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HOSTED BY DICK WOLFSIE | FEBRUARY 6 - 14, 2026

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■ TODAY'S VERSE

John 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

■ AWL GOLIATH



Goliath is a 2 year old male Alaskan Malamute available for adoption from AWL since 9/6/25. Goliath loves going out for walks, frolicking in a fenced yard, and being the center of your universe! Goliath is looking for his best friend. Could that be you? AWL is open Monday - Friday from 2p-5p and Saturday's from 12-3p. Come say hi!



Hello Fall. So long my dear friend Summer! Can't wait to see your cousin Spring again – if the Good Lord is willing. I know I'm not supposed to wish away time, but I can tell you winter ends in 179 days. Just saying.

■ MONTGOMERY MINUTE

The Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce invites you to attend Donuts & Discovery at 9 a.m. Thursday, to discuss different aspects of health care. Franciscan Alliance will talk about HEALTHeACCESS and Indiana Farm Bureau will discuss insurance options. The free event takes place at Fusion 54, but registration is required. Visit crawfordsvillechamber.com or email Jessica McClamroch at jmcclamroch@crawfordsvillechamber.com. Donuts & Discovery is a series of educational events hosted by The Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce.

■ QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I am not a product of my circumstances. I am a product of my decisions."
- Stephen Covey

■ JOKE OF THE DAY

What is the easiest way to remember your wife's birthday?

Forget it once.



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BY THE NUMBERS

By The Numbers, a look at what's in the news . . . by the numbers. These are just numbers, not suggestions that they mean more or less than what they are. We do not suggest that one number is connected to another. These are simply facts with no extraneous details, bias or slanted reporting. To borrow (and perhaps mangle a bit) a quote from legendary fictional detective Joe Friday, it's just the numbers, ma'am!

As you probably already know, we bid a fond farewell to summer today and say a brisk hello to fall! For those paying even closer attention to the calendar, we have a nice round number of days left before the ball drops in New York's Times Square. Today, we take a look at both – By The Numbers!

100

Today is Sept. 22, the 265th day of the year. There are 100 days left in 2025.



3

There are three major holidays left in this year: Veterans Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Of course we all know Christmas is Dec. 25. Most also know that we honor our veterans on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. And Thanksgiving this year falls on Nov. 27.



10

That's how many U.S. holidays we observe now. Can you name all 10? (No peeking yet!)

OK, with the three above we also have New Year's Day on Jan. 1, Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Jan. 20, Washington's Birthday (or some of us remember it as President's Day) on Feb. 17, Memorial Day on May 26, Juneteenth on June 19, July 4 and Labor Day on Sept. 1.

How'd you do?

179

The number of days from today until the first day of spring – which takes place on March 20 at 8:46 in the morning.

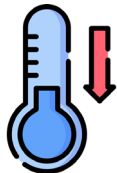


2:19

That's the time this afternoon when fall officially begins.

20

The number of degrees between the average highs and lows on this date and the first day of spring. In Indiana, our average high is around 78 with the average low around 57 today. Come that first day of spring, the average high will be 58 and the average low 37. Of course it's going to be A LOT colder than the for a few months in between! Enjoy!



■ THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1. The pinnacle of recognition for outstanding customer satisfaction is J.D. Power, and the Indianapolis International Airport has – for the 8th time since 2010 – claimed the top spot* among midsize airports in the J.D. Power 2025 North America Airport Satisfaction Study. This year's honor makes the eighth time since 2010 that the Indy airport has been at the top of the J.D. Power rankings. As part of the study, the Indy airport was also recognized as #1 in food, beverage and retail and #1 in terminal facilities. Other top-rated categories among travelers included "Most Satisfying Traveler/Customer Experience Among Medium Airports", and "Best Medium Airport for Traveler/Customer Satisfaction." The Indy airport received an overall customer satisfaction score of 713 out of 1,000, which is the highest in the medium-sized airport category.

2. As part of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education's annual College GO! campaign, the University of Southern Indiana invites Indiana students to submit their undergraduate admission applications for free through Friday. Prospective undergraduate students should apply via the USI application at USI.edu/apply by midnight on Friday, Sept. 26 using the promo code "collegego26" to ensure the fee is waived. In addition to acceptance to the University, applicants will also be considered for merit-based scholarships.

3. Indiana State Comptroller Elise Nieshalla joined with U.S. Speaker of the House Mike Johnson, Sen. Rick Scott, Rep. Josh Brecheen, Gov. Mike Braun and a panel of experts from the Economic Policy Innovation Center, Club for Growth Foundation and State Financial Officers Foundation at the U.S. Capitol to spotlight the need to reign in the national debt. They addressed the dangers of the rising national debt, the absolute need to get back to balanced budgets and how structural reforms are necessary to ensure long-term sustainability of critical programs so they are viable for the most vulnerable. Also highlighted was U.S. Senate Resolution 600, which received a unanimous vote in 2024, for declaring that the debt is a national security threat and that deficit spending is "reckless, unsustainable and dangerous." Gov. Braun authored this resolution while serving as U.S. Senator and recently the Indiana Senate overwhelmingly passed a resolution to mirror U.S. SR 600 in an effort to bring further awareness to Hoosiers on the severity of the U.S. debt problem.

Butch Asks: Do We Live in More Dangerous Times?



John 'Butch' Dale
Columnist

Many people believe that we live in extraordinarily dangerous times compared to past generations. Thousands of motor vehicle accidents, shootings, violent assaults, etc. occur each year in our country. But hold on. Let's take a look back in time. Aniel Booher was born east of Darlington in 1867, two years after the Civil War ended. He became the owner of a hardware store here in town for sixty years, from 1890 to 1950. Starting as child, he kept a book in which he recorded the deaths in the community. The majority of entries just list the date of passing of each individual; however, he made notes on several of the deaths. Here are a few...

Jan. 8, 1882...Andy Buck..."Train stopped at Sugar Creek to take on water, and it ran past the tank and stopped on the bridge. Mr. Buck

See **BUTCH** Page 4

Rokita's Office Shows Posts From Educators

Attorney General Todd Rokita's office is actively reviewing public submissions regarding posts made by educators and administrators that glorified the tragic assassination of Charlie Kirk.

According to Rokita, his office has received hundreds of submissions through the Eyes on Education portal over the past week and is evaluating them for posting on a rolling basis.

"Freedom of speech is a cornerstone of our Republic, but it does not shield individuals from the consequences of their words, es-

See **POSTS** Page 4

Open Letter to Gov. Mike Braun



David J. Hadley

I write to oppose the calling of a special session of the Indiana General Assembly for the purpose of redrawing the Indiana congressional districts. I oppose it for several reasons.

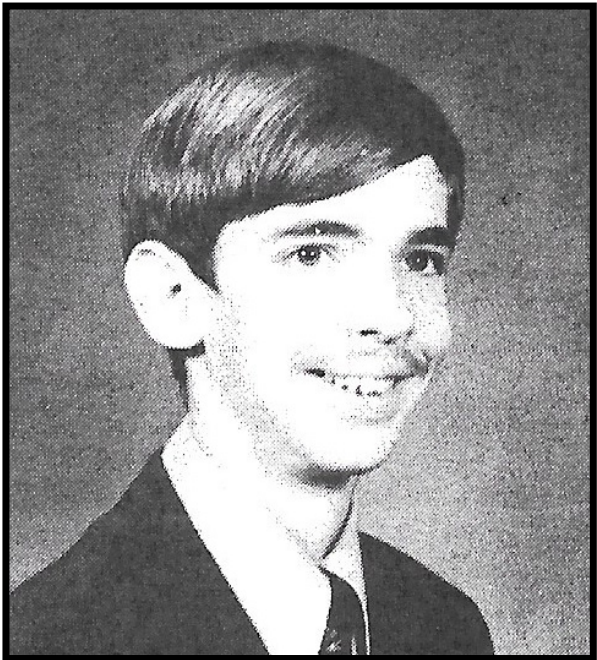
First, to redraw congressional district boundaries midway between decennial censuses when redistricting is required by law is an extraordinary step to take.

See **LETTER** Page 2



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■ BUTCH’S FLASHBACK TRIVIA



Do You Recognize This 1973 CHS Graduate?

HINT: He became a Montgomery County Police Officer and also served as jail commander.

Answer on Page 4

► OBITUARY

Michael Callahan

December 12, 1948 - September 9, 2025

Michael “Mike” Dean Callahan, Sr. age 76 of Kingman, passed away peacefully with his family by his side on Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at the Gibson Family Center of Hospice in Terre Haute. He was born in Morehead, Kentucky on December 12, 1948 to the late McKinley “Junior” Callahan and Boonie Ruth (Hardin) Clark.



Michael married the love of his life, Penny Sue Rose, in May of 2014. He drove a school bus for Southeast Fountain School Corporation for 18 years and him and Penny sold produce at the Jypville Corner Produce for many years. He enjoyed gardening, cooking and fishing, but most of all he loved spending time with his grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife, Penny; his three children, Melissa (Robert) Waddell of Crawfordsville, Suzan (Michael) White of Oakland City, Indiana and Timothy (fiancé - Thea McCarthy) Callahan of Crawfordsville; nine grandchildren, Robert Jr, Kaitlyn, Lindsay Mae, Ethan, Adam, Hailey Jo, Caiden, Mabel Rose and Graceland Rose; and his beloved dog, Kizzy.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters, Reena Jae Callahan and Lisa Clark; a brother, Alvin Callahan; a son, Jeff Callahan; and a daughter, Kathy Callahan.

Cremation was chosen with a Visitation at Sanders Funeral Care, 203 S 1st Street, in Kingman on Tuesday, September 23, 2025 from 5:00pm – 7:00pm. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be given to Montgomery County Animal Welfare League, 1104 Big 4 Arch Road, Crawfordsville, IN 47933. Sanders Funeral Care entrusted with care. Share memories and condolences online at www.SandersFuneralCare.com.

LETTER

Continued from Page 1

There are no census data on which to base changing district lines to achieve more equal population representation.

Second, in light of Point 1, the only reason one might propose to change the district boundaries is because of dissatisfaction with past election results or in anticipation of future results that might be politically unsatisfying to the political party in power. In recent past Indiana congressional elections, the nine Republican candidates have received between 58 and 59.7 percent of the statewide two-party vote while the Democratic candidates received between 38.5 and 39.9 percent. Those elections resulted in the Republican candidates winning seven, or 78 percent, of the Indiana congressional seats, 20 percent more than the 58-59.7 percent of the popular vote received – an indication of the level of overrepresentation of Republicans and underrepresentation of Democratic voters under the current districting plan.

Third: as I understand it, the purpose of calling a special session to redraw Indiana is to further skew the districts to the advantage of Republican candidates, resulting in one, if not two, additional Republican congressional seats. This would effectively render worthless the votes of 40 percent of the Indiana electorate. If the 40 percent of Indiana voters who regularly vote for Demo-

cratic candidates can elect only one or even none of the Indiana congressional delegation, what stake do they have in our representative democracy?

Fourth, I am concerned that by calling a special session for this purpose, you will be violating, if not the letter, then certainly the spirit of the Indiana Constitution. Article 4, Section 9, establishing when the Indiana General Assembly shall meet, specifies: “But if, in the opinion of the Governor, the public welfare shall require it, he may, at any time by proclamation, call a special session.” If you were to call a special session for the purpose of redrawing congressional districts mid-stream, I believe strongly you would be obligated at the very least to explain how the public welfare of the people of Indiana requires it.

Please do not call this special session to redraw Indiana’s congressional districts, further distorting Indiana’s electoral outcomes, rendering the congressional votes of at least 40 percent of Hoosier voters ineffective, and confusing President Trump’s political motivations with the public welfare of Indiana citizens.

David J. Hadley, Emeritus Professor of Political Science, is retired from Wabash College where he spent 43 years on faculty, six as Dean of Students. He also served two terms as Montgomery County Democratic Party Chair.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC STORM WATER ORDINANCE 2025-1
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. The Town Council of New Richmond establishes an annual fee, in accordance with I.C. Section 8-1.5-5-7. The Town Council establishes a flat annual fee of \$25.00 per parcel of property within the Special Taxing District to provide revenue for the Storm Water Fund. There is hereby established an annual stormwater utility fee to be charged to all owners of real estate within the Town of New Richmond for the use of and services provided by the storm water utility of the Town. The annual stormwater user fee as herein set forth shall become effective on and payable for the year of 2026.
Dated this 16th day of September, 2025

The Town of New Richmond
PL5160 9/22 9/29 2t hspaxlp

Annual Fall Plant Exchange Saturday

The Master Gardeners of Montgomery County’s annual Fall Plant Exchange is set for Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at the Montgomery County 4-H Fairgrounds. It is a free event.

Bring your “exchange items” to the fairgrounds by 9:30 a.m. the day of event so everyone will have a chance for a good selection, then “shop” the tables. If you aren’t prepared to trade anything, come anyway, and take home something new for your garden. Donations

of gently used CLEAN garden tools, yard art, planters, and pots, etc. are welcome and will be available to select from.

Cash donations will be accepted with all proceeds going to Master Gardeners projects. PLEASE – NO INVASIVE SPECIES.

For more information, email montcoinemg@gmail.com. No dogs allowed except for licensed service dogs.

Suicide Prevention Walk Saturday

A Suicide Prevention Walk is scheduled at Milligan Park on Saturday, Sept. 27. The event is free of charge, and the first 100 individuals to arrive for 8:30 check-in will receive a free commemorative T-shirt. Suicide prevention materials, memory beads, water and snacks are also provided free to participants.

Local mental health agencies will be present to make information available as

well. The walk will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude with a butterfly release, poignantly entwining loss and hope as the butterflies rise in the sky.

To learn further details and register for the walk, one should visit the YSB website: <https://mcysb47933.wixsite.com/mcysb> and click on the Suicide Prevention Walk Registration link.

Casey Hockersmith Gets Top Honors

F.C. Tucker West Central is proud to announce that Casey Hockersmith has been named both the Listing Leader and Sales Leader for August 2025. Hockersmith listed three new homes and guided six clients to successful home purchases last month, continuing her record of outstanding service and results.



Casey Hockersmith

lights her dedication to serving others.

A lifelong Montgomery County resident, she pairs her deep local knowledge with a commitment to delivering a smooth and authentic real estate experience. She prioritizes communication and uses market data to provide her clients with confidence throughout the buying and selling process.

Beyond her career, Hockersmith is active in the community, serving on the Board of Directors for Crawfordsville Main Street and the Montgomery County Visitor’s Bureau. Her prior professional roles at Wabash College and the Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce further high-

“Casey’s commitment to her clients and her community sets her apart,” said Chad Hess, Broker/Owner at F.C. Tucker West Central. “Her ability to combine local expertise with genuine client care makes her an invaluable member of our team.”

Hockersmith serves clients across Montgomery, Fountain, Parke, Putnam, Boone and Hendricks counties. She lives in Crawfordsville with her husband Zach and their two sons Hudson and Camden.

Baird Supports State Department Reform

Congressman Jim Baird (IN-04) released the following statement after recently voting in the House Foreign Affairs Committee to pass a package to reauthorize the U.S. Department of State and implement critical reforms to restore accountability and ensure the department is properly advancing U.S. interests abroad:

“Before today, Congress had not authorized the State Department since 2002, and 85 percent of the State Department runs without congressional authorization. While the State Department has a noble mission, over the past 23 years, it has operated inefficiently and ineffectively at taxpayers’ expense. That ends today. This State Department reauthorization makes critical reforms to reduce duplicative work, increase efficiency, and provide the State Department with clear guidance to conduct diplo-

macy effectively. This package strengthens our ability to counter emerging threats and focuses on creating results-based policies and clear metrics for success. I want to thank Chairman Brian Mast for including some of my key priorities, including the NOPE Act to prevent tax dollars from funding U.N. organizations that give rights or privileges to the Palestinian Authority or Palestinian Liberation Organization; requiring foreign aid to be branded with an American flag; and creating an Office of Global Food Security to oversee our food security policy and work with our land-grant universities that conduct agricultural research. I was proud to vote for this package to return the department to its core mission of protecting and championing America’s interests and security abroad, and I look forward to this passing in the full U.S. House soon.”

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2026 Subaru Solterra Goes Mile-High in Denver to Prove It's a Much-Improved Electric Crossover That Takes City Streets, Mountain Trails, and Giant Moose with Equal Apolomb



Casey Williams
Columnist

There was very little wrong with the Subaru Solterra EV that debuted in 2022 beyond range and charging times. At its California debut, it sliced through Santa Barbara traffic and proved its off-road chops on Catalina. It was a no-hassle city car and all-capable Subaru - as long as you didn't have far to go and had plenty of time to get there.

Now, we're in mile-high Denver with a much-improved Solterra that puts critics on silent.

Before driving, a little history lesson. The Solterra was co-developed with Toyota, which offers the similar bZ4X. Engineering was 50/50 between the two automakers with Subaru taking lead on traction and safety. Manufacturing is by Toyota in Japan.

There's a lot of RAV4 in the styling, but Subaru's fascia dispenses with any pretense of a grille, accented by glittering LED driving lights over headlamps below. Black wheel cladding and roof rack that supports 700 lbs. of tent camping are pure Subaru. Click open the front fender port for the new Tesla-style NACS plug.

The interior seemed unchanged, but that's an illusion. It still feels more Prius than Outback with a flatscreen gauge cluster placed high for a head-up effect, but adds a redesigned 14-inch widescreen for infotainment and dual charging pads on the console. A squircle steering wheel allows clearer views of gauges.

New for 2026 are fetching blue and black StarTex vegan leather seats. Our car had gray StarTex, but added Harman Kardon audio, heated/ventilated seats, panoramic sunroof, wireless Apple CarPlay/Android Auto and a power hatch. Storage abounds with the

flybridge console, door cubbies, and roomy luggage compartment. You can even get it with leg warmers. Seriously.

A full suite of crash avoidance systems integrating Subaru's eyesight system include automatic emergency braking lane keep assist, and blind spot warning. Ambient lighting glows red when the safe exit assist system detects traffic. Traffic jam assist allows hands-off driving up to 25 mph, but I'd love it with highway speeds.

You may need it given longer distances traveled.

Range improves 25% to a more accommodating 288 miles. Quick charge 20-80% in 35 minutes. That originally took an hour. All-wheel-drive comes standard. Base versions enjoy 233 horsepower (up from 215), but 338 horsepower systems zip 0-60 mph in just 4.9 seconds.

I was fine with the old Solterra's performance, but this one elicited giggles as it effaced asphalt between apexes and while thrusting up steep mountain passes. In thin air that would wreak havoc on engines, EVs are unbothered. The suspension is a little soft sweeping through corners, but suitably tuned for daily driving.

On a rocky unpaved section, I was in full rally mode when I looked left

to see a moose statue. Wrong, not a statue. There he was, all 1,200+ lbs. of him, munching on a tree. My driving partner and I watched him meander across the road before latching onto another tree. We gave him a courteous goodbye, then zapped towards the off-road course.

Dual Function X-Mode with deep snow/mud programming plus 8.3-inches of ground clearance proved their worth whether creeping down steep inclines or rolling over moguls. As in Catalina, its performance was impressive with the electronics shifting power as if by magic. It's simply enchanting. Pitch and roll gauges tell you which way is up.

Back at the hotel downtown Denver, I reflected on a long day of fast driving and grippy climbing. Subaru could have just added range and reduced recharge times, but this vehicle is better in almost every way.

Subaru is still setting prices, but expect a base under \$40,000 with top trims around \$50,000. That compares favorably to the Chevy Equinox EV, Ford Mustang Mach-e, Hyundai IONIQ 5 and Kia EV6.

Storm Forward!

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

LIKES

- IMPROVED RANGE
- TRAIL CRED
- ZIPPY ACCELERATION

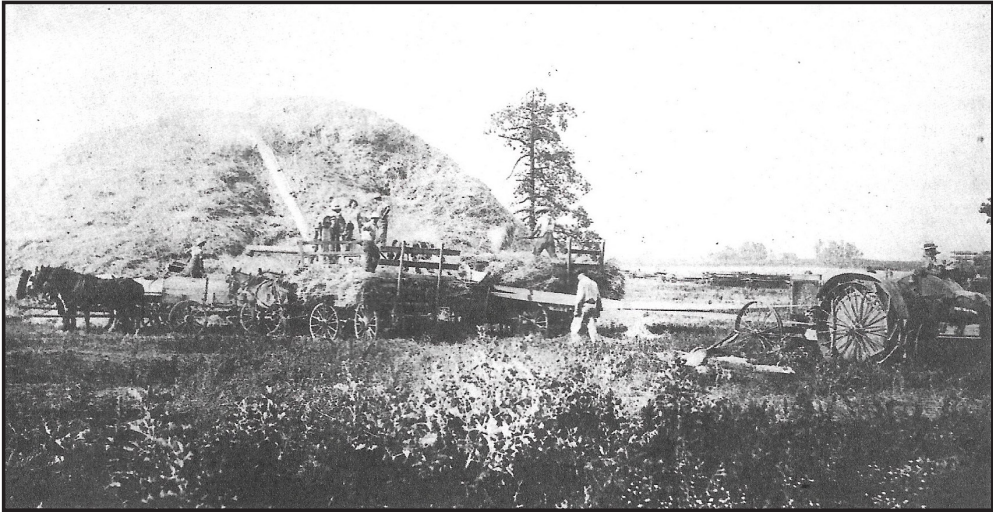
DISLIKES

- NO HUD
- HANDS-ON CRUISING
- NO WILDERNESS

2026 Subaru Solterra

Five-passenger, AWD Crossover
Powertrain: Li-ion batteries/dual motors
Output (2 versions): 233 hp/338 hp
Suspension f/r: Ind/Ind
Wheels f/r: 18-20" alloy
Brakes f/r: regen disc/disc
Driving range: 288 miles
0-60 mph: 4.9s
Fast charge (10-80%): 35m
Assembly: Ellabell, GA
Price range (est.): \$40,000-50,000

BUTCH DALE'S SCHOOL FROM BACK IN THE DAY



Back in the day, farmers gathered together to harvest the wheat crop by sharing a steam-powered threshing machine. Shown above is the giant pile of straw that accumulated during threshing at the Ott Lough farm in 1930.

Sometimes, I Need a Second Opinion



Carrie Classon
The Postscript

I have never minded getting advice. My husband, Peter, is good about giving advice, and one of the things I regularly need advice on is food, specifically if I should eat food that I already know I should not.

I hate throwing away food. I was not raised during the Depression, so I have no idea where this aversion comes from, but nothing makes me more sad than seeing food that looks perfectly fine getting tossed out.

The key here is "looks perfectly fine." I will have a very strong indication that the food is not, in fact, perfectly fine, and I will go ahead and eat it. This is always a mistake.

I have eaten beans that have gone bad. "Oh," I say, "they cannot be bad. I just made them!" I have a pretty good sense of smell, and I know there is something not quite right about those beans, but I throw them into a stir-fry, anyway. I trust the calendar instead of my nose. A few hours later, I very much regret it.

Most recently, I broke the glass container holding my broccoli. I steam my broccoli in advance so I can just toss it into a stir-fry

and have a meal in minutes. The glass container shattered.

It seemed like a clean break. I carefully picked it up and removed the broccoli from the container, put some in my stir-fry and the rest in a new container in the fridge. I added wild rice and lentils and barley, a little spinach and put some cheese on top. I was eating late. I'd had a big day of going over copy edits for my book, so I was especially hungry.

I took a bite. "Crunch."

This was not an undercooked broccoli crunch. This was not wild rice. This was the crunch you might experience while eating a sandwich on a beach when the wind was blowing. I looked at my delicious meal. I took another bite. "Crunch."

My husband, Peter, had eaten his lunch earlier. I took my plate into his office and looked very sad. "Peter, you don't think it would be terrible to eat a little glass, do you? I mean, if it's really just glass dust—no big pieces or anything—I think I might have..."

"You can't eat glass," Peter said.

"But it's really, really fine pieces..."

"You cannot eat glass!"

Peter sounded totally sure.

I threw away my wonderful lunch. I threw away the rest of the broccoli, all the while thinking, "Maybe the broccoli in the container doesn't have as much glass in it as what was on my plate..."

It was awful. But it was probably the right thing to do. I don't make my best decisions when I'm hungry; that's the truth. I had a tuna fish sandwich for lunch.

But I am very grateful that I was able to ask Peter. Maybe at my age, I should know what to eat. There are probably a lot of things I should know by now. Too many times, I have justified continuing to do something I know isn't good for me. This can apply to my lunch or to relationships that become like eating bits of broken glass. "Maybe it's not so bad," I think. "Maybe it will get better." Sometimes, I need a second opinion, even if it's not the one I want. Sometimes, I need someone to state the obvious.

So, for future reference, if you think I need advice, please let me know. Especially if it involves something I'm about to eat.

Till next time,

Carrie

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BUTCH

Continued from Page 1

walked out and stepped off, falling some 20 feet. He died the next day.”

Nov. 4, 1882...Taylor Dunbar...”He was murdered by Buck Stout. Buck was hung at Rockville.”

Dec. 23, 1885...Jack Stevens...”He only had three fingers on one hand, and was known as Three-Fingered Jack. He was a brakeman and fell off the train and was cut in two.”

Feb. 12, 1887...William Rice...”Was killed by a passenger train about one mile south of Bowers Station. He was drunk and got down on the track. The engineer thought it was a hog, and when he saw it was a man, it was too late to stop.”

Feb. 21, 1899...Arnold Eads...”His mother gave him a spanking because he would not help set out onions, and he went to the barn and hung himself.”

June 17, 1899...Bert Colmon...”Was drunk and got in a woods, and when they found him, the hogs were dragging his skeleton through the woods.”

June 12, 1900...Ted Flaningam...”He was trying to bum a ride and fell under the train. Ground to pieces at the Main Street crossing.”

July 6, 1901...William Coonrod...”He was shooting up stumps with dynamite.”

Aug. 10, 1905...Panel Beckman...”He was murdered by John James in a woods east of Hazel Creek.”

Sept. 6, 1905...Godfrey Guntle...”Shot his wife, then shot himself.”

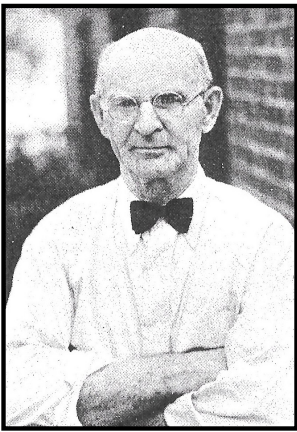
June 19, 1911...James Daugherty...”Was said to be suicide by a .38 revolver, but many people thought foul play by his brothers.”

Aug. 7, 1918...Charley Hunt...”Fell out of a pear tree.”

Apr. 4, 1919...Hewey Edwards...”Got his clothes caught in a line shaft at a coal mine and whirled to his death.”

Jan. 19, 1921...Gale Linn...”Fell in a buzz saw.”

June 12, 1926...William Hutchings...”Was drunk and drove off a bridge and smothered to death in the



Aniel Booher

mud.”

Aug. 26, 1930...Ernest Guinn...”Killed when a log rolled over him.”

July 29, 1933...Mary Fletcher...”She was accidentally shot by Albert Davenport at Ray Anderson’s hardware store.”

Dec. 4, 1933...Ben Honecker...”Fell dead in a field husking corn for Claud Mullen.”

Nov. 8, 1934...John Hayes...”Burned up in a barn.”

Jan. 4, 1935...Henry Lutes...”Froze to death.”

June 4, 1936...Paul Williams...”Hanged himself accidentally while playing with a rope. He had been to the circus the day before and was trying what he had seen.”

Feb. 19, 1939...Bert Hiatt...”Died of rabbit fever.”

Sept. 1, 1939...Ray Grimes...”Fell from a load of hay.”

Oct. 31, 1949...Raymond Krout...”He was on a tractor pulling a log when a limb fell from a tree and crushed his skull.”

There were many other entries, including seven additional people who were struck by trains and four drownings. One poor fellow drowned while he was being baptized! Were people happier and more contented with life back then? Perhaps not, as Mr. Booher recorded 28 deaths by suicide. I don’t know about you, but compared to earlier times, I feel pretty safe in today’s world.

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.

POSTS

Continued from Page 1

To view the posts on Charlie Kirk and other posts from Indiana educators, go to <https://www.in.gov/attorneygeneral/education-liberty/>

pecially when they are public servants who are getting paid with taxpayer dollars,” Rokita said. “Statements that celebrate or glorify violence are deeply concerning, particularly when made by those entrusted with shaping young minds. Our office is committed to transparency by sharing verified submissions on the Eyes on Education portal, where many examples are already available.”

The Eyes on Education portal is a tool to help empower parents and community members to engage in their children’s education by submitting and reviewing materials or statements that may be inappropriate in school settings. Since the assassination of Charlie Kirk, the portal has received numerous reports around the state of public comments or shared posts celebrating or glorifying the tragedy.

Several educators, including an administrator at Ball State University, have faced consequences, including resignations or terminations. Ball State University referenced Hedgepeth v. Britton, a federal ruling allowing schools to discipline employees whose public statements disrupt operations or undermine public trust.

Rokita said Ball State’s legal analysis was correct and other higher educa-



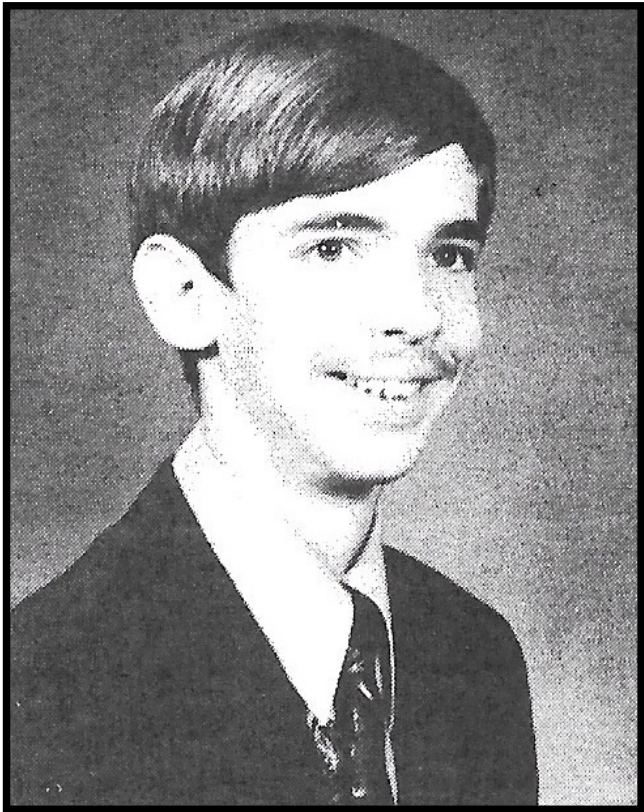
Rokita said they are not investigating teachers, just sharing information.

tion institutions, as well as secondary and elementary school boards, superintendents, principals and their attorneys should take notice.

To submit a report to the Eyes on Education portal, visit in.gov/attorneygeneral, select “Eyes on Education,” choose the school corporation and name, and upload relevant documents. A member of the Attorney General’s office may contact submitters for additional information. Verified submissions will be published regularly.

“Let me be clear: my office is not conducting investigations into these individuals,” Rokita said. “Our goal is to provide transparency, equipping parents with the information they need to make informed decisions about their children’s education.”

BUTCH’S FLASHBACK TRIVIA



ANSWER: Lonnie Jones

Dick Wolfsie Plays Name Game



Dick Wolfsie
Columnist

Do you love your first name or did your parents saddle you with a label that is making your life miserable? As I have reported in the past, my first name has been the source of many tawdry remarks. Once in fact, I was denied membership at a local golf venue because I had the temerity to enter my nickname on the company’s website. I have a brother named Peter. He would also have been banned from this place. What was my mother thinking? Don’t answer that.

New research suggests that your name can serve as either a boost or a burden to your social, business and educational success. In one study, teachers were asked to grade three identical essays, but attached to these stories were different names. The research found that students with “normal” names like Susan and David scored higher than those with “unusual” names like Bertha and Elroy. As a former teacher, I resented the implication of this study. In all my years in education, I was never partial to anyone due to his or her name, with the exception of a guy named Slash and a girl named Bordello. I should have flunked them because if their parents didn’t worry about their future, why should I?

With the help of Google and Facebook, I have tried to track what has happened to some of my former students with uncommon names. For example, I discovered that a kid named Broderick, who I had in class, spent time in a federal prison. How strange; she seemed like such a sweet girl.

I have no problem with unique names as long as they aren’t a source of derision. I once knew someone named Robyn Banks. In this case, it’s the parents who should

be arrested. I’d throw them in the clink with the parents of Doug Graves. My favorite was the guy from Wyoming who lived across the hall from me at George Washington University: Duane Pipe. Oh, and I knew a girl named Rose Thorne. But that was her married name. Do you think this dawned on her before she said “I do.” I did see in the wedding section in the Star the marriage of Bill Sapp and Jenny Poore. Hyphenating her name was not an option.

My biggest gripe is when parents take a perfectly good name and decide that the normal rules of spelling that have evolved over the past 300 years should no longer apply. I once signed an autograph picture for a seven-year-old who said his name was Christopher. When I returned the photo, he indignantly informed me that his name was spelled K R I S T A F A H. I was tempted to report his parents to the authorities. This kid’s name will be misspelled his whole life. I figured my friend over at Child Protective Services would be pretty sympathetic. His name is Geoff.

I’m also not a big fan of how guys’ names can be morphed into girls’ names. This came about in the old days when the patriarch of the family wanted a boy and was a bit disappointed with the new family addition. So, Frederick became Fredricka and Robert morphed into Roberta. I was once madly in love with a girl named Georgette. I guess her father wasn’t looking for a girl. But that was precisely what I was looking for.

Dick Wolfsie is a retired TV personality, author, speaker, teacher and all-around good guy. His award-winning column appears here weekly. If you’d like to learn more about joining Dick on an upcoming trip to Costa Rica, go to this paper’s website and click on the Collette Travel ads.

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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.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2025
8 AM
1580 Constitution Row -Room E109
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
AGENDA
CALL TO ORDER Board President Dan Guard
PLEDGE ALLIGENCE and PRAYER
CONSENT AGENDA
Approval of Claims: AP & Payroll
Minutes: September 8, 2025
Acknowledge Approval of Repair Work Order -Montgomery County Courthouse TK Elevator
Acknowledge 2025 Title IV Implementation Plan Update
PUBLIC HEARING -Text Amendments to Subdivision Control Ordinance
ORDINANCE 2025-23 ADOPTING TEXT AMENDMENTS TO SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE
Owner Occupied Rehabilitation
Open Roofing, HVAC and ADA Quotes
Approve Contracts & Addenda with Smith and Sons for Roof Replacements at: 7968 N 1000 E
114 W Washington
Homeowner/County Agreement for Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Assistance
Highway Department
Nucor/136 Intersection Improvement Construction/Inspection Contract -USI Consulting, Inc.
Community Crossing Matching Grant Financial Commitment Letter
Energreen Vegetation Management Machine aka Boom Mower
2025 Landfill Grading Project Montgomery County Public Works Construction Agreement & Addendum to Contract
Opt-In to Participate in the Opioid Settlement with Purdue and the Sackler Family
Approve Carpet Quote for 2nd Floor of Thomas K. Milligan Justice Center Building
ORDINANCE
RESOLUTION
OTHER BUSINESS
ADJOURNMENT

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BUILDING CORPORATION

Monday, September 22, 2025
8:30 a.m.
Montgomery County Government Center
Building Department Conference Room
1580 Constitution Row - Suite F
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
AGENDA
1. Call to Order/Roll
2. Approval of Minutes of August 25, 2025
3. New Business
 Approve Change Orders
 Approve Claims
4. Other Business
5. Adjournment

MONTGOMERY COUNTY CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

GOVERNING BOARD
Members:
Jim Fulwider, Chairman
Mayor Todd Barton, Vice Chairman
County Councilman David Hunt
Commissioner Jake Bohlander
City Councilman Stan Hamilton
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2025 @ 9:30 AM
Montgomery County Government Center
1580 Constitution Row – Room E 109
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2K8PaZCL8v4>
AGENDA
I. CALL TO ORDER
II. NEW BUSINESS
III. APPROVE MINUTES – August 25, 2025
IV. NEW BUSINESS
V. CCC DIRECTOR SHERRI HILL
A. Questions regarding Director submitted report
B. Acknowledge Receipt Of Financial Report
VI. OTHER BUSINESS
VII. ADJOURNMENT

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

North Montgomery School Board
Sept. 22
Budget Hearing / Regular Board Meeting 6 p.m.
480 W 580 N, Crawfordsville
AGENDA
Budget Hearing
Close the Hearing
Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
Public comment
Consent agenda
Minutes 8-25-25
Minutes 9-3-25
Minutes 9-4-25
Monthly claims
Personnel, extra-curricular, field trips, facilities usage, contributions, gifts, superintendent stipends
Other
Consent vote
Artwork Recognition
Artwork by students recognized
Action items
Accept the Secured School Safety Grant
Approve 2026 Health Insurance Rates for Employees
Approve Self Certification as a Public Institution of Micro-Purchases Threshold
Approve Bus Purchases
Other
Adjournment

Local Schools Awarded State Funding for Safety Improvements

Montgomery County schools recently received more than \$135,000 for safety upgrades through the state’s Secured School Safety Grant Program supported by area law-makers.

State Rep. Beau Baird (R-Greencastle) said the funding is part of the state legislature’s investment in school safety this year, which totaled \$27 million in state matching grants across 494 schools state-wide. Lawmakers also advanced legislation this year to move the Office of School Safety to the Department of Homeland Security, centralizing safety efforts and providing additional support and resources to schools.

“Ensuring our schools are safe and secure is a critical responsibility,” Baird said. “This funding helps our local districts strengthen safety measures so students can focus on learning and growing.”

Area schools receiving grants include:

- Crawfordsville Community Schools, \$46,250;
- North Montgomery Community School Corp., \$43,475; and
- South Montgomery Community School Corp., \$46,250.

State Rep. Matt Commons (R-Williamsport)



Beau Baird



Mark Genda



Matt Commons



Jeff Thompson

said awarded funds can be used for a wide range of safety needs like support for resource officers, equipment and technology, active event warning systems, threat assessments and student-parent support service programs.

“Students and teachers should feel safe at school,” Commons said. “This additional funding helps educators update security measures to ensure they’re equipped to keep everyone safe.”

State Rep. Mark Genda (R-Frankfort) said since the program began in 2013, Indiana has invested more than \$214 million in school safety through state matching grants.

“Schools need to be safe for students to excel academically,” said State Rep. Mark Genda (R-Frankfort). “Secured School Safety Grants help give schools the tools they need to provide security so students can focus on learning.”

“The legislature has long prioritized school safety, with our new two-year state budget increasing funding for this grant

program. “ said State Rep. Jeff Thompson (R-Liz-ton), chair of the House Ways and Means Committee. “Schools know best what their security needs are, and we want to be a partner in ensuring teachers and students can focus on education in a safe environment.”

To learn more about the Secured School Safety Grant Program and what Indiana’s doing to keep schools safe, visit the state’s school safety hub at in.gov/schoolsafety.

Baird represents House District 44, which includes all of Putnam County and a portion of Montgomery County. Genda represents House District 41, which includes portions of Boone, Clinton, Montgomery and Tippecanoe counties. Commons represents House District 13, which includes all of Benton and Warren counties, and portions of Fountain, Jasper, Montgomery, Newton, Tippecanoe and White counties. And Thompson represents House District 28, which includes portions of Boone, Hendricks and Montgomery counties.

Under the leadership of Lieutenant Governor Micah Beckwith, who also serves as the Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs’ (OCRA) mission is to work with local, state and national partners to provide resources and technical assistance to assist communities in shaping and achieving their vision for community and economic development. For more information, visit ocra.in.gov.

Community Development Block Grants Open for Applications

The Office of Lieutenant Governor Micah Beckwith and the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs announced the second round of Community Development Block Grants for 2025 is now open for applications.

The following programs are accepting applications.

- Blight Clearance
- Main Street Revitalization
- Public Facilities
- Stormwater Improvements
- Wastewater/Drinking Water

A series of updates have been made to the CDBG program that are in effect for Round 2 of 2025.

- Program-specific alignment for Wastewater/Drinking Water grants: OCRA has adjusted the WDW program to reflect new benchmarks established by the Legislative Taskforce. These updates are designed to ensure compliance with revied user rate thresholds.
- Public Facilities program expanded to include historic preservation: The scope of Public Facilities program will expand to include supporting rehabilitation and restoration of historical structures, preserving architectural heritage.
- Promote effective building practices: Modifications to the

Main Street Revitalization and Public Facilities programs will promote efficient construction and renovation practices, encouraging long-term cost savings for municipalities and residents.

- Residential Blight Clearance initiative expanded: In response to evolving community needs, the Blight Clearance program now includes residential properties, enabling local governments to address substandard housing and promote safe and healthy communities.
- Support for disaster-impacted communities: Additional bonus points will be awarded to non-entitlement communities recovering from natural disasters and facing heightened financial needs, improving their abilities to secure CDBG funding.
- National Objectives guidelines: The criteria for assigning points to National Objectives remain unchanged, but now explicitly incorporate the guidelines into application materials to give applicants a clear understanding of the established practices.

Detailed information on 2025 Round 2 updates and additional resources are now available on the CDBG Resources Page and

a pre-recorded webinar is available here.

Funding for all CDBG programs comes from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and is administered by OCRA. The State of Indiana distributes CDBG funds to rural communities to assist units of local government with various community projects like improving infrastructure, downtown revitalization, public facilities improvements and economic development.

Proposal submissions will be collected via the electronic Grants Management System. Instructions on how to submit proposals can be found at in.gov/ocra/cdbg/cdbg-construction-grants/.

2025 Round 2 proposals are due Friday, Oct. 24, by 11:59 p.m. ET via the eGMS. Communities are encouraged to submit their applications prior to 4 p.m. on Oct. 24, as technical assistance will not be available after that time.

2025 Round 2 Applications are due on Friday, Dec. 19, by 11:59 p.m. ET also via eGMS. Applicants are encouraged to submit their applications prior to 4 p.m. on Dec. 19, as technical assistance will not be available after that time.

For further information on these programs, visit in.gov/ocra/cdbg or contact the assigned OCRA regional community liaison .

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