Building new clean energy will lower Hoosiers' bills & protect grid reliability.







TODAY'S VERSE

Philippians 4:6 -7 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.





You can't buy LOVE, but you can RESCUE it - MEET PORGY!!

Porgy is a 9 year old male American Pit Bull Terrier available to foster and/or adopt since 1/10/24. Porgy is small/medium size. How on earth is this adorable senior cutie still here? Let's find Porgy a forever home! Porgy is a senior that enjoys the finer things in life like a comfy bed and being showered with love/attention. Porgy is dog friendly and great with kids! AWL does require a meet and greet to ensure a good fit. Porgy is looking for his best friend. Could that be you? Porgy is available for adoption, to foster, or just simply going out for walks.



Happy Valentine's Day MoCo! I love you all . . . well, most of you!



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Ask Rusty - Clarification of **Medicare IRMAA and MAGI**

Social Security Matters



This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security
Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or

email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

Dear Rusty:

Rusty

I am confused by an article in my local newspaper which said that "MAGI" (modified adjusted gross income), on which my Medicare Part B premium is based, is my Adjusted Gross Income, plus any nontaxable interest, plus 50% of the social security I received. The part that is confusing is the 50% part. When I look at my tax return my Adjusted Gross Income includes the taxable portion of my Social Security benefit which, in my case, is 85% of my total benefits. Why must 50% of benefits be added to my AGI if it is already included in my total AGI?

Signed: Confused

Dear Confused:

The article you refer to was misleading for stating that the Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) used to determine

your Medicare premiums includes your normal Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) from your income tax return, plus any nontaxable interest you may have had, plus 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year. What the article should have said was that the MAGI which determines your Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA) to your Medicare premiums consists of your normal AGI from your tax return (which includes the taxable portion of your Social Security benefits), plus any non-taxable interest you may have had.

For additional clarity, the Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA) is a supplemental amount added to the standard Medicare premium for those with

See RUSTY Page A3

Post Office Warns About Valentine's Day Romance Scams

The U.S. Postal Service and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service want consumers to be aware they may be targeted for romance scams, a deceptive form of fraud that preys on individuals seeking companionship. These scams often start online but frequently escalate to requests for money or valuables sent through the mail, leading to devastating financial and emotional losses for victims.

■ See SCAMS Page A3

Be Aware of Email Scam Using USDA Logo

The National Organic Program of the USDA is aware that certifiers and certified operations have received emails from sources pretending to be the USDA. These emails, referred to as phishing emails, have been sent using the following information:

- Fake Sender: amendez@rooted school.org
- Email Subject: 2025 information verification/update
- See USDA Page A3

C'ville Mayor Sets 140th **Public Forum** for Feb. 24

Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton has scheduled his monthly Community Forum for Monday, Feb. 24



50¢

Mayor **Todd Barton**

from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. at his office, 300 E. Pike St.

This will be Barton's 140th such event since taking office. Holding a monthly community forum was something Barton pledged to do during his campaign and he has continued to do so every month – except during the COVID pandemic.

This event is designed to allow the public to come ask questions, discuss concerns, interact with the mayor and learn more about anything regarding the city.

Barton was first elected mayor of Crawfordsville, Ind. in 2011 and defeated Democrat incumbent Charlie Coons. Barton took office in January of 2012 and has been re-elected to second, third and fourth terms. Barton is the only mayor in the city's long history to run unopposed in consecutive elections.

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

When foods carry healthy labels like "low sugar," we often eat more of them and end up eating more calories.

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

- Indiana Gov. Mike Braun is urging the United States Forest Service to withdraw the Buffalo Springs Restoration Project in the Hoosier National Forest, which would log 5,000 acres and burn more than 15,500 acres of public national forest land between Paoli, French Lick, and English in Indiana. The area impacted includes Tucker Lake, Springs Valley, Youngs Creek, and Lick Creek Trails. The Orange and Crawford County Commissioners and Paoli Town Council have unanimously passed resolutions opposing the Project. Under the Biden Administration, USFS failed to modify or change the basic components of the Project, despite several alternatives proposed by local residents and organizations.
- Penske Entertainment announced that Doug Boles will now serve as President of both INDYCAR and Indianapolis Motor Speedway, succeeding Jay Frye. Boles brings decades of motorsport experience to his new responsibilities, including being the President of Indianapolis Motor Speedway since 2013. At IMS, he oversaw the sellout of the 100th Indianapolis 500, the first full-capacity crowd in the event's storied history. "(Boles is) an exceptional leader and motivator who is appreciated by our fans and respected by our owners, drivers, partners and additional key stakeholders," said Penske Entertainment President & CEO Mark Miles.
- Three Hoosier coffee shops have emerged among the best in the U.S. for remote work, according to MarketBeat.com, a leading financial media company. It surveyed 3,013 business executives and remote workers to identify the best coffee shops in the country for working away from the office. The best in the country was Bad Bunnies in Charleston, S.C. with 787 Coffee in New York City close behind. For Hoosiers, Mission Grounds in Evansville, Ascend Coffee (Indianapolis) and Penny Drip (Fort Wayne) all made the top 140.

TODAY'S QUOTE

"I would rather share one lifetime with you than face all the ages of this world alone."

J.R.R. Tolkien

TODAY'S JOKE

Someone asked the boss if he and his wife had a date on Valentine's Day. Yes, he replied. Feb. 14.

MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Don't forget that Monday is a U.S. Postal Holiday and gives us all a chance to honor our presidents, especially George **Washington and Abraham** Lincoln. As such, there won't be a Paper of **Montgomery County Online** Edition Monday. We'll be back, piping hot and fresh Wednesday morning with all your favorite reads! Enjoy the holiday!

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

Wasteful Government Spending Isn't Just a National Issue



TIM **TIMMONS** Two Cents

During a time when the president of the United States is meeting with reporters every day, providing

transparency to government operations than Americans have seen before, some lawmakers at the Indiana Statehouse are trying to do the opposite.

more

A couple of committees are considering taking public notices out of Indiana newspapers and placing them all on a giant, government website that would make looking for a specific public notice like finding a needle in a truckful of needles.

Truth is, most of them mean well. They are talking about saving money for taxpayers and creating a one-stop shop for public notices.

But the reality boils down to just a few essential facts.

See TIM Page A3



PAGE A2 • FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2025

of Troops 247 / 365 presented them with

embellishments to

mark the occasion.

neckerchiefs and other

Local Cub Scout Pack 909 Honored

Cub Scout Pack 909 recently honored five local fifth graders for completing their Arrow of Light requirements to finish the Cub Scout program. The ceremony took place during the Blue and Gold Banquet that celebrated the 115th birthday of Scouting at the Masonic Cornerstone in Crawfordsville. Members of the scouting and local communities were present to take part in the celebration.

All five scouts chose to advance to the troop level and also participated in a crossover ceremony. Leaders and members

To wrap up the evening, a Beading Ceremony was held for two leaders from Pack 909 - Jennifer Shon and Amanda Sanders - for completing the Wood Badge program. Wood Badge is an advanced leadership training

> Cub Scout Pack 909 is sponsored by the American Legion Post 72 and meets on Wednesday nights at 6 p.m.

course offered by

Scouting America.



Even the youngest scouts enjoyed the Blue and Gold Banquet to celebrate the birthday of scouting.



The evening took place at the Masonic Cornerstone in downtown Crawfordsville.



Photos courtesy of Cub Scout Pack 909

Five local fifth graders were presented with their Arrow of Light awards for completing the Cub Scout program. (L-R: William Bernhardt, Paul Forney, Sophie Gohier, Alexavier Johnson, Maddox Blakley)



Members of Cub Scout Pack 909 opened the Blue and Gold banquet with a flag ceremony.



Amanda Sanders was honored for completing the Wood Badge leadership program.



Jennifer Shon received her Wood Badge certificate.

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



Do You Recognize this 1951 Crawfordsville **Graduate?**

HINT: She married a Darlington boy and became a school librarian.

> Answer on Page A3

Wabash Students Earn Orr Fellowships



Seth Acero





Ryan Papandria



Andres Peralta



Mark Stolte





Olivier Tuyishime Ben Wallace

Seven Wabash College seniors have earned Orr Fellowships, guaranteeing two-year salaried positions with some of Indiana's most dynamic, high-growth businesses.

Seth Acero, Will Morris, Ryan Papandria, Andres Peralta, Mark Stolte, Olivier Tuyishime, and Ben Wallace will receive executive mentorship and participate in a curriculum designed to develop understanding and skills vital to entrepreneurship and business leadership. Further, as Orr Fellows, they will grow professionally through an active and supportive network with opportunities for cultural and civic engagement.

"The Orr Fellowship is an incredible way to start a career and history has proven it's a great way to take the liberal arts skills into business roles and further the development and networking started on campus," said Cassie Hagan, director of professional development and Center for Innovation, Business, and

Entrepreneurship (CIBE). "It's extremely competitive and I am proud of our 2025 Orr Fellows and all of our seniors who chose to put their resumes in the candidate pool."

Acero, a native of San Antonio, Texas, is a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, and the rugby club. Previously, he interned with **Autism Spectrum** Australia.

He will work with Bridge Builder Strategies, a non-profit business development consulting firm based in Indianapolis.

"It is an honor to be a part of this fellowship in the state of Indiana," said Acero, an English major and mathematics minor. "I look forward to growing my professional network and skillset so I can advance the ideals of nonprofits in the future."

Morris, a native of Plainfield, Indiana, is a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, the track and field and swim and dive programs, as well as the college republicans.

He interned with

Quickrete during his Wabash career.

He has paired with Mt. Vernon, Indiana-based Warehouse Services Inc., third-party logistics specialists that provide end-toend supply chain services.

"Earning the Orr fellowship is an incredible honor," said Morris, a PPE major and business minor. "I'm excited to grow and learn with the other talented fellows. I hope to make an impact by connecting with peers and contributing to my host company and the broader Southern Indiana community."

Papandria, a native of Indianapolis, is a member of the CIBE, Sphinx Club, Independent Men's Association, and the track and field team. Previously, he studied abroad in Salzburg, Austria and took immersion learning experiences to Heidelberg, Germany, Madrid, Spain, and Brussels, Belgium.

He will work with Elate, a business-to-business strategic planning software provider and

be based in Indianapolis.

"The Orr Fellowship program has a strong alumni network of successful men and women in the Indianapolis area and it is an honor to join that group," said Papandria, an economics and German double major. "To be part of this in my hometown is something special and I am excited to meet many other professionals from the area and take part in the career development opportunities provided by the program."

Peralta, a native of Tucson, Arizona, is a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity and La Alianza, the Wabash student organization dedicated to celebrating Latin American culture. Previously, he interned with Capturely.

He has paired with Denison Parking, a company focused on creating quality parking solutions, and will be based in Indianapolis.

"I'm looking forward to

See WABASH Page A5

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Issue 18



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RUSTY

higher incomes. The thresholds at which the IRMAA supplements apply depend on your IRS filing status, and your MAGI determines the amount of supplement which will be added to the standard Medicare premium. Single filers with MAGI over \$103,000, or married filers with MAGI over \$206,000 will see an IRMAA supplement added to their Medicare premium. Those whose MAGI is under the first IRMAA threshold pay the standard Medicare premium, but those whose MAGI exceeds the first IRMAA threshold above will pay more. How much more depends on how much their MAGI exceeds the first IRMAA threshold by. The IRMAA supplement (the additional premium amount) could be anywhere from \$69.90 to \$419.30 per month for Medicare Part B (coverage for outpatient services), or an additional \$12.90 to

dependent on how much over the initial MAGI threshold the person is for their IRS filing status. You can see the MAGI levels and corresponding IRMAA supplements at this Medicare website: www.cms.gov /newsroom/factsheets/2024-medicareparts-b-premiums-anddeductibles

From Page A1

IRMAA and MAGI can be confusing. If you have questions about your Medicare premiums, help is available at SSadvisor@amacfound ation.org, or at 1.888.750.2622.

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 auestion, visit our website (amac foundation.org/progra ms/social-securityadvisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amac foundation.org.

USDA

\$81.00 per month to

the Medicare Part D

premium - again

(prescription drug plan)

Phishing is a common type of cyber attack that targets individuals through email or text messages to attempt to acquire sensitive data, such as email passwords. These messages are often designed to look like they come from a trusted person or organization, to get

recipients to open

malicious websites.

information on

malicious links or enter

The recent emails contain the USDA logo to make the sender appear valid. Each email asks the recipient to confirm information, click on a button or link, and to enter sensitive information in a location that the fake senders provide. The emails also threaten to suspend or revoke the operation's organic license, which some readers may believe refers to their USDA organic operation certificate. However, it does not

The emails were not sent by USDA certifiers and certified operations should not respond to them, click on any links in them, or send sensitive personal or business information.

As a reminder, emails sent by the USDA, AMS or NOP are from the "usda.gov" email domain. To verify email authenticity, look at the information included between the carats (< sample >) or brackets [sample.email@domain. com] shown next to the sender's name. It is possible for the sender to falsely use "usda.gov" in its name. However, it is not possible for a non-USDA government entity to show its email domain (the information between the carats or

brackets) as "usda.gov."

From Page A1

When reviewing emails for authenticity, look for the following queues to help identify phishing emails:

- Includes suspicious sender's address that may imitate a legitimate business or government entity.
- Demands you take urgent action.
- Offers generic greetings and signature. Excludes contact information from the signature block.
- Spoofs hyperlinks and websites in body text that does not match the URL text shown when hovering over links.
- Contains spelling errors, poor grammar, or poor sentence structure. Uses inconsistent formatting.
- Includes suspicious attachments with requests for you to download and open the attachment.

If you are a certifier or certified operation and receive an email that claims to be from the USDA, AMS or NOP, and you are concerned about its authenticity, you may contact your Accreditation Manager (for USDA certifiers) or your certifier (for certified operations) to verify the email's validity.

If you received such an email and have already clicked on the link or provided sensitive information, we encourage you to report it to your organization's information technology department, reset your passwords, and scan your computer/device for malicious

viruses/malware.



SCAMS From Page A1

"Protecting the sanctity and integrity of the mail is our top priority," said USPIS Chief Postal Inspector Gary Barksdale. "This includes protecting customers from mailrelated crimes, including fraudulent schemes like romance scams. Public awareness is critical in stopping these criminals before they cause harm."

How romance scams work

- Scammers create fake identities, often using stolen photos and fictitious personal details.
- They cultivate online relationships over weeks or months, building trust through social media, dating apps, or email, and pledge their love early on.
- Once trust is established, they fabricate urgent financial needs such as medical emergencies, travel expenses, or business problems to solicit money.
- Victims are pressured into sending cash, checks, wire transfers, or gift cards, making recovery difficult once the fraud is detected.

How to protect yourself

- Be cautious of online relationships that escalate quickly, especially if the individual avoids in-person meetings or video calls.
- Look for inconsistencies in the person's profile and the information they share. Keep our personal information private.
- Never send money, checks, gift cards, or personal finance information to someone you haven't met in person.
- Be suspicious of requests for secrecy or urgent financial help.
- If you think it's a scam, cut off communication immediately and report it.
- For more information on romance scams visit Romance Scam -**United States** Postal Inspection Service

How USPS and USPIS are fighting fraud

 USPS and USPIS are ramping up public outreach efforts to help Americans recognize and avoid mail fraud. In addition to proactive law enforcement measures, the Postal Service is spreading awareness through multiple channels to raise awareness, including:

- Social media platforms - USPIS regularly shares public service announcements and prevention messaging on several social media platforms.
- Mail fraud prevention resources -Providing updated scam alerts, prevention tips, and reporting tools on Tips & Prevention -**United States** Postal Inspection Service.
- Mailin' It! podcast -Postal inspectors share true crime stories of real cases on the official USPS podcast, Mailin' It! These episodes highlight real cases where fraudsters have used the mail to target victims, reinforcing the importance of staying informed and vigilant.
- Wanted Wednesdays -USPIS has a social media campaign spotlighting wanted criminals involved in postal-related crimes.
- Fraud prevention webinars and public events -Postal Inspection Service personnel engage with communities through live and virtual events to educate the public on emerging scam tactics.

How to report mail

If you are someone you know has been targeted by a romance scam involving the mail, report it to the U.S. Postal Inspection Service at www.uspis. gov/report. Victims should also notify their local law enforcement agency and the Federal Trade Commission at reportfraud.ftc.gov.

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia

Answer: Mary Edie (Patton) Cox

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.

-mailjobs@thepaper24-7.com

TIM

From Page A1

- 1. Public notices cost pennies compared to other government spending.
- 2. If the state has to create a website for this, they will have to spend money to do so and then spend money for staffing and upkeep
- 3. The state press association already has a public website where those ads are placed at no additional cost to taxpayers
- 4. Not everyone reads public notice ads, but some do. And for those who pay attention to how our government operates, these information boxes provide invaluable data
- 5. If the government posts their own notices, where is the check and balance system? Isn't that akin to the fox guarding the henhouse?
- 6. Newspapers aren't dying, but evolving. However, the last thing those community icons need right now is another piece of negative news. Wouldn't it serve everyone better if lawmakers didn't pass legislation that makes it even harder?

7. Can you name something the government does more efficiently than private business

Let's make no mistake about this. Public notices are a positive thing for newspapers. They certainly aren't the biggest revenue stream we have - by a long shot. But these days, every little bit helps. And there is no doubt that having that information published by those who tend to keep an eye on politicians helps everyone - including the legislators.

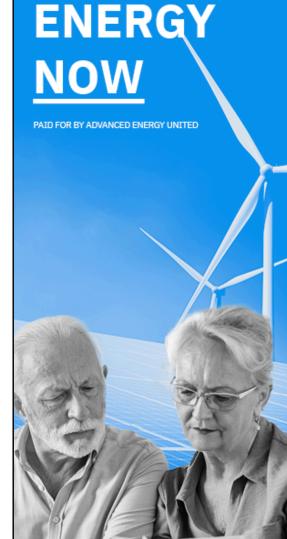
Taxpayers are already angry over property taxes and insane government spending programs. Why would Indiana lawmakers want to make such a blatant move that does nothing but make important information even harder to find?

It doesn't make sense for anyone - and here's hoping better heads prevail in Indianapolis.

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







IU Only Has to Look North for Identity it Used to Have



head coach, Mike THOMPSON Woodson Columnist was asked to do the impossible: be the second coming of Bob Knight for a fan base that

Like his five

as Indiana

basketball

predecessors

Like Mike Davis, Tom Crean and Archie Miller, Woodson was pressured to step down last week during the midst of a disappointing fourth season. Already, dreams of Brad Stevens, Billy Donovan, Bruce Pearl and Dusty May are dancing through the heads of that fan base.

cannot let go of the past.

If athletic director Scott Dolson and Board of Trustees chairman Quinn Buckner have learned anything from the success of football coach Curt Cignetti, it's time to move on from the Knight family tree.

Being a star player for Knight during a glorious era of Hoosier basketball was Woodson's lone qualification for the job. Do you think any other school in the nation would hire a sixtysomething coach with no college experience and a losing resume in the NBA?

Woodson's downfall was being unable to duplicate Knight's ability to build a successful team. With the aid of well-heeled boosters such as Mark Cuban, Ken Nunn and the Cook / Simon families, it almost seemed that Woodson ran his finger down a list of five-star high school recruits / topranked transfers and chose the biggest names that their money could

It is almost impossible to believe that a program that won national championships with the likes of Steve Alford, Scott May and Woodson himself has been unable or unwilling to bring in consistent 3-point shooters.

During Miller's four-year coaching tenure in Assembly Hall, the Hoosiers ranged between 31.2 and 32.4 percent 3point shooting on an average of six attempts per game. Davonte Green in 2018-19 (41 percent) and Armaan Franklin in 2020-21 (42.4) were Miller's lone high-volume 3-point shooters.

Other than the 23-12 season in 2022-23, when Indiana shot 36.8 percent on low-volume 3-point shooting (5.7 per game average), Woodson's teams have shot 33.3 percent (5.9 attempts), 32.4 percent (5.0 attempts) and through 24 games this season, 32.2 percent (6.3 attempts).

Miller Kopp (44.4 percent) in 2022-23 and Luke Goode (41.1) this season, as predicted here, are the only high volume 3-point shooters Woodson has brought in. Both were transfers. Somehow, Goode has only started nine games this season while so-

called transfer portal gems Myles Rice and Kanaan Carlyle have combined to shoot just below 27 percent from 3-point range.

This should have come as no surprise since Rice shot 27.5 percent as a redshirt freshman at Washington State, and Carlyle made 32 percent as a freshman at Stanford. A larger bank account does not guarantee improved shooting.

For the reported \$1.2 million paid to secure center Oumar Ballo from Arizona, plus whatever cash Indiana's boosters paid out to Rice, Carlyle and Goode, the return on investment has been 15 wins, a 6-8 Big Ten record and embarrassing losses to Louisville, Iowa and Illinois.

Now travel 115 miles northwest of Bloomington to West Lafayette. Purdue twice has finished second nationally in 3-point shooting percentage during the Miller / Woodson era. That includes last season's 40.4 percent effort during Purdue's run to the national championship game. In five of the eight seasons, the Boilermakers have shot at least 37.4 percent from beyond the arc.

In 2017-18, when Purdue went 30-7, it started three 40-plus percent 3-point shooters in Carsen Edwards, Dakota Mathias and P.J. Thompson. Vincent Edwards was one made 3-pointer shy of giving the Boilermakers four 40-percent shooters from 3-point range.

Purdue's Elite Eight squad in 2018-19 fielded Carmel's Ryan Cline at 41.7 percent, Grady Eifert at 43.8 percent and Sasha Stefanovic at 41 percent. Stefanovic was a 40-percent shooter from 3 in 2020-21.

The Boilermakers posted a 29-8 mark in 2021-22 with Mason Gillis (41.4), Eric Hunter Jr. (43.6) and Isaiah Thompson (42.4). In lower volume that season, sophomores Caleb Furst (42.3) and Ethan Morton (44.1) were effective behind the 3-point line.

With Zach Edey carrying much of the offense in 2022-23, Braden Smith was Purdue's most effective 3-point shooter at 37.6 percent for the Big Ten champs. Fletcher Loyer improved from 32 percent as a freshman to 44.4 percent a year ago for the national runners-up. Smith (43.1), Gillis (46.8) and Myles Colvin (41.4) also were key reasons why Purdue finished second nationally in 3-point

Loyer has been even better this season at 45.8 percent, which

shooting.

would lead the Big Ten if he had the minimum attempts required. Freshman guard C.J. Cox has made 42.1 percent from 3-point range.

Notice many of the names I've just listed. Mathias. Vincent Edwards. P.J. and Isaiah Thompson. Cline. Stefanovic. Gills. Hunter. Smith. Loyer. Going back further in the 21st century, there's Robbie Hummel, E'Twaun Moore, JaJuan Johnson, Rapheal Davis and Caleb Swanigan.

That mix of Indiana and Ohio high school stars used to be prime recruiting territory for the Hoosiers.

Fifth-year seniors Anthony Leal and Galloway are the only native-born Hoosiers to spend their entire collegiate careers in Bloomington. Instead of being the dream destination of every teen-age player from Fort Wayne to Evansville, IU basketball has lost its identity.

Purdue has an identity. Toughness, talented big men and gamechanging guards who have spurred an offensive renaissance. Naismith Hall of Fame coach Gene Keady laid the foundation over his 25 years in West Lafayette. His protégé, Matt Painter, has built a luxury high rise on that foundation in his 20 seasons.

Michigan State is another example of stability equaling success. The Spartans have prospered under Jud Heathcote and Tom Izzo for nearly 50 years with 13 combined Big Ten and two national championships.

Since Knight was fired by Indiana president Myles Brand in 2000, the Hoosiers have had Davis, Kelvin Sampson, Dan Dakich, Crean, Miller and Woodson heading the program.

Davis was pushed out in 2006, unable to build off a run to the national title game in 2002 with some of Knight's players. Impermissible phone calls, compounded by a history of rule-breaking at Oklahoma led to Sampson's dismissal. To the chagrin of the Indiana faithful, Sampson has transformed the University of Houston into a Big 12 and national contender.

Dakich restored discipline during his brief interim tenure, but Indiana officials brought in Tom Crean from Marquette to basically start over. After three miserable seasons, Crean brought Indiana back to No. 1 in the polls. The honeymoon ended with the top-seeded Hoosiers losing in the Sweet 16 to Syracuse in 2013. Crean was fired in 2017 after a 10th-place finish in the Big Ten.

Miller was never a good fit despite his success at Dayton. Miller's defense-first mindset

lacked the offensive

skill players to be a

consistent winner.

Like the Purdue football program, which will be paying off a \$9 million contract to Ryan Walters over the next three years, Indiana must get this hire right and not just for competitive reasons. The new coach will almost certainly be forced to restock the roster from the transfer portal with only one high school recruit signed for 2025-26. That will require serious cash on top of the \$8 million deposited into Woodson's retirement account, the discounted buyout of \$15.5 million to former football coach Tom Allen spread over two years and the \$20.5 million annual revenue sharing agreement that begins with the 2025-26 academic year.

Kenny Thompson is the former sports editor for the Lafayette Journal & Courier and an awardwinning journalist. He has covered Purdue athletics for many years.

South Graduate Gains Experience at Statehouse



Photo courtesy Indiana Republicans

Ellenberger and Sen. Buchanan

Brooke Ellenberger is serving as an intern for the Indiana Senate Majority Caucus during the 2025 legislative session, said State Sen. Brian Buchanan (R-Lebanon).

Ellenberger, a resident of New Ross, is the daughter of Matt and Amanda Ellenberger. Ellenberger graduated from Southmont High School and is currently a junior at Indiana State University studying finance.

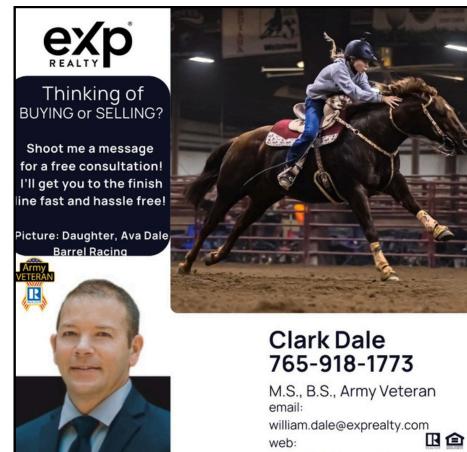
"I am honored to work with so many driven interns like Brooke who carry a positive mindset and are eager to learn," Buchanan said. "It is refreshing to see many young Hoosiers who are actively choosing to inform themselves about state government and ways they can use this opportunity to advance their careers."

As a legal intern, Ellenberger conducts policy research, drafts and files Senate motions and resolutions, and generates the daily calendar.

"I am very excited by the opportunity to be a part of our General Assembly and learn about it firsthand," Ellenberger said. "I look forward to the connections I will make and the ways they will be beneficial in shaping my career path."

Senate Majority interns work through the duration of the legislative session, which is scheduled to end by April 29. Buchanan represents Senate District 7, which includes portions of Boone, Clinton, Hendricks and Montgomery counties.





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williamdale@exprealty.com

House Passes Baird's Legislation for FFA, 4-H

The Indiana House of Representatives supported a bill authored by State Rep. Beau Baird (R-Greencastle) to provide students in FFA and 4-H with excused absences to attend certain events offered by the organization during the school year.

"House Bill 1660 is about supporting the next generation of leaders in Indiana," Baird said. "4-H and FFA provide students with invaluable experiences that build leadership, responsibility and realworld skills. By ensuring they can participate in these programs without penalty, we're investing in their growth and the future of our state."

Baird said his bill would ensure that Hoosier students can



State Rep. Beau Baird joined members of Montgomery County 4-H in the House Chamber for 4-H Day on Tuesday, Feb. 11 at the Statehouse in Indianapolis. Baird authored HB 1660, which would provide students in FFA and 4-H with excused absences from school.

participate in 4-H and FFA events, up to six times per school year, without being penalized with unexcused absences. Students would have to be in good academic standing for these

absences to be excused.

House Bill 1660 passed unanimously out of the House Education Committee before passing the full House. It now moves to the Senate for further consideration.

Baird represents House District 44, which includes all of Putnam County and a portion of Montgomery County.

Back in the Day with Butch Dale



As we all know, women's fashions constantly change. For many years most women wore their favorite hats when out and about. Shown above is a lady in 1912 who lived in the Kilpatrick neighborhood. I believe she is related to the McBee family. If anyone can identify this beautiful lady, please let me know.

WABASH From Page A2

learning," said Peralta, a rhetoric major and computer science minor. "The Orr Fellowship consistently produces leaders who are intelligent, confident, and accomplished. To have the chance to be a part of such a group is an honor, and to have access to resources the Orr offers is an unreal opportunity."

Stolte, a native of Lowell, Indiana, is president of Intramural sports, a Lead Consultant for the CIBE, and a statistician for the athletic department. Previously, he has interned with Business Buyer Directory and EnFocus.

He has paired with Model1, a provider of end-to-end commercial vehicle solutions, and will be based in Indianapolis.

"Earning an Orr Fellowship feels relieving and rewarding at the same time," said Stolte, a financial economics major and business and computer science double minor. "Being able to join likeminded individuals in the Indianapolis area to network and start my career is a blessing. I look forward to the relationships I will build during this time."

Tuyishime, who hails from Brownsburg, Indiana, is a member of Phi Gamma Delta and the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies. He studied abroad in Rwanda.

He has paired with the Applied Research Institute, a non-profit that connects innovators and governments with the resources and partnerships that power ideas into solutions, and will be based in Indianapolis.

"To receive an Orr
Fellowship is an honor,"
said Tuyishime, a
political science major
and Black studies minor,
"and would not have
been possible without
the support of Wabash,
my home community,
and my peers. I am
excited to stay in the

state of Indiana and look

forward to growing

and being challenged."

Wallace, a native of Westfield, Indiana, is a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, the Little Giant soccer team, the Bachelor, the campus newspaper, and was president of the pickleball club, and served as a statistician for the athletic department. Previously, he studied abroad in Salzburg, Austria, and has interned with Sever Storey LLP and at Great

He has paired with Steele Benefit Services, a company that specializes in employee benefits consulting and administration.

Point Capital.

"Receiving this fellowship was something I've wanted since the start of the school year, and the long process made receiving the offer even more rewarding," said Wallace, a financial economics major and German minor. "I look forward to meeting a group of young professionals fresh out of college and building lifelong friendships in the process. I know the professional development opportunities the Orr Fellowship provides will help me throughout my career."

Orr Fellows work in a variety of job functions, ranging from marketing to engineering to consulting, sales, and more. Fellows are matched with industries of all types and partner with companies from small start-ups to enterpriselevel global organizations.

To be considered for an Orr Fellowship, a student must demonstrate leadership on and off campus, have a cumulative 3.2 GPA or higher, and have a strong interest in entrepreneurial business or organizational leadership.

A total of 39 Wabash students have earned Orr Fellowships since 2007, including 34 in the last eight years.

Indiana 4-H Day at the Statehouse

On Tuesday, 16
Montgomery County 4-H
members joined
hundreds of fellow
Indiana 4-H members
from across the state for
Indiana 4-H Day at the
Statehouse. This event is
a civic engagement
opportunity during with
7th – 12th grade 4-H
members learn about
our state government.

4-H members
participated in breakout
sessions, received a tour
of the statehouse, and
much more. Our
Montgomery County 4-H
members spent part of
the afternoon meeting
with State

Representative Beau Baird. Baird took the time to answer their questions and provide great information. This day was extra special as House Bill 1660 (authored by Representative Baird) passed unanimously out of the House **Education Committee** before passing the full House. It now moves to the Senate for further consideration. This bill would allow youth to participate in 4-H and FFA events, up to six times per school year, without being penalized with

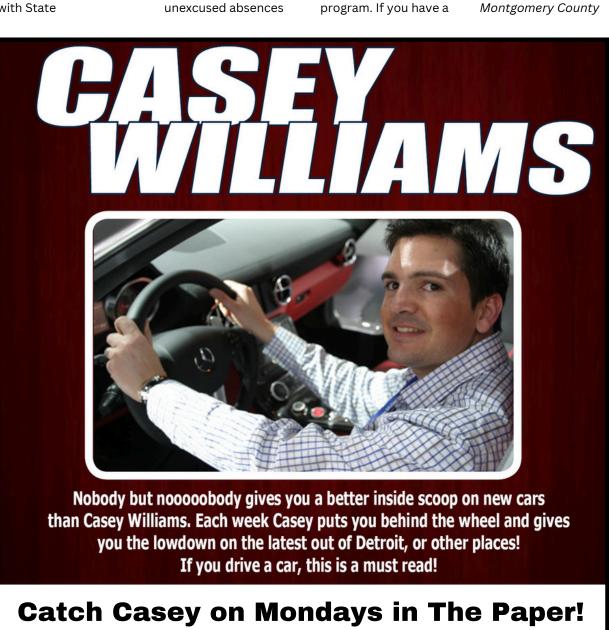
(as long as that individual was in good academic standing).

Other highlights from the day include Hudson Beach being selected to serve as a Page for the day and a few members getting to meet Governor Mike Braun. We are also so proud of Lennon Woods who is serving as an Indiana 4-H Ambassador this year and helped with organizing this event. There are so many great opportunities like this one offered through the 4-H

child or know of a family friend that would be interested in the 4-H program, please encourage them to enroll. 4-H enrollment is still open! To enroll, visit https://v2.4honline.com.

Have questions? Contact the Extension office at (765)364-6363 or e-mail asweet@purdue.edu.

Abby Morgan is the 4-H Youth Development Extension Educator for Purdue Extension Montgomery County





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

Established December 2010

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Jealousy Leads to Tragedy

Stories that once made the headlines often get lost to history. That's the case with this month's headline. It is a story of betrayal, jealousy, and murder. Reported in newspapers statewide, I'm sure the details astounded readers.

On May 24, 1929, Mr. Perl Grimes shot two men - Charles Carter and Virgil Young (The Republic Sat, May 25, 1929 · Page 1). The men were asleep in a bedroom at the home of Mr. Grimes' estranged wife, Alma Iva (Evans) Grimes. Armed with two borrowed revolvers, Mr. Grimes went into the house through a rear window. He shot Carter first. A scuffle ensued and in the fight Mr. Grimes accidentally shot Mr. Young. Mr. Carter suffered a minor wound to his shoulder, while 21 year old Virgil Young, from Tell City, died from a gunshot wound to his head. Sleeping in an adjacent room was Mrs. Grimes and her four children.

What brought Perl Grimes to the farm house six miles northeast of Crawfordsville at 2 a.m. was jealousy (The Edinburg Daily Courier Sat, May 25, 1929, Page 1). He and Alma had been separated for six months, and he suspected that Charles and she were romantically involved. He blamed Charles and Virgil for breaking up his home. It was his intention to kill Charles and Alma.

When arrested, Perl explained that shooting Young was a mistake. His wanted to kill Carter. Perl's trial commenced on October 10, 1929. He entered a plea of not guilty by reason of insanity (The Daily Republican, Tue, Oct 08, 1929, Page 8). Over the coming 11 days, the Montgomery Circuit Court was crowded with spectators. The most compelling testimony was that of Alma, who testified for the prosecution (The Indianapolis Times, Fri, Oct 11, 1929, Page 21).

After 24 hours of deliberation, the jury acquitted Perl on the grounds of "emotional insanity" (Journal and Courier, Sat, Oct 19, 1929, Page 1). Perl was released from jail in December after being held since the May 24th murders (The Indianapolis Times, Tue, Dec 17, 1929, Page 11).

It seems odd to me, but Alma was the beneficiary of Charles Carter and Virgil Young's life insurance policies. She attempted to collect on Virgil's policy that day after he died (ibid).

Soon after Perl's arrest, Alma and Charles were charged with "statutory offenses." Their crime was committing adultery. Although the couple requested a change in venue for their trials, Judge Rice denied the request. The October 25, 1929 issue of the Indianapolis Star announced the request's denial with the headline "Alleged Home Wrecker, Woman, Denied Change of Venue."

Alma pled guilty and was sentenced to 25 days imprisonment. This was in addition to the 60 days she'd served since her arrest. Her absence from her children was taken into consideration in determining the sentence, (Journal and Courier, Tue, Nov 12, 1929, Page 16) Charles, too, served time.

On Saturday, January 4, 1930, Perl was granted a divorce from Alma. He was given custody of their oldest child. Alma was given custody of the three youngest, based on Perl's contention he wasn't their father (ibid, January 6, 1930).

Charles and Alma wed on February 26, 1930 (Montgomery County, Indiana. U.S., Marriage Index, 1875-2010). They made their home at 311 Hamilton Street, Crawfordsville. Alma's three daughters were living with the couple (U.S. Census, 1930). By 1940, two more daughters joined the family. In 1942, the family moved to Cave Creek, Maricopa County, Arizona. Charles died there in 1945 at the age of 54 from cardiac arrest (Arizona, U.S. Death Records, 1887-1968). He was interred in the Darlington Odd Fellows Cemetery. Alma returned to Crawfordsville where she lived with two of her daughters (U.S. Census, 1950). She died at the age of 93, on February 12, 1983. She was buried next to Charles.

Sometime after the trial, Perl moved to Wichita, Kansas. This is where he died on February 3, 1954 at the age of 67 (U.S. Newspapers.com, Obituary Index, 1800-current). He was buried in Darlington, Indiana.

On June 26, 1930, just over a year after Perl's crime, Leonard Todd, the gentleman living in the home where the shootings took place, attempted suicide due to his despondence over his recent divorce (Journal and Courier, June 27, 1930, page 11). He had married his wife Ida, 17 years his junior, when she was 13 years old. The couple had seven children, and he was granted custody in the divorce. Leonard survived and married again. He died at the age of 69 of natural causes. He was interred in Crawfordsville's Masonic Cemetery.





Passage

ELIZA SPRUHAN PAINTER

February 9, 1860 to February 6, 1940

On the evening of February 6, 1940, Eliza Spruhan Painter was struck by a car while crossing Washington Street at Wabash Avenue. Mrs. Painter, just shy of her 80th birthday, died while being treated for her injuries at Culver Hospital. The eighteen-year-old driver of the car, Francis Frey of Tippecanoe County, was not criminally charged – Mrs. Painter had crossed against the light (Lafayette Journal and Courier, Wed, February 7, 1940).

It seems a special tragedy when someone dies from this type of accident at a late age. Yet there is much to celebrate about Eliza's long and notable life.

Born on February 9, 1860, she was the daughter of Garret and Margaret Denny Spruhan. The 1860 Census for Montgomery County tells us that the family lived in Union Township. In addition to Eliza and her parents, the census lists her older siblings, John, Henry, and Kate. The youngest, Macie, was born in 1862.

Garret and Margaret were immigrants from Kilkenny, Ireland who came to escape the Irish famine. Garret came on board the ship Mary Ward and arrived on August 29, 1850

(New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (including Castle Garden and Ellis Island, 1820-1957). The couple married on January 11, 1852 in Hamilton County Ohio. Their ceremony officiated by the Roman Catholic Bishop of Cincinnati, J.B. Purcell (State of Ohio Marriage Certificates). Soon after their marriage, Garret and Margaret came to Montgomery County. This is where their children were born. Each was christened at St. Bernard's Catholic Church (Margaret Denny Spruhan, tellinglifestories.org). At that time, St. Bernard's was a timber structure at the corner of Walnut and North Street.

Garret worked as a miller (1860 Census). The family was financially secure, as indicated by their personal and real estate worth provided by the Census. Margaret died in 1862 following the birth of Macie. She was only 35 years old. Garret remarried in 1864 and began farming north of Crawfordsville. His second wife, Ann McKeritt, was also an Irish immigrant.

continued on page 6.





Notables

February 2, 1880

The first street light was installed in Wabash, Indiana.

February 8, 1910

The Boy Scouts organization was incorporated.

February 6, 1935

The board game Monopoly went on sale.

Source: onthisday.org

Old News

CRAWFORDSVILLE RECORD

February 27, 1836

Six and a fourth cents reward!

Ran away from the subscriber, on the 16th instant, John Nelson Jones, an apprentice bound to me by the Probate court to learn the saddling business. Said J. N. Jones is about 15 years old, small for his age, freckled face, brown eyes, round face, small nose, and thin lips; his dress is a roundabout, vest and pantaloons, of blue mixed jeans, wore a light brown fur cap; he is of a quick turn. Any person delivering to me said apprentice shall receive the above reward, but no extra charges. I do hereby forwarn [sic] all person from harboring or crediting said apprentice on my account.

JOHN M. FISHER

Crawfordsville, Feb. 17, 1836

Source: Hoosier State Chronicle

"Roundabout" jacket pictured on Page 7.

Weather Report

The highest maximum temperature recorded in Indiana during February: 77 °F on 2/20/2018

The lowest minimum temperature recorded in Indiana during February:
-21 °F on 2/10/1982

Source: National Weather Service Indianapolis Central Indiana Weather History February



Butch Dale's FLASH BACK TRIVIA

Do You Recognize This 2014 North Montgomery Graduate?



HINT: She was an honor student and after college became a nurse.

Answer on Page 7.



Memories

It's Complicated

Howard Charters, a 23-year-old teacher in Montgomery County's Union Township, had particular interest in one of his students - Opal Marie Whitecotton (Marion News-Tribune, May 4, 1909). Thirteen year old Opal was the oldest of William and Elizabeth "Lizzie" Whitecotton's five children. William worked as a carpenter in Crawfordsville.

Howard, committed to Opal's affection, went so far as to get the answers for her eighth grade final exam. To do so, he went to Ladoga, where he was unknown, and using the pseudonym "Okal M. Whitecotton," he requested to complete the exam. He told the story that he was a dropout who needed to take the test to get into business school. He returned to Crawfordsville with the answers for his love interest.

The two married on August 30, 1909 (Montgomery County, Indiana, U.S., Marriage Index, 1875-2010). Opal, who was born on August 22, 1895, had just turned 14. That may be why the couple eloped to Kentucky. The marriage was short lived. By the date of the census in 1910, Opal was back at home, as was Howard. He was again living with his parents, William and Ruth Charters. Because he'd lost his teaching license, he was working as a farm laborer for his father.

Opal married again on December 27, 1911 (ibid). Her husband, Fred Ferrell, was 12 years her senior. They had three children who lived to adulthood. Their first, born in 1912, died at birth. After Opal and Fred

divorced, Opal married again in 1934. She and her third husband, George Gilbert, raised an adopted daughter Ann, as well as his two daughters, Beth and Ruth. George died in 1951. Opal never married again.

Opal worked a variety of jobs. In the 1930s, she was as a saleswoman for Montgomery Ward. In the 40s, she worked a clerk at J. C. Penneys. In the 50s, she was an elevator operator at the Ben Hur Building (U.S., City Directories, 1822-1995). And in the 1960s, she again worked as a clerk for J. C. Penney.

On October 12, 1968, Opal passed away from heart disease. She was buried in the Ferrell family plot at Waveland's Freedom Cemetery. (Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017).

Howard also married again. On January 30, 1915, he wed Jessie Seigler (ibid). Jessie was eleven years younger than Howard. They divorced in 1918. Jessie went home to live with her parents in Green County. Howard, as he done in 1910, returned home too. He married a third time on September 16, 1919. Age 35, he wed Ruth Booher, age 20. They, too, divorced. No children were born to these unions. Howard lived with his mother for the rest of his life. During his final years, he worked as a bricklayer. He passed, at age 51, from influenza and pneumonia (ibid).







Sports Story

In the early 20th century, basketball wasn't only played at Montgomery County area high schools or at Wabash College, it was also played at the Y.M.C.A. The import of these games to the community is illustrated in The Lafayette Sunday Time article dated February 25, 1900. The headliner, "Pandemonium Reigns" indicates just how important! The Lafayette Y.M.C.A. team came to Crawfordsville, "with the best of spirit and feeling toward their opponents." Yet as soon as the game started, the fans for the "Hoosier Athens" began booing and hissing the Lafayette Star Cityites. The behavior of the

Crawfordsville fans was so egregious that the Lafayette couch, "in the name of decency," had to insist that the Athens fans act more gentlemanly. (Note that this was a time when only men could attend male contests, and vice versa). Things got so bad at the game, a Crawfordsville team member smacked a Lafayette player across the face! Things continued to spiral when fans shouted racial epitaphs at the Star players. The article concluded that "...never in the history of Crawfordsville sport... had any visiting crowd there been [denied] even the common decencies of life and society." I guess things weren't always fun at the Y.M.C.A.



Recipe

Old Fashioned Hot Chocolate

INGREDIENTS

Six tablespoons of grated chocolate
One pint of water
2 tablespoons water
One pint of milk
2 teaspoons of sugar

INSTRUCTIONS

Put the pint of water on to boil.
Smooth the chocolate into the
2 tablespoons of water.
Stir the chocolate mix into the
boiling water, boil for 20 minutes.
Add the milk, boil for 10 more minutes
stirring frequently.
Add sugar when hot chocolate is served.

Source: American Frugal Housewife: Dedicated to Those Who Are Not Ashamed of Economy, Author Lydia Maria Child

WORD SEARCH

The Shortest Month

P W V A L E N T I N E C Y A D H T R I B P Y Y H W S L S L N R P G R I O Z H O T E V R M A S D C V I S R O N N U T A E O I N U A L M R O H K D L N G O E G B R S E J D A C T D H E Y N B H Z N T D O X F T Y O L I T M E P N S T G M L N L Q M S B

February Groundhog Shadow Presidents Lincoln Washington

Birthday History Valentine Love Hearts Chocolates



Passages, continued from page 2.

Garret died from consumption in 1869 at the age of 48. After his death, the children were sent to live with various families in the area. This is likely why I couldn't find record of Eliza during the 1870s.

In the 1880s, Eliza was a teacher (*Lafayette Indiana Directories*). She lived with her sisters Kate and Macie at 203 S. Green Street. Kate and Macie, who never married, worked as dressmakers (*U.S. City Directories*, 1822-1995). Admitted to the bar on September of 1897 (*Crawfordsville Review*, 25 Sep 1897), Eliza was the second woman from the area to do so (*Crawfordsville Weekly Journal*, 24 Sep 1897), although several sources indicated she was the first. She practiced law in Chicago. This is where she befriended the famous criminal lawyer, Clarence Darrow (*Lafayette Journal and Courier*, Wed, February 7, 1940). Mr. Darrow was known for the Scopes "monkey" trial and the Leopold and Loeb murder trial (Wikipedia).

Eliza was not without family in Chicago. Her brother, Henry, lived there and worked as a broker. Eliza's oldest brother, John, lived in Waveland and worked as a railroad operator and later an insurance salesman. And as indicated above, Kate and Macie were dressmakers in Crawfordsville. This is confirmed by the 1900 and 1910 census.

Eliza won her first case in October of 1898 (*Elkhart Daily, Oct 8, 1898*). She was affiliated with the Chicago law firm, Clodfelter and Fine (*The Indianapolis News, Wed, Feb 07, 1940*). She also worked with the Varnum group, insurance attorneys (ibid).

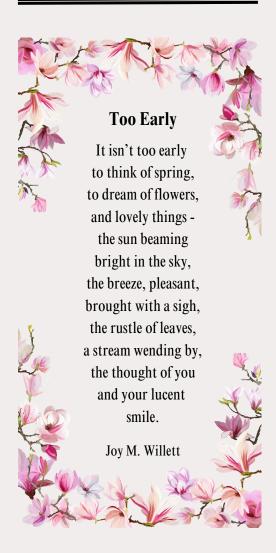
On May 1, 1905, 44 year old Eliza married Thomas Painter. The record gets murky after their marriage. I couldn't find the couple in census records or phone directories. I did find Eliza in Crawfordsville as early as 1922, again living on South Green Street with sister Macie. Now widowed, she was active in patriotic organization, and was a member of the Women's Relief Corp. Eliza established the practice of lowering the courthouse flag to half-staff at the death of a veteran (Waveland Independent, Waveland, Montgomery County, Indiana Thursday, Feb 8, 1940, courtesy of Indiana Gen Web, Montgomery County, Indiana).

Eliza was interred next to her sister Kate in the Oak Hill Cemetery. Her passing was noted in the Indiana Law Journal ("Proceedings of the Mid-Winter Meeting," Indiana Law Journal: Vol. 15: Iss. 4, Article 10.)



Courtesy of R. & S. Fine via findagrave.com

Poetry



Hearts, flowers, chocolates
Given to say, "I love you."

All that she desires,
is a heart forever
true.



Extras

Butch Dale's FLASH BACK TRIVIA

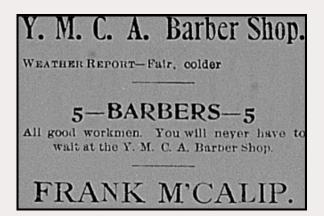
Answer: Shelby Delp



"Roundabout" jacket, worn in the early 1800s Source: Casco Bay Auctions

Ads from the Past

The Y.M.C.A. was more than a place to stay, it also provided barber services!



Crawfordsville Daily Journal, Crawfordsville, Montgomery County, 1 February 1894

