

■ TODAY’S VERSE

**Romans 8:18** For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

■ AWL BALOO



Baloo is an 8 year old (senior) male Black Labrador Retriever available for adoption from AWL since 12/16/23. Baloo is ready to find his furrever home! Baloo enjoys the finer things in life, like treats and nice comfy beds. Baloo will gladly sit for treats. Baloo is looking for his best friend. Could that be you? Baloo is available for adoption, to foster, or just simply going out for walks. AWL is open Monday-Friday from 12:15p-5p and Saturday’s from 9:30a-3p. Come snuggle cats in a community cat room, walk dogs, or lend a helping hand!

Here’s a tip of the seed corn cap to Howard Samuel Wilcox, better known as Howdy. This great Hoosier race was born on June 24, 1889. And for you racing fans, you know that Howdy won the 1919 Indianapolis 500!



■ MONTGOMERY MINUTE

The Flower Lovers Garden Club present their 17th Annual Garden & Arts Tour this Sunday, 11-5 (Rain or Shine). There are eight different gardens on the tour this year and tickets are \$12 (12 and under free). Tickets available at the following locations: ProGreen Garden Center, Davidson’s Greenhouse, Ryan’s Flowers, Country Hearts & Flowers, Just Because, Milligan’s Flowers and the Crawfordsville Library. Tickets will also be available the day of the tour at Pike Place from 11-2.

■ QUOTE OF THE DAY

“The only difference between a tax man and a taxidermist is that the taxidermist leaves the skin.”  
-Mark Twain

■ JOKE OF THE DAY

What do you call a factory that makes good products?  
  
A satisfactory!



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It’s Christmas In July At Boys & Girls Club

It’s the most wonderful time of the summer! Join the Boys & Girls Club of Montgomery County for an unforgettable evening of holiday fun at our inaugural Christmas in July celebration. Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 19, from 6–9 p.m. at the Club’s location at 1001 Whitlock Ave. in Crawfordsville. This fun-filled, festive evening is your chance to bring the spirit of Christmas while supporting local youth programs – all in

the heart of summer. Dress in your favorite Christmas attire (or your most festive summer gear), enter the Ugly Christmas T-Shirt contest, meet with Santa, play Reindeer Games like the Wine Pull or Secret Santa Ring Toss, and join us for an unforgettable night of merriment & memories. Wabash College Football Head Coach Jake Gilbert will join us to deliver a powerful message about community,

mentorship, and making a difference in the lives of young people. Silent and Live auctions will provide a chance to jump on your Christmas shopping or simply spoil someone with an early gift. Tickets are \$40 per person and include holiday-themed small plates & desserts, music by local favorite Adam Moody, and holiday cheer you won’t want to miss. A cash bar will be offered. This unforgettable night is

presented by C&F Fabricating, and every dollar raised will support the Boys & Girls Club’s mission to enable young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential. Don’t miss your chance to celebrate the holidays early, beat the heat with cheer, and make a meaningful impact! Tickets can be purchased at [www.bgmoco.org](http://www.bgmoco.org) or by calling the Boys & Girls Club at (765) 362-3912.

Butch Turned Off and Tuned Out!!!


  
**John 'Butch' Dale**  
*Columnist*  
Recent research has brought to light a trend that has grown rapidly in the past few years . . . people are sick of politics and just tuning it out of their lives. I must admit that I’m in the same boat. When I was a youngster, my parents rarely talked about politics. I heard about politics once in a while on the TV news and or in the newspaper, but never really paid much attention. I became more involved after

high school in the late 1960s, but attending college while also working full time left little time to discuss politics. However, nowadays it seems a person cannot get away from it. The amount of information and news coverage is overwhelming. There are several reasons why people are disgusted with politics today. First of all, it is full of negativity . . . arguing, name-calling, put-downs and vitriol . . . and the “I’m always right and you’re always wrong” attitude. Both parties seem to take their ideas to the extreme, with no room for compromise.

They refuse to listen to an opposing viewpoint. When this happens, many people wish there were more than two political parties . . . or even no parties at all. Voting becomes an exercise in choosing the lesser of two evils. Another reason people have become disgusted has to do with the politicians themselves. It seems they have all of these great ideas of what they want to accomplish, but after they are voted into office, very little is done. Instead of acting on behalf of the people,

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Blind Loyalty Might Be a Lost Art

  
**Tim Timmons**  
*Columnist*  
Blind loyalty. We have, or maybe had, a rich history in this country of blind loyalty. Whether it comes to family where siblings could fight like cats and dogs . . . until an outside stepped in. Then the siblings were united as never before and the outsider was in for a long day. The same was true with our presidents. We could grumble and gripe all the live long day (to borrow an old phrase). But when it came to outsiders our attitude was “our president,

right or wrong.” Could somebody tell that to the Democrats, please? Usual suspects like Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Chuck Schumer and Hakeem Jeffries led the barrage after the airstrikes on Iran. AOC called for impeachment (again) while Schumer hypocritically said no president should be allowed to unilaterally march this nation into something as consequential as war . . . never you mind when Joe Biden OK’d airstrikes in Syria and Iraq in 2023. By the by, that wasn’t one strike, not two, not three . . . it happened four times: March 25, Oct. 26, Nov. 8 and Nov. 12. I don’t recall AOC,


Schumer or Jeffries calling for Biden’s impeachment then, do you? I keep saying this, but the world is upside down. We don’t have the space here to go into all the actions Iran has taken against us – as in capital U, capital S. Remember the taking of 66 Americans back in 1979? Remember the 1983 bombing that killed more than 200 U.S. Marines? Remember when the CIA station chief was kidnapped and killed in 1984? Remember the bomb that blew up a bus in Jerusalem in the mid ‘90s? Remember August of ‘98 when U.S. embassies

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■ THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

- Gov. Mike Braun issued a statement recently following the State Budget Committee Meeting: I support the Trump administration’s efforts to reduce spending and promote responsible governance, it is a change at the federal level that is long overdue. However, flexibility in managing Indiana’s HIP program will be essential for the state moving forward, especially if we are required to take on more of the financial obligation. This will require a hands-on approach to updating and maintaining Indiana’s Medicaid system that only Hoosiers can provide. My administration’s entrepreneurial approach to state government positions us to lead nationwide as a laboratory for creative solutions at the state level. I look forward to continuing to partner with the Trump administration to ensure our government serves as good stewards of taxpayer dollars, and produces better outcomes at a lower price for Hoosiers.”
- In today’s hyper-competitive job market, prestige often trumps pay - especially for recent grads. With application numbers hitting the thousands at elite companies, some ambitious job seekers say they’d take an unpaid role for a whole year if it meant locking in a job at the end. So Bisnar Chase surveyed 3,010 job seekers with one bold question: Which employer would you be willing to work for free for an entire year, if it guaranteed you a job at the end? Three companies with strong Indiana ties were high on the list, Eli Lilly (72), Salesforce (101) and Cummins (113). Tops in the U.S. was Google. No, really. You can Google it.
- National Tire Safety Week is June 30 - July 4, so here are some safety tips and tricks to keep cars safe on hot roads and ahead of long drives.
  - Maintain proper tire pressure for better fuel economy and vehicle control; for every 10 degrees shift in temperature, tire pressure changes by 1 pound per square inch (PSI).
  - As tires age, the rubber becomes harder and brittle, making it higher risk for failure.
  - Check the DOT number on the sidewall of the tire – if a tire is 6 years or older, it’s time to replace it.

LWV Looks Into 36-Month Cap on ABA Therapy

 Nothing has been spared in the recent budget overhauls at the state level, including funding for individuals receiving Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy, the most common and data-supported intervention for children on the autism spectrum. But recent billing discrepancies and lack of regulation flagged by state and federal regulators, coupled with climbing Medicaid payouts, prompted scrutiny that could limit the amount of therapeutic services available to kids with Autism Spectrum Disorders. As proposed, Applied Behavior Analysis services would be capped at 36 months over a lifetime. As the 2025 Legislative Session kicked off, Indiana Capital Chronicle reported that state regulators say a jump in demand and cost of services, which hit \$639 million in 2023, was “unsustainable.” The cost had been \$120 million in 2019, then climbed to \$276 million in 2021 and \$439 million in 2022. Federal oversight agencies flagged the payouts and audited providers, noting \$133 million in improper or potentially improper claims. The Chronicle reported on one provider who resolved fraudulent billing accusations by paying back \$2 million. Representative Becky Cash (R-Zionsville), whose child receives ABA services, proposed HB 1414 to force a study and prohibit limits to Medicaid funding until the study reported to the General Assembly. Her bill didn’t pass, and Governor Braun’s office, in response to advocacy, responded in writing this week, saying: “Changes to ABA therapy coverage are proceeding through administrative action by the Family and Social Services Administration ... These changes include the implementation of a 36-month lifetime cap on comprehensive ABA services.” Capping services began on April 1 and was not retroactive, but will apply going forward, so families will have full coverage through April 1, 2028, but after those 36 months have expired “coverage for high-intensity, comprehensive ABA services will be limited after that time.” His office noted that “families

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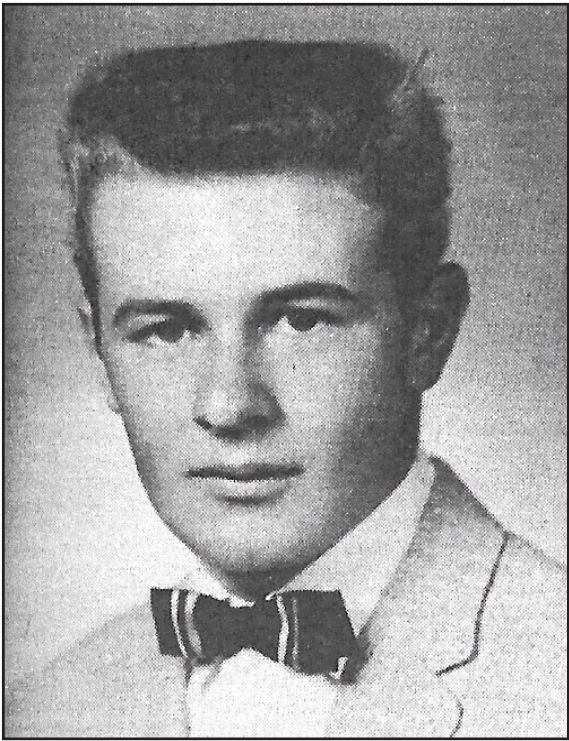




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OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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■ BUTCH’S FLASHBACK TRIVIA



**Do You Recognize This 1958 Ladoga H.S. Grad?**

**HINT:**He became a well-known surveyor here in the county.

Answer on Page 5



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Vol. 21 | Issue 72

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USPS Publication Number: 022-679  
**Annual Print Subscription: \$89**  
**Annual Online Subscription: \$42**  
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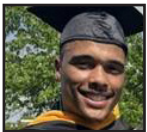
# 3,000 Books



Photo courtesy Crawfordsville District Public Library

**Madison Nichols, age 5, and Benjamin Nichols, age 4, have completed the Crawfordsville District Public Library program “1,000 Books Before Kindergarten” for the third time. They are the children of Tyler and Mindy Nichols. Together they have read 3,000 books. Madison’s favorite book is Larry Learns to Listen by Karen Poth. Benjamin’s favorite book is God is Better Than Trucks by Sarah Reju. Mom said, “We are so thankful for the library staff and environment to encourage a love of reading for our kids.”**

## Embracing Summer Solstice at CDPL



Tray Scorza  
Guest Columnist

The summer solstice has officially arrived, bringing with it longer days, warmer evenings and the perfect excuse to dive into a good book. At the Crawfordsville District Public Library, we’re embracing the heart of the season with displays, programs, and activities that celebrate discovery, connection and summer-time curiosity.

Our Summer Reading Program is in full swing, and it is not too late to join. Whether you’re reading for fun, learning something new, or simply enjoying the challenge, we have brochures and activity packets available for readers of all ages. With prizes, events and plenty of great books to choose from, summer reading at CDPL is a great

way to stay engaged all season long.

Looking ahead to July, CDPL will feature several themed displays to inspire your next check out. Explore the beauty of design with our Architecture display or get grounded in nature with our Foraging and Wild Edibles collection, perfect for those curious about what’s growing right in their backyard. We are also shining a spotlight on local churches through our Local History department, giving patrons a chance to learn more about the people, places and stories that shape our community.

Don’t miss our Pride Month display on the second floor, available through the end of June, featuring a range of LGBTQ+ stories and voices across genres and age groups. It is a meaningful way to explore diverse perspectives through fiction, memoir

and history.

If you are not sure where to start, check out our Staff Picks of the Month on the first floor, a curated collection of favorite titles selected by library staff. Whether you are into thrillers, nonfiction, heartfelt novels or hidden gems, there is always something new to discover.

In Youth Services, kids and families can keep the fun going all summer long with hands-on crafts, reading challenges, and seasonal story times. We offer dedicated story times each week for our youngest readers: Baby Story Time on Tuesdays, Toddler Story Time on Wednesdays and Preschool Story Time on Thursdays. Our children’s book displays highlight themes like nature, imagination, and summer adventure, making it easy for young readers to stay curious and excited about

books.

For adults and teens looking to learn something new, do not miss our Tech Tuesday classes, weekly sessions designed to help you build digital skills and boost your tech confidence. Whether you are brushing up on computer basics or exploring new tools, Tech Tuesday is a great way to stay connected and informed. Visit our website or the library for information on these free classes.

Stop in for a book, a moment of quiet, or just a break from the heat. CDPL is here to help you make the most of summer. Come celebrate the season with us and find something new to explore.

Tray Scorza is a Library Assistant in the Adult Services Department at CDPL.

# KENNY THOMPSON



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

**Catch Kenny every Friday in The Paper of Montgomery County!**





Want to Try Open Class? It’s That Time of Year



Monica Nagele  
Guest Columnist

It’s that time of year again ... fair season! Montgomery County Homemakers are hosting open class. Don’t know what the open class is? Well, the open class is an opportunity during the Montgomery County fair for everyone to bring in a project or projects and have them judged. Open class is a great opportunity to show the community of Montgomery County what your passions or hobbies are. Maybe you try something new in open class and find out that you are naturally talented in that area. A champion will be chosen from each of the 18 classes, and all ages are welcome to participate, even those already participating in 4H. There is something for everyone, some of the classes include: culinary arts, flower arrangements, fine arts, gardening, sewing, photography, woodworking etc.

To participate pick up a registration form at the Montgomery County Purdue Extension office. There is a small registration fee of \$4 for each project. You will be required to pay for the first 5 projects, but any after that can be submitted for free. The registration can be paid for at the Montgomery County Purdue Extension office, which is located at the fairgrounds. Open class check- in will begin on Wednesday, July 9 from 4-5:30 p.m. and then again on Thursday, July 10 from noon to 1 p.m. Judging will take place on Thursday, so come and see the results when the building opens at noon on Friday. If you have any questions please feel free to call the extension office at (765) 364-6363.

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

BUTCH

Continued from Page 1

politicians act on behalf of themselves. They crave attention and love the limelight, but there is no meaningful change. The problems continue. One example is the national debt, which continues to grow despite all of their promises.

The election process itself needs to be revamped. In most cases, money is the key factor in winning a national political office. The vast majority of money comes from special interest groups, corporations and wealthy individuals who want favorable legislation on their behalf. The “little people” have a very small chance of being heard. When they go to the polls, they vote for what they think the politicians can do for them ... and let’s face it, most of the time it’s nothing. And once a politician is in office, he is usually there to stay ... forever. There needs to be term limits for every political office at the national level.

Yes, I am interested in politics and what happens in our country. I just don’t want to listen to anyone talk about it. I know a few who go on and on and on about politics. It seems they actually enjoy getting into a heated conversation about the other party, policies, executive orders, the

President, controversial political figures, etc. etc. That’s all some of these people think about. I say, “Just shut your trap. We don’t want to hear it!” It has affected their mental health. A few nuts even resort to political violence ... graffiti, vandalism, assaults, arson, and yes ... even murder. You want to get riled up? Tune in to the major TV news channels, or read a few Facebook posts from those people who have nothing better to do than spout off political vituperative attacks on anything and anyone they disagree with.

National politics will always be here. It is currently dominated by the biased and loudest voices of both parties and the major news networks. At my age, I prefer peace and quiet. The ‘60s hippies guru Timothy Leary urged people to “Turn on, tune in.” When it comes to MSNBC, FOX News and CNN and their coverage of politics, I prefer to “Turn off, tune out.” I consider myself relatively sane. I prefer to stay that way.

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.

Baird Supports U.S. Airstrikes on Nuclear Sites



Photo courtesy Congressman Jim Baird’s Office

County Congressman Jim Baird as one of the lawmakers who supported the U.S. airstrikes which destroyed three of Iran’s nuclear sites. His office shared the following statement with The Paper of Montgomery County: “The president has been consistent and clear: Iran cannot have a nuclear weapon. President Trump gave Iran every opportunity to make a deal, but Iran failed to come to an agreement and has terrorized Israel and Americans for decades. Thanks to President Trump’s decisive action, three of Iran’s key nuclear enrichment sites have been decimated. May God bless our brave, heroic troops for successfully completing this mission, and I thank them for their outstanding service to our country. God bless America.” Baird represents Indiana’s 4th Congressional District, which includes Montgomery County.

PUBLIC NOTICES

STATE OF INDIANA IN THE MONTGOMERY SUPERIOR COURT  
SS:  
COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY CAUSE NO. 54D02-2505-MF-000525  
UNIVERSITY LENDING GROUP  
Plaintiff,  
VS.  
UNKNOWN HEIRS-AT-LAW, BENEFICIARIES, LEGATEES,  
DEVEISEES AND DONEES OF MARY A. LARGENT  
UNKNOWN HEIRS-AT-LAW, BENEFICIARIES, LEGATEES,  
DEVEISEES AND DONEES OF RUTH M. HOLT  
UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS  
Defendants.  
NOTICE OF SUIT SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION  
TO: Unknown Heirs-at-Law, Beneficiaries, Legatees, Devises and Donees of Mary A. Largent and Unknown Heirs-at-Law, Beneficiaries, Legatees, Devises and Donees of Ruth M. Holt  
Plaintiff, by counsel, hereby gives Notice of the Complaint filed in the Montgomery Superior Court against the above-named Defendants. Plaintiff also filed an Affidavit of a competent person showing that the residence and whereabouts of Defendants, Unknown Heirs-at-Law, Beneficiaries, Legatees, Devises and Donees of Mary A. Largent and Unknown Heirs-at-Law, Beneficiaries, Legatees, Devises and Donees of Ruth M. Holt upon diligent inquiry are unknown. The cause of action is for default on a promissory note and foreclosure upon a mortgage on the following described real estate:  
LEGAL DESCRIPTION  
PART OF THE WEST HALF OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION FIVE (5), TOWNSHIP EIGHTEEN (18) NORTH, RANGE FOUR (4) WEST, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE SOUTH MARGIN OF TUTTLE AVENUE IN THE CITY OF CRAWFORDSVILLE, 383 FEET WEST OF THE EAST LINE OF SAID WEST HALF OF SAID NORTHEAST QUARTER SECTION AND RUNNING THENCE EAST 70 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 210 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO A POINT 150 FEET NORTH OF THE NORTH MARGIN OF CHESTNUT STREET IN SAID CITY OF CRAWFORDSVILLE, THENCE WEST 70 FEET; THENCE NORTH 210 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING.  
State Parcel #: 54-10-05-113-050.000-030  
Address: 801 Tuttle Avenue, Crawfordsville, IN 47933  
Therefore, said Defendants are hereby notified of the filing and pendency of said Complaint and that unless Defendants file an answer within (30) days of the last publication of this notice, default judgment may be entered against said Defendants for the relief sought in the Complaint.  
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Email: logsok@logs.com  
Counsel for Plaintiff  
6/3/2025  
Dated  
Montgomery Superior Clerk, Court

PL5119 6/11 6/18 6/25 3t hspaxlp

Notice of Public Hearing  
Town of New Market  
Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) Addendum  
The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Loan Program  
The Town of New Market is seeking approval from the Indiana Finance Authority to spend the balances in an account associated with its SRF Drinking Water Project No. DW21075402.  
The Town intends to purchase equipment for its water utility. The short list of equipment it is seeking approval to purchase consists of the following items:  
• 2025 Polaris  
• Value Maintenance Trailer  
• Pressure Washer on Trailer  
• Predator 3” Trash Pump  
• 3” Suction/Intake Hose  
• 2” Suction Hose - 2 pcs  
• 2” X 25” Discharge Hose - 2 pcs.  
• 2” Predator Trash Pump  
• 3” Discharge Hose - 2 pc  
• 2 Hydrant Diffuser  
• 2 Case Hydrant Diffuser  
• Locator - Geneye  
• Metal Detector - 2 pc.  
• Milwaukee Meter Pit Pump  
• Garden Hose for Pump  
• Meter Wrench and Tools  
• Natural Gas Generator Maintenance Supplies  
• Stock Meter Pits - 5 pcs.  
• Butterfly Valves  
• Fire Hydrant - 2 pc  
• Water Meter’s Radio - 50 pc  
• Brass Meter Parts  
• New Heating System for Maintenance Shop  
• Service Pump Motors - 2pc  
• New MASN Meter - 4”

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TIM

Continued from Page 1

in Kenya and Tanzania were bombed and more than 200 people were killed? Remember Oct. 7, 2023 when more than 1,000 people are killed and taken hostage in southern Israel? Oh yeah, remember 9-11?

It’s not just that. The Iranians and their minions have stuck fast to the idea that America and Israel must cease to exist, be wiped off the map. Let’s be clear though, President Trump, just like President Biden, didn’t go to war. They authorized strikes. A strike this time that hopefully ends any possibility of Iran having the ability to produce a nuclear weapon.

To be fair, it’s not just Democrats screaming. U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres said: I am gravely alarmed by the use of force by the United States against Iran today. This is a dangerous escalation in a region already on the edge – and a direct threat to international peace and security. At this perilous hour, it is critical to avoid a spiral of chaos. There is no military solution. The only path forward is diplomacy. The only hope is peace.”

If it wasn’t so sad, it’d be funny. How much diplomacy, how much hoping for peace would be going on if next week

Tel Aviv became a big radioactive hole in the Earth? Regardless of how unlikeable Trump can be, the guy who wrote The Art of the Deal repeatedly offered Iran a seat at the table to figure this out. Diplomacy and negotiating only work when you have two willing parties.

I digress. The point, dear friends, was blind loyalty, wasn’t it? The Democrats could learn a thing or three about it ... and so could the Republicans. This time the Grand Old Party is on the side of the president. They weren’t so much when a different sort of Joe sat in the Oval.

All that bickering used to be OK so long as we came together when it came to outsiders. We don’t do that now. It’s long past time for the two major political parties to figure out they are all losing. They are losing our trust and more than anything they are losing this Republic. Here’s hoping they remember that a little blind loyalty isn’t a bad thing.

Two cents, which is about how much Timmons said his columns are worth, appears periodically on Wednesdays in The Paper. Timmons is the publisher of The Paper and can be contacted at ttimmons@thepaper24-7.com.

THE  
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COUNTY

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LWV  
Continued from Page 1

may still qualify for focused ABA therapy if it is determined to be medically necessary. Focused ABA is a lower-intensity, targeted form of treatment, often addressing specific behaviors or skills rather than broad developmental goals.”

To understand the situation, the League of Women Voters spoke with Ophelia Weir, director of operations at Indiana Full Spectrum Therapy, which operates in Waynetown and Attica. Weir, who is also a board-certified behavior analyst and has worked at two different companies, acknowledges that there are valid reasons for the state and federal audits.

“One of the things that was found with those audits was that Medicaid essentially allowed,” said Weir. While Indiana Full Spectrum set its rates to align with insurance rates, which tend to be more uniform, other companies didn’t.

One state audit found that 97 percent of sampled claims contained at least one improper payment due to inadequate oversight, including services provided by uncredentialed staff, undocumented sessions, and therapy during children’s naps. This led to new funding restrictions that will reshape autism support across the state.

Full Spectrum provides one-on-one therapy, rather than group sessions. Weir explained how those

services work. Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs), supervised by a BCBA such as Weir, provide direct one-on-one therapy focusing on skill-building, communication (including use of communication devices such as tablets), social interaction, and behavior management through rapport-based interventions. RBTs are clinically supervised by BCBAs who conduct each client’s assessment and write an individualized treatment plan with goals. BCBAs also provide parent training. Services are delivered flexibly in clinics, homes, or schools (district-dependent), with one-on-one therapy as the primary model. Group therapy exists but is less common due to billing complexities, Weir noted.

The surge in demand, Weir said, is due to diagnostic expansion: Earlier autism assessments and increased parental awareness have led to more children qualifying for services and the breadth of services that comes with a growing recognition of co-occurring conditions (e.g., OCD) requiring behavioral support beyond core autism symptoms.

While auditing misuse is necessary, Weir said the reforms risk overlooking clinician input and clinical realities, including inflexible hour allocations--tiered hours may not match individual needs, as BCBAs emphasize personalized

hour recommendations over standardized tiers. Policies were crafted without input from ABA specialists, leading to mismatched solutions like the three-year cap.

“The three-year cap will be a major barrier. What if a child exhausts their coverage early, then develops new behavioral needs at school later? We’re not set up for that reality,” said Weir.

Under the proposed policy, after exhausting the 36 months of treatment, families may only access limited “focused ABA” for specific behavior and will lose out on comprehensive developmental support.

Weir said this could exacerbate early intervention gaps. It’s critical to receive a diagnosis as early as possible, especially in the crucial 0-5 years when a child’s brain is forming synaptic connections in language, problem-solving, emotional regulation and other skills. While 1–2 years of ABA may suffice for some young children, others with complex needs risk losing critical support during formative developmental windows. Depending on where a person is on the autism spectrum, they may face other challenges throughout adolescence and adulthood. Behavioral needs often evolve with age (e.g., school-related aggression or OCD management). Those who used childhood coverage may lack access later despite emerging

needs.

Furthermore, this increases family economic strain. Many parents rely on ABA for childcare to maintain employment. Reduced hours or coverage loss could force career reductions or financial instability. Furthermore, Indiana’s Medicaid waiver, which allows paid family caregiving, has a multi-year waitlist, leaving few alternatives when ABA coverage ends.

Indiana’s Medicaid restructuring aims to curb fraud but imposes rigid constraints on a therapy supporting over 7,300 individuals statewide -- The governor’s office anticipates 8,000 children will receive services in 2026. The tiered-hour system and lifetime cap prioritize fiscal control over clinical flexibility, potentially leaving families without sustainable long-term solutions. As the 2025 implementation approaches, balancing oversight with adaptable support remains critical—especially for those whose needs extend beyond arbitrary time limits.

*The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, multi-issue political organization which encourages informed and active participation in government. For information about the League, visit the website [www.lwvmontcoin.org](http://www.lwvmontcoin.org); or, visit the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, Indiana Facebook page.*

■ 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 MEETING

June 25, 2025 at 5:00 PM

City Building, 300 E. Pike St.

Common Council Chambers

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Approval of Agenda

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. May 28, 2025

V. Consideration of Financial Reports

VI. Old Business

A. Update on the designation of the four remaining core downtown blocks

B. Update on 117 E Market Street

VII. Certificate of Appropriateness Review

VIII. New Business

A. Discussion of grant/loan program interest

IX. Miscellaneous

A. Preserving Historic Places Conference

B. Two open seats

C. Next regularly scheduled meeting:

July 23, 2025 at 5:00 PM

X. Public Comment

XI. Adjournment

Discover Power of Freeze Drying

Have you ever wondered how freeze-dried foods are made, or how you could use freeze drying in your own home? Whether you’re prepping for emergencies, planning for allergy-friendly food storage, or just curious about the process, join Purdue Extension’s Monica Nagele for a workshop on July 22 and get all your questions answered! Join us on Monday,

July 22 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Exhibit Hall at the Montgomery County 4-H Fairgrounds for a hands-on introduction to freeze drying. This free educational event will cover the science behind freeze drying, how it compares to other food preservation methods, and practical ways families are using freeze-dried foods for everything from healthy snacks to pet food and

outdoor adventures. Participants will get to see a freeze dryer, sample freeze-dried foods and take-home resources to help them decide if home freeze drying is right for them. Space is limited, so be sure to RSVP by July 15 by calling (765) 364-6363 or e-mailing [monicanagele@purdue.edu](mailto:monicanagele@purdue.edu).

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■ BUTCH’S BACK IN THE DAY



Back in the day, grade school kids were happy to have the pedestal desks to write on and keep all of their books and papers inside. But a few did get their fingers pinched on occasion. Shown above is the first grade class at Linden in 1963.

# Previously Convicted Sex Offender Sentenced to 45 Years

Darren Ringenberg, 30, of Louisville, Kentucky, a registered sex offender, was sentenced to 45 years in federal prison, followed by ten years of supervised release, after being convicted of two counts of sexual exploitation of a child while required to register as a sex offender.

According to court documents, in 2019, Ringenberg was previously convicted in Kentucky of twenty counts of Possession of Matter Portraying a Sexual Performance by a Minor and was required to register as a sex offender for life.

Then, after his release from the Kentucky offense, in June 2023,

Ringenberg, using the Snapchat username “devil\_hell6969,” communicated with a nine-year old girl living in Monroe County, Indiana and coerced her to send sexually explicit images and videos, threatening to hack into her social media accounts and remove all her friends if she did not comply. Ringenberg directed her as to what images to send, how to take the photos and told her that they could meet in person in the future. He also falsely claimed to be sixteen years old and would screen-record and save many of the images and conversations without the child’s knowledge.

After receiving a tip about his illicit behavior

online, law enforcement conducted judicially authorized searches of both Ringenberg’s Snapchat account and his residence in Louisville. Investigators found text messages, many of which were sexual in nature, between Ringenberg and various other unidentified minors, including the nine-year-old girl. Also located on his cell phone camera roll were many Snapchat screen recordings of minor victims engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

“Sex offenders often use manipulation and threats to sexually exploit children with utter disregard for the lasting trauma they inflict. I urge parents and guardians to talk to the children in their

lives about what they’re doing online and make sure they have trusted adults they can turn to for help,” said John E. Childress, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana. “I commend the FBI and the Bloomington Police Department for their work to seek justice for this victim and protect other children from this online predator.”

“This case is a tragic reminder that with today’s technology, predators can reach across state lines with a few clicks. While the distance didn’t help protect this child from harm, it did not stop the offender from being brought to justice,” said FBI Indianapolis Special

Agent in Charge Timothy J. O’Malley. “The FBI and our law enforcement partners remain committed to protecting children and holding offenders accountable – no matter where they are.”

The FBI and Bloomington Police Department investigated this case. The sentence was imposed by Chief U.S. District Judge Tanya Walton Pratt.


Acting U.S. Attorney Childress thanked Assistant U.S. Attorney Mary-Ann T. Mindrum, who prosecuted this case.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Depart-

ment of Justice to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by U.S. Attorneys’ Offices and the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims.

If you are a victim of child sexual exploitation, please contact your local police department. Resources for victims of child exploitation can be found on our website at <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdin/project-safe-childhood>

# CASEY WILLIAMS



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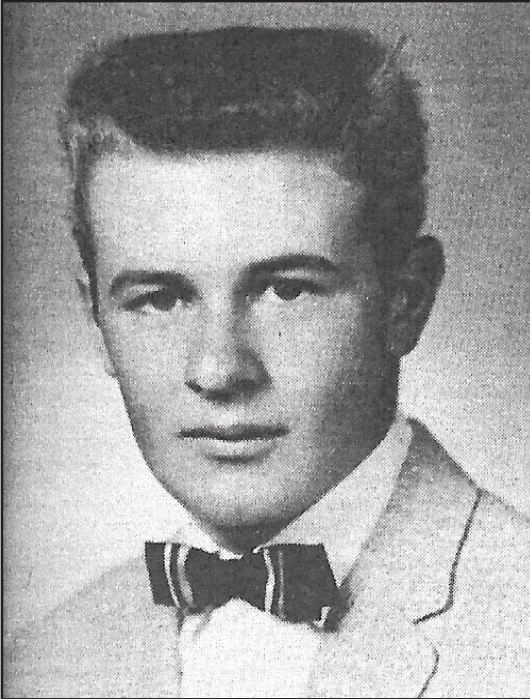
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■ BUTCH’S FLASHBACK TRIVIA



ANSWER: Dave Deckard



# Strawberry Festival Cars

Before we put away the final chapter on this year’s Strawberry Festival, uber talented photographer and all-around good guy Andy Chandler shared these photos he took at the Strawberry Festival. Enjoy – and start thinking about next year!



*Photos  
courtesy  
Andy Chandler*



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