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TODAY’S VERSE

Proverbs 30:5 Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

Meet Archie



Archie is a 10 month old male Australian Shepherd puppy available for adoption since 4/11/25. Archie is ALL SORTS OF PERFECT and has quickly become a staff favorite with his lovable personality! Archie is a LOVER! Archie is ADORABLE, playful, loves attention, a big time lover, and all sorts of adorable! Archie would thrive in a loving active home. Archie's adoption fee is \$175 with approved adoption application (link below) AWL is open Monday - Friday from 12:15p-5p and Saturday's from 9:30a-3p. Come say hi!



Wonder if Tariff is code for Trump’s Always Ready to Ignite Foolish Fires? Or maybe it’s Trump: America’s Incomparable Fearless Fighter? Yeah, I don’t think so either. Problem is, too many of us agree with one or the other – there isn’t much in-between.

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Boomer Bits



Ask Rusty – Will My Social Security Increase if I Keep Working After Applying?



ASK Rusty Social Security Advisor

Social Security Matters

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Dear Rusty:

I am going to be 67 in a few weeks & I plan on working for another year or two. According to Social Security, they count the best 35 years to come up with your benefit. I currently have 30 years, with 2024 and 2025 taxes yet to be filed. If I take my benefit now, will I get an upward adjustment after filing my taxes for those years, or do I need to wait to apply for SS until after filing my taxes to get credit for those years?

Signed: Still Working

Dear Still Working:

Whenever you claim your Social Security benefit, SSA will look at your lifetime earnings record on file at the time (as received from the IRS) and calculate your “primary insurance amount” (PIA) using that record on file. They will use your highest earning

35 years to do that calculation and, if you do not yet have 35 years, they will use “zero \$\$” enough times to make it 35 years. In other words, your benefit will always be calculated using 35 years, whether you actually have 35 years of earnings on record, or not.

However, Social Security revisits your earnings record whenever additional information is received from the IRS, so if file your taxes and add the additional year’s income after you start your Social Security benefits, you will get credit for those additional earnings. Essentially, you will be replacing one of the “zero \$\$” years originally used to calculate your benefit amount, and Social Security will recalculate

➡ See RUSTY Page A3

Attorney General Warns of Charity Scams

In the wake of recent storms and flooding across Indiana, Attorney General Todd Rokita is calling on all Hoosiers to remain vigilant as scammers look to exploit these disasters by targeting charitable and helpful individuals. Just as fraudsters prey on generosity during holiday seasons, they also take advantage of those seeking assistance or repairs after severe weather. Rokita says Hoosiers should take proactive steps to protect themselves from deceptive schemes promising aid or services.

“Hoosiers are good-hearted people who may want to donate to help quickly rebuild hard hit communities after the recent devastating storms, but that giving nature can make them targets for scammers looking to profit from hardship,” Rokita said. “We must stay one step ahead of these fraudsters by doing our homework and ensuring our resources go to legitimate recovery efforts, not into the hands of con artists.”

Rokita says his office is committed to tracking down

➡ See SCAMS Page A3

Celebrate Arbor Day; Trees Make People Happier, Healthier

In recognition of Arbor Day on April 25, the TurfMutt Foundation is celebrating the vital role trees play in enriching our environment, enhancing our health, and beautifying the spaces where we live, work, and play.

“Trees are environmental superheroes,” says Kris Kiser, President and CEO of the TurfMutt Foundation. “They clean our air, cool our neighborhoods, support wildlife, and even help us feel better—physically and mentally. This Arbor Day, we invite everyone to step outside, enjoy the trees in their communities, and consider planting one to leave a lasting legacy.”

The TurfMutt Foundation shares these many reasons to thank a tree this Arbor Day:

- **Reduces heat islands:** Large parks or tracts of urban trees can cool daytime summer temperatures by about 10 degrees. Shaded ground can be up to 36 degrees cooler than unshaded ground.
- **Produces oxygen:** Two mature trees provide enough oxygen for one person to breathe over the course of a year.
- **Improves air quality:** In L.A. alone, trees remove nearly 2,000 tons of air pollution each year.
- **Makes people healthier & happier:** According to the Arbor Day Foundation, people who engage with trees and green spaces daily have better mental and physical health than those who spend less time in nature.
- **Better learning:** Trees on or near school grounds are positively linked to students’ academic achievement.
- **Decreases energy costs:** According to the Urban Forest Coalition, 100 million mature trees around U.S. residences save approximately \$2 billion annually in reduced energy costs.
- **Boosts property values:** Each front yard tree adds one percent to a homeowner’s sale price, while large specimen trees can add 10 percent to property values.

To help children and families explore the benefits of green spaces, the TurfMutt

➡ See TREES Page A3

TODAY’S HEALTH TIP

It’s critical for kids, especially teens to get plenty of sleep to help with mood, school performance and appetite.

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



THREE THINGS You Should Know

- 1 Indiana Gov. Mike Braun is directing flags on government buildings and facilities to be flown at half-staff statewide as a mark of respect for the memory of His Holiness Pope Francis. Flags should be flown at half-staff from sunrise to sunset in the State of Indiana from now until sunset, the day of interment. Gov. Braun is also asking businesses and residents located in Indiana to lower their flags as well.
- 2 Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Inc. has an expanded 2025 schedule of bike tours and free community group rides. Beginning in May and running through the fall, guided tours and organized group rides will take place every Thursday evening and Saturday morning, offering a wide range of opportunities for residents and visitors to explore the city along the Indianapolis Cultural Trail. Tours are \$45 and include a Pacers Bikeshare bike, helmet, and 2-3 hours of an expert-led tour. Tour groups will depart from the Indianapolis Cultural Trail headquarters at 132 W. Walnut St. For more information and to register, visit https://indyculturaltrail.org/bike-tours-rides/.
- 3 During National Volunteer Month in April, the American Red Cross asks donors to help keep the blood supply stable by making an appointment to give blood now. Type O blood and platelets are especially needed. For the rest of this month, donors will get an exclusive Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last, plus be automatically entered for a chance to win a \$5,000 prize. There will be three winners. See RedCrossBlood.org/Hope. As spring travel and activities fill calendars, volunteer blood donations remain essential to critical medical care. Book a time to give blood now by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

TODAY’S QUOTE

“The secret of getting ahead is getting started.” Mark Twain

TODAY’S JOKE

Kock, knock. Who’s there? Noah. Noah who? I Noah guy if you need a boat!

MONTGOMERY MINUTE

On Saturday, April 26, the Harm Reduction Committee of the Montgomery County Drug Free Coalition will host the biannual Prescription Drug Take Back event from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parking lot of First Christian Church at 211 S. Walnut St. in Crawfordsville. This free event provides the opportunity to carefully dispose of expired, unused or unneeded prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications. Can’t attend this event? Don’t worry! Prescription drug disposal is also available year-round at the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office and the Crawfordsville Police Department. For more information, visit www.drugfreemoco.org.

The Paper appreciates all our customers. Today, we’d like to personally thank HORTON GAIL for subscribing!

Inaugural Strawberry Festival Baby Contest

The annual Strawberry Festival is set with a delightful new addition to the festivities: a baby contest! The highly anticipated first-ever Strawberry Festival Baby Contest at the 51st annual Strawberry Festival is set to bring smiles and laughter to families in the community this year! This fun, family friendly event will showcase adorable boys and girls in various age categories, with prizes awarded for each age group.

The Baby Contest will be held on June 14 at noon. The event will take place on stage at the festival grounds.

Age Categories:
The Baby Contest will

feature five age groups:

- 12 months and younger
- 1-2 year olds
- 3-4 year olds
- 5 year olds

The entry fee is \$7 per child and is non-refundable.

Pre-registration is required. You can request paperwork by emailing sfbestbabycontest@gmail.com. Registration must be postmarked by May 26, so be sure to request paperwork early. On-site registration will not be available.

Special thanks to event sponsor Dr. Scott Frey of Crawfordsville Family Dentistry.

Family Medicine Gets New Doctor

Saira Bano, MD, has joined the team at Franciscan Physician Network Southside Family Medicine in Crawfordsville.



Saira Bano, MD

Dr. Bano received her medical degree from the University of Punjab, King Edward Medical College in Lahore, Pakistan. She completed residency training in family medicine at Aultman Hospital in Canton, Ohio, and a residency in psychiatry at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in Newark, New Jersey.

as annual checkups and health risk assessments, and provides guidance on maintaining a healthy lifestyle. In addition, they manage chronic conditions and can refer to specialists or coordinate hospital care as needed.

Franciscan Physician Network Southside Family Medicine is located at 1640 Crawfordsville Square in Crawfordsville. To make an appointment with Dr. Bano, call (765) 362-5789.

Southside Family Medicine physicians see patients of all ages, from birth to seniors. The team of physicians diagnoses and treats medical illnesses, provides preventive care such

Rep. Genda Shares Update



MARK GENDA
Guest Columnist

Nearly 1 million Americans, including 20,000 Hoosiers, are affected by Parkinson's, a chronic and progressive neurological disease. The number of diagnoses is on the rise in the U.S. and expected to surpass 1.2 million by 2030. Notable Parkinson's symptoms include slowness of movement, tremor while resting, and decreased muscle tone or rigidity.

There is no cure for Parkinson's and current treatments like exercise only slow its progression and lose their effectiveness over time. Each year, 90,000 Americans are diagnosed with Parkinson's with an estimated annual cost of about \$52 billion between health care, lost wages, caregiver time and expenses.

To raise awareness for this debilitating disease, I support House Concurrent Resolution 25 recognizing April as Parkinson's Awareness Month and April 11, 2025, as World Parkinson's Day.

My heart goes out to those suffering from Parkinson's and their families. I hope that this resolution will bring more awareness to Parkinson's disease so that, one day, a cure may be found.

To learn more about House Concurrent Resolution 25, visit iga.in.gov.

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

Career Center Looking For Big Community Help

The West Central Indiana Career and Technical Education center are looking to celebrate the end of another great school year with our students and instructors by creating the West Central IN CTE Summer Send Off on May 19-20. But in order to make it a success they need help from the community.



where the community comes in!

Prizes and donations are needed! West Central Indiana CTE is looking for items that high school students would love to win - like gift cards, event/movie tickets, gift baskets, swag, AirPods, or even dorm / apartment supplies. Monetary donations are also accepted, and they'll do the shopping for you! Each prize will have the business / partner donor listed at the raffle, and they will give sponsors a big shout out on the West Central IN CTE social media channels..

Interested in sponsoring or donating? Email Miss Katie Jerden at kjerden@cville.k12.in.us. All donations will need to be collected by Friday, May 14.

During this two-day event, students will have the opportunity to take a crash course in a program outside of their own. Pre-Nursing students might learn to change a tire in Automotive Services, or Welding Technology students could learn how to properly roll a fire hose with our Fire & Rescue program. On the second day, programs will compete against each other in a classic end-of-the-year Field Day. There will be a cornhole competition, tug of war, kickball, ultimate frisbee, giant Jenga, etc.!

Victories, participation (and attendance!) earn tickets to be used in a prize raffle... which is



State Sen. Brian Buchanan welcomed Western Boone Middle School student Nathan Lester to the Statehouse

Sen. Buchanan Welcomes Pages

State Sen. Brian Buchanan (R-Lebanon) represents Senate District 7, which includes portions of Boone, Clinton, Hendricks and Montgomery counties. Last month, he welcomed Frankfort Middle School student Abigail Coddington and Western Boone Middle School student Nathan Lester to the Statehouse to serve as Senate pages in March. Pages spend a day at the Statehouse touring the historic building, observing debates from the Senate floor and

interacting with their state senator. Students in grades six through 12 participate in the page program on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays during the legislative session. Groups serve on Wednesdays. Even though the 2025 Senate Page program has now ended, parents interested in signing up their child for the 2026 program should visit www.IndianaSenateRepublicans.com/Page-Program at the end of 2025 for more information.

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



Do You Recognize This 1958 New Market H.S. Grad?

HINT: She participated in several school organizations, served as class officer and also cheered on the Purple Flyers!

Answer on Page A3



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Looking for a part-time job that does not involve the words:

Would You Like Fries With That?

The Paper of Montgomery County is looking for clerical help. This could be the perfect job for part-time students all the way up to Baby Boomers looking for something to do.

Basic data entry skills are required. Experience with QuickBooks is a bonus.

E-mail jobs@thepaper24-7.com

What You Really Need to Know About Food Allergies



MONICA NAGELE
Guest Columnist

As the flowers bloom and pollen fills the air, many people turn their attention to seasonal allergies. But spring is also a good time to talk about food allergies. Affecting an estimated 33 million Americans, food allergies require more than just avoiding certain foods, they demand constant vigilance, especially as growing awareness and evolving labeling laws have made conversations more common but also fueled persistent myths and misinformation.

Myth #1: Food intolerances and food allergies are the same thing.
It's easy to confuse the two, but they involve entirely different systems of the body. A food allergy is an immune response. When someone eats a food, they're allergic to, their immune system mistakenly sees it as harmful and reacts with symptoms like hives, swelling, trouble breathing, or even anaphylaxis. In contrast, a food intolerance is related to digestion. It may cause discomfort, like bloating or gas, common with lactose intolerance, but it isn't life-threatening.

Myth #2: Most people outgrow food allergies.
While many children outgrow allergies to milk, eggs, or soy, others such as peanut, tree nut, fish, or shellfish allergies are often lifelong. Surprisingly, adults can also develop food allergies, even after years of eating the same foods without issue. Researchers are still studying the causes, but shifts in immune function and environmental factors like tick bites have been linked to adult-onset allergies, including reactions to red meat.

Myth #3: "May contain" warnings are just legal disclaimers.
It might sound like an optional heads-up, but

these warnings carry serious weight. "May contain" or "produced in a facility that also processes..." statements indicate a risk of cross-contact during manufacturing. For someone with a severe allergy, even trace amounts can cause a dangerous reaction.

Myth #4: A mild reaction means it's not a real allergy.
This one is not only misleading it can be dangerous. Allergic reactions can be unpredictable. Just because someone's first reaction to a peanut was mild (like itching or a few hives) doesn't mean the next one won't be more severe. In fact, anaphylaxis can occur even if previous reactions were minor. That's why it's critical to take any allergy seriously, carry an epinephrine auto-injector if prescribed, and follow an emergency action plan.

Myth #5: Allergy-friendly foods are automatically healthier.
With the rise of "free-from" foods (gluten-free, dairy-free, nut-free, etc.), it's easy to assume that these options are more wholesome or nutritious. But that's not always the case. Some allergy-friendly snacks and substitutes can be high in added sugars, refined starches, or saturated fats to improve taste and texture. While they serve an important purpose for people with allergies, they're not inherently better for those without restrictions. As with all processed foods, it's still a good idea to read labels carefully and choose options with simple, whole-food ingredients when possible.

By understanding the difference between myth and fact, we can all play a role in creating safer environments—whether that's at a shared meal, a school event, or simply choosing what snacks to keep in the office break room.

Monica Nagele MS/RD is the Purdue Extension Montgomery County Extension Director, Health and Human Science Educator

↓ RUSTY From Page A1

your monthly amount to reflect that, resulting in an increase to your monthly benefit.

Thus, as long as you work and earn and report your earnings to the IRS, Social Security will update your record and automatically give you a higher benefit if warranted by your more recent earnings. That recalculation usually happens later in the year (after April 15th), but Social Security will make any increase retroactive to the beginning of the calendar year, so you will get any higher benefit effective with January.

So, since you have already reached your full retirement age (FRA), you can (if you wish) apply for Social Security now and be confident that Social Security will give you credit for any additional earnings

after you apply. And for clarity, if you choose to wait beyond your full retirement age to claim, you will earn Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) which will continue to increase your monthly benefit amount until you are 70 years of age. DRCs will add 8% to your PIA for each full year you delay (.667% for each month you delay past your FRA).

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.

↓ SCAMS From Page A1

and bringing to justice the criminals who perpetrate illegal scams while also empowering Hoosiers to avoid becoming victims.

With communities across the state facing significant damage from recent storms and flooding, the Attorney General's office offers the following tips to safeguard against charity-related scams:

- Always donate by credit card rather than cash or other methods. This will ensure you can access the protections available through your credit card company.
- Research the cause or the organization: Search online for the name of the organization or cause with words like "review," "scam," or "complaint." See if others have had good or bad experiences with the charity. Check out what charity watchdog groups like Charity Navigator. org, Charity Watch.org, Give.org, and Guidestar.org say about that organization.

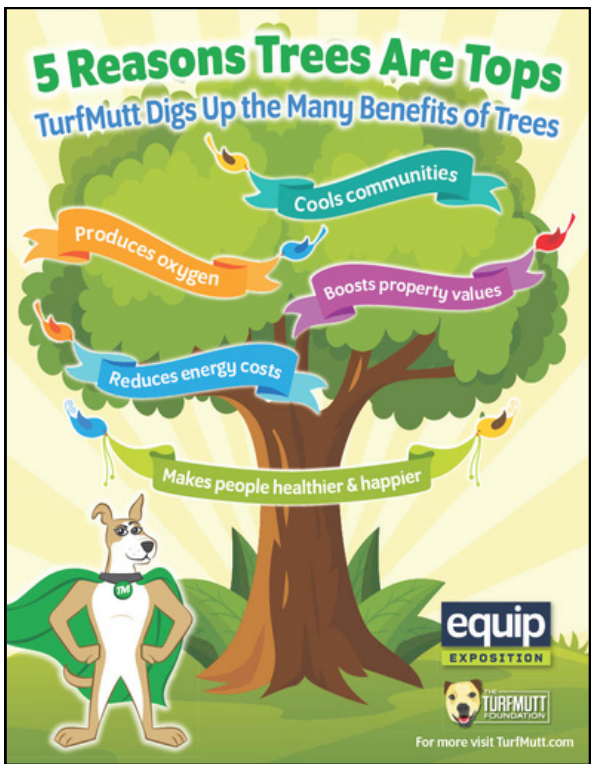
Hoosiers who suspect they've encountered a scam should report it immediately to the Indiana Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division at indianaconsumer.com or by calling 1-800-382-5516.

Bailey Mittal of Crawfordsville Earns Honor

Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College proudly hosted its annual Student Achievement Awards Ceremony during Family Weekend. The event brought together family and friends to celebrate the accomplishments of the students.

Bailey Mittal of Crawfordsville was awarded the Saint Mother Theodore Guerin Scholar.

↓ TREES From Page A1




Foundation offers free lesson plans and activities designed to inspire the next generation of environmental stewards.

TurfMutt Foundation's International Backyarding Fact Book, and don't miss Mulligan the TurfMutt on CBS's Lucky Dog Saturday mornings.

Discover more in the

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia

Answer:
Nancy Stickler



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Sen. Deery Shares Update



SPENCER DEERY
Guest Columnist

income taxes, thanks to legislation I passed in 2023.

Originally Senate Bill 243 and later folded into another bill, the act established the Indiana Individual Taxpayer Receipt to help the public understand how their taxes are spent.

To generate your receipt, visit www.in.gov/taxpayer-receipt and enter your Indiana income tax payment. The tool will then show how much of your money went to schools, social services and other areas.

While I hope taxpayers find the tool informative and helpful, the truth is that it shows only a fraction of the government we all "purchase." For example, it does not show how gas taxes are spent on roads, and how taxes paid by corporations are passed on to all of us through higher prices.

Even so, I’m proud to see this first step go live, and I hope the tool continues to grow as more data and details are added over time.

WHY I VOTED AGAINST the Property Tax Bill

Deciding whether to support Senate Enrolled Act 1 was a tough decision and a very close call because I believe in keeping taxes low and in changing our system so that local governments are more accountable for their tax and spending decisions than they are under the current property tax system.

Even so, I voted against the bill for a few reasons. First, I suspected, and was proven correct that days after the vote, Indiana would learn of the need to cut billions of dollars from our planned state budget due to our national sputtering economy. The Indiana Constitution requires a balanced budget, and that could mean reductions in education funding that would only be compounded by the cuts caused by property tax reform.

After thoroughly studying the issue and considering these factors, I did not believe that the amount of tax relief the bill would generate was worth the double hit to school budgets.

The bill did pass by two votes and was signed by the governor. As such, my focus now shifts to a budget that is focused on the right priorities (including protecting funding for education) and monitoring the implementation of the property tax reform to

serve the interests of both taxpayers and the governments that serve them.

LOWERING HOOSIERS' Health Care Costs

The Indiana General Assembly has worked to lower health care costs for Hoosiers for several years.

This year, Senate Republicans are continuing those efforts by prioritizing a bill to hold the health insurance industry to higher standards in order to further lower health care costs.

Senate Enrolled Act 3 would stipulate that third-party administrators and pharmacy benefit managers have a financial responsibility to work in the best interest of their clients. This would ensure health care companies are working in the best interest of Hoosier employers and employees.

SEA 3 passed the General Assembly unanimously and has been signed by the governor.

SENATE DISTRICT 23 INDOT Update

The Indiana Department of Transportation has announced a temporary bridge closure on State Road 75 over Kilmore Creek between Kilmore and Frankfort.

Roadwork is expected to begin as early as April 21 to allow crews to perform maintenance to improve safety on SR 75, which will last until the end of July.

Residents should follow U.S. 421 to S.R. 26 as the official detour during this project.

I urge our community to use caution when traveling through work zones and follow INDOT for most recent updates.

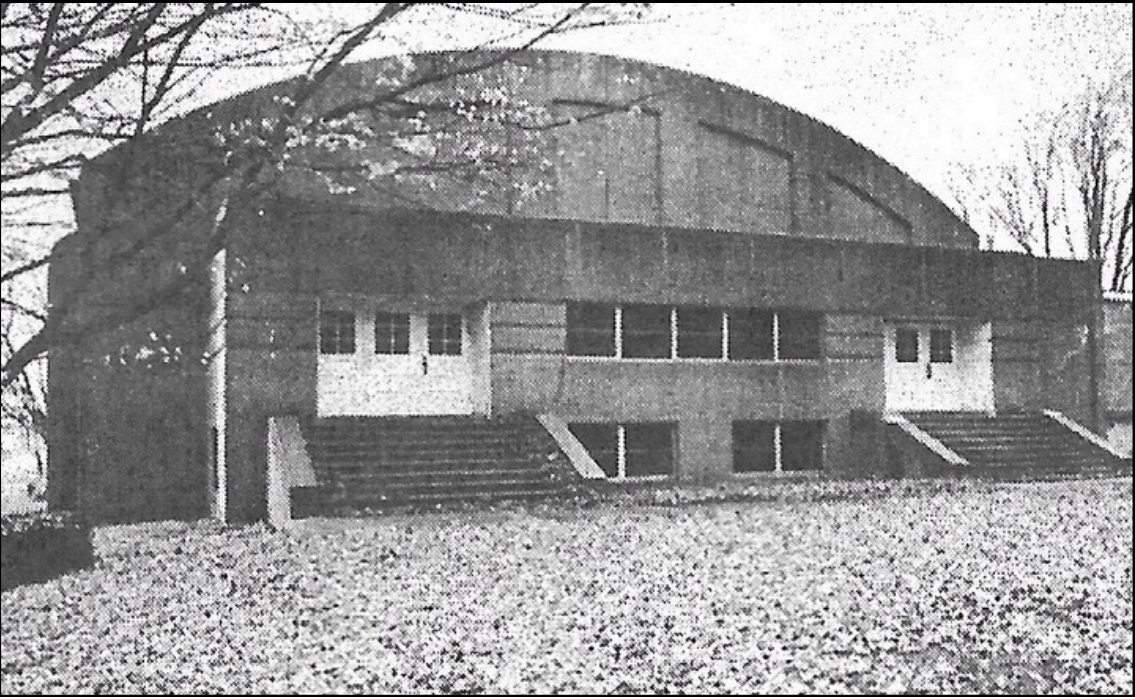
BEWARE OF SCAMS During Indiana’s Storm Season

After recent rounds of severe storms and flooding, and as cleanup efforts get underway, Hoosiers should stay vigilant against storm-related scams.

These scammers prey on homeowners by promising quick and affordable fixes, only to then disappear after a down payment has been made or delivering inadequate work.

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

Back in the Day with Butch Dale



The little town of Alamo was very proud of its new gymnasium when it was built in 1941. The gym was one of the nicest in Montgomery County. Many excellent Alamo basketball players used the gym until Alamo closed its doors after the 1967 school year.

'Thin Walls' on Stage at Wabash

Professor Heidi Winters Vogel’s theater class has been immersed since January in writing a new, devised play and staging it all in the course of a semester. The Wabash community gets a first look at *Thin Walls: Men(tal) Health* when it premieres in the Experimental Theater in the Fine Arts Center this week.



Photo provided by Wabash College

Alejandro Cruz (left) and Alex Schmidt in the Wabash College Theater’s production of “Thin Walls,” a new, devised play that was written, staged, and performed in one semester.

Professor Vogel says the students worked hard in developing and revising the script, and that the themes emerged from the students’ own life experiences. “They are experimenting with what a new masculinity might look like,” she said. “The play is asking men if they are willing to be vulnerable and honest, and enter relationships in a less combative way.”

Thin Walls stars the Theater 303 class, including Sean Bledsoe, Eamon Colglazier, Alejandro Cruz, Brody Frey, Tyler Horton, Dane Market, Preston Parker, Alex Schmidt, Gabrien Smith, and Carson Wirtz. The stage manager is Xavier Cienfuegos. Only a few members of the class have experience on stage, and the students are pushing

themselves in ways that make them vulnerable, Professor Vogel said.

The play is billed as an exploration of cultural masculinity and men’s historical struggles with depression, loneliness, peer pressure, and violence. *Thin Walls* follows the lived experiences of three brothers immediately after their stereotypically masculine father, played by Dane Market, has died.

Brody Frey plays the oldest brother, whose masculinity and attitudes most closely mirror the boys’ father. Sean Bledsoe is the middle child, who eschews the “big man” image of his father and questions his own identity. Alex Schmidt is the youngest and is

motivated to pursue his college education in an effort to be a more fully formed man – though struggles with the same vices most college students do.

Two members of the class – Market and Gabrien Smith – each wrote an original music composition for the play.

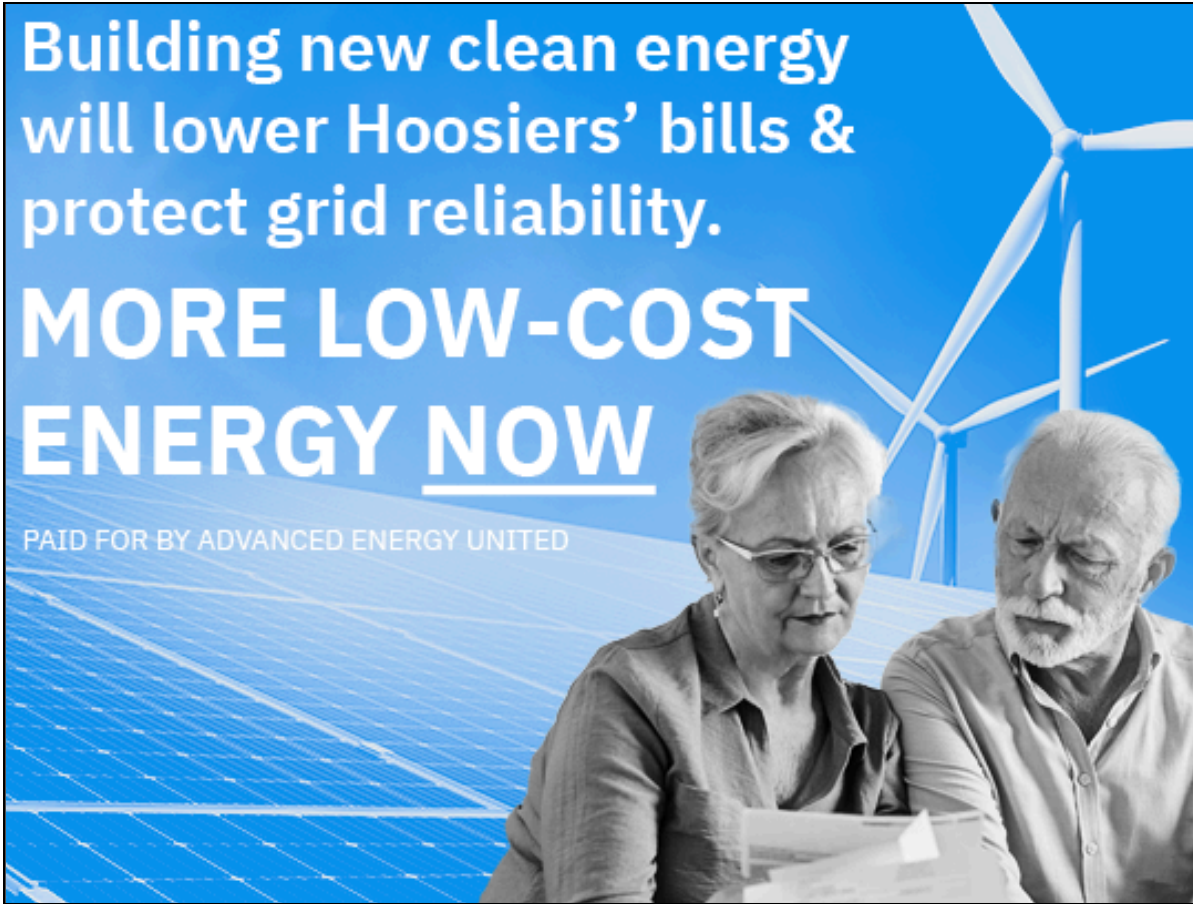
“Through devised performances, this show unearths the pressures, contradictions, and vulnerabilities that shape the male experience,” Vogel said.

Thin Walls involves adult language and situations and is not recommended for audiences younger than 14 years old.

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Things Looking up for Purdue Basketball and Maybe Football



KENNY THOMPSON
Columnist

November can’t get here soon enough for Purdue men’s basketball fans.

Not since the Troy Lewis-Todd Mitchell-Everette Stephens Boilermakers in 1987-88 have expectations been higher in West Lafayette. Now that the Final Four curse has been broken, a national championship does not seem out of the question to a normally pessimistic fan base. Some even wonder if the 2025-26 Boilermakers could have the best starting lineup in school history.

While I would put Purdue among a handful of title contenders (Houston, Duke, Louisville, Connecticut), let’s not get ahead of ourselves.

Braden Smith will be a favorite to win national player of the year honors, and I wouldn’t be surprised if Trey Kaufman-Renn is an All-American and a leading candidate to win the Karl Malone Award as the nation’s best power forward.

Fletcher Loyer is a career 40 percent shooter from 3-point range and has a very good chance of finishing among the top 10 scorers in Purdue history.

The loss of 7-4 center Daniel Jacobsen one minute into his second career game left – no pun intended – a giant sized hole in the Boilermaker defense. Kaufman-Renn led Purdue with 11 blocked shots over 36 games in 2024-25. Jacobsen had three in 26 minutes.

As insurance against another freak injury, Matt Painter brought in the No. 1 transfer in the On3.com rankings. Oscar Cluff, a 6-11, 260-pound center from South Dakota State, averaged 12.3 rebounds last season. That ranked second in the nation. He also averaged 17.6 points a game on 63.4 percent field goal shooting, the latter statistic ranking in the nation’s top 10.

Guard C.J. Cox started 23 games as a freshman and was just a tick under 40 percent shooting from 3-point range while averaging 6 points a game. He could be pushed by classmate Gicarri Harris, who started five games last season, and incoming freshman Omer Mayer, a 6-4 Israeli citizen who played as an 18-year-old in Europe’s top professional league for Maccabi Tel Aviv.

Mayer also could allow Smith to take a rest now and then after he averaged a team-high 37 minutes a game last season.

North Florida transfer forward Liam Murphy led the Atlantic Sun Conference with his 42.3 percent shooting from 3-point range.

A lineup filled with potential? Yes. The best in Purdue history? In chronological order, here are a few contenders that could lay claim to that honor.

1930
John Wooden would earn the first of his three All-America awards as a sophomore. Stretch Murphy, a giant in his time at 6-7, is also a Naismith Hall of Famer. Forward Glen Harmeson was an All-Big Ten performer in football and baseball in addition to basketball. Forward Harry Kellar would team up with Wooden two years later to lead Purdue to the Helms Athletic Foundation national championship. Herman Boots was a three-year starter at guard.

1969
Rick Mount, Billy Keller and Herm Gilliam all played professionally after leading Purdue to a runner-up finish to UCLA. An auto accident ended 7-foot center Chuck Bavis’ career prematurely a year later, while 6-5 forward George Faerber was an outstanding role player.

1978
Joe Barry Carroll, Jerry Sichting and Walter Jordan all played in the NBA. Point guard Eugene Parker and forward Wayne Walls gave Purdue five 1,000-point career scorers. Depth was thin with freshman Drake Morris and 6-10 junior Neil Bemenderfer the only frequently used reserves.

1980
Carroll would become the overall No. 1 pick in the NBA Draft after leading Purdue to a Final Four. Guard Keith Edmonson also was a first-round pick. Forward Arnette Hallman was one of the greatest athletes to wear a Purdue uniform, and Morris was a reliable scorer. Brian Walker remains one of the best point guards in school history. Steve Walker, Kevin Stallings and Mike “Scooby” Searce led a solid bench.

1988
The first heartbreak for many Purdue fans came in the NCAA Sweet 16 when the aforementioned national title contenders were upset by a Kansas State team they had demolished during the regular season in Mackey Arena. Lewis, Mitchell and Stephens went into the Leroy Keyes Purdue Intercollegiate Hall of Fame together in 2010 with coach Gene Keady. Like Mitchell and Stephens, center Melvin McCants enjoyed a brief NBA career. Forward Kip Jones filled the role that every championship team needs. The bench was young but talented with point guard Tony Jones, former Lafayette Jeff star Ryan Berning and future Big Ten Player of the Year Stephen

Scheffler.

1994
Start with National Player of the Year Glenn Robinson, the nation’s leading scorer and the only Boilermaker to ever score 1,000 points in a season. Cuonzo Martin entered the national spotlight in the NCAA Tournament when he scored 29 points to Robinson’s 44 in a victory against Kansas. Matt Waddell was a reliable No. 3 scoring option, and Porter Roberts was a steady point guard. Undersized center Brandon Brantley was a capable rebounder. Other than forward Ian Stanback, the bench was very young.

2010
What might have been if Robbie Hummel had not torn his ACL at Minnesota when Purdue was cruising at No. 3 in the nation. Hummel and E’Twaun Moore were first-team All-Big Ten selections, while center JaJuan Johnson continued his development that would see him become Big Ten Player of the Year as a senior. Chris Kramer is the role model for hustle and defense at Purdue while Keaton Grant was a 1,000-point scorer. Lewis Jackson, who until Braden Smith came along, was the best point guard to play for Matt Painter. Kelsey Barlow earned Big Ten All-Freshman honors.

2024
Zach Edey is arguably the greatest player to wear gold and black based on winning back-to-back national player of the year awards and helping Purdue snap a 44-year Final Four drought. Don’t shortchange Lance Jones’ impact on this Boilermaker team with his athletic ability and fearlessness to shoot from almost anywhere on the court. Smith, Loyer and Kaufman-Renn have improved their skills since their sophomore seasons.

Can’t tell the players without a scorecard
Look no further for an example of the absurdity of the transfer portal than quarterback Ryan Browne returning to Purdue after a semester’s audition for Bill Belichick at North Carolina.

Instead of staying put, learning the offense being installed by head coach Barry Odom and offensive coordinator Josh Henson and possibly claiming the starting quarterback job, Browne will compete with Malachi Singleton (formerly of Arkansas), Evans Chuba (formerly of Washington State) and holdover Bennett Meredith going into fall camp.

Speaking of the transfer merry-go-round, Browne takes the spot vacated by former UCF quarterback EJ Colson, who spent all of four

months in West Lafayette before deciding to hit the road again.

Also exiting this week without suiting up for the Boilermakers is former Tennessee wide receiver Nathan Leacock. Considering the Purdue wide receiver room has just 14 receptions for 129 yards and two touchdowns returning, the immediate conclusion would be that Leacock did not put himself in contention for regular playing time.

Two Indiana natives are among the three wide receivers who have signed with Purdue out of the transfer portal this month. Nitro Tuggle, who chose Georgia after starring at NorthWood, will have three years eligibility. Former Brownsburg standout Corey Smith transfers in from Tulsa and will also have three years remaining. Purdue also dipped into Georgia to sign wide receiver Michael Jackson, who

began his career at USC and will have one season of eligibility.

The only bigger need on Barry Odom’s first roster is offensive line. As of Wednesday, four more linemen have announced plans to join the Boilermakers. The most notable acquisitions are former Auburn starting guard Bradyn Joiner, who earned SEC All-Freshman honors, and Kentucky’s Marc Nave, a 6-4, 330-pounder who was once committed to Ohio State coming out of Toledo Central Catholic.

The foursome brings the total of offensive linemen from the transfer portal since Barry Odom’s arrival to eight. Jalen St. John, Mason Vicari and Hank Purvis followed Odom from UNLV. From spring football reports, Giordano Vaccaro (University of Manitoba) could be the starting center this fall.

It seems almost a certainty that Purdue’s rebuilt offensive line will be all transfers – including 2024 arrivals Joey Tanona from Notre Dame and Bakayne Coly from Lawrence Tech – with the exception of Carmel’s Ethan Trent, who was awarded a scholarship by Odom this spring.

With addition comes subtraction. The (so far) 12 incoming transfers are offset by 17 scholarship departures. Nose tackle Mo Omonode (Minnesota), long snapper Nick Levy (Wisconsin) and offensive lineman Jaekwon Bouldin (Mississippi State) are the only ones to announce their new schools.

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.

Wabash.

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PAW & ORDER



SPECIAL TREATS UNIT

DATE	May 17, 2025
TIME	9am - 4pm
LOCATION	Kroger Parking Lot 1660 Crawfordsville Square Dr, Crawfordsville, IN





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.

MEETING CANCELTION

The City of Crawfordsville Historic Preservation Commission will not meet as scheduled on Wednesday March 26, 2025 due to lack of a quorum.

AGENDA
MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2025

8 AM
1580 Constitution Row -Room E109
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
AGENDA MEMO
MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2025

8 AM
CALL TO ORDER Board President Dan Guard
PLEDGE ALLIGENCE and PRAYER
CONSENT AGENDA
Approval of Claims: AP & Payroll
Minutes: April 14, 2025

NEW BUSINESS
Approve Escrow Agreement for Thomas K. Milligan Justice Center ADA Improvements Project-The Escrow Agreement is part of the overall construction agreement for the current ADA Improvements Project at the Thomas K. Milligan Justice Center. Open Bids for Contractors for the Owner-Occupied Grant Program-The program has received 21 applications, with the majority (77%) of applicants reporting the need for roof repair or replacement. Each home may receive up to \$25,000 for improvements. The first group of homes are now available for bid. The next step in the process is to secure bids to be approved for the list of contractors to perform the work.

ORDINANCES
Introduction Ordinance 2025-13 Creating the 2025 READI 2.0 Grant Fund-Montgomery County approved to receive a grant from Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in the amount of \$1,500,000 for expenses related to the Nucor Road Watermain Project.

Introduction Ordinance 2025-14 Amending Schedule I. Weight Limits of Chapter 70: Traffic Schedules –
This schedule is authorized pursuant to the provisions of I.C. 9-21-1-3 and I.C. 9-20-1-3 and for the reason that the highways under control of the Board of Commissioners, by reason of deterioration, rain, snow or other climatic conditions, will be seriously damaged or destroyed unless the use of vehicles is prohibited or permissible weight of vehicle is reduced.
No vehicle with a gross weight of over eight tons shall be allowed on any road

Weight Limits Over Eight Tons
Ladoga –Crawfordsville Road
Old State Highway 55 from Crawfordsville to Wingate
1100 North, from New Richmond to Indiana Highway 25
Russellville Road from Russellville to Indiana Highway 47
Nucor Road from 500 South to State Road 32
1000 North from Linden to New Richmond
600 South from State Road 47 to U.S. 231
Ladoga –Roachdale Road (550E)
400 South from Nucor Road to ½ mile east of Nucor Road
County Road 400 West Between SR 32 W and SR 136 W
Comfort Drive from Nucor Road to CR250 East
County Road 800N from SR231 to CR100W
County Road 100W from CR800N to CR1100 N
County Road 1100N from CR100W to SR231

Notwithstanding the weight limitation, vehicles making deliveries to properties on such roads, agricultural vehicles and machinery servicing the farms on such roads, trash trucks, school buses, and vehicles used for utility services are excepted.
Penalty: Any person who violates the restrictions of this weight limitation is subject to a monetary fine in the amount of \$2,000.00.

Introduction Ordinance 2025-15 Ordinance Establishing Method of Retirement Payments -

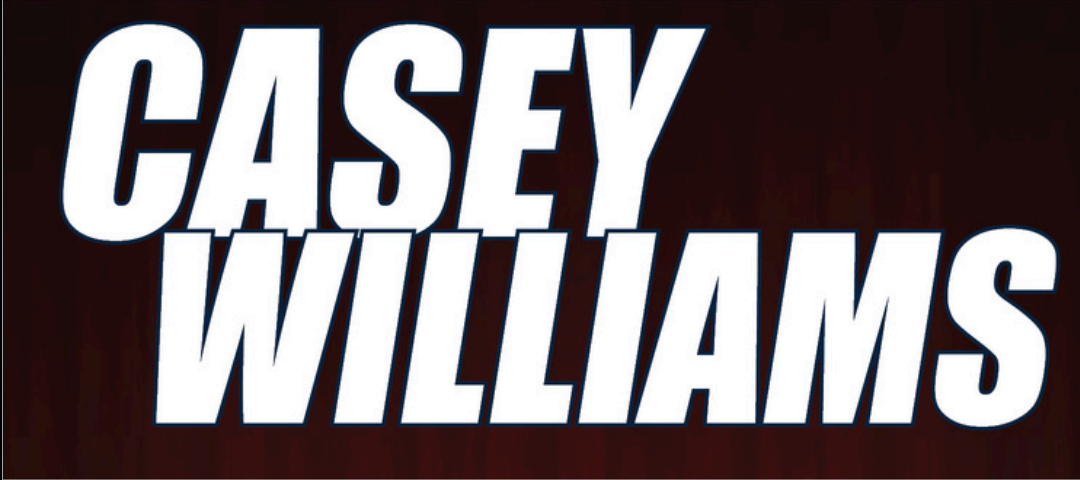
County Auditor shall pay to INPRS and to the Section 401(a) Plan that has been established the required employee share of the missed contributions and then withhold from each participant’s pay in equal installments over a 24-month period the amount necessary to reimburse the County for the employee-share payments made by the County.

RESOLUTION
OTHER BUSINESS
ADJOURNMENT

Next Commissioner Meeting -Monday, May 12, 2025 @ 8:00 am

NORTH MONTGOMERY SCHOOL BOARD

April 28
Regular Meeting 6 p.m.
480 W 580 N, Crawfordsville
1. Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Public comment
3. Consent agenda
 a. Minutes
 b. Monthly claims
 c. Personnel, extra-curricular, field trips, facilities usage, contributions, gifts, superintendent stipends
 d. Other
 e. Consent vote
4. High School Spotlight
5. Honorary Board Member
6. Spotlight
7. Action items
 a. First reading of Policy # - Reserve and Liquidity Policy
 b. Accept \$10,000 STEM grant from Pilot
 c. Approve resolution for Hinshaw Roofing to repair H.S. roof due to damages
 d. Approve purchase of new vehicle from York to replace the existing vehicle
 e. Approve Sugar Creek Chiller Installation from Hay-Bush Mechanical and Chiller from Trane
 f. Approve Middle School English Language Arts Material
8. Other
9. Adjournment



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