The Paper
OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery County's oldest locally owned independent newspaper www.thepaper24-7.com | 50¢

TODAY'S VERSE

1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord

AWL KAYLA

Kayla is an 8 year old (senior) female American Blue Heeler available for adoption at AWL since 9/12/25. Kayla loves going out for walks, looking cute, and enjoys the finer things in life - like a nice comfy bed! Kayla is looking for her best friend. Could that be you? Kayla is available for adoption, to foster, or just simply going out for walks. Come say hi and ask staff to meet Kayla!! AWL is open Monday-Friday from 2p-5p and Saturday's from 12-3p.

We're a little over a week away from the 200th birthday of when the state capitol moved from the charming city of Corydon to Indianapolis. Happened on Jan. 20, 1825 – and then Hamilton County started growing shortly thereafter.

MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Whether the Red Cross or Versiti, officials are explaining that blood supplies are critical. Did you know that collecting blood has become increasingly challenging. According to our friends at Versiti, only about 3 percent of the population donates blood, yet nearly 70 percent of people will need blood in their lifetime. Every successful blood drive matters more than ever, and your efforts truly make a difference for patients and families in our community. Versiti is currently booking the 2026 schedule and are in urgent need of additional blood drives during the winter months, when donations are traditionally lowest. If you are interested in having a blood drive, please reach out Jennie Bean at jbean@versiti.org

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We are not afraid to entrust the American people with unpleasant facts, foreign ideas, alien philosophies and competitive values. For a nation that is afraid to let its people judge the truth and falsehood in an open market is a nation that is afraid of its people."

John F. Kennedy

JOKE OF THE DAY

How many Colts fans does it take to change a lightbulb?

None. We're starting to get used to living in the shadows.

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!

The last couple of weeks we looked ahead at the year 2026 by the numbers! Now that we have that covered, let's look at our next national holiday coming up – a celebration of Martin Luther King's birthday!

1-15-29

Although we are celebrating Dr. King's life on Jan. 13, he was actually born on the 15th of this month in 1929. Had he not been gunned down in 1968, he would be 97 years old this week.

1963

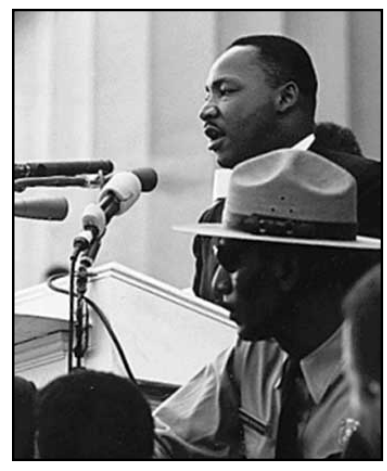
That's the year he helped lead the march on Washington and stood on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial and gave his "I have a dream" speech.

5

Martin grew up in a family of five. His father was Michael and mother was Alberta. Martin was one of three children. Michael was a pastor.

17

The number of minutes that speech took.



Credit to National Park Service

Dr. Martin Luther King giving his "I Have a Dream" speech during the March on Washington.

15

That's the age Martin was when he became a college student. Morehouse College, the school his father and maternal grandfather attended, opened their doors to high school juniors who passed an entrance exam.

Credit to National Park Service

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial opened in 2011.

18

That's the age Martin was when he decided to enter the ministry. He went to Crozer Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania and was elected as student body president.

29

Although there is some disagreement, it appears Martin was arrested at least 29 times. Many were for things white people would not be arrested for.

6-12

Students in grades 6-12 are invited to participate in the 2026 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Essay Contest. All you have to do is write an essay based on the following MLK quote from March of 1968: ***"There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but he must take it because conscience tells him it is right."*** There is a 500-word limit and essays must be submitted electronically. More information can be found on the Martin Luther King Jr. Essay Contest website, https://iasp.org/students/mlk-jr-essay/. The online submission deadline is Feb. 27. This program is FREE for Department of Student Programs member schools. Cost for non-member schools is $10 per essay. Department of Student Programs membership is independent of individual administrator membership through IASP.

THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1. Apparently, we Hoosiers are taking a long look at home upgrades for the New Year. At least that's what a study from our friends at home warranty experts Cinch Home Services revealed. In all 50 states, Indiana ranked ninth for the highest interest in home improvement and renovation projects nationwide with 1,958 online searches per 100,000 residents. Colorado ranked first with 2,471. Oregon and Washington were second and third. Bathrooms are the most researched room type for renovations, with 381,531 average monthly searches nationwide. The research analyzed Google search data across all 50 states to determine which areas demonstrate the highest interest in searches for home renovations per capita. The study included 523 key search terms that range from things such as "kitchen contractor," "en-suite renovation cost" and "bathroom inspiration."

2. Thirty years ago, the Blizzard of '96 dropped blankets of snow across the Atlantic Coast, shutting down the region for a week and causing up to $3 billion in damage. Following the warmest Christmas on record, with possibly more unusual winter weather to come in 2026 due to the effects of La Niña, Lawn Love ranked America's Snowiest Counties. And, believe it or not, one is in Arizona. The 10 are: Coos County, NH; Erie County, NY; Anchorage Municipality, Alaska; Yakutat City and Borough, Alaska; Onondaga County, NY; Coconino County, AZ; St. Louis County, MN; Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area, Alaska; Flathead County, Mont.; and Erie County, Penn.

3. And for those who care about hair, did you know there are Hoosier cities that aren't great spots for your hair? Hair transplant surgeon Dr. Terziler identified which places in Indiana are the most damaging for your hair, based on five key environmental factors affecting hair health and manageability: humidity, UV radiation, sunshine hours, wind speeds, and water hardness. Turns out, Muncie is the worst, followed by Lafayette, South Bend, Fishers, Bloomington, Elkhart, Ft. Wayne, Carmel, Evansville and Indianapolis. In the US of A? East Honolulu was No. 1, Honolulu third and Kailua fifth. Know what? We'd put up with the bad hair for a trip to Hawaii!

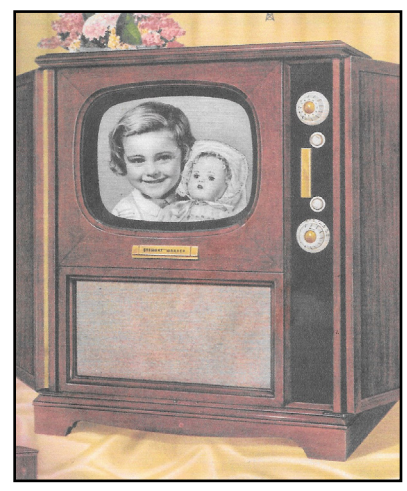


Image Courtesy Butch Dale

The first TVs only had black and white screens.

Butch Remembers the TV Repairman...

BUTCH DALE
Columnist

Most of the families that I knew when I was growing up purchased their first television sets in the early 1950s. My Dad purchased our first TV in 1952 when I was 4 years old. This was two years before we managed to get a bathtub and indoor toilet installed . . . so I'm not quite sure what Dad's priorities were! The TV sat in the living room next to the door that led into the kitchen . . . just a few feet from where the oak ringer phone hung on the wall. We could sit near the fuel oil stove for warmth as we watched our new TV in the winter.

The TV was quite heavy and contained many tubes of various sizes behind the screen. These first TVs were black and white, no color until the mid-1960s if I remember correctly. The picture quality was not the best either, with quite a bit of "snow" on the screen. When our TV went on the blink, Dad called one of the local TV repairmen, Husted "Shoney" Peterson or George Bottom, both of whom had taken a TV repair class in the late 1940s. Shoney's wife Naomi, was my 3rd grade teacher. George's daughter, Ruby, was a cheerleader, and his other daughter, Joyce, had babysit for my brother and me on occasion. When Shoney or George showed up, they carried a large suitcase full of testing equipment and TV tubes. Then they proceeded to unscrew the back of the set, brush off the dust inside, and look for tubes that had turned dark, which was an indication that the tube had burned out. They stuck in a new tube . . . and we were in business again!

Now sometimes the tubes were good, but the picture "rolled," and there was a problem with the vertical or horizontal hold. George and Shoney could usually figure it out after adjusting a few screws or knobs. As I recall, neither of them charged very much . . . I think it was $2.00 plus the cost of the tubes. And they often would stay, have an iced tea or cup of coffee and chat with my folks. Of course, the adults back then socialized a lot more than they do today.

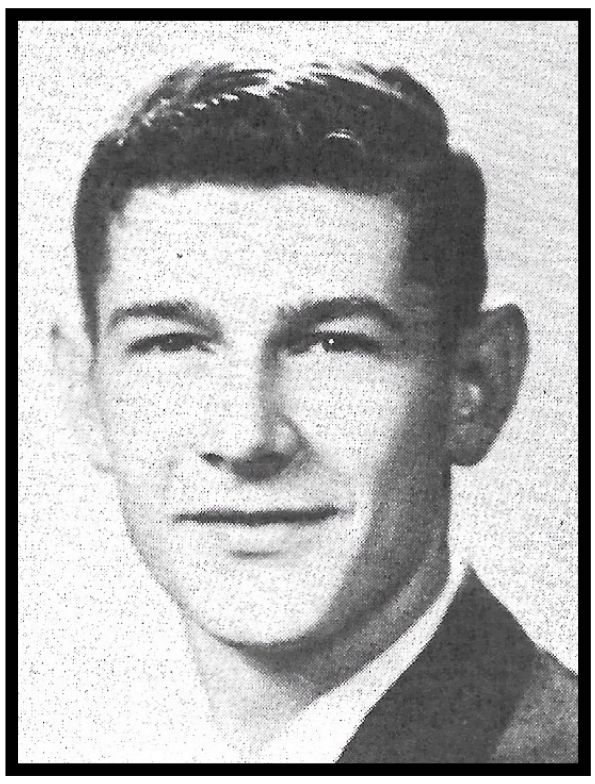
When solid-state TVs appeared in the early 1960s, the TV

See BUTCH Page 4

The Paper
OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

127 E. Main St. 103
P.O. Box 272
Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933
Main 765-361-0100
www.thepaper24-7.com

BUTCH'S FLASHBACK TRIVIA



Do You Recognize This 1961 New Ross H.S. Graduate?

HINT: *He was a basketball star for the Blue Jays, attended Butler University and became a teacher and coach.*

Answer on Page 4

Pomp's TIRE SERVICE, INC.
"The Tire Professionals"
$15 OFF OIL CHANGE SPECIAL
Complete visual inspection & air pressure check • No other discounts apply.
Not valid with any other offer. Expires 12/31/26
114 N. Water St. • Crawfordsville
(765) 364-0584
Weekdays 7:30 am - 5pm
Saturday 8 am - Noon
pompstire.com

Public Notices Deadline: 11:00 a.m.
2 Business Days Prior to Publication:
legals@thepaper24-7.com

Private Party Notices Submitted After Deadline May Be Subject To $25.00 Fee In Addition To The Cost Of The Advertisement

The Paper
of Montgomery County
An Independent Newspaper founded in 2004
Vol. 22 | Issue 4

Sen. Phil Boots, President
USPS Publication Number: O22-679
Annual Print Subscription: $89
Annual Online Subscription: $42
To subscribe:
circulation@ thepaper24-7.com
To contact news:
news@thepaper24-7.com
To submit legal notices:
Legals@thepaper24-7.com
For billing:
business@thepaper24-7.com

Jordan Foland Announces Candidacy for Montgomery County Council

Jordan Foland

Jordan Foland has officially announced his candidacy for Republican nominee for Montgomery County Council, District 3, in the upcoming May election.

Foland and his wife, Kathryn, are residents of Crawfordsville and proud parents of three sons, Brysen, Nash, and Stetsen. Originally from Howard County, Foland has called Montgomery County home since 2018. He attended Purdue University, where he studied Animal Agribusiness and currently serves as Chief Lending Officer at Tri-County Bank & Trust.

With a strong background in finance and community service, Foland brings both professional experience and a deep commitment to local involvement. He previously served as President of the Montgomery County 4-H, Inc. Board and currently serves on several county and regional organizations, including the Montgomery County Economic Development Commission, Montgomery County Community Council, Montgomery County Medical Care Trust Investment Advisory Committee and Purdue CARET. He is also active in youth athletics as a North Montgomery youth basketball coach and North Montgomery youth baseball coach.

"I am excited to seek election to serve on the Montgomery County Council," Foland said. "My wife, Kathryn, was born and raised here in Montgomery County, and in 2018 we planted our roots here to raise our family. We truly value this community and all that it has to offer."

As a candidate, Foland said his priorities would include responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars, collaboration with local leadership and thoughtful, sustainable growth.

"If elected, I would work alongside fellow council members, the City of Crawfordsville and the county commissioners to continue to support smart investments in our communities," Foland said. "I am committed to promoting fiscal responsibility, encouraging controlled growth and ensuring public investments are used wisely for the benefit of Montgomery County residents."

Jordan Foland's campaign team includes Tyler Nichols, Chairman, Steve McLaughlin, Treasurer, and team members Steve Loy, Aaron Morgan, Randy Denhart, Jayne Lough, Brittani Cohee and Jake Bohlander.

Mayor Barton's Monthly Forum Thursday

Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton has scheduled his monthly Community Forum for Thursday, Jan. 15 from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Mayor's Office in the City Building.

This will be Barton's 151st Community Forum since taking office.

Holding a monthly community forum was something Barton pledged to do during his first campaign for mayor and he has continued to do so every month – except during the COVID pandemic.

This event is designed to allow the public to come ask questions, discuss concerns, interact with the mayor and learn more about anything regarding the city.

The City Building is located at 300 E. Pike St., just off beautiful downtown Crawfordsville.

Kyle Pickett Earns Deans List at IU Kokomo

Kyle Pickett of Crawfordsville was included in a group of Indiana University Kokomo part-time students who earned a place on the dean's list for 2025. To qualify for the dean's list, each student must maintain a minimum 3.5 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale.

Rep. Genda Shares Update

Did you know students between the ages of 13 and 18 can spend a day at the Statehouse learning about state government and engage with their representatives?

House Republicans are once again accepting applications for pages during the 2026 legislative session. Student pages assist state lawmakers and Statehouse staff with daily duties while having the opportunity to tour the governor's office, the Supreme Court, and House and Senate chambers. Pages will receive an excused absence from school and groups may participate together.

Students will be responsible for their own lunch along with transportation to and from the Statehouse located in downtown Indianapolis. Interested Hoosier students or parents can click here to fill out an application and select a day to participate. To schedule a large group, please reach out to the page program by calling 317-232-9410 or emailing pageprogram@iga.in.gov. Large groups will only be scheduled on Wednesdays.

I encourage all interested students to apply, and look forward to meeting you this session!

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

THANK YOU FOR READING THE PAPER!

Photo courtesy Andy Chandler

The column author at Gov. Thomas Posey's grave in Shawneetown, Ill.

New Column Explores History Leading Up to 250th

ANDY CHANDLER
Columnist

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first in a series of columns looking at American history from the perspective of a presidential historian and a museum archivist.

"My family is American, and has been for generations, in all its branches, direct and collateral."

Such is the start of one of my favorite works of American literature, the Autobiography of Ulysses S. Grant.

His words ring true. My ancestors came to the Colonies in 1635 when William Chandler arrived and settled in Roxbury, MA. His descendants have included two presidential cabinet secretaries, mayors, one of founders of the Republican Party, diplomats, two rear admirals and a U.S. President. To say the Chandler family is All-American is an accurate statement.

I love American history and I'm excited to be doing a series this upcoming year on the places, graves and people who perserve them. All of this as a lead up to America's 250th birthday.

Yet I'm in the unique position of also being an immigrant and a naturalized citizen. Being adopted, my parents were born here in the '40s, yet I was born in Taiwan, and grew up in many different places. Consequently, inside there is what would, in today's world, be seen as a paradox: I have the world view of an international, yet the patriotism of someone who grew up with the strong identity of an American.

When I moved here permanently in 1999, I immediately set out to understand the nature of American national identity and patriotism. After all, as a missionary kid, I'll always have itchy feet. That journey has taken me from sea to sea, and many places in between. From the Sandie mountains in high deserts of New Mexico to valleys in New England carved out by retreating Ice Age glaciers, I have traveled. From the Texas Hill Country, to cemeteries under parking lots in New Jersey. As a freelance press photographer, I have photographed governors, a King and walked in the footsteps of the first American Pope. One of the more unique aspects is that as of this writing, I've been to all 40 presidential gravesites, all 49 graves of the Indiana Governor's graves (including territorial governors).

Lessons I have learned? Well join me in the upcoming weeks as I reflect on the last 25 years of journeys and perhaps I can help answer, "what can history say about us Americans?"

Andy Chandler is a presidential historian and a museum archivist at Candles Holocaust Museum in Terre Haute and the Ernie Pyle Museum in Dana, Ind.

State Rep. Baird Commends ICE Bust

State Rep. Beau Baird (R-Greencastle) issued the following statement after the U.S. Department of Homeland Security announced Immigration and Customs Enforcement arrested illegal aliens in Putnam County for smuggling more than 300 pounds of cocaine in a semi-truck.

"This operation is a critical reminder of the ongoing efforts to keep our communities safe from drug trafficking by criminal illegal aliens," Baird said in a statement. "The seizure of more than 300 pounds of cocaine demonstrates the hard work and dedication of Putnam County law enforcement, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. I will continue to support law enforcement's efforts to protect our district and hold criminal illegal aliens accountable."

Baird previously supported the launch of DHS's Worst of the Worst website and last year joined colleagues in a meeting with national security experts Tom Homan and Chad Wolf for a briefing about ways the state can partner with the federal government to enforce our immigration laws.

Baird represents House District 44, which includes all of Putnam County and a portion of Montgomery County.

CADILLAC'S UNHOLY DEVIL WAGON RESURRECTED AS THE 2026 LYRIQ-V ELECTRIC CROSSOVER

Engine sounds are fake, but performance will have you uttering real prayers

CASEY WILLIAMS
Columnist

One of my all-time favorite test cars was the 2011 Cadillac CTS-V Wagon, an unholy devil wagon that wrapped be-finned luxury around the Corvette's supercharged V8 and adaptive suspension. It ripped 0-60 mph in under 4 seconds on the way to a 185-mph top speed. It even took my grandma and her walker to Easter dinner. What a lovely little fiend.

Tempting the devil again, we summon the 2026 LYRIQ-V, the fastest accelerating Cadillac of all time. Unlike the old CTS-V, this bougie spawn is electric.

Under full throttle, the CTS-V's supercharger howled like Satan inhaling souls. The LYRIQ's voracious sounds are piped in.

This Caddy's menace is more private jet than NASCAR stocker anyway. There's no juvenile revving of anything as all 615 horsepower and 650 lb.-ft. of torque land instantly. Engage "Velocity Max" mode, then press and hold to see 60 mph in 3.3 seconds. The CTS-V reached 185 mph, but to preserve range, the LYRIQ-V taps out at a more polite 130 mph.

And like the CTS-V, the LYRIQ-V goes deliciously easy with daily life. Its 285 miles range is a bit light, but can be fast charged 10-80% in under 30 minutes. Think closer to 8 hours on a 240v home charger. The same dual-mode all-wheel-drive system that destroys dragstrips easily slayed snow and ice on the way to work.

Cadillac took big risks with the LYRIQ's styling, but it works. The brand's EV facia, flanked by vertical lighting, scares critters while the long hood and fastback roofline give it an angry stance – especially with the V's dark trim and 22-inch wheels. There's a hint of traditional Cadillac formality in the vertical rear windowline, but those hockey-stick side lamps read as tailfins – as do the separated vertical lights in the lower facia. Nice.

As with the CTS-V, you can drop your family at the front portico before sneaking away for some backroad shenanigans. The Amen Pew won't hear you sneaking away, and the pastor may never miss you, but you'll hear holy spirits through the 23-speaker AKG audio system. My daughter rocked the entire middle-school drop zone when she danced out to class.

Drivers are greeted by Cadillac's 33-inch curved display for gauges and infotainment. Connect wirelessly through Apple CarPlay and Android Auto; charge wirelessly in the upper console pod. Then, notice all the details. Nappa leather and open pore wood are pretty posh, as are the heated, ventilated, and massaging front seats. Rear riders get their own heater and climate controls. The thick leather-wrapped steering wheel warms winter hands.

I just wish GM would include proper headlight controls and a starter button to reaffirm everything is on or off. Automation is convenient, but not especially reassuring when you walk away.

Still, if sanctuaries were this comfortable, you might be inside getting saved instead of attacking the next corner.

The CTS-V drove like a long Camaro, but the LYRIQ-V feels heftier toting big batteries atop its adaptive suspension. It's a little harsh over rough city streets, but wafts serenely down the Interstate. Press the "V" steering wheel button to configure steering, suspension, throttle, and engine music. Find open highway to go hands-off with GM's Super Cruise system.

If the Cadillac LYRIQ-V was a cartoon character it would have a nasty little devil on one shoulder and a sweet angel over the other. Given the $101,000 inflation-adjusted sticker for the last CTS-V Wagon I drove, the LYRIQ is devilishly economical. Base models start at $59,200. LYRIQ-V rises from $78,595 to our bad wagon's $87,210. Competitors include the BMW iX M70, Hyundai IONIQ 5 N, and Mercedes-AMG EQE.

Storm Forward!

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

LIKES
- BOLD STYLING
- LUSH INTERIOR
- BLISTERING PERFORMANCE

DISLIKES
- HARSH-ISH SUSPENSION
- DRIVING RANGE
- AUTOMATED CONTROLS

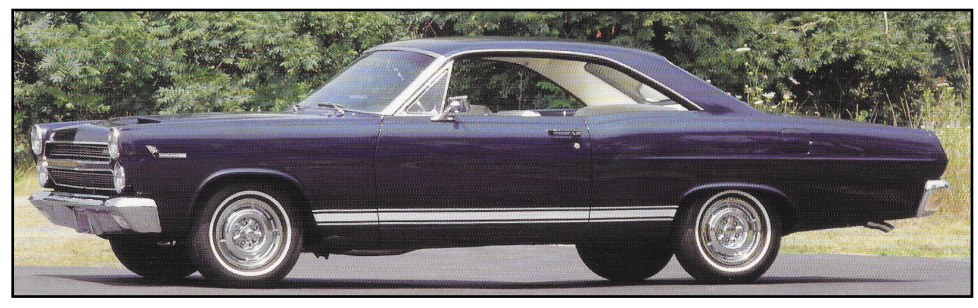
2026 Cadillac LYRIQ-V
Five-passenger, AWD Crossover
Output: 615hp/650 lb.-ft. torque
Suspension f/r: Adap. Ind/Ind
Wheels f/r: 22"/22" alloy
Brakes f/r: Regen disc/disc
0-60 mph: 3.3ss
Range: 285 miles
Recharge 10-80%: 30m
Assembly: Spring Hill, TN
Base/As-tested price: $78,595/87,210

Public Notices Deadline: 11:00 a.m.
2 Business Days Prior to Publication:
legals@thepaper24-7.com

Private Party Notices Submitted After Deadline May Be Subject To $25.00 Fee In Addition To The Cost Of The Advertisement

BUTCH DALE'S BACK IN THE DAY

Hot Cars From Back In The Day



Do you recognize this classic car from 1966?

Answer on Page A4

Having Coffee Makes More Sense

CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

"I miss our conversations!" Marilyn wrote to me.

I don't know Marilyn well, but I like her very much. "You want to get a coffee sometime after Christmas?" I asked.

Life starts to pick up and get moving again in early January. After hibernating in a cookie-induced coma for two full weeks, we've had a brief reprieve from normal. Now, with enough cookies consumed to keep us safe from a sudden cold snap and make the zipping of our trousers just a little more challenging—now we are ready to face the world again.

And I am ready to make time for people. That is my goal. I've never had coffee with Marilyn, but I used to chat with her on my walks several times a week. But since she moved, I never see her. So I suggested coffee, and she thought that sounded like fun, and I wondered why I don't do more of that. I decided I would. And the new year is a good time to start.

I googled: "How long does it take to make a habit?" and the answer was "66 days."

At first, I was surprised it was that long. Then, as I thought about it, I was surprised it was that short. This says to me that it probably is a pretty accurate answer, because I always imagine that I'll form a new habit in two days, but if I'm still doing it two months later, then I figure it's a habit.

And making more time for people is a good habit for me to cultivate.

I have tried to foist my friendship on unwilling participants in the past. I've insisted that we have a lot in common, and I've kept in touch with no prompting and tried to be encouraging when no encouragement was requested. These have been long-distance relationships, conducted online, usually with other new writers. I would imagine the long-distance relationships enjoyed by writers in the past, swapping letters and having long and meaningful conversations over the years as they wrote and grew and changed.

None of this has come true for me.

Instead, I keep writing and writing with fewer and fewer replies, and I get the distinct impression that the person I'm writing to is filled with growing dread every time something lands in their inbox. They are not interested in sharing their journey. Maybe their journey isn't going the way they'd like. Maybe they've opted for a different journey altogether. Whatever the reason, they find my continued attention annoying. I finally realize that I am being a pest, and my feelings are hurt. I feel unwanted and embarrassed and a little lonely.

I think having coffee makes more sense.

It is better to see people face-to-face. It is better to ask them how they are doing and then quietly drink coffee and wait for their reply. For all the convenience of online communication, nothing can compete with a cup of coffee and a real talk. Because if someone is willing to take the time for a cup of coffee, I think it's a good sign they would like to be my friend.

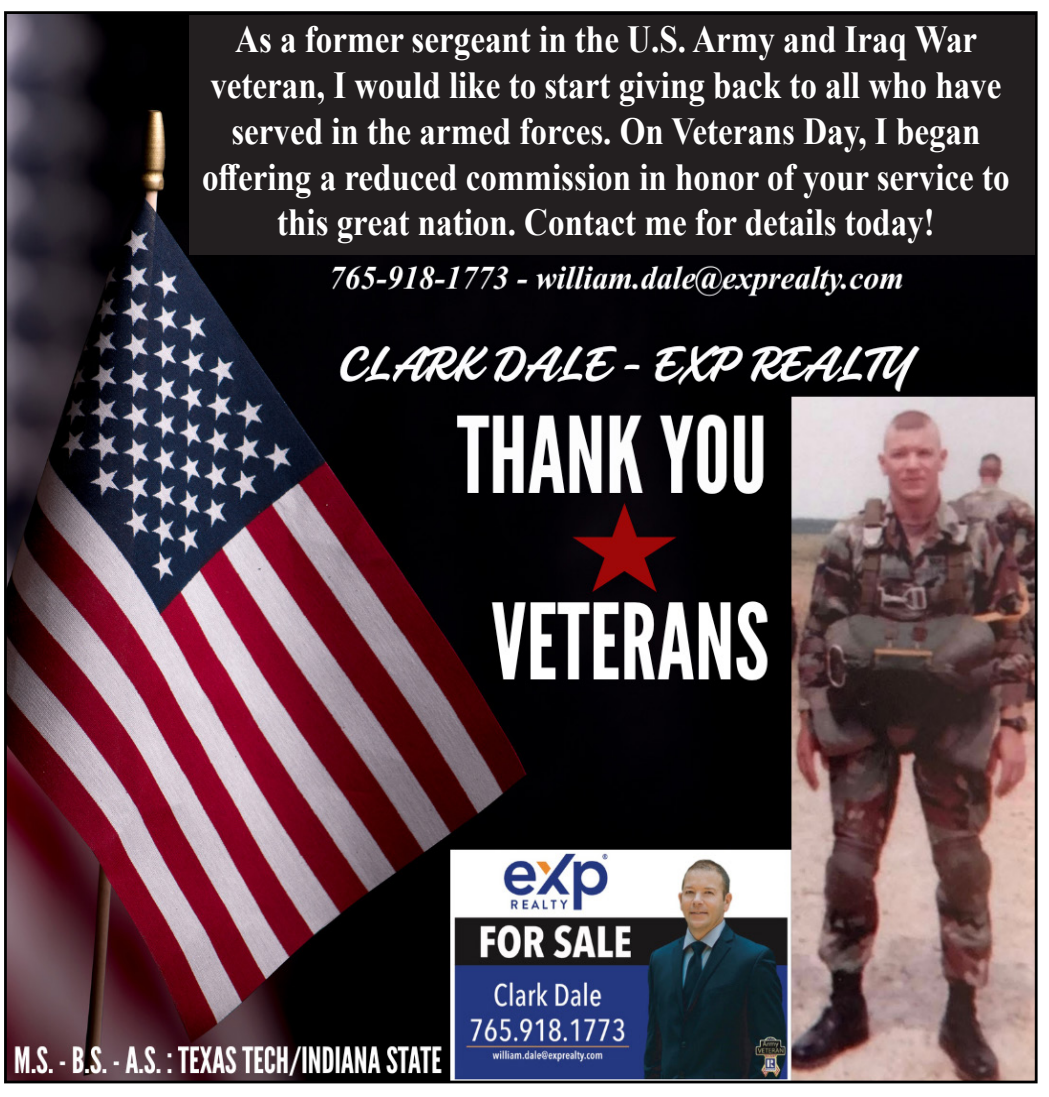
And so this will be my new habit. Even if it takes time away from whatever I'm working on. Even if I have to drive someplace I have never been for coffee.

Instead of chasing friendship, I will meet people wherever they are. I will make the investment necessary to cultivate friendships with people who would like to be friends.

In 66 days, I'll let you know how it is going.

Till next time,

Carrie



THANK YOU FOR READING THE PAPER!

Wabash Hoops

Photo courtesy Andy Chandler

The Little Giants of Wabash College are having a fine season. Before the weekend, they were 9-4 overall. During a recent game in which Wabash handed NCAC foe Denison a loss, freshman Deric Cannady found himself sandwiched between two Big Red players. The Little Giants are back home Wednesday when they take on Ohio Wesleyan at Chadwick Court. Action begins at 7 p.m. and as always, great seats are available.

Photo courtesy Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce

Things were really popping when the Chamber showed up to help Crawfordsville Audiology celebrate.

Crawfordsville Audiology Celebrates 30 Years

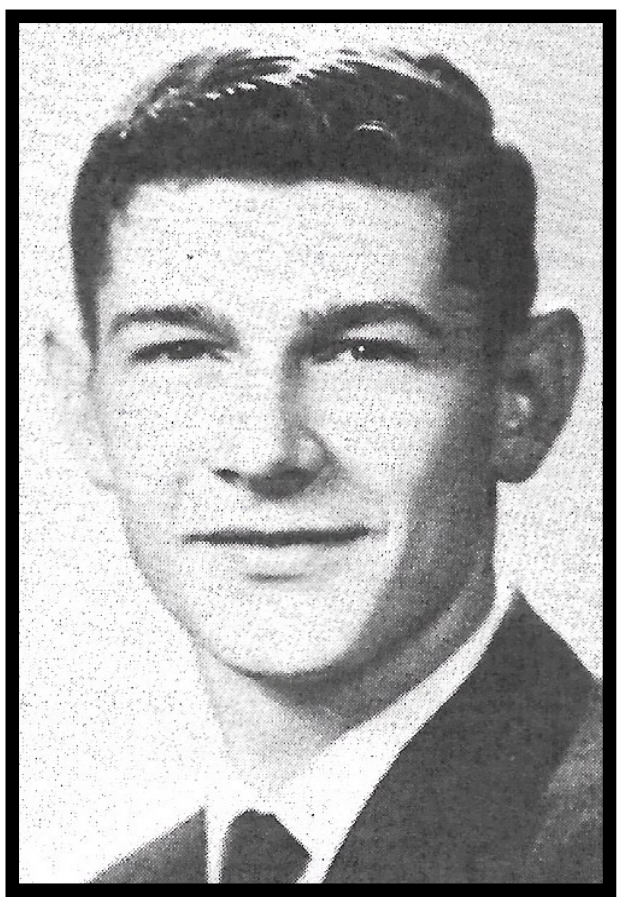
The Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce was pleased to host a popper celebration for Crawfordsville Audiology to celebrate 30 years in business.

Crawfordsville Audiology strives to operate with the highest possible ethical standards providing quality, caring, comprehensive audiology services to those, with hearing loss and tinnitus, of all ages. Their innovative efforts are aimed at advocacy, education, prevention, rehabilitation and service to the community.

Crawfordsville Audiology patients, and their families, will receive fair, honest, and sincere care to educate and provide them with all information needed for their hearing healthcare. Their state-of-the-art testing and fitting equipment allow them to provide their patients with an unsurpassed level of comprehensive hearing care. Their commitment to better hearing is enhanced with an extensive line of digital products that have proven themselves to be on the leading edge of hearing technology. Services include hearing evaluations, hearing aids, hearing accessories, follow up services, and more.

Owner, Dr. Janeane Murphy, said, "Thirty years ago, I opened this practice with the goal of providing honest, compassionate hearing care. I am grateful to the patients who trusted me, the team who stood beside me, the referral partners who placed their trust in my practice, and the community that made this journey possible. Helping people hear life fully has been the privilege of my career. Your confidence has shaped everything we do."

BUTCH'S FLASHBACK TRIVIA



ANSWER: Phil Haffner

BUTCH DALE'S BACK IN THE DAY

ANSWER:
1966 Mercury Comet Cyclone GT

THANK YOU FOR READING THE PAPER!

BUTCH

Continued from Page 1

repairman was soon out of business. Shoney was old enough to retire, and George started up an appliance repair and sales business at his house. John Shumaker had a TV sales and service on Main street in the 1960s, but he never had much luck as the discount stores could sell TV's much cheaper. When a TV conked out, people just purchased another TV . . . this time a color set.

Just like the iceman, the blacksmith, the gas station full service man, the telephone repairman and the doctor who made house calls . . . the TV repairman era came to a close. A few years ago, I purchased a 1955 Zenith TV at an antique store and placed it in the library. I figured it probably didn't work, and I was correct. When I plugged it in, smoke started coming out the back. Patrons enjoy looking it over, but it would sure be nice if it worked. Does anyone know a good TV repairman?

John "Butch" Dale is a retired teacher and County Sheriff. He has also been the librarian at Darlington the past 37 years, and is a well-known artist and author of local history.

THE PAPER OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY
WE'RE HIRING
OPEN POSITIONS
SALES
PAGINATION
DELIVERY DRIVER
CLERICAL
EMAIL RESUME TO: JOBS@THEPAPER24-7.COM

WANTING TO BUY
ALL FIREARMS:
RIFLES, SHOTGUNS,
AND HANDGUNS
THAT ARE 50 YEARS OLD
OR OLDER
IN DECENT CONDITION
I WILL PAY CASH
ON THE SPOT!
Call John "Butch" Dale
Licensed FFL
765-404-1354

Public Notices Deadline: 11:00 a.m.
2 Business Days Prior to Publication:
legals@thepaper24-7.com

Private Party Notices Submitted After Deadline May Be Subject To $25.00 Fee In Addition To The Cost Of The Advertisement

▶ 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, JANUARY 12, 2026
8 AM
1580 Constitution Row -Room E109
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
YouTube Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tbUbSjQGhig
CALL TO ORDER Board President Dan Guard
PLEDGE ALLIGENCE and PRAYER
CONSENT AGENDA
Approval of Claims: AP $ & Payroll $
Minutes: December 19, 2025
ELECTION OF OFFICERS
President
Vice President
PUBLIC HEARING -ZA2025-3 Data Centers Zoning Amendments
Ordinance 2026-1 Adopting Text Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance
2026 CONTRACTS
2026 Animal Welfare League Contract
NEW BUSINESS
Joshua Tolen -District Service Officer Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs -Discussion SB 433
USI Montgomery County Road Standards and Specifications (On Call) Agreement
Open Quotes for Work Previously Awarded to J & L Plumbing and Mechanical:
3403 Parliament Place, Crawfordsville –HVAC and water heater
1412 Southside Dr, Crawfordsville –HVAC
1790 W US Highway 136, Crawfordsville –water heater
8 West Park Lane, Crawfordsville –water heater
39 Center Drive, Crawfordsville –water heater
320 W College, Ladoga –water heater
7526 N CR 650 W, Wingate –water heater
410 Washington, Crawfordsville -cooling
Commissioners accept submitted quotes for three new properties not previously quoted
717 S Walnut St, Crawfordsville –HVAC & Roof
125 N Washington, Ladoga –HVAC & Roof
220 W Taylor, Ladoga –HVAC, Roof & Radon
220 W Taylor, Ladoga –HVAC, Roof & Radon
ORDINANCE
2nd Reading Ordinance 2025-39 Ordinance to Add New Chapter 98: Open Burning and Prescribed Burning to the Montgomery County Code of Ordinances
RESOLUTION
Resolution 2026-1 Resolution of the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners Regarding Amendment of Allocation Areas
Resolution 2026-2 Approving Meeting Dates for 2026
Resolution 2026-3 Approving Sheriff's Compensation Agreement
Resolution 2026-4 Appointing County Attorney and Approving Engagement Letter
OTHER BUSINESS
ADJOURNMENT

MONTGOMERY COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, January 13, 2026
11:00 AM
Montgomery County Government Center
1580 Constitution Row – Suite E
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
Call to Order
Election of Officers
President
Vice President
Secretary
Consideration of Minutes
Regular Meeting – December 9, 2025
New Business
Discussion of Nucor Towers Agreement
Staff Reports
Financial Report – Jeff Peters – Peters Franklin
Engineering Report – Ryan Pattenaude – Lochmueller Group
Economic Development Report – Cheryl Morphew
Approve Claims
Other Business
Adjournment
Tuesday, February 10, 2026 @ 11:00 am

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
January 13, 2026 at 9:00 am
1580 Constitution Row - Room E109
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
AGENDA
Call to Order: 2025 Council President David Hunt
Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer
Consent Agenda
Approval of Minutes: December 9, 2025
Approval of Claim(s):
$1,151.50 – Taylor, Minnette, Schneider & Clutter, P.C.; Invoice 28972
$ – Peters Franklin, LTD; Invoice
$210.00 – County Council Association (dues); Invoice 1008
$881.25 – Waggoner Irwin Scheele & Associates Inc.; Invoices 5621 and 5622
Accept & Acknowledge Receipt:
4Q2025 Commissary Report - Sheriff
Same Series Transfer(s) Report – Auditor
Public Comment on Agenda Items
Election of 2026 Council Officers
President
Vice President
Appointments by the Council (Current)
Council Attorney (Dan Taylor)
Montgomery County Solid Waste District (Nelson)
Montgomery County Plan Commission (Loy)
Alcoholic Beverage Commission (David Long)
Redevelopment Commission (2) (Booth and Brad Monts)
Regional Sewer District Board (2) (Grimble and Warren)
Board of Zoning Appeals (John Hedrick II)
Property Tax Board of Appeals (John Downey, Lindsey Hamilton and Patricia Richey)
Economic Development Commission (2 Council and a county citizen) (Hunt, Warren and Jessica Bokhart)
Economic Development Authority (Council President and Council Vice President)
CCC Governing Board (Council President)
Appointments by the Council President (Current)
Liaisons to Departments
Highway, Sheriff, EM-HS, Coroner and CCC (Booth)
Health (Cating)
Soil & Water Conservation District and Extension Office (Grimble)
Commissioners, Mapping, Building/Maint., Surveyor, Veteran's Services, Weights & Measures (Loy)
Clerk, Judges, Probation, Prosecutor and Public Defender (2) (Hunt and Grimble)
Assessor, Auditor, Recorder and Treasurer (Nelson)
Liaisons to Other Funded Organizations (Current)
Animal Welfare League (Cating)
Committees (Current)
Information Technology Committee (Warren)
Budget Committee
Internal Controls Committee (Loy)
Risk Management Committee (Loy)
Tax Abatement Committee (Booth and Nelson)
HIPAA Compliance Committee (Grimble)
2026 Council Home Rule
Authority to approve transfers within Same Series in 2026 Budget
Every year, the Department Heads request that transfers be allowed within the same series and without Council approval. Last year, the Council granted the Department Heads authority with the exception of the 1000 Series requests. With the current budget concerns, the Auditor does not support this request for 2026.
Authority to sign the 2026 Drainage Board Reconstruction Loans
Every year, the Council votes to grant authority to the President and Vice President (in absence of the President) to sign Drain Reconstruction loans.
New Business
Resolution 2026-1 Approving Sheriff's Compensation Agreement
2026 Salary $121,691.
Resolution 2026-2 Approving Attorney Engagement Letter
Taylor, Minette, Schneider & Clutter, P.C. The hourly rate for the preferred government clients is increasing from $245 to $255 for 2026, unless the attorney performing the work has a lower hourly rate, in which case the lower hourly rate will apply. This is for all work except bonds, which fees will be negotiated on a case-by-case basis.
Resolution 2026-3 Commissary Fund
Every year, the Sheriff requests the authority to spend from his Jail Commissary Fund.
Resolution 2026-4 2026 County Council Meeting Schedule
Establishing the 2026 meeting schedule, as approved at the December 2025 Council Meeting.
Amending Compensation Plan Pertaining to Highway Department
Requesting that we do away with the truck driver levels in the compensation plan. Currently you are hired in as a truck driver with the expectation of getting your CDL within a year. If you already have CDL you are still hired at the same amount. The truck driver levels are based on years of experience with CDL not with the job. So, the levels are based on the years of experience not the position, so therefore the driver levels conflicts with longevity pay. I (Jake lough) misunderstood and I had not been following the levels since the inception of the comp plan because I thought it was taken care of with longevity pay. The levels also create a logistical issue for auditor and highway because every time a new hire gets his CDL his line would have to change to a level II or if a driver reached his CDL anniversary his line would have to change to the proper level. The levels are explained below:
Level I- Hire-in, Non-CDL, must obtain CDL class within 1 yr. of hire
Level II- Possession of CDL and less than 3 years of experience
Level III- Minimum of 3 years of experience
Level IV- Minimum of 5 years of experience
Level V- Minimum of 10 years of experience
Old Business
Ordinance 2025-7 Final Reading
Final Reading of Ordinance adopting an updated investment policy.
Reports
Funded Organizations
Department Heads
Elected Officials
Councilors
Public Comment
*Next regular meeting
February 10 at 9:00a.m. at Montgomery County Government Center, 1580 Constitution Row – Room E109
Adjournment

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLAN COMMISSION
MONTGOMERY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER COMMUNITY ROOM
1580 CONSTITUTION ROW, CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN 47933
AGENDA
Tuesday January 13, 2026
4:00 pm
I. Call to Order
II. Oath of Office
III. Pledge
IV. Reorganization;
Nomination of President
Nomination of Vice President
Nomination of Secretary
V. Approval of Minutes from December 9, 2025
VI. New Business:
DPR2026-1 - Public Hearing, D&G Partners LLC, Development Plan
SD2026-1 - Public Hearing, Final Plat, Sowder/Slavens Minor Plat
RZ2026-1 - Public Hearing, Fugate Stock Farm, Rezone from A to I
VII. Other Business:
SD2025-11 - Final Plat approval.
VIII. Adjournment

LADOGA TOWN COUNCIL
NOTICE OF CHANGE TO JANUARY MEETING SCHEDULE
The Town Council of Ladoga, Indiana, will meet on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. at the Ladoga Town Hall, 121 East Main Street, Ladoga, IN 47954, instead of the regular meeting on Saturday, January 10, 2026, which is cancelled. The 2026 monthly meeting schedule will be formally set at this January 14th meeting.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
AGENDA
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 14, 2026, 11:00 AM
1580 CONSTITUTION ROW, CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN 47933
I. CALL TO ORDER
II. OATH OF OFFICE
III. PLEDGE
IV. REORGANIZATION:
Nomination of Chairman
Nomination of Vice Chairman
Nomination of Secretary
V. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 2025 MINUTES
VI. OTHER BUSINESS:
Training Session
VII. ADJOURNMENT

THANK YOU FOR READING THE PAPER!

January Staff Picks at CDPL

MEGAN TAYLOR
Guest Columnist

Do you have reading goals for the new year? Whether you are hoping to carve out enough time to get through a book or two, or plan to dig into several, the staff at Crawfordsville District Public Library have recommendations each month to help you find some great reads. We also have movie and TV recommendations, too!

If you are looking for a great mystery, you can't go wrong with Ivette's pick this month. It is one of Time Magazine's 100 Best Mystery and Thriller Books of All Time. "The Secret History" by Donna Tartt (FIC Tar) combines "mythology, peer pressure, murder, teacher-student relationships, and a dose of mystery make a great background for this psychological fiction. Young Richard Papen joins a group of eccentric, clever, unapproachable upper-class students at a New England college. Their Classics professor is a charismatic, well-to-do hermit. Papen will find himself in a world out of control when behaviors slip gradually from obsession and corruption into betrayal and evil."

Another good mystery that mixes in clever humor is Bryanna's pick "Matchmaking for Psychopaths" by Tasha Coryell (FIC Coryell): "The character development in this book is spot on, and the building tension kept me enthralled throughout the whole story." If you enjoy Gillian Flynn and Paula Hawkins's dark thrillers, check out Mary's pick, "Lime Juice Money" by Jo Morey (FIC Morey), which follows "a woman in a volatile relationship living 5000 miles from home in the jungle. This story is a twisted story of raw love, betrayal, corruption, and greed."

Prefer historical fiction? Don't miss Susan's recommendation: "Before We Were Yours" by Lisa Wingate (FIC Win). This beautifully written bestseller moves from 1939 Memphis to present day South Carolina and is based on a notorious real-life scandal.

Susanna's pick this month is a childhood favorite. "Howl's Moving Castle," which is both an original book by Diana Wynne Jones (YA FIC Jon) and a Ghibli movie adaptation (DVD ANIME FIC How), are beloved modern fantasy classics. Susanna also recently enjoyed the audiobook version on Libby narrated by Jenny Sterlin.

Christie also recommends a highly beloved fantasy story, "Firefly" (DVD TV FIC Fir). She says, "If you've never dived into the Firefly TV series, you are missing out on a funny, action packed space drama that will leave you wanting more...sadly there is no more!" When this series was cancelled after only one season, the outcry from fans was enormous. See what all the fuss was about and check it out!

In honor of Dick Van Dyke's 100th birthday last month, Brenda highly recommends reading: "100 Rules for Living to 100" by Dick Van Dyke (791.45028092 Van Dyke, D.): "I loved this book! Dick Van Dyke shares his wisdom with such humility and charm! Growing up watching the Dick Van Dyke show and his movies, I always admired his positivity, big smile, and quick wit. It's hard to believe he is 100 years old and still entertaining."

Find these titles and more on display on the first floor of the library through the end of the month. Make sure to also sign up for our library's Winter Reading program, available through the end of January. Adults can visit the second floor or cdpl.beanstack.com to get started. Kids and teens can visit the Youth Services Desk to pick up their reading chart. The library's open hours this winter are Monday-Thursday 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday 1-5 p.m.

Megan Taylor is Assistant Manager in the Adult Services Department.

House Accepting Applicants for Page Program

Montgomery County lawmakers said Hoosier students who are interested in learning more about state government are invited to participate in the Indiana House Page Program during the 2026 legislative session.

State Rep. Beau Baird (R-Greencastle) said pages can watch the legislative process in person, tour the historic Statehouse building and interact with their state representative.

"Serving as a page is a great way for students to see how state government works up close," Baird said. "It's an opportunity to learn, ask questions and experience the legislative process firsthand."

The full-day program is available for students who are 13 to 18 years old. State Rep. Matt Commons (R-Williamsport) said pages are permitted by Indiana law to receive a one-day excused absence from school for their participation.

"Pages have the opportunity to sit in on session, meet lawmakers and observe the legislative process," Commons said. "This type of experience goes beyond the classroom, and I encourage eligible students to participate."

State Rep. Mark Genda (R-Frankfort) said the program offers students a unique experience to learn more about how Indiana's legislature operates.

"I encourage all students interested in learning more about state government to apply this session," Genda said. "Paging at the Statehouse gives students a behind-the-scenes look at how ideas become laws."

The program begins in January with opportunities every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday until the end of the legislative session. Eligible students and their parents are encouraged to submit an application corresponding with the date they would like to page. Pages are scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on their chosen day, and groups serve together on Wednesdays. To schedule a group, contact the page program director at 317-232-9410 or page-program@iga.in.gov.

"Laws affect all Hoosiers, and it's important for students to engage early with what's happening at the Statehouse," said State Rep. Jeff Thompson (R-Lizton). "Paging is a great way to get started in civics and learn more about the issues impacting your community and how you can help."

Students are responsible for their own lunch and transportation to and from the Statehouse in Indianapolis.

For more information and to apply, visit IndianaHouseRepublicans.com/PageProgram.

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.

THANK YOU FOR READING THE PAPER!

North Montgomery Middle School Honor Roll

Semester 1
25-26 School Year

All A Honor Roll
6th
Camden Bechtel, Ainsley Bell, Ellanor Conkright, Athalia Hurt, Caitlin Jeffries, Finley Kunkel, Bentley Lauy, Emily Martin, Madeleine Nelson, Dexter Roark, Sophia Sales, Lyla Swyers, Haven Walden,Layla West .

7th
Douglas Bell, Rachelle Brackman, Caroline Brooks, Kaybrie Carpenter, Hunter Delp, Drake Elliott, Sawyer Grote, Jaxson Hayes, Zara Johnson, Leston Jones, Cristian Lagunes Gonzalez, Audrey Maish, Kalisa McComas, Giavanni Minick, Daniel Murdock, Alexander Nielsen, Jack Patterson, Charles Powell, Jessica Riehle, Shiloh Seymour, Bryson Stephens, Scarlett Webb, Addilynn Wood.

8th
Harper Allen, Santiago Amigon, Anna Bowers, Cohen Carpenter, Jillian Clark, Dastan Cooper, Will Dark, Kinley Deener, Micah Fidler, Grady Finlayson, Brynlynn Fitch, Easton Fried, Reese Fultz, Maranda Higgins, Trevor Hintz, Madison Horton, Isabella Hutson, Ethan King, Haleigh King, Cooper Moseley, Olivia Nuppnau, Savanah Ratcliff, Strom Schenck, Amelia Snyder, Addison Stephens, Graham Swyers, Ryanne Woody.

A/B Honor Roll
6th
Mason Arnold, Ellen Barnes, Olivia Biddle, Beckett Bonebrake, Kellan Conkright, Kaden Cornell, Parker Crum, Griffin Cunningham, Raelyn Davis, Sawyer Dickerson, Waylon Ellingwood, David Fedor, Hayes Finlayson,Adrian Garcia, Chase Green, Jackson Hall, Thomas Haniford, Lauren Hankins, Carter Hodges, Benjamin Howell, Caleb Hughes, Brynn Hutson, Daniel Hyatt, Alexavier Johnson, Ambrielle Jones, Kynlee Kerns, Cruz Leigh, Wesley Lockard, Halle Longest, Charlotte Lutes, Kassandria McBride, Asher Niece, Wade Nuppnau, Lochlan O'Donnell, Archer Patton, Allison Powell, Finley Rice, Kynlee Roberts, Reese Robinson, Margaret Rooze, Easton Ruiz, Sage Schenck, Jena Scott, Enrique Sedano, SherryLou Simmons, Addison Smith, Reeva Smith, Emily Stegeman, Xavier Stockton, Brooklynn Stuffel, Ezra Thomas, Parker Thomas, Taia Tucker, Rylin Tyrrell, Wade Viers, Cristian Viveros, Briar Watts, Trinity White, Remington Zuk.

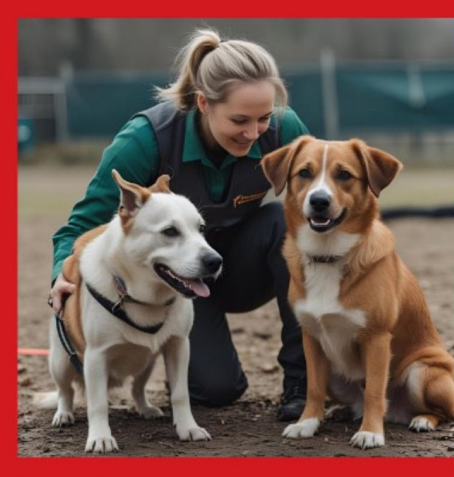
7th
Noah Aldridge, Abigail Allen, Ava Bartlett, Meya Bauer, Ezra Billingsley, Skyler Bolgren, Ada Bonwell, Melanie Bravo, Annie Brock, Christian Brown, Rebekkah Browning, Hunter Burge, Qwinton Carey, Nolan Catlin, Jaxon Cohee, Hunter Conkright, Hunter Cook, Gavin Cope, Alexander Cordoba-Hueto, Harper Crawford, Tyler Dutton, Ethan Fruits, Londyn Gayler, Matthew Hunsberger, Alaina Hunter, Jozlyn Hyams, Nolan Kelp, Elan Laughlin, Brayden Leslie, Hudson Lewis, Kinzie McElheny, Brooklynn Pierce, Haddey Rice, Alexis Sanders, Archer Schmitt, Haylee Shadle, Weston Shrum, Asher Simpkins, Iistin Swick, Brody Temple, Kamden Tyler, Julian Veach, Aaron Welch, Boston Wheeldon, Allayna Wilbur, Lucas Woolwine.

8th
Luke Arthur, Easton Barker, Dracen Brant, Jaxson Bretney, Braylyn Burkholder, Cash Cole, Harper Cooksey, Elli Crane, Emma Davis, Austin Fouty, Alexis Funkhouser, Tucker Green, Mason Grimes, Hadlie Horn, Ryan Hunter, Nolan Jeffery, Nathan Kamakian, Bryson Lough, Yira Merino Zamora, Carson Neal, Hunter Neel, Brayden Orr, Kayden Page, William Paschke, Addisyn Sabo, Elisama Santana-Roldan, Genevieve Schultz, Ellie Shirar, Cameron Simms, Alice Templeman, Kathleen Whittinghill, Amelia Wilson, Jackson Youngblood.

Join our Kennel TechTeam

DO YOU LOVE WORKING WITH ANIMALS? WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?
A REWARDING JOB IN ANIMAL CARE AWAITS!
JOIN OUR TEAM OF DEDICATED ANIMAL CARE TECHNICIANS TODAY!

HELP US KEEP OUR FURRY FRIENDS CLEAN AND HAPPY WHILE GAINING VALUABLE EXPERIENCE IN ANIMAL CARE!



Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County
Saving Animals. Serving Community.

APPLY IN PERSON M-F 2-5 PM
OR SATURDAY 12-3
1104 BIG FOUR ARCH ROAD
CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN
765-362-8846

THE PAPER OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY
WE'RE HIRING

OPEN POSITIONS
SALES
PAGINATION
DELIVERY DRIVER
CLERICAL
EMAIL RESUME TO: JOBS@THEPAPER24-7.COM

Witham Sets January Program Schedule

LEBANON, Ind. - Witham Health Services will host the following support groups and community education classes in January. The support groups are free unless indicated. For more information on Witham's support groups and classes, visit www.witham.org/classes-and-support-groups.

- The Breastfeeding Support Group meets weekly on Mondays (except holidays) from 10-11 a.m. in the VIP Dining Room (2605 N. Lebanon St., Lebanon) and gives mothers the opportunity to meet and discuss their breastfeeding needs in a group setting with other mothers. Meetings are facilitated by a board-certified lactation consultant. Individual breastfeeding support is available with a lactation consultant. To schedule an appointment and for pricing, call 765-485-8411.
- Birth Days and Beyond, a free prenatal education program, will be held on Saturday, Jan. 31 from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. and includes sessions on childbirth, breastfeeding and newborn care education. Choose to attend all day or pick the sessions designed for your stage of pregnancy. Please call 765-485-8411 for more information. Registration is available online at Witham.org/classes-and-support-groups. Classes are held in the North Pavilion, Entrance B in the Jack Jones Community Room (2705 N. Lebanon St., Lebanon). Virtual options are also available.
- The Alzheimer's Support Group for those who care for Alzheimer's patients will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 20, at 6 p.m. in the VIP Dining Room (2605 N. Lebanon St., Lebanon).
- The Cancer Support Cooking for Wellness class will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 20, at 1 p.m. at the Boone County Cancer Society (1208 N. Lebanon St., Lebanon). Participants will receive recipes that are focused on using fresh, nutritionally dense ingredients and samples of every delicious dish. Please call the Boone County Cancer Society at 765-482-2043 to RSVP.
- The Cancer Support Group is for patients living with cancer and for those supporting a loved one with cancer. The group will meet on Monday, Jan. 26, at 6 p.m. at the Boone County Cancer Society (1208 N. Lebanon St., Lebanon). Please call the Boone County Cancer Society at 765-482-2043 for more information.
- Witham's Diabetes Self-Management Class is designed for people with pre-diabetes, diabetes or gestational diabetes. Call the Diabetes Education Department at 765-485-8256 for individualized classes, scheduling and pricing.

The Witham Wellness Center will host the following wellness classes in January. Classes are held in the Witham Wellness Center in the South Pavilion on the Witham Main Campus at 2505 N. Lebanon St., Lebanon. Payment can be made in person at the start of class by cash or check. Call the Wellness Department at 765-485-8126 or visit Witham.org/our-services/wellness for more information.

- BeMoved Dance is a dance fitness program for people of all ages and abilities. It's held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-7 p.m. Cost is $10 per class.
- Flow Yoga is a great way to center your day with movement and mindful breathing. It's held weekly on Wednesdays from 12:30-1:30 p.m. Cost is $15 per class.
- The free indoor cycling and stretching program is designed to reduce the risk of any chronic disease you may be facing or help manage your weight. It's held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10-10:45 a.m.
- Restorative Yoga is a gentle and slow style of yoga that encourages physical, mental and emotional relaxation. It's held weekly on Mondays from 6-7 p.m. Cost is $15 per class.
- Rock Steady Boxing 1 & 2 is a non-contact boxing program for people with Parkinson's Disease. It's held weekly from 9-10:15 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays and is $30 per month for unlimited sessions.
- Rock Steady Boxing 3 & 4 is a non-contact boxing program for people with Parkinson's Disease. It's held weekly from 10-11 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays and is $30 per month for unlimited sessions.
- SilverSneakers Classic, a free class designed for those 65 or older, uses a chair for seated support while listening to music, moving and having fun. It's held weekly from 11:15 a.m.-12 p.m. on Mondays.
- SilverSneakers Chair Yoga, a free class designed for those 65 or older, calms the mind and body with seated mediation and gentle stretching. It's held weekly from 11:15 a.m.-12 p.m. on Wednesdays.
- SilverSneakers Cardio Circuit, a free class designed for those 65 or older, increases cardiovascular and muscular endurance with a seated/standing circuit workout. It's held weekly from 11:15 a.m.-12 p.m. on Thursdays.
- Tai Chi for Health (Beginners and Advanced) improves flexibility, muscular strength, fitness and balance. It's held weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-10 a.m. at the Witham Health Services South Pavilion Wellness Center. Cost is $5 per class.

Sen. Deery Shares Update

SEN. SPENCER DEERY

Guest Columnist

The 2026 legislative session got off to a strong start this week with a great hearing on a bill I am deeply passionate about. I authored Senate Bill 159 to help parents and schools work together to ensure kids practice healthy online habits that lead to greater educational and life success.

The problem this bill addresses is simple: schools ask families to bring Chromebooks into their homes, but unless parents are very tech-savvy, they must rely on decisions schools have made about what content is filtered and what is not.

I believe that when a device is in the home, parents—not school administrators—should decide whether and when YouTube or online games may be accessed. Responsible parents already place these limits on their children's smartphones; a school-issued device should never become a workaround for a family's rules.

Schools already contract with technology companies for filtering services, and these contracts already include the ability for parents to control devices when they are not in school. However, many schools are not sharing this technology—technology they have already paid for—with parents.

My bill would require schools to enable parental controls when devices are in the home and to inform parents about the available tools. When devices are used at school, control would automatically return to the school.

I have seen these technologies work in my own home. They help ensure homework time is used for homework and filter out content I do not want in my home.

I wrote this bill because it combines many of the topics I am most passionate about: parental rights and responsibilities, education, and keeping kids safe online.

I expect SB 159 to be strengthened through amendments and then voted out of committee to go before the full Senate next week.

In the coming weeks, I will share updates on other bills I am working on. In the meantime, I wanted to include a graphic that highlights the areas where I have been most involved in preparing legislation.

Of course, many important issues are not listed here. I also look forward to supporting colleagues working to lower housing and medical costs and to improve the property tax legislation passed last year.

I will keep you informed through this newsletter as the Senate considers these issues. As always, I will be focused on listening and working for you.

This year is a short session, and we expect to wrap up our work in late February, so please do not delay if you have comments you would like me to consider. You can reach my office by simply replying to this email, filling out a Contact Me form online, or by phone at 800-382-9467.

Information about the session can be found online at iga.in.gov, which includes links to legislation moving through the General Assembly, committee information, and livestreams and recordings of past committee hearings and Senate sessions.

If you need help navigating an issue with a state agency, please fill out a Request Assistance form online.

***

INDIANA Recognized Nationally for Policy Leadership

In recent weeks, Indiana has been recognized as the first ever "State of the Year" by the Washington Post due to policies enacted by Senate Republicans like lowering taxes, reducing government spending and giving families more freedom to choose the school that best fits their needs of their kids.

Indiana also received praise from the Wall Street Journal for our Medicaid reform efforts.

While other states across the country are experiencing out-of-control Medicaid spending, Senate Republicans prioritized and passed legislation to prevent waste, fraud and abuse in the program to preserve it for those who truly need it.

***

BLIND AND DISABLED Hoosiers, Seniors, Should Apply for New Property Tax Credits by Jan. 15

Blind and disabled Hoosiers and seniors should apply for property tax credits by Jan. 15, 2026, to ensure they receive the benefits they are due.

Blind and disabled Hoosiers are now eligible for the more generous $125 Blind/Disabled Credit, rather than the Blind/Disabled Deduction, and should apply by Jan. 15, 2026, even if they were previously receiving the deduction, to ensure there is no disruption in receiving it. Eligible Hoosiers can download the application form here or contact their local county auditor's office for assistance.

Similarly, Hoosiers over 65 can now benefit from a $150 property tax credit – rather than a deduction – but should apply to ensure they don't experience an interruption in receiving the benefit.

In addition, more Hoosiers over 65 now qualify for the over 65 circuit breaker credit, but need to apply.

Hoosiers over 65 can download the one-page application for property tax credits or contact their county auditor's office to receive an application.

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