

TODAY'S VERSE

Jeremiah 32:27 "Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh; is anything too difficult for Me?" (NASB)

Meet Copper



Copper is a 5 year old male American Pit Bull Terrier mix that has been at AWL since 9/14/23. Copper has a superstar personality! Copper loves getting his energy out in a fenced yard and playing ball/fetch! Copper is a big happy boy that loves being showered with love and attention. Copper is looking for his best friend! Could that be you? Copper is available for adoption, to foster, or just simply going out for walks. Come say hi!

Thank you to all veterans for your service!

The Paper of Montgomery County will not have an edition on Monday, November 11th. We wish you a very Happy Veterans Day!

Free Tix to Xmas 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!

It's really that simple! You can text or e-mail it to ttimmons@thepaper24-7.com

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Boomer Bits

Ask Rusty – Why Does the Government Raid Social Security?



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 ssadviser@amacfoundation.org.

Dear Rusty:
The Social Security program is funded by employees and their employers. The federal government does not contribute to the program, right? So why does the federal government feel they have the right to raid the fund? All the money sent to Ukraine and other unnecessary programs could have been used to pay back what they owe to Social Security.

Signed: Disgruntled Senior

Dear Disgruntled Senior:
You are correct that the Social Security program is mainly funded by payroll taxes on employee earnings and by employers who match those employee contributions. FYI, some additional SS revenue is received from income tax on Social Security benefits, as well as from interest on the special issue government bonds held in the Social Security Trust Fund. But the assertion that the Federal Government used (raided) the Social Security Trust Fund for any other purpose is a myth. All Social Security revenue received since the program

began in 1937 has been accounted for, and all excess funds are contained in a special Trust Fund in the form of interest-bearing government bonds, reserved to pay future benefits. FYI, the interest on those bonds contributed about \$67 billion to the Trust Fund reserves in 2023.

Social Security revenue, today, is not adequate to pay all benefit obligations, and the extra money needed to pay full SS benefits for everyone is obtained by redeeming Trust Fund reserves. Redemption of those Trust Fund bonds is how the federal government "pays back" the cash loaned to it by Social Security. The excess SS money received from contributions was loaned to the Federal Treasury by the SS Trust Funds, interest-bearing bonds were issued by the government in return for the cash received, and the bonds issued are redeemable as needed by Social Security to pay benefits. FYI, the average

➔ See RUSTY Page A3

New Medicare Reforms Can Help

By **Marvell Adams Jr.**
CEO of Caregiver Action Network

October 15th marked the start of Medicare's annual open enrollment period. Seniors can choose to stay on their current plan or switch to a new one. But this year, that choice is far more important -- and complex -- than usual.

Medicare's prescription drug benefit, also known as "Part D," has undergone major changes that could save seniors hundreds or even thousands of dollars on prescriptions.

However, an important change that allows seniors to "smooth" their cost-sharing over the course of

➔ See NEW Page A3

Holiday Gift Ideas for Gardeners

By **Melinda Myers**

It's time to begin tackling that gift list for the holidays. Consider gifting your favorite gardener something practical and attractive to enjoy for months and even years. No matter your budget, you can find the perfect gift to generate a smile immediately and throughout the garden season.

Stuff a stocking, pot, or

➔ See GIFT Page A3

Election Unofficial Results

The following are the unofficial election results from Montgomery County where a little more than 66 percent of registered voters turned out. Results will not be official until after they are certified by the Election Board – probably within the next week.

Registered Voters: 25,094
Total Ballots: 16,742
Turnout: 66.72 percent

President
Donald J. Trump (R) 12,115 72.91%

Kamala Harris (D) 4,130 25.86%
Robert F. Kennedy Jr. (WTP) 200 1.20%
Chase Oliver (L) 116 0.70%
Write in 55 0.33%

U.S. Senator
Jim Banks (R) 12,093 73.83%
Valerie McCray (D) 3,803 23.22%

Andrew Horning (L) 478 2.92%
Write in 6 0.04%

Governor
Mike Braun (R) 10,735 64.97%
Jennifer McCormick (D) 4,437 26.85%

Donald Rainwater (L) 1,348 8.16%
Write in 4 0.02%

Attorney General
Todd Rokita (R) 11,816 72.70%
Destiny Wells (D) 4,437 27.30%

U.S. Rep. 4th District
Jim Baird (R) 12,188 74.33%
Derrick Holder (D) 3,506 21.38%
Ashley Groff (L) 695 4.24%
Write in 9 0.05%

➔ See ELECTION Page A4

Post Election Thoughts & Pres. Reagan



BUTCH DALE
Columnist

Well, it's finally over. I thought the 2024 election campaigns would never end. Perhaps you're happy with the results, perhaps

you're not. At least you can go on with a fairly normal life again. No more TV political ads. No more political mailings to fill the waste basket. No one knocking on your door and urging you to vote for so-and-so. Yes, there will be plenty of analysis, commentary and biased reporting on a few channels, so just switch to your favorite shows or sports events and let those folks talk to themselves. It's over. Give Trump a chance to make needed changes for our country.

I have read biographies of just about every President in our history. I have lived through the terms of fourteen Presidents during my 76 years, from 1948 to

➔ See BUTCH Page A6

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

One or two sugary drinks a day can increase your risk of developing diabetes by 25 percent.

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

"You're off to great places, today is your day, your mountain is waiting, so get on your way."
Dr. Seuss

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!)

Why does Santa have three gardens?
It's so he can Hoe, Hoe, Hoe!

MONTGOMERY MINUTE

The Salvation Army of Montgomery County is gearing up for the 2024 Christmas Red Kettle Campaign and is looking for dedicated people to assist with the campaign. Bell ringers can sign up to ring the bell at www.registertoring.com. Ringing takes place at Walmart and Kroger. Shifts are two hours, but hour shifts will also be accepted. Organizations can also sign up for an entire day at either location. For more information contact Clay Adams at clayadams47933@gmail.com. You may also reach Clay via phone or text at (765) 376-7194.

The Paper appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank **THERESA REMLEY** for subscribing!



THREE THINGS You Should Know

- All veterans and active-duty military personnel, and everyone in their vehicle, will be admitted free to DNR-managed state parks, reservoir properties, state forest recreation areas, and off-road state recreation areas on Veterans Day, Monday, Nov. 11. "We appreciate the sacrifices and service of our veterans and active-duty military and look forward to recognizing them with a day to explore some of the best outdoor places in our state," said Terry Coleman, director of Indiana State Parks. Veterans and military personnel should simply let the gate attendant at the property they visit know that they are either a veteran or serving and on active duty.
- Christmas Nights of Lights, the largest drive-thru light show in Indianapolis, is back at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. Running through Dec. 31, this enchanting event promises to dazzle visitors with over a million lights synchronized to holiday music. This year, visitors will see a new and stunning 180-foot-long, two-story-tall display featuring colorful images, classic holiday scenes that bring the magic of Christmas to life and a patriotic display that adds to the festive atmosphere. Pricing is \$35 per car (up to 8 passengers), \$55 for 9-15 passengers, \$80 for 16+ passengers. All passengers must ride together in a single vehicle. Hours are 6-10 p.m. weekdays with extended hours on weekends.
- Don't let the post-Thanksgiving meal stop you from exploring Indiana's great outdoors. On Friday Nov. 29, Indiana State Parks will offer free admission to explorers daring to opt outside. Share a photo of your day's outdoor experience on social media with #OptOutsideIN2024 or complete a scavenger hunt for a chance to win prizes.

Student of the Month!



Photo courtesy West Central Indiana CTE

According to the West Central Indiana Career folks, Crawfordsville High School student Madisyn Posthauer was named the pre-nursing student of the month. Her teacher, Mrs. Kemple, said that "Madisyn is dedicated to the course, always studying hard and implementing study skills. She works well with others, is always prepared and self-motivated at clinicals and makes the most of the pre-nursing program to prepare her for her future." Way to go, Madisyn!

Witham Has Job Fair

Witham Health Services will host a virtual job fair on Tuesday, Nov. 19, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Attendees may join the online meeting at any point during this timeframe. They are asked to come with their camera on and be ready for an on-the-spot interview.

Witham is seeking to fill several positions at the health system's locations in Lebanon, Frankfort, Crawfordsville and Zionsville. Open positions for front desk, LPN, MA, RN, security, environmental services and more can be found at www.witham.org/careers where those interested may also register for the virtual job fair.

Attendees who join at noon, 2 p.m. or 4 p.m., can also participate in a 15-minute session to discover why Witham may be the right fit for them, along with tips on avoiding common resume errors and preparing for interviews. Witham recruiters will also be on hand for recruiter

meet and greet sessions, so that attendees can gain insights into the health system's hiring process and learn more about career opportunities at Witham.

Witham has been named a Top Work Place in Central Indiana by the Indianapolis Star every year since 2017 and a Platinum Level Fit-Friendly Worksite by the American Heart Association since 2010. Witham employees are eligible for health, dental, and vision insurance, short and long-term disability insurance, life insurance, PTO Exchange, employee discounts on gym memberships, phones, travel and more. Savi Public Student Load Forgiveness Assistance, retirement savings and employee assistance programs. Anyone interested in applying for a role at Witham or participating in the virtual job fair on November 19, should visit www.witham.org/careers to search open positions and register for the job fair.

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



Do You Recognize This 1971 New Ross Graduate?

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

Answer on Page A3

Tri-County Bank Sets Open House for New President

Tri-County Bank & Trust is ready to introduce new bank president John Young. It'll take place Wednesday during two open houses at the bank's Crawfordsville and Roachdale locations.



John Young

The open house in Crawfordsville, 224. E. Main St., runs from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. It is designed to provide an opportunity for community members, customers and local business leaders to meet and welcome Tri-County's new president. He brings a wealth of banking experience throughout Indiana and a fresh vision for the future of Tri-County.

share insights on the bank's new direction and commitment to serving the community. Guests will enjoy complimentary refreshments and an opportunity to visit with John and bank staff.

In Roachdale, the open house begins that morning at 9 a.m. and lasts until 11 a.m., The bank is located at 18 E Washington Street in Roachdale.

He'll be available to

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.

OPEN DOOR NOTICE OF MEETING CITY OF CRAWFORDSVILLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given that the Economic Development Commission of the City of Crawfordsville will hold a meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, Municipal Building, 300 East Pike Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933.

CITY OF CRAWFORDSVILLE CHANGE OF MEETING DATE(S) HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given that the Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Crawfordsville will hold a special meeting in the Common Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 300 East Pike Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana on Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. The Historic Preservation Commission will not meet as scheduled on Wednesday, November 27, 2024 due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Looking for a part-time job that does not involve the words:

Would You Like Fries With That?

The Paper of Montgomery County is looking for clerical help. This could be the perfect job for part-time students all the way up to Baby Boomers looking for something to do.

Basic data entry skills are required. Experience with QuickBooks is a bonus.

E-mail jobs@thepaper24-7.com

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for reading
 The Paper

↓ RUSTY From Page A1

interest on the 2023 bonds in the Trust Funds was about 4.125%, whereas the average rate of return on all bonds held in reserve was about 2.387%. This transaction is the same as for any other investment vehicle, except the bonds in the Trust Funds are redeemable at any time without penalty. Said another way, all excess money ever received by Social Security is/was invested in special-issue government bonds, and resides in reserve to pay future benefits, as needed.

“Paying back” the money represented by bonds held in the Trust Funds would not be a wise financial move because it would eliminate all future interest earned by those bonds (again, that interest was about \$67 billion in 2023). Federal money spent for other purposes (e.g., Ukraine) is from the general U.S. Treasury and not from the Social Security Trust Fund, which is held totally separate from the U.S. Treasury. Since inception, all money ever contributed to Social Security has been (and is) used for one purpose (and one purpose only) – to pay Social Security benefits to those eligible (which, by the way, does not include “illegal aliens” or anyone else who is not a legal resident of the United States).

For clarity, Social Security does have a future financial issue because annual benefit obligations are now greater than annual Social Security revenue, and money from the SS Trust Fund is now used to make up the difference. Unless the program is reformed soon, the Trust Fund reserves (about \$2.8 trillion as of 2023) will be depleted and benefits for all Social Security recipients will be cut by about 23% starting in 2033 or 2034 (according to the Trustees of Social Security and the Congressional Budget Office).

Congress needs to act soon to enact Social Security reform to restore the program to fiscal solvency. The Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC) is steadfastly lobbying Congress to enact the needed Social Security reform as soon as possible.

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.

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia

Answer:
Debbie Bronaugh

The clue for Debbie Bronaugh in Wednesday's Paper was incorrect through an editing mistake on the part of The Paper. We apologize for the error.

CASEY WILLIAMS



Nobody but noooooobody gives you a better inside scoop on new cars than Casey Williams. Each week Casey puts you behind the wheel and gives you the lowdown on the latest out of Detroit, or other places! If you drive a car, this is a must read!

Catch Casey every Monday,
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only in The Paper of Montgomery County!

↓ NEW From Page A1

the year requires Medicare beneficiaries to opt in. Additionally, right now, a large share of seniors -- and their caregivers -- simply aren't aware of the new policies.

As part of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, Congress established a new \$2,000 annual out-of-pocket cap on prescription drug spending. Beginning in January, Part D enrollees will no longer have to spend more than \$2,000 of their own money on covered medications in a single year.

This one policy could prove life-changing for millions of Medicare beneficiaries. According to one recent analysis by the Department of Health and Human Services, some 3.5 million Medicare beneficiaries struggled to afford their medicines in 2019.

For many of these enrollees, life is about to get a lot easier. In fact, a separate HHS report estimated that 18.7 million Medicare beneficiaries will see some sort of out-of-pocket savings from the IRA Part D re-design.

In addition to the \$2,000 annual cap, the IRA also included a "smoothing" provision called the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan, allowing beneficiaries to spread their out-of-pocket drug costs evenly over the course of the year. This can help make monthly medication costs more predictable for seniors on tight budgets and fixed incomes.

To understand the immense impact of the \$2,000 cap and the smoothing provision, consider a recent case study from researchers at the University of Pennsylvania.

The study imagines a 73-year-old patient named John Doe who is suffering from chronic myeloid leukemia, a slow-progressing but devastating form of bone cancer. John

takes a cancer medication which costs nearly \$167,000 a year.

Normally, John would end up paying more than \$10,000 out-of-pocket for this one medication. But not anymore. With the new out-of-pocket limit and smoothing option, he would pay just \$167 a month, or \$2,000 over the course of the year.

But unlike the \$2,000 annual spending limit, the smoothing provision is optional. Beneficiaries will need to know about this new policy to opt in, but few seniors are aware of it.

A recent poll found that around three-quarters of adults don't know about the new \$2,000 out-of-pocket cap. It's reasonable to assume a comparable -- if not larger -- number of people are in-the-dark about smoothing.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services needs to be doing more to inform patients about the benefits of smoothing. This is also an area where the caregiver community has a significant role to play.

As a caregiver myself, I understand the invaluable role that we play in helping patients make informed decisions about their health. Caregivers can make an enormous difference in the lives of Medicare beneficiaries by understanding the new reforms and making sure their loved ones opt in to smoothing when right for them.

National Family Caregivers Month in November is an important reminder of the critical role America's caregivers play in supporting the health of their loved ones. We can't forget to provide caregivers with the information they need to guide their loved ones in the healthcare system.

Marvell Adams Jr. is the CEO of Caregiver Action Network. This piece was originally published by PennLive.

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↓ GIFT From Page A1



decorative tin with small but essential items that are handy for any gardener. A can of twine that prevents tangling yet keeps it convenient is useful for securing plants, marking gardens, and much more. Include garden clips that secure plants, hold row covers in place, or serve as a third hand when tackling garden tasks. Every gardener needs a snip for deadheading and grooming flowers.

Encourage your gift recipient to stay healthy when gardening. Gift a water bottle so they are more likely to stay hydrated. This is more important than ever with the increase in extreme summer temperatures. Consider gifts that protect eyes and skin from the sun's intense rays. Add a container of sunscreen or a wide-brimmed hat. Include a pair of tinted safety glasses that provide UV protection to help protect their eyes from dirt, pollen, sticks, and branches when gardening.

Keep them gardening longer with items that protect their joints and muscles. Protect knees with kneelers or kneeling pads. The Burgon & Ball® Kneelo® Garden Kneelers and Kneeling Pads (coronatools.com) come in various colors that are easy to find in the garden or shed. Filled with a shock-absorbing foam sandwiched between two layers of memory foam, they will allow your gift recipient to garden longer. If they walk a lot in the garden, gifting kneepads with equally good cushioning and comfortable straps may be the better choice.

Encourage your gift recipient to protect and support their hands with gloves that fit, provide support, and are fashionable. Burgon & Ball® Love the Glove™ garden gloves come in various designs and more importantly, are durable and comfortable. The padded palm provides extra protection, and the two-way stretch keeps hands cool while improving dexterity. They are machine washable and don't get stiff after getting wet in the garden.

Add a hand pruner, a snip like the Burgon & Ball® RHS® British Meadow Fruit & Flower Snip, and a weeding tool to the gloves and set them inside a small bucket to place near the front or back door. You'll save them time looking for tools and allow them to take advantage of small blocks of time to weed, deadhead, or pick a flower bouquet to enjoy.

You'll also find many options for the indoor gardeners on your list. Look for a quality houseplant pruner designed for isolating the leaf or stem to be removed. An attractive indoor plant mister from Burgon & Ball® is available in stainless steel, charcoal, or stone. It fits any décor and the spritz to their plants will wash off dust, discourage insect pests, and boost humidity.

And the gift of time is always welcome. Offer to help with garden cleanup, planting, or weeding. Together you'll create new memories while accomplishing items on their gardening to-do list.

Gifting items that last will remind the recipient of your friendship every time they put it to work. And you'll be happy knowing you made it easier and more enjoyable for them to continue gardening.

Melinda Myers has written over 20 gardening books, including the recently released Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Corona Tools for her expertise in writing this article. Myers' website is www.MelindaMyers.com.

We appreciate our readers!

↓ ELECTION From Page A1

State Senator District 7 Brian Buchanan (R) 11,245 100%	Jeff Harper Cain (NP) 4,089 100%
State Rep. District 13 Matthew Commons (R) 589 82.26%	North Montgomery School Board Madison Karen Odle (NP) 3,556 100%
Edward Moyer Jr. (D) 127 17.74%	North Montgomery School Board North Union Darrin Bechtel (NP) 4,342 100%
State Rep. District 28 Jeffrey A. Thompson (R) 1,848 80.63%	South Montgomery School Board Ripley (Vote 1) Daryl Hutson (NP) 2,523 61.24%
Karen Whitney (D) 444 19.37%	Brevan Cornelius (NP) 1,597 38.76%
State Rep. District 41 Mark Genda (R) 195 84.2%	South Montgomery School Board Scott (Vote 1) Jason Bannon (NP) 2,526 59.05%
Dan Sikes (D) 36 15.58%	Cody Hargis (NP) 1,752 40.95%
Clerk of Circuit Court Sondra Dittmer Sixberry (R) 13,800 100%	South Montgomery School Board Union Julie Hess (NP) 3,783 100%
County Recorder Nancy Cox (R) 13,880 100%	Retain Justice Loretta Rush Yes 9,888 71.75%
County Coroner Steve Gressmire (R) 13,760%	No 3,894 28.25%
County Surveyor Tom Cummins (R) 13,731 100%	Retain Justice Mark Massa Yes 9,765 72.34%
County Commissioner District 1 Jake Bohlander (R) 13,768 100%	No 3,734 27.66%
County Commissioner District 3 Dan Guard (R) 13,792 100%	Retain Justice Derek Molter Yes 9,832 72.88%
County Council At Large (Vote 3) Gary Booth (R) 10,618 34.71%	No 3,659 27.12%
Mike Warren (R) 10,114 33.07%	Retain Judge Peter Foley Yes 9,941 73.78%
David Hunt (R) 9,856 32.22%	No 3,533 26.22%
Crawfordsville School Board At Large (Vote 2) Susan Easterling Albrecht (NP) 3,153 52.40%	Retain Judge Rudolph Reginald Pyle III Yes 9,787 72.80%
Steven Mclaughlin (NP) 2,864 47.60%	No 3,657 27.20%
North Montgomery School Board At Large	(R) Republican; (D) Democrat; (L) Libertarian; (WTP) We The People; (NP) No Party

Back in the Day with Butch Dale



Did you know that the Sugar Creek dam at Crawfordsville was not the only dam built on the creek? In the early 1900s, a dam was constructed on Sugar Creek west of Darlington to form the Riverside Park, which was used for boating, swimming, fishing, and many other activities ... until a few years later when a disgruntled local farmer, who believed the dam was flooding his fields, blew the dam up with dynamite late one night!



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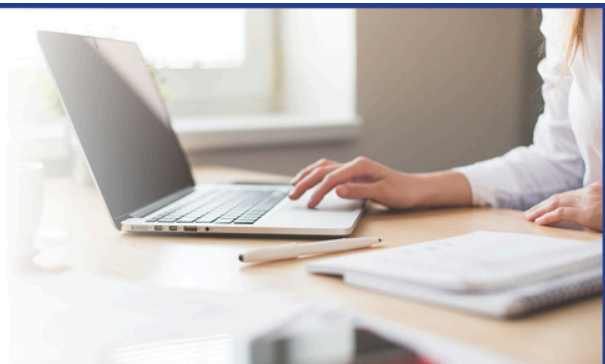
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Familiar Refrain Could Mean Another Great Year for Favored Boilers



KENNY THOMPSON
Columnist

It's a familiar refrain to Purdue basketball fans.

"Purdue will be just another team without Caleb Swanigan."

"Purdue will miss Carsen Edwards' scoring."

"Purdue won't be able to overcome Jaden Ivey's departure to the NBA."

"Braden Smith and Fletcher Loyer won't be as good without Zach Edey drawing all the attention."

The first three declarations were unfounded, and it's a good bet Smith and Loyer will prove the naysayers wrong during the 2024-25 season that kicked off this week.

To be fair, the Boilermakers have received some respect entering Matt Painter's 20th season as head coach. They were chosen by the league's media as the favorite to win a third consecutive league title. Purdue is the highest-ranked Big Ten (Plus 8) team in The Associated Press preseason poll at No. 14

Smith has been selected the Big Ten Conference's Preseason Player of the Year. He's also on the Naismith Player of the Year and Bob Cousy Award watch lists.

Loyer made the first cut for the Jerry West Award, given to the nation's best shooting guard. Carsen Edwards took home that honor in 2018.

Initially snubbed by the Cousy Award selection process a year ago, Smith forced his way among the five finalists with a record-breaking sophomore season. The Indiana Mr. Basketball winner from Westfield set school and Big Ten records with 292 assists.

Smith was the only player in America to average at least 12 points, 7.5 assists and 5 (5.8) rebounds per game. He also shot 43.1 percent from 3-point range, one of the reasons why Purdue was the second-best 3-point shooting team in the nation behind Kentucky.

"He can really manipulate the defense with his ability to see the court and to be able to pass and to make plays and make shots, but he is also someone who defers to others at times," Painter said during Big Ten Media Day. "We need him just to be more aggressive. Fletcher Loyer, same thing. Just a winner. Knows how to play. Tough. Hard-nosed. Makes shots. They will have more of a responsibility."

Bruce Parkinson's career assists record is within Smith's reach this season, needing just 245. Only Magic Johnson (491) has had more assists in Big Ten history through his sophomore year than Smith's 445.

Purdue's 1,000-point club also is well within reach for Smith, who has 808.

Smith also seems likely to join Joe Barry Carroll as the only

Boilermakers to record a triple-double. Smith came close in Monday's 90-73 victory against Texas A&M Corpus Christi, putting up 12 points, 15 assists and eight rebounds.

Loyer and Ohio State's Meechie Johnson are the only Big Ten players on the 20-man Cousy List. Loyer shot 44.4 percent from 3-point range and 86.1 percent from the free throw line to rank among the nation's leaders in both categories. Loyer's 48.5 percent 3-point shooting in Big Ten games only topped the conference.

It may be a race to 1,000 points between Smith and Loyer, who stands at 807 after putting up 21 against Texas A&M-Corpus Christi.

Not to be forgotten is the third junior starter returning from last year's national finalist team. Trey Kaufman-Renn may have been the fifth scoring option last season behind Edey, Smith, Loyer and Lance Jones but he showed flashes of the ability that earned him Indiana's Gatorade Player of the Year honors in 2020 while at Silver Creek High School.

During a rare game with Edey in foul trouble, Kaufman-Renn put up 23 points in a victory against No. 9 Illinois in Mackey Arena.

"I think Trey Kaufman will really step in to where he will be one of the best big guys in our league," Painter said.

If Purdue is to extend its 22-game winning

streak in the month of November, the second-longest in college basketball behind Arizona, it will be on the backs of that trio. Purdue was the only Big Ten school not to add at least one player from the transfer portal.

Once again, the Boilermakers have a loaded non-conference schedule. Preseason No. 2 Alabama comes to Mackey Arena on Nov. 15, a game that for reasons I cannot fathom has been exiled to the Peacock streaming service. A trip to Marquette comes four days later, followed by a Final Four rematch with North Carolina State in the Rady Children's Invitational in San Diego on Nov. 28. Either BYU or Mississippi await the next evening. That schedule will force Purdue's freshman class to grow up quickly. Gicarri Harris, the third son of Boilermaker great Glenn Robinson, was in the opening night starting lineup. So was 7-4 center Daniel Jacobsen, who flashed his potential with 13 points, seven rebounds and three blocked shots in 25 minutes against Corpus Christi.

Sophomore guard Myles Colvin came off the bench to score a career-high 14 points. If Colvin doesn't crack the starting lineup, he could be instant offense in a reserve role.

Athletic sophomore forward Camden Heide could be a key player when the Boilermakers go smaller with the 6-9 Kaufman-Renn playing center. Freshman guard

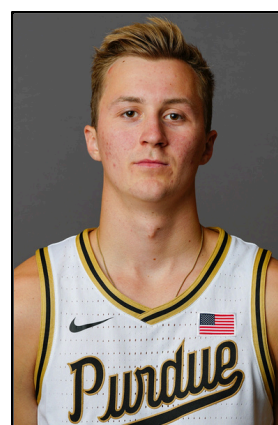


Braden Smith

C.J. Cox and 6-11 classmate Raleigh Burgess will have roles as will 6-10 Caleb Furst, the Boilermakers' lone senior. Freshman forward Jack Benter, a 2024 Indiana All-Star, will redshirt.

Will Berg, the 7-2 center from Sweden, and former Carmel standout Brian Waddell will have to battle for the limited minutes available assuming Smith, Loyer and Kaufman-Renn average more than 30 minutes a game.

Jacobsen and Berg extend Purdue's streak of having a 7-footer on the roster to 13 consecutive seasons. High on the list of goals is a third consecutive outright Big Ten title, which would match the 1994-95-96 Boilermakers and the



Fletcher Loyer

1960-61-62 Ohio State Buckeyes as the only teams to achieve that feat. During the past 10 seasons Purdue's 125-48 record in league play is 15 games better than second-place Michigan State.

"We're excited about this group," Painter said. "We also know that it's going to be very hard. That's the one thing when you play a challenging schedule like we have, you know, in nonconference that you have to get yourself prepared because it is such a bear when you get to Big Ten play."

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.

Photos courtesy Purdue Athletics

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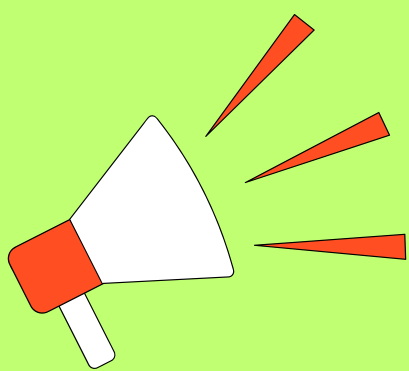
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↓ BUTCH From Page A1

the present ... from Truman to Biden. All had their strong points, and all had their weaknesses. My choice as the best overall was Ronald Reagan, who served from 1981 to 1989. Yes, he screwed up a few times, but I consider him to have been a passionate and courageous leader, and also the best speaker, although John F. Kennedy was also tops in that regard.

With regards to this past election and our future, you might keep in mind a few of Reagan's quotes:

"By 1960, I realized that the real enemy wasn't big business, it was big government... Government programs, once launched, never disappear. Actually, a government bureau is the nearest thing to eternal life we'll ever see on this earth."
"Government can and must provide opportunity, not smother it; foster productivity, not stifle it...What is good for the American workers is good for America."

"Today's hard-liner on law and order is yesterday's liberal who was mugged...You won't get gun control by disarming law-abiding citizens. Disarm the thugs and criminals, lock them up, and if you don't actually throw away the key, as least lose it for a long time...We must reject the idea that every time a law is broken, society is guilty rather than the lawbreaker. It is time to restore the American precept that each individual is accountable for his actions...You know, I think the best possible social program is a job."

"An America that is militarily and economically strong is not enough. The world must see an America that is morally strong with a creed and a vision. For us, values count."

"With freedom comes responsibility...We might start with the Ten Commandments. If we lived by the Golden Rule, there would be no need for other laws...If we ever forget that we're one nation under God, then we will be a nation gone under."

"I believe the American people will reject the politicization of our judiciary. When the people begin to hear the truth, they will demand an independent judiciary, free from high-pressure

politics and founded on the principle of judicial restraint."

"I'll confess to getting a lump in my throat when I witnessed a swearing-in ceremony for new citizens. Written on their faces was happiness, pride, and determination to pursue their vision of the American dream."

"I have been described as an undying optimist, always seeing a glass half full when some see it as half empty...I always see the sunny side of life. A leader, once convinced a particular course of action is the right one, must have the determination to stick with it and be undaunted when the going gets rough."

"Education doesn't begin with some isolated bureaucrat in Washington. It doesn't even begin with state or local officials. Education begins in the home, where it is a parental right and responsibility...Let me offer lesson number one about America: All great change in America begins at the dinner table."

"There's a tendency to throw aside old values as belonging to an earlier generation. Don't discard those values that have proven, over a period of time, their value. Just believe in those values that made our nation great and keep them: faith, family, hard work, and above all, freedom."

And in his farewell address to the nation, President Reagan stated, "Because we are a great nation, our challenges seem complex. It will always be this way. But as long as we remember our first principles and believe in ourselves, the future will always be ours."

We need to remember President Reagan's wisdom. Let us all pray that the citizens in our country join together after this election and move forward to solve the problems facing us today. Political differences will remain, but whether you are a Republican or Democrat, the divisiveness and hatred must end.

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.

New Market Elementary Honor Roll

NEW MARKET ELEMENTARY HONOR ROLL/
CHARACTER COUNTS
1st QUARTER

PRE-K CHARACTER COUNTS

TRUSTWORTHINESS- Griffin Cummins, Alice Powers
RESPECT- Ethan Hopkins, Lincoln Radcliff

KINDERGARTEN CHARACTER COUNTS

TRUSTWORTHINESS- Kitley Maddock, Olivia Bonilla, Carson Barnhart
RESPECT-Saban Pierce, Harrison Boots, Harrison Doss

FIRST GRADE CHARACTER COUNTS

TRUSTWORTHINESS- Teeghan Marine, Mavyn Highland, Zeke Lesko
REPECT-Hendrix Rush, Elodie Chism, Addy Peterson

SECOND GRADE CHARACTER COUNTS

TRUSTWORTHINESS- Calli Dittmer, Gemma King, Emerie Stoner, Rylee Mullis
RESPECT-Jep Carrell, Cole Ramsey, Maddux Perez, Kendrix Cope

THIRD GRADE CHARACTER COUNTS

TRUSTWORTHINESS- Asher Wallace, Hadley Cornelius, Maddison Bacchus, Nevaeh McMullen
RESPECT-Enzo Carr, Kaleb Griffin, Gracie Barnhart, Caleb McClure

HIGH HONOR ROLL- Colten Billman, Leo Cox, Isaac Steiner, Harrison Melton, Hadley Cornelius, Enzo Carr, Ava Barclay, Elizabeth Emberton, Noah Fruits, Hudson Hockersmith, Benson Jones, Michael Mobley, Jocelyn Radcliff, Cole Boyd, Aunysa Pyle, Brecken Thomas

A/B HONOR ROLL- Ainsley Anglin, Delaney Carr, Paige Simpson, Eliana Starceovich, Jason Yeary, Maisyn Wilson, LauraBelle Surber, Kaydan Sims, Chaseten Scheurich, Ainsley Kight, Braden Ford, Emma Datzman, Cora Clos, Maddison Bacchus, Alexander Badertscher, Parker Bonilla, Jason McNair, Orion Morrison, Maverick Roach, Kinzley Wright, Michael Bell-Grayson, Logan

Carr, Elijah Hester, River Miller, Serafina Nowak, Kerstin Wilson, Hadley Woods, James Wurtsbaugh

FOURTH GRADE CHARACTER COUNTS-

TRUSTWORTHINESS- Beckett Jones, Evy Stephens, Lux Highland, Kaison Steiner, Lucille Fishero
RESPECT-Landen Marine, Ezra Moody, Briley Malone, Levi Rhodes, Gage Van Dorn

HIGH HONOR ROLL- Tristan Stafford, Lucille Fishero, Eva Rice, Gage Van Dorn, Tyberius Anglin, Syllis Barnett, Oliver Cook, Peyton Doss, Hudson McCandless, Kaison Steiner

A/B HONOR ROLL- Roran Alesi, Vera Carrell, Jack Gray, Beckett Jones, Landen Marine, Nolan Rothrock, Henley Surface, Zane Turner, Alden Bray, Ace Charles, Sawyer Cohee, Sutton Cohee, Lucas Edwards, Amariah Pyle, Charlotte Stull, Colton Watson, Eli Brown Audri Cohee, Maxine Hartman, Lux Highland, Stella Hughes, Henry Jones, Oliver Vice, Reyna Hernandez, Levi Rhodes, Macy White, Elle Collins

FIFTH GRADE CHARACTER COUNTS

TRUSTWORTHINESS- Dallas Carrell, Libby Stull, Caden Clark, Graham Wagner
RESPECT-Klaeton Caudill, Faith Grimes, Avalynn Gentry, Elizabeth Parker

HIGH HONOR ROLL- Rowyn Cravens, Isaac Deckard, Evelyn Stephens, Cayson Hester, Libby Stull, Quinn Badertscher, Dorothy Cotton, McCoy Gomez, Tobias Lacy, David Mobley, Ezra Moody

REGULAR HONOR ROLL-Mackenzie Bullock, Paaije Guyton, Marlaina Halstead, Trevor Largent, McLaren Mason, Adelle Shannon, Avalyn Simpson, Hadley Arnett, Faith Grimes, Jackson Hall, Ava Largent, Coree Perez, Riley Thompson, Autumn Hunt, Holly Priddy, Liam Wagner, Emma Bonebrake, Noah Carr, Koltan Collins, Baine Franklin, Jupiter French-Culley, Nevaeh Nelson, Graham Wagner

Season of Thanks: How Gratitude Can Improve Your Eating Habits



MONICA NAGELE
Guest Columnist

As we enter the season of giving thanks, many of us naturally turn our thoughts to

gratitude. But gratitude doesn't have to be reserved for one day on the calendar—it can be a mindset that influences our everyday lives, including our eating habits.

Research suggests that gratitude can impact our relationship with food, encouraging healthier choices and fostering a more mindful approach to eating.

Studies have shown that people who regularly practice gratitude experience a range of physical and mental health benefits, from better sleep to reduced stress levels. When it comes to eating, gratitude can encourage mindfulness, the practice of being present in the moment. Mindful eating allows us to savor each bite, tune into hunger and fullness cues, and make healthier choices.

Research from The Journal of Positive Psychology found that people who practiced gratitude ate more fruits and vegetables, possibly because gratitude fosters a sense of respect for our bodies and a desire to nourish them. By paying attention to what we eat and why we eat it, gratitude can help us make choices that align with our health goals.

Want to bring more gratitude to your table? Here are some simple ways to start:

1. Take a Moment of Appreciation Before Each Meal

Before you eat, pause to reflect on the journey your food has taken to reach your plate. Think of the farmers who grew the vegetables, the workers who harvested and transported the food, and the people

who prepared the meal. Acknowledging this process can deepen your appreciation and make the meal feel more meaningful.

2. Express Thanks for Your Body

Instead of focusing on "good" or "bad" foods, consider how each meal can serve your body and its needs. Try to appreciate your body for all it does—whether it's walking, working, or simply keeping you alive. This sense of gratitude can help you make nourishing choices without guilt or restriction.

3. Savor Each Bite

Practicing gratitude doesn't have to be complicated. One of the easiest ways is simply to slow down and savor each bite. Try to identify different flavors and textures, and let yourself fully enjoy the experience. This approach can lead to greater satisfaction, so you're less likely to overeat.

4. Involve Your Family in a Gratitude Practice

November is the perfect month to bring gratitude to the dinner table. Try going around the table and having each person share something they're grateful for that day. This can create a positive, appreciative environment that makes the meal more enjoyable and fulfilling.

As you celebrate this Thanksgiving, consider bringing a sense of gratitude to your table—not just for the holiday, but as a lasting approach to meals. By nurturing a thankful mindset around food, we can cultivate a more positive, balanced relationship with eating, one that serves both our health and our happiness.

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



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