers (23). CBS Sports' Gary Parrish, who was one of the few national pundits to predict a Purdue national championship before the 2023-24 season, has Purdue ninth in his Top 25 Plus 1 rankings. Parrish deviates from group think, ranking Houston No. 1 over North Carolina, Iowa State, Kansas, Duke, Connecticut, Gonzaga and Auburn.

"The Boilermakers have finished in the top 25 at KenPom.com nine straight years, and there's no reason to think that streak won't continue next season even without the two-time National Player of the Year," Parrish writes.

Parrish ranked Wisconsin 21st, Rutgers 23rd and Ohio State 26th.

*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.*

### THE PAPER



*Please visit us online: [thepaper24-7.com](http://thepaper24-7.com)*

Iron can help prevent anemia and ensures oxygen is being carried to all parts of our bodies. Lastly, Vitamin D helps our bodies absorb calcium for strong bones. With limited amounts of daylight in the winter Vitamin D deficiency is becoming more prevalent. Morels can help boost Vitamin D levels in early spring.

Many mushrooms don't need a whole lot of cleaning, however Morels with their sponge like texture tend to trap dirt, so it takes a little extra cleaning to prevent contamination. Only clean Morels right before use, they may absorb water causing them to mold. Shake off any debris before soaking the morels in a large bowl of cold water.

Swish morels around. If water becomes extremely dirty rinse and refresh with new water. Soak the mushrooms for about 10 minutes. Once clean, put on clean kitchen towel and pat dry. Prepare using a recipe of your choice. If you are storing for later use remove dirt and debris but do not wash with water. Store under refrigeration.

Pair two in season vegetables together for a beautiful and tasty dish.

#### Morel Mushroom and Asparagus Sauté

- 3 cups asparagus, trimmed and cut into 1 ½ inch pieces.
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 shallot, thinly sliced

- 4 cups fresh morel mushrooms, halved lengthwise
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/4 tsp black pepper

Melt butter in a large nonstick skillet over medium high heat; Swirl to coat. Add shallot, sauté 1 minute, stirring constantly. Add morels, asparagus and ½ tsp salt; sauté 5 minutes or until mushrooms are lightly browned. Add oil and pepper; toss gently to coat. Cook 2 minutes or until asparagus is thoroughly heated.

*Monica Nagele MS/RD is the Purdue Extension Montgomery County Extension Director, Health and Human Science Educator*

*The Paper of Montgomery County presents...*

### Exploring Britain & Ireland September 14 – 28, 2024



For more information contact Collette  
**1-800-581-8942**  
Please refer to booking #1240271