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TODAY'S VERSE

Psalm 16:8 I have set the LORD always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

Meet Sapphire



Sapphire is a 2 year old female Catahoula leopard dog available for adoption from The Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County (AWL) since 8/2/24. Sapphire loves going out for walks, playing fetch, and will gladly sit for treats. Sapphire is looking for his best friend! Could that be you?

# The Paper

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## Butch Remembers Cookie Ladies



**BUTCH DALE**  
Columnist

In the 1950's, my Dad purchased a new Lawn Chief rotary push mower at Warren's Hardware in Darlington to replace our old reel-type power mower. He told me that I could also use it to mow yards for elderly people in town. Within a short time I had seven customers! It took about an hour to mow each yard, and the going rate was \$1.00 per yard. I know that doesn't sound like much, but back in those days, I could buy lots of things for a dollar.

One of the yards belonged to Mrs. Wray, the lady who owned our farm. Her



**Darlington**  
1959-1960

husband had passed away, and she had one child, a daughter who was married and lived in another town. Mrs. Wray also paid me a dollar, but if I swept her sidewalk, I received an extra quarter ... and she always insisted that I come inside and have iced tea

and cookies with her when I was done. I was happy!

As I sat in her dining room and enjoyed her refreshments, she asked me question after question ... about school, and sports, and my friends, and life on the farm ... and these conversations could go on for quite some time until my Dad came by with the old Dodge truck to pick me up. At that age, I thought that perhaps she was just lonely, but later on I surmised that she just really enjoyed making kids happy by being a cookie-lady. She always had a big batch of cookies or treats, which she passed out to the youngsters in her neighborhood, and this

➔ See BUTCH Page A3

## Done and Dusted, Exit Poll Results in MoCo



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.lwvmtgocn.org or message to LWV, PO Box 101, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47533.

Wabash College professor Shamira Gelbman's political science students wrapped up their series on polling last Friday, presenting their findings from the exit poll they conducted near three Montgomery County voting centers on Election Day. This educational exit poll was supported by a grant from Community-Engaged Alliance, an organization that supports Indiana colleges and universities in their efforts to promote community engagement.

The students designed their own poll with 21 questions on voting behaviors, attitudes about a variety of policy issues and demographics. With 333 respondents -- 'about one out of four' of the voters whom students approached-- students shared insights on both the results and the care it takes to run an objective, valid poll.

Exit polls provide a snapshot of voter sentiment immediately after casting their ballots, and the class's 2024 effort in Montgomery County yielded some predictable and some fascinating insights. Conducted near three vote centers--North Montgomery High School, the 4H Building, and Rock Point Church--the poll captured responses from 333 voters. With a near-equal gender split, a mix of ages and varying education levels, the data mirrored Montgomery County's demographic profile, though it slightly skewed toward more highly educated participants.

### Key Findings: Candidate Support and Demographic Trends

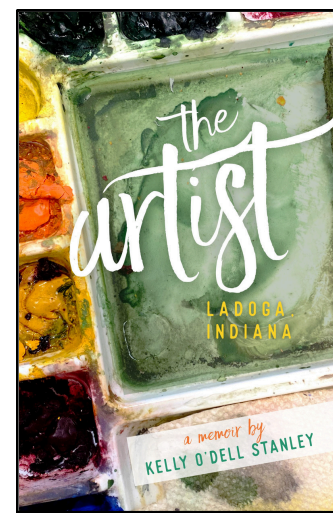
To no one's surprise, Donald Trump dominated the presidential vote in our poll. These results aligned with broader voting patterns in Indiana, and in the county, where 73 percent voted for Trump and 25 percent voted for Harris. Education emerged as a significant factor: Trump held a strong lead among voters with lower education levels, while higher-educated voters showed more balance, with Trump and Harris nearly splitting the vote (53 to 49). Gender also played a role, with women being statistically significantly more likely to vote for Harris (37 percent) compared to men (17 percent).

## Kelly O'Dell Stanley's New Book Explores Legacy, Grief and Power of Art

In her poignant new memoir, *The Artist, Ladoga, Indiana*, Kelly O'Dell Stanley weaves a deeply personal narrative of loss, rediscovery and the enduring connection between a father and daughter through the lens of art. The book delves into Kelly's life as daughter of renowned watercolorist Rob O'Dell, whose work continues to resonate with collectors and admirers alike, even years after his passing in 2017.

Indiana artist and was a member of the Watercolor Society of Indiana, Indiana Artists Club, Hoosier Salon, Brown County Art Guild, Indianapolis Art Center and other arts organizations. In 1995, he was awarded the Sagamore of the Wabash. His work is in public and private collections across the state of Indiana and around the world.

In her quest to understand her father's legacy, Stanley dives deep into his art,



Cover of Kelly O'Dell Stanley's latest book.

O'Dell was a celebrated

➔ See KELLY Page A3

## TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

If you're not already seeing an eye doctor, you should have a baseline screening at age 40.

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



TIM TIMMONS  
Two Cents

Turkey hunting? Not sure where Timmons is this week (maybe out turkey hunting?) but we think his column will return next week. Then again with him, who knows?

## THREE THINGS You Should Know

- 1 Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch hosted a reception in honor of the Hoosier Women Artists program with former lieutenant governors Kathy Davis, Sue Ellspermann and Becky Skillman Tuesday. Since 2008, the Hoosier Women Artists program has celebrated and further expanded the important role art plays in our communities by showcasing the work of talented female artists from around the state. Selected artists have their artwork displayed around the Statehouse and in the Governor's residence
- 2 The public is invited to cut up and remove certain downed trees at Turkey Run and Shades state parks for firewood. Trees eligible for firewood have fallen as a result of natural causes or have been dropped by property staff. They are along roadsides or in public areas such as campsites and picnic areas. Permit sales and cutting are ongoing now and end Feb. 28. The cost of one pickup-truck load is \$10. For more information, call (765) 597-2635.
- 3 Fans of planting trees and photography have until Nov. 30 to enter the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Community and Urban Forestry team's inaugural photo contest. To enter, email your best tree planting picture taken this past year to meschoen@dnr.IN.gov. Winners, who will receive tree-themed prizes, will be notified via email. Complete rules are at events.IN.gov/event/urban-forestry-photo-contest.

## TODAY'S QUOTE

"Every human being is an image bearer of Almighty God."  
Pastor Allen Jackson

## 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 is the best Christmas present in the world?  
A broken drum. You just can't beat it!

## MONTGOMERY MINUTE

The Linden Depot Museum' 15th annual Christmas Open House runs 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 museum complex is located at 520 N. Main St. in Linden. Questions? Call (765) 427-3630.

➔ See LWV Page A5



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





## OBITUARIES

### Jamie Shawn Davis

October 16, 1964 - November 13, 2024

Jamie Shawn Davis, age 60 of Lafayette passed away on November 13, 2024 at his home in Lafayette. He was born in Crawfordsville on October 16, 1964 to John Wesley Davis and Cherie (Mahan) Higgins.



Jamie graduated from South Montgomery High School, class of 1983. He proudly served his country in the United States Air Force. Jamie spent 30 years in Texas before returning to Indiana. He worked as a Plumbing Pro at Lowe's and Home Depot. Jamie was a wheeler and a dealer, collecting and selling vintage speakers and guitars. He had a passion for music and enjoyed playing the guitar and drums.

Jamie is survived by his parents, John Wesley (Elizabeth) Davis and Cherie (Ed) Higgins; stepbrothers, Jeff and Brian (Becky) Higgins; and several cousins.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Wesley and Betty Davis and Ray and Rosalynd Mahan.

Cremation was chosen with a Celebration of Life at a later date. Sanders Funeral Care Crawfordsville is entrusted with his care. Share memories and condolences online at [www.SandersFuneralCare.com](http://www.SandersFuneralCare.com).

### Aleta Ann Gillogly

February 16, 1937 - November 14, 2024

Aleta Ann (MacNorton) Gillogly, age 87 of Crawfordsville passed away on Thursday, November 14, 2024 at Franciscan Health Crawfordsville. She was born on February 16, 1937 to the late Floyd and Audra (Perkins) MacNorton.



Aleta married Ronald Wayne Gillogly. She retired from RR. Donnelley. Aleta enjoyed making jewelry, ceramics, and spreading holiday cheer. She loved taking care of her cats, as well as others.

Aleta is survived by many extended family members who loved her dearly.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Floyd and Audra; husband, Ronald; brother, Ronald L. MacNorton, and her son, Jeffery Baker.

A graveside service will be held for Aleta on Tuesday, November 19, 2024 at 1:00 pm at Waynetown Masonic Cemetery. Sanders Funeral Care Crawfordsville is entrusted with care. Share memories and condolences online at [www.SandersFuneralCare.com](http://www.SandersFuneralCare.com).

## Sen. Deery Shares Update



**SPENCER DEERY**  
 Guest Columnist

November is National Adoption Month, making it an especially appropriate time to reflect on

how we are doing as a state to give all children the right to grow up in a home with loving parents who provide for their needs.

In recent years, Senate Republicans have championed laws that support families who open their hearts and homes by way of adoption. The goals of these recent laws include helping more families afford the cost of adoption and encouraging more families to consider becoming part of Indiana's adoption system so more children find their forever homes.

Recent reforms include:

- Doubling Indiana's adoption tax credit and creating a new \$3,000 income tax exemption for adopted children;
- Updating our laws to expand the number of special-needs children whose adoptive parents can receive adoption subsidies to help offset the cost of caring for them;
- Uncontested adoptions can now be filed in any county in Indiana, so that counties with court backlogs don't slow down these adoption petitions; and
- Shortening the window for someone to contest or revoke their consent to an adoption, making Indiana more in line with other states on this process.

I am grateful to all of

you who are loving Hoosier children as adopted parents and grandparents. If you have ideas for more ways to help families who chose adoption, please share them with me.

\*\*\*

**LOCAL COMMUNITIES**  
 Awarded More Than \$2.8 Million in Road Funding

Local communities will receive more than \$2.8 million to improve roads and bridges through the Community Crossings Matching Grant Program (CCMG).

In Senate District 23, the following communities received grants:

- Parke County received \$338,446.50;
- Tippecanoe County received \$1.5 million;
- Universal received \$67,877;
- Vermillion County received \$375,454.13;
- Warren County received \$378,696.74; and
- Waveland received \$165,986.25.

I tell every Hoosier I meet who wants better roads and bridges that the Community Crossings Matching Grant Program is part of the answer. This funding is the result of a partnership between state and local governments, and I am grateful to have excellent local partners to work with on transportation issues.

*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.*

## Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



**Do You Recognize This Crawfordsville H.S. teacher?**

**HINT:**  
 He was an outstanding teacher of U.S. History and Economics for many years.

**Answer on Page A3**

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**Contact John "Butch" Dale (765) 404-1354**

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**Thank you for subscribing!**

# KENNY THOMPSON

With decades of experience as an award-winning sports writer and sports editor – most of it covering Purdue athletics – Kenny Thompson has a perspective and inside knowledge that few others have. Whether it's putting what's going on in the Big Ten in historical perspective or shooting straight from the hip on what's happening today, no one has a better take on Purdue and sports than Kenny!

**Catch Kenny every Friday in The Paper of Montgomery County!**





**↓ BUTCH** From Page A1

always brought a smile to her face.

There is a poem "The Cookie-Lady" by Edgar Guest that goes like this:

"She is gentle, kind, and fair, And there's silver in her hair; She has known the touch of sorrow, But the smile of her is sweet; And sometimes it seems to me, That her mission is to be, The gracious cookie-lady, To the youngsters of the street."

When my Grandma and Grandpa Dale quit farming and moved to town, Grandma always had a batch of cookies in a big jar on the kitchen table...ready to be passed out to any neighborhood child, and of course to all of her 22 grandkids, most of whom all lived nearby and came to visit quite frequently. Grandma enjoyed being a cookie-lady, too, just like Mrs. Wray.

When Grandma Dale passed away in the early '70s, there was much sadness in our hearts, and although we grandkids will always have precious memories to cherish forever of all the many things that Grandma did for us, we will never be able to stick our hands in her kitchen jar, grab one of her delicious sugar cookies, and listen to her wonderful stories. But even today, in my thoughts and dreams, "No morning passes over, that a tapping at

her door, doesn't warn her of a visit ... of a certain little boy."

"Life is strange, and when I scan it, I believe God tries to plan it, So that where He sends his babies, In that neighborhood to dwell, One of rare and gracious beauty, Shall abide, who sweetest duty, Is to be the cookie-lady, That children love so well."

"Oh, dear cookie-lady sweet, May you beautify our street, With your kind and gentle presence, Many more glad years, I pray; May the skies be bright above you, As you've taught our babes to love you; You will scar their hearts with sorrow, If you ever go away."

I will always remember those days ... when the ladies, young and old, treated all of the children in town just like they were family ... yes, just the same as they treated their own kids and grandkids. May God bless Grandma Dale and Mrs. Wray ... and all of the cookie-ladies of the world ... And do you know what? There are still some of those cookie-ladies around today. In fact, I am married to one!

*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.*

**↓ KELLY** From Page A1



Photos courtesy Kelly O'Dell Stanley

Photo of Rob O'Dell with his daughter Kelly (O'Dell) Stanley in 1970.

**Kelly O'Dell Stanley is an author, essayist and artist who has spent her life exploring the intersection of creativity, grief, faith and self-discovery. Her previous works include Praying Upside Down, Designed to Pray, InstaPrayer: Prayers to Share, and Create: New Beginnings, and in 2013, she won the Writers Digest Inspirational Writing competition. The Artist, Ladoga, Indiana is her first memoir, a deeply personal account of her father's art and the impact he had and continues to have on her journey.**

discovering that its true beauty lies not just in technique, but in the proud connections it fosters. Rob O'Dell, known for his iconic rural scenes with white snow and white skies, left behind more than just paintings. He left a legacy of seeing beauty in the overlooked, of celebrating the quiet moments that often go unnoticed.

In *The Artist, Ladoga, Indiana*, Stanley moves through the complex terrain of grief and personal reinvention. As she unearths her father's artistry, she also embarks on a journey to find her own creative voice. The memoir offers readers a window into the emotional landscape of an artist's family, while also touching on universal themes of love, loss and the power of art to heal.

"This is a love letter to creativity, a tribute to a father's legacy, and a testament to the power of art to connect hearts across time," says Stanley. "Through the brushstrokes of my father, I learned that art can be a bridge between the past and the present, between the living and the dead."

Esteemed authors, artists and critics have praised Stanley's ability to capture the delicate balance between grief and transformation. J.R. Jamison, award-winning author of *Hillbilly Queer: A Memoir*, calls the memoir "a story for

all of the dreamers who seek the courage to answer one of life's most formidable questions: 'What if?'"

Barbara Shoup, author of *An American Tune*, describes the book as "little paintings" that bring Rob O'Dell to life, capturing his artistry and its profound impact on his daughter. Meanwhile, Lisa Wheeler, writer, emphasizes the way the memoir paints a portrait of two artists — father and daughter — each finding their own path through grief, creativity and self-discovery.

*The Artist, Ladoga, Indiana* is more than just a story of an artist's life; it's a celebration of the art of living and the resilience required to reinvent oneself after loss. Through her exploration of her father's art and her own personal evolution, Stanley invites readers to embrace the extraordinary in the ordinary moments of life.

The official release date coincides with the Lew Wallace Hoosier Author Fair, which will take place during Downtown Party Night on Saturday, Nov. 30. Kelly will have books available for sale at Fusion 54 from 5-8 p.m. It is also available on Amazon in Kindle and Paperback formats (<https://amzn.to/4fSVKwO>). It will soon be available through all bookstores and distributors.

**Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia**

Answer:  
Alex Lebedeff

**Farm Service Agency County Elections Open**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) mailed ballots last week for the Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committee elections to all eligible agricultural producers and private landowners across the country.

Elections are occurring in certain Local Administrative Areas (LAA) for these committee members who make important decisions about how federal farm programs are administered locally. Producers and landowners must return ballots to their local FSA county office or have their ballots postmarked by Dec. 2, 2024, for those ballots to be counted.

"Voting in the county committee elections ensures that the voices of local farmers and ranchers are heard in shaping policies that directly impact their livelihoods," said FSA Administrator Zach Ducheneaux. "By participating, you help guide decisions on critical programs like disaster assistance, conservation and other critical financial and technical support programs, making sure that the needs of your community are represented."

Producers must participate or cooperate in a USDA program and reside in the LAA that is up for election this year to be eligible to vote in the county committee election. A cooperating producer is someone who has provided information about their farming or ranching operation to FSA, even if they have not applied or received program benefits. Additionally, producers who are not of legal voting age, but supervise and conduct farming operations for an entire farm, are eligible to vote in these elections.

For purposes of FSA

county committee elections, every member of an American Indian tribe is considered an agricultural landowner if the land on which the tribal member's voting eligibility is based is tribally owned or held in trust by the U.S. for the tribe, even if the individual does not personally produce a commodity on that land. Tribal agricultural landowners 18 years and older can contact their local FSA county office to register to vote.

Nationwide, more than 7,700 dedicated members of the agricultural community serve on FSA county committees. Each committee has from three to 11 elected members who serve three-year terms, and at least one seat representing a LAA up for election each year. Committee members are vital to how FSA carries out disaster recovery, conservation, commodity and price support programs, as well as making decisions on county office employment and other agricultural issues. They help ensure inclusive representation on committees and equitable administration of FSA farm programs in their jurisdiction.

Ballots must be postmarked or delivered in person to the local FSA office by close of business Dec. 2, 2024, to be counted. Newly elected committee members will take office Jan. 1, 2025. Producers can identify LAAs up for election through a geographic information system locator tool available at [fsa.usda.gov/elections](https://fsa.usda.gov/elections) and may confirm their LAA by contacting their local FSA office. Eligible voters who do not receive a ballot in the mail can request one from their local FSA county office.

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

**Would You Like Fries With That?**

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# Retired Teachers Minutes From November

Montgomery County Retired Teachers Association Meeting Minutes, Nov. 11, 2024

Our guest speaker, Tom Meeks from the Lew Wallace Study was introduced. Mr. Meeks is in charge of the summer ArchiCamp for kids. The participants learn about different architectural styles. During the two day program they take a walking tour of Crawfordsville to discover the wealth of beautiful architecture found in our town. The kids learn how to read and design blueprints. They get to design their own house, build birdhouses, and build popsicle-stick bridges.

Following lunch catered by Creekside Lodge, President Steve Frees called the business meeting to order. He mentioned MCRTA members that are celebrating birthdays in November. The minutes from the October meeting, which were sent ahead of time to members, were approved. Barb Foster gave the treasurer's report which was also approved. Nancy Buckles reported that 20 Fall cards had been

sent to members unable to attend the meeting. Two members received sympathy and health concern cards. Nancy Bowes reported the money collected in the basket was going to the Youth Service Bureau CASA program. She mentioned that members need to turn in their volunteer hours to her at the next meeting. Kim Nixon told the group that her committee sent Foundation grant interest money to the Isaiah House and Meals on Wheels. Colleen from AMBA told us to check our Part D prescription plans as there have been many changes. Karen Patton has been writing to Spencer Deery, concerning tax dollars supporting vouchers. She read her letter and his response. Our next meeting will be Monday, Dec. 9. The program will be given by the Crescendos singing group. Table decorations will be provided by Debbie Howard and Linda Sabol. Debbie Howard will give the invocation and our basket donations will go to the Salvation Army. The meeting was then adjourned.

# Early Learning Center Hires Director



Michaelan Pantoja-Sharp

Michaelan Pantoja-Sharp has been hired by Kindercare Learning Centers as the Center Director for the new Montgomery County Early Learning Center (MCELC). She brings over eight years of valuable experience working with local children and families.

Pantoja-Sharp holds an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education from Ivy Tech Community College and an Associate Degree in Theology and Education from Indiana Bible College. Her background is diverse and includes roles as a Family Preservation Specialist at Cummins Behavioral Health Services and as a Family Support Specialist for the Department of Child Services' Healthy Families Indiana program. She firmly

believes in walking alongside both families and students, ensuring they receive quality education and a safe, nurturing environment.

The Montgomery County Early Learning Center, located at 110 W. South Boulevard in Crawfordsville, will open in the spring of 2025 and serve 124 children from ages 6 weeks- 5 years old. The completely new center will include 11 classrooms, an indoor gross motor room and a modern, state-of-the-art playground. Meals and snacks are included with tuition. For more information, visit [www.kindercare.com/montgomerycountyelc](http://www.kindercare.com/montgomerycountyelc).

Enrollment is now open; those interested can contact KinderCare's enrollment specialists by calling (833) 905-3276 or emailing [enrollnow@kindercare.com](mailto:enrollnow@kindercare.com). Pantoja-Sharp will have a temporary office at the Montgomery County Community Foundation until the new center is complete. She is available to meet with prospective families and can be reached at [michaelan.pantoja@kindercare.com](mailto:michaelan.pantoja@kindercare.com) or (765) 376-6372.

# Local Senior Care Employees Honored with Prestigious Award

Two local senior care professionals were among the 99 employees from across the state of Indiana who were honored with the American Senior Communities Quest for Excellence award for outstanding achievement. This year's awards banquet and ceremony, now in its 24th year, took place on Nov. 14 at the JW Marriott in downtown Indianapolis.

Misty McCarty, RN at Ben Hur Healthcare and Rehabilitation and Lonna Fry, QMA at Hickory Creek, were among nearly 11,000 ASC employees statewide honored. A Quest for Excellence award is a coveted achievement. Through nominations by peers, residents, and families, only one winner from each location is chosen for recognition, spotlighting the best and brightest in their roles.

The award distinguishes employees who embrace the CARE principles; an aptly named acronym that stands for Compassion, Accountability, Relationships, and Excellence. Honorees are those who consistently make



Photos courtesy American Senior Communities

From left, Andy Shane COO, Misty McCarty and Steve Van Camp CEO.



From left, Andy Shane COO, Lonna Fry and Steve Van Camp CEO.

contributions through genuine compassion, strong teamwork, notable

accountability, an understanding of the importance of building relationships,

and an overarching drive to achieve excellence in their work.

# 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!

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**↓ LWV**

From Page A1

**Voter Consistency and Party Loyalty**  
 The class examined shifts between the 2020 and 2024 elections. While most 2020 voters stayed consistent in their presidential vote, 5 percent of those who voted for Trump in 2020 did not vote for him again in 2024 and 11 percent of those who voted for Democratic candidate Joe Biden in 2020 voted for candidates other than Kamala Harris this year. This trend underscores Trump’s solid base and this year’s Biden voters’ greater likelihood of changing preferences. Party loyalty was also pronounced, with only 6 percent of Republicans and 2 percent of Democrats crossing party lines in their presidential vote choice.

However, Trump voters were more likely to split their ticket. In general, women were more likely to split ticket votes, with 26 women and only 14 men having split tickets. 13 people voted for both Trump (R-president) and Jennifer McCormick (D-governor), 22 voted for Trump, then chose Rainwater (L-governor). Only 3 Harris voters reported choosing Braun (R-governor); 4 other Harris voters selected Rainwater.

**Policy Motivations and Issue Salience**  
 Key motivators differed sharply by voter demographics. For about half of Harris voters, abortion was the most predominant concern. A quarter of women voters said it influenced their vote. Interestingly, across all ages, more people disapproved of overturning Roe vs. Wade than approved (about 38-40 percent disapproved compared to 26-35 percent approval rates for almost all age groups except those aged 66+, who approved at about 47 percent.)

Conversely, Trump voters prioritized the economy and immigration. Education influenced views on economic issues, with lower-educated voters expressing greater concern about the economy.

The students also asked questions about voters’ views on mail-in voting, foreign policy and immigration. The mail-in ballot question revealed a stark divide: Trump supporters overwhelmingly opposed it, while Harris voters supported it. Students found that result fascinating, saying that after mail-in ballots facilitated voting during the pandemic, they thought more people would see it as a useful option for such occasions.

The students acknowledged that their question “Would you support further involvement by the United States in the Israel/Palestine conflict?” may have been poorly worded. There were no clear patterns in the responses to this

question and more than 30 percent of those who answered said they were neutral or unsure about their opinion on the matter. The lack of clear trends may also highlight the complexity of capturing nuanced foreign policy views in localized polls.

Immigration emerged as a divisive issue, with Trump voters favoring stricter border enforcement and Harris voters focusing on pathways to citizenship and family separation.

**Creating polls**  
 The class members reflected on what they learned about creating polls, choosing questions and evaluating wording to avoid being leading or appearing to side with one civic group or another. Another concern was which questions to include or exclude in order to gain the information for their poll’s purpose without causing people to quit answering questions. They eliminated questions about marital status and income. They didn’t want people to self-select out of the poll midway through because they didn’t know their tax bracket, and didn’t want to disclose income or a recent divorce.

The students noted that 333 respondents is a somewhat small sample size, considering that nearly 17,000 ballots were cast in the county. The poll’s margin of error is ±5.3 percentage points. While the poll did capture the county’s presidential vote within this margin of error, caution is needed in attributing the results about voters’ attitudes to the county population as a whole.

In addition, about 40 percent of the county voted early, which may have skewed the poll results since they did not conduct exit polls for early voters. They also did not run their poll for the entirety of polling hours on election day, starting only at 10 a.m. Those voting earlier in the morning would not have had a chance to participate in the exit poll.

**Reflections**  
 Asked what they would do differently, students said they’d reword the foreign policy question or eliminate it since that did not appear to be a big factor in the national outcomes. Some said they’d explore the motivations of two key demographics, black men who mostly voted for Harris, and white women, a majority of whom voted for Trump.

This exit poll reflects Montgomery County’s alignment with state and national trends, offering a compelling lens into the 2024 electoral landscape.

*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.lwvmont.org](http://www.lwvmont.org); or, visit the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, Indiana Facebook page.*

# Back in the Day with Butch Dale



**In the small towns in Montgomery county, one had to arrive early in the evening to get a parking spot downtown and go shopping. Shown above is Main street in downtown Darlington in the 1940's. There is no trouble finding a parking spot today in any of the small towns today, as most of the Mom and Pop businesses are no longer.**

## Brown County Celebrates Season With Holiday Shows

Tis the season and the Brown County Music Center in Nashville, is looking forward to a great lineup of holiday shows in November and December. Tickets are on sale now and available at [www.browncountymusiccenter.com](http://www.browncountymusiccenter.com), [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com), and at the venue box office (open Tuesdays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Saturdays through Mondays open only on event days, at 3 p.m.) via outdoor ticketing windows and phone sales at (812) 988-5323). The box office accepts cash, debit and credit cards including Visa, Mastercard, Discover and American Express. Any box office related inquiries beyond purchasing tickets for an upcoming show should be directed to [boxoffice@browncountymusiccenter.com](mailto:boxoffice@browncountymusiccenter.com).

The lineup of holiday shows includes the below. For a full list of all upcoming shows at the Brown County Music Center, visit [www.browncountymusiccenter.com](http://www.browncountymusiccenter.com).

**Thursday, Nov. 21: Girl Named Tom - The Joy of Christmas Tour**

Three siblings unlock one harmony to unite the world as Girl Named Tom. The trio—Bekah, Joshua, and Caleb Liechty—notably made history as “the only group to ever win NBC’s The Voice. The sibling trio has captivated millions on television, appearing on The Ellen DeGeneres Show, singing for the Indy500, and returning for a heart wrenching performance on The Voice Finale a year after their win. During The Joy of Christmas Tour, they serve up plenty of original holiday songs with a whole lot of heart and inimitable familial harmonies, and breathe new life into timeless holiday staples.

**Tuesday, Dec. 10: Christmas with The Tenors**

The Tenors have been thrilling fans around the world for years, with their powerful songs, outstanding harmonies, and undeniable charm. Performing symphony shows and concert tours, their distinct sound reimagines iconic hits and blends classical music, contemporary pop, classic rock, folk and inspired, self-penned original songs. They recently launched their 6th album, Christmas with The Tenors, with Warner Music International.

**Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 14-15: The Oak Ridge Boys**

One of the most famous “legacy acts” of all time with a 50-year string of hits, The Oak Ridge Boys return to the Brown County Music Center for two nights with Christmas favorites and iconic hits as part of the American Made: Farewell Tour.

**Wednesday, Dec. 18: Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder Christmas**

You know “Christmas Time’s A Coming” when 15-time GRAMMY winner and Country Music Hall of Fame member Ricky Skaggs and his ace backing band Kentucky Thunder play all your favorite Christmas songs in their refreshing acoustic style. The show includes the joyful bluegrass tune “Christmas Time’s A Coming” along with a beautiful rendition of “New Star Shining,” a hit song for Skaggs and James Taylor. Beloved classic songs “Silent Night,” “Deck the Halls,” and “Let it Snow” are fully represented, along with many other special Christmas melodies. Included in this seasonal show are sing-a-longs, rounding out this exclusive assortment of holiday jewels.

**Thursday, Dec. 19: Home Free’s “Any Kind of Christmas” Tour**

Experience the magic of the holidays with the all-vocal country group Home Free, as they bring an unforgettable evening of incredible harmonies, mixing Christmas classics with Nashville-dipped pop hits and timeless country standards. Having captivated audiences worldwide, Home Free has racked up nearly 600,000 album equivalents globally, embarked on major international tours, and amassed over 750 million views and 1.7 million subscribers on YouTube. Taste of Country hails them as “Country music fans’ favorite a cappella group.

**Sunday, Dec. 22: A Winter Gathering with Kathy Mattea**

Grammy Award winner Kathy Mattea brings her deep acoustic music roots to an original and traditional Christmas holiday music program. Led by her warm and soulful vocals and deft arrangements, Kathy’s stellar band, assembled for this tour with some of Nashville’s finest musicians, brings a fresh take on a wide range of songs of the season – from well loved traditional tunes to selections from 1993’s Grammy winning Good News album and 2003’s acclaimed Joy for Christmas Day, to her breakthrough recording of the iconic “Mary, Did You Know?”

**OTHER SHOWS IN NOVEMBER AND BEYOND**

- Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 23-24: Kansas - Another Fork In the Road: 50th Anniversary Tour
- Saturday, Nov. 30: The Lovin’ Spoonful
- Sunday, Dec. 1: Scott Bradlee’s Postmodern Jukebox
- Saturday, Dec. 7: Amplify Nashville - Bringing future stars to the big stage in Brown County
- Sunday, Dec. 8: Cheap Trick
- Thursday, Jan. 16, 2025: Big Head Todd & The Monsters 40th Anniversary Tour
- Friday, Jan. 31, 2025: Yacht Rock Revue
- Saturday, Feb. 15, 2025: Dirty Dancing in Concert
- Thursday, Feb. 27, 2025: Diamond Rio
- Friday, March 14, 2025: Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue with special guest Tank & The Bangas
- Saturday, March 15, 2025: Matt Nathanson with special guest KT Tunstall
- Thursday, March 20, 2025: Keb’ Mo’ and Shawn Colvin
- Friday, March 21, 2025: Great White & Slaughter
- Tuesday, April 1, 2025: ZZ Top
- Saturday, April 19, 2025: ARRIVAL from Sweden - The Music of ABBA



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