

➔ TODAY'S VERSE

John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

Meet Miles



Miles is a 2 year old handsome male American Pit Bull Terrier available at The Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County (AWL) to foster and/or adopt since 2/5/24. Miles has won the prestigious awards of ULTIMATE GOOFBALL & SUPER SNULLGER. Miles is adorable and will steal your heart. Miles vigorously shakes his booty and does the most adorable foot stomps when you greet him. He's the BEST!! ❤️ Miles is a staff favorite. Miles loves going out for walks, frolicking in a fenced yard, and showered with love/attention. Just look at that perfect smile! Miles is playful, fun loving, and looking for his best friend. Could that be you? Miles is available for adoption, to foster, or just simply going out for walks. Come say hi!!

# The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA

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## Boomer Bits

### Ask Rusty – We Want to Claim SS at 62. When Should we Apply?



**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:**  
My wife and I are going to be taking Social Security at 62. She will be 62 on April 15, 2025. I will be 62 August 7, 2025. When should we apply for Social Security?

**Signed: Ready to file**

**Dear Ready:**  
Social Security recommends you apply for benefits about 2 – 3 months prior to when you want your benefits to start (to get them time to process your application). You will specify on your application when you wish your benefit to start, so applying early isn't a problem. Just a few things to keep in mind:

Your first month of eligibility will be the first month you are 62 for the entire month. In your wife's case, her first month of eligibility will be May 2025, and in your case your first month of eligibility will be September 2025. Your wife's benefits will be paid on the 3rd Wednesday of every month, and your benefits will be received on the 2nd Wednesday of every month (payment

dates depend on when your birthday falls).

Social Security has an earnings test for those collecting early benefits (before your full retirement age). If you are working and exceed the earnings limit, SS will take away some of your benefits. The earning limit for 2024 is \$22,320 and, if that is exceeded, SS will take away \$1 in benefit for every \$2 you are over the limit (the limit changes annually, so the 2025 limit will be more). Thus, if you plan to work after collecting, you must stay aware of the earning test. If you earn substantially more than the earnings limit, you even may be temporarily ineligible to collect benefits (until you either earn less or reach your full retirement age (FRA) when the earning test no longer applies).

By claiming at 62, you will incur a cut in benefits of about 30% from the amount you would get by waiting until your FRA to claim. And, except for

➔ See RUSTY Page A3

### Did You Know About Massive Medical Record Theft?

In the wake of a massive and under-reported cyberattack, Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita is warning Hoosiers about the steps they can take to prevent the potential theft of their personal health care information.

Rokita said that for months, the nation's largest electronic data clearinghouse, ChangeHealthcare / UnitedHealth, failed to inform the likely 110 million affected Americans about the potential theft of their health insurance records, banking information, Social Security numbers, and medical records that are typically kept confidential between doctors and

➔ See THEFT Page A3

### How to Manage Competing Financial Priorities

(StatePoint) Managing competing financial priorities can be emotionally and logistically complex, whether you're juggling college tuition bills and mortgage payments, or you're carving out opportunities for travel while planning for retirement.

According to CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professionals, following these tips can help you effectively make space in your budget for

➔ See MANAGE Page A3

### Meet Lida Waye from New Richmond



The Indiana Album: Phyllis Wayne Boone Collection



**KAREN ZACH**  
Around The County

Lida Waye was the daughter of Shubal "Jefferson" and Mary Evelyn (Grady) Waye, born near Wingate on May 16, 1895. She had three older brothers, William Earl, Andrew Jackson and Forrest.

Earl married Clara Utterback and they parented a boy and girl, lived in Detroit where he was an auto inspector and died of a burst appendix 27 Oct 1926, buried New Richmond. Andrew Jackson "Andy" lived in Lafayette most of his life, served in WWI, was a blacksmith, married Rose Arnold and parented four daughters and one son. He was a cute older fella', but the pic on FindAGrave of him in his uniform during WWI shows quite a handsome young man. Forrest, three years older than Lida lived much of his life in New Richmond. Married to Flossie Cox Burroughs, he was father to five sons and two daughters. Forrest was a painter and lived in New Richmond and Wingate, a deacon and elder in the NR Christian Church. He lost two wives and at his death was married to Flossie Cox. His daughter, Phyllis was such a sweetie and a good genealogy buddy of mine back in my younger days!

So, Lida went to school in the county and probably when this photo was taken, was likely working at a local general store owned by George F. Long, beginning in May 1913. She clerked, taking the position of Mae Coffman who had resigned to attend college in Bloomington. Lida's outfit shows the working girl of the times. Her hair is pulled back in braids with a headband to stay out of the way of selling wares and packaging them, possibly shelving them as well (photo from Indiana Album: Phyllis Wayne Boone Collection). She probably stayed employed at least for some time after her marriage in September of that year (wedding band indicates the wedding had occurred), not sure but her life then began with Raymond Michael. On his WWI draft card he was described as tall, slender, with brown hair, light brown eyes and was a sheet metal worker. Raymond was the son of Lucian Dillard and Alice Lewis Michael; however, most of

➔ See KAREN Page A4

### ➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Healthy adults should not take more than 4,000mg of Tylenol (acetaminophen) in a 24-hour period.

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



### ➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

"If you're going through hell, keep going."  
Winston Churchill

### ➔ THREE THINGS You Should Know

- 1 Attorney General Todd Rokita and Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird are co-leading a 22-state letter calling on Congress to pass the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act. The bill would strengthen our electoral process by upholding the rule of law and prohibit individuals who are ineligible to vote like illegal aliens from doing so. Under the act, individuals must provide proof of citizenship when registering to vote. It also will help states identify and remove illegal aliens from their voter registration rolls.
- 2 The cone zone will create temporary lane closures on I-74 westbound near Brownsburg, beginning this evening. According to INDOT, crews will reduce westbound I-74 to one lane between the westbound entrance ramp at Ronald Reagan Parkway to just east of the 56th Street (C.R. 600 N) underpass. Work is expected to be wrapped up by the end of the day Monday, but is weather permitting.
- 3 Looking for a cool drive to escape from summer's swelter? According to our friends at White Hot PR, three Indiana routes qualify. The top spot is from Michigan City to Gary along the shores of Lake Michigan and Indiana Dunes. On the opposite end of the state, Lawrenceburg to New Albany for the Ohio River Scenic Byway and finally the Brown County State Park! Looking for the best spot in the U.S. White Hot says it's the Hatcher Pass Scenic Drive in Palmer, Alaska!

### ➔ TODAY'S JOKE

What letter of the alphabet is the coolest?  
Iced T!

### ➔ MONTGOMERY MINUTE

United Way in Montgomery County, along with the Chamber, Leadership, the Foundation, Wabash College and the City of Crawfordsville, announced the Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Community Day of Service. This year's event is scheduled for Sept. 25 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Be sure to mark your calendars and watch for the official registration and more event details to come soon!

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

## Time to Think About Chamber Awards

Do You Know a Person or Business Who Deserves Recognition?

Every year, the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce recognizes chamber members who have made outstanding achievements and contributions in their community. Award recipients are businesses, non-profits, and individuals who make up our vibrant business community.

Categories for nominations are small business, large business, entrepreneur, community organization, woman of the year, champion of change and rising star: young professional. The recipients will be announced and presented at the Chamber Award Banquet on Thursday, Sept. 5 at Stone Creek Lodge.

This event is for members of the Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce. If you are interested in



learning information about becoming a member of the chamber to take advantage of promoting your organization, making connections, and contributing to advancing a vibrant business community, contact Executive Director, Stacy Sommer at [ssommer@crawfordsvillechamber.com](mailto:ssommer@crawfordsvillechamber.com).

Nominations and nominees must be a current member in good standing with the Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce. To make nominations, visit our website: [crawfordsvillechamber.com](http://crawfordsvillechamber.com) and click on Award Banquet under the Membership tab. Deadline for nominations is Friday, Aug. 9.

## Montgomery County Legislators Get Summer Appointments

Montgomery County legislators recently received appointments to serve on interim study committees, which will meet throughout the summer and fall to explore policy issues and work together to identify solutions.

Legislators will hear testimony from the public, various experts and stakeholders as they work on bill recommendations ahead of the budget session in January.

State Rep. Jeff Thompson (R-Lizton) will serve as chair of the Budget Committee, Interim Study Committee on Fiscal Policy, Interim Study Committee on Pension Management Oversight, and the State and Local Tax Review Task Force. He will also co-chair the Funding Indiana's Roads for a Stronger, Safer Tomorrow Task Force, and serve on the Distressed Unit Appeal Board, Indiana Stadium and Convention Building Authority, and the Medicaid Oversight Committee.

"From reviewing outcomes of our workforce development programs and how we can properly invest in our infrastructure, to keeping Medicaid financially solvent while ensuring Hoosiers who need the program have access, lawmakers will tackle some major issues to dive into this interim," Thompson said. "Our goal continues to be maintaining a balanced budget with responsible reserves while funding our priorities and doing what's right by Hoosier taxpayers."

State Rep. Sharon Negele (R-Attica) will serve as a member of the Interim Study Committee on Corrections and Criminal Code, the Interim Study Committee on Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications, the Legislative Council, and the Legislative Council's Audit and Financial Reporting Subcommittee.

"From reviewing updates on state utilities to investigating trends in criminal behavior, sentencing, incarceration and treatment, this year's study committees are taking a closer look at tough issues," Negele said. "I am excited to collaborate with the state's experts and fellow legislators on the topics that concern Hoosiers most."

State Rep. Beau Baird (R-Greencastle) will serve as a member of the Interim Study Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

State Rep. Mark Genda (R-Frankfort) will serve as a member of the Interim Study Committee on Commerce and Economic Development.

The 2024 legislative interim study committee assignments and other legislative appointments for House members can be found here. Click here for the list of study committee topics. Committee hearings, which typically occur at the Statehouse in Indianapolis, can be viewed live online on the General Assembly's website located at [iga.in.gov](http://iga.in.gov).

## FOR THE RECORD

### NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE SESSION CRAWFORDSVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

1000 Fairview Avenue  
 Crawfordsville, IN 47933  
 Location: Fusion 54

101 W Main St, Crawfordsville, IN 47933  
 Date of Meeting: July 22, 2024 at 10 a.m.

The Board of Trustees of the Crawfordsville Community School Corporation will hold an Executive Session as authorized under Indiana Code section 5-14-1.5-6.1:

- An executive session is authorized under: Indiana Code section(s): I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b) 11
  - An executive session is authorized under: United States Code section(s): \_\_\_\_\_
- For discussion of strategy with respect to any of the following:
- Collective bargaining
  - The initiation of litigation or litigation that is either pending or has been threatened specifically in writing
  - The implementation of security systems
  - The purchase or lease of real property by the governing body up to the time a contract or option to purchase or lease is executed by the parties
  - School consolidation
  - For discussion of the assessment, design, and implementation of school safety and security measures, plans and systems
  - To receive information about and interview prospective employees
  - With respect to any individual over whom the governing body has jurisdiction:
    - A. To receive information concerning the individual's alleged misconduct; and
    - B. To discuss, before a determination, the individual's status as an employee, student, or an independent contractor who is a physician or school bus driver
  - For discussion of records classified as confidential by State or Federal Statute
  - To discuss before a placement decision an individual student's abilities, past performance, behavior and needs
  - To discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees
  - For the consideration of the appointment of a public official to do the following:
    - Develop a list of perspective appointees
    - Consider application
    - Make one (1) initial exclusion of prospective appointees from further consideration
    - To prepare or score examinations used in issuing licenses, certificates, permits or registrations under IC 25
  - To train board members with an outside consultant about the performance of the role of the members as public officials.
  - To discuss information and intelligence intended to prevent, mitigate or respond to the threat of terrorism
  - Other:

### NORTH MONTGOMERY SCHOOLS REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Monday, July 22, 6 p.m.  
 480 W 580 N  
 Crawfordsville

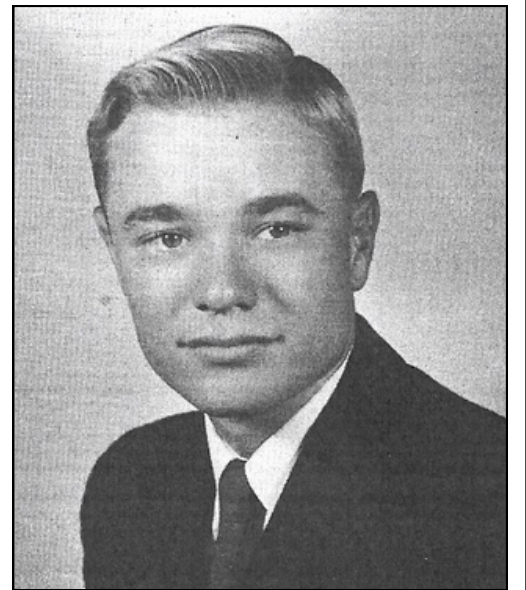
1. Call to order
2. Call to order and pledge of allegiance
3. Public Comment
4. Consent Agenda
5. Minutes
6. Monthly Claims
7. Personnel, Extra-Curricular, Field Trips, Facilities Usage, Contributions, Gifts, Superintendent Stipends
8. Other
9. Consent Vote
10. Action Items
11. Approve Designee for Approval of Community Supported and / or Residential Services
12. Approve Paving Project Change Order
13. Approve IN ESC School Food COOP Agreement for SY 2024-25
14. Approve Math and Business Textbooks
15. Update on Transportation and Safety
16. Other
17. Adjournment

### SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The Montgomery County August Soil & Water Conservation District board meeting has been moved to Tuesday, Aug. 6 at 8a.m. in the USDA service center conference room, 2036 E. Lebanon Rd. in Crawfordsville

*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.*

# Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



Do You Recognize This Person?

**HINT:**  
 He graduated from Darlington High School in 1960 and was an outstanding athlete.

Answer on Page A3



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Thank you for reading  
 The Paper

## ↓ THEFT

From Page A1

patients. Rokita's Data Privacy and ID Theft team is urging Indiana residents to be on the lookout for strange changes to their health plan statements and billing information, and to take advantage of Change Healthcare offering free credit monitoring and ID theft protection services. To enroll in credit monitoring through IDX, call 1-888-846-4705.

"The protection of your private medical records and personal health care information is of utmost importance to our office, and you have the right to request a credit freeze and numerous other preventative ID theft services – free of charge – from this irresponsible health care handler," Attorney General Rokita said.

Change Healthcare processes 15 billion health care transactions each year, and the company reported one-in-three Americans may be affected by this latest BlackCat ransomware attack. The attack itself enabled the shady hacker group to obtain millions and millions of private medical records stored by Change Healthcare.

"Our office will continue to pressure companies like Change Healthcare to hold Hoosiers' data privacy at the highest standards -- and know that we will hold all health care operators accountable for any and all breaches."

### Timeline of Attacks & Change Healthcare's Failure to Notify Patients

The company has stated that affected individuals may begin receiving notification letters in the mail in late July, but Change Healthcare first became aware of the so-called Blackcat ransomware cyberattacks all the way back on February 21, 2024.

The ransomware attackers themselves have publicly claimed that patient data was being stolen well before the February 21 date – but millions of patients have not been individually notified in any way that their information has likely been stolen by the hacker group.

Companies like UnitedHealth are legally required to report all data breaches involving protected health information (PHI) to the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. But Rokita's office reiterates that the depth and scope of the breaches are still unknown – so even if you don't think you're affected – it can't hurt to take proactive steps to protect yourself.

Consumers should be aware of potential warning signs that someone is using their medical information. The signs include:

- A bill from their doctor for services they did not receive;
- Errors in their Explanation of Benefits statement like services they never received or prescription medications they do not take;
- A call from a debt collector about a medical debt they do not owe;
- Medical debt collection notices on their credit report that they do not recognize;
- A notice from their health insurance company indicating they have reached their benefit limit; or
- They are denied insurance coverage because their medical records show a pre-existing condition they do not have.

If consumers are concerned that their data may have been impacted but prefer not to use the free resources provided by Change Healthcare, they can also consider freezing their credit.

Individuals will have to freeze their credit with each bureau: Experian, Equifax and TransUnion.

- Equifax | <https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-freeze/>
  - +1 (888) 766-0008
- Experian | <https://www.experian.com/freeze/center.html>
  - +1 (888) 397-3742
- TransUnion | <https://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze>
  - +1 (800) 680-7289

## ↓ MANAGE

From Page A1

everything that matters to you:

**Get started early:** While there is no wrong time to make a financial plan, waiting until you achieve a certain level of wealth can be counterproductive. Having a plan at the outset will help you achieve your goals faster and with less anxiety.

**Set specific goals:** Being precise about your goals can help ensure you're prepared to achieve them. For example, simply saving for retirement is terrific, but having a clear vision of what you want your retirement to look like can help you map out a financial plan that gets you exactly where you want to go.

**Be strategic about debt:** If getting out of debt is one of your financial goals, be strategic about it. Pay off credit card bills and loans with higher interest rates first to reduce the overall cost of your debt over time and free up more of your money for your other priorities.


**Maximize savings:** If you can only afford small contributions to your savings right now because of other financial priorities, don't fret. You can actually maximize every dollar that you budget for the future if you play your cards right. A CFP® professional can guide you toward savings opportunities that come with tax advantages, as well as high returns and interest yields.

**Protect your wealth:** Unexpected circumstances can disrupt even the best-laid plans. Account for such possibilities as market downturns, loss of income and the need for long-term care to reduce the risk of your important goals going unmet.

**Stay calm:** Money is the source of many emotions, including guilt and anxiety, and it is easy to get swept up in those negative feelings when you unthinkingly spend money on vacations, dining out and other lifestyle experiences. Creating a budget can help you realistically balance fun, short-term goals with long-term financial security.

**Partner with a professional:** A CFP® professional can help you juggle competing financial priorities gracefully. Not only will they sit down with you to identify your objectives, but they also possess the expertise to guide you to the tools and strategies that will help you most easily reach your goals. A CFP® professional is also someone you can trust. As part of their CFP® certification, they commit to act as a fiduciary and provide financial advice that is in their clients' best interests. To find a CFP® professional, visit [letsmakeaplan.org](https://letsmakeaplan.org).

From buying a house or car to financing your child's education or wedding, smart strategies can help you meet life's many exciting adventures with confidence.



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***thepaper24-7.com***

## ↓ RUSTY

From Page A1

annual cost of living adjustments, that is a permanent reduction. FYI, your benefit will continue to grow if you wait longer to claim.

Deciding when to claim Social Security should take into account your financial needs, your life expectancy, and your goals as a couple. Claiming at 62 is the right choice for many, but waiting longer, if feasible, will result in a higher monthly amount, which could be beneficial if your life expectancy is long. Of course, we are here for you if you have any additional questions,

so please don't hesitate to contact us again if needed.

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](https://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory)) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org).

## ↓ KAREN

From Page A1

Dillard's spellings found including his gravestone is under Michaels. Ray had at least four siblings who all grew-up in the Linden area.

Ray and Lida's first child was a girl, Pauline Dorothy, born August 13th the year after their marriage. Born at 1 in the afternoon, Dr. JW Elliott delivered her at their home in New Richmond. I remember her working at Fairfield Craft store. She lived the longest of Lida's three children, passing at age 86. She married Sam Garver but was a widow 26 years. As far as I can tell, they had one daughter, Phyllis.

Raymond and Lyda produced quite an excitement to their families on the 21st day of February in 1917 when their twin boys were born at their home in Crawfordsville 412 W. North Street, Paul Dudley born first followed by Donald Kelsey. I take it the boys were fraternal twins as in their WWII registration cards, Paul was 6'2", 165#, dark complected with black hair and blue eyes while Don was 5'8", 143#, light complexion with brown eyes and brown hair. He spent many years as a shop foreman in the state highway department here, was a Navy Veteran, married with three daughters and two sons. He died in Manatee Memorial Hospital in Palmetto, Florida where he enjoyed close to his last decade, passing Jan 9, 1996.

Although Don was the last born he passed away three years prior to his brother on 29 November 1993. He worked at a Farmer's Produce Association for Amos Hayes at his WWII registration. Later, he was supervisor on the county highway and sadly passed with throat cancer. Know he was father of at least two sons. Think the twins took after their hard-working dad as he was the water engineer at the light plant for many years as well as maintenance foreman at MidStates.

Sadly, our sweet lady passed away of breast cancer after having been ill two years and very sick for five weeks – 18 March 1960 - lacking just two months of being 65 years old. Raymond had left his Lyda three years prior at only 62. They were buried in Oak Hill South or in other words, the Masonic Cemetery in Crawfordsville.

Sure enjoyed meeting and getting to know (so to speak) this pretty lady and her family (oh, and she had nine grandchildren, too, I bet she enjoyed) – just hoping you did, too!

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

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# Safe Disposal of Chemicals and Pesticides

Sometimes some weeds are too hard to kill without some chemical help, and that is OK! Using pesticides can be scary to use for some, and they only get used sparingly. It is pretty common to only buy enough to kill that one patch of poison ivy or Canada thistle, etc. and never using it again until the pesky weed shows up again.

But it is important to know that pesticides have limited shelf life, usually, none retain the marketed efficacy past three years in storage, especially if opened. If you have any insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, and bactericides that are older than three years old, it is time to safely discard of them. If you have any open containers of pesticides that are older than two years, it is time to discard those as well. The Office of Indiana State Chemist is the regulating body for pesticide use in Indiana and every year they host regional sites for homeowners, schools, golf courses, coops, and businesses to safely dispose of chemicals and pesticides. If you do not have the label for the product or it is not in its original container you can still take those items to the clean sweep sites to safely discard. I have heard of some crazy things that get dropped off at these events, like dicamba in a pop bottle.

The closest Clean Sweep

sites this year are on August 22, 2024, at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds (1900 E. Main St. Danville, IN 46122) OR August 15, 2024, at Becks Foundation Seed Facility (6159 West 550 North Sharpville, Indiana 46068)

To participate with Clean Sweep, you must fill out the "Clean Sweep Pesticide Disposal Participant Form" to the best of your abilities. The form can be found on our county website or the OISC website.

The first 250 pounds of pesticides are free to drop off. Mail, fax or e-mail the completed form to Nathan Davis at 765-494-4331 or cleansweep@groups.purdue.edu no later than Fri., August 9, 2024. Questions may be directed to Nathan at 765-494-7108. Then bring your leak-free and safe-to-transport containers to the collection site. DO NOT mix materials.

### Upcoming Extension Master Gardener Training

Are you or someone you know interested in becoming a Master Gardener? The Master Gardener Basic Training class will be from September 3 – November 7 Tuesdays and Thursdays 4-6 pm at the Montgomery Fairgrounds. The class consists of 40 hours of horticulture education that covers soils, insect id, lawncare, managing

yard waste, tree care, and more. Taking the Basic Training is the first step in becoming a Purdue University Extension Master Gardener Volunteer. Master Gardeners are a great group of volunteers that work and uplift our local community. Please email triciaherr@purdue.edu for more details.

*Tricia Herr is the Extension Educator / Agriculture & Natural Resources for Purdue Extension Montgomery County Office*



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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Commissioners of Montgomery County, Indiana and the City of Crawfordsville, Indiana; hereinafter referred to as the OWNERS, will receive sealed bids for the following project:

**Landfill Grading Improvements Phase 2**

Proposals may be forwarded individually by registered mail or delivered in person at the Montgomery County Government Center, Commissioners Office, 1580 Constitution Row Suite E, Crawfordsville, IN 47933. Proposals shall be addressed to the Montgomery County Commissioners and be delivered prior to 4:00 p.m. local time, Friday, August 9th, 2024. Bids received after the 4:00 p.m. deadline will not be considered but will be returned to the bidder unopened.

All proposals will be received by the OWNERS at a public meeting held at the Montgomery County Government Center, Community Meeting Room, 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, IN 47933, and opened and read aloud at 8:00 a.m. local time, Monday, August 12th, 2024.

The work to be performed and the proposals to be submitted shall include a bid for all general construction, labor, material, tools, equipment, taxes, permits, licenses, insurance, service costs, etc. incidental to and required for this project.

Copies of the Specifications and Contract Documents are on file in the Commissioner's Office, 1580 Constitution Row, Suite E, Crawfordsville, IN 47933. Plans and Specifications may be reviewed at this location during regular County business hours.

Copies of the Specifications and Contract Documents may be obtained at the office of Butler, Fairman, and Seufert, Inc., 8450 Westfield Blvd., Suite 300, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240. Copies of the documents are available for examining at the office of Butler, Fairman, and Seufert, 8450 Westfield Blvd. Suite 300, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240. Copies of the bid documents will be made available through the following method:

- as digital files or made available to the plan holder for download upon remittance of \$50 to the Engineer.

Remittances are not refundable. Payment shall be by money order or check and shall be made payable to Butler, Fairman, and Seufert, Inc. Plan holders must recognize that they will be notified of each addendum via email and will be required to electronically download addendum content via file transfer protocol (FTP). Obtaining Contract Documents at the Issuing Office of the Engineer ensures notification of any addenda.

Each proposal must be enclosed in a sealed envelope, bearing the title of the project, bid opening date and the name and address of the bidder firmly affixed. The Bid documents to be thus submitted by each bidder shall consist of all of the documents listed in section 5.3 of the Instruction to Bidders. The bidder shall affix identifying tabs to the following sheets of each proposal:

- Bidder's Itemized Proposal and Declarations
- Bid Bond
- Standard Questionnaire and Financial Statement

Each individual proposal shall be accompanied by a certified check or acceptable Bidder's Bond, made payable to Montgomery County, in a sum of not less than five percent of the total amount of the proposal, which check or bond will be held by the said Montgomery County Auditor as evidence that the bidder will, if awarded a contract, enter into the same with the OWNERS upon notification from them to do so within ten days of said notification. Failure to execute the contract and to furnish a performance bond as required will be cause for forfeiture of the amount of money represented by the certified check, or bidder's bond, as liquidated damages. The Commissioners and the City of Crawfordsville at their discretion reserve the right to waive any and all informalities and to award the Contract to any Bidder all to the advantage of the Owners or to reject all bids. All bids submitted shall be valid for 90 days from the opening of the bids.

Montgomery County and the City of Crawfordsville reserves the right to ask for clarification for any bid submitted. The specification herein states the minimum requirements. It shall be the Bidder's responsibility to carefully examine each item of the specification. Any bid not in substantial compliance with these specifications will be rejected. It will be the responsibility of the Bidder to conform to the requirements unless deviations have been specifically cited by the Bidder and acceptance made on the basis of the exception.

The Board of Commissioners for Montgomery County Indiana acknowledges its responsibility to comply with the American Disabilities Act of 1990. In order to assist individuals with disabilities who require special services (i.e. sign interpretative services, alternate audio/visual devices, and amanuenses) for participation in or access to County sponsored public programs, services and/or meetings, the county requests that individuals make request for these services forty-eight (48) hours ahead of the scheduled program, services and/or meeting. To make arrangements, Contact Lori Dossett, Commissioners Executive Assistant, at (765) 361-2623 or lori.dossett@montgomerycounty.in.gov.

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