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➔ TODAY'S VERSE

Psalm 119:9-11 "How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word. I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." (NIV)

Meet Jet

Jet is an 11 month old male adolescent puppy German Shepherd that joined AWL (The Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County) on 4/10/25! Jet is ADORABLE, FULL OF ENERGY, playful, SMART, loves attention, a big time lover, and all sorts of perfect! German Shepherds make excellent pets, particularly for active families, but they require significant commitment and experience. Owning a dog is not just a privilege; it's a responsibility. The German Shepherd Dog (Deutsche Schäferhund) descends from the family of German herding dogs that, until the late 19th century, varied in type from district to district. German Shepherds are known for their intelligence, loyalty, and protective nature, making them good companions and family guardians. However, their high energy levels and strength will require consistent training, socialization, and ample exercise to prevent behavioral problems. Jet would thrive with an active family, working daily, and with ample space to run/roam! AWL is open Monday - Friday from 12:15p-5p and Saturday's from 9:30a-3p. Come say hi!

HONEST HOOSIER

A tip of the seed corn cap today in memory of Mr. Samuel Clemens – who the wise among you remember as the one and only Mark Twain! He passed away on this date in 1910.

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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!

4-22-25

Earth Day!

According to the Earth Day website, this day is a reminder of the importance of environmental conservation and sustainability.

1970

The very first Earth Day was celebrated on the first day of spring, March 21, 1970.

60x40

This stands for a goal of reducing plastics by 60 percent by the year 2040.

1-28-69

The date of the Santa Barbara Oil Spill. More than 3 million gallons of oil was released off the coast of Santa Barbara, Calif. After a well six miles out blew. The spill killed thousands of birds, dolphins, seals and other marine life. This is generally regarded as the single event that spurred the first Earth Day 14 months later.

2016

On Earth Day that year, the Paris Agreement was signed, a comprehensive climate accord. World leaders from 175 nations, including the U.S. were involved.

1 billion

How many people around the world take part in Earth Day activities, marking this as the single biggest protest on the planet.

193

The number of countries involved in Earth Day observances.

➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Brush or rinse your teeth after eating sugary foods.

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

"No one in this world, so far as I know... has ever lost money by underestimating the intelligence of the great masses of the plain people."

H.L. Mencken

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

How do you keep a fool in suspense?
I'll tell you the answer tomorrow.

➔ MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Did you know that Crawfordsville District Public Library has a parent computer in the Children's Area? You can use the first-floor parent computer and printer without worrying about your little ones while they look for books.

➔ THREE THINGS You Should Know

1

Gov. Mike Braun has created a collaboration between the Indiana State Police and the Alcohol & Tobacco Commission's Excise Police to address the issue of public safety around bars that tend to attract crime, drugs, and disturbances, sometimes referred to as "nuisance bars." To lead the effort, the Alcohol & Tobacco Commission will be hiring a new Excise Superintendent who will work with the Indiana Association of Chiefs of Police and the Indiana Sheriffs' Association.

2

Turkey Run State Park Voted Indiana's Most Popular National Park to Visit During National Park Week. Our friends at Gunther Volvo (www.gunthervolvocars.net) surveyed 3,004 travelers and found that Turkey Run, Indiana Dunes, Brown County State Park, Pokagon State Park and McCormick's Creek State Park were most popular among Hoosiers. Nationally, the top three were the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Grand Canyon and Yellowstone.

3

Every year more than 12,000 volunteers across the state contribute countless hours on Indiana DNR properties. During National Volunteer Week, April 20-26, the DNR will thank and recognize those volunteers for caring for Indiana's natural and cultural resources and salute their accomplishments on its social media accounts. To find out how you can help DNR properties and become part of DNR's volunteer family, explore on.IN.gov/dnrvolunteer or contact your local DNR property to learn more.

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

Butch Asks 'What's in a Name?'

BUTCH DALE
Columnist

In the 1970s I told my father that I was going to research the Dale family history and see how far back I could go...to which he responded, "Well, don't go back too damn far. I think the Dales may have floated across the Ohio River on an outhouse door." Hmmm . . . Well, I worked on it for a few months, and was able to trace the family back to Purnell Dale, my great, great, great grandfather, who was born in 1806 . . . in Kentucky . . . so yes, I guess the "outhouse door" method of crossing was possible.

My first name is John, and I discovered that, including my father whose first name is also John, there were several others by that name. A few years ago, in searching on the Internet, I found that someone else had traced my family clear back to the 1600s to Ireland . . . to John Dale. Of course that first name of John is quite common and not very exciting. Quite a few people decide to change their names, especially actors, actresses, singers and other entertainers. Here are a few that I looked up, with their professional name and their real name.

Roy Harold Scherer (Rock Hudson), Doris Kappelhoff (Doris Day), Natalia Zakharenko (Natalie Wood), Joseph Rule, Jr. (Mickey Rooney), Marion Morrison (John Wayne), Issur Danielovitch (Kirk Douglas), Norma Jean Mortenson (Marilyn Monroe), Maurice Mickelwhite (Michael Caine), Ruby Stevens (Barbara Stanwyck), Frances Gumm (Judy Garland), Archibald Leach (Cary Grant), William Pratt (Boris Karloff), Benjamin Kubelsky (Jack Benny), John Charles Carter (Charlton Heston), Lucille LeSueur (John Crawford), Margarita Cansino (Rita Hayworth), Nathan Birnbaum (George Burns), Frederick Austerlitz (Fred Astaire), Virginia McMath (Ginger Rogers), Dino Crocetti (Dean Martin) and Leonard Slye (Roy Rogers).

Here are a few from today . . . Demetria Gene Guynes

➔ See BUTCH Page A3

Before and After



Photos courtesy Ron Keedy

The Waveland Volunteer Fire Department and the New Market Volunteer Fire Department responded to a major house fire at 405 E. Howard St. in downtown Waveland last week on Wednesday. The home was a total loss, but thankfully there was no report of loss of life or injuries. The fire broke out at approximately 7 p.m. and first responders were still on the scene at 11:30 p.m.

Montgomery County Retired Teacher Meeting

Montgomery County Retired Teacher April meeting minutes
April 14, 2025

President Steve Frees welcomed members and guests to the April 14, Montgomery County Retired Teachers Association meeting held in the Crawfordsville Public Library. Lunch was provided by the Creekside Restaurant. Table decorations were provided by Sheila Hodges and Barb Foster. The pledge was led by Steve Frees and the invocation was given by Nancy Buckles.

Nancy Bowes introduced the speakers and Master Gardener members from the Nicholson garden. Nancy talked about the how the Nicholson garden came to be. In 2017, Master Gardeners became involved in the garden. They have been exceptional help, writing grants, sharing vast knowledge, and volunteering large amounts of time to help the students and their parents learn about gardening. Jerilyn Yerkes talked about the spring garden planting time with students, the summer garden club, and the fall Discovery Club sessions. Sheri Bethard, President of the Master Gardeners of Montgomery County, shared information about the new grant that was recently received. She shared pictures of the garden and students. The Master Gardeners in attendance at our meeting were: Anita Arnold, Priscilla Zachary, Nancy Bowes, Sheri Bethard, and Karen Thada.

President Steve called the business meeting to order. Linda Thomas, from the Indiana Retired Teachers Association, Area 4 gave legislative updates for the 13th paycheck. It is their goal to get the check to be automatically given every year. She mentioned projects

and scholarships sponsored by IRTA. A motion was made and seconded to approve the March minutes which were sent to the members. Barb Foster gave the treasurer's report which was approved. Nancy Bowes read a note of thanks from the Tech Changemakers for the money the group donated to them. She reminded members to keep track of our volunteer hours. Karen Patton gave a legislative update. She stated that the 13th check is still in the budget process. Nancy Buckles sent 2 get-well cards and 20 cards to members that are not able to attend our meetings. Kathy Steele sent around a clipboard asking for program suggestion ideas for next year.

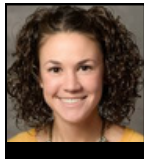
Under new business, Steve stated that the FISH food pantry is in need of volunteers. June 11th is the IRTA Representative Assembly and will be attended by Steve and Glenda Frees, Kim Nixon, Barb Foster, and Kathy Steele. He mentioned that Dancing with the Stars tickets went on sale today. Colleen from AMBA told the group to review their benefits. She also gave a \$25 gift card to one lucky member. A motion was made and seconded to give Charley and Diane German money for travel expenses for all of the legislative meetings they have attended for our group. The next meeting will be held Monday, May 12 at the library. The program will be given by Kathy Steele, Karen Patton, Marilyn Spear, Mary Lou Dawald, and Cheryl Marshall. They will be sharing information and pictures from Costa Rican trip. Susie Larson, Carolyn Fisher, and Nancy Buckles are responsible for the table decorations and invocation will be given by Barb Foster. The meeting was adjourned.



Photo courtesy Purdue Extension Montgomery County

The Junior Leader Officer team was able to secure a \$500 grant to purchase food items to donate to FISH Food Pantry.

Junior Leaders Striving 'To Make the Best Better'



ABBY MORGAN
Guest Columnist

The Montgomery County 4-H Junior Leader program is filled with exceptional youth that are striving each day to live out the 4-H motto, "to make the best better". Over the last few months, they have taken the initiative to do a few community service projects that they hope will make a positive impact in the community.

In February, Junior Leaders and some of our 4-H Club Leaders came together to participate with *Kids Against Hunger*. This organization aims to provide meals to those in need locally, nationally, and internationally. In just one-hour, Junior Leaders and 4-H Club Leaders were able to pack 20 boxes of food, equaling 4,320 meals. All food was distributed locally to families in need.

Thanks to the Youth as Resources grant from the Youth Service Bureau, the Montgomery County 4-H Junior Leader Officer team was able to secure a \$500 grant to purchase food

items to donate to FISH Food Pantry. In April, they went shopping for some of their most needed items in an effort to meet local needs. FISH Food Pantry reports that they see an average of 20 families each day, with a record high day of 60 families. Through this grant, they were able to purchase 430 pounds of food to donate.

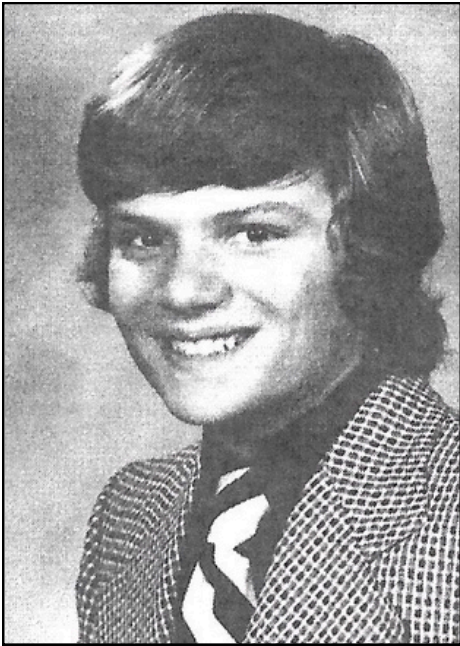
Finally, to celebrate Earth Day, 29 Junior Leaders spent an hour picking up trash in downtown Crawfordsville. In just one-hour, they collected four bags of trash.

There are a variety of community service projects/opportunities offered through the 4-H program. If you have a child or know of a family friend that would be interested in the 4-H program, please encourage them to enroll. 4-H enrollment is still open! To enroll, visit <https://v2.4honline.com>.

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

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

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



Do You Recognize This 1976 Crawfordsville H.S. Grad?

HINT:
He is a well-known attorney here in Crawfordsville.

Answer on Page A3



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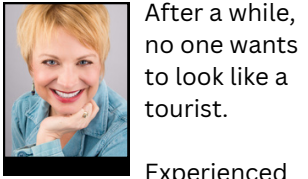
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The People Photographing Bougainvillea



CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

After a while, no one wants to look like a tourist.

Experienced travelers will buy a hat in a local store, convinced that having the same head covering will somehow make them less conspicuous. They stray off the main streets and take their meals in the places locals frequent. They leave their fancy backpacks in the hotel and carry only what they need to explore the city. And, most importantly, they don't take photos.

If the tourists who don't want to appear to be tourists take photos, they only take a picture of themselves and their traveling partners. If there is something beautiful in sight, it serves as background. The goal is to appear to be anything but a tourist.

I was at a poetry reading the other day. I go to very few poetry readings. Because I write, I have writer friends, and some of them write poetry. So I occasionally go to a poetry reading to support my friends. But I never leave a poetry reading without feeling a little more stupid.

I sit among a group of people, listening to poetry, while consciously thinking to myself, "I have no idea what that means."

As I puzzle over what it might mean, the poet keeps on reading. Then I realize I have missed the last line. Now I really don't understand what is being talked about. So I sit back and listen to the words, and at the end, everyone applauds and, of course, I do, too. But all the while I am thinking that I am a much more stupid person than I give myself credit for being.

But at this poetry reading, I heard something that I understood—although it was not from the poet who was reading, but from another poet. She said, "You know who I'm talking about—the tourists. The people photographing bougainvillea!"

Everyone around the

poet laughed, and I actually knew what she meant—and I was kind of sorry that I did.

Much of Mexico is filled with bougainvillea, which bloom for most of the year, and San Miguel is no exception. It is stunning, especially blooming against a brightly painted wall. And it seemed to me that a poet—a poet especially—should realize this.

Everyone photographs the bougainvillea when they first arrive. Then they realize it is everywhere, and in time, they usually stop noticing it altogether. And this doesn't seem especially funny to me, even if it's true. It seems a little sad.

If having more refined tastes means I stop noticing bougainvillea, I'd be happy with the tastes I have, even if I never understand much poetry. Because it seems to me the ability to notice the beautiful in the ordinary is more important than recognizing the unusual.

My friend read her poetry, which I was delighted to discover I not only understood but found very funny. And I left, thinking about her poetry, and poetry in general, and bougainvillea in particular.

It is ordinary beauty that stuns me, time after time.

Seeing something that has no business being so beautiful—in a setting where no one even notices—seems like a miracle. Having the luxury to stop and enjoy it—perhaps even take a picture—feels to me like an act of worship.

It is not a bad thing to be a tourist. It is not terrible to stop in the middle of the sidewalk, blocking foot traffic, overwhelmed by the beauty of an ordinary thing. In fact, I think I will try to remain a tourist as long as I can.

Till next time,
Carrie

Wolsfie is Packing It In



DICK WOLFSIE
Funny Bone

Are you downstairs chatting with your girlfriend, again?

It's true that I often have late-night dialogs with my lover...of information. But just for the record, my source of knowledge (Natalie on AI) has been replaced by a British man I call Reggie. He has gotten a few things wrong lately, but it's hard to take issue with a guy with such an appealing accent. Recently, he desperately tried to help me with a computer problem, and after 45 minutes he said (and, this is true) "I don't want to talk about this anymore." He must have learned that phrase from being married to another robot."

But, back to my late-night chat. I was talking to my suitcase. Well, not exactly talking to the suitcase, but about the suitcase. You see, Mary Ellen and I were both packing for our trip to Iceland. We are both very compulsive about this process. In fact, we practice packing way before we leave. We try on things to be sure they are warm and comfy, which confused the neighbors when we came out of our house in heavy coats and boots in the middle of July last year. We also put everything in our suitcases weeks before we leave to be sure that there is room for everything. If everything doesn't fit, we then take everything out and put it all back again, hoping to arrange things in a more space-efficient way. In fact, even if everything does fit, we repeat this process several times. Why not, we have the time, we're not leaving for six weeks.

Then Mary Ellen and I negotiate space in our respective luggage choices. Who has extra

room they can spare, for example? I always lose this exchange, which is why for the last two trips I have had one high-heeled shoe, a makeup kit and a hair dryer in my carry-on.

Once we get to our destination, the real problem begins, especially for me. I have spent weeks packing so that everything is in its proper place. But I don't know where that place is. When you move to a new home and begin by neatly boxing things and labeling them carefully? Then you end up tossing every do-dad and thingamajig into several boxes. Where is that stapler? The ice cream scoop? And the charger for my hearing aids?

What my wife heard me doing was talking to myself, telling myself where I packed everything and then jotting it all down in a little notebook.

Dear Myself,

Glasses are in the backpack in the small zippered pocket.

Lipitor is in a bottle in the carry-on bag.

Power cords are also in my carry-on in the large zippered pocket.

My underwear and pajamas are under my pants in the checked bag.

Toiletries are also in the checked bag under my turtleneck shirts.

My list ended up being several pages long, I am sure that when we arrive in our hotel in Iceland, I will find this notebook very helpful.

If I can find it.

– Dick Wolsfie 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 Wolsfie@aol.com.

↓ BUTCH

From Page A1

(Demi Moore), Caryn Johnson (Whoopie Goldberg), Laura Jeanne Reese (Reese Witherspoon), Katherine Hudson (Katy Perry), Eric Marlon Bishop (Jamie Foxx), Winona Laura Horowitz (Winona Ryder), Audrey Faith Perry (Faith Hill), Robyn Fenty (Rihanna), Neta-Lee Hershlag (Natalie Portman), Joaquin Rafael Bottom (Joaquin Phoenix), John Roger Stephens (John Legend), Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta (Lady Gaga).

There are many others, but you get the idea. When my brother and I were growing up in the 1950s, we watched the "Roy Rogers Show." I'm not sure if we would have watched the "Leonard Slye Show." I don't have to change my name. A cousin

already did that when I was a little tyke. He started calling me "Butch," and that nickname stuck. I was never really fond of that nickname, but at least a name that my little sister called me did not stick . . . When she was 2-3 years old, she called me "Boopie!" Of course, when I was a police officer and Sheriff, a few intoxicated individuals who I arrested called me by several other names . . . most of which cannot be printed in this column . . . but that's life!

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

FOR THE RECORD

For The Record is a public service and regular feature in The Paper of Montgomery County. It is designed to tell you what is scheduled to happen and what actually does happen in meetings paid for with your tax dollars. The Paper encourages all citizens to take an active role in being involved in local government.

- Historic Preservation Commission
City of Crawfordsville
City Building, 300 E. Pike St.
April 23, 2025 at 5 p.m.
- AGENDA
- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes
1. Feb. 26, 2025
- V. Consideration of Financial Reports
- VI. Old Business
1. 2025 Work Plan – Final Revision
- VII. New Business
1. Review and consider loan document updates
- IX. Miscellaneous
1. CLG Report Updates
2. Next regularly scheduled meeting: May 28, 2025 at 5 p.m.
- X. Public Comment
- XI. Adjournment

Butch Dale's
Flashback
Trivia
Answer:
Bill Goebel

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Ag Department Stresses Work to SNAP Recipients

The U.S. Department of Agriculture issued a memorandum to all state agencies administering the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) making it clear states must ensure SNAP benefits are provided with an expectation that those who can work, do.

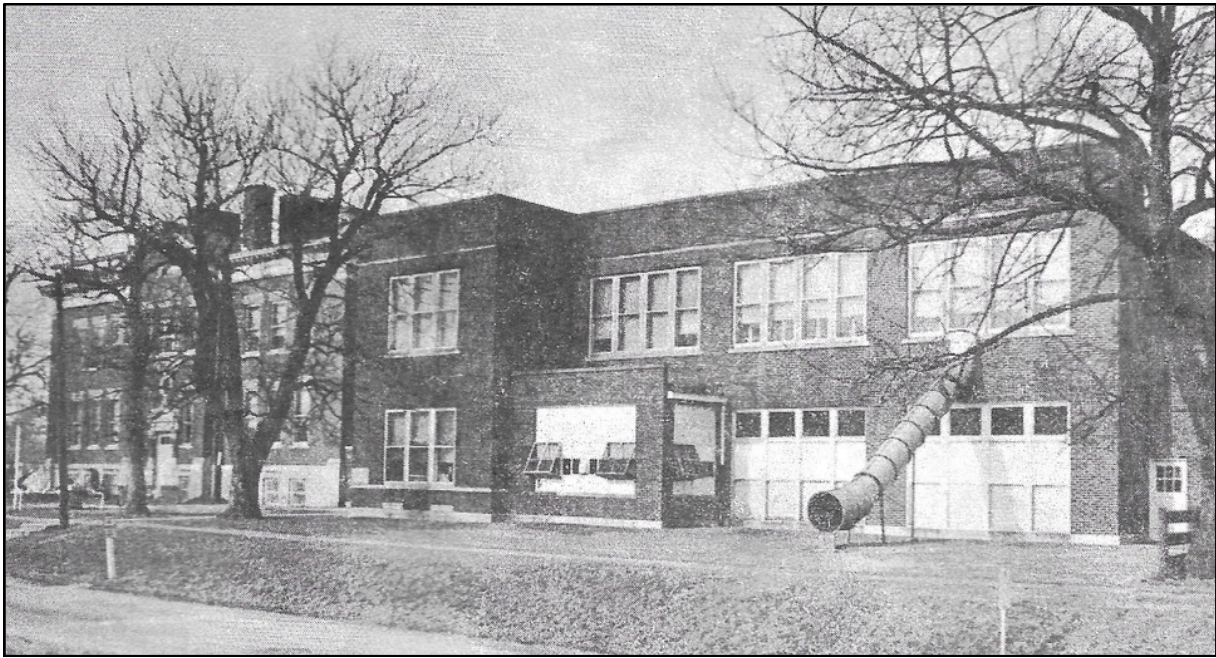
“Since my confirmation, I have reiterated the states are our partners, and this includes ensuring our nutrition programs are tied to putting Americans back to work,” said Secretary Brooke Rollins. “It is important to remind states that Congress conditioned the receipt of benefits by able-bodied adults without dependents on satisfying work requirements. Many states have abused the system by requesting work requirement waivers. Today marks the start of a new era for SNAP—prioritizing work, career and technical education, and volunteering rather than idleness, excess spending, and misapplication of the law.”

In June 2023, the *Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023* amended the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to include in the SNAP purpose statement that it “assist low-income adults in obtaining employment and increasing their earnings.” This pivotal legislation reaffirmed efforts to reduce dependency on public assistance programs and increase self-

sufficiency.

The memorandum reiterates these fundamental objectives and their interaction with the Secretary of Agriculture’s authority to grant State SNAP agencies requests to waive the time limit on receiving SNAP benefits by Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents who do not meet statutory work requirements. Section 6(o)(4) of the Act explicitly allows the Secretary sole discretion to grant an ABAWD waiver request when the Secretary determines that the area has an unemployment rate of over 10 percent or does not have sufficient jobs to provide employment for ABAWDs. Congress conditioned the receipt of benefits by ABAWDs on satisfying work requirements when it passed the *Personal Responsibility, Work, and Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996* (PRWORA, Pub. L. No. 104-193). The text and structure of the statute reveals a clear purpose to reduce dependence on public assistance programs and to support self-sufficiency. Congress also allowed the Secretary discretion to approve waivers of the ABAWD work requirement in specific circumstances outlined in Section 6(o)(4).

Back in the Day with Butch Dale



Linden High School was built in 1909 and served the community until 1988. When I played baseball there, I always thought it would be fun to enter the building and slide down the tunnel fire escape, but I never got the chance!

Montgomery Medicine: Stop the Snoring!



JOHN R. ROBERTS, M.D.
Montgomery Medicine

Snoring can certainly be annoying, but it doesn't always indicate a serious medical problem. However, sometimes snoring can be due to sleep apnea, a condition that can lead to significant medical complications.

Sleep apnea causes people to have pauses in their breathing while sleeping. Most people have insignificant pauses, but people with sleep apnea have much longer ones, lasting as long as 30 seconds. These long pauses cause the level of oxygen in the blood to drop and carbon dioxide to rise. These changes can be very hard on the body, particularly the heart and lungs, potentially leading to problems including high blood pressure.

There are two main types of sleep apnea – central and obstructive. Central sleep apnea is a problem with the signals from the brainstem getting to the muscles that control breathing. Obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) is much more common than central sleep apnea.

Any type of obstruction of the flow of air in and out of the airway can cause obstructive sleep apnea. The obstruction usually occurs in the back of the throat when excess or loose tissue collapses into

the airway. This usually happens when the throat muscles relax during sleep. This is why OSA is much more common in overweight individuals who can have a lot of excess tissue in the back of their throats.

People usually seek a medical evaluation for possible OSA at the request of a spouse or significant other who is either being awakened by snoring or who has seen the patient stop breathing during sleep. They often describe a cycle of snoring respirations, followed by long pauses, then gasping for air. The snoring results from air flow causing the tissue in the back of the throat to vibrate.

There are other signs and symptoms we ask about when evaluating people for OSA. Sleep apnea sufferers have difficulty falling into a deep sleep – the apneas can wake them tens or even hundreds of times per night. This can result in excessive daytime sleepiness causing sleepiness at work or school, while driving, or during other restful activities. Patients often complain of fatigue, irritability, dry mouth, a reduced ability to concentrate, and headaches. They may have hypertension or other heart or lung diseases. They often consume caffeine or other stimulants to try to stay awake during the day.

The diagnosis of sleep apnea is suggested by the history but to confirm the diagnosis a

sleep study or polysomnogram must be performed. These studies have historically been done in a sleep lab where patients are connected to monitoring equipment that records respirations, brain wave activity, movements via a video camera, and sensors that measure gas exchange into and out of the lungs. Home sleep studies are done much more commonly, though they do not collect as much information as studies performed in a lab. In- lab studies should also be done on patients with particular risk factors. The sleep study data collected during sleep is summarized or “scored.” A physician who has received special training in sleep medicine interprets the test.

A patient must meet specific scoring criteria to be diagnosed with OSA. Treatment for OSA usually involves a device called a CPAP (Continuous Positive Airway Pressure) machine that is connected to either a mask worn on the face or plugs inserted in the nostrils. The CPAP machine blows air into the patient’s airway to inflate it to prevent the tissues from collapsing when sleeping. These machines may be set at a specific air pressure or may adjust themselves automatically to minimize airway blockage.

A notable advancement in OSA treatment is the Inspire device, an FDA-approved hypoglossal nerve stimulator. Unlike CPAP machines, Inspire is surgically implanted and works by delivering mild electrical pulses to the hypoglossal nerve, which controls tongue movement. This stimulation moves the tongue forward during sleep, preventing airway obstruction. The device is activated by a handheld remote at bedtime and deactivated upon waking. Clinical studies have demonstrated a 68% reduction in apnea-hypopnea index (AHI) scores among users, indicating significant improvement in sleep quality.

If you feel you may have sleep apnea or know someone who does, you should see a physician to discuss testing. OSA is a serious condition that can cause or worsen cardiovascular, lung, and neurologic conditions. You can do a quick screen for sleep apnea here: bit.ly/3xTYWaw. For more information on sleep apnea, see bit.ly/2z6OAQx.

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



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Lincoln Corsair PHEV is the Luxury Crossover for Those Who Only Want to Occasionally Plug In



CASEY WILLIAMS
Auto Reviews

A few weeks ago, I drove the Ford Mustang Mach-E electric crossover. I liked its style, size, luxuries, adaptive suspension, and ability to run daily from a plug. However, like many of your, I’m not quite sure I’m ready to forgo gasoline forever. I mean, I may want to drive across Montana or somewhere. Turns out, Ford’s luxury division has an excellent alternative: The 2025 Lincoln Corsair PHEV Grand Touring.

PHEV means it’s a plug-in hybrid that can travel a claimed 27 miles per charge before the 2.5-liter four-cylinder engine fires up to continue on. In full PHEV mode, Ford claims 76-MPGe or a frugal 33-MPG running as a regular hybrid. It’s efficient, but also quick given total system output of 266 horsepower and all-

wheel-drive. Drive modes make the accelerator more or less sensitive depending on the setting.

But, it’s also a Lincoln - a brand that offers some really nice vehicles that range from the compact Corsair through the larger Nautilus, Aviator, and flagship Navigator. Town Cars and Continentals are in the past, but their quiet luxury remains.

Style cribs the larger Navigator and even a little Range Rover, especially with the Grand Touring edition’s floating black roof, sleek glass, and black 20” alloy wheels. Further distinguishing the model are a large black grille, mirrors, and roof rails. It looks expensive, but also American. Small definitely doesn’t equal cheap.

But, if we dug a little deeper, we might see the same basic architecture that underpins the Ford

Escape and Ford Maverick pickup. Don’t cringe; if I hadn’t told you, you’d never figure it out because the Corsair PHEV seems greater than the sum of its parts.

There’s little trace of Escape inside where 24-way heated and ventilated seats, panoramic roof, and stitched coverings continue the ritzy vibe. It’s also uniquely Lincoln with the piano keys gear selector, flatscreen gauges, touchscreen proud of the dash, and bopping Revel audio system. I’d prefer a proper tuning knob, but devices connect wirelessly via Apple CarPlay and Android Auto. Charge wirelessly in the console. Check the wide head-up display that hovers over the hood.

Like the Mustang Mach-E, this Corsair comes with BlueCruise, Ford’s hands-off system that allows

drivers to rest arms or drink a cup of coffee on approved roads. There’s a steering column sensor to confirm eyes remain on the road. The system can be a little fidgety in changing lanes, but automatic emergency braking, lane keep assist, blind spot warning, and rear cross path detection stand guard.

On-road, the adaptive suspension strikes the right balance between soaking up rough pavement, wafting down the highway, or taking the long way just for fun. It’s the right size to weave through parking garages, but large enough to feel safe on long trips. Despite claims, I never saw over 20 miles range, but that was enough to plug in at home and drive round-trip to the office plus run weekend errands. Step gently to stay in EV mode.

If you’re not quite ready to go fully electric, the Lincoln Corsair PHEV is

an excellent option that offers technology, luxury, and performance on-par with competitors like the Mercedes-Benz GLA, Audi Q3, BMW X2 and Lexus NX. I especially like that it wears its American luxury heritage proudly.

Corsairs start at

\$38,990, but came to \$67,325 for our Grand Touring PHEV – or about the same as the Mustang Mach-E Rally.

Storm Forward!

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


Likes	Dislikes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Electric optional• Driving dynamics• American luxury	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fidgety BlueCruise• No tuning knob• Getting pricey

2025 Lincoln Corsair GT PHEV

Five-passenger, AWD Crossover
Powertrain: 2.5-liter I4, batteries/motors
Output: 266 hp
Suspension f/r: Elect Ind/Ind
Wheels f/r: 20”/20” alloy
Brakes f/r: regen disc/disc
Driving range (EV): 27 miles
Economy PHEV/Hybrid: 76-MPGe/33-MPG
Assembly: Louisville, KY
Base/As-tested price: \$38,990/\$67,325

Montgomery Murder Mysteries: Molly’s Manifesto

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

Chapter 7 – Molly Watching Over Me

I know Molly thinks I’m mad. Not mad as in mad but mad as in insane a mad kind of mad you know. She’s been watching me lately. She came to the crick to check on me. I know she’s checking on me, watching me. She thinks I’m mad. What’s mad? Is it crazy? Foolish? Angered? I am crazy mad about Molly and the boys, foolish in that I’ve done things I’m ashamed of and angered that as hard as we work we can’t seem to get ahead. I’m 40. We should have money by now, we should be living on easy street, instead we live on this little 40 acre patch of low land that floods as much as it creates a good crop. If that constitutes mad, then so be it.

position at Darlington but even with a pay raise, we couldn’t afford the boys. It seems to all ride on the boys. This little farm isn’t enough to keep all six of us going either. Maybe I could have taught school and farmed but Molly said that was too much on anyone, but alas, my school days are gone!

Chapter 9 – My Savior



Ever since I was a wee girl, my half brother George and I have had an uncanny communication. We’d often go out to the orchard at the same time to get those juicy apples from a tree. Other times, we might pray for the same thing. The same morning we might request cherry pie for supper dessert from Momma. George was the one who smoothed things over when I pondered everyone’s thoughts about me marrying Alfred. Neither had a brother (well, we had Roland but he didn’t grow to manhood) and they’ve always felt they were destined to be brothers in spirit. Lately, they’ve not been as close. I don’t know if it’s because George has done well for himself and Alfred is jealous, or if it’s this

mental thing. For sure, I’m thankful for my dear brother.

This morning, I’m sitting on the small front porch to our house mending the boys’ socks. Speaking of socks, Alfred did the craziest thing a few weeks ago. He went into Darlington to Abram Bowers’ general store and purchased himself fifteen sets of socks. First of all, we never buy them. I make them, and second of all, he only changes them every other day, so those would last him a month. Even more strange is that Alfred hasn’t worn any of them yet, but he keeps arranging and rearranging them in his drawer. I keep trying to tell myself that Alfred is okay but things like this make me wonder.

Trying to clear my mind, I ease back in my chair and think perhaps I’ll take a nap. Suddenly, I’m awakened by a kiss on my brow. Thinking it was Alfred, I smile and open my eyes to see My Savior, brother George.

I can’t help it. Tears flow and flow. George says, “Molly, I know I haven’t had a bath in three days, but I didn’t mean to upset you like this!”

Only George would think of such a ridiculous statement. At least, he made me grin a tad. “What is it, little sister? Whatever it is, I’ll take care of it!”

Recently, I had told George of my suspicions of Alfred losing his mind, but George had bolstered me up telling me that

it was just a phase. I’d not told him of the socks or of Alfred sitting in the creek. After I rendered these stories, George sat down for quite awhile with his head bent between his legs.

“Molly, this is getting serious. Truly, I thought it was just that middle aged man thing – you know, I went through that a little myself a couple of years ago. Everything worried me, everything made me edgy. Perhaps this is something more serious. Is there anything else?”

“Well, there was a week ago when I was cooking a roast. It was the last of our beef we had butchered and the boys were so looking forward to the meal. I didn’t have any carrots to add but put in potatoes and had baked a blackberry pie with the last of the berry crop. Alfred came in. I thought he’d be pleased. He opened the cover and said, “Molly, you know I don’t like roasted potatoes,” then dumped in a whole pound of salt.

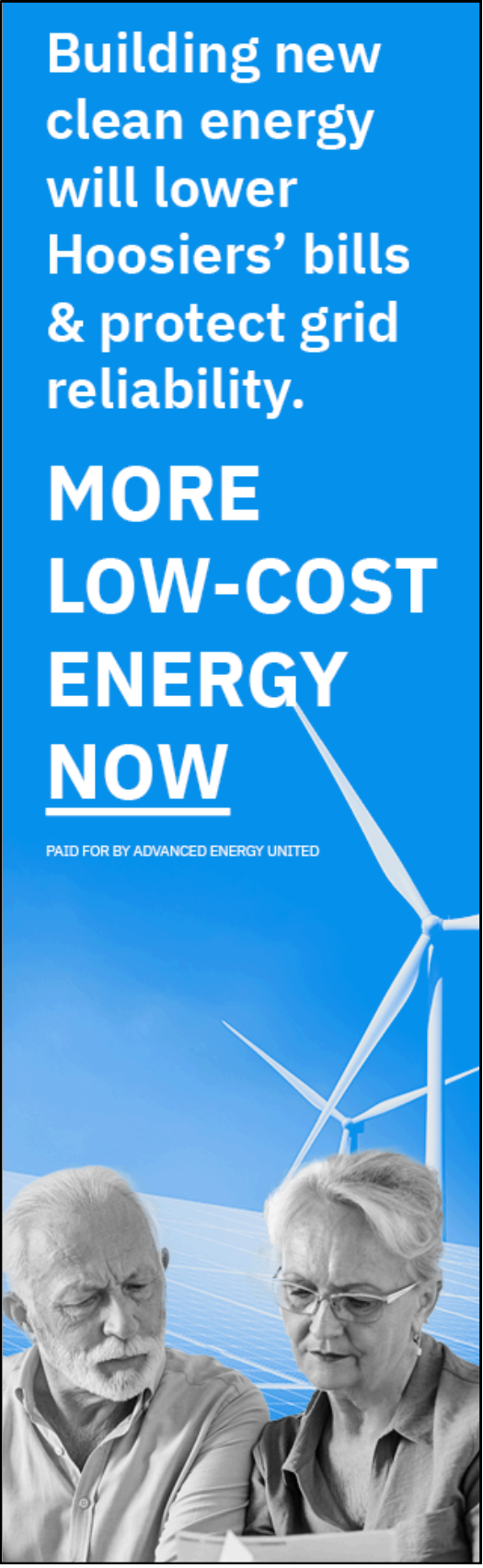
“That can’t be. Oh, Molly, I’m fearing the worst here! I’ll think of something to help him.” George jumped down from the porch and sauntered away. I don’t know as I presume George doesn’t know right now what to do, but I also know my savior well enough to know, he’ll figure something out. I just hope it’s real soon! Odd -- I didn’t even tell George what Alfred did with that pie.

To be continued...

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