

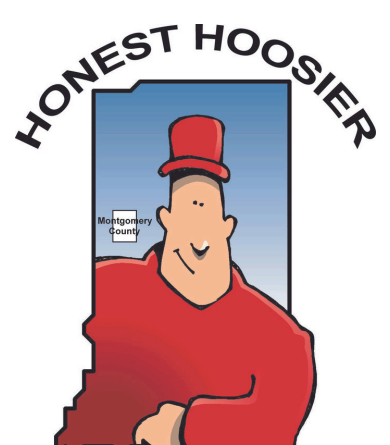
➔ TODAY'S VERSE

2 Timothy 2:7 Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things.

Meet Watson



Watson is a stunningly handsome 5 year old male brindle mastiff available for adoption from AWL since 5/9/23. Watson is ready to go home!! Watson has won the prestigious awards of ULTIMATE HUNK & BIGGEST GOOFBALL! Watson may be a big beefy hunk, but he's also a BIG TIME cuddler once he deems you his SOS. He's a keeper!! Watson does not want to spend another winter at the shelter. LET'S FIND WATSON A HOME FOR 2025!!! Watson loves playing fetch and frolicking in a fenced yard. Watson is neutered, dewormed, microchipped, and up to date on all of his shots. Watson is looking for his best friend. Could that be you? AWL is open Monday - Friday from 12:15p-5p and Saturday's from 9:30a-3p. Come say hi, snuggle cats, walk dogs, or lend a helping hand!



Wonder how far our good governor will push the Indiana Legislature on his property tax reform plan? So far, the hired hands in the House aren't cooperating. Going to be interesting! (And for the record, I'm rooting for the governor. He seems to be more concerned about our money than the legislators are.)

The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery County's oldest locally owned independent newspaper

50¢

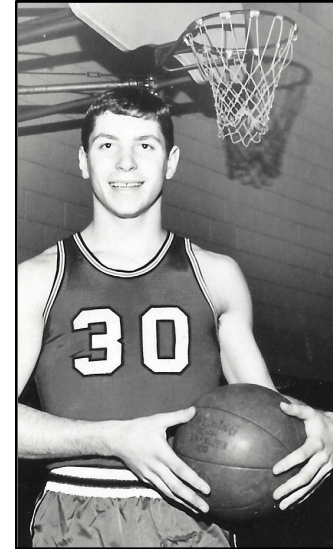
WWW.THEPAPER24-7.COM

A 'Desperation Long Shot' Butch Will Never Forget



BUTCH DALE
Columnist

My wife and I attended the North Montgomery vs. Western Boone boys basketball game recently . . . held at the Thorntown gym. It brought back memories of the time I played there for the Darlington Indians in 1965.



floor. The ball went to guard Cameron Enlow, who took four or five steps and hurled it from the way beyond the center line . . . SWOOSH . . . nothing but net, and the game was tied. The crowd went wild! Unfortunately,

with three starters having fouled out in regulation, North lost in the overtime. But it was one of the most exciting games we witnessed all year.

It is always a thrill to see a player make one of those desperation long shots. They just don't happen that often. I've witnessed perhaps three or four during all of these years. But the one I remember most was when I was a sophomore in high school. My team was playing the Turkey Run Warriors at home. No one on our squad topped six feet in height. I was a forward, averaging 10 points a game. Our two leading scorers were senior

➔ See BUTCH Page A3

Enduring Legacy of Andrew, Jasmine Robinson (Part 1)



The League of Women Voters, open to men as well as women, is a nonpartisan, multi-issue political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. For information about the Montgomery County LWV, visit: www.lwvmt.com or message to LWV, PO Box 101, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933.

Trailblazers, community pillars and sources of inspiration. That's how family, friends and historians described Andrew "Andy" and Jasmine Robinson. Their individual accomplishments, coupled with their shared commitment to service and equality, left an indelible mark on Crawfordsville. They fostered a spirit of inclusivity that continues to resonate today. This week, we'll share the story of Andy Robinson, who made an impact in his long career at Raybestos and volunteering at the Boys and Girls Club. Next week, we'll share the story of his wife, Jasmine.

Born in 1923, Andy Robinson's life included an intermittent education at the Lincoln School for Colored Children, attending when it was opened, and after a year's closure, returning. At age 17, Andy's first job was working weekends and evenings for the Coney Island Restaurant on North Washington Street. Robinson worked 70 hours a week, earning a mere \$10 per week. Adjusted for inflation, that's a mere \$150 per week in 2025 dollars.

Andy was drafted into the military in his senior year, never finishing high school. He shipped out with a segregated unit and served in New Zealand, Australia, Japan, Philippines and New Guinea, unloading ammunition, food and clothing supplies from the ships entering the harbor. After being honorably discharged, he returned to Crawfordsville to begin work at Montgomery Ward, originally located downtown, though it announced a move to Crawfordsville Square in 1965.

During his employment at Montgomery Ward, he and Jasmine married and built their family. Though Andy experienced segregation in education, the military and life, he persisted. Andy found employment at Raybestos and ended up staying there for 35 years. His career culminated in the prestigious Outstanding Raymark Employee for Community Service Award in 1985.

Andy was noted for his love of all manner of sports, bowling, table tennis, horseshoes, and skating, where he was "always the first person to arrive at the skating rink and the last one to leave." He was inducted into the Montgomery County Bowling Hall of Fame in 1988, and though he took a break from bowling for some time, he picked it back up again at the age of 93. He won gold medals in Lafayette's Area Four

➔ See LWV Page A3

Shame On Our Government



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

The good governor of our great state campaigned on a number of issues, but the one that caught my ear – and a number of other Hoosier homeowners – was property tax relief.

introduced and it looked like there might actually be some positive things happening at the corner of Capitol and Washington in downtown Indy.

Enter Indiana cities, counties, towns and schools.

You see, if property tax bills are reduced for you and I that means the money the state makes available to our communities will also be reduced. And that means cities, towns, counties, schools and any government entity may (and likely will) get less of our money.

Heavy emphasis on OUR MONEY.

As our pal the Bard would say, ay, there's the rub.

The status quo is a powerful thing. The

government (and I care not whether it's local, state or nation) – OUR government – is not held to the same standards as you and I. Life dictates our circumstances more times than not. Someone loses a job? They cut spending. An unexpected repair can mean a dip into savings, or worse, a loan. If our needs suddenly outpace our abilities, we adjust. Sometimes dramatically. Often painfully.

Not so with government.

Government just keeps growing.

And growing.

And growing.

Did I mention lobbyists?

Here in the state, groups representing Indiana

➔ See TIM Page A3

➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Cut 250 calories a day from your diet to lose a half a pound a week.

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



➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

"You'll never get ahead of anyone as long as you try to get even with him."
Lou Holtz

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

What bow can't be tied?
A rainbow.

➔ MONTGOMERY MINUTE

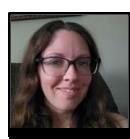
The Women's Legacy Fund of the Montgomery County Community Foundation is accepting grants now through noon March 13 for local nonprofits with a mission to support women and / or children. Interested nonprofit organizations may submit a grant application for a project that will serve women and children in Montgomery County. Application instructions can be found on the Montgomery County Community Foundation's website at <http://www.mccf-in.org>. Organizations receiving a grant will be expected to use it between June 2025 to May 2026.

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

➔ THREE THINGS You Should Know

- In honor of National FFA Week, Indiana FFA State Officers met in the Statehouse to receive a proclamation and resolution from Gov. Braun declaring Feb. 15-22 FFA Week. Chapters across the state and nation will host a variety of events to educate, advocate and celebrate the agricultural industry. From community service projects to a farmer's breakfast, these activities pay homage to the dedication and commitment of today's agriculturalists. The first National FFA Week was held in 1948, when the National FFA Board of Directors designated a weeklong celebration to recognize George Washington's example and legacy as a leader and farmer.
- The ACLU of Indiana filed suit against Indiana State University on behalf of The Pride Center of Terre Haute asking the courts to order ISU to allow Pride Fest 2025 on campus in August. The ACLU claims that ISU is violating its own policy by refusing to allow Pride Fest 2025 to be held on ISU property. It says the school's denial is part of a recent pattern of ISU preventing or discouraging actions and events that are intended to support the LGBTQ+ community.
- Registration is now open for the Indiana Ag Threats & Security Summit – a new program that addresses threats and security issues related to agriculture – presented by Indiana Farm Bureau in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Beck's and Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance. The workshop will take place March 25 in Carmel. Local experts will discuss the biosecurity and data industries and explore how the agriculture sector prepares against biological, physical and cyber threats. The program is free to INFB members and law enforcement attendees, and \$50 for nonmembers. Registration for the event is required. Attendees may register at www.infb.org/events. Space is limited, and registration closes Tuesday, March 11.

February Staff Picks at CDPL



MEGAN TAYLOR
 Guest Columnist

Whether you love thrillers, romance, nonfiction, or all of the above, the staff at Crawfordsville District Public Library can help you find some books and movies to enjoy this month. Let's start out sweet with Mary's recommendation of the classic romantic comedy "Notting Hill" (DVD FIC Not), starring Julia Roberts and Hugh Grant. "The world's most famous movie star falls in love with a small-time bookstore owner. Perfect movie for Valentine's day!"

Need ideas for candy? Montica suggests checking out "Dylan's Candy Bar" by Dylan Lauren (641.853 Lau), which is filled with tons of fun candy ideas and colorful photos. Need a romantic getaway? Check out National Geographic's "The World's Most Romantic Destinations: 50 Dreamy Getaways, Private Retreats, and Enchanting Places to Celebrate Love" (910 Koz). Explore white sand beaches, jade coves, and even Swedish ice hotels.

Keeping it sweet and cozy, but this time with a body count, Mary enjoyed "Killer Cupid" by Laurien Berenson (FIC Berenson v.29): "An inn full of couples is prepared for a busy Valentine's weekend. A murder on the first night of festivities spoils the romantic getaway." Looking for more spice? Christie has been loving the bestselling Ruinous Love series, which begins with "Butcher & Blackbird" by Brynne Weaver (FIC Weaver Ruinous v.1): "Sloane and Rowan have one thing in common, they both love killing.... other serial killers. Things heat up though when their friendly rivalry turns into a budding romance. Dark and spicy!"

If you are a fan of "The Princess Bride" and

"Shrek," Michelle says you will adore "A Most Agreeable Murder" by Julia Seales (FIC Sea): "A satirical mystery plot set in a hilarious and odd little place called Swampshire. Can the heroine find the murderer and follow all the stupid rules?" Or journey through the magical world of the fae with "Emily Wilde's Encyclopedia of Faeries" by Heather Faucett (FIC Fau). Ivette says this one is "a great read for a cold winter day, snuggling with a cozy blanket and a cup of your favorite hot drink."

For our sports fans, Dennis suggests taking a look at "History of Our Hysteria: Indiana High School Basketball" (796.323 His): "Another Indiana High School basketball tournament is just around the corner. Here's a great look back at the history of Hoosier Hysteria. Check out page 6 with a picture of the first ever state champions, Crawfordsville!"

Finally, Joni recommends a wonderful picture book, which celebrates reading and libraries! "All the Books" by Hayley Rocco (j E Rocco) contains "absolutely adorable illustrations and great story. Discover the magic of a library card."

These titles and more are currently on display on the first floor of the library through the end of the month. Come in and check one out with your library card. Many are also available to check out digitally on our free Libby app. Plus, visit our Sweet Reads display on the second floor if you are looking for more sweet and spicy romance books. Our regular open hours are Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday-Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m.

Megan Taylor is Assistant Manager in the Adult Services Department.

Applications Open for Tipmont Camp Kilowatt Experience



Photos courtesy Tipmont

Camp Kilowatt is open to students who will enter seventh grade in fall 2025

Applications are open through March 7 for 2025's Camp Kilowatt — a fun and unique summer-camp experience coming June 4-7 for students entering seventh grade.

Those interested can apply at tipmont.com/camp. The deadline to apply is Friday, March 7. Tipmont will select and notify the campers chosen to attend in March.

The camp is open to students who will enter seventh grade in fall 2025.

Each year, Tipmont sponsors several students to attend Camp Kilowatt, located on the 650-acre grounds of Camp Tecumseh in nearby Brookston, Ind. This experience combines traditional summer-camp activities for about 100 young people from across the state of Indiana, with opportunities to learn about alternative energy, electricity generation, internet safety and more.

"Camp Kilowatt

incorporates swimming, horseback riding, ziplining and many more traditional summer-camp activities kids enjoy while introducing them to ideas and inspirations in the fields of energy and communications," says Jody Hamilton, Tipmont's director of external affairs. "This includes everything from safety tips to considering career possibilities in these essential services.

"It's a terrific way for young people to make memories and friendships they'll always cherish, gain science education, and consider where they might fit in the future of these growing industries."

The Camp Kilowatt program was developed by a committee of electric cooperative employees from Indiana. The camp is funded in part by Indiana's electric cooperatives, Hoosier Energy, Wabash Valley Power Alliance, Indiana Electric Cooperatives and other industry partners.



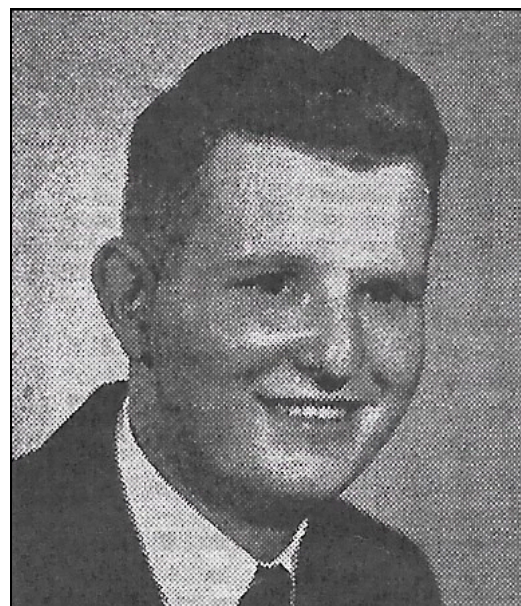
Local Students Shine at Manchester

NORTH MANCHESTER, IN (02/14/2025)—Three local students earned a place on the Fall 2024 Dean's List for their academic achievements at Manchester University.

- Kelsey Anderson of Waynetown, studying Business Management and Professional Sales
- Rachel Fedor of Wingate, studying Biology-Chemistry
- Ty Lynas of Crawfordsville, studying Sport Management

Undergraduate students earning a semester grade point average of 3.5 or higher who have completed at least 12 semester hours with no more than three hours of Pass/Not Pass grades are included on the Dean's List. Students with more than one hour of Incomplete (I) or Not Recorded (NR) grades at the end of the semester are not eligible for the Dean's List.

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



Do You Recognize This 1959 Crawfordsville Grad?

HINT: He became a well-known farmer and businessman.

Answer on Page A3



Please visit us online:
thepaper24-7.com

The Paper
 OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY
 An Independent Newspaper - Founded 2004

Vol. 21
 Sen. Phil Boots, President
 USPS Publication Number:
 022-679

Issue 19
 Tim Timmons, Publisher
 Report address changes to
circulation@thepaper24-7.com

Annual Print Subscription: \$89

Annual Online Subscription: \$42

To subscribe: circulation@thepaper24-7.com
 To contact news: news@thepaper24-7.com
 To submit legal notices: legals@thepaper24-7.com
 For billing: business@thepaper24-7.com

Don't forget to renew your subscription!

thepaper24-7.com/subscribe



↓ TIM From Page A1

cities, towns, counties and schools rolled up their sleeves and went to work before the ink was dry on Braun’s proposals. They’ve bombarded legislators and anyone who’ll listen about how reducing property taxes would negatively impact government. If Braun’s initial ideas go through, there will be less money for the government to spend. That is a fact.

Make no mistake about it. This is where the rubber meets the road. This is the crux of the entire issue. Property tax reform means that somebody, somewhere is going to have to figure out how to make do with less. It is important you understand that the hired hands in Indianapolis are trying to make sure that’s you and me and not their constituents – the people behind the lobbyists.

Oh, do you think I said that wrong? Do you think that their constituents are us schmucks on THIS SIDE of the checkbook?

Silly people.

What was it my Grandpa used to say? What you do speaks so loudly I can’t hear what you’re saying. Our elected representatives are telling us with their words, deeds and votes that their constituents, the folks they REALLY represent, are the mayors, councils, superintendents and such – not us lowly taxpayers.

How do we know? We know because any fool can see that government spends like a drunken sailor on a three-day pass in an exotic port. From statues in roundabouts to plush high school athletic facilities to spec buildings to . . . oh, never mind. I don’t have time to list all the ridiculous things our tax money goes for and you don’t have time to read something that long.

The right answer, the ONLY answer that is sustainable over time – is to reduce government spending. Yet everyone from the schoolhouse to the statehouse to the White House is doing the opposite.

OK, in the spirit of transparency, let me be very clear. My business – the newspaper business – has our own problems with legislators. Every year lawmakers try to hide what they do by taking away the required publication of public notices. It’s a battle we keep fighting, some years faring better than others. Ironically, lawmakers

say they can save taxpayers money by taking away public notice advertisements from newspapers, despite the fact that they pay pennies for them – AND despite the fact that it will cost the government more to publish those same notices than they are paying my industry to do it now. (Not to dive too far into the weeds here, but you should know that the state tells newspapers – private businesses I might add – how much we can charge for legal ads. In most cases, it is the cheapest – by far – ad rates we have. Just saying.)

And yes, I know this is repetitive, but how many high paid assistant fire chiefs does a municipality need? How many recreational facilities need to be built with our money? How many spec buildings? How many assistant school superintendents, expensive new pools, new fields, new buildings do we need?

To be fair, are they all guilty? Of course not. There are mayors, city councils, county councils, school boards and school superintendents who are not good but great stewards of their resources. Unfortunately, too many are not.

Friends, this is not a front-line problem. Teachers are not overpaid. Cops, firefighters, first responders are not. The issue is almost always the top-heavy side – the administrations, the bureaucracy, the infrastructure Throughout Indiana, we see tax money – OUR money – spent on things that would never fly in private business. It’s long been said in this space that elected politicians would never spend their own money this way. They just don’t hesitate to spend yours.

It leaves us smack dab in the middle of a whirlwind where Hoosier lawmakers are telling us they need our money more than we do.

Please.

Say it with me now. Someone is going to have to do with less. It’s absolutely shameful that those in office – at any level – are telling us it can’t be them.

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.

↓ BUTCH From Page A1

guard Bob Hole and junior guard Joe Mahoy, who each averaged 12 points. At halftime, the Warriors led 33-29, but Joe had a hot hand in the third quarter and we surged ahead 47-39 going into the final frame. However, Turkey Run made a comeback in the last quarter and went into the lead 59 to 58 with 30 seconds to go. With the clock winding down, Joe got trapped with the ball, threw it to me, and I sunk a 20-foot jump shot to put us ahead with just four seconds on the clock. When Turkey Run called a time-out, there was one second on the clock. My team, along with the Darlington crowd, knew there was no way that the opposing team could go the entire length of the floor and make a basket with only one second left.

Emerson Mutterspaugh was our coach. He told us to set up defense at the half-court line. I looked over at the Turkey Run team in their huddle. Their coach was talking to the boy I had been guarding, and two other team members were patting him on the back. I told my coach that I believed that boy was going to receive the inbound ball and shoot, but he said not to worry . . . "Just let him shoot . . . He can't make it . . . Just position yourself at half-court."

I thought that perhaps it would be wise just to have someone guard that player, and at least put some pressure defense on him, but I never said a word.

I should have. The Turkey Run player

received the inbound pass, took two steps, and threw the ball with one hand from the free throw line from the opposite end . . . and banked it in as the buzzer sounded. Warriors-61 . . . Indians-60. The Turkey Run crowd whooped and hollered with joy, and two of their players hoisted the shooter on their shoulders. Our fans were stunned. Then they began yelling at the timekeeper, a Darlington teacher, because the final buzzer did not go off with zero seconds on the clock. As it turned out, Turkey Run actually had two seconds to use. When the clock hit zero time left, there was another second before the final buzzer sounded on the automatic timer. That poor teacher had no control over the clock's buzzer. The referees agreed. The game was over. We lost . . . again.

There are exciting moments in sports which you will always remember . . . A long desperation shot which hits the basket is a prime example. The same can be said of those successful "Hail Mary" passes that win football games. Both are a combination of skill and luck. I have also learned that in both sports and in life, sometimes you win, and no matter how hard you try . . . sometimes you lose . . . But it's a heck of a lot more fun to win than it is to lose!

John "Butch" Dale is a retired teacher and County Sheriff. He has also been the librarian at Darlington the past 36 years, and is a well-known artist and author of local history.

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 CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS CENTER GOVERNING BOARD MEETING AGENDA THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2025 @ 8:30 AM Montgomery County Government Center 1580 Constitution Row – Room E9 Crawfordsville, IN 47933

- I. CALL TO ORDER
 - II. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. 2025 CCC Director Sherri Hill Contract Amendment
 - III. APPROVE MINUTES – January 27, 2025
 - IV. CCC DIRECTOR SHERRI HILL
 - A. Questions regarding Director submitted report
 - B. Acknowledge Receipt Of Financial Report
 - V. OTHER BUSINESS
 - VI. ADJOURNMENT
- *Next Meeting: March 24, 2025 @ 9:30 am – Government Center*

One Montgomery County Business Makes ‘Best’ List

Each year the Indiana Chamber of Commerce compiles a listing of the best places to work in Indiana. The list features honorees from all corners of the state and more than 20 industries. Of course for Montgomery County, it’s no surprise that Nucor Steel is on the list once again.

The list is broken into multiple categories, small (15-34 U.S. employees), small-medium (35-74), medium (75-249), large (9250-999) and major (1,000 U.S. employees or more). Nucor was included in the Large Company category. It was the lone representative from Montgomery County.

“We all recognize that currently there is intense competition for talent. This program is a great way for organizations to

take the temperature of their culture and how it’s resonating with today’s workers,” Indiana Chamber President and CEO Vanessa Green Sinderson said. “Companies on the right cultural track also are much more likely to be effective across the board and have increased productivity and overall success. We salute each of this year’s winners for their commitment to displaying best practices in their workplaces, which are enabling them to attract and retain employees.”

The top companies in the state were determined through employer reports and comprehensive employee surveys. The Workforce Research Group handled the selection process.

**Butch Dale’s
Flashback Trivia**

**Answer:
Tom Shaver**

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**

Thank you for subscribing!

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

MORE LOW-COST ENERGY NOW

PAID FOR BY ADVANCED ENERGY UNITED

Sen. Deery Shares Update



SPENCER DEERY
Guest Columnist

Many of you have shared your thoughts with me over the past few weeks regarding property tax reform.

Some have expressed concerns that our system is fundamentally unfair—forcing taxpayers to pay higher taxes on rising home values, even when their ability to pay has not increased. Others have shared how inflation has dramatically inflated their property tax bills.

At the same time, I have also received many messages from Hoosiers asking me to make sure our schools, police, firefighters and other worthy local government programs receive the necessary funding to operate at levels Hoosiers expect.

While I do not serve on the committee responsible for crafting and amending Senate Bill 1, I have shared with my colleagues on the Senate Committee Tax and Fiscal Policy the importance of both perspectives. The bill is far from final and will change throughout the legislative process, but I want to share with you how it currently stands. In its current state, SB 1 would:

- Save Hoosiers \$1.4 billion in property taxes over the next three years by limiting how much tax bills can grow.
- Enact targeted tax cuts to reduce how much Hoosiers over 65, disabled veterans, farmers and first-time homebuyers pay in property taxes.
- Permit counties to allow homeowners to defer some of their tax bill until their home is sold.
- If local elected officials believe their community needs more revenue, they could put the question to voters through a referendum.

This last bullet is important because no local elected official should be able to hide behind state policies when making tax and spending decisions. State government does not collect or spend

property tax revenue—property taxes are collected and used exclusively by local governments. The best way to promote efficient, competent and accountable local governments with low taxes may be to give local authorities more control over these decisions while better empowering voters to hold them accountable.

The bill isn't final yet, and I look forward to hearing your thoughts, but I believe this first draft gets us closer to that vision.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

This week, two of my bills moved through the legislative process. Here is a quick update.

- Senate Bill 249 would make it easier for school corporations to give their top teachers and the teachers working in shortage areas a meaningful salary raise. The bill passed the Senate on Tuesday and now heads to the House of Representatives for further consideration.
- Senate Bill 505 would allow emergency responders to transport individuals to more options than an emergency room. An ambulance could also take someone to mental health facility or urgent care facility that can provide the patient appropriate and necessary treatment. The bill passed the Senate Committee on Appropriations on Thursday and now heads to the full Senate for further consideration.

SUPPORTING Hoosier Educators

Our teachers play an important role in preparing the next generation of Hoosiers for success.

That's why I was pleased to support a bill that would increase the starting salary for Hoosier teachers from \$40,000 to \$45,000 when it unanimously passed out of the

Senate last week.

If a school district does not reach a \$45,000 minimum salary for its teachers, it would need to submit a report to the Indiana Department of Education explaining why it cannot meet that threshold. Senate Bill 146 would also increase the share of state tuition support funding that schools must spend on teacher compensation from 62% to 65%.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our teachers, Indiana's reading scores on the National Assessment of Educational Progress saw impressive improvements, increasing from 19th to 6th in the nation among fourth graders and from 17th to 6th among eighth graders.

As always, I encourage residents of Senate District 23 to contact me with any questions or comments you may have. I can be reached by filling out a "Contact Me" form online at www.IndianaSenateRepublicans.com/Deery or by phone at 800-382-9467.

COLLEGE GOAL Sunday Coming Soon

Financial aid experts will be on hand at 39 sites across Indiana on Feb. 23 to offer free assistance for Hoosier families to file the FAFSA, which is a required form for students seeking financial aid for postsecondary education. College Goal Sunday, the state's largest FAFSA filing event, will give families an opportunity to ask questions as they fill out the FAFSA for their college student.

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

Back in the Day with Butch Dale



When the students graduated from high school back in the day, they often posed together as a group one last time on their final day. Shown above is the Darlington class of 1965 posing in front of the covered bridge. Notice that most of them are wearing their senior chords and skirts, which was an Indiana high school tradition.

John Downey Joins Hess Family in Ownership

F.C. Tucker West Central is proud to announce that John Downey has joined the leadership team as a co-partner and owner. John will work alongside current owners and managers, Chad and Julie Hess, to drive the continued growth and success of the F.C. Tucker brokerage in West Central Indiana.



Photo courtesy FC Tucker West Central

Downey brings years of real estate expertise, exceptional leadership skills, and a strong commitment to providing outstanding service to both clients and agents. As a dedicated Realtor with a proven track record in the region, his passion for the local market and his focus on innovative solutions make him an invaluable addition to the F.C. Tucker West Central ownership team.

"We are thrilled to welcome John as a co-partner," said Chad Hess, co-owner of F.C. Tucker West Central. "His dedication to

From left, John Downey, Julie Hess and Chad Hess.

excellence and deep understanding of the real estate landscape in West Central Indiana will strengthen our ability to provide top-tier resources and support for both our agents and clients. Together, we are poised to achieve even greater heights."

"This opportunity perfectly aligns with my passion for real estate and my dedication to serving this community," said Downey. "I'm excited to partner with Chad and Julie to further grow our office."

As a co-partner, Downey will play a key role in supporting agents, enhancing the company's operations, and strengthening its presence in the local real estate market. F.C. Tucker West Central serves as a trusted resource for clients across West Central Indiana, offering personalized service and unparalleled local expertise. For more information, visit www.TalkToTucker.com or contact the office at (765) 362-4700.

KENNY THOMPSON



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

Catch Kenny every Friday in The Paper of Montgomery County!



Don't forget to renew your subscription!



thepaper24-7.com/subscribe



Visit us online:

thepaper24-7.com



PUBLIC NOTICES

New Ross Civil Town, Montgomery County, Indiana Cash & Investments Combined Statement - 2024						
	Local Fund Number	Local Fund Name	Beg Cash & Inv Bal Jan. 1, 2024	Receipts	Disbursements	End Cash & Inv Bal Dec. 31, 2024
Governmental Activities	1101	GENERAL FUND	\$206,790.23	\$124,731.02	\$95,317.32	\$236,203.93
	2201	MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY	\$44,339.95	\$14,095.84	\$11,110.51	\$47,325.28
	2202	LOCAL ROAD & STREET	\$23,671.16	\$3,585.82	\$1,242.50	\$26,014.48
	2203	MVH RESTRICTED	\$35,437.87	\$6,462.25	\$0.00	\$41,900.12
	2211	PARK DONATIONS	\$5,849.94	\$233.80	\$184.55	\$5,899.19
	2226	MIBOR COMMUNITY GRANT	\$0.00	\$5500.00	\$5500.00	\$0.00
	2236	RAINY DAY	\$2,690.52	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,690.52
	2240	LAW ENFORCEMENT PUBLIC SAFETY	\$39,079.35	\$17,890.00	\$5,152.35	\$51,817.00
	2256	OPIOID UNRESTRICTED	\$579.96	\$714.84	\$0.00	\$1,294.80
	2257	OPIOID RESTRICTED	\$1,405.09	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,405.09
	2590	ARP LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND	\$77,733.10	\$0.00	\$32,310.31	\$45,422.79
	2600	FINES	\$191.76	\$8.00	\$0.00	\$199.76
	4401	CUM CAP IMP - CIG TAX	\$11,184.24	\$499.85	\$0.00	\$11,684.09
	4402	CUM CAP DEVELOPMENT	\$20,085.65	\$1,371.76	\$216.87	\$21,240.54
	8901	PAYROLL	-\$669.51	\$76,344.13	\$74,401.28	\$1,273.34
STORM WATER	6501	STORMWATER OPERATING	\$23,179.19	\$8,974.64	\$8,847.90	\$23,305.93
ELECTRIC	6301	ELECTRIC OPERATING	\$262,550.63	\$451,015.77	\$435,204.77	\$278,361.63
	6302	ELECTRIC DEPRECIATION	\$1,157.49	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,157.49
	6304	ELECTRIC METER DEPOSIT	\$20,402.22	\$2,120.00	\$500.00	\$22,022.22
	TRASH	6604	TRASH OPERATING	\$21,375.91	\$19,928.78	\$18,791.90
WASTEWATER	6201	SEWER OPERATING	\$299,174.85	\$135,567.72	\$109,860.04	\$324,882.53
	6202	SEWER BOND AND INTEREST	\$37,090.43	\$40,800.00	\$38,929.85	\$38,960.58
	6204	SEWER CONSTRUCTION	\$60,860.00	\$0.00	\$48,748.00	\$12,112.00
	6206	SEWER DEBT SERVICE RESERVE	\$39,474.14	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$39,474.14
	6207	SEWER IMPROVEMENT	\$87,398.67	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$87,398.67
Total All Funds			\$1,321,032.84	\$909,844.22	\$886,318.15	\$1,344,558.91

PL5044 2/19 1t hspaxlp

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURT
 COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY) CASE NO. 54D022501MI000113
 IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF MONR:
 Bella Ann Gaston
 Name of Minor
 Matthew Gaston
 Petitioner

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE
 Notice is hereby given that petitioner, Matthew Gaston, as a self-represented litigant, filed a Verified Petition for Change of Name on January 30, 2025, to change the name of Bella Ann Gaston to Frankie Ann Gaston.
 The Petition is scheduled for hearing in the Montgomery County Court on February 27th at 3:00 pm, which is more than thirty (30) days after the third notice of publication. Any person has the right to appear at the hearing and to file written objection on or before the hearing date.
 1/30/2025 Date
 Sondra K. Sixberry
 Clerk, Montgomery County Court
 PL5035 2/5 2/12 2/19 3t hspaxlp

City of Crawfordsville, Indiana
Notice of Adoption of Annexation Ordinance
1.14 total acres—368 West 150 South, Crawfordsville, Indiana, and the associated right-of-way.
 Notice is hereby given that on January 13, 2025, the City of Crawfordsville Common Council adopted Ordinance 1-2025, "An Ordinance to Annex Properties Known as approximately 1.14 acres located north at 368 West 150 South (Parcel No. 54-10-07-100-024.000-027) and the associated right-of-way."
 The Ordinance annexes into the City of Crawfordsville approximately 1.14 acres located at 368 West 150 South, Crawfordsville, Indiana. The territory consists of one parcel, currently owned by R/B/L/G Crawfordsville. Upon the annexation taking effect, the 1.14 acres of real estate (Parcel No. 54-10-07-100-024.000-027) will be zoned "B-2, Business." The Ordinance will take effect 30 days after its adoption and upon proper filing and recording.
 The Ordinance may be examined at the office of the City of Crawfordsville Clerk-Treasurer, 300 East Pike Street, first floor, Crawfordsville, Indiana, 47933.
 By: Karyn Douglas
 City of Crawfordsville Clerk-Treasurer
 PL5043 2/19 1t hspaxlp

NOTICE OF ADOPTION
 To the taxpayers of Montgomery County, Indiana.
 You are hereby notified that on February 10, 2025, the Board of County Commissioners of Montgomery County, Indiana, pursuant to notice heretofore given, and under and by virtue of Indiana Code §8-16-3 and §6-1.1-41, duly adopted a plan whereby a Cumulative Bridge Fund was re-established to provide for the construction, repair, maintenance and inspection of bridges in Montgomery County.
 The fund will be provided for by a property tax of Seven and five-tenths cents (\$0.075) on each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of taxable real and personal property within the taxing unit (Montgomery County) beginning in 2025 payable in 2026 and thereafter, continuing until reduced or rescinded.
 Twenty-Five (25) or more taxpayers in the taxing unit who will be affected by the tax rate and corresponding levy may file a petition with the Montgomery County Auditor not later than 12 noon, 30 days after the publication of this Notice setting forth their objections to the proposed cumulative fund. Upon the filing of the petition, the County Auditor shall immediately certify the same to the Department of Local Government Finance, at which point the Department will fix a date for and conduct a public hearing on the proposed cumulative fund before issuing its approval, disapproval, or modification thereof.
 Dated: February 10, 2025 Montgomery County Board of Commissioners
 PL5042 2/19 1t hspaxlp

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

Private Party Notices Submitted After Deadline
May Be Subject To \$25.00 Fee
In Addition To The Cost Of The Advertisement

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURT
) SS:
 COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY) CAUSE NO. 54D012502MI000149
 IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF:
 Ronald Dean Brown
 Petitioner
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME
 Ronald Dean Brown, whose mailing address is:
 in the Montgomery County, Indiana, hereby gives notice that Ronald Dean Brown has filed a petition in the Court Requesting that his name be changed to Ronald Dean Endicott Brown.
 Notice is further given that the hearing will be held on said petition on March 6th, 2025 at 1:30 pm.
 Ronald Brown
 Petitioner
 2-7-25
 Date
 Sondra K Sixberry
 Clerk
 PL5045 2/19 2/26 3/5 3t hspaxlp

54D01-2501-DC-000048
 STATE OF INDIANA) IN MONTGOMERY CO. SUPERIOR COURT
 COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY) CAUSE NO. 54D01-2501-DC-000048
 IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:
 GUDELIA ZAMORA POLICARPO)
 Petitioner,)
 v.)
 VALENTIN MERINO RONQUILLO,)
 Respondent.)

SUMMONS – SERVICE BY PUBLICATION
NOTICE OF SUIT
 You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above-named and a hearing will take place in Montgomery Co. Superior Court. The nature of the suit against you is a Petition for Dissolution of Marriage. This summons by publication is specifically directed to Valentin Merino Ronquillo, residence unknown.
 You must answer the Petition, in writing, by you or your attorney, within thirty (30) days after notice of suit, and if you fail to do so, a judgment will be entered against you for what the petition has demanded. Petitioner's attorney is Andrew G. Spear, 1300 N. Pennsylvania St., Ste 202, Indianapolis, IN 46202.
 Date: 1/14/2025
 Sondra K Sixberry
 Montgomery Co. Clerk
 PL5036 2/5 2/12 2/19 3t hspaxlp

Rep. Genda Shares Update



MARK GENDA
 Guest Columnist

Indiana House lawmakers and Helping Veterans and Families of Indiana, a nonprofit dedicated to ending veteran homelessness, are partnering for the 2025 legislative session to host an essentials drive to help Hoosier veterans in need.

HVAF created a general ongoing necessities Amazon wish list that details the most needed items.

The public is welcome to drop off donation items at the bins placed outside the House Chamber on the third floor and in the south atrium of the fourth floor at the Statehouse.

Hoosiers who would like to make a monetary donation can do so at <https://www.hvafofindiana.org/donate-state-rep/>

HVAF of Indiana is a 501(c)(3) that helps homeless veterans return to self-sufficiency and engages at-risk veterans and their families to prevent them from becoming homeless by providing housing, case management, food, hygiene and clothing, as well as important and other essential services.

Rep. Mark Genda represents House District 41 which includes portions of Montgomery, Clinton, Boone and Tippecanoe counties.

House Passes Baird's Legislation

The Indiana House of Representatives recently supported a bill authored by State Rep. Beau Baird (R-Greencastle) to help combat the shortage of medical professionals, especially in rural and underserved communities.

Baird said his bill would provide relief to struggling hospitals, support rural communities and improve healthcare access while controlling costs.

"We all know access to quality health care is a fundamental need for Hoosiers across our state, yet too many families, especially in rural Indiana, continue to struggle with finding providers," Baird said. "This forces families to travel long distances or wait for essential medical care. House Bill 1555 takes a common-sense, targeted approach to this issue by allowing qualified international medical graduates to practice in these underserved areas under a limited medical license."

Baird said his legislation would enable international doctors to earn their

medical license in Indiana without having to repeat their residency requirement if they complete their training in a program similar to one accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. After five years of service, they would be eligible for an unlimited license as determined by the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency.

Applicants would need a recognized medical degree, certification from the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates, at least five years of post-residency practice and be proficient in English.

House Bill 1555 is supported by the Indiana State Medical Association and passed out of the House Public Health Committee unanimously before passing the full House. It now moves to the Senate for further consideration.

To learn more about the bill and follow session, visit iga.in.gov.

Baird (R-Greencastle) represents House District 44, which includes all of Putnam County and a portion of Montgomery County.

Thank You For Reading The Paper



Visit us online:
thepaper24-7.com

Interested in advertising in The Paper?

Contact us today at
(765) 361-0100



Please visit us online: thepaper24-7.com

Pomp's
TIRE SERVICE, INC.
"The Tire Professionals"

\$15 OFF
OIL CHANGE SPECIAL

Complete visual inspection & air pressure check. No other discounts apply. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 2/28/25

114 N. Water St. • Crawfordsville
(765) 364-0584
Weekdays 7:30 am - 5pm
Saturday 8 am - Noon
pompstire.com

NEED EXTRA CASH ?

CLARK TRADING POST
WILL BUY YOUR USED GUNS

Most makes - Most models - Complete or parts guns

We pay the highest prices around!
Premium paid for certain older guns

Call for free estimate

We also sell guns on consignment for a nominal fee

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

exp
REALTY

Thinking of BUYING or SELLING?

Shoot me a message for a free consultation! I'll get you to the finish line fast and hassle free!

Picture: Daughter, Ava Dale Barrel Racing

Army VETERAN



Clark Dale
765-918-1773

M.S., B.S., Army Veteran
email: william.dale@exprealty.com
web: williamdale@exprealty.com

WASH 'N GO
Laundry

Open 7 Days a Week • 7am - 10pm
Including Holidays

No Coins? No Problem!
You can now pay by phone or credit card!

Easy & Convenient

208 N. Pine Street
(Behind Circle K Station On Darlington Ave.)

CASEY WILLIAMS

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

Catch Casey on Mondays in The Paper!

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

MORE LOW-COST ENERGY NOW

PAID FOR BY ADVANCED ENERGY UNITED