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■ TODAY'S VERSE

Proverbs 3: 5-6

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.

■ AWL GOLIATH



Goliath is a 2 year old male Alaskan Malamute available for adoption from AWL since 9/6/25.

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AWL is open Monday - Friday from 2p-5p and Saturday's from 12-3p. Come say hi!

■ MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Concerts on the Corner at Wabash Avenue Presbyterian Church will sponsor a Coffee House reminiscent of the '60s and '70s Saturday which will feature singer / songwriter Jesse MacLeod. Two of MacLeod's songs were featured on NBC's The Voice. He was the winner of "Best Performer" in the Westcoast Songwriter's competition and named one of the top three male finalists in the So Cal live music competition. In keeping with the theme of Peace, donations are welcome for the Peace and Global Witness Offering of the Presbyterian Church USA. Forty percent of the collection will go to the local Humans United for Equality organiza-



Halloween is kind the kick-off to the holiday season – wouldn't it be nice if we got back to family seasons and away from political ones?

■ QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Proof of our society's decline is that Halloween has become a broad daylight event for many."

~Robert Kirby

■ JOKE OF THE DAY

What would you get if you crossed a vampire and a teacher?

Lots of blood tests!

**WELCOME OCTOBER!**

# The Paper

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■ BOOMER BITS RETIREMENT

## Should Spouse Get Half of My Social Security



ASK RUSTY  
Social Security  
Advisor

**Dear Rusty:** I was referred to you to ask a question about Social Security benefits. I receive about \$1,700 a month from Social Security while my husband receives only approximately \$750 monthly. Is he entitled to file for half of my Social Security as a monthly benefit without touching my amount?

**Signed: Curious Wife**

**Dear Curious Wife:** For information, spousal benefits are one of the most misunderstood areas of Social Security. A spouse does not always get half of their partner's Social Security benefit – how much the spouse gets is determined by their age when the spouse benefit is claimed, and it is always based upon both partner's full retirement age (FRA) benefit, regardless of when they actually claimed Social Security. The

See RUSTY Page 3

■ BOOMER BITS TECHNOLOGY

## BBB Scam Alert: What Is Ghost Tapping?

Contactless payments are convenient, but scammers are using ghost tapping to steal from unsuspecting consumers. Find out how this tap-to-pay fraud works and how to stay safe.

Tapping your card or phone to pay has become second nature for many of us.

It's quick, easy and you don't even have to hand your card to anyone. But scammers are finding ways to take advantage

of this payment convenience. One growing threat is called ghost tapping, where criminals use wireless devices to steal money without touching your card.

### What is ghost tapping?

Ghost tapping is a scam that targets tap-to-pay cards and mobile wallets. Tap-to-pay works through Near Field Communication (NFC), which allows devices to exchange data at very close range. While NFC is generally safe,

See Tapping Page 5

## Mayor Reflects on Weekend That United Community, World

By Todd D. Barton  
Mayor of  
Crawfordsville  
Guest Columnist

Crawfordsville and Montgomery County are a very special place. I've always known that, and it drives my passion to work hard on behalf of this community every day. Over the past few days, the rest of the world has discovered just how special our community truly is. We not only welcomed visitors from around the world, but also made them feel at home, like part of our family, and showed everyone how to put aside the divisiveness that dominates the global landscape.

The feedback from visitors and residents alike was overwhelmingly positive, and I've heard so many amazing stories that will create unforgettable memories for those involved.

This was a significant undertaking for a community of our size, and it literally took everyone to make it such a success. There were so many city departments, county departments, state agencies, organizations, businesses and individuals going above and beyond that it is impossible to name each one of them. I would like to extend a collective thank you for now and look forward to personally thank each of you in the coming days and weeks. Crawfordsville and Montgomery County, you hit it out of the park!

While it's traditional to measure the impact of large events such as this solely in terms of numbers and dollars, I would argue that although those impacts far exceeded everyone's goals, the greater impact was the immeasurable goodwill, memories, and global camaraderie that occurred. We collectively swept the politics, strife and divisiveness that dominate our world aside as locals joined fans from many countries to cheer on one

See Mayor Page 3

■ BOOMER BITS HEALTH

## 3 Things to Consider on Reducing Cancer Risk



By Dr. Gary Grosel  
Chief Medical Officer,  
UnitedHealthcare of  
Indiana

A new report from America's Health Rankings found that 8.8 percent adults in Indiana have previously been diagnosed with cancer, and the latest data from the Centers

for Disease Control and Prevention show 35,939 cancer cases were reported in Indiana in 2022.

About 1 in 3 people in the U.S. are affected by cancer and about 2 million new cases of cancer are diagnosed each year.

Breast and colorectal cancer diagnoses, in particular, have been on the rise since the mid-2000s, and these cancers are being diagnosed more often at younger ages.

A cancer diagnosis can impact people's lives in many ways. Early cancer detection may play a key role in helping to improve health outcomes and lower

health care costs.

The five-year survival rate for colorectal cancer when caught in its early stages is over 90%, for example. At the most advanced stages, the five-year survival rate for this type of cancer is 13% and treatment may result in long-term side effects.

So, what can you do to help potentially reduce your cancer risk? Here are three things to consider:

Understand your cancer risk factors

Knowing your risk factors of developing

See Cancer Page 5

■ THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

**1.** The No Kings Days that have been making news across the country are planning another outing in Indiana. This is scheduled for Oct. 18 on the south lawn of the Indiana Statehouse. It is hosted by Indivisible Central Indiana and co-sponsored by ACLU Indiana, MADVoters, Concerned Clergy of Indianapolis, Indivisible South Central Indiana and Women4Change. An activist fair is planned from 11-2. Featured speakers, community leaders, musicians, and activist fair with grassroots partners

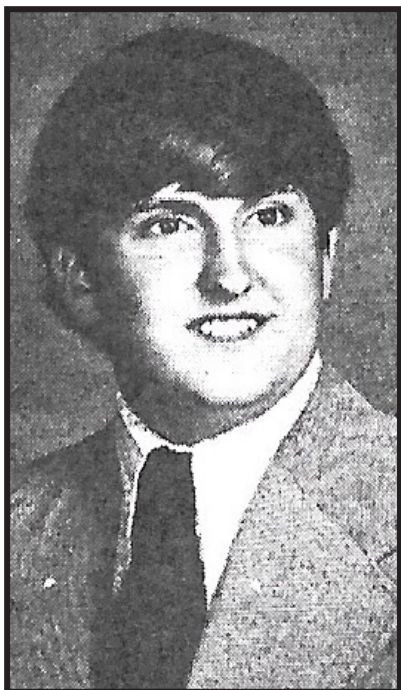
**2.** IU may be turning into a football powerhouse, but in Indiana Notre Dame is still the king when it comes to sending football players to the NFL. According to a new study by iGaming experts GameZinger <<https://gamezinger.com/>> The Fighting Irish actually rank fifth in the nation for best colleges for NFL careers. UND has 49 active players in the NFL. Alabama and Ohio State lead the country with 73 active players each. Georgia, Michigan and LSU are next.

**3.** American River Wellness, experts in return to duty support, surveyed 3,015 truckers to uncover where drivers fall short across the country. Respondents weighed in on behaviors like tailgating in blind spots, last-second cut-ins, and failing to leave enough space for trucks. No surprise that New York, Los Angeles and Atlanta finished 1-2-3 in the country. But in Indiana, Ft. Wayne was the worst (and ranked 149th in the U.S. and Indianapolis was second worst in the state – and 246th in the country. Heck, anyone who drives on 465 or I-69 up north already knew that, didn't we?

# The Paper OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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## BUTCH'S FLASHBACK TRIVIA



Do you Recognize this 1974 Southmount grad?

HINT: He loved being in the school band and participating in school musical productions!

Answer on Page 5

SAGAMORE NEWS MEDIA

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## The Paper

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Photo courtesy Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce  
It was a celebration of epic proportion as CEL&P marked an incredible 135 years of continuous service to this community.

## CEL&P Celebrates 135 Years of Continuous Service

The Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce was pleased to host a popper celebration for Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power. This year marks a monumental milestone for CEL&P, as it celebrates 135 years of continuous service. Since its establishment in 1890, CEL&P has been an integral part of the Crawfordsville community. Throughout its 135 years of service, the utility has grown alongside the city, continually adapting to the changing energy

landscape while maintaining a strong focus on customer satisfaction and environmental responsibility. "For 135 years, Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power has been proud to power this community — not just with energy, but with commitment, innovation and care," CEL&P General Manager, Allison Huenemann, said. "This milestone is a testament to the trust our customers place in us, the dedication of our team and the strong partnerships we've built with residents,

businesses and city leaders. As we celebrate this incredible legacy, we remain focused on delivering safe and reliable power that will continue to support and strengthen Crawfordsville for generations to come." CEL&P has hosted a series of anniversary events throughout the year, aimed at giving back to the community and engaging with residents. Follow CEL&P on social media @cvillepower or visit [www.celp.com](http://www.celp.com) for more information.

## Chamber's Annual Christmas Auction Nov. 6



Photo courtesy Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce  
Tickets for the auction are expected to sell out quickly, so hurry and get yours today.

The Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce is already in the holiday spirit and excited to announce the return of its annual Christmas Auction on Thursday, Nov. 6. The festive event will take place on the third floor of Fusion 54, located at 101 W. Main Street in downtown Crawfordsville, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Guests will enjoy an evening highlighted by a live auction with professional bid calling by Edwards Auctioneering, a silent auction featuring an array of creative and local treasures, hors d'oeuvres catered by The Juniper Spoon and a cash bar. The Chamber invites the community to attend this fun and spirited evening that brings together members, local business-

es, and friends in celebration of the holiday season. Tickets are open to the public and cost \$20 for one person or \$30 for two people. The event is expected to sell out quickly, so attendees are encouraged to purchase tickets early by visiting the calendar on the Chamber's website at [www.crawfordsvillechamber.com](http://www.crawfordsvillechamber.com). Businesses and individuals who wish to showcase their organization while supporting the Chamber are invited to donate items for the auction. Donations will be promoted on Facebook, in the Chamber Informant newsletter and at the event itself. Items may be dropped off at the Chamber office on the fourth floor of Fusion 54 by Monday, Oct. 18. The Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of

Commerce extends its appreciation to the sponsors who make this event possible. The Main Event Sponsor is Campbell Ag Service. Hors d'oeuvres Sponsors include Tri County Bank & Trust, Nucor, and The Juniper Spoon. The Silent Auction Sponsor is Acuity Brands, and the Drink Sponsors are Ruoff Mortgage, Plaza Lanes, Stevenson's Hardware, The Lane House, and Crawfordsville Audiology. For more information or questions, contact Stacy Sommer at [ssommer@crawfordsvillechamber.com](mailto:ssommer@crawfordsvillechamber.com) or call (765) 362-6800. Join the Chamber for an evening of community, cheer, and friendly bidding, and help make this year's Christmas Auction the most magical one yet.

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# Surgeon joins Franciscan Advanced Wound Healing Center

Jordan Maxwell, DO, is now part of the team at Franciscan Advanced Wound Healing Center Lafayette and Franciscan Health Advanced Wound Healing Center Crawfordsville.



**Dr. Jordan Maxwell** one of five expert physicians.

Dr. Maxwell earned her medical degree from Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences in Kansas City. She completed residency training in general surgery at Ascension Genesys in Grand Blanc, Mich. Dr. Maxwell completed a fellowship in plastic surgery at Plastic Surgery at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Mich.

Franciscan Health Advanced Wound Healing Center Lafayette is the only such facility in the Lafayette area and offers the latest techniques and equipment for wound healing; all on an outpatient basis. Every patient is treated by

The address in Crawfordsville is 1710 Lafayette Road and in Lafayette it's located at 1701 South Creasy Lane.

# Rokita Tells Schools Where Free Speech Lines Begin and End

Attorney General Todd Rokita has sent legal guidance to school superintendents and public university administrators explaining their authority consistent with the First Amendment to discipline or terminate educators who make public statements that are disruptive to school operations.

The assassination has generated grief and outrage across the nation. Disturbingly, some Indiana educators have exacerbated the pain and sorrow that many parents and students are feeling by making divisive statements that excuse or even celebrate Kirk's death.

"When teachers or professors entrusted with shaping young minds cheer the violent death of a political figure, they forfeit the moral authority to stand in front of a classroom," Rokita said. "Free speech is not a license for public employees to disrupt government operations by destroying public trust through callous, crude, and controversial speech. Schools and universities have legal authority to act to restore public confidence in our schools by disciplining these teachers—up to and including termination."

The Attorney General's guidance makes clear that while educators retain First Amendment rights, those rights are not unlimited in the government employment context. Courts have consistently recognized that public employers may regulate government employee speech – including speech made in an

employee's private capacity – when it disrupts government operations. As the Supreme Court has said, "when a citizen enters government service, the citizen by necessity must accept certain limitations on his or her freedom." *Garcetti v. Ceballos*, 547 U.S. 410, 418 (2006). That is especially true for teachers, who occupy uniquely sensitive and important positions.

The Attorney General's guidance also explains that, in many if not most cases, the noxious speech some public-school teachers have engaged in with respect to Charlie Kirk could be proper subjects for disciplinary action by schools.

"Schools don't need to wait for chaos to break out," Rokita emphasized. "The law permits administrators to act proactively when a teacher's speech threatens disruption or corrodes community confidence. Schools are well within their legal authority to prioritize

protecting students and preserving public trust."

The Attorney General's Office has received hundreds of complaints from parents and other concerned Hoosiers about troubling comments made by educators on social media and in other forums. To promote accountability and transparency, the Attorney General encourages citizens to continue submitting complaints to the Eyes on Education portal on the Attorney General's website.

"Parents are the most important voice in their children's education," Rokita said. "By sharing items of concern, you ensure that Indiana classrooms remain safe, supportive, and focused on educating our children, not indoctrinating them or exposing them to controversial political views. Together, we can and should hold educators to the highest standards."

## Mayor

Continued from Page 1



**Mayor Todd D Barton waves to the crowds along the parade route.**

another, with a bit of electric revelry, of course.

Over the last few days, especially last Friday afternoon, the world became a much smaller place. We put everything aside to become united, and that celebration of unity was centered right here in our

little spot on this vast planet.

Hold your heads high, Crawfordsville and Montgomery County! I am humbled to lead such an amazing community, and I assure you that we aren't done yet, so stay tuned!

Crawfordsville

native Todd D. Barton is the only four-term mayor in the history of Crawfordsville. He initially took office in 2012 and before that served in several leadership roles in the city, including fire chief. He also owned a successful consulting business and is a cum laude graduate of Wabash College.

## RUSTY

Continued from Page 1

partner with the lower SS benefit can only get half of the other spouse's FRA amount if that partner takes the spouse benefit at (or after) their personal SS full retirement age (FRA). And each spouse's FRA may be different depending on the year they were born (FRA today is somewhere between age 66 and 67, depending on the person's year of birth).

Here are two basic rules for a lower earning marital partner to get spouse benefits:

- The lower earning spouse's FRA entitlement must be less than 50% of the higher earning spouse's FRA entitlement. FRA amounts are used, even if SS benefits were claimed earlier than, or later than, full retirement age, and FRA amounts are fre-

quently different than the monthly amounts actually being received.

- If one spouse's FRA amount is less than 50% of the other spouse's FRA amount, the difference between those two amounts can be added to the lower earning spouse's SS retirement amount, to become their spousal benefit. That may, or may not, equal half of the higher earning spouse's FRA amount.

So, if you claimed your Social Security exactly at your own full retirement age, and your husband also claimed his Social Security exactly at his own full retirement age, then - based on the numbers you provided – your husband is likely entitled to about \$850 per month, instead of his current \$750. And that would not affect your own SS

benefit in any way.

Your FRA entitlement would need to be more than twice your husband's FRA entitlement for him to receive a spousal boost from you. But if either of you claimed Social Security before (or after) your respective full retirement ages, your husband would not get 50% of your benefit.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. Russell Gloor is the, National Social Security Advisor at the AMAC Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens. To submit a question, visit our website ([amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory)) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org).

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# Looking Back at Recruiting, Players, Coaches Under Joe Tiller



**Ken Thompson**  
Columnist

After back-to-back 9-win seasons and coming off an upset of fourth-ranked Kansas State in the Alamo Bowl, Joe Tiller and his coaching staff thought it was time the Purdue football program reached for the stars: the four- and five-star recruits who could lift the Boilermakers into national prominence.

Tiller learned a hard lesson with the 1999 recruiting class, which not only did not measure up to his first two Boilermaker classes but saw Purdue swing and miss on too many targets.

“We had a number of players that were scheduled to come on campus the last two weeks (in January) and they just never made it. They committed elsewhere,” Tiller told the Lafayette Journal and Courier’s Tom Kubat.

“There still is a pecking order out there, even when it comes to making a campus visit. I’ve never forgotten what LaVell Edwards told me after Brigham Young won a national championship. Their staff decided to step up recruiting and go after the Top 100 players. But in the end, they got the guys BYU would normally get.”

One recruiting service ranked the 1999 Boilermaker class 53rd nationally and last in

the Big Ten Conference. Of the 19 players in the class, four would go on to play in the NFL and a fifth would be a key starter for the 2000 Big Ten championship team.

Linebacker Landon Johnson would red-shirt in 1999 but cracked the starting lineup in 2000. “He’s the fastest linebacker we’ve recruited since we’ve been doing this business,” Tiller said. That speed helped Johnson start four years for Purdue and play seven years in the NFL for Cincinnati, Carolina and Detroit.

Two other freshmen who would also red-shirt in 1999 joined Johnson in the starting lineup the following year. Defensive end Shaun Phillips would set the Purdue record for sacks with 33.5 and earn second-team All-America honors in 2003. Phillips recorded 81.5 career sacks in a lengthy NFL career with the San Diego Chargers, Denver, Tennessee and Indianapolis.

Defensive tackle Craig Terrill came north from Lebanon, Ind., and was a four-year starter before playing in the NFL with Seattle.

Defensive end Akin Ayodele, a member of the 1997 recruiting class forced by academics to attend Coffeyville (Kan.) Junior College for two years, kept his pledge to the Boilermakers. His nine-year NFL career included stops in Jacksonville, Dallas, Miami and Buffalo.

The fifth future starter, junior college transfer Ashante Woodyard, will be forever remem-

bered by Purdue fans for recovering Terrill’s blocked field goal and returning it for the game-winning touchdown in overtime at Wisconsin in 2000.

Lesson learned, Tiller and his staff signed an impactful class in February 2000. “We feel like this certainly is the best class we’ve been able to recruit in our short tenure here at Purdue,” Tiller said.

The star of the class was safety Stuart Schweigert, who was recruited by Tiller and defensive coordinator Brock Spack out of Saginaw, Mich. It was a major coup to get Schweigert away from Michigan and Michigan State.

Schweigert lived up to his billing, becoming a four-year starter at Purdue and leaving for the NFL with the career interceptions record. Schweigert’s 17 interceptions easily topped the 11 Rod Woodson recorded during his All-America career. Coincidentally, Woodson’s defensive coordinator at Purdue was Joe Tiller. Schweigert added the 2000 Big Ten Freshman of the Year award and was a first-team All-Big Ten selection in 2001 and 2003.

Gilbert Gardner also started as a true freshman, making the switch from wide receiver to linebacker in training camp. He went on to play five NFL seasons, including three with the Indianapolis Colts.

Other future starters signed in 2000 were offensive tackle Kelly Butler (the 24th-ranked offensive lineman in the nation), running back

Joey Harris (the 19th-ranked running back in the nation), cornerbacks Antwaun Rogers and Jacques Reeves, linebacker Niko Koutouvides and two record-setting wide receivers: John Standeford and Taylor Stubblefield.

All but Stubblefield would play in the NFL

“Standeford is a guy we consider to be an exceptional candidate as a receiver,” Tiller said on signing day. “He’s tall, he has soft hands, he has very good speed. We wanted to get bigger receivers and he certainly fits that description (at 6-4).”

Standeford cracked the starting lineup as a true freshman and would leave Purdue as the all-time Big Ten leader with 266 receptions and 3,788 receiving yards. He was a semifinalist for the Biletnikoff Award as a junior and was voted a Freshman All-American in 2000.

Stubblefield was redshirted in 2000 but statistically would become Purdue’s best wide receiver until Rondale Moore and David Bell came along a decade later. The Yakima, Wash., native set the NCAA record for career receptions at 316. That figure doesn’t include his nine catches in the 2001 Sun Bowl, the final season the NCAA did not recognize bowl statistics.

His 3,629 career receiving yards ranked second in Purdue history behind Standeford. Stubblefield caught 16 touchdown passes as a senior in 2004, a school record and at the time the third-most in Big Ten

history. He left Purdue as a consensus All-American and a finalist for the Biletnikoff Award. Stubblefield has been on College Football Hall of Fame ballots since becoming eligible for induction.

Of the 19 players signed in this class, eight were starters on the 2003 Purdue football team that came within an overtime loss at Ohio State of returning to the Rose Bowl.

## Epilogue

Twenty-one of the 85 scholarship players on the 2000 Rose Bowl roster would go on to play in the NFL.

Tiller would retire after the 2008 season as Purdue’s winningest football coach, posting an 87-62 record.

Three of his assistants became head coaches. Defensive coordinator Brock Spack, who in hindsight should have replaced Tiller in 2009, left his alma mater to become head coach at Illinois State. Now in his 17th season, Spack is the school’s winningest coach with a 114-75 record through four games into the 2025 season.

Offensive line coach Danny Hope left after the 2001 season to become the assistant head coach at Louisville. The following year, Hope became head coach at his alma mater, Eastern Kentucky. After winning the Ohio Valley Conference title in 2007, Hope was chosen over Spack to replace Tiller following the 2008 season.

Hope was fired following the 2012 regular season with a 22-27

record. After one-year stints as an assistant at South Florida (2015) and Eastern Kentucky (2019), Hope returned to coaching at UCF following the unexpected death of offensive line coach Shawn Clark on Sept. 21. Clark coached for Hope at Purdue from 2009 to 2012.

Wide receivers coach Kevin Sumlin became the head man at the University of Houston from 2008-2011. Sumlin went 35-17 before taking the Texas A&M job. There, he coached Heisman Trophy winner Johnny Manziel and went 11-2 in his first season. Sumlin was fired with a 51-26 record after six seasons. Following three losing seasons at Arizona, Sumlin has not been a collegiate head coach since 2020.

Defensive tackles coach Mark Hagen remains active as co-defensive coordinator at Louisville under his former Purdue boss, Jeff Brohm. Offensive coordinator Jim Chaney serves as an offensive analyst at Georgia State. Quarterbacks coach Greg Olson serves in the same capacity with the Las Vegas Raiders and has been an NFL assistant for 23 years.

Assistant head coach Scott Downing, defensive ends coach Gary Emanuel and defensive backs coach Ken Greene are out of college football.

*Kenny Thompson is the former sports editor for the Lafayette Journal & Courier and an award-winning journalist. He has covered Purdue athletics for many years.*

## AG’s Office Lists September Recalls

Dangerous toys and appliances in your home could put your family at risk. Attorney General Todd Rokita is calling on all Hoosiers to check this month’s recall list to protect your loved ones. Items include children’s toys, a countertop oven and other items that can cause serious burns or even death.

“Hoosiers need to know if purchased items are defective or could harm them or their children,” Todd Rokita said. “This month, several recalled products are related to children, so parents must pay close attention to ensure their kids’ safety. If you purchased a recalled item, stop using it immediately.”

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the following consumer products were recalled in September:

### Children’s Products

These products pose risks such as strangulation, suffocation, choking, or head

injury, particularly to young children.

**Persilux Brand Zebra Blinds:** Strangulation and entanglement hazards; violates federal rule for window coverings; sold on Amazon.

**Autoez Brand Bamboo Shades:** Strangulation and entanglement hazards; violates federal rule for window coverings; sold on Walmart.com.

**LXDHSTRA Baby Loungers and Crib Bumpers:** Suffocation and fall hazards; violates federal standards for infant sleep products and crib bumper ban; sold on Amazon.

**URMYWO Baby Loungers:** Suffocation and fall hazards; violates mandatory standard for infant sleep products; sold on Amazon by Pomona.

**YooxArmor Multi-Purpose Kids’ Helmets:** Risk of head injury; violates mandatory standard for bicycle helmets; sold on Amazon by YooxArmor.

**Youbeien Crib Mobiles:**

Risk of battery ingestion; violates mandatory toy standard for batteries; sold on Amazon by GKKBSJ.

**Shierdu Children’s Toys:** Choking hazard; violates small parts ban; sold on Amazon by Yiwu Shiyi Trading.

**AMTRADING Hoovy Cooling Gel Insert Pads for Car Seats and Strollers:** Burn hazard; sold by AMTRADING.

**In My Jammers Button Flare Pajama Sets:** Burn hazard; violates mandatory flammability standards.

**Home Appliances**

These products present fire, burn, or laceration risks in household settings.

**Sunbeam Products Oster French Door Countertop Ovens:** Burn hazard; over one million units recalled.

**Wuensche USA Ambiano Cotton Candy Makers:** Fire hazard; sold at ALDI.

**Epoca International Paris Hilton Mini Beauty Fridges:** Fire and burn hazards.

**Makita U.S.A., Inc.**

**Cordless Grease Guns and Grease Gun Hoses:** Laceration hazard.

**Personal Care and Health Products**

These products pose risks of poisoning or fire, particularly to children or users.

**Mad Rabbit “RELIEVE” Lidocaine Numbing Cream:** Risk of poisoning to young children; violates child-resistant packaging standard.

**Blueroot Health Bariatric Fusion Iron Multivitamins:** Risk of child poisoning; violates child-resistant packaging standard; manufactured by VitaQuest International.

**Arizer Solo II Portable Vaporizers:** Fire and burn hazards; imported by 7111495 Canada.

### Other Products

These products include miscellaneous items with risks such as fire, burn, or serious injury.

**Anker Power Banks:** Fire and burn hazards; manufactured by Anker Innovations.

**IcyBreeze Cooling Portable Misting Fans:** Fire hazard.

**Five Below Tabletop Fire Pits:** Risk of serious burn injury from flame jetting and fire hazards.

**EnHomee Dressers:** Risk of tip-over and entrapment; violates mandatory standard for clothing storage units; sold by EnHomee Direct.

**StopBox USA AR-15 Chamber Lock Pros:** Risk of serious injury or death.

If you believe you recently purchased a recalled product, stop using it, and check its recall notice (linked above for all products). Then follow the notice’s instructions, including where to return the product, how to get the product fixed, how to dispose of the product, how to receive a refund for the product, or what steps must be taken to receive a replacement product.

To view recalls issued prior to September visit the Consumer Protection Safety Commission website.



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**Tapping**

*Continued from Page 1*

scammers can exploit it in crowded or distracted situations. You can learn more about NFCs and how to use them safely in BBB Tip: What to know if you're using NFCs.

Unlike previous debit and credit card scams, which required physical contact with the card, ghost tapping eliminates this need. There are occasions where the scammers will attempt to trick unsuspecting individuals in public places. For example, they might try:

- Getting close in public spaces. Someone might bump into you while secretly charging your tap-enabled card or mobile wallet.
- Pretending to be a vendor. At events, flea markets, or festivals, fraudsters might set up fake stands and ask for tap payments.

- Charity scams. They might request a small donation but actually charge your card for a much larger amount.

- Rushing the process. Scammers count on you tapping without checking the business name or transaction amount.

In some cases, fraudsters make small withdrawals to avoid triggering fraud detection systems, which means victims may not notice the theft right away.

BBB has received several reports of this scam. One person reported this experience

to BBB Scam Tracker, "An individual is going door to door in [location redacted] claiming to be selling chocolate on behalf of [redacted] to support special needs students. He says that he can only accept tap-to-pay to get people to pay with a card. He then charges large amounts to the card without the cardholder being able to see the amount. He got my mother for \$537... Another victim for \$1100... He changes neighborhoods frequently to avoid getting caught."

**What are the warning signs and red flags of ghost tapping?**

- Bank alerts about small or unusual "test" charges.
- A request to tap without showing you the total or offering a receipt.

- Suspicious charges after you've been in crowded areas like festivals, markets, or transit stations.

**How to protect yourself from a tap-to-pay scam?**

- Use RFID protection. An RFID-blocking wallet or sleeve can help stop wireless skimming.
- Always confirm payment details. Before tapping your card or phone, check the merchant's name and amount on the terminal screen.
- Set up transaction alerts. Many banks allow real-time

notifications for every charge.

- Keep an eye on your accounts. Daily checks help you spot fraud faster.
- Limit tap-to-pay use in high-risk areas. When in doubt, consider swiping or inserting your card instead.

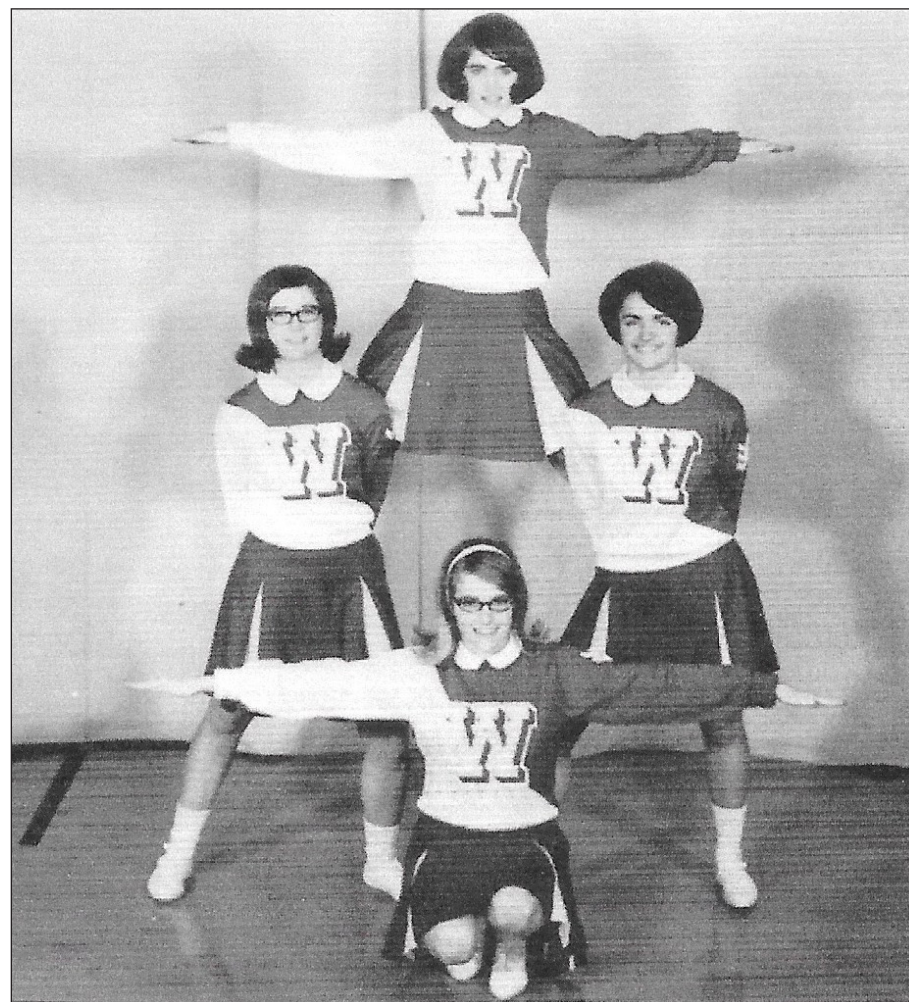
**What to do if you're a victim of a tap-to-pay scam:**

- Report them immediately to your bank or card issuer.
- Freeze or cancel the affected card.
- Report scams to BBB Scam Tracker.

**ABOUT BBB SERVING CENTRAL INDIANA:**

*The Better Business Bureau has empowered people to find businesses, brands, and charities they can trust for more than 110 years. In 2024, people turned to BBB more than 220 million times for BBB Business Profiles on more than 5.3 million businesses, and 80,000 times for BBB charity reports on about 12,000 charities, for free at BBB.org. The International Association of Better Business Bureaus is the umbrella organization for the local, independent BBBs in the United States and Canada. BBB Serving Central Indiana was founded in 1916 and serves 42 Indiana counties.*

**■ BUTCH'S BACK IN THE DAY**



**Back in the day, many girls hoped to become a cheerleader for the boys basketball team. Shown above are the Waynetown cheerleaders in 1968...(starting at the top and then clockwise): Mary Ann Irvin, Debbie Steelsmith, Vicki Springer, and Vicki Barker. There four did a great job!**

**Cancer**

*Continued from Page 1*

cancer or other chronic conditions is an important step in helping to protect your health.

Some cancer risk factors, like age, genetics and family history, are out of your control. Tell your doctor about your family health history to help determine if you may have a higher risk of developing certain cancers.

Understanding your risk can help you and your doctor decide when to begin certain preventive screenings and diagnostic services that may help detect any issues early when treatment may be more effective.

While there's no way to prevent all cancers, there are some lifestyle choices you can make that may support your overall health and potentially help reduce cancer risk as well.

**Choose a healthier lifestyle**

In the United States at least 18% of cancers are related to excess body weight, physical inactivity, alcohol consumption, and poor nutrition, according to the American Cancer Society.

There are some lifestyle modifications people can make that may result in better overall health and reduced risk for cancer and other chronic conditions.

Eat a balanced diet. Focus on vegetables, fruits, whole grains and lean protein. A healthy diet can help to support your overall well-being. In fact, research shows that people who eat a "Mediterranean diet" have a lower risk of breast cancer, for example.

Prioritize movement and maintain a healthy weight. Regular exercise is good for your overall health and physical activity has been shown to help reduce the risk of certain types of cancer.

Limit alcohol consumption and avoid tobacco and smoking. Alcohol abuse is linked to some types of cancer like those of the oral cavity, esophagus, and liver.

Smoking can increase the risk of developing many types of cancer including colon and lung cancers. Chewing tobacco is also linked to cancer, especially head and neck cancers.

**Cancer screenings in Indiana**

In Indiana, 72.6 percent of women ages 40-74 report receiving a mammogram in the past two years, while 60.8 percent of people ages 45-75 report receiving one or more of the recommended colorectal cancer screening tests within the recommended time intervals.

Keeping up with doctor visits, preventive screenings and diagnostic services can be an important part of overall health.

Remember to schedule your annual wellness exam and preventive screenings. Health plans usually cover preventive care, and you may pay \$0 out of pocket for certain covered preventive services if you go to a network provider.

Talk to your employer and health plan

Check with your employer and health plan to see what benefits are available to help support your health and well-being.

Timely diagnoses may improve health outcomes and help with medical expenses, especially when it comes to cancer. Screenings may include physical exams, lab tests, and imaging, many of which are used in cancer detection and may be covered by health plans.

Taking proactive steps to protect your health today may help you reduce the risk of cancer and other chronic conditions tomorrow.

**State Forests Offer Open Houses**

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources will offer open houses at numerous state forests on Oct. 28, 29, and 30.

During the events, Hoosiers can learn more about outdoor recreation available at state forests and how the properties' professional foresters work to manage the properties for long-term forest health.

"These open houses provide Hoosiers with a chance to receive first-hand information about how state forests provide diverse wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities," said State Forester John Seifert. "They also allow us to receive valuable feedback from our neighbors and users about state forest management – I encourage everyone to participate."

A guided hike will be offered at 5 p.m. during each open house. Attendees who want to go on the hike should meet at the forest office.

In addition to attendees being able to ask questions and comment, Hoosiers can submit written questions or comments at <https://in.accessgov.com/dnr/Forms/Page/forestry/forestry-comment/o>

Open houses will be offered as follows:

Clark State Forest:

Oct. 28, 4 to 7 p.m., at the property office, which is a mile north of Henryville on U.S. 31. Call 812-294-4306 for more information.

Greene-Sullivan State Forest: Oct. 28, 4 to 7 p.m., at the property office on State Road 159, approximately 1.5 miles south of Dugger. Call 812-648-2810 for more information.

Salamonie River and Frances Slocum State Forests: Oct. 28, 4 to 7 p.m., at the Salamonie River State Forest office off State Road 524, approximately 6 miles east of Wabash. Call 260-782-0430 for more information.

Harrison-Crawford State Forest: Oct. 29, 4 to 7 p.m., at the property office off State Road 462, just past the gatehouse for O'Bannon Woods State Park. Call 812-738-7694 for more information.

Jackson-Washington and Selmier State Forests: Oct. 29, 4 to 7 p.m., at the Jackson-Washington State Forest office, which is 2.5 miles east of Brownstown, just east of the Jackson County Fairgrounds on State Road 250. Call 812-358-2160 for more information.

Ferdinand-Pike State Forest: Oct. 29, 4 to 7 p.m., at the property office off State Road 264, approximately 4 miles northeast of Ferdinand.

Call 812-827-2857 for more information.

Martin State Forest: Oct. 30, 4 to 7 p.m., at the property office off U.S. 50, approximately 4 miles northeast of Shoals. Call 812-247-3491 for more information.

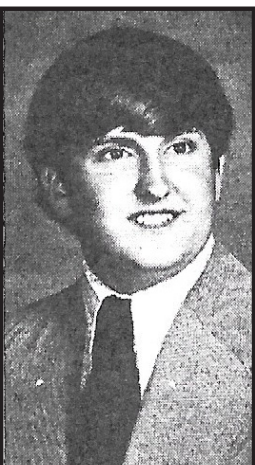
Morgan-Monroe, Ravinia, Yellowwood, and Mountain Tea State Forests: Oct. 30, 4 to 7 p.m., at the Morgan-Monroe State Forest office off State Road 37, approximately 6 miles south of Martinsville. Call 765-792-4654 for more information.

Owen-Putnam State Forest: Oct. 30, 4 to 7 p.m., at the property office, which is 5 miles west of Spencer and less than a mile north of State Road 46. Call 812-829-2462 for more information.

Property staff members are also often available during normal business hours, which are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. See [dnr.IN.gov/forestry/properties](http://dnr.IN.gov/forestry/properties) for contact information.

The DNR Division of Forestry promotes and practices good stewardship of natural, recreational, and cultural resources on Indiana's public and private forest lands. This stewardship produces continuing benefits, both tangible and intangible, for present and future generations.

**BUTCH'S FLASHBACK TRIVIA**



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