

➔ TODAY'S VERSE

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (NIV)

Meet Krypto



Krypto is one of AWL's longest resident dogs. Krypto entered The Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County (AWL) on 9/19/2020 = 4 years ago! Krypto has spent over half of his life only getting 1-2 hours tops out of his kennel each day. Krypto does NOT want to spend another winter behind bars! Krypto wants a nice warm bed inside a loving home this winter (even if just a temporary foster home)!! LET'S MAKE IT HAPPEN!! Krypto AKA Super Dog is a 7 year old male American Pit Bull Terrier mix available for adoption since 9/19/2020. Krypto is deaf, but he doesn't let that hold him back! There are many benefits to owning a deaf dog, including the fact that noises aren't a distraction. While deaf dogs can pick up on the vibrations in their environment, they simply don't have the sound sensitivities that can afflict hearing dogs. Krypto can do just about everything a hearing dog can! The only difference is you'll communicate through hand signals/body language vs verbal commands. Krypto loves playing with toys, going for walks, getting love/attention, and treats! Krypto has won the ultimate fence jumper award for his amazing speed/agility in jumping fences! Krypto is dog selective and has a high prey drive. A meet and greet is required to ensure Krypto would be a good fit. Krypto is looking for his best friend! Could that be you? Krypto is available for adoption, to foster, or just simply going out for walks.

# The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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## Butch Still Does Not Understand Women....



**BUTCH DALE**  
Columnist

I admit it. Although I have been married to the same woman for 58 years, I am still trying to understand how the female brain works. According to experts, women use the cerebral cortex of the brain for solving problems, while men use an entirely different part of the brain, the left hippocampus. Because of this, a woman's brain is like a laptop which is connected to multiple websites all at the same time, with hundreds of thoughts, memories and emotions connected to each other. These are never forgotten and are brought up at opportune times,

mostly to get revenge. On the other hand, a man's brain automatically arranges thoughts and memories into nice simple files, which can be turned on or off like a light switch. Men can then have the benefit of selective memory when they need it during arguments. Men only have two emotions ... the thrill of victory or the agony of defeat.

The male and female brain structure will never change. This can be very handy. For instance, I have discovered that there is no use remembering my mistakes because my wife will always remember those for me. If I start a conversation, I can stop at any time because my wife will finish it. The

same holds true for any argument that may arise. A woman will always have the last word, and if a man says anything after that, it will be the beginning of a new argument. This can go on forever, and can provide wonderful and enlightening conversation.

When men have something to say during an argument, they are very direct and to the point. After a few minutes of trying to win the argument and subsequently failing, a man will turn off his brain and enter a silent comatose state. When women respond to men during such an argument, they use

➔ See BUTCH Page A3

## Childcare, Where It's Been, Where It's Going

The LWVMC Well-Read Citizen Club will be discussing Noa Tishby's Israel: A Simple Guide to the Most Misunderstood Country on Earth tonight at 7 p.m. at Whitlock Hall, 212 S. Green St. All are welcome.



The League of Women Voters, open to men as well as women, is a nonpartisan, multi-issue political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. For information about the Montgomery County LWV, visit: www.lwvmontco.in.org or message to LWV, PO Box 103, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933.

Gloria Riviera's mom took a job to support the family while her husband worked on his degree. It was the 1960s, and she'd never heard the word "daycare," so she

knocked on doors in her neighborhood. Eventually, her grandmother came for a visit and stayed for three years, Riviera said in "Birth of a Broken System" on the podcast No One is Coming to Save Us.

The series tackles the problem of childcare for parents and in this early episode, the hosts chronicle the history of a broken system for working parents and their kids. For women in the U.S., shame once surrounded them for working rather than staying home and caregiving for children. For fathers who stay home to care for children, there's a mixed response. "What a dad!" say some. Doctors' office staff, teachers, friends and strangers exclaim their praise for fathers who step up, bringing the kids to appointments, showing up at parent-teacher conferences (alone, more so), the grocery and church.

When we talk about daycare / childcare, the default perception focuses on women and their children. It makes a strong assumption that women should stay home, a narrative that has overlooked all manner of household configurations, especially those with low- or climbing-incomes. Farm households. Manufacturing, domestic workers, teachers.

During World War 2, childcare was "transformed into an issue of national security," says Riviera. "When women's work is valued, childcare miracles magically happen. And so with funding from the Lanham Act of 1941 . . . the federal government, the actual federal government, got into the universal childcare business for the first time in American history."

This law allowed women to go to work, contributing to economy and workforce. As the war ended, the funds dried up and as men returned to the workforce, women appealed to unions. The unions put their support behind the men, not yet seeing how women in the workforce benefited companies, households, women and unions alike.

➔ See LWV Page A5

## Revisiting an Old Friend – the Bubbling Caldron



**TIM TIMMONS**  
Two Cents

About a hundred or so years ago – or so it seems – I created what I thought was a fun little character named The Bubbling Caldron. I was a young sportswriter at the time and used Bubbles to do some off-the-wall prognosticating on high school football and basketball games.

After I left the sports world, Hall of Famer Barry Lewis took over the column and truth to tell, turned out to be a better picker than I was. At some point though, I think Barry stopped writing it and not sure when, but Bubbles kind of floated off on the River Styx.

So imagine my surprise the other day when Bubbles, in all his former glory, popped

up and wanted to talk about this year's elections.

Now, keep in mind if you please, that all the following was written prior to yesterday's elections. So everything ol' Bubbles said was indeed pure prediction. Lest anyone doubt that, I've asked the Internet Overlords to post this column on our website prior to the election. What was it Reagan said, trust but verify? Verify to your heart's content. And without further ado, heeere's Bubbles!

Hello Sports Fans,

Miss me? It's been a while. Yeah, OK, "a while" doesn't really cut it, huh. Best as I can figure, it's something like 30 or so years . . . Yeah, when the powers that be on North Meridian Street killed class basketball, it was kind of tough to keep up the

enthusiasm. Then, some of my favorite coaches retired and, well, hey, a life of leisure on a beach isn't all bad. So, you ask, what's got me back here today? Well, with just a few days to go until the election, I thought I'd offer up a prediction or three and see if I've still got the touch . . . or if I'm just plain touched in the head.

Let's start with the easy one right here in the great Hoosier state. Jennifer McCormick will be our next governor . . . yeah, OK, I couldn't keep a straight face. But hey, I tried. How about Liber-(I don't pay child support)-tarian Donald

➔ See TIM Page A5



## ➔ 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



## ➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

"Equity is a godless construct used to manipulate human beings. Don't teach it to your children and don't tolerate anyone else teaching it to your children."  
Pastor Allen Jackson

## ➔ THREE THINGS You Should Know

**1** Agriculture educators play a crucial role within their communities by investing countless hours to prepare and empower students for successful careers in the industry. In recognition of their invaluable contributions and to offer additional resources for their programs, Nationwide introduced the Golden Owl Award in 2018. Since its inception, the Golden Owl Award has awarded nearly half a million dollars to support teachers, students, school agricultural programs and FFAs. Indiana FFA is accepting nominations for Indiana's top agricultural teachers for a chance to be named as the Ag Educator of the Year. For more information, go to <https://www.inffa.org/GoldenOwlAward>

**2** Apparently, EVERYONE jumped on the Taylor Swift bandwagon – including the Indianapolis Airport and Girl Scouts! The two partnered to welcome Swifties prior to Taylor's three shows in Indianapolis. Girl Scouts were around the airport's public gathering area, trading and making friendship bracelets labeled with each scout's name, scout level and favorite Taylor Swift song. About 1,200 Girl Scouts from 56 troops throughout Central Indiana created 3,000 friendship bracelets and earned a custom patch for their participation in this community initiative.

**3** Now that the election is over, maybe we can all smile about something. The Republicans tried to get the most out of Joe Biden's "garbage" comment as they could – even in Indiana. Attorney General Todd Rokita went to vote as a passenger in – you guessed it – a garbage truck. Rokita said the stunt was a message that common sense, conservative Hoosier voters are not "garbage."

## ➔ TODAY'S JOKE

Forgive us, but we're in the spirit of Christmas so we're starting the Yule jokes a little early this year (hey, with all the strife in the world, can't we all use some holiday cheer!)  
What says Oh Oh Oh?  
Santa walking backwards!

## ➔ MONTGOMERY MINUTE

The Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District is back with another Women's Learning Circle on Nov. 12 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. It will be led by women conservationists from around our area. Organizations include NRCS, Purdue Extension, CCSI, and the State Association of SWCDs. To sign up call the SWCD office at (765) 362-0405 ext. 121 or email [programs@montgomerycoswcd.com](mailto:programs@montgomerycoswcd.com). While this event is free, spaces are limited so sign up soon!



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



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## ➔ OBITUARY

### Marilyn Hood

December 24, 1939 - November 2, 2024

Marilyn Marie (Appleby) Hood, age 84 of Crawfordsville, passed away on Saturday, November 2, 2024. She was born at 6:00pm on Christmas Eve on December 24, 1939 to the late Arthur & Alta (Nixon) Appleby.



Marilyn graduated from Crawfordsville High School in 1958. On October 18, 1958 at the Milligan Presbyterian Church she married the love of her life, Robert "Bob" Hood, who preceded her in death on March 28, 2009. She worked at RR Donnelley's for 20 years as a binder. She was raised in the Milligan Presbyterian Church until 2007, then moved her membership to Christ United Methodist Church. She was a member of the Eagles Auxiliary and the American Legion Auxiliary. She loved being around children and visiting with friends.

She is survived by her cousins, Roberta Denham, Sue (Art) Chrisman, Debra (Bud) Bowman, Peggy (Mike) Carr, Kathy (Alan) Dockings, Marilyn (Brian) Swaim, and Kirby Morgan.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Bob; and her grandparents, Louis & Iva Appleby and William & Sarah Nixon.

Visitation will be at Sanders Funeral Care, 315 S Washington St, in Crawfordsville on Saturday, November 9, 2024 from 11:00 am till the time of the funeral service at 12:00 pm with Pastor David Boyd officiating. Burial will follow at Oak Hill Grant Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be given to the Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County, 1104 Big 4 Arch Road, Crawfordsville, IN 47933. Sanders Funeral Care entrusted with care. Share memories and condolences online at www.SandersFuneralCare.com.

## FOR THE RECORD

*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.*

### NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

The Board of School Trustees of the Crawfordsville Community School Corporation will conduct a special meeting on Friday, Nov. 8, 2024, at noon at Crawfordsville Community Schools Administration Building, 1000 Fairview Ave. The public is invited to attend.

## VSO Shares Update for November



**JOE ELLIS**  
 Guest Columnist

Wow, we finely have rain today as I am writing this on Halloween. I have had 27 visits of Veterans and spouses this month and I Had 92 phone calls into my office. We have had a total of 24 to drive and take veterans to their appointments. Starting from the 4th of November through the 11th of November we will have Green Light for Veterans is a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifice of our men and women in Uniform . We are preparing to have our annual Veterans Day parade on the 11th of November starting at 10:30 a.m. That is when our Honor Guard will start. Then as near as we can, we will start the Parade at 11 a.m. with our proclamation by our mayor. So please everyone come and enjoy.

I will be at the American Legion Post 72 on Nov. 7 from 1-4

p.m. so please call me at (765) 361-4133 if you want to see me. Also I will be at the DAV Meeting at the Library in downtown Crawfordsville from noon until 2 p.m. to help with claims. And I will also be at the VFW Post 1431 in Crawfordsville, from 1-3 p.m. so call me at the above number.

Here is something you didn't know. Ivy Tech Community College offers any course they have for Veterans over 60 years of age free. The only thing you need to do is pay for your books. Please contact Nick Hodges at (765) 269-5687 for more details.

*Joe Ellis is the Veterans Service Officer for Montgomery County. You can reach him at Joe.Ellis@montgomerycounty.in.gov or (765) 361-4133. His office is located at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville.*

## Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



**This Gal Was a Sophomore at Ladoga High School in 1957. Do You Recognize Her?**

**HINT:**  
 She was a cheerleader, and voted FFA Sweetheart and Homecoming Queen her senior year.

**Answer on Page A5**

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**READER'S CHOICE 2024**

# ↓ BUTCH From Page A1

terminology that must be deciphered carefully. For instance, here are a few common responses used by women, and their real meanings:

1. "Fine!" Women use this to end an argument when they think they are right and want you to shut your trap.
2. "Nothing!" Watch out, you are in big trouble when you asked what was bothering her.
3. "That's OK!" She wants you to think long and hard before you make a big mistake, because believe me, you are going to pay for it.
4. "Thanks a LOT!" Beware! She is NOT thanking you. She is VERY ticked off
5. "Whatever!" She is basically telling you that you are an idiot.
6. "Well, that's just great!" No, it's not. You just screwed up bigtime.
7. "Just forget it, I'll do it!" Well, you should have done what she wanted you to do because now you've had it.
8. "Go ahead then" Whatever you want to do, DON'T do it or you will regret it the rest of your life.
9. "A long sigh" Technically not a verbal response, but just as effective in proclaiming you to be a moron who will not listen.

detail about the vehicle, while a woman only wants to know the color. In selecting a simple product such as soap, a man will buy the first thing he sees (usually Dial, Ivory, or Lava), while a woman uses a checklist based on fragrance, sensitivity, natural ingredients and recommendations from celebrities. When a man comes home from work, he pulls his shirt off by the collar and tosses his clothes into a big pile, while a woman removes her top from the front and carefully hangs up each article of clothing. When a group photo is in order, a man will take one photo and not worry if it turns out OK, while a woman will take hundreds of photos of every conceivable combination of members in the group. Before a trip, a man will start to pack five minutes before he leaves, take only the basic necessities, and stuff it all in a tiny satchel, while a woman will begin the packing routine a month ahead of time by making a list of everything in the house that she can cram into 10 gigantic suitcases.

Well, the above are just a few examples of how things work. I think that comedian George Carlin had it right when he said that "all you have to know is that women are crazy and men are stupid ... and the main reason that women are crazy is because men are stupid." Someone once said that to be happy with a man, a woman must understand him a lot and love him a little. To be happy with a woman, a man must love her a lot and try not to understand her at all. That's easy, because there are two times when a man will never understand a woman ... before marriage, and after marriage.

*John "Butch" Dale is a retired teacher and County Sheriff. He has also been the librarian at Darlington the past 35 years, and is a well-known artist and author of local history.*

Also according to experts, the difference in female and male brains also results in simple everyday actions to be performed differently. A man can get ready for work in the morning in less than five minutes, while it takes a woman approximately an hour and a half. A man will pay twice the amount for something he wants, while a woman will pay half-price for something she does not want. When driving, a man will never admit that he is lost, while a woman will insist that he is indeed lost because he is bullheaded. When buying a car, a man wants to know every

# Ladoga Honor Roll

LADOGA ELEMENTARY  
1st 9 weeks

**High Honor Roll** – 3RD GRADE – Corbin Halstead, Elliana Shanks, Madison Wilbert, 4TH GRADE – Bennett Grimes, Karleigh Johnson, Alba Wimmer, 5TH GRADE – Sydney Alford, Branch Blakley, Avery Siple

**Honor Roll** – 3RD GRADE – Paxton Bowen, Andrew Byerly, Zoe Frazier, Mason Hendrix, Arrabella Lingbeck, Remi Pendleton, Parker Perry, Zoey Pettice, Oliver Walker, 4TH GRADE – Aria Aguiar, Josiah Bradley, Hadley Brown, Henley Cline, Maverick Dorsey, Aysayah Flake, Ishmael Jeffries, Adelina Jimenez, Kasen Jones, Maddalynn Kelly, Benjamin Long, Nicholas Long, Riggs Long, Ella Melvin, Heston Nykamp, Bryson Skinner, 5TH GRADE – Brogan Blakley, Adora Burris, David Dawson, Kasen Dorsey, Addison Kueterman, Avery Kueterman, Calvin McClain, Alison McDaniel, Paisley Perry,

## Linden Depot Museum Sets Christmas Open House

The Linden Depot Museum presents the 15th annual Christmas Open House from Nov. 29 through Dec. 29. The museum will be open from noon to 5 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday during these dates. The staff will have refreshments available for this special celebration.

Following this summer's successful fourth annual Midwest Railroad Fair, this year's Christmas Open House will showcase the New York City Grand Central Terminal exhibit. Grand

Central is the most magnificent, the largest, and the most famous railroad station in the world. Thanks to a generous donation of materials from the Metropolitan Transit Authority, the Museum was able to make this exhibit possible. They look forward to seeing their many supporters at this year's Open House.

The museum complex is located at 520 N. Main St. in Linden. Questions? Call (765) 427-3630. They look forward to your visit!

## Free Tickets to Christmas Gift+Hobby Show

**We're doing it again!**

**The Paper of Montgomery County once again has free tickets to give away for the most popular Christmas Gift & Hobby Show. This year's extravaganza is scheduled for Nov. 6-10 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.**

**All you have to do to win two tickets (valued at \$24) is send us a selfie of you and our front page (Print or Online Edition). Be sure to tell us who you are, where you are from and why you love The Paper. If we use your smiling photo on our front page – you win free tickets to the show!**

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

**54D02-2409-EU-000061**

STATE OF INDIANA ) IN MONTGOMERY SUPERIOR COURT 2  
)  
JSS:  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY ) CAUSE NO. 54D02-2409-EU-000061  
IN THE MATTER OF THE )  
UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF )  
DON E. BODAGER, Dec.)

**NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION**

Notice is hereby given that on September 19, 2024, Denise L. Hull was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Don E. Bodager, deceased, who died on September 9, 2024, in Montgomery County, Indiana.

All person having claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.

Dated at Crawfordsville, Indiana, this 19th day of September, 2024.

Sondra K Sixberry  
Clerk of the Montgomery County Courts

/s/ William A. Goebel  
William A. Goebel, #8381-54  
Counsel for Estate  
GOEBEL LAW OFFICE  
118 E. Main St., Ste. 300  
Crawfordsville, IN 47933  
Tel: (765) 364-9499  
Fax: (765) 364-4990

*PL4989 10/30 11/6 2t hspaxlp*

**54D02-2410-EU-000073**

STATE OF INDIANA ) IN MONTGOMERY SUPERIOR COURT 2  
)  
JSS:  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY ) CAUSE NO. 54D02-2410-EU-000073  
IN THE MATTER OF THE )  
UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF )  
BENJAMIN D. FOWLER, Dec.)

**NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION**

Notice is hereby given that on October 21, 2024, David J. Fowler and Beth A. Fowler were appointed co-Personal Representatives of the estate of Benjamin D. Fowler, deceased, who died on October 5, 2024, in Montgomery County, Indiana.

All persons having claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.

Dated at Crawfordsville, Indiana, this date 10/21/24.

Sondra K Sixberry  
Clerk of the Montgomery County Courts

/s/ William A. Goebel  
William A. Goebel, #8381-54  
Counsel for Estate  
GOEBEL LAW OFFICE  
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Tel: (765) 364-9499  
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*PL4990 10/30 11/6 2t hspaxlp*

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
CRAWFORDSVILLE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Zoning Appeals of the City of Crawfordsville will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 20, 2024, in the Common Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, Municipal Building, 300 E. Pike Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana, to hear the request for a development standard variance from the height requirements of the City Zoning Ordinance for silos as accessory structures in an I-1, industrial zoning district.

The property location 2326 S US 231, Crawfordsville, Indiana (Parcel Nos. 54-10-17-200-004.000-029 & 54-10-17-500-002.001-059)

The petition is on file and available for examination (and purchase at cost) in the Department of Planning & Building Services on the 2nd floor of the Municipal Building, 300 East Pike Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933 (765.364.5152); office hours are 8:00-12:00 noon and 1:00-4:00 p.m., weekdays except holidays.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to comment on the proposed request. Oral comments concerning the request will be heard. Written comments and objections to the requests may also be submitted to the Director of Planning & Building Services, City of Crawfordsville, at the address above prior to the hearing and will be considered.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if anyone wishes to attend, hear or present evidence at the public hearing and is in need of reasonable accommodation, please contact the Crawfordsville Department of Planning & Building Services at the address or phone number above so accommodation can be made.

Department of Planning & Building Services  
Megan Huckstep, Director, City of Crawfordsville  
*PL4993 11/6 1t hspaxlp*

Public Notices Deadline: 11:00 a.m. 2 Business Days Prior to Publication: [legals@thepaper24-7.com](mailto:legals@thepaper24-7.com)

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## Sen. Deery Shares Update



**SPENCER DEERY**  
Guest Columnist

It doesn't take any special expertise to know that students learn more when they are regularly

in the classroom, and yet, since the pandemic, students increasingly are missing so much school that they are considered chronically absent.

Sadly, Indiana is not immune. About 18% of Hoosier students were chronically absent during the 2023-24 school year, which means they missed at least three and a half weeks of school. That's a slight improvement than the worst post-pandemic year, but it's still too high.

I and my fellow Senate Republicans on the Senate Committee on Education and Career Development are working to reduce chronic absenteeism in Indiana to pre-pandemic levels.

As a first step, I recently co-authored a new law that requires schools to reach out to parents for a meeting if a student is on track to miss too much school.

I believe we will build from that starting point in the next legislative session. Last month, the Interim Study Committee on Education approved several recommendations to continue getting to the bottom of the student absenteeism problem, which include:

- Study the rationale used by local

- schools to differentiate between excused and unexcused absences;
- Study the basis for student suspensions or expulsions categorized as "other" by schools;
- Consider preventing districts from suspending or expelling students who are chronically absent; and
- Have schools use the state's [early warning dashboard](#) for students at risk of dropping out.

\*\*\*

### MEETING AT FAITH Christian School

On Tuesday, I participated in a discussion between officials from local non-public schools at Faith Christian School and a bipartisan group of local legislators.

We talked about issues facing the state's education sector and ways to empower parents of all income levels to choose the best school for their family's needs.

I appreciate the leaders of Faith Christian School, the Lafayette Catholic School System, Lafayette Christian School, and St. James Lutheran School for hosting this important discussion.

*State Sen. Spencer Deery (R-West Lafayette) represents Senate District 23, which includes Fountain, Parke, Vermillion and Warren counties, and portions of Montgomery and Tippecanoe counties.*

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# LWV

From Page A1

Since then, federal government progress on childcare has stalled. Fortunately for us, we have the Montgomery County Early Childhood Coalition. MCECC is tackling childcare for families in our county. Thanks to Our Learning Director Lisa Walther, we have detailed information about the progress our local leaders are making to help families.

“The mission of the Montgomery County Early Childhood Coalition, a leadership initiative of the (Montgomery County Community Foundation), is to create a collaborative and high-quality early childhood education system that supports the development and early education of Montgomery County children ages 0-5. Our top priorities are as follows:

1. Increase Community and Parent Education
2. Improve Accessibility
3. Increase Program Quality
4. Improve Affordability
5. Strengthen Program Supports

“One of our major projects to help improve accessibility, affordability and program quality is building the Montgomery County Early Learning Center,” she continued. “The MC-ELC will be designated as a licensed child care center here in Montgomery County and will accept both state vouchers - CCDF and On My Way Pre-K. We will participate in Paths To Quality and plan to achieve PTQ-Level 4 and national accreditation through NAEYC by year 2. This center will increase capacity by 124 seats. 84 of those seats are dedicated to children ages six weeks to 30 months, and we will also have two classrooms – 20 seats per classroom – dedicated to serving children ages 3 to 5.” Learn more about the center here-<https://www.mccf-in.org/elc> groundbreaking

“Our county is classified as a childcare desert. There are more than three times the amount of children in need of care versus the amount of seats we have to serve our children. Infant care is even harder to find; which is a big reason why MCCF dedicated three classrooms – 24 seats total – to infant-aged children. “Infant care is costly and requires more staff per classroom compared to other age groups. The few community programs that do accept infant children in our community are almost always full, and each classroom has a long waiting list. Caring for eight infant children

every day is daunting task, and it is hard to find qualified caregivers for that age range. “In my role as the early learning director,” Walther goes on. “I am available to help programs with on-site technical assistance, operational expertise, and I have been able to connect all of our providers with our regional and state agencies that can also offer business and teaching supports for each child care program in our community.

“The Early Childhood Coalition (MC-ECC) spends a large majority of time focusing on increasing the quality of the community’s existing childcare providers and providing many professional development opportunities for the local workforce. “We are currently in our third year of our professional learning series; a series, in which we host a free workshop for our teachers, cater dinner, and send home free books and supplies for every teacher’s classroom. Our workshop topics are developed through direct feedback from our teachers and staff. We see an average of 50 teachers at each session and registration often fills within a few hours. We are so happy to be able to provide this resource for our teachers!

“Camp Milligan is another project co-hosted through the MC-ECC and the Crawfordsville Parks and Rec Department. School-age and summer care is also extremely difficult to find in our community. Camp Milligan offers 10 full weeks of care during the summer, educational experiences, field trips, and is supported through many community partners. It serves 40-45 children each summer. The summer of 2025 will be the fourth summer of camp. MC-ECC also offers a week-long program over winter break for families in need of child care during the school winter break.

“We have great potential and need to expand but that requires additional staff and space. I also offer technical assistance to our childcare programs that want to create their own school-age programs. In fact, New Hope Christian Preschool has now offered two full summers of school-age care at their program. This new opportunity has helped them retain full-time staff that would have otherwise been off without pay over the summer and has also opened up 15 additional seats for

care. “Operating a child care program is a very complicated and, at times, stressful job. Early childhood educators already know and understand the INCREDIBLE outcomes for children who attend a high-quality childcare program; after all, the human brain is 85 to 90 percent developed within the first five years of life! We know this work is important, we know it is critical to employers and for future economic growth, we know it is a major part of quality of life, yet our federal government has just not been able to catch up to this yet. We have seen some slow movement, but we need to see child care equitably addressed in legislation or more and more programs will continue to close.

“Parents are struggling to afford childcare costs, but if programs don’t raise their rates, then their teachers and staff will eventually leave and there will be no childcare. In our community, you can work at any fast-food restaurant and make more money and receive better benefits than our childcare employees.

“Finding and being able to afford quality child care is a national problem and in rural communities, we are presented with even more struggles to find and retain staff. We are working together as a community to help combat these issues but until there is major legislation change we will need to continue to work, collaborate, and take action as a community. I am so proud of Montgomery County for seeing this huge need many years ago and for truly taking action and putting work in place to allow me to serve in this role each day! We have made great progress but we still have a lot of work to go and I’m confident that with the ongoing support from the Montgomery County Community Foundation, Mayor Barton, our county government, and our community members that we will be able to see more progress on our critical needs in the future,” said Walther.

*The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, multi-issue political organization which encourages informed and active participation in government. For information about the League, visit the website [www.lwv-montcoin.org](http://www.lwv-montcoin.org); or, visit the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, Indiana Facebook page.*

# Back in the Day with Butch Dale



Many years ago, some students only went to school during the first eight grades, as they were needed on the farm or they had to obtain a job in town to help out their families. Shown above is the graduating 8th grade class at Shannondale school in 1912. The teacher was Mrs. McBee from Linden. In the back row, third from left, is Naomi Shannon Peterson, who went on to graduate from high school and became a teacher at Darlington.

# TIM

From Page A1

Rainwater? Nah, wouldn’t even try to joke on that one.

The easy answer is that the ticket of Mike Braun and Micah Beckwith rolls to an easy victory, winning by 8 points. When I first gazed into the swirling cauldron of bubbles, I swear I saw a 10-point-plus landslide. But let’s settle at eight because all those red shirts in the teachers’ union are probably going to keep Jenn closer than that.

As for the rest of the state, well, who cares?

Let’s move on up – as George and Louise might say – and check out how the big dogs end up.

No use building up the suspense. Kama-Kama-Kama-Kama-Kama-Kamelion wins the popular vote with 942 million votes to Donald Trump’s 187. (No, not 187 million. Just 187 – as in 13 shy of 200.) Never mind the fact that the U.S. total population, including those under the age of 18 is only 335 million, she hits 942 million. (Hey, why’d you think the border has been open for a couple of years now?)

But popular votes only count in horseshoes and justice departments, so who won the all-important electoral college? Well, the Don started out pretty good but, in the end, Kama-Kama-Kama-Kama-Kamelion secured the 270 votes needed before noon Tuesday and was declared the

winner by the FBI and several other D.C.-based agencies. Again, never mind the fact that polls didn’t close for six more hours. A statement from the Democratic National Committee explained the early decision by saying they didn’t want any chance someone could claim suitcases were brought out from under tables after midnight.

But the polls closing at 6 did have an impact. At precisely 6:01, the Don was arrested on 1,836 charges of colluding with foreign powers, illegally stopping a bullet with his ear, cheating at golf, stealing candy from babies and ticking off Hillary Clinton. The New York Times later reported that it didn’t know the part about Hillary was a crime but quoted her husband Bill as saying, “it depends on what the definition of is, is.”

Lastly, remember all the Hollywood types who claimed they were going to move out of the country if Trump won back in 2016? Unfortunately, they didn’t. But anyone know where they were going to go? Some of us want to look into airfare.

*Two cents, which is about how much Timmons said his columns are worth, appears periodically on Wednesdays in The Paper. Timmons is the publisher of The Paper and can be contacted at [ttimmons@thepaper24-7.com](mailto:ttimmons@thepaper24-7.com).*

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**Butch Dale’s Flashback Trivia**

**Answer:**  
Debbie Bronaugh

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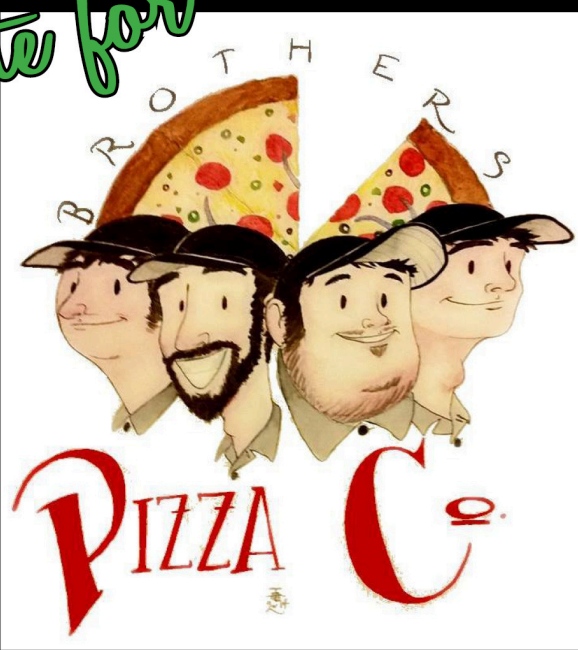


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