

Sagamore News Media presents

Tropical Costa Rica

HOSTED BY DICK WOLFSIE | FEBRUARY 6 - 14, 2026



For more information contact Collette 800-581-8942

Refer to booking #1344002



■ TODAY'S VERSE

Ecclesiastes 3:14 I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it.

■ AWL LUNA

Luna is a beautiful 6 year old female American Pit bull Terrier available for adoption from The Animal Welfare League (AWL) since 8/20/2025. Luna is great on walks, cuddly, and affectionate!



Luna is all sorts of perfect and has even won the prestigious award of MOST BEAUTIFUL! Luna is ready to find a furrever home to call her own! Luna is spayed, dewormed, and up to date on all of her shots! AWL is open Monday - Friday from 2p-5p and Saturday's from 12-3p. Come say hi, snuggle cats, walk dogs, or lend a helping hand!!



Five days? We've only got five days left in summer? I get the "It's Fall, y'all" crowd. You can have all the apple cinnamon spice and the turning leaves in Brown County. I'll take a hot summer day in Shades State Park over all of it seven days a week.

■ MONTGOMERY MINUTE

September is Suicide Prevention Month, and Volunteers for Mental Health and Youth Service Bureau are combining their resources to train individuals in how to best serve a friend, colleague or family member who is considering taking their own life. On Thursday, a lunch and learn session will be held at HHSB Success Center to help attendees learn the QPR method of suicide prevention. Sara Clapp, program director at Montgomery County Youth Service Bureau will share her knowledge by explaining the simple steps of QPR and she will provide strategies for responding to a potentially suicidal friend, colleague or family member. The program begins at 11:30 with free lunch, followed by Clapp's presentation. Pre-registration and lunch rsvp are required no later than one week prior. Visit www.vmhmc.org to register. Questions may be directed to Denise Booher Walker, (765) 275-2689; email: dbw@vmhmc.org

■ QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It's fine to celebrate success, but it is more important to heed the lessons of failure."

- Bill Gates

■ JOKE OF THE DAY

R.I.P. boiling water...

You will be mist.

The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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Butch Relates Childhood Memories of Marta Jeffries



John 'Butch' Dale
Columnist

Marta Cox Jeffries was the daughter of Cecil and Mabel Cox, who owned the Darlington Cafe back in the 30's and 40's. She had three sisters, Margaret, Jane, and Judy, and the four of them had some fun (and mischievous) times growing up. In 1999, Marta wrote about some of her

childhood memories...

"I remember in grade school, country kids bringing lunch to school wrapped in newspaper and fastened with a straight pin. How I longed to do that...instead I had to go to the restaurant every day! I also remember leading yells in the subway at recess and being chased all the way to the assembly by Mr. Miller, the 6th grade

teacher, who could dish it out, but not take it. (I was a sassy kid.) And I remember going to his homeroom the next morning and saying, 'My mother said I had to apologize,' and leaving. Who in my class could forget Bill Dale (who was a senior I think) coming to our room when the teacher had to be gone, and jumping over the wastebasket!

See **BUTCH** Page 3

Want to Run for Office?

Anyone thinking of running for public office, wanting to encourage a friend to run or just planning to support a favorite candidate is welcome to a Candidate Call-out meeting Tuesday, 7 p.m. at the Crawfordsville Public Library. The Montgomery County Democrats are hosting the meeting to answer questions about community concerns, campaigning, next steps and what it takes to be a candidate.

This is a casual information session, and attendees are not expected to declare candidacy at the meeting. Attendees will learn which local and state offices are up for election in 2026 and the job descriptions, deadlines, responsibilities and requirements for those offices.

All interested persons are welcome to attend.

LWV: Neighbors Helping Neighbors



Ever pushed down on the brake pedal,

heard that grinding noise and felt the pit of the stomach dread? Your car needs a brake job, but it'll cost you a couple of hundred dollars, and you don't have the money. You know the parts are less than fifty bucks, but you lack the skills and tools to do the

job. For a lot of community residents, a two-hundred-dollar car repair cascades into a late rent payment, missing work or skipping meals.

That's where MoCo Mutual Aid can step in. More than a support group, mutual aid is a living testament to the power of community-driven solidarity. In just over a year, our local grassroots collective,

coordinated by Aaron Casper, Jazerik Garman, Jo Reabe, Kay Whetstone and Aaron Morrison, has grown into a vibrant network where neighbors rally to care for one another.

Whetstone and Morrison explained that mutual aid is an idea as ancient as humanity. It centers on the belief that people thrive

See **LWV** Page 4

We are Living in Surreal Times



Tim Timmons
Columnist

In the spring of 1968, just four and a half years removed from the assassination of our country's 35th president,

John Fitzgerald Kennedy, we watched a year dawn unlike any we had seen in

our young lives.

Martin Luther King was gunned down in April. Bobby Kennedy was murdered two months later. And two months after that, we watched unprecedented violence in Chicago at the Democratic National Convention. In subsequent years we also

had college students shot and killed at Kent State, Gov. George Wallace (the man who physically stood in the doorway to prevent two black students from entering the University of Alabama) shot multiple times and political unrest like this country had not

See **TIM** Page 4

■ THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1 Did you know that Bachelorette parties now cost an average of \$1,300, and new research from custom apparel company Rushorder Tees reveals how brides-to-be are cutting costs by choosing local themes. Here in Indiana, Hoosiers made 84 monthly searches for a Beach-theme bachelorette. The top five themes in Indiana were Beach, Vegas, Disco, Mamma Mia and Cowgirl. Across America, the most popular themes reflect what's accessible in each state, from beaches and big cities to Western culture, showing that brides are leaning into celebrations that don't require expensive travel. Researchers analyzed Google search information for various bachelorette party themes between March 2024 and February 2025, uncovering distinctive patterns in how Americans plan these pre-wedding celebrations. The study uncovered major differences in how women across the country plan their final fling before the ring, with a clear split between preferences on the coasts versus inland areas.

2. Fall hunting licenses are officially on sale, and DNR's upgraded licensing system, the Activity Hub, works a bit differently than the prior method. To make sure you're ready to go, please sign in now, check your account, and grab your licenses early. Getting set up ahead of time gives you plenty of room to troubleshoot, ask for help, or visit a retailer if needed. Don't wait until the last minute. DNR wants you to get into the field without a hitch. Go to GoOutdoorsIN.com and click the login button. You'll be directed to Access Indiana, where you'll log in or create an account. Once logged in, you'll return to the Hub to verify your personal info, purchase licenses, and apply for reserved hunts.

3. Speaking of outdoors, do you know a kid who loves deer hunting? Mark your calendars for youth deer weekend, Sept. 27-28. In the lead-up, we anticipate a high volume of license system traffic so don't wait until the last minute to access your account in DNR's new license system, the Activity Hub. If you previously had a child or other person linked to your account, you will need to reestablish that link in the new system. The process functions differently from the previous license system, so allow plenty of time to learn the steps.

ROCK OUT!

Event Aims to Help in Recovery

On Thursday, September 25, 2025, InWell will be hosting the 5th Annual Rock Out Recovery event from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Pike Place, 125 S. Washington St. This event is free and family friendly! Attendees will need to check in at the InWell table for a meal ticket and t-shirt.

This year, there will be over 26 resource vendors, live music, DJ, messages of hope with recovery speakers, a bounce house, face painting, and 200 free meals from Smitty D's Hot Dogs and Tacos Pamaro, and sweet treats for purchase from Emily's Eats.

InWell, DFMC, and supporting agencies are especially excited about the recovery speaker, Heather Rodriguez, Vice President of Recovery and Advocacy with Mental Health America of Indiana and Director of the Indiana Recovery Network.

InWell hosted its first Recovery Month Celebration,

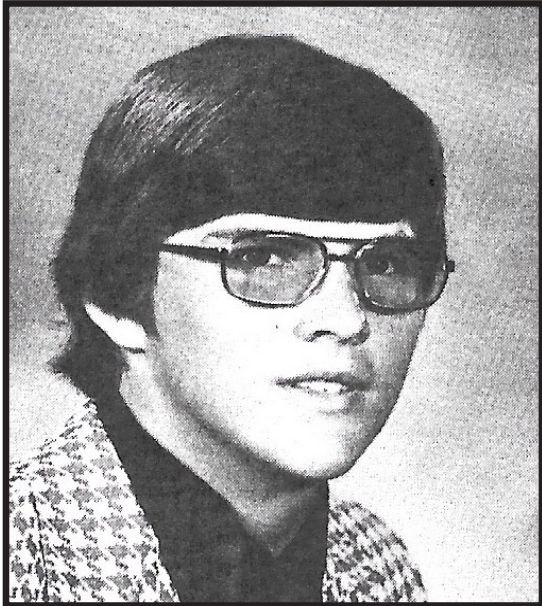
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The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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■ BUTCH'S FLASHBACK TRIVIA



Do You Recognize This 1975 CHS Graduate?

HINT: He became a firefighter and also served many years as the Linden Town Marshal.

Answer on Page 6

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OBITUARIES

Betty Hooten

April 27, 1938 - September 13, 2025

Betty Jane (Kingston) Hooten, age 87 of Crawfordsville, passed away on Saturday, September 13, 2025. She was born in Equality, Illinois, on April 27, 1938 to the late Benjamin Franklin & Mary Louisa (Kellmes) Kingston.



On November 10, 1956 in Corinth, Mississippi, Betty married the love of her life, Lowell Eugene Hooten, who preceded her in death on April 13, 2017. She was a loving mother and homemaker and ran a day care out of her home for 15 years. She enjoys doing embroidery, loved doing crafts and watching her hummingbirds, and loved spending time with her puppy, Barnaby. She loved her Lord and Savior and attended Calvary Chapel in Crawfordsville.

She is survived by a daughter, Brenda (Paul) Euvino; a grandson, Brian Euvino; a great granddaughter, Elizabeth "Lizzie" Euvino; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Lowell; six siblings, Homer "Pete" Kingston, Jennie Crawford, Mabel Stone, Anna Kingston, Hubert Kingston, and Benjamin Jr. Kingston.

Visitation will be at Sanders Funeral Care, 315 S Washington St, in Crawfordsville on Wednesday, September 17, 2025 from 10:00am till the time of the funeral service at 12:00pm with Pastor Dave Keesee officiating. Burial will follow at Oak Hill South Cemetery. Share memories and condolences online at www.SandersFuneralCare.com.

Anita Murphy

July 23, 1945 - September 12, 2025

Anita B. Murphy, age 80 of Crawfordsville, passed away on September 12, 2025 after a courageous fight with cancer. She was born on July 23, 1945 to Blye and Fannie (Seay) Moody in Kansas City, MO.



Anita married Jack Allen Murphy, spending over 50 loving years together until his passing in 2017.

She was always ready to play a game of cards with anyone, carrying a deck in her purse at all times. Anita loved traveling to Florida with her family, with Panama City Beach being her favorite. She was a longtime member of Alamo Christian Church.

Anita is survived by her sons, Todd (Tia) Murphy of Indianapolis and Troy Murphy of Crawfordsville; grandchildren, Sara (Steve), Jacob, Jessica (Josh), Matt (Stephanie) and Jack; great grandchildren, Haley, Claire, Josie, Cooper, Kobyn, Emma, Ethan, Ella, Lily, Alex and Madison.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Jack; and daughter, Tami Booher.

With Anita's wishes, services will be private. She will be laid to rest next to Jack at Indian Creek Hill Cemetery outside of New Market.

Share memories and condolences at www.SandersFuneralCare.com.

Jerrad VanCleave

February 26, 1976 - September 14, 2025

Jerrad Alan VanCleave Sr., age 49 of Crawfordsville, was reunited with his Lord and Savior on September 14, 2025 at home surrounded by his loving family. He was born on February 26, 1976 to David and Kathy (Axsom) VanCleave in Crawfordsville. Jerrad married Jennifer Vansickle in 1999 in New Ross Methodist Church.



He was a graduate of South Montgomery High School, Class of 1994 and Lincoln Tech in Indianapolis with a degree in Automotive Service Technology. Jerrad was an automotive technician for Larry Cummings, Horner Automotive, Mike Raiser and Christie Hubler, retiring in 2021 to run "Papaw's Daycare." He was a very faithful man, serving the Lord with Providence Christian Church in Beckville, Indiana. He also was a member and former president of He-Man Organization, spending time in fellowship with men in the local community. Jerrad enjoyed spending time outdoors, especially hunting and fishing. He was a beloved father, volunteering and coaching his children's sporting teams. Jerrad was loved by his grandchildren, and he loved playing with them.

He is survived by his wife, Jennifer; father, David VanCleave; mother, Kathy VanCleave; 3 children, Kaylee (Dyllan) Wirth, Jerrad Jr. (Haylee) VanCleave and Kari-Ann VanCleave; 3 grandchildren, Weston Wirth, Jameson Wirth and Rosaleigh Violet VanCleave; siblings, Jason (Heather) VanCleave and Jennifer (Kathy Bowlds) VanCleave. He will also be missed by his nieces, nephews, extended family and the "Bonus Children" he lovingly supported throughout the years.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to He-Man, 9999 E 600 S, New Ross, IN 47968.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, September 17 from 4-7 pm at Sanders Funeral Care, 315 S Washington Street in Crawfordsville. A Funeral Home service will be held on Thursday, September 18 at 11:00 am. Burial will follow at Pisgah Cemetery on 200 S outside of New Ross. Share memories and condolences at www.SandersFuneralCare.com.

City, County Government Leaders Featured at Lunch

The Crawfordsville / Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce is hosting a City / County Legislative Lunch at noon on Friday on the third floor of Fusion 54, 101 W. Main Street, Crawfordsville.

The panel will consist of Mayor Todd Barton, City Council Andy Biddle, County Commissioner Dan Guard and County Councilor David Hunt. The panel will give updates on what is happening in our community followed by a question-and-answer session.

The sponsor for this



event is Lakeside Book Company. Lunch will be catered by Jimmy John's. This event is open to the public. The cost is \$10 for Crawfordsville / Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce members and \$15 for non-chamber members.

Please register to attend online at crawfordsvillechamber.com or call the Chamber (765) 362-6800 today.

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800-581-8942
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BUTCH

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How we loved that!

"Tony Endicott would turn off all the street lights at 11:00 pm, but our wonderful base-burner put out a cheery glow in the winter and the cob incinerator at the elevator did the same...In the summer, Jane and I would be out on our bikes checking out the town just as the birds were waking...The school kids would get out of school to look for milkweed pods, which were used to make parachutes during the war...I remember Joe McClaskey delivering milk and one day having to get the crank out of his truck to kill a blue racer snake in our yard...And the wonderful Omar man! My sisters always got what they wanted. I finally learned to wait on him up the street to get what I wanted--cinnamon twists...

"Saturday nights were really fun. Everyone came to town. Our restaurant, the Cox Cafe, was so busy serving our regular Saturday night folks, we could hardly keep up. Fred and Mary Butler, along with Eddie, were regulars all week. Fred didn't want 'horse slobbers' (meringue) on his pie, so of course Eddie didn't either. Wally Cox was an awful tease. I was his waitress at noon one day. I wanted to get back at him for all the teasing I had endured. When I took him his water, he took a big drink and immediately spit it out all over everywhere. It was fizz water. Needless to say, I never did that again.

"After ballgames, you could barely walk through the restaurant. The ball boys were allotted a certain amount of money to spend, and when Linden came to play they also came in, because Uncle Alex (Cox) was their coach. We're talking one milkshake machine here, folks! It was hectic, and it was fun. The kids going to the consolidated schools today don't



Marta Cox Jeffries

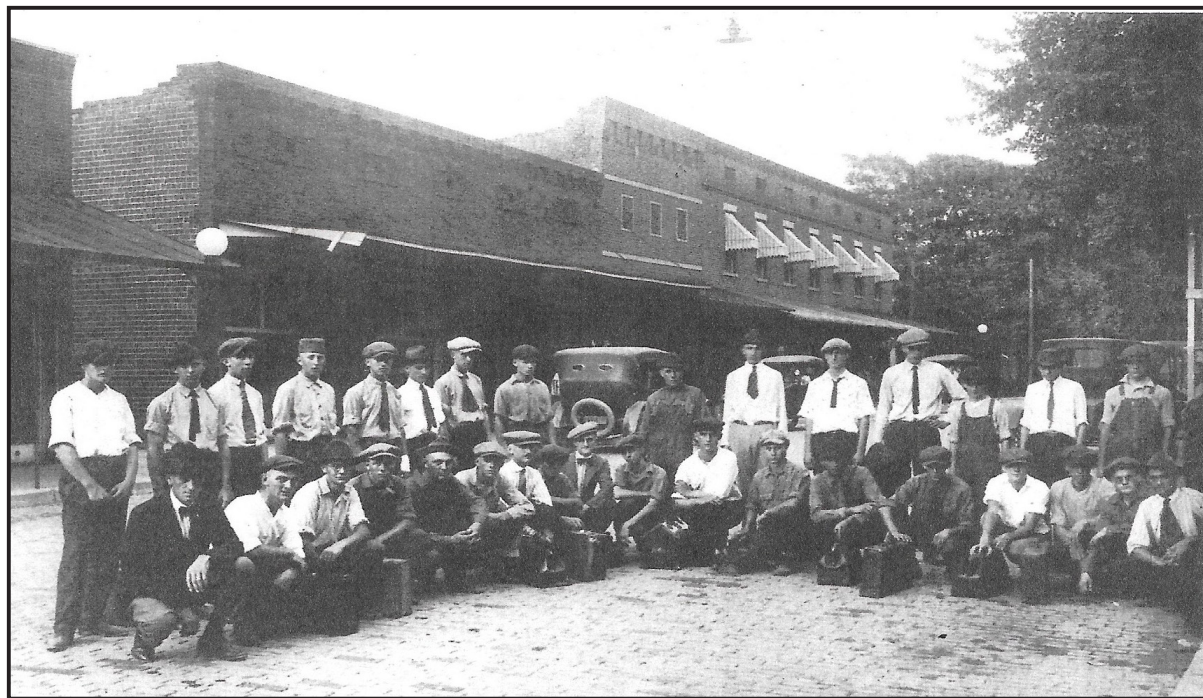
know anything about this type of camaraderie.

"I mustn't forget the 'Sunshine' (theater). The same show played Sunday through Tuesday, closed Wednesday, with a new show Thursday through Saturday. I don't think I missed a one...And how I wish I had all the comic books my sisters and I bought for a dime at the drug store. Decoration Day, as we call Memorial Day now, was a wonderful celebration for the entire community. People who had moved away would come back to visit with old friends and pay respect to their dead. There would be a band concert and so much love and caring in our little community. How I miss the Darlington of my youth!

Marta married Harvey Jeffries in 1951, and they resided in Ladoga, becoming the parents of five children, Jaye, Jewell, Joe, Holly, and Jon. Together they built Roachdale Building Supplies, which they ran for 40 years. Their home was a welcome gathering place for family and friends. Marta also volunteered at Lane House, and touched many lives with her friendly smile and caring attitude. Harvey passed away in 2003, and Marta passed away in 2016. Thanks, Marta, for your great memories!

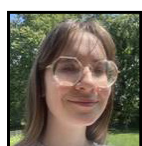
John "Butch" Dale is a retired teacher and County Sheriff. He has also been the librarian at Darlington the past 36 years, and is a well-known artist and author of local history.

■ BUTCH DALE'S BACK IN THE DAY



Back in the day, Darlington had its own National Guard unit, first organized as Company K of the 152nd Infantry. Shown above are the local members of the Guard posing on Main Street, preparing to leave for training in August of 1921.

Continue Learning at the Library



Susanna Howard
Guest Columnist

Feel like you have some gaps in your knowledge?

Maybe it's something you know you learned in school, but at the time, you didn't think you'd ever need it again. Now, you're stuck. What do you do?

Come review at the library! This month's second floor book display highlights the basics, subject by subject.

Start with "Study like a Champ: The Psychology-Based Guide to 'Grade A' Study Habits" by Regan A.R. Gurung and John Dunlosky (371.3 Gur). It can be easy to overlook these basic classroom skills, but they form an essential foundation for anything you want to learn!

Latin may be a dead language, but knowledge of basic grammar and vocabulary will help in any of its many derivatives. The quintessential textbook is "Wheelock's Latin" by Frederic M. Wheelock

(478.2 Whe) with its workbook by Paul T. Comeau (478.2 Com).

"Science: The Definitive Visual Guide", edited by Adam Hart-Davis (500 Science), covers discoveries from the dawn of science to today in rich detail. In my school library, this kind of book rarely made it to a chair. Kids would pull them off the shelf and just sit down where they were to marvel at the pictures. So, enjoy, but please try not to block foot traffic.

Lawrence Potter's "Mathematics Minus Fear: How to Make Math Fun and Beneficial to Your Everyday Life" (510 Pot) is not the snoozefest you might expect. Using humor, puzzles, and plenty of examples, it explains essential, practical skills.

Any questions you didn't work up the nerve to ask in health class are answered in Cara Natterson's "This is So Awkward: Modern Puberty Explained" (612.6 Natterson). In addition to the physical effects, it also discusses the social and emotional elements of puberty.

Whether you want to patch drywall or a pair of pants, Sharon and David Bowers cover all the essentials in "The Useful Book: 201 Life Skills They Used to Teach in Home Ec and Shop" (640 Bow).

If you skimmed your way through English class, "The New Annotated Frankenstein" by Mary Shelley (823.7 She) and similar resources are perfect for makeup work. Annotated editions, reading guides, and modern English adaptations offer essential context to understand not just the classics themselves, but everything they've influenced.

For a broad topic like social studies, get a broad overview from Lonely Planet's "The Travel Book: A Journey Through Every Country in the World" (910.202 Tra). Also, visit the A to Z World Culture Database on the digital resources page of our library website! It's one of many opportunities for lifelong learning you can access for free with your library card.

Learning doesn't have

to stop after school. The library's shelves are full of materials to help you continue learning and growing. Whether you are seeking information for a job or just curious about life, come see what you can discover at your library. If you don't have a library card yet, stop at our first floor circulation desk and find out what you need to get one. Now is the perfect time to get or renew your library card because September is National Library Card Sign-Up Month. When you check out an item with your library card this month, you can be entered to win one of our Book Lovers prizes.

Check out what else is happening on our website at crawfordsvillelibrary.in.gov or call us at 765-362-2242. The library is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 1-5 p.m. Sunday.

Susanna Howard is a Library Assistant in the Adult Services Department at the Crawfordsville District Public Library.

PUBLIC NOTICES

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Indiana, in Cause No. 54D01-2503-MF-000279 wherein Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, as Trustee for Freddie Mac SLST 2022-1 Participation Interest Trust was Plaintiff, and Gordon J. Mills, Occupant(s) of 17 Gladiator Dr, Waynetown, IN 47990, Commodity Credit Corporation, Credit Acceptance Corp. and Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 8th day of October, 2025, at the hour of 10:00 A.M. or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 600 Memorial Drive, Crawfordsville, IN 47933, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Montgomery County, Indiana.

Lot numbered 17, as the same is known and designated on the recorded plat or Cap Subdivision to the Town of Wayne Town, Montgomery County, Indiana as the same appears of record as Instrument Numbered 200500836 in the Recorders Office of Montgomery County, Indiana.

More commonly known as: 17 Gladiator Dr, Waynetown, IN 47990 Parcel No. : 05-14-443-039.017-037

Together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws.

Alan W. McEwan Ryan Needham
24051-49 Sheriff of Montgomery County

Doyle & Foutty, P.C.
41 E Washington Street
Suite 400
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Wayne Township
17 Gladiator Dr, Waynetown, IN 47990

Street Address
The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street

addressed published herein

SHERIFF FILE NO:
SHERIFF DIRECTED TO:
Gordon J. Mills
P.O. Box 253
Waynetown, IN 47990
MANNER OF SERVICE: Certified Mail
Occupant(s) of 17 Gladiator Dr, Waynetown, IN 47990
17 Gladiator Dr
Waynetown, IN 47990
MANNER OF SERVICE: Sheriff

NOTICE

DOYLE & FOUTTY, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR

PL5154 9/3 9/10 9/17 3t hspaxlp

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TRASH RATES

Notice is hereby given to the residents of the Town of New Richmond, Montgomery County, Indiana, that the Town Council of New Richmond will consider at the New Richmond Community Room 215 S Prairie Street at 6:00p on the 1st day of October, 2025. There will be a public hearing and adoption to follow for Trash Ordinance 2023-2, the Town of New Richmond's trash rates are increasing to \$14.50 per month, per household, starting November, 2025. Dated this 15th day of September, 2025

The Town of New Richmond
PL5159 9/17 9/24 2t hspaxlp

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LWV

Continued from Page 1

through cooperation rather than competition. MoCo Mutual Aid stands firmly on this principle, offering a counter-narrative to the prevailing social and economic systems that often leave society's most vulnerable behind. In the words of Morrison, "If anything, our hope is to remind people that we don't have to be competing against each other, that we can work together more so than as individuals to try to get people's needs met."

Unlike charity models, the group's admin team sees its role not as benefactors but as facilitators. The community itself identifies and responds to needs in real time, primarily through its strong Facebook presence and other in-person outlets.

"It's based on what the community responds to. We have leaders within the group, but it's based on what the community responds to on our Facebook posts. People post about need and the community itself meets those needs," said Whetstone.

The group has organized the water cooler project, providing bottles of water during recent heat spikes, and cooperative gardening, with more ideas on the horizon. Additionally, the admins monitor individual requests posted on the page. In the spirit of solidarity, requests are often posted on behalf of other community members. One such post appealed for labor on that brake job; in response, someone purchased parts, and another person installed them.

MoCo Mutual Aid is not a non-profit organization. It is an association of people whose "primary focus (at this time) is on being a 'clearinghouse' of support for local mutual aid projects and to empower people to start/participate in their own mutual aid projects." Decision-making is consensus-driven and requires a foundation of trust.

The admins juggle full-time careers while stewarding the association's growth—a feat requiring strategic foresight and grassroots engagement. Whetstone's focus is on community development, infrastructure and strategic planning, seeking out emergent needs and spinning up projects that, once mature, become self-sustaining. Morrison, meanwhile, concentrates on long-term sustainability—building a generative group culture where

leadership and responsibilities are continually passed down and shared, preventing burnout and centering a diversity of voices.

Recently, MoCo Mutual Aid ratified a new code of conduct and an organizing handbook, demonstrating their commitment to inclusive, accountable leadership. "I want this to exist long after we were involved," said Morrison. He envisions a sustainable organization where new leaders are developed, and it's not reliant on the same group of people.

Their impact surfaces in tangible successes across Montgomery County: the highly visible "bright pink cooler" water project blossomed outside the local library. These visible projects foster low-risk trust, empowering residents to turn to their neighbors—as Whetstone said "When times are tough, they can turn to their neighbor, they can turn to people within their community and know that they'll be safe".

Yet, the realities are sometimes heartbreaking—a sentiment that comes alive in Whetstone's account from their family's gaming store. Whetstone recounted, "It's heartbreaking when you have a parent come in with their card binder to sell cards, and their young child is with them. Parent is picking out cards, and young child throws their binder up on the counter and says, 'I can help too.' That's a special type of heartbreaking when you have someone so young taking accountability for a broken system." The severity of such trends, Whetstone noted, echoes the hardships of the COVID-19 pandemic, signaling a deepening crisis.

MoCo Mutual Aid creates space for community members who might otherwise be sidelined from traditional volunteer avenues. Whetstone, a social worker by profession, values how this space empowers those with varied backgrounds, allowing even those with criminal justice histories opportunities to show up for others—subverting the gatekeeping that is often present in nonprofits. Neighbors who receive help often quickly turn around to help others, fostering a cycle of redemption and dignity.

Facebook activity is telling: where other local online groups might stigmatize those asking

for support, MoCo Mutual Aid upholds strong moderation and empathy, ensuring requests are met with affirmation rather than judgment.

MoCo Mutual Aid's organizers are frank about the limits of mutual aid in addressing entrenched systemic injustices. Challenges with affordable housing, laws that favor landlords over tenants and rising rents are reminders of problems that only policy change can truly resolve. Whetstone dreams of empowering tenants to organize unions, particularly as local apartment complexes face new ownership and higher costs, but acknowledges that such efforts can only go so far without broader reform.

MoCo Mutual Aid is open to all, with the caveat that everyone remains respectful and honors the core values: solidarity, not charity; accountability; transparency; and growth.

Volunteers and beneficiaries range across the political spectrum—Republicans, Libertarians, Democrats, leftists—united in their desire to help neighbors. As Morrison echoes Frederick Douglass: "We'll work with anybody who wants to do right."

Looking ahead, both Whetstone and Morrison believe that MoCo Mutual Aid's strength lies in the diversity and engagement of its members. "The strength of the community is really in how many people buy into it and the relationships we build with each other along the way," said Whetstone. For them, the goal is a robust mutual aid infrastructure that's here to stay, owned and sustained not by a few leaders, but by the entire community.

As MoCo Mutual Aid continues its evolution, its members aim for a movement built not just for crisis, but for the everyday dignity of all Montgomery County neighbors.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan, multi-issue political organization which encourages informed and active participation in government. For information about the League, visit the website www.lwvmontcoin.org; or, visit the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, Indiana Facebook page.

Women's Legacy Fund to Learn About New Community Public Transit

The Women's Legacy Fund of the Montgomery County Community Foundation will hold its annual education information meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday at the Crawfordsville Park & Recreation Center, 922 E. South Blvd. All members and guests are urged to attend and learn about the new public transportation service that will be launched in January.

Fawn Johnson, director of Crawfordsville Park and Recreation and Belinda Young, se-

nior programming and transportation director, will explain the transition of the Sunshine Vans from a service for seniors and those with disabilities, to transportation opportunities for all Montgomery County residents. This service supported by the county and city will provide needed transportation for those going to work, shopping and appointments.

The Women's Legacy Fund is dedicated to supporting innovative ways to improve the

lives of women and children in Montgomery County. WLF is open to any person who wants to join. The philanthropic annual gifts of \$300 per member are pooled to provide grants to local nonprofits working to improve the quality of life for women and children. Those interested in joining should contact the Montgomery County Community Foundation at www.mccf-in.org or by calling (765) 362-1267.

TIM

Continued from Page 1

seen since the Civil War.

It was a surreal time to be an American.

Something like now . . . but let's revisit that in a second. First, let's recap the last few years or so:

June, 2017. Remember the shooting at a Republican baseball practice when Rep. Steve Scalise and four others were shot?

How about November that year when Sen. Rand Paul was attacked by a neighbor while mowing his lawn?

Less than three years later, FBI and Michigan State Police broke up a plot to kidnap Michigan Democrat Governor Gretchen Whitmer.

Remember the Jan. 6 Capitol Hill riot? Take whatever side you want, the fact is things got very out of control that day.

In June of 2022 an armed man mad about *Roe v. Wade* was arrested near Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh's home.

A couple of months after that, a man showed up at Nancy Pelosi's house with a plan to kidnap her. She wasn't home but husband Paul Pelosi was and got a fractured skull for it.

Of course we all remember the assassination attempt when President Donald Trump got nicked in the ear, an inch or two away from a very different outcome.

That was in July of last year. A year ago this week what might've been a second assassination attempt was subverted when Secret Service saw and shot at a man hiding on Trump's golf course in Florida with a rifle.

Ancient history? OK, fine. How about just this year?

In April, Pennsylvania Democratic Governor Josh Shapiro, his wife and four children (as well as another family), fled the governor's mansion after someone threw a Molotov cocktail inside, causing significant damage to the home. This came just hours after the family had Passover Dinner there.

In June, someone shot and killed Democrat State Rep. Melissa Hortman and her husband in the Minnesota home.

Earlier that same day Democratic State Sen. John Hoffman and his wife were also shot. They fortunately survived. A list of alleged targets was found with Rep. Ilhan Omar and Sen. Tina Smith on it.

And just last week of course we lost conservative activist Charlie Kirk.

Maybe it's because we were kids, but it felt different back then. Yes, it was surreal. But somehow it felt like a good part of the country realized right from wrong. I don't remember anyone celebrating the deaths of JFK, RFK or MLK. Sure, there was plenty of hate in the country. Some of us recall the wanted for treason posters that circulated before JFK was shot and killed.

There have always been lunkheads. There always will be.

But the big difference is that on Nov. 23 of '63 there was no widespread celebration that Kennedy was killed. Nothing the day after Bobby and Martin were gunned down.

Maybe it's the faulty memory of an aging newspaper vagabond, but it sure seemed like most everyone shook their heads at the senseless acts. No one agreed it was the right thing. And it surely wasn't celebrated.

Have you looked at social media since Charlie Kirk was murdered?

Of course – like they always do – the politicians blabber about unifying, coming together as a nation. I'm sure they mean it, too . . . so long as you unify on their side.

Trump: "It's long past time for all Americans and the media to confront the fact that violence and murder are the tragic consequence of demonizing those with whom you disagree day after day, year after year, in the most hateful and despicable way possible."

Really? This from the guy who calls every

political opponent names straight off the schoolyard playground? It's the same on the left when Bernie Sanders took a break from calling Trump and conservatives fascists to issue his own pleas for singing Kumbaya around the campfire.

It really doesn't matter whether it's global, national, regional or local. Heck, I had several emails asking if I was worried that I could be a target because of the conservative and Christian viewpoints I've taken. One delightful reader – who used to be friends with my parents, wrote that she's worried for me. I wrote back and told her how much I appreciated the concern, but folks like Charlie Kirk touched millions. At the very most I'm seen by thousands – and probably read by 11 or 12 of you.

She wrote back and said it only takes one.

And that's the world we live in today. Too often those on the outer edges – left or right – preach tolerance but are anything but if you dare disagree. Do I publicly oppose abortion and those who say they can choose to be whatever sex they want. Do I stand against those who want to drive Israel from the river into the sea? Do I disagree with liberals who see a very different country than I do.

Yes. Yes. And Yes.

Does that mean I'm right? Not my call to make. I believe there comes a day of judgment when my Boss – a former Jewish carpenter – will tell me how I did. I'm scared to death I won't measure up, but I'm certainly OK with the concept.

The problem it seems, is that we live in a polarized world where almost all sides have decided they get to do the judging.

How surreal is that?

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.

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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.

REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

City of Crawfordsville
 City Building
 300 E. Pike St., Second Floor
 Crawfordsville
 Agenda
 September 16, 2025, at 8:30 AM
 Common Council Chambers
 I. Call to Order & Roll Call
 II. Approval of Minutes
 A. June 17, 2025
 III. Approval of Claims
 IV. Approval of Financial Reports
 V. New Business
 A. Consideration of a Declaratory Resolution
 VI. Old Business
 VII. Update from Mayor Todd Barton
 VIII. Economic Development Report from Cheryl Morphew
 IX. Miscellaneous
 A. Next regularly scheduled meeting: October 21, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.
 X. Adjournment

PLANNING COMMISSION

City of Crawfordsville
 City Building
 300 E. Pike St., Second Floor
 Crawfordsville
 Agenda
 September 16, 2025 at 5:00 PM
 Common Council Chambers
 I. Call to Order & Roll Call
 II. Presentation of Minutes
 A. July 15, 2025
 III. Old Business
 IV. New Business
 A. Consideration of an Order that a Declaratory Resolution approved and adopted by the Crawfordsville Redevelopment Commission conforms to the plan of development of the City and approving said Resolution
 V. Miscellaneous
 A. Informational Update by City Administration
 B. Next regularly scheduled meeting: October 21, 2025
 VI. Adjournment

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

City of Crawfordsville
 City Building
 300 E. Pike St., Second Floor
 Crawfordsville
 Agenda
 September 17 2025 at 7:00 PM
 Common Council Chambers
 I. Call to Order & Roll Call
 II. Presentation of Minutes
 A. August 20, 2025
 III. Old Business
 A. SE 0070 (Continued from previous meeting) Montgomery County 4-H Inc. requests a special exception from the schedule of uses to allow overnight camping in a C-1, conservation zoning district at 400 Parke Avenue (Parcel No. 54-07-32-442-039.000-030)
 IV. New Business
 A. UV 0104 Dax & Valerie Bunch request a use variance from the schedule of uses of the City Zoning Ordinance to allow a manufactured home in an R-2, residential zoning district at Michigan Street (Parcel No. 54-10-04-224-030.002-030)
 V. Miscellaneous
 A. Informational Update by City Administration
 B. Next regularly scheduled meeting: October 15, 2025
 VI. Adjournment

UNION TOWNSHIP BOARD

The Union Township Board will meet on Thursday Sept. 25, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. at the Union Township Trustee's Office, 1311 Darlington Ave., Crawfordsville. This is a public meeting.

ROCK

Continued from Page 1

Walk for Recovery, in 2021 at Milligan Park. This event had an amazing amount of support from community members, treatment providers, and various social service agencies who hosted booths to share resources for the Montgomery County Recovery Community and their loved ones. This event has grown and expanded so much that it needed to be moved to Pike Place in 2022.

positive event has become an annual celebration because InWell wanted to create an event to highlight the local recovery community and show support to them and their loved ones who have been affected by substance use disorder. InWell wants to continue to recognize the sharing of local recovery stories to decrease stigma and normalize asking for help when it is needed.

found on the Drug Free Montgomery County's website at drugfreemoco.org. For further questions, reach out to Diamond Justus at diamond@mcysb.org. Drug Free Montgomery County is a program of the Youth Service Bureau. The YSB is a United Way in Montgomery County partner agency and is also supported by the Montgomery County Community Foundation.

This wonderful and

As always, many resources can be

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Montgomery County Retired Teachers Meeting

President Steve Frees welcomed members to the September 8th Montgomery County Retired Teachers Association meeting held in the Crawfordsville Public Library. The members enjoyed a pizza luncheon provided by the Association. Table decorations were provided by Denise Walker and Jane Steiner. The invocation was given by Mary Grimes.

Neil Schmitzer Torbert, a psychology professor at Wabash College, presented the program entitled 'A Mindful Look at Stress and Anxiety.' Professor Schmitzer Torbert has done extensive study in the areas of neuroscience and the science of meditation. Following the COVID pandemic, Schmitzer Torbert began teaching mindfulness-based stress reduction. He gave a very informative presentation.

President Steve called the business meeting to order following the program. The minutes from the June meeting

were approved. Barb Foster, treasurer, presented the treasurer's report which was approved. Lynn Robison told the members that an audit has successfully been completed. Janet Armbruster reminded members to keep track of our volunteer hours. The basket donation money will go to Volunteers for Mental Health, specifically to the Teacher Friend Program. Kim Nixon reported that we have interest money from the MCRTA/IRTA Foundation grant that we may donate to an organization. Several ideas for groups that could use the money are: Fish Food Pantry, Meals on Wheels, Through the Gate, Pam's Promise, and the Youth Service Bureau. Members of the grant committee will make recommendations at the next meeting. Susie Minch mentioned that several members had sent in membership dues during the summer, which was helpful. Nancy Buckles told the group of member concerns. She thanked

Mary Lefebvre for her excellent service to the membership concern committee.

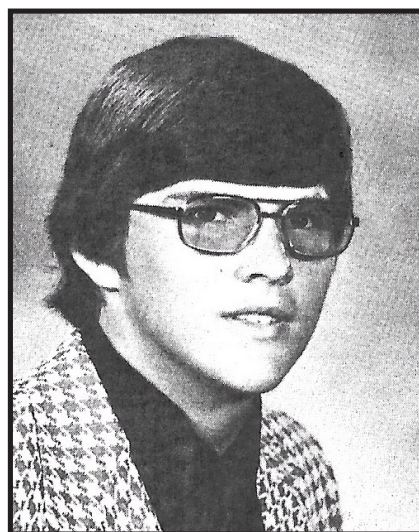
President Steve received a thank-you card from Tom Meeks for our support to the summer ArchiCamp program at the Lew Wallace Study.

Marilyn Spear announced the Senior Expo will be held on September 17 from 10 am-2 pm at the First Baptist Church. Information about senior events and programs in our community will be available at this expo.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 13 at the library. Table decorations will be provided by Marilyn Spear, Mary Lou Dawald, and Cherlyn Hunter. Mary Lou Dawald will give the invocation. Pat Stull will present information about the Meals on Wheels program.

The meeting was adjourned.

BUTCH'S FLASHBACK TRIVIA



ANSWER: Jim Heisel

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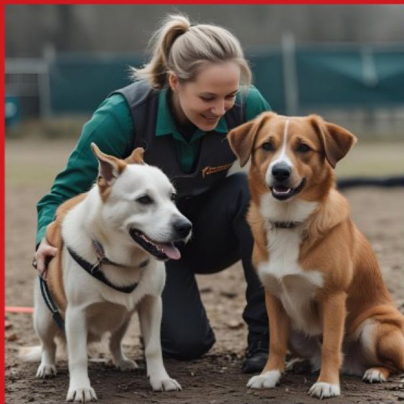


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