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TODAY'S VERSE

1 Corinthians 13:13 So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love. (ESV)

Meet Clooney



Clooney is an 8 year old (senior) male American Pit Bull Terrier that has been at AWL since 2/5/25. Clooney was found severely neglected, just skin and bones! Clooney has been on a bulking journey while at the shelter and this SUPER HANDSOME boy is happy to announce he's thriving, doing great, and putting on weight!! Clooney has even won the PRESTIGIOUS AWARD of MOST HANDSOME!! Clooney is a staff favorite heartthrob! Clooney is a handsome boy that loves to be showered with love and attention! Clooney is friendly, cuddly, and super sweet!

Clooney enjoys going out for walks, playing fetch, and will gladly sit for treats. Clooney is all kinds of special and looking for his best friend. Could that be you? Clooney is heartworm positive, but has started his journey towards healing! AWL will be covering ALL COSTS of his treatment. Heartworms are NOT contagious, so no worries for other pets in the home! Clooney is available for adoption, to foster, or just simply going out for walks. Clooney is neutered, dewormed, microchipped, and up to date on all of his shots. AWL is open Monday-Friday from 12:15p-5p and Saturday's from 9:30a-3p. Clooney's DISCOUNT adoption fee is \$50 with approved adoption application.

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BTN

By The Numbers, a look at what's in the news . . . by the numbers. These are just numbers, not suggestions that they mean more or less than what they are. We do not suggest that one number is connected to another. These are simply facts with no extraneous details, bias or slanted reporting. To borrow (and perhaps mangle a bit) a quote from legendary fictional detective Joe Friday, it's just the numbers, ma'am!

Happy St. Paddy's Day Wonderful Readers!

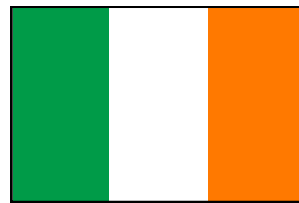
Today's the day most everyone feels at least a little bit Irish and takes the opportunity to wear the green, perhaps partake in a cold beverage and in general celebrate all things Irish! So come on along with us as we explore this somewhat unusual holiday . . . By The Numbers!

1600s

St. Patrick's was placed on the liturgical calendar by the Roman Catholics in the early 1600s. In Ireland, that act as well as other factors have made it a national holiday – contrary to some people who say that it's not a big deal in the land of the leprechauns.

No. 1

St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland. However, he was not Irish. He was either born in Rome or perhaps Britain. He was a missionary in Ireland in the fifth century (some reports have him there in the fourth century). And he is regarded as a saint by the Catholic Church, the Lutheran Church, the Eastern Orthodox Church, the Church of Ireland and others.



No. 1 (also)

One crystal ball of shamrocks is given to the U.S. president by Ireland's prime minister each year. That – and some of our other numbers today -- comes from the good folks at WalletHub.

5.3 million

Although everyone claims to be Irish today, the actual population of Ireland is approximately 5.3 million. That's roughly the size of South Carolina. Speaking of the Palmetto State, one of the largest St. Patrick's Day celebrations in the U.S. takes place there annually. Know where? If you guessed Savannah, give yourself two points!

31.5 million

That's the number of our fellow citizens who claim to have Irish ancestry. We bet that number goes up today!



\$6.9 billion

The amount of money spent on St. Patrick's Day in 2023, according to our friends at WalletHub.

8

Spending on this holiday ranks eighth in the U.S. with other major holidays after Christmas, Thanksgiving, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Valentine's Day, Easter and Halloween.



80 percent

About eight in 10 folks will wear green today. The legend has been passed down that if someone isn't wearing green you can pinch them. Not so fast friends! The ACTUAL legend says that if you aren't wearing green a LEPRECHAUN may pinch you! So if you don't don the green and get pinched, it's either a leprechaun or time to educate someone!



\$1.84 million

And we wrap up our celebration of St. Patrick's Day numbers with a wistful dream. If you were to find that pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, WalletHub says the 1,000 gold coins in it would be worth \$1.84 million! Uh, hey, if you stop by the office today and we're not there, we might be outside looking for a rainbow!



TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

In addition to keeping track of what you eat, also determine how and why you eat to try and find ways to cut back.

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

"Everybody is Irish on St. Patrick's Day, but if your name is Eisenhower, you've got to wear something green to show it."
Dwight D. Eisenhower

TODAY'S JOKE

Have you heard about the Irish boomerang? It doesn't come back, it just sings sad songs about how it wants to.

MONTGOMERY MINUTE

We have free tickets to the Indiana Flower & Patio Show ready and waiting for YOU! All you have to do is take a selfie with you and our front page (print or online doesn't matter) and email it to news@thepaper24-7.com. If we publish your picture (and we will!), you win two to four free tickets – valued at \$15 each! The Show is one of the oldest flower shows in the U.S. and is running now through Sunday at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. Don't pass up the chance for free tickets and a great day! Snap that selfie and email it to us today!

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

THREE THINGS You Should Know

- Indiana Newspapers are having a rally day at the Indiana Statehouse Wednesday and would love for you to come along. State lawmakers are trying to take legal notices out of newspapers and put them on a government website. Not only would that be like the fox guarding the henhouse, but it will cost taxpayers more than they are currently spending. It will also hurt, perhaps severely, some Hoosier newspapers. At 11 a.m. Wednesday, newspapers and supporters from all over Indiana are going to the Statehouse to show our opposition to the move. Newspapers are a part of Indiana history and an important part of an open government. The Founding Fathers thought so and put it in the First Amendment. We'd love it if you would help us preserve that!
- The Office of Lt. Gov. Micah Beckwith and the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs announced the first round Community Development Block Grants for 2025 is now open for applications. The following programs are accepting applications.
 - Main Street Revitalization
 - Wastewater/Drinking Water
 - Stormwater Improvements
 - Blight Clearance
 - Public Facilities
 For information on these programs, visit in.gov/ocra/cdbg or contact the assigned OCRA regional community liaison .
- The winter moratorium on utility disconnections has ended and CenterPoint Energy reminds customers of available resources to help manage their energy bills. More information can be found at CenterPointEnergy.com/PaymentAssistance.



Carolyn Snyder was honored for 56 years of service.

Carolyn Snyder Honored by MCFC

On March 9, 2025, the Montgomery County Free Clinic honored Carolyn Snyder, RN, for her 56 years of dedicated service to the Christian Nursing Service and the Free Clinic. More than friends, health professionals and family members gathered at the W Club Lounge in Wabash College's Little Giant Stadium to celebrate her remarkable contributions. Snyder Refreshments were generously provided by Wabash College and First Christian Church.



Carolyn's journey began in 1968 when, at 27 and expecting her first child, she joined a group of women committed to addressing

See SNYDER Page A3

Butch's Cousins Are in the Principal's Office!



BUTCH DALE
Columnist

When I wrote a book about Darlington School in 1988, I interviewed hundreds of former students, including two of my cousins . . . Dale Cohee and Donnie Dale, who both graduated in 1957. They enjoyed being with their friends, but studying was not on their list of favorite things to do. However, they were very creative when it came to pulling pranks on classmates and teachers. Dale related the following . . .

"Some of the things that happened in seventh grade seem funny now, but the teachers didn't think they were too funny at the time. One night at a basketball game, Kendall Wells (another cousin), Donnie

See BUTCH Page A3



Top o' the morning to you, m'lovelies! And here's hopin' a fine St. Patrick's Day on you all!



Boys & Girls Club Offers Exciting Camps



Photo courtesy Boys & Girls Club

Registration open now at www.bgcmoco.org or by calling the Club at (765) 362-8219.

The Boys & Girls Club of Montgomery County is excited to announce the launch of three programs – Spring Break Camp, Soccer Skills Camp and Summer Camp. Registration is currently open for these opportunities that offer a safe and fun environment for kids aged 5 to 17 and provide a variety of activities designed to keep them active and inspired.

Spring Break Camp, offered for the first time ever, will run from March 24 through March 28 from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Camp is made possible through the generous partnership of Lakeside Book Company. Each day will be filled with recreation, art, field trips, academic enrichment and more. Daily themes will add excitement and surprises. Breakfast, lunch and snacks are included. Spaces are limited and available for any child aged 5-17. The cost is \$50, plus an annual \$30 membership fee (if not current).

Soccer Skills Camp runs from April 8 to May 8, Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6 to 7 p.m. Wabash College soccer coaches and players will lead the program. Sessions will emphasize skill development through drills and scrimmages; open for youth kindergarten through fifth grade. The cost is



\$20, plus the annual \$30 membership fee (if not current).

Summer Camp provides a great summer care option for many families. Running from June 2 to Aug. 1, Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Summer Camp involves enriching experiences like field trips to the pool, movies, and museums, art enrichment classes, recreation, and STEM programming. Participants develop new skills and stay academically engaged. Kids and teens have the chance to explore new interests while building lifelong friendships. Daily meals and snacks are included. The cost is \$80/week, plus the annual \$30 membership fee (if not current).

Boys & Girls Club of Montgomery County is dedicated to providing remarkable opportunities for learning, growth, and fun. Through engaging activities and positive relationships, Club members are empowered to embrace their full potential.

To register your child for any of these Camps at the Boys & Girls Club of Montgomery County, visit www.bgcmoco.org to complete registration forms or contact the Club at (765) 362-8219.

Why You Should Attend:

- Enjoy an action-packed evening of music and entertainment.
- Savor delicious food while you compete.
- Take part in a friendly competition with amazing prizes.
- Support a great cause—proceeds go directly to the MCLA to fund leadership development programs in our community!
- Join in the fun for just \$30 per person or a \$150 for a table, nacho bar included!

Get tickets at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/.../name-that-tune-tickets...>

Be a Sponsor – Showcase Your Business:

This event is the perfect opportunity to promote your business while supporting local leadership initiatives. For more information on sponsorships, please contact Jamie Solomon directly at jsolomon@ifcu.com. Let's come together to make this event a huge success!

Leadership Academy Unveils 'Name That Tune' Competition

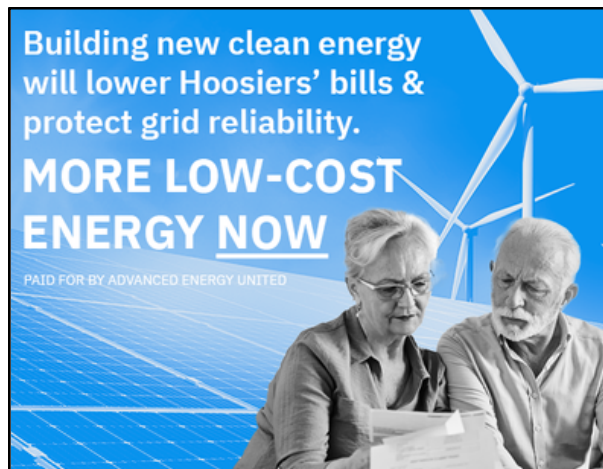
Are you ready for an unforgettable evening of music, fun, and friendly competition? The Montgomery County Leadership Academy is thrilled to announce our highly anticipated 'Name That Tune' fundraiser on April 4!

The Leadership Academy is a program dedicated to developing and empowering local leaders through education, networking and hands-on community engagement. It also supports volunteerism by connecting individuals with meaningful opportunities to give

back to their community. By participating in this event, participants are directly supporting initiatives that cultivate strong leadership, civic engagement and positive change within Montgomery County.

Join in for an exciting night where teams will go head-to-head, testing their knowledge of hit songs from across the decades. Whether you're a music aficionado or just love a good time, this event is perfect for you!

Mark your calendars, spread the word, and get ready to name that tune!



Don't forget to renew your subscription!

thepaper24-7.com/subscribe

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



Do You Recognize these two 1961 CHS Graduates?

HINT:
 They both were cheerleaders during their senior year.

Answer on Page A3

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Thinking About My Hair



CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

I saw a photo of an author I admire recently, and she had no hair. I worried she was ill, so I immediately investigated. She was not ill. She had cut off all her hair and had done it for good reasons, she said. She had done a lot of thinking about her hair—a lot more than I had.

First of all, she said, she was not blond. "No one is blond," she added, or almost no one.

Less than 1% of the population is blond, and she implied she felt dishonest pretending she was blond when she wasn't. She went on to say that she had spent thousands of dollars and untold time on her hair. She sounded a little angry about the whole thing—the money spent, the dishonesty of it all.

I admit, I felt a little defensive because I am not blond either. I have never been blond. But I had never considered that I was part of some massive blond conspiracy, posing as blond to dupe the unsuspecting. I just assumed that everyone knew I was not blond. So for the record: I am not blond.

I am just not good at growing hair. I used to feel the need to apologize to my hairstylists. "I'm good at doing some things," I would insist. "Growing hair just isn't one of them!"

The hairstylist would work away for long minutes, and at the end, I would get up from the chair and there was no hair to see on the floor. It was as if the entire thing had been a pantomime involving scissors.

So now, my husband, Peter, cuts my hair. He finishes in less than five minutes and, given how little he has to work with, does a very fine job.

And, once every four months, I buy a box of hair dye and bleach my hair screaming blond. (I'm not sure if that's what the color is actually called, but it should be.) I figure, maybe if I'm blond, people won't notice that I don't have a lot of hair and that, what little there is, sticks up in odd directions.

But now I wonder how I'd feel if I cut off all my hair.

Peter would not like it, I know. When I still had other people cut my hair, I used to go to a haircutting school, and so I had very little say in how it was cut. Since there were so few options, this did not bother me. But one time, the teacher cut most of it off. Peter was shocked when I came home—which surprised me, since I had so little to start out with. Peter wants me to keep what little hair I have on my head, so for his sake, I do that.

But I don't think I would want to cut off all my hair anyway.

The feeling I had, reading what this author said, was that being a fake blond was evidence that I was not a very serious person. As I thought about it, I had to agree this was probably true. I am not very serious about my hair, at any rate. I'm happy with my phony screaming blond hair. My "hairstyling routine" consists of the two seconds I spend every morning checking to see if I have snarls in my hair or if it's standing on end. After that, I can go for the rest of the day without thinking once about my hair.

And that's the way I like it.

*Till next time,
Carrie*

Pronounced Problems



DICK WOLFSIE
Funny Bone

It all started when we changed our cell phone service. We had been thinking of doing that for a long time, but Mary Ellen and I are both creatures of habit—that's why we have been married for 44 years. I assumed the changeover would be long and painful, but despite a few bumps in the road, we were up and talking in about a day.

But there was one problem—and I am honestly not sure this had anything to do with the changeover—but all of a sudden, my cell phone did not recognize my voice commands. I first realized this when riding in my car one day when I said: CALL MY SON. I have probably used that command 500 times in the last several years. Never a problem. He either answered or I left a message. But here's what happened. (Note: All these examples are 100% true.)

DICK: CALL MY SON.

DR. TOWNS: HELLO THIS IS DR. TOWNS.

I recognized the voice. It was my dentist, Stephen Towns. He operates SONrisa Periodontal Spa. Those are my caps in Sonrisa so you can clearly see what may have happened.

DICK: DR. TOWNS, I DIDN'T MEAN TO CALL YOU. I WAS CALLING FOR MY SON.

DR. TOWNS: I'M SO SORRY. IS HE HAVING A DENTAL EMERGENCY? CAN'T EVEN TALK, HUH?

I explained to him what had probably happened and apologized. I then tried again:

DICK: CALL BRETT!

SIRI: CALLING TOM BRITT.

DICK: NO, NOT TOM BRITT, MY SON, BRETT.

TOM: HELLO, THIS IS TOM.

DICK: HI, TOM. NICE TO TALK TO YOU AFTER 15 YEARS. I'VE BEEN MEANING TO CALL YOU.

I made one last attempt...

DICK: SIRI, CALL MY WIFE!

It all started when we changed our cell phone service. We had

SIRI: SORRY, I HAVE NO IDEA WHO YOUR WIFE IS.

I found this dumbfounding. Just a day earlier, Siri knew who the first president was to use a phone, be born in a hospital, or have prostate surgery. But she didn't know who my wife was. She has been connecting me with Mary Ellen for 12 years. Maybe she knows something I don't.

I finally called my new cellular service and explained the problem in some detail.

CELL SERVICE: SORRY, COULD YOU SAY THAT ALL AGAIN. YOU'RE GARBLING YOUR WORDS.

I decided that part of the explanation was that I listed way too many names in my phone log, many of which sounded similar. This gave me a good excuse to go through the phone and eliminate many unnecessary names. If you suspect you might be one of these people listed, there are four possibilities.

- 1: You have passed away.
- 2: I haven't talked to you in 20 years.
- 3: I have absolutely no memory of who you are.
- 4: I know exactly who you are. And that's why you are being deleted.

A final note: After I completed this column, I needed to call my housekeeper and ask her to come by to tidy up a little before a party we were giving.

DICK: CALL NETTIE.

Her answering machine picked up so I left a message that we needed her to clean the house. My cell rang later that day.

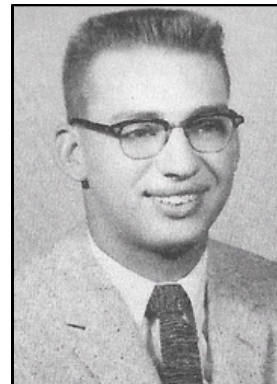
DICK: HELLO.

AUNT BETTY: THIS IS YOUR AUNT BETTY FROM NEW YORK. CLEAN YOUR OWN HOUSE. WHAT NERVE.

I'm pretty sure that as a result of this SIRI problem, I have annoyed a lot of people. I'm really a very nice guy. I'm just misunderstood.

— Dick Wolfsie spent his career sharing his humor, stories and video essays on television, radio and in newspapers. His columns appear weekly in *The Paper of Montgomery County*. E-mail Dick at Wolfsie@aol.com.

↓ BUTCH From Page A1



Dale Cohee

and I slipped up to our seventh grade homeroom and put a dead baby mole in Mrs. Martin's history book. Then we mashed it down, and the book closed pretty good. The next day we heard plenty of screaming and saw lots of tears when history class rolled around. All of the seventh and eighth grade boys ended up in the principal's office. When we three admitted to the dastardly deed, we had to apologize to the teacher, and we were ordered to buy her a new book. We didn't buy the book though . . . Donnie just traded his to her!"

"That same year, some of us had been mushroom hunting on a Sunday afternoon in the woods behind the school. We killed a big blue racer snake, and brought it back to the school and hid it in the grass by the front walk. On Monday morning, I got it and jumped out of the shrubs, dangling it towards the high school girls. One girl screamed, and fell through the Home Economics room window. I had to pay for the window and apologize to the girls . . . also had to get rid of the snake."

"When I was in the eighth grade, I had a paper route in the evening, but there were lots of things to do more fun than carrying papers. One day when the final bell rang, I took off down the front stairs on a dead run before the bell had quit ringing. Just as I got past the buses out front, I was lifted off the ground and turned around toward the school. John Bowerman, the principal, had caught me from behind. He took me back to his office by the shirt collar, set me down in front of his desk, and took out his paddle



Don Dale

and laid it in front of me. He left me to sit in that office alone, with the paddle, for what seemed like three hours. I ended up only receiving a lecture, but still to this day I don't see how he caught me!"

"Another incident I recall is that one day in class, Donnie kept rolling his pencil down his desk top, making a distracting noise. The teacher had her fill of it and made Donnie stand at the blackboard. She drew a circle with chalk and had him stand there with his nose in the circle. I watched Donnie stand there and realized that she had made the circle too high, because he could barely reach it. Trying only to help him out, I walked up to the blackboard, erased the circle which she had drawn, and drew another circle four inches lower. The teacher then erased my circle and drew TWO new circles. You can probably guess what the second circle was for!"

At family gatherings, we could also count on those two to make "exciting" things happen. After graduation Dale and Donnie both served their country in the military, and the two worked at R.R. Donnellys . . . Dale for 40 years and Donnie for 46 years, until they retired. Dale also started up his own handyman service. Sadly, they both passed away in 2024, but they kept their sense of humor to the very last. Both were good guys. They made school a little more lively and interesting for everyone, and I'm sure their teachers never forgot them!

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.

↓ SNYDER From Page A1



Photos courtesy Wabash College

Carolyn and family were honored by more than 100 friends and health professionals on March 9.

healthcare access and social issues in Montgomery County. Her roles evolved from establishing the first Christian Nursing Service office to initiating home nursing services and free clinics for children and adults. She served as the first secretary of the service and twice as its board president, guiding the organization through pivotal transitions that led to the formation of the Free Clinic. She also served as a school nurse and a tireless advocate for children's health.

In recognition of her

extraordinary contributions, the Free Clinic announced the dedication of the triage / patient check-in station at the Dr. Mary Ludwig Free Clinic in her honor. A plaque will commemorate her compassionate leadership and lifetime of service, inspiring future generations of volunteers.

Carolyn Snyder's unwavering dedication has profoundly impacted countless lives, and the Montgomery County Free Clinic is deeply grateful for her enduring commitment to the community.

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia

Answer:

Marcia Pinkstaff and Phyllis Fulford

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!*

Thank you for subscribing!

Congressional Art Competition Now Open to Local Students

Congressman Jim Baird (IN-04) announced the beginning of the 2025 Congressional Art Competition. The competition is open to all qualifying students grades 7-12 in Indiana's 4th Congressional District (which includes all of Montgomery County) who are looking to display their artistic passions.



Congressman Jim Baird

All students in Indiana's Fourth Congressional District in grades 7 through 12 are eligible to submit their work. Artwork must be two-dimensional. Each framed artwork can be no larger than 26 inches high, 26 inches wide, and 4 inches deep. Even when framed, it must still measure no larger than the above maximum dimensions. No framed piece should weigh more than 15 pounds.

Accepted mediums for the two-dimensional artwork include:

- Paintings: oil, acrylics, watercolor, etc.
- Drawings: colored pencil, pencil, ink, marker, pastels, charcoal (it is recommended that charcoal and pastel drawings be fixed).
- Collages: must be two dimensional.
- Prints: lithographs, silkscreen, block prints.
- Mixed Media: use of more than two mediums such as pencil, ink, watercolor, etc.
- Computer-generated art.
- Photographs.

Each entry must be original in concept, design, and execution and may not violate U.S. copyright laws. Any entry that has been copied from an existing photo or image (including a painting, graphic, or advertisement) that was created by someone other than the student is a violation of the competition rules and will not be accepted. Work entered must be in the original medium (that is, not a scanned reproduction of a painting, drawing, etc.).

"I am proud to announce my office is currently accepting submissions for the 2025 Congressional Art Competition," said Rep. Baird. "This is an incredible opportunity for young artists in the Fourth Congressional District to showcase their artistic talent and have their work showcased in the U.S. Capitol Building. Each year, I am impressed by the exceptional artistic talent our students have, and I look forward to seeing even more outstanding submissions this year."

The winner of the 2025 competition will have their artwork on display in the U.S. Capitol for an entire year and earn a free trip to Washington, D.C. to see their work on display. The winning artwork is also featured on the U.S. House of Representatives Congressional Art Competition Page.

Students, teachers, and parents are encouraged to submit one piece of original art to the Office of Congressman Jim Baird in Danville, IN along with their student release form. All entries MUST include the Student Information and Release Form for the competition. The submission deadline is Friday, April 25 at 5 p.m. Please visit <https://baird.house.gov/services/art-competition.htm> for more information.

Submissions can be mailed or dropped off at the office. As the winner will be displayed in Washington, D.C. for a full year, students should submit a piece that will not be needed for other purposes.

Office of Congressman Jim Baird
355 S. Washington Street
Suite 210
Danville, IN 46122

Back in the Day with Butch Dale



Do you remember who the Southmont bus drivers were back in 1981? Show above are (standing, left to right): George Long, Dale Hester, Charley Travis, Herschell Davis, Dave Wethington, Cheryl McClaskey, Howard McMullen and Harley Barnard. (Kneeling, left to right): Lavern Davidson, Dale Norman, Marion Stevens, Max Nichols, Darrell Meadows, Bob Aliff and Rodney Row.

Measles, Vitamin A, and MMR Vaccine



JOHN R. ROBERTS, M.D.
Montgomery Medicine

Measles, one of the most highly contagious viral diseases, poses significant health risks, particularly to unvaccinated

populations. The introduction of the measles vaccine has dramatically reduced its incidence, yet debates continue regarding vaccination and alternative treatments, such as vitamin A supplementation. Recent discussions have also been influenced by HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr., who has shared controversial perspectives on these matters.

Kennedy recently emphasized vitamin A's role in measles. He highlighted good nutrition and vitamins A, C, and D for health and acknowledged vaccines' critical role in protecting communities. However, experts caution that relying on vitamins instead of vaccines is ineffective and potentially dangerous. Vitamin A has been recognized for reducing the severity of measles infections, primarily in children with vitamin A deficiency. The World Health Organization recommends vitamin A supplementation for children diagnosed with measles in areas where deficiency is prevalent, as it can decrease severe complications and mortality. However, vitamin A does not prevent measles infection and should not be considered a substitute for vaccination.

Less than 1% of Americans have vitamin A deficiency. This is due to our varied diet providing adequate nutrition. Vitamin A is fat-soluble and stored in the liver, and can accumulate, underscoring the importance of adhering to recommended dietary allowances. Excessive intake of vitamin A can lead to hypervitaminosis A, characterized by toxicity from vitamin

accumulation. Symptoms range from nausea, dizziness, and peeling skin to severe effects like liver damage and increased pressure in, or around, the brain.

The measles vaccine, typically administered as part of the MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella) combination, has proven highly effective. A single dose confers approximately 93% immunity against measles, while two doses increase lifetime protection to about 97%. Widespread immunization led to a significant decline in measles cases globally. In the United States, the implementation of the vaccine reduced annual cases from millions to the disease being declared eliminated in 2000. However, measles outbreaks still occur, primarily in communities with low vaccination rates.

Measles can also cause "immune amnesia," the depletion of immune memory cells. This phenomenon erases between 11% and 73% of antibodies against other pathogens, leaving individuals susceptible to other infections. This immunosuppressive effect further underscores the importance of vaccination in protecting overall immune function.

The benefits of measles vaccination extend beyond individual protection. High vaccination coverage contributes to herd immunity, safeguarding those who cannot be vaccinated due to medical reasons, such as infants or individuals with compromised immune systems. This collective immunity is crucial in preventing the spread of the virus within communities. Vaccination has also been associated with a reduction in measles-related complications, including pneumonia, encephalitis, and death. Between 2000 and 2022, measles vaccination averted an estimated 57 million deaths worldwide.

Despite these advantages, some individuals express concerns about potential adverse effects of the measles vaccine. Common side effects are generally mild and transient, such as fever, rash, or soreness at the injection site. Rarely, more serious reactions like febrile seizures or thrombocytopenic purpura (a temporary decrease in blood platelets) can occur. Some remain concerned MMR is associated with autism.

In 1998, British physician Dr. Andrew Wakefield and his colleagues published a study in *The Lancet* medical journal suggesting a link between the MMR vaccine and autism spectrum disorders. This study involved twelve children and implied the vaccine might cause developmental disorders. The publication garnered significant media attention and led to widespread public concern regarding vaccine safety. However, subsequent investigations

revealed that Dr. Wakefield's research was fundamentally flawed and fraudulent. He had multiple undeclared financial conflicts of interest, manipulated data, and conducted the study unethically. In 2010, *The Lancet* retracted the paper, and the UK's General Medical Council found Wakefield guilty of serious professional misconduct, revoking his medical license. Today, Wakefield is widely regarded as disgraced by the medical community. Extensive research, examining millions of children, has found no credible evidence linking the MMR vaccine to autism or other chronic conditions.

Despite occasional controversies and misinformation, the medical consensus remains clear: the MMR vaccine is safe, effective, and essential for maintaining public health.

— Dr. John Roberts is a retired member of the Franciscan Physician Network specializing in Family Medicine.



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2025 Chevy Silverado EV is a Texas-Sized Truck with California Sensibilities that Plods Both Sides of the Political Highway



CASEY WILLIAMS
Auto Reviews

No matter where you land, politics have become harsh, dividing families and communities as if selecting teams for the Super Bowl. But we're not going to have that this week because this is about a Texas-sized truck with California sensibilities that plods both sides of the political highway. It's the 2025 Chevy Silverado EV RST.

Unlike the rather conservative approach taken by cross-town rivals Ford and Ram with their electric pickups, the Silverado is considerably more liberal. It's recognizable as a Chevy truck, but shares styling cues with the smaller Equinox and Blazer EVs which means a flush face, thin wrap-over driving lamps, and flanking LED headlamps. Deep body sculpting adds tension, wrapped around gargantuan 24" wheels. Power open the frunk to secure luggage, golf clubs, and camping

gear.

You may have noticed a resemblance to the discontinued Chevy Avalanche. Like the classic, our new friend has a "Midgate" rear cab wall that folds down so owners can load from front seats to tailgate. And, that Multi-Flex Tailgate can be configured as a step or bed extender. Notice spray-in bedliner and an array of plugs in the bed wall for running camping gear and work tools. The rear window even comes out on nice summer days.

On any day, drivers confront twin screens and a head-up display hovering over the hood. Wireless device connections and charging keep everyone connected. It's comfortable, too, with heated and ventilated front seats, heated steering wheel, and dual-zone automatic climate control. It's especially fetching with a red-stitched flat-bottom steering wheel. Rear passengers can

stretch their legs for long drives that come with a big battery pack.

Have your red state V8 if you want it, but hear me out about the blue state powertrain. How would you feel if your fuel-thirsty engine produced 754 horsepower and 785 lb.-ft. of torque? And, routed all of that power to the road through an advanced all-wheel-drive system? Since EVs pour all of that power instantaneously, 9,100 lbs. of truck runs 0-60 mph in just 4.1 seconds. It tows 10,000 lbs.

Going solo fully charged, the Silverado travels 440 miles without stopping. Fast charging adds 100 miles every ten minutes. Or, owners can fully recharge overnight on a 240v home charger. That means you could conceivably drive 800 miles with a recharge over lunch. Pulling a trailer will eat about half of your range, but

that's still plenty to get to a state park or lake for the weekend.

The air suspension provides comfy ride, but can be raised for off-roading. Four-wheel steering allows it to maneuver like a mid-size pickup and crab-walk to curbs – equally perfect for tight trails and city parking. GM's Super Cruise allows drivers to go hands-off on approved roads. Press the button, wait for green lights on the steering wheel, and relax. The vehicle maintains speed, steering, brakes and can even change lanes while you drink coffee while watching the road. I rode two hours on the Interstate while barely skimming brakes and steering.

No matter your color or politics, the Silverado EV aims to please. It's smooth and muscular, fast and frugal, simple and techy, conservative and liberal. It isn't cheap, though. A base Work Truck starts at \$58,000 while our top-trim RST

came to, um, cough, breathe, whoa, \$96,710. Beyond the Ford F-150 Lightning and Ram REV, consider the Rivian R1T.

Storm Forward!

Send comments to Casey at AutoCasey@aol.com; follow him on YouTube @AutoCasey.

Likes	Dislikes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive range • Bed gymnastics • Super Cruise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hefty footprint • Headlamp controls • Texas-size price

2025 Chevy Silverado EV RST
 Five-passenger, AWD Pickup
 Powertrain: Li-ion batteries/motors
 Output: 754 hp/785 lb.-ft.
 Suspension f/r: Air Ind/Ind
 Wheels f/r: 24"/24" alloy
 Brakes f/r: regen disc/disc
 Driving range: 440 miles
 0-60 mph: 4.1s
 Fast charge: 45m
 Assembly: Detroit, MI
 Base/As-tested price: \$58,000/\$96,710

Student Job Fair on Tap April 10

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 10 JOB FAIR:

- 7:30-8:30 a.m. - Set Up
- 8:45-9:45 a.m. - AM CTE Students
- 9:45-10:45 a.m. - School #1
- 10:45-11:45 a.m. - School #2
- 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. - Lunch (on your own)
- 12:45-1:45 p.m. - School #3
- 1:45-2:45 p.m. - PM CTE Students
- 2:45-3:45 p.m. - School #4
- 3:45-4:30 p.m. - Tear Down

West Central Indiana CTE will be hosting a Student Job Fair and Community Expo on Thursday, April 10 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Crawfordsville High School.

More than 1,000 students from Crawfordsville, North Montgomery, Southmont and Western Boone high schools – current juniors and seniors – will be

attending. Many of these students are actively exploring opportunities for full-time or part-time employment, internships, apprenticeships, seasonal work and training opportunities. West Central Indiana CTE will again be hosting the Community Expo, where local organizations can promote volunteer opportunities and ways

for young adults to get involved with non-profits in the area.

There is no cost to participate. Each employer or organization will be provided an eight-foot table and two chairs. Organizers ask that businesses plan to bring a table covering and any other promotional items for the booth. This is an all-day event, and participants should keep in mind the importance of being present for the entire day. Full-day participation ensures equal access for all students to meet with you and learn about participating organizations.

For more information, please email Chase Justus at cjustus@cville.k12.in.us

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.

NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING

The Town Council of the Town of Waynetown will hold a Closed Executive Session Meeting on March 19, 2025 at 6:30 P.M. at the Town Hall, Community Room, 106 North Vine Street, Waynetown, Indiana. This Executive Session is being held pursuant to Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(5) to receive information about and interview prospective employees.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

The Town Council of the Town of Waynetown will hold an Open Special Town Council Meeting on March 19, 2025 at 7:15 P.M. at the Town Hall, Community Room, 106 North Vine Street, Waynetown, Indiana.

- Hiring a Pool Manager
- Pool Wages
- Pool Opening and Closing Dates
- Any Other Items Concerning the Pool and/or Park

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Montgomery Murder Mysteries

Leave ‘em Alone, Charley: Part II

EDITOR’S NOTE: Karen Zach, a 50-year-local history writer, presents her Montgomery Murder Mysteries – historical fiction, based on fact – of the first 13 or so murders in our county. Karen has written a weekly column for The Paper of Montgomery County and was the editor of Montgomery Memories, a monthly publication from The Paper for many years. Now that she is retired, she is sharing these stories and The Paper is very pleased to continue working with Karen and her talented writings.



KAREN ZACH
Montgomery Murder Mysteries

Walt begged to be taken home. While we were outside, he’d asked me that three times. Dr. Ensminger decided it was a good thing to do. I rode in the buggy with Walt’s head on my shoulder. I’ll never forget Walt’s mother’s expression on her face. It was a facade I had never seen before and hope to never view again. Her visage spoke of shock, pain, horror, unbelief and many other emotions all in one. Smoky gray eyes peered out from her night bonnet. “In here, in his bedroom,” she whispered to those of us carrying Walt. Walt’s room was like Walt. Every piece of furniture, every piece of clothing, every book, every everything was in its place. Walt was just like that, quite the neat yet unique young man.

The Justice of the Peace was quickly called after Dr. Sam Ensminger told the McClures that the wound was a fatal one. The J.P. came and Walt told him what had happened. He told it true. He had not hit the house with anything but had hit the fence with a broken slat from the fence railing. Can you believe that Walt wanted that JP to apologize for his disturbing of the Coombs family? That’s how Walt was. A gentleman. A good man.



It wasn’t long after the JP had come that Walt’s breathing became pretty shallow. His parents and his beautiful sister held his hand and repeatedly told him how much he meant to them and that they knew he was right with the Lord and would very shortly be in a better place. Well, okay, my parents may not have been able to tell me that, but indeed Walt’s could. I’ve never been one to shed tears, but I was mighty close to it at that scene. Finally, Walt closed his eyes and I quietly and quickly removed myself out their front door.

It was about 5 when Buck Brothers came to arrest Charley. We were having a cup of coffee when Buck came to the door. Charley let him in, offered Buck a cup but Buck declined. We were just getting ready to have a hearty breakfast that Charley’s stepdaughter, Ota Jordan was fixin’. As Charley stoked the fire, Buck questioned, “Charley, did ya’ know you have killed a man?”

Ota asked who it was. When Buck told us that it was Walt McClure, Ota gasped and Charley hung his head real low and made a strangling noise. “I know Walt. He’s a fine young man. I shot up in the air I tell you. Never meant to hurt anyone. I was only protecting my property and family.”

Buck commented, “I know Charley. I’d have done the same, but it doesn’t change the fact that you’ve killed Walter McClure – I must take you to the jail!”

It took almost two months after the shooting for Charley’s trial to begin. I visited him often since the jail was only a square away from home. Never could figure why it was such a bad section of town with brothels, drunks, pubs and such when it was right by the jail. Some said it was because we lived in the Negro section of town, but that just ain’t so. It wasn’t those folks troubling us three or four times each week, it was the Irish and the Wabash boys. Anyway, Charley seemed to age about 15 years in those eight short weeks. Always one to blab, Charley was saying very little. Sarah was getting better, though, so Charley was sure glad to hear that. She had Ota bake him his favorite Carmel Cake. He shared it with the other mates, the sheriff and his fellows. Sally sent some ham salad, along with homemade bread and Pear Honey, her specialty and also one of Charley’s loved dishes. We made sure Charley had lots of blankets, too. The brick jail was a cold place for Charley, as cold as being stranded on an icy mountain top. It weren’t much better for Sarah, either. She had gone to the meat market a few days before to purchase stew meat. One person spit at her and another called her one dirty name I’d not be repeatin’ here. I didn’t mention that to Charley. Surely he was pleased that John and I had talked to several who would be needing a well dug come spring thaw. Charley appreciated me taking care of the house and his finances, too. Well, actually I gave over the finances to Sally. Good thing else we’d be dippin’ into our savings to run the double household.

The morning the trial began, Charley walked in with his attorney. He looked at no one, instead buried his face in his hands. This is the story the state brought out. A.V. Randall, Hal Ensminger and Walt McClure had been at a dance until after 12. They then went to the Clipper saloon. I knew before the questioning that Will Houlehan would never let the boys have enough drink so they’d not be themselves. That’s what Will said and I believe

him. His helper, Bromley affirmed that. After being at the Clipper, the boys went to Madame Bailey’s. Sounded to me like Randall may have entertained one of the girls but Randall, Ensminger and the Madame herself said all Walt did was sit in a chair. They were there about a half hour. Think they visited some young gal, too but were only there a few minutes. Randall evidently insulted her. The boys went to drink some coffee at the Nutt House and bought some cigars there. Just after was about the time they came down our street talking loudly and raking fences. Every house in our area has a fence in hopes it’ll keep the drunks away from our doors. Of course that’s when Charley got out his gun and the rest is history, so to speak.

Our colored neighbor and one fine man, Henry Brown, had heard the commotion and shots, too, but had run out to aide the boys when he heard McClure call out, “I’ve been shot.” I’ve always been somewhat ashamed I didn’t offer my help but I can’t change the fact that I did not. Hal immediately ran for a doctor while Henry and Randall carried Walt into Mrs. Blue’s house. I’m surprised Mrs. Blue helped because she hates the drinking and “fun-makin’” more than any of us. In fact, she’s one of the officers in the Temperance League. I guess Randall’s pleading and her going out to view just how bad Walt was is what got her to offer her home. In his statement, Randall said that he had felt for Walt’s pulse, but did not find one for some time. Most of the witnesses agreed however, that Walt was coherent throughout the whole hour or so before his death. I almost cried when it came out that he begged to die at home, but I checked myself. I kept picturin’ John on his death bed begging to be with us. Guess when David McClure, Walt’s father and owner of The Trade Palace came to Mrs. Blue’s he made sure that Walt’s request was taken care of. It’s rather ironic that Charley is one of McClure’s best customers. Another sad time and one of the few times that I heard Charley make any sound was when Dr. Sam Ensminger stated that when Walt was told it was fatal that he cried, “Oh, God, receive my soul.” Charley cried out, “And, mine, too!”

One good thing for Charley is that the ante-mortem statement was thrust out but some of the more damaging statements were allowed. One was that Walt, on his death bed, stated that he did not go up to the house nor did his friends and that when Justice of the Peace Chumesero, who took the statement asked if he thought he’d get well, Walt answered, “I think not!”

To be continued....

LETTER TO EDITOR

What’s True Cost of Project Next Door?

EDITOR’S NOTE: Brian Daggy and Jim Love are members of the Boone County Preservation Group, an organization formed in opposition to the LEAP project. The group’s mission is to create a unified community voice focused on preserving local farmland and natural resources, while supporting responsible land development. You can follow the Boone County Preservation Group on [Facebook](#) or find out more on [their website](#).

Dear Editor,

The LEAP project is quickly shaping up to be one of the most expensive projects our state has ever seen—and yet, citizens are still being kept in the dark about the true cost and impact. As members of the Boone County Preservation Group, we strongly oppose this project because it threatens to deplete our precious farmland, drains our already limited water resources, and could raise the cost of living for all of us. But what’s most frustrating is that the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) is running this project without any real transparency or accountability—especially considering it’s funded by significant tax dollars. That hasn’t changed in the years since news of this project first was leaked by farmers who had been approached to sell their land.

Recent reports from the Arnolt Center for Investigative Journalism and the Indiana Capital Chronicle have uncovered just how much money is being poured into LEAP. Nearly \$1 billion has already been spent on this project, with more than \$427 million used to buy up 6,000 acres of prime farmland around Lebanon—land that has been carefully cultivated by farmers for generations to feed our state and country. We believe that our farmland should be preserved for future generations, not sacrificed for corporate interests.

It gets worse. Almost \$170 million has been set aside to pay for water services for this district. The industries the State hopes to attract to the area require huge amounts of water. This is at a time when Indiana’s water supply is already stretched thin. We’ve heard experts warning that our water is in danger, yet the state is rushing forward with this plan without clear proof that it can handle the needs of the businesses and over 50,000 workers that the project claims it will support—most of which have not yet been identified.

Electricity is another resource in jeopardy. LEAP hopes to attract large data centers, and if they become reality, there will need to be vast improvements made to provide the large amounts of power these centers need. Citizens Action Coalition recently said, “If these data centers end up using less electricity than planned, or close early, other electric ratepayers (such as you) could be on the hook.”

At a time when the state is considering cutting Medicaid costs and other spending, these data centers could also cost valuable state revenue. Why? Because the Indiana General Assembly approved a sales tax exemption for data centers in 2019. Experts say a typical data center will spend about \$500 million each year on its electric bill, meaning in Indiana they could receive more than \$1.7 billion in state sales tax subsidies over 50 years, or \$34 million per year. The \$34 million multiplied by the eight currently planned data centers is \$272 million per year. Even by government standards, we’re starting to talk real money here!

These factors are all concerning, but the most troubling is the secrecy continuing to surround the LEAP project. The IEDC operates under a quasi-private setup, which means it can hide the financial details from the public. A large portion of the money is being spent to purchase farmland at inflated prices. This turns the IEDC into a large developer with a seemingly unlimited budget and no regard for return on investment. At the same time, the existing farms within the LEAP district and throughout Central Indiana are experiencing land values that make it impossible to grow or even sustain current operations. The far-reaching effect of state-sponsored destruction of agriculture will have deep effects within communities. Locally operated farms spend money locally on both goods and services. One specific case involves a young family that had a verbal agreement to purchase a farm they had been operating. By the time the paperwork was finished, the seller increased the price five times the original price - making the land unaffordable to farm. If a family was asked to make a priority list, we can only assume food would rank higher

than semiconductor chips, batteries, data centers or solar panels. At what point will we learn from mistakes of the past and protect our future?

In addition to the loss of farmland, there is the looming issue of the environmental cost. Boone County has been home to fertile, productive land for generations—land that will be irreversibly altered by this development. The loss of our farmland means the loss of our agricultural heritage, and once this land is developed, it’s gone forever. As this project bulldozes through our natural resources, it also undermines the long-term sustainability of our region.

And what are we left with in return? A vast, taxpayer-funded district filled with uncertain promises and questionable financials. Eli Lilly & Co. is still the only confirmed tenant, with a signed deal, while the rest of the businesses that are supposed to fill this district remain unknown or uncommitted. The IEDC’s refusal to disclose its full budget and expenses only adds to the growing uncertainty. How can we be expected to trust that this project will benefit our community when we have no insight into the true costs or who will ultimately benefit from this land grab?

The people of Boone County and the entire state deserve better. We deserve transparency, accountability, and a seat at the table when decisions about our future are being made. We deserve development that respects our land, our water, our electricity capacity and our communities, not one that devastates them. It is time for the IEDC to be held accountable, for local citizens to have a real say in the project’s direction, and for the voices of those most affected by the LEAP project to be heard.

As we move forward, we will continue to fight for the preservation of our farmland, our water, and our future. We urge our fellow Hoosiers to join us in demanding greater transparency and accountability from the IEDC, and to stand with us in protecting what makes Indiana special.

*Brian Daggy
Jim Love
Boone County Preservation Group*