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TODAY'S VERSE

John 14:19 "Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live." (ESV)

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Who turned off the heater? I get it, it's January in Indiana. But hey, only 55 days to spring!

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Boomer Bits

Ask Rusty – About Investing Social Security Money in the Stock Market



ASK Rusty
Social Security Advisor

Social Security Matters

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Dear Rusty:

For most folks collecting Social Security, you get back what you put in within 3-5 years, so for those that scream - "SS is not an entitlement, it is my money"- that is not entirely accurate beyond 3-5 years. For me personally 4.4 years is the number. But had I been able to invest that money over the 43 years I worked at a modest 6% interest, I expect the amount would have been a lot more. And of course, the stock market averaged 9.5% over that time. Perhaps Social Security should invest in the stock market instead of U.S. Government treasury bonds.

Signed: Interested Observer

Dear Observer:

You bring up a point we frequently hear – that if, instead of paying into Social Security, I had

invested the same money in the stock market I would have gotten more. That, of course, might be the case if you had the unwavering discipline to religiously invest the equivalent amount in the market, avoiding the temptation to use that investment for any other reason. And life is full of good reasons – financial emergencies, for example, or the simple temptation to buy something desperately needed, or just occasionally skipping a month to pay bills. Also, the stock market is notoriously volatile, which can create substantial angst for investors who are faint of heart. The fact is that Social Security provides guaranteed financial growth from the age of eligibility (normally 62), up to age 70 when the

➔ See RUSTY Page A3

Is Your Identity Safe? What To Do If It's Not

(NAPSI)—Identity theft is becoming more common, affecting people from all walks of life—but you can protect yourself.

The Problem

Scammers are always finding new ways to steal personal information, often leaving their victims with financial losses and a sense of violation.

An Answer

Staying informed can make a big difference in keeping yourself safe. Here's what you should know:

➔ See SAFE Page A3

Keeping Your Home Safe This Winter

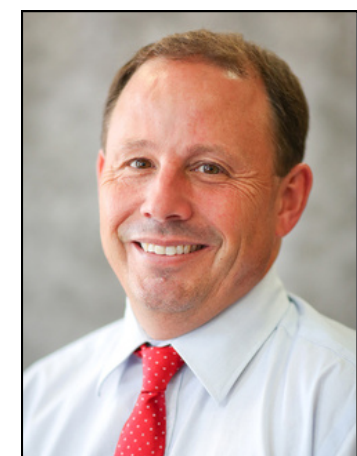
(NAPSI)—While the winter season brings many joyful moments, it can also bring increased safety risks—but you can protect yourself, your home and your family.

Who Can Help?

Volunteer fire departments across the country are raising awareness of seasonal hazards to protect residents and keep families safe. "Firefighters are there to protect their neighbors

➔ See HOME Page A3

Wabash Uniting Town, Gown In New Building



Wabash President Scott Feller said the new building will help bring the city and Wabash College together in multiple ways.

Wabash College will formally break ground on its new community center at a brief ceremony at noon on Saturday, Jan. 25, in the Sparks Center.

The 56,000-square-foot building will be located in the heart of campus and will serve as a community gathering space, featuring main-floor dining for over 200 people and flexible upper-level event space for gatherings of 12-250. The community center includes a restaurant and pub, game room, living room, and swag shop.

"The new community center will bring town and gown together for meetings, fundraisers, and celebrations," said Wabash President Scott Feller. "We are excited for the endless opportunities the new building will provide for our students, but it will also be the place where our students can work with and learn from our neighbors and nonprofits. By working together, we will strengthen our community in every possible way."

Wabash is finalizing financing for the new facility, which will replace the 70-year-old Sparks Center. It is hoped that the Sparks Center will be razed this spring with construction to follow.

➔ See WABASH Page A4

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Got an injury? RICE it – Rest, Ice, and if possible Compression (wrap) and Elevate the injured body part.

Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Paper and online at www.thepaper24-7.com



THREE THINGS You Should Know

- The annual DNR Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology photo contest has started, with a deadline of April 4. Open to photographers of any age and skill level, the contest has been held since 2005 to promote Indiana's historic resources. All structures in photo entries must be at least 50 years old and in Indiana but don't have to be fully restored. For complete rules and guidelines and for the required entry form, see on IN.gov/preservation-month.
- Throughout history, America has been shaped by individuals whose impact extends beyond their personal achievements. Paperbell.com, a coaching software company, recently conducted a nationwide poll of 3,000 respondents to identify America's most inspirational historical mentors - those who have transcended their time and place to leave an enduring legacy in education and personal growth and three Hoosiers made the list. Philanthropist Madam C.J. Walker came in at No. 54, industrialist and inventor Elwood Haynes was 25th and James Whitcomb Riley finished in the top 150. The top three were Martin Luther King, Helen Keller and Amelia Earhart.
- They found baby Nibi on the side of a road but her rescuers couldn't find her parents and so they wanted to keep her and raise as their own. It took a while but finally, Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey intervened and ruled that the Newhouse Wildlife Rescues could take charge of the two-year-old baby beaver, noting that "Nibi has captured the hearts of many of our residents, mine included and we're excited to share that we have issued a permit for Nibi to remain in Newhouse's care, continuing to educate the public about this important species."

TODAY'S QUOTE

"There is not a liberal America and a conservative America – there is the United States of America."
Barack Obama

TODAY'S JOKE

Why should you never trust an atom?
They make up everything!

MONTGOMERY MINUTE

The League of Women Voters of Montgomery County were recently granted \$2,300 to research the 1881 Lincoln School for a historical marker. The award came from Indiana Landmarks, which awarded more than \$6 million to help nonprofits and cities around Indiana save meaningful places. "Indiana Landmarks offers grants to help spark community revitalization and bolster preservation projects around the state," Marsh Davis, president of Indiana Landmarks, said. "We're extremely grateful that with the support of many generous donors we're able to offer this critical funding to local groups and others engaged in preserving the state's meaningful places." Indiana Landmarks Black Heritage Preservation Program awards grants to help preserve and raise awareness of sites important to Black history in Indiana. In 2024, the group made 29 grants totaling \$211,382.

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

Jessica McClamroch to Co-Chair Strawberry Festival with Dave Long

The Strawberry Festival is gearing up for another memorable year, and organizers are thrilled to announce the dynamic duo who will serve as co-chairs for this year's festival.

The Strawberry Festival offers a delightful experience characterized by local charm, live entertainment, and activities for children. Jessica McClamroch and S Dave Long will serve as co-chairmen for this year's 51st Crawfordsville Strawberry Festival which will be held on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, June 13, 14, and 15. Jessica will then transition to chairman the year after.

Long has been a prominent figure for 30 years, serving in a variety of roles throughout his time with the festival. He has served on the Entertainment Committee as the "voice of the Festival" and is responsible for the yearly "Hometown Heros" segment where local law enforcement, military, firefighter and first responders are honored. Prior to this year, Long has served as chair for the last nine years.

"When I was working full-time for the local National Guard unit at the armory, I was approached to see if I could come up with some type of program to honor our local heroes," he said. "That, I thought, one-time program, is still here and so am I. I feel it's important to be involved in the community where you live and it's been my honor to be a small part of this county's premier, locally organized event, that recorded over 19,000 visits over three days last year. Over the

years, Jessica has taken the Queen Program to a new level. I look forward to working with Jessica, who has jumped right in and has some exciting, new ideas to add to the Festival."

McClamroch has been involved with the Strawberry Festival Queen Program for the past 20 years, beginning her journey as a contestant, progressing to Queen, serving as a committee member, and ultimately assuming the role of Director in 2017. She has sat on the Strawberry Festival committee for the last seven years.

"It's a full circle moment for me as I was elected as Co-Chair," McClamroch explained. "I've attended the festival since I was a little girl and it's an honor to collaborate with S Dave Long and the committee to help enhance the experience for all attendees for this year's festival."

As co-chairs, McClamroch and Long will oversee the planning, programming, and execution of the festival, ensuring it remains a positive and memorable experience for all those attending. The full schedule and lineup for the festival will be revealed in the coming months and the committee encourages everyone to follow the festival page on Facebook at Crawfordsville Strawberry Festival and on Instagram @cvillestrawberryfest. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Jessica McClamroch at (765) 366-6917.

Tipmont Steps Up to Help Project Indiana in Guatemala



Joe Banfield, Operations Manager



Matt Bassett, Lead Lineman



Ron Holcomb, President / CEO

Tipmont representatives will be among a crew of Indiana electric cooperative personnel and lineworkers traveling to Guatemala in late January as part of an international initiative to bring electricity to a developing area in Guatemala.

"Project Indiana: Empowering Global Communities for a Better Tomorrow" will bring electricity to a part of the Central American country where none is available. From January 29 to February 15, the crew will extend electric infrastructure in the village of Palmira, a mountainous area along Guatemala's western edge. When the build is completed, about 109 homes will have electricity for the first time.

Those joining from Tipmont are:

- Joe Banfield, Operations Manager
- Matt Bassett, Lead Lineman
- Ron Holcomb, President / CEO

"When you have this many homes, you see a lot of families, and that really stamps the exclamation point on us making a difference,"

Bassett says. "Project Indiana is near and dear to my heart as a global project that benefits a lot of people. I love the experience and the difference we can make in a way that's sustainable long after we return home."

Having also been part of the staking crew that scouted the location, Banfield has seen the project grow.

"The people we're serving sometimes think this isn't going to actually happen, so when they see the engineering crew on the ground staking it out, everyone wants to sign up," Banfield says. "What started as 30 poles and 50 homes has become 71 poles and 109 homes. And in staking, you really get to meet and know every homeowner. Seeing their faces change to happy, joyful smiles in that moment is the appeal for me."

This is the sixth trip to Guatemala for Indiana electric cooperatives. In August 2012, 28 Hoosier lineworkers from 17 Indiana electric cooperatives spent four weeks working across mountainous terrain to deliver electricity across three villages to 184 homes, a church and a school. After trips in 2015, 2017, 2019 and 2023, lineworkers have collectively delivered electricity to 532 homes, five schools, five churches and a health clinic in Guatemala.

"It's easy to keep going back after you've had that taste of changing things for the better — in a meaningful, life-altering way that lasts in your memory and the memories of those you've served," Holcomb says. "The only downside is that you can only do so much in one trip, but the upside is that we'll keep returning as much as we can."

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



Do You Recognize this 1915 Alamo Grad?

HINT: He taught and coached at several schools, and his best teams were at Waveland in the early 1950s.

Answer on Page A3

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↓ RUSTY From Page A1

maximum benefit is attained. Benefits claimed at one's full retirement age are about 24% - 32% more than if taken at age 62 (depending on full retirement age), and benefits taken at age 70 are about 75% more than benefits taken at age 62. And that is guaranteed growth for those with the patience to wait longer to claim.

You may recall that the idea of investing Social Security reserves in the stock market has been floated a few times in previous years, but accompanying risks made Congress essentially unwilling to even entertain the idea. It has always been a political "hot potato" and those who suggest it are usually castigated for wanting to "give SS money to Wall Street," so I expect it is unlikely to happen. Guess we'll need to be satisfied with the interest on those Special Issue Government Bonds (which, by the way, returned about \$67 billion to the Social Security Trust Fund in 2023). FYI, average interest rate for new deposits to the Trust Fund in 2023 was 4.1%, and the overall effective rate of return on all Trust Fund assets

was 2.4%.

Social Security has some issues and will face some financial difficulty in less than a decade unless Congress enacts program reform soon. But it is a program which most seniors rely on for a major part of their retirement income and one which keeps over 22 million Americans out of poverty. Here at the AMAC Foundation, we strongly advocate for sensible Social Security reform and we're very optimistic about the program's future. But Congress needs to act soon to avoid a cut to everyone's Social Security amount in about 2033.

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/p/rograms/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

↓ SAFE From Page A1

How Identity Theft Happens

Most identity theft happens online. Often when someone clicks links from text messages, emails, or even is catfished. The link you click could lead you to a fake website to input credentials or have you install an app that can retrieve your passwords to important accounts.

Identity Theft Scams on the Rise

• **Synthetic Identity Theft:** With synthetic identity theft, scammers mix real and fake information to create a new, false identity. They might use a real Social Security number alongside made-up details. This lets them open bank accounts, get credit cards, or even apply for loans—using a fake identity that feels all too real.

• **Medical Identity Theft:** Medical identity theft happens when someone uses your personal medical information to access healthcare services, prescription drugs, or medical devices. This can leave you with unexpected medical bills or inaccurate records, which can complicate future treatments. It's a frustrating situation, but knowing what to look for can help.

• **Account Takeover Fraud:** In account takeover fraud, scammers take control of your online accounts, such as banking, email, or social media. This often happens through phishing emails, weak passwords, or data breaches. Once inside, they can drain your funds or steal even more personal details. It's scary, but there are ways to protect yourself.

• **Deepfake and AI-driven Identity Theft:** As technology advances, criminals use tools such as artificial intelligence (AI) to create deepfakes—fake videos or voices that look and sound just like real people. They can use these to trick others into believing they are someone else. It's a high-tech problem, but you don't need to be a tech expert to fight back.

Ways to Protect Yourself

No solution is foolproof, but there are 7 steps you can take to protect yourself and lower the chances of becoming a victim:

1. Use a Caller ID & Scam Blocking app: The Truecaller app helps identify unknown calls and messages, and will even identify scam numbers in real time.

People around the world actively report numbers as scams and write comments about their experience, and you can see statistics about scammers' call patterns.

2. Use Strong and Unique Passwords: Use passwords that are tough to crack—mix letters, numbers, and symbols. Avoid reusing passwords across accounts. A password manager can be a handy tool to create and store them safely.

3. Enable Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA): MFA adds an extra layer of security to your accounts. After entering your password, you'll need to verify your identity again, like with a code sent to your phone. It's like adding a second lock on your door, making it harder for scammers to break in.

4. Monitor Your Credit Regularly: Keep an eye on your credit reports for anything unusual, such as new accounts you didn't open. It's one of the quickest ways to spot identity theft early. Many places offer free credit monitoring services, so take advantage of them.

5. Consider Identity Theft Protection Services: Some services can keep an eye on your personal information and alert you if they spot something suspicious. While they can't prevent identity theft, they can make the recovery process smoother if it happens to you.

6. Secure Your Devices: Keep your phone, computer, and other devices updated with the latest security patches. Use antivirus software and strong passwords to keep hackers out. It's a simple habit that can go a long way.

7. Shred Important Documents: Even in today's digital age, physical paperwork can still be a goldmine for thieves. Shred any documents with personal information—bank statements or medical bills—before you toss them out. Staying informed about the latest scams and being careful with your information can make a big difference. And if you do become a victim, don't panic. Report it to the authorities or your credit bureau right away. They can help you limit the damage and start the recovery process.

Learn More
For further facts and tips, visit www.truecaller.com

Library Spearheads Efforts to Help NC Victims

Please help the families in North Carolina that have lost so much in the wake of Hurricane Helene's destruction. Children there are in desperate need of shoes and socks this winter! Please drop off new children / teen socks or shoes at the Linden Carnegie Public

Library or at Pleasant Hill Elementary School between now and Jan. 22. Library hours are: Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday from noon to 7 p.m. and Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

↓ HOME From Page A1

when emergencies arise, but they also work hard to prevent emergencies from happening in the first place," said Steve Hirsh, Chair of the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC), the national association for the volunteer fire service. Holidays, cold weather, and winter storms all bring their own fire hazards. In fact, the National Fire Protection Association reports more home fires occur in winter than any other season.

Fortunately, there are simple steps everyone can take to reduce the risks and keep their homes safe.

What You Can Do
The NVFC recommends the following 10 tips to minimize home fire and safety risks this winter.

• Stay alert when cooking. Do not leave the kitchen when frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling food, and keep kids at least 3 feet away from the stove.

• If using a live Christmas tree, keep it adequately watered and get rid of it after Christmas or when it gets dry.

• Consider using battery-operated flameless candles. If using real candles, do not leave them unattended, and keep them out of reach of children and pets.

• Place fire extinguishers in the kitchen, garage, and living room, and make sure all household members know how to use them.

• Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home. Test them monthly to ensure they work.

• Install carbon monoxide alarms and test them at least once a month.

• Develop a home fire escape plan and practice it with the entire family.

• Keep portable generators outside and away from the home.

• Practice fireplace safety. Have chimneys professionally inspected and cleaned every year, install a screen in front of each fireplace or wood

stove, and store cooled ashes in a metal container outside the home.

• Do not leave space heaters on unattended and keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from it.

How to Help Others

In addition to keeping their own homes safe, residents can take an active role in protecting their neighbors from fires, medical emergencies, natural disasters, and more. Many fire departments are looking for volunteers to step up and serve their communities.

"About two-thirds of our nations' firefighters are volunteers, neighbors helping neighbors in their hour of need," said Hirsch. "There are few volunteer opportunities that are as rewarding as the fire service. I encourage all those who want to make a true impact in their communities, learn life-saving skills, and join an incredible network of people to consider volunteering with their local fire department."

The volunteer fire service offers roles for all ages, backgrounds, and interests, and training is provided by the department. Firefighters and emergency medical personnel provide life-saving services. Auxiliary or support members assist with the non-operational needs of the department, such as fire prevention and life safety education, disaster preparedness planning, fundraising, administration, and much more. Young people can participate as junior firefighters, learning about the fire service while gaining important life skills such as teamwork, responsibility, and leadership.

"Whether you are interested in becoming an emergency responder, support member, or junior firefighter, there is a place for you in the volunteer fire service," Hirsch said.

Learn more
For more about the volunteer fire service and to find an opportunity visit www.MakeMeAFirefighter.com.

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Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia

Answer:
Cliff Davis

THE PAPER

Add 'Big Man U' to Purdue's Cradle of Quarterbacks Moniker



KENNY THOMPSON shouldn't the Columnist Boilermakers' basketball program be referred to as Big Man U.?

The latest in a long line of talented centers in the Matt Painter era was honored on Monday as the Naismith Men's College Basketball Player of the Week and Big Ten Player of the Week.

Junior Trey Kaufman-Renn was dominant in victories last week at Washington and No. 13 Oregon, averaging 21 points, 8.5 rebounds and 2 assists per game. The former Gatorade Indiana Player of the Year padded that scoring average by going 12 of 16 from the free throw line. That facet of the game has been a glaring weakness for Kaufman-Renn this season.

Taking over for two-time National Player of the Year Zach Edey as Purdue's inside scoring threat, Kaufman-Renn is building All-Big Ten credentials. He is averaging 17.9 points, 6.5 rebounds and 2.5 assists while shooting 59 percent from the field.

While Edey is obviously the No. 1 center not just in the Painter era but Purdue history, there's several reasons why the Boilermakers own a reputation of developing big men in a time when the 3-point shot and positionless basketball has been the trend.

Let's start with a sometimes forgotten big man who straddled the end of Gene Keady's 25 years at Purdue and who got Painter off to a good start as head coach.

Carl Landry Cut from his Milwaukee high school team as a freshman and seldom used on varsity as a junior or senior, the 6-9 future NBA player became a junior college All-American at Vincennes.

The polite young Landry would become Keady's last big-time recruit. Landry led the Big Ten at 18.2 points per game as a junior despite missing the final three games of the 2004-05 season with a torn ACL in his right knee.

Landry played just five games under Painter the following season before reinjuring the knee. Granted a medical redshirt, Landry averaged nearly 19 points a game and earned first-team All-Big Ten honors while leading Purdue back to the NCAA tournament.

JaJuan Johnson The 6-11 center from Franklin Central came to Purdue at 195 pounds and left as a Big Ten heavyweight.

Johnson became Purdue's first consensus All-American in 2011, the first Boilermaker since Glenn Robinson in 1994 to do so. Johnson became the first Purdue player to win the Pete Newell National Big Man Award.

Johnson was named the Big Ten's Player of the Year as a senior, as well as Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year after averaging 20.5 points, 8.6 rebounds and 2.3 blocks. Purdue went 107-33 in his four seasons.

Johnson was a first-round draft pick by the New Jersey Nets in 2011 but was traded to the Boston Celtics.

A.J. Hammons

The one-time Carmel center began Purdue's run of having at least one 7-footer on the roster in 2012-13.

Hammons was the Big Ten's Defensive Player of the Year and earned first-team All-Big Ten honors as a senior. Hammons averaged 15 points, 8.2 rebounds and 2.6 blocks. Upon completing his eligibility, Hammons joined Purdue All-American Joe Barry Carroll as the only players in Big Ten history with at least 1,500 points, 900 rebounds and 340 blocked shots.

Hammons may be one of the most underrated Boilermakers ever, having finished 17th in career points (1,593), third in rebounds (930) and second in blocked shots (343). He led the Big Ten in blocked shots for three consecutive seasons, missing a fourth season at the top by two to Iowa's Jarrod Uthoff.

Isaac Haas

The 7-2, 300-pound Haas chose Purdue after originally committing to Wake Forest because of the staff's ability to develop big men.

Haas had to play himself into shape but was ready as a junior following two seasons behind Hammons. Haas earned honorable mention All-Big Ten honors as a junior after averaging 12.6 points and 5.7 rebounds.

As a senior, Haas eclipsed 1,000 career points and was selected third-team All-Big Ten.

Matt Haarms

The lean 7-3 Haarms came to the United States from Amsterdam via Sunrise Christian in Bel Aire, Kansas. His 79 blocked shots in 2017-18 were the second-most ever by a Purdue freshman. Haarms' sophomore season was highlighted by his last-second shot to defeat Indiana in Assembly Hall. Only one other player in Big Ten history matched Haarms' feat in 2020 of leading the league in field goal percentage and blocked shots in the same



Photo courtesy Purdue Athletics

Trey Kaufman-Renn

season. Haarms finished his collegiate career as a graduate transfer with BYU, opening the door to immediate playing time for a freshman from Toronto.

Trevion Williams

Once he got his weight under control, the 6-10 Williams became a key player for the 2019 Elite Eight squad.

As a sophomore, Williams' 36-point, 20-rebound performance in a double-overtime loss at Michigan made him the first Boilermaker since 1971 to post a 35-20 game.

Williams was the first-team All-Big Ten center in 2021 and earned honorable mention All-America honors from The Associated Press. Williams was a finalist for the Kareem Abdul-Jabbar Award after averaging 15.5 points, 9.1 rebounds and 2.3 assists.

Stepping aside in the starting lineup to make way for Edey, instead of pouting Williams became the Big Ten's Sixth Man of the Year in 2022 after averaging 12 points and 7.4 rebounds. Surprisingly, Williams led Purdue in assists with 112.

Zach Edey

Haarms' departure to BYU worked out for Purdue as Edey flashed signs of what was to come as a freshman during the 2020-21 season. The tallest player in Purdue history (7-4) debuted with a team-high 19 points against Liberty in the Space Coast Challenge and followed up by leading the Boilermakers with 17 points in a loss to Clemson the following day.

Edey is arguably the most decorated player in Purdue history. His numerous honors include a pair of National Player of the Year awards, two Big Ten Player of the Year citations, two Big Ten Athlete of the Year awards, two Kareem Abdul-Jabbar Awards and is Purdue's all-time scoring (2,516) and rebounding (1,321) leader.

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.

Back in the Day with Butch Dale



Bob Tandy was the coach when New Market won the Montgomery County tourney in 1962, defeating a good New Ross team in the championship game by a score of 62 to 59. Marion Carr, Steve Powers and Joe Chamness were named to the All-County team.

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.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY JAIL FACILITY BUILDING CORPORATION

Annual Meeting

January 27, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Montgomery County Government Center

Public Meeting Room

1580 Constitution Row

Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933

Agenda

I. Roll Call

II. Approval of Minutes -- 2024 Annual Meeting - January 22, 2024

III. Election of Officers

A. President

B. Vice President

C. Secretary-Treasurer

IV. Annual Report

A. Condition of Jail

1. Generally

2. Annual State Inspection

B. Corporation Standing and Corporate Compliance

1. Confirmation of lease payments by County

2. Confirmation of bond payments by Corporation

3. Approval of Certificate of Good Standing for Trustee

4. Authorization for County

Attorney to File Annual Report

with State.

V. Other Business

VI. Meeting for 2026 Annual Meeting - January 26, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

VII. Adjourn

WABASH From Page A1



Illustration courtesy of Wabash College

The new community center will replace the 70-year-old Sparks Center.

The public is cordially invited to attend the

groundbreaking, which will take place in the

Great Hall of the Sparks Center.



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Where's Chuck? Getting Ready to Retire



Photo courtesy WTHR

Lofton calling it quits after 40 years.

WTHR-TV Channel 13, the TEGNA-owned NBC affiliate in Indianapolis and the news-gathering partner of The Paper of Montgomery County and the Noblesville Times, recently shared that meteorologist, Chuck Lofton, whose 40-year career at the station has made a lasting impact on the central Indiana community, is going to retire in June. Lofton joined WTHR-TV with the launch of *13 Sunrise* in 1985, bringing with him a passion for weather and a commitment to delivering accurate forecasts to viewers. Over the decades, he has become a household name and a trusted voice in central Indiana, known for his engaging personality, insightful analysis and dedication to public service.

“Chuck has been an integral part of WTHR and the Indianapolis community for decades, with a passion for keeping Hoosiers informed and prepared for Indiana weather.” Michael Brouder, President and General Manager of WTHR-TV, said. “His dedication to serving viewers across this great state has set the standard for excellence in broadcasting. While we will miss him dearly, we celebrate his incredible career and the many lives he has touched.”

Throughout his tenure, Lofton has covered everything from tornadoes, blizzards, and severe weather to the Great American Eclipse of 2017 and 2024 Total Solar Eclipse in Indianapolis. He has also been a fixture during WTHR’s

coverage of marquee local events including the Indianapolis 500, Brickyard 400, Indianapolis Colts, Indiana Pacers, and Indy Fuel sporting events. Lofton has proudly emceed the city’s annual “Circle of Lights” holiday event and has been the voice of the 500 Festival Parade in May.

Lofton is recognized throughout the U.S. with his beloved “Chuck’s Big Adventure” series that sends him around the country, highlighting memorable trips and vacation spots for Hoosiers. In addition to his meteorological duties, Lofton is a frequent speaker at local churches, schools and civic organizations, including the American Heart Association, the Eiteljorg Museum, Overseas Council, Damar Services, Hope Healthcare Services, Noble Centers, and many more. Lofton has also served on several advisory boards including the Salvation Army and the National Weather Association.

Lofton has earned numerous regional Emmy® awards, Society of Professional

Journalists awards, and Associated Press awards. In 2022, he was inducted into the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences’ *Silver Circle* recognizing Lofton for his 25+ years of distinguished service in the TV industry.

As Lofton prepares for retirement, he reflects on his time at WTHR with gratitude. “It has been an absolute honor to serve Indianapolis for 40 years. I am so thankful for the relationships and trust I’ve built to help Hoosiers get their mornings started for so many years. I am looking forward to spending some important quality time with my family and pursuing new adventures. I am so grateful though to have had such a wonderful job, working with so many wonderful people.”

Lofton’s final 13Sunrise broadcast is scheduled for early June of 2025. WTHR will invite viewers to join in a celebration of his remarkable career in the coming months.

Indianapolis Artist Julian Jamaal Jones Opens AMEN at Wabash College

Julian Jamaal Jones, Wabash College Artist-in-Residence for spring 2025, will open an installation of his work, “AMEN,” this afternoon in the Fine Arts Center. The College will hold an opening reception from 4-7 p.m. Attendees can chat with Jones and be among the first to interact with his engaging contemporary quilts and works on paper.



Julian Jamaal Jones

Jones memorializes Black culture by presenting fresh perspectives and creative freedom within traditional landscapes. His unique practice communicates through the historical language of African American quilting tradition by implementing abstract forms and vibrant colors in his works to bypass preconceptions and open conversations around his Black experience.

“I best express myself through sketching,” Jones said. “My drawings are colorful, abstract, gestural, and ultimately unexplainable. Even I can’t quite comprehend what comes out of my sketchbook. I approach the making of quilts as a sketching process, working quickly to creatively process the sense of alienation that comes from being a Black man in white spaces.”

AMEN explores the experience of an

evolving faith rooted in the artist’s affinity to the Black church, a communal space housing a subset of Black expression and spirituality. Through bold, instinctive mark-making, Jones fondly revisits his memories of this home space as a foundation to his unwavering belief and life view.

This body of work follows “Take Me Back,” an exhibit from January 2024 that documented Jones’ nostalgia towards 1990s Black church life, a pivotal era of spiritual communion emphasizing political mobilization, community engagement, and progression of experimental soundscapes and fashion styles.

In AMEN, a maturation has taken place. While his memories as a child in this sacred space remain, manifested through the warmth of his signature sun-drenched hues and gestural line work, we now are presented with an awakening, seen

through the immersive quilts in this body of work.

Born and raised in Indianapolis, Jones received his bachelor’s degree in photography in 2020 from the Herron School of Art + Design and a master’s in photography in 2022 from Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. He was selected to participate in the Black Mountain Active Archive Residency in 2024; the recipient of the CICF Artist Travel Ambassador Grant in 2023; awarded ArtsConnect “Artist to Watch” in 2022; the recipient of the 2022 Playground Emerging Artist fellowship, supported by the Knight Foundation; and the recipient of the prestigious Museum Purchase Award from Cranbrook Art Museum in 2022.

Jones’ works are in the permanent textile collections of Cranbrook Art Museum in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan; Richmond Art Museum in Richmond, Indiana; and The Book Tower in Detroit.

The Eric Dean Gallery is open Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursday 7-9 p.m., and Saturday 2-6 p.m. All events are free and open to the public.

Women’s Legacy Fund Accepting Grant Proposals

Timeline:
March 13, 2025 by NOON: Grant application form with required appendices should be completed online.
April 7 2025: Finalists notified of their status.
April 28, 2025 at 6:30: Organizations selected as finalists will present their proposal to the Fund members.
April 30, 2025: Grant recipients notified of their award and should be prepared to implement their programs soon thereafter.
November 24, 2025 at 6:30: Grant recipients will provide a program update to the Fund members.
May 29, 2026: Grant recipients must provide a final written summary, including a financial report.

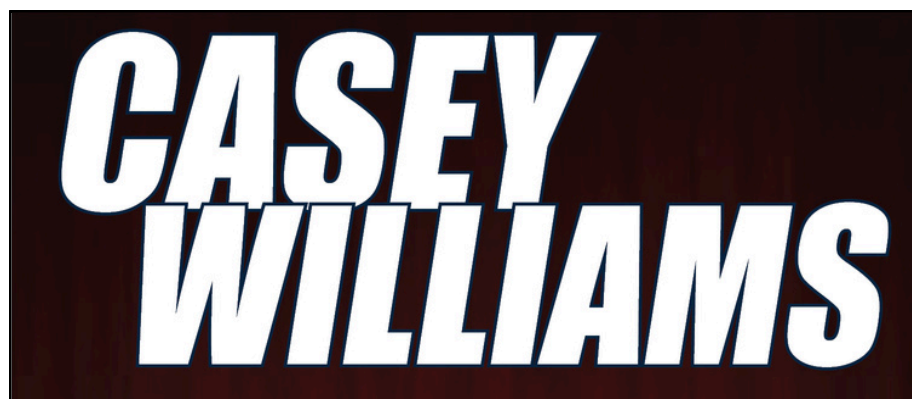
The Women’s Legacy Fund of the Montgomery County Community Foundation is accepting grants now through noon March 13 for local nonprofits with a mission to support women and / or children.

The Women’s Legacy Fund comprises women who are committed to making a positive impact on the lives of women and children in Montgomery County. To accomplish this goal, each member of the fund makes a donation to the Montgomery County Community Foundation, pooling these gifts to increase the impact of their efforts. The donations are divided such that one third of each gift goes into an endowed fund that will forever benefit women and children in Montgomery County. The remaining two-thirds are combined into a pool of funds that allow for an annual grant to one or more Montgomery County nonprofit organizations that benefits women and girls. Eligible applicant organizations

must have a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) status. Since 2008, the Women’s Legacy Fund has made 57 grants to Montgomery County nonprofit organizations totaling more than \$155,000.

Interested nonprofit organizations may submit a grant application for a project that will serve women and children in Montgomery County. Application instructions can be found on the Montgomery County

Community Foundation’s website at groundbreaking, which will take place in the at the tab, “Grants/How to Apply.” If there are questions about the application procedure, please e-mail Cheryl Keim at the Foundation at cheryl@mccf-in.org or call 362-1267. If you have questions about the grant itself, please email Cathy Caldwell at cathy.d.caldwell@gmail.com. Organizations receiving a grant will be expected to use it between June 2025 to May 2026.



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