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TODAY'S VERSE

Psalm 27:1 The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Meet Patches



Patches is a gorgeous 11 month old female black domestic shorthair cat available for adoption at The Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County (AWL). Patches has won the prestigious award of ULTIMATE CUTIE! Patches is playful, friendly, and will gladly keep your lap nice and warm! Come say hi and ask staff to meet Patches!

The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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Boomer Bits

Ask Rusty – Minister Wants to Maximize Social Security Benefit



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 want to apply for Social Security, but I want to make sure I get all the benefits I have earned. I am a veteran with a 10% disability rating (not sure if that matters). I am 68 years old. I am a minister and have been exempt from Social Security taxes for most of my income since I was about 30, but I still have the 40 quarters needed. I have also worked off and on in the secular workplace and continued paying Social Security taxes.

One hears a great deal about those who want to "help" us apply for Social Security, but which turn

out to be a scam or want a fee. How do I apply and maximize my benefits with my unique situation?

Signed: Seeking Answers

Dear Seeking: Don't worry about fees here at the AMAC Foundation – there is never a fee for the services we provide (we are non-profit). And I want to thank you for your military service - you may find the "For Veterans" section at our AMAC Foundation website interesting – www.amacfoundation.org.

To your question: Your VA disability rating does not

See RUSTY Page A3

Walk Your Way to Better Health

(Family Features) A walk is not just good for your body, it's also good for your soul. Physical activity, like walking, is one of the best ways to reduce stress and boost your mood. However, reports show walking rates are declining steadily in the United States.

On average, 1 out of every 4 U.S. adults sits for longer than eight hours each day, per research from the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, which can have negative consequences on

See WALK Page A3

4 Tips to Get High Cholesterol Under Control

(Family Features) Heart disease is the nation's leading cause of death for men and women, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, but many people aren't aware they may be at elevated risk. More than

See TIPS Page A3

Senior Time - Meet Wyatt



KAREN ZACH Around The County

Senior time! And I have a very special young man to highlight this year! Meet Wyatt Woodall! Actually, he's well-known to Montgomery County and has been in the news so

many times throughout his years that if not his name, you'll know that face. I was so lucky to have known his momma (Amy Deckard) well as she was like another of my children during her growing up years and I still get a huge smile on my face and usually a hug when I see her. Calls me Momma Zach, even and so I was also blessed knowing her boys, especially watching them in their acting careers. If you've ever been to a musical or play with me there, you'll know I enjoy myself, especially if there's a good laugh! For sure, Wyatt knew when I was there as did Momma Amy and brother, Riley, probably Dad Jeff, too! I don't know his older brother, Alex well, but one of the first things Wyatt told me (and hubs) during our interview was that he was so looking forward to attending his first wedding which was this brother's! Good luck, Alex and have fun Wyatt!

Since covid, most of my articles have been on older folks, now passed, who accomplished lots in their lives, but always want to do a senior, and Wyatt already has tackled as much as almost all those I've written about but yes, he has many plans upcoming. That's probably my favorite thing about this fellow – he makes goals and gets them tackled! Speaking of tackling, he is an amazing sportsman (note photo compliments from his mother, Amy – thanks so much) and when I queried him from whom he received that gift, he noted that he inherited a natural ability from both parents but the success comes from all the

See KAREN Page A4

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Stretching and strengthening exercises go a long way in helping to prevent falls in the elderly.

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

- Travelers out of Indianapolis International Airport now have another direct option to Dallas / Ft. Worth. Frontier Airlines recently launched its newest nonstop flight to DFW. It operates four times a week on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, now bookable through early 2025. Starting May 21, Frontier will also launch additional new nonstop flights to New Orleans and Philadelphia. Frontier offers nonstop flights out of Indy to Denver, Las Vegas, Orlando and Raleigh-Durham.
- If you purchased a batch of cookies at the Sis Sweets Cookies & Café in Leavenworth, KS recently beware, you might break a tooth. Proprietor Dawn "Sis" Monroe says she lost a \$4,000 diamond that fell from her ring and it just might have wound up in her cookie dough. She posted a notice on Facebook that reads: "My heart is beyond broken. It's been on my hand for 36 years."
- It's not unusual to find critters in your house if you live in the country. Mary Hollenback was at home in Venice, Fla. relaxing on her couch when she heard a noise. She got up and headed for the front door. "I thought it was somebody who didn't live here trying to get into the wrong house," she said. Instead, as she put it, "Oh my gosh, I have an alligator in my house." She called 911 for help and Sarasota County authorities came to the rescue, quickly removing the nearly eight foot long critter.

TODAY'S QUOTE

"I've searched all the parks in all the cities and found no statues of committees."
Gilbert K. Chesterton

TODAY'S JOKE

When looking for someone to do your taxes this year, look for an accountant who has a tax loophole named after them.

MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Waveland Strong will be hosting the Fifth Annual Progressive Dinner featuring Angela Riccio Comedienne from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. on May 4. Participants will make five local stops through Waveland enjoying food, drinks, and entertainment. This is a great opportunity to visit unique architectural and historic gems in our community. Tickets are \$30 per person and can be purchased at the Waveland Library, (765) 435-2700. Tickets are limited and guests must be 21 or older.



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Please refer to booking #1240271

Chamber, Businesses Busy With Big Events



Photos courtesy Crawfordsville Chamber.

Imagine how good things smelled at Pizza King, 1711 E. Main St.



Everyone was all smiles at the new Runnings store - 1601 S. US 231.



Savvy Chic Salons, 209 N. Green St., is owned by Melissa Jeffers and Penny Royer.

The Crawfordsville Chamber is certainly a hopping place. Recently, Chamber staff and volunteers held several ribbon cuttings.

Runnings is a home, farm, and outdoor store providing a large selection of quality merchandise at a competitive price with hometown-friendly customer service. Employees told the Chamber that Runnings values the opportunity to connect with the community and that they take pride in making our community better and supporting the initiatives that their customers care about.

At Pizza King, new owners Darrin and Karri Schick along with Karri's mother, Tascha Walker, were all smiles as the ribbon was cut. They purchased Pizza King in March. They are local to the area and are always looking for ways to positively impact our community. Pizza King

has been serving fresh, flavorful ingredients, and the original "secret recipe" that put them on the map as a prized family restaurant serving great pizza to Indiana families for decades. They offer a friendly service in their relaxed ambience in the dining room, outdoor seating along with carry-out.

Savvy Chic Salons is a family haircare salon owned by stylists Melissa Jeffers and Penny Royer. Other stylists available are Patti Johnson, Emma Waye, Krystal Hunter, and Michelle Phillips. Rhonda Pritchett is a stylist and a nail tech. Maitlin Pearson is a lash artist. The front desk is supported by Karen Smith and Catrina Thompson.

For additional information regarding the chamber, visit the website at crawfordsvillechamber.com or email Stacy Sommer at ssommer@crawfordsvillechamber.com

One Hospitalized, One Arrested After Shooting

A Crawfordsville man was jailed after a shooting sent another man to an Indianapolis hospital in critical condition early this week.

According to Montgomery County Sheriff Ryan Needham, Heath Evans was mowing his property on County Road 475 West in Browns Valley Sunday when he was shot once by a handgun. Evans was alert at the scene and was taken to an Indianapolis area hospital in stable, but critical condition.

Police say the shooting occurred around 8:30 p.m.

Police arrested a neighbor, 53-year-old Timothy Florence and charged him with attempted murder.



Timothy Florence

Police say that they spoke to Florence and he was in fear of his life and shot Evans once. He was booked at the jail shortly before midnight and no bond was set.

The arresting officer was Deputy Jared Kirby. Needham said the investigation continues and if anyone has other information, they are asked to contact Kirby at (765) 362-3740.

Mayor Community Forum Monday

Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton, for the 10th time since taking office, has scheduled a Community Forum to give residents opportunities to connect with city government.

The next one is set for Monday at 4 p.m. in

City Hall, 300 E. Pike St., Crawfordsville.

Barton hosts these meetings for the public to come ask questions, discuss concerns and learn more about anything regarding the city. It is scheduled to last an hour.

Former Editor Appreciated Column on Runt Maxwell

Dear Editor, Appreciated Butch Dale's column on Marion "Runt" Maxwell, a prominent figure in the history of Darlington as a World War II hero and years in the U.S. Postal Service.

I have fond memories of Runt. Got to know him when I was sports editor of the Journal Review and Runt was coaching baseball at Darlington in the summer and fall. Coaches phoned in their game scores, but

not Runt. He hand-delivered his box scores to our office during which we would talk baseball, a sport we both loved. Our conversations sometimes were so lengthy my Editor would have to interrupt to remind me of the approaching news deadline.

Runt was a good man for his hometown, and a great guy to get to know.

Jack Hess
Fishers, Ind.

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



Do You Recognize This 1966 Ladoga 10th Grade Student?

HINT:
He was an outstanding athlete and loved playing golf.

Answer on Page A4

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↓ RUSTY From Page A1

affect your Social Security benefit. At 68 years old, your Social Security benefit payment has been earning Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) since you reached your full retirement age (FRA) of 66 years and 4 months in July 2022. That means that your benefit, if you claim now, will be about 13% more than it would have been had you claimed at your FRA. FYI, if you continue to delay, your SS benefit will continue to grow (by 8% per additional year you delay), up to the month you turn 70. At that time, your SS benefit will be 29% higher than it would have been at your FRA. Nevertheless, if you wish to claim a smaller amount now, you can do so in a couple of ways:

- You can call Social Security (at 1.800.772.1213, or your local SS office) to request an appointment to apply. They will most likely set a date/time to call you to take your application over the phone (they discourage office visits these days). Once you have applied, it typically takes a month or two to process your application, but they will pay your benefits effective with the month you say you want them to begin. Note, they will likely also offer you six months of retroactive benefits but be aware that if you accept that offer your monthly payment will be permanently reduced by 4%.

- You can apply for your SS retirement benefit online at www.ssa.gov/apply. Applying online is, by far, the most efficient method, as shown in this short video: www.ssa.gov/hlp/video/iclaim_r01.htm. However, to apply online you will need to first create your personal “my Social Security” online account at

www.ssa.gov/myaccount. Once you have your personal online account set up, you will be able to see what your SS retirement benefit will be now, and at future ages should you plan to wait longer to claim. Your SS retirement benefit will be based on your lifetime record of earnings from which Social Security FICA taxes were withheld (or self-employment earnings on which SS payroll taxes were levied). In any case, your SS benefit will be based on your lifetime earnings record contributing to Social Security, as well as your age when you claim. You’ll get your maximum benefit based on those factors.

Although your situation is somewhat uncommon, it is not exceptionally unique. Your VA disability rating does not affect your Social Security benefit and, because you are a member of the clergy, you are not subject to Social Security’s Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) – a rule which reduces SS benefits for those with a pension earned while not contributing to Social Security. In other words, your SS benefit will be based entirely on your lifetime record of earnings from which Social Security payroll taxes were withheld, and your age when your benefit starts.

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.

↓ WALK From Page A1

physical and mental health. Regular exercise improves mood, boosts energy and can even help you sleep better. Staying active is one of the best ways to keep your mind and body healthy.

Consider this advice from the American Heart Association, which has worked for decades to promote policies and strategies that make it easier for communities to get and stay active. One example is National Walking Day, established by the organization to encourage people to move more throughout the day so they can feel, think, sleep and live better.

Indeed, adding more movement can benefit your body and mind in numerous ways, such as:

Lowering disease risk. Getting the recommended amount of physical activity (at least 150 minutes of moderate, 75 minutes of vigorous or a combination of those activities per week) is linked to lower risk of diseases, stronger bones and muscles, improved mental health and cognitive function and lower risk of depression, according to the U.S Department of Health and Human Services.

Increasing sunlight exposure. Outdoor exercise is an easy way to get moving and take in the sunlight, which can improve mood, boost immunity and help you get some vitamin D. Spending time outdoors is a no-cost option and has been shown to reduce stress, promote a sense of belonging and improve mood.

Improving cognitive and mental function. Physical activity keeps your mind sharp now and later. Studies show higher fitness levels are linked to better attention, learning, working memory and problem solving. What’s more, a study published in the “British Journal of Sports Medicine” shows people who get the recommended amount of physical activity are less likely to develop depression.

Living longer. Healthy life expectancy can be positively impacted by increasing activity. According to research published in the “American Journal of Epidemiology,” swapping just 30 minutes of sitting with low-intensity physical activity reduced risk of death by 17%.

Get moving to reduce your stress and step into better health. Learn more at heart.org/movemore.

↓ TIPS From Page A1

Fast Facts About Cholesterol

What is cholesterol?
The liver creates a fat-like waxy substance called cholesterol. It serves useful purposes for the body, including producing hormones and helping digest food.

How do you get high cholesterol?
The human body makes all the cholesterol it needs naturally, so any cholesterol you eat is cholesterol you don’t need. However, it can be difficult to avoid because you can find dietary cholesterol in many common foods, including meat, seafood, poultry, eggs and dairy. Other non-dietary contributing factors include health conditions like obesity and diabetes, as well as family history and advancing age.

What is a normal cholesterol level?
An average optimal level of LDL cholesterol is about 100 milligrams per deciliter (mg/dL). An average optimal level of high-density lipoprotein, or HDL, cholesterol is at least 40 mg/dL for men and 50 mg/dL for women. HDL cholesterol can actually lower your risk of heart disease and stroke.

Are there symptoms of high cholesterol?
Unlike many health conditions, there are rarely any symptoms that your cholesterol is high. That’s what makes regular screening so important.

1 million adults in the United States have high low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol and nearly 50 million don’t have it under control, which puts them at higher risk for cardiovascular events, such as heart attack and stroke.

What’s more, nearly one-third (31%) of U.S. adults are not aware that having high cholesterol puts them at greater risk for heart attack and stroke, according to the findings of a recent study conducted by The Harris Poll commissioned by Esperion Therapeutics, Inc. The poll also revealed some inconsistent understanding about treatment options available for those with uncontrolled cholesterol. Fully 3 in 10 (30%) of those taking statins believe statins are the only LDL lowering treatment available for those with high LDL cholesterol.

“In auto racing, the red flag means danger on the track, stopping the race immediately,” said Dr. JoAnne Foody, chief medical officer at Esperion. “We are launching a patient education program, ‘Wave the Red Flag,’ to encourage people with uncontrolled high cholesterol to have their levels checked right away and discuss appropriate treatment options with their health care provider.”

If your high cholesterol is uncontrolled, understanding how you can achieve greater control can reduce your risk for serious health conditions, including potentially life-threatening cardiovascular events.

Consider these tips to get high cholesterol under control.

Talk with your doctor. Speaking with your physician is an important first step to managing any health condition. Your doctor can help you understand the

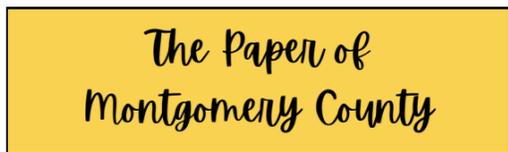
severity of your condition and whether a treatment plan should be moderate or aggressive.

Check your progress. Keeping tabs on your cholesterol can help you and your health care team gauge whether your treatment plan is working. If you don’t have heart disease, you may not need to check as frequently, but your doctor can recommend the appropriate intervals to help manage your cholesterol most effectively.

Take medications as prescribed. Statins are the medications most often recommended by treatment guidelines for the management of blood cholesterol, and nearly one-third (30%) of those taking statins believe they are the only cholesterol-lowering treatment available, according to the survey. However, even with maximal statin therapy, some patients with chronic disease do not meet recommended LDL cholesterol levels. Taking your medications regularly and as instructed helps your doctor determine whether additional therapies – including non-statin treatments – could be useful to help manage your blood cholesterol.

Make lifestyle adjustments. Your diet plays a major role in lowering LDL cholesterol. Limiting fatty foods, especially those that are high in saturated and trans fats, is key. Monitoring your overall diet and exercising can also help reduce your risk of high cholesterol. Even if you don’t have high cholesterol, adopting more cholesterol-friendly habits can help prevent your levels from rising to unhealthy levels in the future.

To find additional information about managing your high cholesterol, talk to your health care provider and visit WaveTheRedFlag.info.



HHSB Honored By Indiana Bankers Association



Photo courtesy Hoosier Heartland State Bank

From left, HHSB’s Trent Smaltz, Brad Monts, IBA’s Amber Van Til and HHSB’s Zach Hockersmith.

Hoosier Heartland State Bank has been honored as a Five Star Member of the Indiana Bankers Association. The award was presented earlier this month by Amber Van Til, IBA President and CEO, in recognition of HHSB’s Association involvement throughout 2023.

The Five Star Member designation recognizes those IBA-member banks which demonstrate outstanding commitment to the Association in five areas: Political awareness, issues advocacy, life-long learning, IBA volunteerism and

Preferred Service Provider utilization.

“We very much appreciate the dedication of HHSB as a Five Star Member bank,” said Amber Van Til, IBA President and CEO. “Our Association is strong, thanks to our supportive members who strive to grow stronger communities.”

The Indiana Bankers Association supports Indiana banking through issues analysis, professional education, and products and services that enhance member banks’ ability to serve their communities.

↓ KAREN

From Page A1

hard work. As I said, he sees what he needs to work on and goes after it. Rarely fails but if he does, he assesses the situation and broaches it again in a different way!

Another blessing he feels strong about is that he has gone to the First Christian Church his entire life; in fact, it is at least a three-generation family church. "I learned about Christ there and it helps me in the locker room or doing anything where I need some help and that's when I think about Jesus!" Then, he's ready to go for whatever endeavor.

His work ethic is amazing and something all five of the Woodalls have. I mean, this young fellow had 23 touchdowns his senior year at South as a linebacker and helped lead the team to their first sectional and beyond!

In wrestling, he was state champion in middle school at 175#, a two time state qualifier, two time regional champ and four times sectional and conference champion. I didn't know he had been in track which he wanted to do to continue in shape. He enjoyed running the 4 x 1 and even won county shot put. Gifted athlete and he has chosen to go on to Marian College to play football but he plans to work just as hard at that education, hoping to own his own Civil Engineering company in his future. It was the plan as a freshman to go to school on a wrestling scholarship but he loves his football and each year got better and better until he's quite the athlete as many of you know!

Definitely, there is lots to brag about but I'd be totally surprised if you hear him doing that as his mother said on FB, "We have taught you to be humble and appreciative of others!" That he is! Yes, he's been chosen player of the year; yes, he won the Griddy Award (Indiana Grid Iron group follows 1A-3A schools and gives the award kind of like an Oscar); yes, he holds school records, but it's the other guy who gets the pat on the back not so much

himself. He appreciates his family and realizes it is such a good one – his parents, grandparents, uncles, everyone inspires him (and follows him whether it is on the stage, the wrestling mat or the football field) as he tries to do the same with others. Besides all that, he is well-mannered. He is currently in a foot cast and even with that, he opened the door for us going into Pizza Hut! And, he says ma'am and sir! Love it!

His brother Riley had an amazing birth story and when I asked Wyatt about his, he said that his mom just noted that he didn't cry and was real quiet! Now, that got me to laughing as if you know Wyatt, you know his Mom's statement is certainly ironic. He's truly fun, loves to talk and definitely isn't quiet (well, unless he has to be).

Wyatt enjoys books of all kinds (been working on the Star Wars prequel via audio books) and especially likes action packed movies! He's reliable too as he has dated the same gal for five years now.

I did ask Wyatt what he saw himself doing in 25 years at 43. "Married, have a few kids, his own engineering business up and running, a nice home." He'd not mind living here but he liked that his brother Alex changes places, being in Tennessee, Virginia and such. At my age (75) he said he'd hopefully be retired, have successful children that would be intrigued with the engineering business and take it over then pass it on to the grandchildren. Likely, they'll be quite proud of their grandpa!

For sure, I know that whatever this young man will do in college or after, he will tackle it day by day and be honorable and definitely amazing!

Karen Zach is the editor of Montgomery Memories, our monthly magazine all about Montgomery County. Her column, Around the County, appears Fridays in The Paper of Montgomery County. You can reach her at karen.zach@sbcglobal.net.

Thank you for reading THE PAPER

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia Answer: Steve Williamson

FOR THE RECORD

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
 APRIL 22, 2024
 CONSENT AGENDA Approved
 Approval of Claims: AP \$3,185,847.34 & 4/12 Payroll \$474,276.98
 Minutes: April 8, 2024
 Mediation Rule 2.7 Settlement Agreement - Darrell Birge & Sandra Birge
 A mediation hearing was held on March 6, 2024 to mitigate a settlement in exchange for mutual releases of all parties (and related entities) to the litigation.
 Probation Department - Zahn's Floor Covering Quote - \$3,631.60
 Approved a quote from Zahn's Floor Covering to install new flooring in the main entrance of the Thomas K. Milligan Justice Center.
ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION
 Issued proclamation for Arbor Day, April 26, 2024.
NATIONAL POLICE WEEK PROCLAMATION
 Issued a proclamation for National Police Week- May 12 to May 18, 2024 and proclaimed Wednesday, May 15, 2024 as Police Officer Memorial Day.
NEW BUSINESS
 Deckard Surveying Work Order - Topography Survey for TKM Building - Probation Department
 Approved work order for topographic survey necessary for the upcoming ADA Project at the Thomas K. Milligan Building, 307 Binford Street, Crawfordsville, IN.
 Notice to Bidders for CCMG 2024-1 Project
 Authorized the Notice to bidders for CCMG 2024-1 preservative seal project. The project will include cape sealing and berming of Nucor Road. It also includes cape sealing of the additions.
 \$1,725,954.05 is the engineered estimate for total project. The county match is estimated to be \$431,334 and the awarded amount is \$1,294,620.05.
 Roads and or/neighborhoods included in the project are: Nucor Road + Berming; Lye Creek; Cadillac Drive; Chigger Hollow; Winslow Drive; Carrington Hills; Golf View; Big Four Arch; Manning Place; Watson Drive; Country Club Court; Stone Crest; Oak Hill Farms; Farmington Hills; Sommer Lane; Logan Rd; and Joyce & Stanley Drive.
2024 County Surveyor Compensation
 Approved the Surveyor's requests for additional compensation as outlined in IC 36-2-12-15. The Surveyor is entitled to receive \$2 per mile for each mile of active regulated drains in the County. In addition, Surveyor Cummins is entitled to an additional \$2 for each referenced section corner.
ORDINANCES
 Introduction Ordinance 2024-11 Adopting a Policy for Disposal of Lost or Abandoned Personal Property by Sheriff
 Introduced Ordinance that establishes a policy for the disposal of lost or abandoned personal property at the Sheriff's Office if the rightful owner cannot be located and/or the property remains unclaimed. The Sheriff requests that in such circumstances the Sheriff be authorized to release the property to its owner or, if the owner cannot be located, then the Sheriff be authorized to dispose of the property as surplus property.

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.

PROCLAMATION OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Arbor Day
 April 26, 2024

Whereas, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and

Whereas, the holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

Whereas, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

Whereas, trees can reduce the erosion of topsoil by wind and water, lower our heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife, and

Whereas, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless wood products, and

Whereas, trees in our County increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our County,

Now, therefore, the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim April 26, 2024 as Arbor Day in Montgomery County.

Proclaimed this 22nd day of April in the year 2024.

Montgomery County Board of Commissioners
 John E. Frey, President
 James D. Fulwider, Vice President
 Dan Guard, Member

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September 14 – 28, 2024



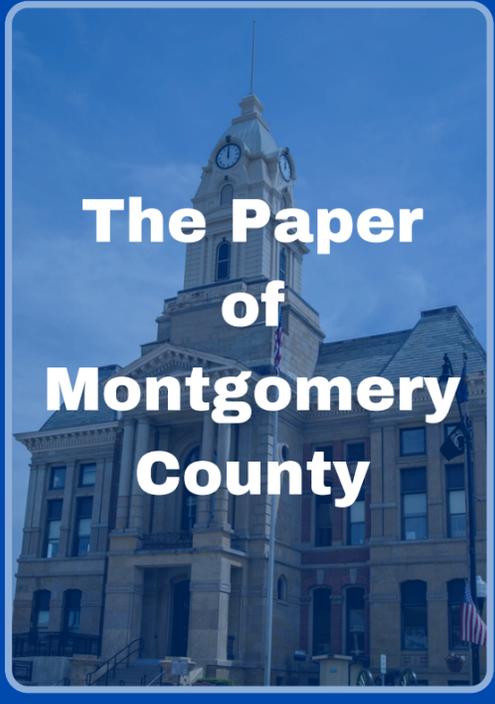

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THE PAPER

The Paper of Montgomery County



Catching Up On Purdue Boilermaker Sports Scene



KENNY THOMPSON
Columnist

Let's catch up on some thoughts now that Purdue basketball and Matt Painter have silenced the critics for at least a few months.

From scanning multiple mock NFL drafts, it seems Purdue fans will be waiting until Saturday to hear a Boilermaker's professional destination. The best bet is running back Tyrone Tracy, who spent two years at Purdue after three at offensively challenged Iowa.

Tracy earned a fourth-round grade in Dane Brugler's annual NFL Draft guide for The Athletic. Brugler provides scouting reports for hundreds of prospects, rating them from first-round picks to undrafted free agents.

Brugler forecasts a return to Tracy's hometown, getting the call from the Indianapolis Colts in the fifth round.

"After four seasons as a receiver at Iowa, his versatility as ball carrier blossomed in West Lafayette, and in 2023 he led the Big Ten in rushing yards per carry (6.34)," Brugler writes. "Displaying natural instincts with the ball in his hands, Tracy runs with the dynamic agility and elusiveness to slip tackles from different angles. . . . However, his inexperience at running back shows in his sporadic tendencies when choosing run lanes.

"Overall, Tracy needs to improve his decision-making at the line of scrimmage, but he can create with his quick lateral cuts and contact balance — and he can stay on the field on passing downs. He is a multi-dimensional threat as a rusher, receiver and special teamer, which increases his chances of commanding an NFL roster spot."

Edey on the rise

It's appearing that Purdue will have a second NBA first-round draft pick in three years. Kyle Irving of The Sporting News has Zach Edey projected as a mid-first round selection following his second consecutive season of dominating college basketball.

"Edey helped his draft stock during Purdue's run to the national championship game, cementing his status as a first-round pick," Irving writes. "He looked more mobile than ever before and showed his conditioning had improved, only sitting for four minutes from the Sweet 16 through the title game."

But ...

"His NBA ceiling still feels limited to that of a situational big who plays spot minutes in particular matchups, but Edey earned a chance to prove himself following a strong senior season," Irving adds.

Irving agrees with CBS college basketball writer Jon Rothstein, who has stated "Edey is the Yao Ming of college basketball."

"It is hard to draw a comparison more accurate than that," Irving writes. "Edey's massive and physically imposing presence is reminiscent of the eight-time NBA All-Star."

Knocking on the door

Thanks to a school record 34 wins this season, Purdue basketball is just two victories from cracking the NCAA Division I Top 10.

The Boilermakers' 1,929 victories are two behind 10th-place Indiana. Purdue already is the Big Ten's all-time winningest program with 1,038 victories and 26 conference championships. Illinois is second with 1,003 and Indiana third at 978.

Kentucky heads the Top

10 with 2,398 victories and a .760 winning percentage. Kansas is second (2,393), followed by North Carolina (2,372), Duke (2,300), UCLA (2,002), Syracuse (1,993), Temple (1,993), Notre Dame (1,963) and St. John's (1,942).

Overpaid vs. underpaid coaches

It was probably just a coincidence that not long after USA Today released its list of most overpaid college basketball coaches, John Calipari escaped the torch and pitchfork mob at Kentucky after yet another early NCAA Tournament exit.

Media reports indicate that Calipari took a paycut from the \$8.5 million in total compensation in 2023-24 to find a new Southeastern Conference home at Arkansas.

Indiana's Mike Woodson also fell on Paul Myerberg's overpaid list. He pulled no punches after the Hoosiers missed the NCAA Tournament.

"Woodson will be back for another year at Indiana, perhaps to the delight of the rest of the Big Ten," Myerberg wrote. "Woodson is making \$4.2 million in total compensation, third among Big Ten coaches, while overseeing a team that has taken a very noticeable step back following back-to-back tournament bids."

Big Ten peer Kevin Willard's \$4 million salary for a 16-17 season at Maryland and 12th place in the conference also made the overpaid list. It was a bad year for big-time basketball in Kentucky with Kenny Payne being fired at Louisville after getting \$3.5 million for eight victories this past season.

Purdue's Matt Painter was third on Myerberg's underpaid list behind South Carolina's Lamont Paris (\$2.3 million) and

Iowa State's T.J. Otzelberger (\$2.5 million). "The \$3.7 million Painter will earn in 2023-24 ranks 24th among coaches on our list and remains one of the best deals in college basketball," Myerberg writes.

Ranking Big Ten QBs

It will be a fall of change in Big Ten Conference football with the addition of USC, UCLA, Oregon and Washington.

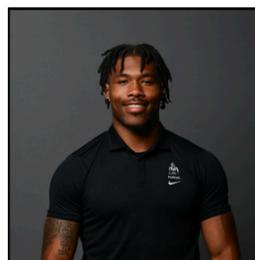
With them come a host of quarterback questions. Without explaining his methods, Bill Bender of The Sporting News attempted to rank the 18 projected starting quarterbacks after spring football.

Purdue's Hudson Card was rated seventh but probably should have been rated fifth ahead of incoming Nebraska five-star freshman Dylan Raiola (6th) and USC junior Miller Moss (4th) and his one career start replacing new Chicago Bears quarterback Caleb Williams in the Holiday Bowl. Raiola may be the next coming of Tommie Frazier for all we know but history tells me recruiting rankings need to be viewed skeptically. Moss was impressive against Louisville, 372 yards and 6 TDs, but the Cardinals will never make anyone forget the 1985 Chicago Bears defense.

Card's 2,387 yards and 15 touchdowns to eight interceptions ranks second among returning Big Ten quarterbacks who played in the conference.

"He fits in coach Ryan Walters' offense, and the Texas transfer should get that second-year bump from being in the same system," Bender writes.

Typical of today's college football, Bender's No. 1 Big Ten quarterback is Oregon senior Dillion Gabriel, his third school after 25 starts at Central Florida



Tyrone Tracy Jr.



Hudson Card



Tyrone Tracy Jr.

and 24 at Oklahoma. Gabriel has thrown 125 TDs to 26 interceptions in his career.

At No. 2 is Kansas State transfer Will Howard, who moved to Ohio State after the Buckeyes suggested former quarterback Kyle McCord find a new home at Syracuse.

Other transfer quarterbacks projected to start this fall are Will Rogers (Mississippi State) at Washington, Tyler Van Dyke (Miami) at Wisconsin, Kurtis Rourke (Ohio) at Indiana, Max Brosmer (New

Hampshire) at Minnesota and Athan Kaliakmanis (Minnesota) at Rutgers. Rourke comes in 10th on Bender's list thanks to career totals of 7,651 yards, 50 TDs and 16 interceptions. "It will be interesting to see how Rourke makes the jump from the MAC to the Big Ten," Bender writes.

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.

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Wabash Celebrates Annual Day of Giving



Alumni in every class from the Class of 1951 to the fall's incoming students in the Class of 2027 — 77 consecutive years — made gifts on the Day of Giving.

Wabash has raised more than \$1 million on its annual Day of Giving for six consecutive years. In its 10-year Day of Giving history, Wabash has raised \$10,338,765 from 47,510 gifts.

Wayne; Indianapolis; New York City; Northwest Indiana; and Washington, D.C.

The College continues to break records on its annual Day of Giving. Last year, 6,939 gifts made on the day totaled \$1,679,438. The 24-hour fundraising effort raised the equivalent of \$2,107 per student, a figure that outdistanced the best days of giving across peer institutions, the state, and nationally. The per-student figure was nearly \$400 more than in 2022.

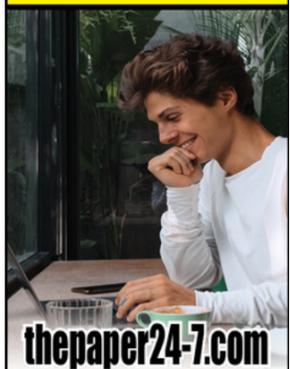
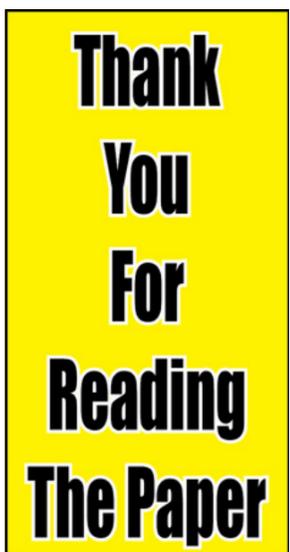
The generosity of \$720,000 in pledged gifts from 43 lead donors was the foundation of six challenges unlocked throughout the day as gifts accumulated.

Wabash College wants its campus, community, and friends across the world to celebrate, participate, and elevate the College's profile and its students' experiences during its annual Day of Giving on Wednesday. A group of generous Wabash leaders has amplified that idea and offered \$500,000 as a challenge to the Wabash Nation to make 5,000 gifts in support of our students. The goal is to receive more than 5,000 gifts by midnight in support of the student body and the transformational liberal arts education received. Combining the ideas of crowdfunding, affinity challenges, and the buzz of social

media, the #CelebrateWabash effort hopes to inspire participation and strengthen connections to the College through a celebration of philanthropy.

"The Day of Giving at Wabash is always a highlight of the year," said President Scott Feller. "On this one, very special day, we demonstrate our love of our College and the power of our collective philanthropy for the benefit of our students and faculty. I'm proud of how our alumni, parents, faculty, staff, students, and friends — year after year — pay it forward for the benefit of future generations of Wabash men."

Donations made on the 2024 Day of Giving will help deliver the College's enduring and transformational liberal arts experience to students through the people, places, and programs that make it unique. On Wednesday, the Wabash campus will enjoy a variety of events throughout the day to inspire excitement and engagement, including lunch and activities on the College Mall, and two events in the Lilly Library: a birthday bash from 4-5 p.m. and a study break with refreshments from 8-9 p.m. Alumni across the country will also be hosting get-togethers and after-work socials, including Cincinnati; Chicago; Dallas; Evansville; Fort



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Big Russellville Event Fast Approaching

The Russellville Small Business Market Spring Showcase is quickly approaching. It's set for May 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Russellville Community Center/ More than 60 vendors have signed up to attend. There will be Mommy and Me Photo Sessions, Mother's Day, graduation and wedding gift shopping. Breakfast and lunch will be served along with kid's crafts and bake sales. For vendor information, please contact Amanda White at (765) 366-3384.

But did you ever wonder about the history behind the Community Center? It started as the Russellville High School and was built in 1958, with the last graduating class in 1969. At that time all three high schools, including Bainbridge, Roachdale and Russellville formed the new North Putnam High School. It then served as the Russellville Elementary School until closing in 1993. The school sat empty for six years. At that time, the superintendent contacted the former principal of the

school, Darrell Wiatt, to see if the town would be interested in acquiring the former school building.

The Community Center now serves as a communal gathering place, hosting events once a month to the public, making its money on fundraisers and rentals for private events. It is such an asset to our community and has something to offer to everyone.

In 2020 there became a need to make repairs to the 20-year-old roof, so began the Raise-the-Roof fund. A READI Grant was secured with the help of Christine Clary that once \$125,000 was raised, our efforts would be matched to have the roof replaced. Many donations came in from the community and businesses, the Putnam County Community Foundation, Putnam County Commissioners, Wonderful Women and Wonderful Men Who Care organizations and countless others. Event organizers say they are so close to this goal and are

hoping to meet it this year!

Besides the roof, there are other expenses such as ceiling and floor tile which have been ruined by the water. The gym floor needs to be refinished along with a new stage curtain. Many of the windows and doors are the originals and need to be replaced. And resurfacing the blacktop would also be a nice addition. Donation jars will be set out at the event, for free-will offerings to help us with our needs.

Any money collected at our Russellville Small Business Market will help pay for repairs and expenses to keep our beloved building open and running. Darrell Wiatt has continued to oversee the facility since the very beginning. If anyone would like to rent a room or the gymnasium with a room for a birthday party, reunion, wedding, shower, roller skating party, basketball, etc. please contact Darrell Wiatt at (765) 918-6312.

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