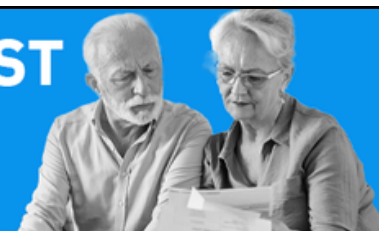


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TODAY'S VERSE

Jeremiah 32:27 "Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh; is anything too difficult for Me?" (NASB)

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Boomer Bits

Ask Rusty – Did We Err by Starting Wife's Benefit Now?



Social Security Matters

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

Dear Rusty: I hope we haven't made a mistake! My wife just applied for her Social Security benefit. She was born in May 1962, and the estimated amount of her benefit is \$1280 / month. Her work income last year was \$5,616; however, mine was about \$65,000. I do not plan on taking my benefit until the age of 70 in July of 2027.

My worry now is about the penalty for earning too much. We figured that since her income was so low, we wouldn't have to worry about that penalty, so we signed her up, and then it hit me: what if they look at MY income, especially since our tax return is filed as Married Filing Jointly. Do we have a problem, or are they just going to look at HER income to determine if there is a penalty? I hope I haven't messed this up. Also, I think I read that any penalty you are

assessed for earning too much is returned to you once you reach FRA; is that true?

Signed: Uncomfortable Senior Citizen

Dear Uncomfortable Senior: First, let me ease your anxiety – you haven't "messed this up." While it's true that your income will be included when the IRS determines how much of your wife's Social Security benefits are taxable, changing your IRS filing status is usually not wise. However, considering your combined income and your "married / jointly" IRS filing status, up to 85% of the SS benefits your wife receives during the tax year will be included as part of your overall taxable income as a married couple. Your wife's monthly SS benefit is about \$1,280, so about \$13,000 (annually) will be

See RUSTY Page A3

Don't Fall Victim to 'Smishing' Toll Road Texts

Hoosiers statewide – like our peers across the U.S. – have seen texts pop up on their phones in recent months warning of unpaid fees from toll roads.



Todd Rokita

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita warns that most of the texts come from scammers, which Indiana Toll Road label as SMS Phishing or "smishing" ruses – and the worst thing you can do is click on any of the seemingly helpful, yet sinister, links.

See TOLL Page A3

Average Hoosier Hasn't Broken a Sweat in 82 Days

For years, public health experts have waved red flags about America's slide into a sedentary lifestyle, tying it to a laundry list of health woes - heart disease, diabetes, you name it. But here's a question that's been simmering beneath the surface: Is this less about laziness and more about a cultural drift away from playing sports entirely? A new survey from

See SWEAT Page A5

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

Student Job Fair April 10

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



The hired hands in Indianapolis don't like being called hired hands – says it's not respectful. Tell you what's not respectful – the fact that folks in elected office forget that we hired them and they are supposed to be working for us.

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Read to your child every day instead of sitting her in front of the TV.

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

"Spring is far more than just a changing of seasons; it's a rebirth of the spirit."

Toni Sorenson

THREE THINGS You Should Know

- Our friends at MyBioSource say that Pulaski County as the most dangerous county in Indiana, in terms of injury-related fatalities. They analyzed data from 2020 to 2024 and found that Pulaski County experienced a dramatic increase of 38 deaths per 100,000 people, the highest rise of any county in the state. Scott, Marion, Delaware and Wayne counties rounded out the top five. Conversely, the five safest are: Daviess, Blackford, 3; Perry, Gibson and Tipton. When it comes to states, West Virginia was the worst with Louisiana a close second. Indiana ranked 11th and the safest state in the U.S. was Utah.
- The Indiana DNR recently honored its volunteers, partners and employees for their commitment to conserve, manage, and interpret resources while creating memorable experiences for guests in 2024. Honorees included: Volunteers Brian Borgman and Don Glass from Versailles and Brown County respectively; and Alan and Jacki Bruner, Beata St. Clair, Greg and Clare Oskay, Lisa Summers, Marianne Ballenger, Nancy Swaim, and Peggy Foster from Turkey Run and Shades state parks.
- The IEDC and Global Entrepreneurship Network shared that billionaire entrepreneur, philanthropist and investor Mark Cuban will be the keynote speaker for the 2025 Global Entrepreneurship Congress in Indianapolis June 2-5. A graduate of Indiana University, Cuban has achieved significant success as an entrepreneur and investor. In addition to founding disruptive companies like Cost Plus Drugs, which is transforming the prescription drug market, Cuban has invested in hundreds of companies and has served as a lead investor featured on the Emmy-Award-winning show "Shark Tank" since 2011.

TODAY'S JOKE

Did you hear the one about the future, the past and the present walking into a bar? It's a little tense.

MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Join the Master Gardeners for a FREE propagation class Saturday, March 29 from 9 a.m. to noon in the Exhibit Hall on the 4-H Fairgrounds. All supplies will be furnished, bring a fresh 6-8 inch cutting of your plant. If you do not have one, we will have some available. Please register by emailing montcoinemg@gmail.com or call (317) 563-1301 to leave a message. Space is limited.

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

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Get tickets at:

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

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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!

'Name That Tune' Coming to C'ville

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!

Boys & Girls Club Offering Three Camps



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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

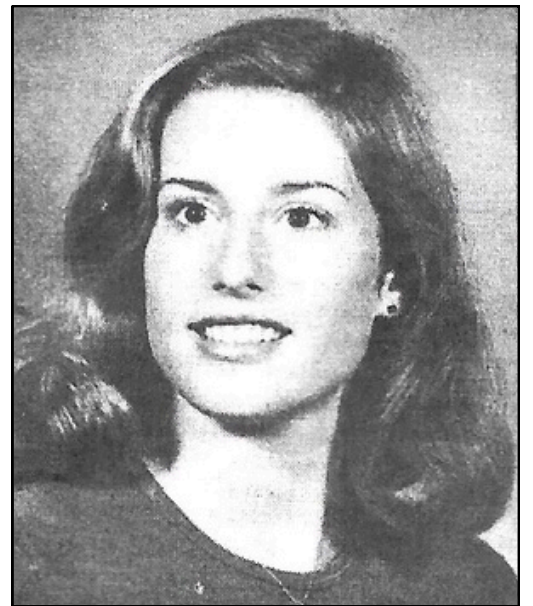
membership fee (if not current).

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.

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



Do You Recognize This 1978 Crawfordsville Grad?

HINT: She belonged to Honor Society, FCA, Spanish Club, Speech Team, Band and was editor of the Gold & Blue . . . and was on the swim team!

Answer on Page A5

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Rustique Boutique



Photo courtesy Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce

The Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce was excited to host a ribbon cutting for The Rustique Boutique. Their focus is being here for our community and the people in it. Being a size-inclusive boutique allows them to do so while also having gift items, infant & toddler items and their game day wear. They offer cute, stylish clothing as well as a nice selection of items including lotions and soaps made with goat's milk. They have a friendly, helpful staff with attention to customer satisfaction. This is a small-town gem and they are excited for their new location in Crawfordsville! The Rustique Boutique has two locations: 102 Northfield Dr. East in Bainbridge and this new location at 1772 S US Hwy 231 in Crawfordsville. They can be reached on (765) 719-9502 and (765) 246-4890. For additional information regarding the chamber, visit the website at crawfordsvillechamber.com or email Stacy Sommer at ssommer@crawfordsvillechamber.com.

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↓ RUSTY From Page A1

included in your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) when you file your taxes. You can have income tax withheld from your wife's SS benefit by filing IRS Form W-4V at your local SS office (you can have 7%, 10%, 12% or 22% withheld). Note your wife's tax obligation for this year will be less because she will not get SS benefits for all of 2025.

The other thing you are concerned about is whether your income will be counted when determining if your wife will be subject to Social Security's "Annual Earnings Test (AET)," and the answer to that is "no." At her current earnings level (about \$5,600), your wife is well below the annual earnings limit (\$23,400 for 2025) for those collecting early Social Security benefits. So, the AET will not apply and will not reduce your wife's monthly Social Security benefit. FYI, if her earnings did exceed the annual earnings limit, it is true that some of the resulting penalty would be recovered after she reaches her full retirement age (FRA) of 67.

Note the distinction between "taxation of SS benefits", and the "annual earnings test" for those collecting early benefits. Taxation of benefits is always based on your joint income when filing married/jointly, but the Annual Earnings Test (AET) looks only at your wife's personal work earnings until she reaches her FRA.

As I expect you already know, by claiming now (at age 62+), your wife's monthly SS retirement

benefit will be permanently reduced (by about 26%). Until you later claim your SS benefit, your wife will receive her reduced personal SS retirement amount. But, when you claim, her benefit amount will be reassessed to see if she is also entitled to an incremental amount as your wife. If her SS entitlement at her FRA (even though she claimed at 62+) is less than 50% of your FRA entitlement, then her benefit will increase. However, she will not get the full 50% of your FRA entitlement because she claimed her own SS retirement benefit before her FRA (more likely, she will get about 34% of your FRA entitlement).

In the end, you really did not make a mistake by filing for your wife's Social Security to start now. By the time you personally apply at age 70, your wife will have collected about \$46,000 in Social Security benefits which, I'm sure, will be helpful. And only a relatively modest amount of income tax will be paid on her Social Security benefits.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. Russell Gloor is the, National Social Security Advisor at the AMAC Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

↓ TOLL From Page A1

"These fraudsters try to create a sense of urgency," Rokita said. "Often, they include triggering phrases like 'final warning' or 'last chance.' They threaten increased fines or legal penalties if the supposed fees are not promptly paid. The important thing is to pause, take a breath and recognize the red flags."

Here's how to protect yourself:

- Don't respond to spam texts. This allows scammers to know your account is active.
- Never click on any links you receive by text or email. Clicking could enable scammers to steal your identity.
- To find out whether you have outstanding charges, check with tolling agencies by using verified phone numbers or websites that you know are legitimate.

- Report text scams by forwarding them to 7726 (SPAM) or using your phone's "report junk" option. This helps your wireless provider spot and block similar messages.
- Block numbers from which you've received unwanted messages.
- Use restricted phone settings to reduce spam text messages.
- Never share any personal information over text or unsolicited links.
- Put a freeze on your credit to prevent new accounts from being opened in your name in the event of a breach.

If you believe you have been the victim of a scam, file a complaint at www.indianaconsumer.com with Attorney General Rokita's office.

Rusk Legacy Group



Photo courtesy Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce

The Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce was pleased to host a ribbon cutting for the Rusk Legacy Group. The Rusk Legacy Group is owned by Dawn Rusk. Together with a team that includes Dan Wemer and Teresa Rogers, they are ready to serve all your real estate needs in Montgomery County and the surrounding areas. The Rusk Legacy Group is located at 225 N. Green Street and can be reached on (765) 376-4814. For additional information regarding the chamber, visit the website at crawfordsvillechamber.com or email Stacy Sommer at ssommer@crawfordsvillechamber.com.

Muse with The Lang Co.



Photo courtesy Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce

The Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce was pleased to host a ribbon cutting for Muse in downtown Crawfordsville for The Lang Co which is a full-service photography & videography studio. They specialize in weddings worldwide, portraits of all kinds, and local events. Husband & wife owners, Kayla (formerly Bacon, a Crawfordsville High School grad) and Mike Lang have 12 years of experience helping people feel beautiful through creative, intentional imagery. Muse is a multipurpose studio shooting local events (corporate events, etc.) and Muse will eventually have options to rent for intimate events, like bridal showers, etc. The Lang Co. / Muse is located at 107 E Main Street in downtown Crawfordsville. They can be reached at (765) 918-8987. For additional information regarding the chamber, visit the website at crawfordsvillechamber.com or email Stacy Sommer at ssommer@crawfordsvillechamber.com.

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Which Hoosier Hometown Wins Purdue Fantasy bracketology?



KENNY THOMPSON
Columnist

Instead of filling out an NCAA tournament bracket this week and losing to someone

Team Indianapolis fields a strong bench with Teague, Garland, 1934 All-American Emmett Lowery and Terone Johnson.

Glenn Robinson leads third-seeded Gary in this fantasy tournament. The 1994 College Player of the Year and 1991 Indiana Mr. Basketball is part of a strong front line that includes first-team All-Big Ten selections A.J. Hammons and Jim Bullock. The 7-foot Hammons is another former Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year. Bullock averaged 14.2 points and 6.6 rebounds as a senior in 1985.

In the backcourt, Kenneth Lowe was a two-time Big Ten Defensive Player of the year (2003-04). Wilson Eison, the 1955 Indiana Mr. Basketball, averaged 18.7 points and 13 rebounds a game as a senior in 1959. The Gary bench isn't deep after brothers Gary and Greg McQuay.

Evansville earns the No. 4 seed, led by 1966 national scoring champion Dave Schellhase. All-Big Ten forward Bob Ford scored 1,244 points from 1970-72, and 6-10 Matt Kiefer fills out the front line.

Larry Weatherford, who was overshadowed by Rick Mount and Billy Keller early in his Purdue career, averaged 21.1 points as a senior in 1971. The other guard is more famous for his primary sport. Bob Griese played varsity basketball as a sophomore before wisely devoting all of his time to an eventual Hall of Fame football career.

Speaking of Mount, he carries the offensive load for fifth-seeded Lebanon, which fields a four-guard/one forward lineup. It's a family fantasy team that features Mount's son, Rich, and the Walker brothers. Brian Walker was the point guard on the 1980 Final Four team, and elder brother Steve, the tallest Lebanon player at 6-5, was the sixth man. The fifth starter is 1921 consensus All-American Donald

White, who led the Big Ten in scoring as a senior.

Another guard-heavy team is sixth-seeded South Bend. NBA Draft lottery pick Jaden Ivey of the Detroit Pistons is joined by high-scoring guard Jaraan Cornell. Point guard Brandon McKnight also has Darmetris Kilgore as a third scoring option.

Ed Ehlers, a 6-3 forward in the 1940s, was one of the greatest athletes of his time. His coach at South Bend Central? John Wooden.

In addition to being the first draft pick in Boston Celtics history, Ehlers was selected in the 31st round of the 1947 NFL Draft by the Chicago Bears. He also spent three seasons with the New York Yankees organization and two with the Chicago Cubs.

East Chicago earns the seventh seed thanks to guard E'Twaun Moore, one of six 2,000-point scorers in Purdue history. Drake Morris was a starting forward for the 1980 Final Four team and ended up with 1,250 career points. Brandon Brantley was an undersized center at 6-8 but nonetheless helped Purdue win three Big Ten championships in the 1990s.

Don Beck was another undersized center in his time. The 6-5 Beck averaged 9.5 and 11 rebounds per game as a junior and senior in the mid 1950s. Beck averaged 12.2 points a game as a senior.

After leading East Chicago Washington to the 1960 Indiana state title, Phil Dawkins started for three seasons at Purdue, playing three different positions.

Lafayette gets the eighth seed with quantity, if not quality depth. Jewell Young was a two-time consensus All-American guard and a two-time Big Ten scoring champion. Young's running mate with Lafayette Jeff in the 1930s, John Sines, played pro basketball after his Purdue days with the Indianapolis Kautskys.

Denny Brady was the first of three consecutive Indiana Mr. Basketball winners recruited to Purdue. Brady led Lafayette Jeff to a state title in 1964 but gave up his senior season at Purdue to sign a pro baseball contract with the Cleveland Indians organization.

Lafayette Jeff graduate Dennis Blind was Purdue's first 1,000-point scorer, and Central Catholic alumnus Henry Ebershoff was a strong No. 2 scorer (15.1 as a junior, 15.8 as a senior) next to Dave Schellhase for George King's first two Purdue squads.

The bench is led by 6-9 Ryan Berning of Lafayette Jeff, a good outside shooter for Gene Keady from 1986 to 1990. Edward Elliott, the son of former Purdue president Edward C. Elliott, played center for three Big Ten championship teams from 1934-36 after his playing days at Lafayette Jeff.

One of the more popular Purdue players in recent memory is Bobby Riddell. The former Harrison High School standout is now the analyst on Purdue men's basketball radio broadcasts.

Ted Dunn was a 6-5 center who followed Jeff teammate Blind across the Wabash River and started as a junior and a senior. The father-son tandem of John and Dru Anthrop, who starred at Central Catholic, provide guard depth.

Smith goes 4-for-4

Braden Smith became a consensus first-team All-America guard, adding honors from The Associated Press, the United States Basketball Writers Association and the National Association of Basketball Coaches this week in addition to his previous selection from The Sporting News.

Smith is the seventh consensus All-American under coach Matt Painter, joining JaJuan Johnson (2011), Caleb Swanigan (2017), Carsen Edwards (2019), Jaden Ivey

(2022) and Zach Edey (2023, 2024). No school has had three consensus All-Americans during the past three seasons. Purdue has had an All-American in four straight seasons, the longest streak in the country.

Smith took averages of 16.1 points, 8.7 assists, 4.6 rebounds and 2.2 steals per game into Purdue's NCAA tournament opener Thursday against High Point.

The Indiana Mr. Basketball from Westfield also made the 10-man semifinalist list for the Naismith Trophy, given annually to the nation's top college basketball player.

Short-term memory

Despite having two first-team All-Big Ten players and a third returning starter from last year's NCAA runner-up team, Purdue was a popular upset pick by some in the national media when the tournament draw was announced Sunday. The Boilermakers weren't lacking for believers, however. Eddie Timanus of USA Today lists Purdue as a sleeper in the Midwest Regional, headed by Houston, Tennessee and Kentucky.

"Purdue will not be favored to make it back to championship weekend and just getting through the first couple of rounds will be difficult. But they have plenty of experienced hands including a couple other starters who are familiar with the pressures of March.

While noting a 13 seed has defeated a No. 4 seed in all but two NCAA tournaments, Daniel Chavkin of the Sporting News says High Point defeating Purdue "feels improbable."

"It feels like Purdue is a year away from unleashing a monster, as nearly the Boilermakers' entire core is eligible to return next season. This Purdue team is very good, but it hasn't looked the part of a Final Four contender after last year's run to the

national championship game.

"The scoring options get remarkably thin after (Braden Smith, Trey Kaufman-Renn and Fletcher Loyer). ... Size is also an issue for Purdue, which dropped from 10th nationally in rebounds last season to 315th without Zach Edey."

Smith, Kaufman-Renn and Loyer combine to average 50.1 points per game. Freshman guard C.J. Cox is Purdue's No. 4 scorer at 5.9.

"In the first round, it's easy to envision Smith's playmaking ability, Kaufman-Renn's scoring and Loyer's shooting overwhelming an opponent," Chavkin writes. "Unless someone else can step up, a deep run is much harder to envision, though coach Matt Painter continues to get the most out of his teams.

"The Boilermakers have the talent advantage and the matchup advantage, which means they should be able to hold off the upset. Purdue may not replicate its Final Four run from last year, but it feels like the Boilermakers got a good break facing a team whose defense is its biggest weakness."

Amazingly, Purdue's streak of eight consecutive top four seeds is the nation's longest active run and tied for the fourth-longest in NCAA Tournament history. The Boilermakers earned the Midwest Region's fourth seed, the eighth straight tournament that Purdue has been named a top-four seed – the longest active streak in the country and fourth longest in NCAA Tournament history behind Kansas (19), Duke (12) and North Carolina (11).

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

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↓ SWEAT From Page A1

LiveSportsonTV.com digs into this, polling 3,024 adults to find out how many have swapped cleats for remotes - and why.

The findings paint a telling picture. When asked, "When's the last time you played a sport that made you break a sweat?" the average Hoosier said it was 82 days ago (compared to a national average of 98 days). That's almost three months since they last huffed and puffed on a field, court, or trail. But the numbers vary wildly across the country. Take North Dakota: folks there haven't broken a sweat in an average of 188 days - over half a year. Meanwhile, Colorado residents are practically still wiping their brows, averaging just 19 days since their last workout-worthy game. It's a stark divide that hints at more than just climate or terrain.

Then there's the choice between doing and viewing. LiveSportsonTV.com asked, "If you had an hour to spend on sports, would you rather play or watch?" In Indiana, only 29% picked playing over watching - a stat that might make gym teachers everywhere wince. North Dakotans, true to form, were the least enthusiastic, with just 11% opting to lace up. Coloradans, on the other hand, flexed their active streak again, with 67% saying they'd rather be in the game than on the couch. It's a split that suggests geography, culture, or maybe just habit plays a bigger role than we think.

Losing the Love - and What Might Bring It Back The survey didn't stop at sweat stains and screen time. It also probed whether Hoosiers have simply fallen out of love with playing sports. Here, 31 percent admitted they've lost interest - perhaps a reflection of declining local options or shifting priorities.

So what's holding people back - and what could pull them in? The answers offer a glimpse into the practical and psychological barriers:

- 44 percent said they'd play if they had friends or a group to join. It's a reminder that sports, at their core, are social - and loneliness or a lack of buddies might be sidelining more people than we realize.

- 27 percent blamed a lack of free time. Between work, family, and the endless scroll of streaming options, carving out an hour to shoot hoops isn't as simple as it sounds.
- 16 percent pointed to a shortage of local opportunities or facilities. If the nearest court is miles away or the community league folded years ago, motivation can fizzle fast.
- 14 percent got creative, saying they'd play if they could do it from home - like virtual reality sports. It's a nod to how tech might just bridge the gap for the housebound or the hesitant.

When it comes to big events like March Madness, viewing habits reveal a state of casual fans rather than diehards. Only 11 percent watch every game religiously, while 40 percent catch a few when they can. Another 21 percent tune in only if their team is in the mix, and 28 percent skip the whole spectacle entirely. For basketball buffs who do watch, the survey pegged their March Madness screen time at an eye-popping 59 hours - proof that when the stakes are high, the couch still calls.

Game-day rituals tell a similar story. A hefty 57 percent order wings and settle in, treating watching as their sport of choice. Just 16 percent hit the field themselves before kicking back, while 12 percent tinker with fantasy lineups and 14 percent scour betting odds - more invested in the spread than the sweat.

Interactive map showing the last time people exercised properly in each state: <https://www.livesportsonTV.com/news/american-as-sports-divide-survey-maps-where-were-watching-more-playing-less>

"We're seeing a real shift in how people engage with sports," says Emil Stuesson of LiveSportsonTV.com "It's not just about time or access - there's a cultural lean toward spectating over participating. But the appetite to play is still there, especially when friends or local options make it feel less like a chore and more like a good time. We need to meet people where they are - whether that's building more courts or finding ways to make sports social again."

Back in the Day with Butch Dale



At one time, just about every town had a railroad passing through it. And where there was a railroad, there was a depot. Show above is the Waveland Depot, which was built in 1906.

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.

CRAWFORDSVILLE REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

OPEN DOOR NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING
The Crawfordsville Redevelopment Commission will meet in special session on Tuesday, April 1, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. in the Common Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 300 East Pike Street, Floor Two, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933. The Commission will consider bids for the Commerce Park Mowing and Commerce Park Landscaping contracts as well as any other business that may be necessary.

Department of Planning & Building Services
City of Crawfordsville
300 E Pike Street, Floor Two
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
(765) 364-5152 p.
(765) 364-5177 f.

Agenda

Common Council Chambers

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

II. New Business

A. Consider bids for Commerce Park Mowing

1. Ervin Property Management - \$13,000

2. Sugar Creek Lawn and Hardscapes - \$6,800

3. Crawfordsville Outdoor - \$6,800

B. Consider bids for Commerce Park Landscaping

1. Ervin Property Management - \$12,500

2. Sugar Creek Lawn and Hardscapes - \$13,800

3. Crawfordsville Outdoor - \$7,400

III. Old Business

IV. Miscellaneous

A. Next regularly scheduled meeting: April 15,

2025 at 8:30 a.m.

V. Adjournment

CASEY WILLIAMS



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Catch Casey every Monday,



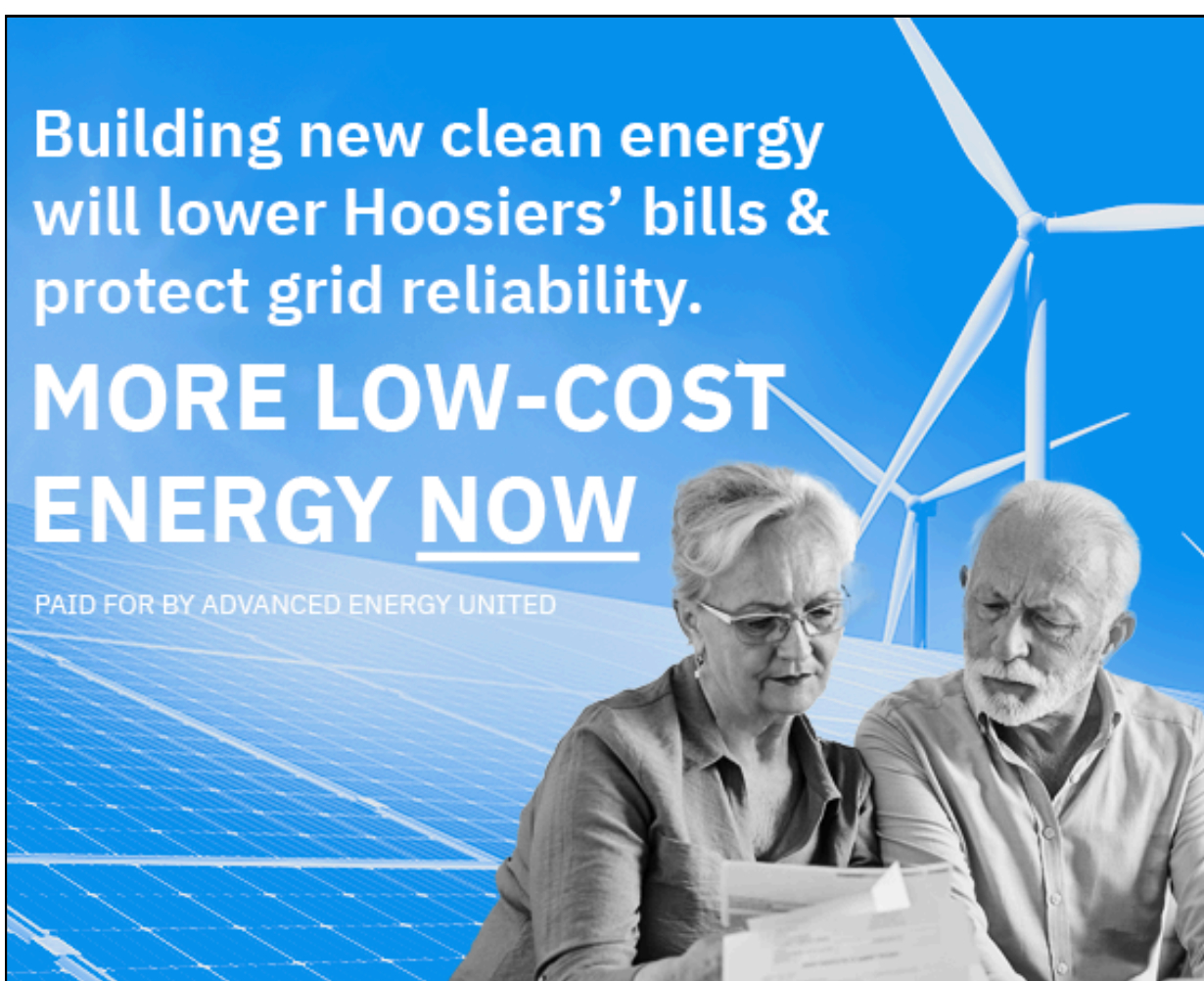
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Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia

Answer:
Dru Dickey

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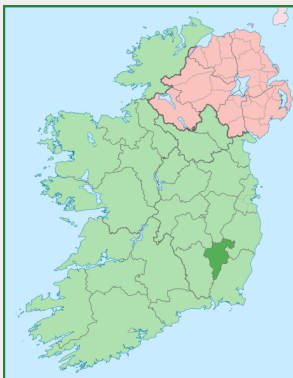
Montgomery Memories

Established December 2010

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Irish-born Hoosier Becomes Colorado Senator

The county of Carlow is situated in south-central Ireland. It is known for its dolmens - above ground Neolithic burial tombs, the River Barrow, and the Blackstairs Mountains.



County Carlow, Ireland (wikipedia.com)

County Carlow is where Thomas McDonald Patterson was born on November 4, 1839. Thomas came to the U.S. in 1849, arriving with his parents James (1814-1881) and Margaret (1817-1888), his sister Catherine, and brother James Jr. The family settled first in New York City's 8th Ward, where James Sr. was a watchmaker (U.S. Census 1850). By 1860, they were living in Crawfordsville, Indiana's Ward 1 and James Sr. worked as a jeweler and silversmith. He was quite successful - his personal and real estate wealth that year was \$380,000 in modern day value.

During their childhood in Crawfordsville, Thomas and brother James were known for playing practical jokes and being hard to control. They each joined the Lew Wallace "zouaves" and enlisted with Indiana's 11th Infantry. Sadly, James Jr. was killed while fighting in the third Battle of Winchester, Virginia on September 19, 1864. He'd served for six months (U. S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861-1965).

Illness ended Thomas' time with the 11th, where he'd served as First Sergeant with Company I. He returned home and attended Wabash, but was expelled after being caught gambling. He then worked for a printer in Greencastle, and attended Asbury College. While in Greencastle, he married Kathleen Grafton. Kathleen was a graduate of Berrien College (The Indianapolis News, Jan 15, 1902, page 9).

Thomas did so well at Asbury that he returned to Wabash and was a charter member of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. He was known as a fine orator. Of note, he was the first married student to attend the college. Thomas didn't graduate, but went to work as a clerk with the law firm William and Wallace. He was assigned petty cases in the justice and mayor's courts. He was known for never backing down, even when he'd lost! (The Evansville Journal, January 19, 1901.)

While in Crawfordsville, Thomas and Katherine had four children - Jane (who died in infancy), James, Mary, and Margaret. The family moved to Denver, Colorado in 1872 (The Indianapolis Journal, Jul 17, 1902 page 4). Thomas' parents, James Sr. and Margaret moved to Colorado too.

As Thomas had done in Crawfordsville, he continued to practice law in Denver. Hoosier newspapers reported on his success. On March 26, 1886, The Indianapolis Journal talked about his presentation before the U.S. Supreme Court. The Lafayette Sunday Times (March 11, 1888) reported that he, "a lucky hoosier," had acquired a fortune of \$500,000. He served as a U.S. Representative (1877-1879), U.S. Senator (1901-1907), and he was the owner and editor of the Rocky Mountain News and Denver Times (New York, New York Sun 24 July 1916, page 5, courtesy of Indiana Gen Web).

continued on page 6.



Montgomery Memories

Passage

JOHN BRODERICK

*Fenian Brotherhood, Crawfordsville, Ind.
To the Editors of the Irish-American*

*Crawfordsville, Indiana, January 27, 1864
Gentleman – Herewith we send you, for publication, the following preamble and resolutions, which were passed at a special meeting of the Fenian Brotherhood, held at their room, January 24th, commemorative of the demise of one of our most worthy members :--*

Whereas, that felt destroyer, death, has stricken down one of our most zealous and favoured [sic] members in the person estimable brother and co-worker in the cause of Ireland's regeneration, John Broderick; and whereas, he was amongst the first who espoused the organization which is to-day felt so forcibly throughout America and Ireland. (Published in the Irish People on Saturday, February 27, 1864, Dublin, Ireland.)

.....

The man the Fenian Brotherhood so lauded, John Broderick, was born in County Kerry, Ireland in ca. 1819. Although I did extensive online research, I could not confirm when he came to the U.S. The birth of his first child indicates he was here by 1848. I did find John in the 1860 census, living near Waynetown, where he farmed. John's wife, Mary Foley

(b. 1824), was also from County Kerry. John and Mary had eight children – Annie (b. 1848), Margaret (b. 1849), Mary (b. 1850), Catherine (b. 1853), John (b. 1854), Morto (b. 1856), Julia (b. 1859), and Ella (b. 1862).

John passed in 1864 at only 44 years of age. Mary did not remarry. Tragically, in 1868 Morto died at the age of 12. He was buried in Calvary Cemetery. By 1870, Mary, as head of household, was living with her daughters Mary and Ella, and her son John. Anna was living with Henry and Joanna Lane as their domestic servant. Margaret married Michael J. Carroll. Michael was born in Indiana while his parents were from Ireland. Catherine married Thomas Tobin. Thomas' parents were also from Ireland. Julia married John Whalen. His parents were Irish too. Annie married John Lynch, an Irish immigrant. Given who the Broderick daughters wed, it makes me wonder if it was a stipulation that they marry Irish men! Two of the children, John and Mary, never married but lived together throughout their lives. I wasn't able to find anything about Ella's life.

Mary died in 1873 at the age of 48. She was interred next to John in the Calvary Cemetery. The Broderick children stayed in the Montgomery and Fountain County area. Each of them, I'm sure, was proud of their Irish heritage!

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Montgomery Memories

Notables

March 10, 1874

Purdue University admits its first student.

March 17, 1912

Camp Fire Girls organization is founded.

March 27, 1939

First NCAA Men’s Basketball
championship held.

Source: *onthisday.org*

Old News

NEW RICHMOND RECORD

March 7, 1901

TOO MUCH CARRIE NATION.

During the past week Mrs. Wm. Holycross, of Hillsboro, was declared of unsound mind and taken to the Indianapolis hospital for treatment. For several days past the woman had shown unmistakable signs of insanity, and it was thought best to take her to the hospital, in the hopes that she might regain her reason. The patient is the wife of Wm. Holycross and is the mother of three bright children. They had a happy and cheerful home in Hillsboro, and now that it is broken by the absence of the mother, their sorrow can better be imagined than described. Mrs. Holycross was an industrious woman, a devout christian and highly esteemed by all who knew her. The cause of her mental derangement is attributed to the fact that she read so much about the Carrie Nation crusade now going on in Kansas that her mind became affected. Her hallucinations are that the whole nation is at war and that people are roaming about armed with hatchets cutting heads off like they do in China.

Source: *Hoosier State Chronicle*

Weather Report

March 18, 1925

The F5 “Tri-State” tornado
impacted Missouri, Illinois and
Indiana

March 24, 1975

Severe winds overturned planes
in Montgomery County.

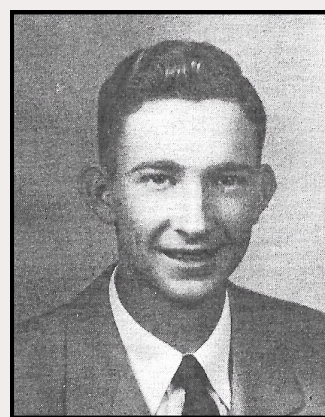
March 31, 2023

One of the largest tornado
outbreaks in Indiana.

Sources: *National Weather Service
Indianapolis Central Indiana Weather
History March and Wikipedia.com*

Butch Dale’s FLASH BACK TRIVIA

Do You Recognize This 1954
Coal Creek Graduate?



HINT: He chose a career in law enforcement and
eventually became Crawfordsville police chief.

Answer on Page 7.



Montgomery Memories

Memories

An Irish Grandmother

Written by Mae Mason Thomas (1888-1982), in memory of her husband's grandmother,
Elizabeth Davidson Thomas
March 28, 1834 to January 25, 1925

Aunt Liz, as she was called by so many of her relatives, was my husband's grandmother. To her grandchildren of course she was grandmother. To get a true picture of her, I should tell you about her parents. They came from Ireland, not long before she was born. Her mother was a true Irish girl. Trained to be a good housekeeper, and helper, with no stress on romance, or frivolity. As a rule a girl raised in Ireland does not marry young. If a young man comes to call, or shows interest in a daughter, it is taken for granted that marriage is his object. Aunt Liz told me that she thought her mother frightened many young men away, because she was so blunt in asking about their intentions. Aunt Liz was 26 years old when a widower came to call on her. When he had made a few calls, her mother asked him one day "When are you two going to get married?" Being older, he replied, "When we get good and ready." Aunt Liz's husband had one son by a previous marriage, he was three years old. I have heard her say that he never gave her a cross word in his life, and was very helpful with his half brothers and sisters of which there were five. Aunt Liz liked to cook, to work in a garden, to go to church, and read her Bible. She liked to help her neighbors and relatives. Her husband died of typhoid fever when her youngest son was 17. They lived on a farm and she gave the son (when he was older) her 1/3 interest in the farm, and he was to take care of her while she lived. He married a girl of sixteen, and brought her to live with his mother. As the wife was young, Aunt Liz continued as head of the home. My husband was the only living child of this union, and as his grandmother had a lot of his care, he came to love her very much. When Aunt Liz was seventy-five years old, she moved to a small town to live by herself. When my husband and I had been married a year and a half, his parents said they would give us a lot, in town, if we would build a house for grandmother [Aunt Liz]. We built a nice 5 room bungalow. She was very grateful, and kept it so clean. Aunt Liz loved to have company and I can see the long table, covered with the immaculate tablecloth. Lots of times if she was having company on Sunday she would set her table Saturday evening, covered with another white cloth. Even after living alone she did not quit work, but continued to bake bread and cookies, and always wanting to mend for the family and always had a small garden. If my husband was ill, he always wanted his grandmother to come. At sight of each other, they would commence to cry, I never knew why. Aunt Liz was a cheerful person, I saw her unhappy once. Someone had said something about her looking old, and her skin looking wrinkled. At that time, she was close to ninety years old, and a widowed daughter was living with her. I asked her, "grandmother do you remember the tarnished candle molds? Of course, after they have been used a long time they do show age. But what I see when I look at you is that pure life, like the white candle, that is the real you, and the light of your service, shining on the world."

Burkhart Funeral Home

Charles, Carl & Craig Burkhart
201 W. Wabash Ave., Crawfordsville
765-362-5510
www.BurkhartFH.com





Montgomery Memories

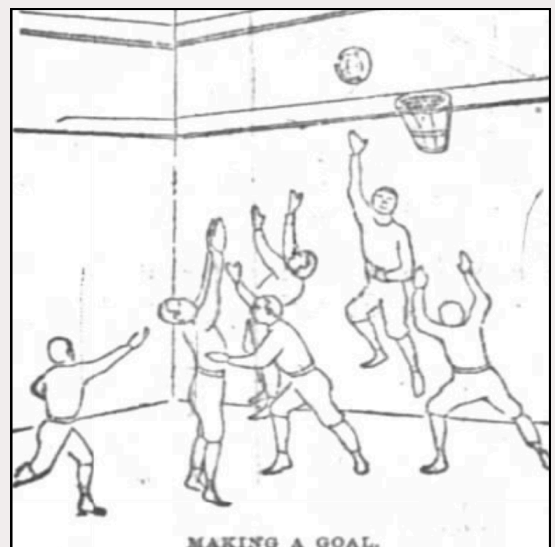
Sports Story

The Indianapolis News introduced its readers to “basket-ball” on April 1, 1893. The article went so far as to describe the rules of the game, and to provide instructive illustrations, including player’s positions on the court. According to the News, the game had been introduced in Indianapolis in late 1892. The first local match was played at the Y.M.C.A. The general rules included that “The game is played by two opposing teams, nine men on each side; a goal keeper, two backs to assist him, a center, a right and left center, two forwards and a home man.”

Women were not to be excluded, in fact, the article indicated that basket-ball “... can be played by girls and women, as there are few games they can play that are not a strain on their nervous systems...” What would those early players think of today’s WNBA?

The game’s benefits were touted for the overall exercise it provided, involving the legs, arms, the trunk of the body as well as the internal organs!

The focus has shifted during the previous 133 years. For some, a quick game of pick up is great exercise. But for many it is about the teams they love and the players they idolize.



Recipe

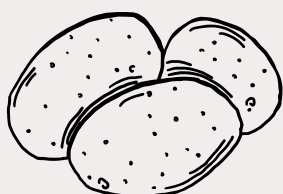
Potato pancakes are a common staple in many cultures. Polish mothers serve placki ziemniaczane, and in Jewish households they eat latkes. For the Irish, it’s the “boxty.”

INGREDIENTS

- 2 potatoes
- 2 tsp. salt
- 1 c. flour
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. pepper
- 3/4 c. buttermilk
- 6 tsp. butter
- 6 tsp. vegetable oil

INSTRUCTIONS

Cut one potato into cubes. Add cubed potatoes and salt to a stock pan and cover with water. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer until the potatoes are soft. Drain the potatoes and mash. Grate the second potato and, using a kitchen towel, wring out any moisture. Combine potatoes, flour, baking soda, and pepper in a large bowl. Stir in buttermilk, 1/4 cup at a time. Heat 2 tsp. of butter and 2 tsp. of oil in a large skillet. Drop batter, in 1/4 dollops, into oil and cook until golden brown. Repeat until all batter is cooked. Boxty pancakes can be served with sour cream and diced scallions.



Word Search

Luck of the Irish

```

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

Shamrock
Rainbow
Leprechaun
Patrick
Saint
Emerald
Isle

Dublin
Donegal
Galway
Guinness
Whiskey
Boxty
Barmbrack



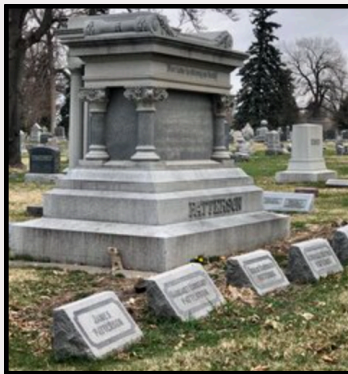
Montgomery Memories

Irish-born Hoosier Becomes Colorado Senator

continued from page 1.

Two of Thomas and Katherine's children were taken as young adults. James died at the age of 28 in 1892, and Mary died at the age of 27 in 1894. Their daughter Margaret married Richard Campbell, and they made their home in Denver. They had two children who lived to adulthood.

Thomas passed on July 24, 1916. He was interred next to Katherine, who died in 1902. The family plot was in the Denver's Fairmount Cemetery.



Patterson Family Monument
Fairmount Cemetery, Denver, Colorado
Source: *T Whitaker via findagrave.com*

Irish Blessing

For the test of the heart is trouble
and it always comes with years.
And the smile that is worth the praises of earth
is the smile that shines through the tears.

Source: *realirish.com*

Poetry



Emerald Isle

The vibrant green of windswept glens,
streams flowing to Pollardstown fen,
Benbuellen hills, seaside Clifden,
the ancient town of northern Antrim,
Galway's shore, the village of Doolin.

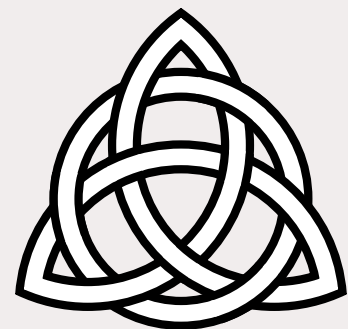
Emerald Isle from which

so many came,

a place of beauty, a place of fame.

They left because they could not stay,
and dreamt of returning to Brittas Bay.

-Joy M. Willett





Montgomery Memories

Extras

**Butch Dale's
FLASH BACK TRIVIA**

**Answer:
Carlos Goode**

**Word Search
SOLUTION**

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



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Montgomery Memories

A close-up portrait of a smiling man with a goatee, wearing a green hard hat with a headlamp, safety glasses, and a grey work jacket with the Nucor logo. The background is a dark, blurred industrial setting.

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