

■ TODAY'S VERSE

Philippians 1:21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. (KJV)

■ AWL TRIXIE



Trixie is a 3 year old female American Pit Bull Terrier available for adoption from AWL since 6/17/2025. We call Trixie Little Miss Perfect! Trixie LOVES going out for walks, frolicking in a fenced yard being silly, playing fetch, and getting showered with lots of love/attention. Trixie will also gladly sit for treats! Trixie is spayed, dewormed, and up to date on all her shots! Trixie is looking for her best friend! Could that be you? Trixie is available for adoption, to foster, or just simply going out for walks. AWL is open Monday-Friday from 12:15-5p and Saturday's from 12-3p. Come snuggle cats in a community cat room, walk dogs, or lend a helping hand!



So long March, thanks for bring spring back to us!

■ MONTGOMERY MINUTE

The Indiana Department of Transportation announces a road closure that will impact State Road 47 near New Market. Beginning on or after Monday, April 6, crews will close S.R. 47 between County Road 600 S. and C.R. 700 S., located south of Crawfordsville High School. The purpose of the closure is to replace a box culvert in the area. Construction is anticipated to last through June but is weather-dependent and subject to change. The official detour around the closure follows S.R. 234 to U.S. 231 back to S.R. 47. INDOT encourages drivers to seek an alternate route and to use caution while traveling in and around work zones.

■ QUOTE OF THE DAY

"April hath put a spirit of youth in everything."

William Shakespeare

■ JOKE OF THE DAY

What do you call an angry carrot?
A steamed veggie.

The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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

APRIL FOOL'S DAY

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!

Yes, Wednesday is April Fool's Day. How did it start? According to legend – well, there are multiple stories. The one we like the most is from Chaucer's The Canterbury Tales. But others say it came from the French and still others say it is distinctly American. There are still others who claim the day goes all the way back to ancient Roman days and the festival Hilaria, which is a Latin word meaning joyful. Who are we to judge? We just know it's a day that some people like and some people don't . . .

47

According to a YouGov America poll, that's the percentage of American adults who found April Fool's antics less than pleasing.

**HAHA
HA HA!**

45

From the same poll, the percentage of U.S. adults who think the day is fun.

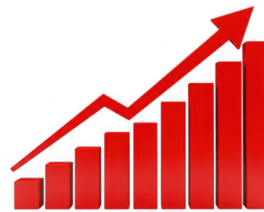


1957

The BBC reported that Italy was enjoying a bumper year with their spaghetti crop. There were even photos showing farmers harvesting noodles. See, those Brits weren't so formal and stiff after all!

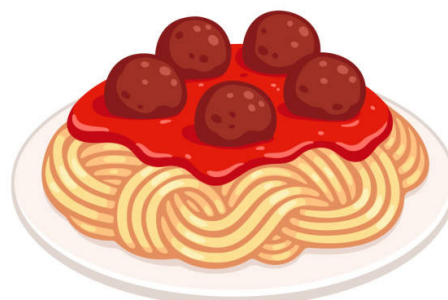
59

That's the number (percentage-wise) of your fellow citizens who don't appreciate a good April Fool's Day joke!



46

The percent of us who enjoy a good April fool's Day prank – played on someone else!



■ THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1. On March 21, the Lebanon Police Department responded to an animal abuse call. During the investigation, the complainant reported that they observed, and captured video recordings, of a Frankfort Police Department K9 handler interacting with his K9. The complainant believed the interaction between the Frankfort K9 handler and his K9 partner was cruel and unnecessary. Due to a conflict of interest, the Lebanon Police Department has turned over the initial information gathered to the Boone County Sheriff's Department to be fully investigated. Any further inquiries into this investigation should be directed to the Boone County Sheriff's Department.

2. Meijer will open a new Supercenter on Wednesday, May 6 in Brownsburg. The Midwest retailer's 44th store in Indiana, this 159,000 square foot location will offer a wide assortment of amenities, including the fresh produce, grocery items, and full-service pharmacy Hoosiers have come to know and love from Meijer Supercenters across the state. A Meijer Express gas station adjacent to the store is also set to open on April 8. There are select part- and full-time positions still available at the upcoming Brownsburg location. Interested parties can view available roles and apply at jobs.meijer.com/stores by entering "Brownsburg" into the search field.

3. All annual licenses and stamp privileges from last season expire on March 31. Purchase your 2026 license online, in person, or by mail. Check out our Licenses & Permits webpage for more information on license expiration dates and fees. View fish stocking locations on the fish stocking webpage and Urban Fishing webpage. Mark your calendars for May 10, the first Free Fishing Day of the year. The other Free Fishing Days will be held June 6-7 and Sept. 26.

Butch Remembers 'the Little Old Lady from Pasadena'



BUTCH DALE
Columnist

I don't know about you, but sometimes I just can't get certain songs out of my noggin. Now, I'm not talking about a song that I just heard, but instead, the tunes that I listened to sixty or seventy years ago...catchy songs that I played over and over again on those 45 rpm records. I woke up the other night, singing in my head, "It's the little old lady from Pasadena, Has a pretty little flower bed of white gardenias, But parked in a rickety old garage, Is a brand new shiny red super stock Dodge." ("The Little Old Lady From Pasadena" by Jan and Dean--1964.

If you are a baby boomer like me, I would bet anything that you can sing along with most of those "car songs." "Spring little Cobra gettin' ready to strike, spring little Cobra with all of your might, Hey, little Cobra, don't you know you're gonna shut 'em down." (by the Rip Chords--1964). How about this one..."Three deuces and a four speed and a 389, Listen to her tackin' up now, listen to her whine, Come on and tune it in, wind it up, blow it out GTO." ("G.T.O" by Ronnie and the Daytonas--1964). Some of you older boomers might recall, "They arrested me and put me in jail, and called my pappy to throw my bail, and he said 'Son, you're gonna drive me to drinkin', if you don't stop drivin' that hot rod Lincoln.'" ("Hot Rod Lincoln by Johnny Bond--1960). In 1964, Jan and Dean had another hit "Dead Man's Curve"... "I was cruisin' in my Stingray late one night, when an XKE pulled up on the right, He rolled down the window of his shiny new Jag, And challenged me then and there to drag."

There were over 100 car songs in the '50s and '60s, but the group who had the most hits were the Beach Boys. "Declinin' numbers at at even rate, at the count of one we both accelerate, My Stingray is light, the slicks are starting to spin, but the 413 is really diggin' in." ("Shut Down"--1963). And how about..."Just a little deuce coupe with a flathead mill, but she'll walk a Thunderbird like she's standing still, she's ported and relieved and she's stroked and bored, she'll drive a hundred and forty with the top end floored." ("Little Deuce Coupe"--1963).

The first Beach Boys song that I heard was..."Well I saved my pennies and I saved my dimes, for I knew there would be a time... when I would buy a brand new 409." ("409"--1962). One of the most catchy songs by this group was..."Well, she got her daddy's car, and she cruised through the hamburger stand now, seems like she forgot all about the library, like she told her old man now, and with the radio blastin', goes cruisin' just as fast as she can now...and she'll have fun, fun, fun...till her daddy takes the

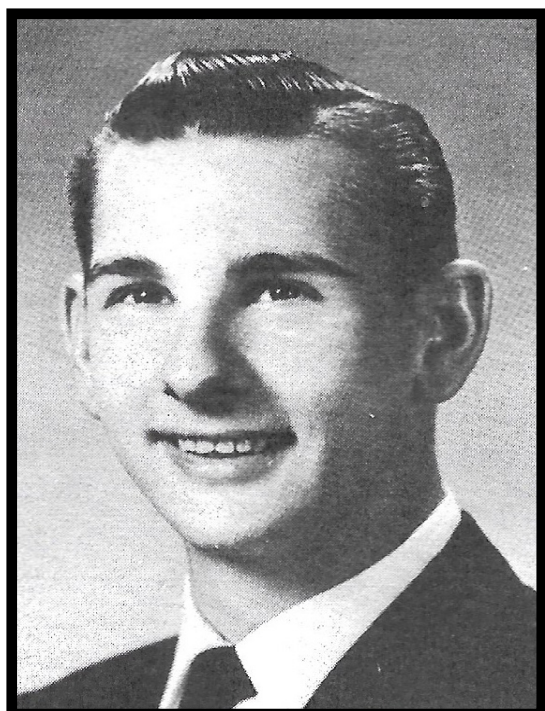
See **BUTCH** Page 4

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 Dale's Flashback Trivia



Do You Recognize This 1965 New Ross H.S. Grad?

HINT: He played basketball, was in track and FFA . . . and became a whiz at computers.

Answer on Page 4

Franciscan Health Hosts Cooking Matters Class April 8

Franciscan Health, in collaboration with Indy Hunger Network, the Crawfordsville District Public Library and CookingMatters.org will be hosting a class entitled "Cooking Matters" on Wednesday, April 8 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Crawfordsville District Public Library in Crawfordsville.

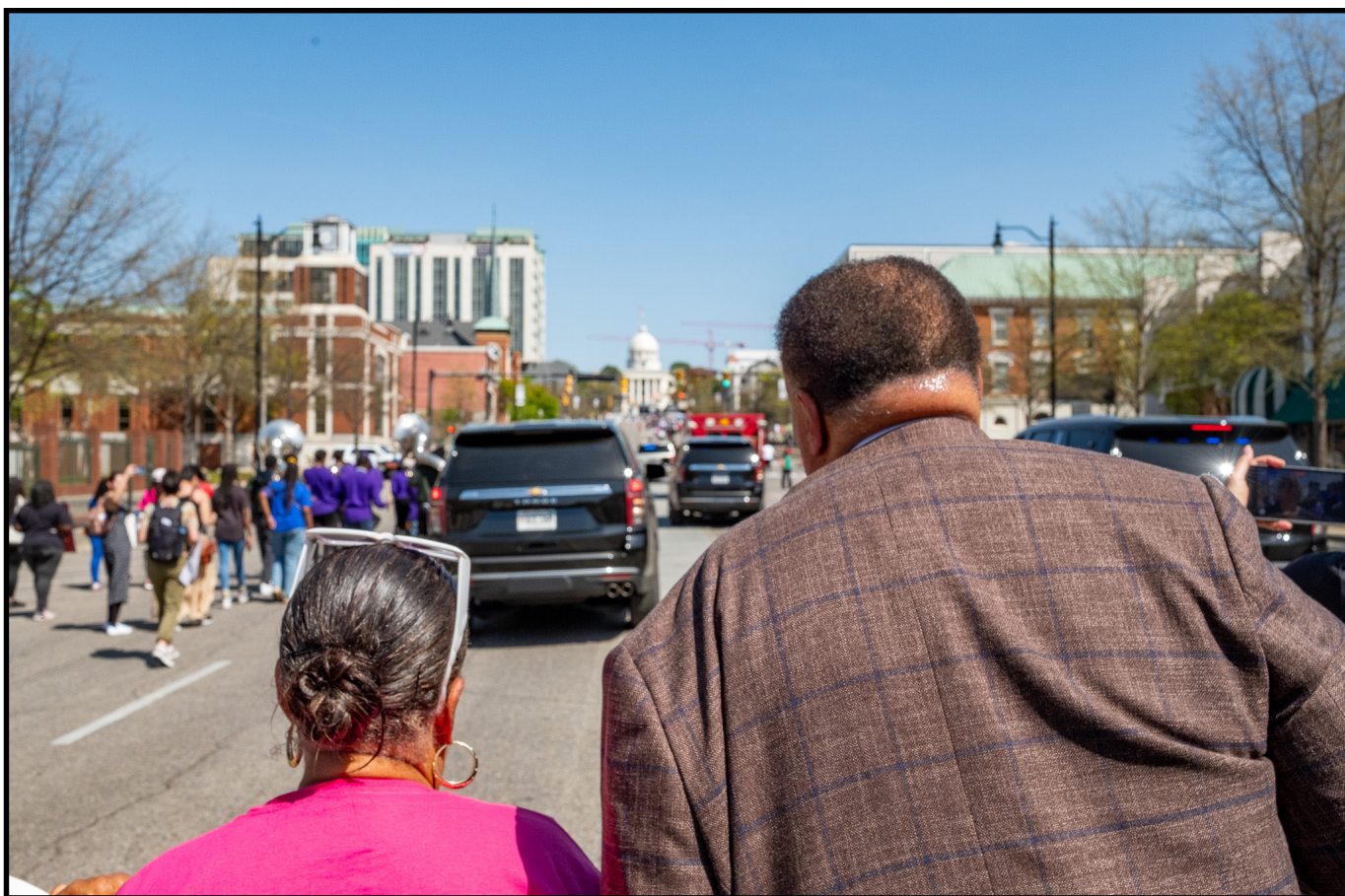
The class highlights healthy, affordable recipes, tips for budget-friendly grocery shopping, proper cooking techniques, saving time in the kitchen, options for selective eaters, general nutrition tips and more.

Participants will prepare and taste a new recipe made with healthy ingredients.

Families with children ages 7 and older are encouraged to attend this free event together.

To register, contact Betsy Coffing at Betsy.Coffing@FranciscanAlliance.org or call (765) 423-6909.

The Crawfordsville District Public Library is located at 205 South Washington Street in Crawfordsville. The class will take place in Room B.



Andy Chandler: 'Just a Photo'



ANDY CHANDLER
Columnist

Montgomery, Ala. "It's just a photo."

It's just a picture. Just an image on a screen. If we're precise, it was taken with a Fuji XPro 2, using a 35mm lens. The settings were ISO 200, 1/800th of a second at F7.1. Metadata says it was taken on 3/22/2025. However, those are specs and settings. Like looking at sheet music for Handel's Water Music, seeing the notes and saying, "looks good," without ever hearing it performed.

There's a woman on the left. "Just a woman on a walk," someone might say, but her name is Sheyann Webb-Christburg. She was only 9 when she and her teacher were beaten by police at the bottom of the Edmund Pettus Bridge. A few days later she would complete the third march to Montgomery, Ala. with MLK Jr. Hearing she was there, he called her parents

to pick her up and he babysat her while they drove to Montgomery. For missing school, she was suspended from her mostly white school.

On the right side, there's an older man, in his 70s. He walks with the vigor of a 30 year-old. That's MLK Jr. III. He was only 10 when his father was killed in Memphis. Eventually, Jr. III would graduate from Morehouse College, where his father, grandfather and great-grandfather all graduated from. He would go onto be a Fulton County Commissioner, advisor to President Obama and eventually the head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the same organization his father started.

There's a dome off in the distance. That's the Alabama State Capitol Building. Mention that and even the modest student

of history can almost hear the words echoing through the decades from its steps: "I say segregation now, segregation tomorrow, segregation forever." Such were the words of Gov. George Wallace, punctuated by the whooping and hollering of a rebel yell throughout the crowd that January morning in 1963.

There's a street they're walking down. That's Dexter Avenue in downtown Montgomery, the road leading to the Capitol. Not more than a few hundred yards behind them, Rosa Parks was dragged off a bus and put in handcuffs 70 years earlier.

One hundred and sixty years earlier, this street saw the trotting of horses and cheers from ladies waving handkerchiefs, waving at men in sharp gray uniforms marching in step to the cadence from a military band playing Dixie. They were marching in a parade celebrating a Presidential Inauguration, and had finished listening to President Jefferson Davis give a speech where he said the main goal of the Confederacy was, "... there should be so much of homogeneity that the welfare of every portion shall

be the aim of the whole." His idea of whole, didn't include sum.

In front of them, five SUVs. Those are bullet-proof SUVs provided by the City of Montgomery. Jr. III's father had countless death threats before he was killed. The son's life and that of his marching companion that day were no different. Multiple threats had been made toward them, and the event. Behind me when I took that photo were two police bodyguards, King's bodyguard, and an FBI agent. Sadly, violence against political figures, then and later as we'd find out, is something that hasn't changed.

It's only a photo, and without context portrays something banal that happens daily. People walking outside on a beautiful spring day.

Just a photo.

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



Photos courtesy Andy Chandler

Beckwith is pointing toward a bright future.

The top two government officials in the state seem to be on the same page.

Beckwith definitely knows how to rally a crowd.

Lt. Governor Micah Beckwith. Sine Cera. Part II

EDITOR'S NOTE: Andy Chandler is a presidential historian and a museum archivist at Candles Holocaust Museum in Terre Haute and the Ernie Pyle WW II Museum in Dana Ind. He is also a photographer and his work is often seen on these pages. Recently he sat down with Indiana Lt. Gov. Micah Beckwith. The second of a two-part series is presented today.

Part II: The Initiative

It was only two weeks ago to the day of my interview with Lt. Governor Beckwith that Governor Braun signed Executive Order 2-26 placing Lt. Governor Beckwith at the head of

faith-based initiatives. When I asked him about the order's origins, the Lt. Governor stated that the idea started before the 2024 election and came from, "organic dialogue between myself and then Sen. Braun. I told him, 'I know you have strong faith and understand the value that faith community brings in partnering with state initiatives.' I think that he is an incredible man of faith, and he understands that God has laid things out the way that we as human beings should follow. He doesn't shy away from that. He said we needed to bring priests, pastors and rabbis. So, this started two years ago."

Regarding what happened after he entered office, "When we got into office, I hired a faith-based initiative director." He went on to speak about how both offices wanted to take things to the next step and from that came the Executive Order which gives it state backing and legitimacy.

That question did bring up a further comment by Beckwith regarding his relationship with Gov. Braun and his office.

"People have asked me, 'What's your relationship with the governor?' I think they think there's drama. The governor, myself and our teams, we have been

linking arms since day one. We don't get push back from the governor's office, I mean they'll give us a heads up. They'll call us and say, 'There's this or there's that.' But they've never said, 'Don't you dare say this,' or 'You'd better say that.'"

Back to the initiative.

According to the Lt. Governor, the initiative will be starting with faith-based roundtables in every county. He wants them to engage in solving problems: "How do we increase foster care families? How do we decrease homelessness and decrease poverty and food

See BECKWITH Page 4

THE PAPER OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

WE'RE HIRING

OPEN POSITIONS

SALES
 PAGINATION
 DELIVERY DRIVER
 CLERICAL

EMAIL RESUME TO: JOBS@THEPAPER24-7.COM

The Paper

of Montgomery County
 An Independent Newspaper
 founded in 2004

Vol. 22 | Issue 35

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



UNCLUTCH YOUR PEARLS; THE REDESIGNED 2026 SUBARU OUTBACK WILDERNESS IS STILL A CRAZY-CAPABLE FAMILY WAGON

Subaru found a way to please loyal Outback owners and SUV-intenders alike.



CASEY WILLIAMS
Columnist

I don't want to like this car. Subaru decided to redesign its iconic Outback, a high-riding wagon that virtually invented the crossover segment, with boxy styling embracing SUVs and seemingly rejecting its wagon origins. However, if we peel away the new rugged suit, we find the 2026 Subaru Outback Wilderness doesn't stray far from what very loyal owners love.

It's personal; my family has a 2022 Outback Wilderness in which we've driven thousand-mile days between Indianapolis and Dallas, reveled in a foot of snow, and tackled off-road trails you wouldn't dare. It also gets my daughter to school, brings home furniture from IKEA, and takes my husband to work. It seemingly does everything well.

I parked our previous-gen model next to the new one. They share a wheelbase, 9.5-inches of ground clearance, 17-inch matte black wheels, all-road tires, and copper accents. They are virtually the same length and height, which brings me to understand the new one looks like an SUV, but is still very-much a wagon at heart. Its roof rails still support 800-lbs. of static load for tent camping and it can tow 3,500 lbs.

I have two main gripes with my current Outback: Even with software upgrades, the infotainment screen takes a block to boot up and the stereo sounds tinny and terrible. Harman Kardon audio was not available in Wilderness trim.

All fixed. In fact, the 12.1-inch infotainment screen is the first thing you'll notice when sliding into the new Outback as it's front and center with crisp graphics, quick start-up, and intuitive controls. Drivers get a fully digital instrument cluster. Harman Kardon audio provides sound the Outback Wilderness deserves – as do wireless Apple CarPlay,

Android Auto and console phone charging.

And it feels familiar. Passengers slide in slightly higher, but the view over the hood and windshield rake are more wagon than SUV. Standard vegan leather seats with copper accents are heated and ventilated. Leather and leg-extensions are optional, amping luxury to near-Touring levels. A heated copper-tinged steering wheel, power moonroof, heated rear seats and dual-zone automatic climate control remain.

Fortifying Subaru's reputation for safety is its three-camera EyeSight system to enable adaptive cruise, automatic emergency braking, lane keep assist, and lane-centering steering. It also employs blind spot warning, rear auto brake, and emergency evasive steering assist.

One expects an Outback to be capable off-road, but the Wilderness is seriously quick – capable of matching my 1989 Corvette's acceleration of 0-60 mph in under 6 seconds. Thank fat tires and off-road gearing combined with a 2.4-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine and standard all-wheel-drive. Output is rated 260 horsepower and 277 lb.-ft. of torque. Fuel economy ticks up to 21/27-MPG city/highway.

I'd like it even better

LIKES	DISLIKES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UPDATED INFOTAINMENT • ELECTRONIC SUSPENSION • CRAZY CAPABLE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UGLY GRILLE • BOXIER STYLING • NO HANDS-OFF

2026 Subaru Outback Wilderness
Five-passenger, AWD Crossover
Powertrain: 2.4-liter T4, CVT
Output: 260hp/277 lb.-ft. torque
Suspension f/r: Elect Ind/Ind
Wheels f/r: 17"/17" alloy
Brakes f/r: disc/disc
Towing: 3,500 lbs.
Fuel economy: 21/27 mpg city/hwy
Assembly: Ota, Gunma, Japan
Base/As-tested price: \$34,995/50,930

with a hybrid option.

Like my OG Outback Wilderness, the new one has dual-mode X-Mode to configure the powertrain for all conditions, including deep snow and mud. It includes hill descent control, which I've used to creep down steep rocky trails. Even better, the new version offers electronic suspension damping to absorb virtually any terrain. It's crazy capable for a family wagon.

Like a lot of Subaru fans, I clutched my pearls at the automaker "ruining" my favorite wagon. Chill everybody; it's still a wagon... Do I love its styling? No! Would I buy another? Absolutely. If Subaru can keep fans happy while welcoming SUV-intenders, then mission accomplished.

Even while moving production from Lafayette, Indiana to Japan, prices have remained consistent. The Outback starts at \$34,995, climbing to \$44,995 for Wilderness models and \$50,930 for our well-equipped test car. Compare to the Honda Passport TrailSport, Jeep Cherokee Overland, Nissan Rogue Rock Creek and Toyota RAV4 Woodland.

Storm Forward!

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

Sweeping Up the Confetti



CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

My husband, Peter, and I have landed in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, and already the strange seems familiar again.

One of the things that impresses me every time I am here is the attention given to jobs that I don't always think of as needing a lot of attention. Masonry work is meticulous and crafted to last centuries. Cloth is woven one thread at a time, creating utterly unique works. Gardening is done with such patience and consistency that there are blooms every month of the year. But this morning, I was noticing the street sweepers.

The street sweepers are legion. I have no idea what their actual numbers are, but in the center of the old town, where we stay, you cannot walk down a street from the first light of morning until well after dark without encountering a person dressed in red, with a homemade broom and a sturdy dustpan affixed to a stick. Litter does not stand a chance in this town. Stray leaves are corralled as they fall. And, to me, the most amazing thing is how they sweep up the confetti.

In San Miguel, there are a lot of reasons to celebrate.

There are weddings every weekend, the city throws a party every week, and quinceañeras—the special 15th birthday party celebrations for girls in enormous poofy dresses—occur nearly every day. And most of these events involve confetti.

But between Valentine's Day and Easter, cascarones are sold on the street by the boxful. Cascarones are just ordinary eggs with the insides blown out, filled with confetti. Children throw them at each other. Lovers smash them over each other's heads. Everyone runs and laughs, hurling confetti-filled eggs at one another. It is a huge amount of fun. It is also terribly messy.

And so, every evening without fail, the street sweepers are out, sweeping every fleck of confetti and eggshell off the streets, a job that would be tricky under any circumstances, but is made much more difficult because the streets are made of brick and cobblestones.

They sweep up after parades and wedding processions. After the young quinceañera has hiked up her hoop skirt and moved on (usually revealing a pair of sensible sneakers

beneath her voluminous skirts), the sweepers move in.

This morning, I was out earlier than usual, and I saw a pickup truck filled with street sweepers. There was a white fence around the pickup bed, and the sweepers were standing in the moving truck, talking and laughing as they were deposited at whatever street corner they were scheduled to start work. And I thought how much I have to learn from the street sweepers.

It is easy to sweep up the big messes. A lot of folks do it, in one way or another. They get paid for doing the bare minimum and that is the end of it. But to do a job—particularly a job that few people truly appreciate—to do that job really well takes a special kind of dedication and, I believe, repays the sweeper in a special way.

Showing up earlier than absolutely necessary, smiling at the person I am working with, doing a bit more than is required just to make the next person's work a little easier—there is an intrinsic value to these things that brings joy and a sense of accomplishment.

The sweepers show me the value of a job well done, whether one is creating something that will last for decades, or sweeping up the confetti that will surely fall again later that day.

Till next time,

Carrie

As a former sergeant in the U.S. Army and Iraq War veteran, I would like to start giving back to all who have served in the armed forces. On Veterans Day, I began offering a reduced commission in honor of your service to this great nation. Contact me for details today!

765-918-1773 - william.dale@exp Realty.com

CLARK DALE - EXP REALTY

THANK YOU VETERANS

exp REALTY
FOR SALE
Clark Dale
765.918.1773
william.dale@exp Realty.com

M.S. - B.S. - A.S. : TEXAS TECH/INDIANA STATE

THE PAPER OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

WE'RE HIRING

OPEN POSITIONS

**SALES
PAGINATION
DELIVERY DRIVER
CLERICAL**

EMAIL RESUME TO: JOBS@THEPAPER24-7.COM

Cramping My Style



DICK WOLFSIE
Columnist

I have leg cramps. I know the last thing you want to hear about is the medical problems of some two-bit humorist.

Sometimes my calf cramps into a knot at night, and the pain becomes unbearable. My hands also cramp, along with my fingers. Sometimes, it's my thigh. Keep reading this column; it's about to get funnier. I promise.

I was tempted to go online for advice. AI also seemed like a good option, assuming that AI stood for Arthritis Information.

By pure chance, I was downtown the other day to see my accountant about taxes. While in the elevator, I saw an old friend. "Hey, Dick, how ya doin'?" "Joel, I don't like to complain, but at night I get these terrible..."

"Don't tell me... leg cramps. I used to get them too. Here's what I recommend: Take vitamin E three times a day. It's like a miracle."

I've never trusted the Internet for health information, but I am always eager to take advice in an elevator. To be certain, I called my doctor to ask for his opinion. He told me that vitamin E was

not good for me because of an interaction with another medication I am taking for my cholesterol. Then he asked me exactly where I had gotten this faulty data. I told him the 14th floor of OneAmerica Tower. "That's a really stupid place to get medical advice," he told me. "You couldn't wait another minute to get to Skyline Club? At least you'd have a good dinner before a bad night's sleep."

I went back to see my accountant later that week with some more forms. On the same elevator, I bumped into another old buddy—"old" being the key word here again. "Hey, Dick, word is out you are having leg cramps."

"Wow, word sure travels up and down fast in this building. Well, what do you think? I'm always open to a second-floor opinion. Or a second, second-floor opinion."

"My dad had leg cramps, then he started drinking a gin and tonic every night for 30 years before he went to bed—and he never had cramps again."

"What did the trick? The gin or the tonic?"

"He didn't care? It worked."

I did some googling and found that the gin might help you forget your pain, but it was clearly the quinine in the tonic that really eased the cramps. For the next two weeks, I drank a quart of tonic before bed. It had little effect on the problem, so now I'm willing to at least consider the therapeutic benefit of gin.

Over the course of a month, I asked several friends for recommendations. Here are some of the remedies suggested: zinc, magnesium, Vitamin E, quinine, biofeedback, cherry extract, folic acid, potassium, turmeric, and of course, Tylenol

I am not going to take any of this advice, nor should you, but I have noticed lately that my legs tend to cramp at night after vigorous exercise on the exercise bike or after playing more than an hour of pickleball. I'm no doctor, but I am prescribing myself a complete lack of physical activity for the next six months. And a shot of gin before going to bed.

I'd take it with tonic water, but I don't believe everything I hear in elevators.

I did try one suggestion. It's not on the list above. Wait till next week to hear about it.

Dick Wolfsie is a retired TV personality, author, speaker, teacher and all-around good guy. His award-winning column appears here weekly.

BUTCH

Continued from Page 1

T-Bird away." ("Fun Fun Fun"—1964)

I don't know what it is about those car songs, but they are still floating around in my brain. In today's world, who is going to sing about a Toyota, Honda, Kia, Hyundai, Subaru, Tesla, etc.? They can't find any words to rhyme! And back in the day, no

group ever composed a song about our family's 1956 pink and white 4-door Buick Special or, after I got my license, our 1963 red and white Chevy station wagon (with no radio) which, unfortunately, I had to take on dates. Better than no car at all I guess, but I would have had a LOT more "FUN, FUN, FUN" if Dad had

taken that station wagon away...and provided me with a '65 Corvette!

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.

BECKWITH

Continued from Page 2

insecurity? How do we go after these addiction epidemics from opioids to fentanyl and some of these life destroying addictions that people find themselves in, and that comes best when faith communities engage."

He concedes that the government has shortcomings in how it can help people. "The government is terrible at caring for people. The government does not care for people, and honestly it wasn't designed to be compassionate. The government's job is to be the sword of justice, and I would even contend that the government can't be compassionate. It was not designed to be compassionate. It as an entity is not able to be compassionate. The compassion comes from people who, out of faith, commitment to honor God, and honor your neighbor, step up to serve their neighbor. That to me is where we've done a disservice as government to come in and say, 'We don't need the faith community; We'll try to be the compassion.' We get out there and what happens? Government bureaucracy grows. Agencies just start seeing people as numbers. They don't actually care if someone's getting off addiction, they just have a job to do and you're just a number. If you're homeless, you're just a number. We'll help you, maybe kind of. We'll help you get some relief, but it's just a Bbandaid. But you're not getting a holistic healing."

I asked him if he'd seen examples of how he wanted this initiative to look. His eyes lit up and he gave a firm nod. "Florida has a program called Hope Navigators and Iowa has one called Thrive. We'll probably model ours after both of those. I've talked to Casey DeSantis multiple times. They are basically creat-

ing these Hope Navigators in all the counties to where you're essentially a counselor to people, but you're just not a counselor to get them the resources, SNAP benefits, housing assistance, or addiction recovery. It's not just about that. It is about that, but it's not just about that. The other aspect of these Hope Navigators is that they say, 'We want to get you connected to a faith community. Let's get you plugged in somewhere where there's going to be pastors, life group members, or people who are in this community who can walk with you when the government has to go. We want you to have a community. And then they say, 'What do you want to be in 10 years? A Hope Navigator will say, 'What's your purpose in life?' When has the government ever stopped and asked, 'What's your purpose, what dreams do you have?'"

"Not that I can recall." I responded.

"That's where these Hope Navigators come and say we want you to find purpose. So, they train these navigators to find purpose which only comes when God gets involved. When God gets involved that's when their purpose comes alive. That's a model we'll be looking at."

He went onto say that Casey DeSantis told him that they (The State of Florida) have saved \$100 million and they project it'll be about \$100 million savings every year when it comes to government assisting people. She states that over 10 years it will be over a billion dollars.

I asked him if the government would provide aid to religious organizations in the form of finance and possible logistics. He was direct. "I don't think faith communities need government

money, and if faith communities come and say we need government money, I would say they need to evaluate who's their provider. Who's their Jehovah Jireh?"

One of the biggest questions, in fact a question so big, I had friends asking me to ask him this, was whether faith-based meant incorporating other faiths outside of Judeo-Christianity. My question to him was if the term faith-based would use an upper- or lower-case 'f'.

His response was, "If you look at the Declaration [of Independence] when it speaks of all men being endowed by their Creator, was that an upper- or lower-case C?"

I paused for a second. "Upper."

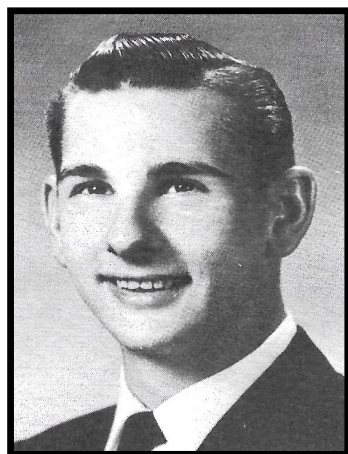
He leaned back in his chair like an instructor whose students understood the assignment. He is an instructor at a home school co-op.

"The Framers had in mind a Judeo-Christian God. With a capital C when they used the word Creator."

I asked him about whether the eight points of the Executive Order were going to be used as metrics for the success of the EO. He stated that the question was a good one. He has a team working on it, but reminded me that the EO was only signed two weeks ago.

"In a couple months, I think maybe the goal for us should be for us to have the measurables laid out. So, I think that would be very appropriate to come back in a couple of months and say, 'Hey give an update on the faith-based initiatives, executive order and what are the measurables.'" To quote the famous governor from California: I'll be back.

Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



ANSWER:
John Budd



"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

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

KENNY THOMPSON



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

Catch Kenny every Friday in The Paper!

**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**

Yearlong Reading Journeys



Emmie Bronaugh




Holden Bronaugh

Emmie and Holden Bronaugh, ages 9 and 11 respectively, have completed the Crawfordsville District Public Library program “Yearlong Reading Challenge.” Emmie and Holden are the children Josh and Kayla Bronaugh. On this journey Emmie read 12 chapter books and 12 picture books. She read 1,424 pages during this challenge. She also practiced library skills and learned about a different author each month. Emmie’s favorite book is Mallory McDonald, Baby Expert by Laurie Friedman. Emmie said, “I love coming to the library! It is so much fun!” Holden read 12 chapter books and 12 picture books, totaling 1,469 pages during this challenge. Holden also practiced library skills and learned about a different author each month. Holden’s favorite book is The Vanderbeekers Ever After by Karina Yan Glaser. Holden said, “The reading program is a great program that all kids should try!”

The Crawfordsville District Public library congratulates Emmie and Holden on their yearlong reading journey and celebrates their dedication to reading and lifelong learning!

Photos courtesy Crawfordsville District Public Library

Crawfordsville District Public Library

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
30 Support our library by using this QR code when you shop at Amazon for no additional cost. 	31  SCAN ME 	1 Toddler Story Time: 10:30a Kindergarten Book Club: 4p CDPL Board Fundraising Committee meeting: 4p 	2 Preschool Story Time: 10:30a Drop-in Tech Help: 6-7p	3 CLOSED Library Hours: Mon-Thu: 10a-8p Friday: Closed Sat: 10a-5p Sun: 1-5p	4  Cville Chess Club Tournament: 10a-4p Centennial Farms & Barns + America 250 exhibits at CMMC 5 CLOSED 
6 1st Grade Book Club: 4p Cville Chess Club: 5:45p Drop-in Resume Help: 6-7p	7 Baby Story Time: 10:30a 	8 Toddler Story Time: 10:30a Kindergarten Book Club: 4p Cooking Matters: 11a 10 Warning Signs for Alzheimer's: 6p	9 Preschool Story Time: 10:30a 5-8 Grade Book Club: 4p CDPL Board Meeting: 4p Drop-in Tech Help: 6-7p	10 CLOSED	11  Book Sale 10a-4p 12 Club Heavily Meditated: 3p
13 2nd Grade Book Club: 4p Yarn Works: 10a Cville Chess Club: 5:45p Drop-in Resume Help: 6-7p	14 Baby Story Time: 10:30a Yoga for Better Mental Health: 5:30p Genealogy Club: 6p	15 Toddler Story Time: 10:30a Kindergarten Book Club: 4p Wyrd Words Book Club: 5:30p 	16 Preschool Story Time: 10:30a Yarn Works: 10a Craft Collective: 5:30p Drop-in Tech Help: 6-7p	17 CLOSED 	18 Teen Trivia: 2p 19 Club Heavily Meditated: 3p
20 3rd Grade Book Club: 4p Cville Chess Club: 5:45p Drop-in Resume Help: 6-7p	21 Baby Story Time: 10:30a	22 Toddler Story Time: 10:30a Kindergarten Book Club: 4p Mystery of History Club: 5p 	23 Preschool Story Time: 10:30a  Teen Anime Club: 6p Drop-in Tech Help: 6-7p	24 CLOSED Genealogy After Hours: 11:45p-4p Arbor Day 	25 26 Club Heavily Meditated: 3p
27 4th Grade Book Club: 4p Cville Chess Club: 5:45p Drop-in Resume Help: 6-7p	28 Baby Story Time: 10:30a  Blood Drive: 10a-2p Parking Lot	29 Toddler Story Time: 10:30a Kindergarten Book Club: 4p	30 Preschool Story Time: 10:30a Drop-in Tech Help: 6-7p International Jazz Day 	1	2 Access Digital Resources online 24/7. 

APRIL 2026

Adults All ages
Teens Children

Buchanan Hits 100% Voting Record

State Sen. Brian Buchanan (R-Lebanon) achieved a perfect 100% voting record for the 2026 legislative session. The 100% record reflects Buchanan's attendance during session, never missing a vote taken on the Senate floor.

"Hoosiers expect their representatives to show up and vote in the General Assembly," Buchanan said. "That's what Senate District 7 expects too, and I work hard to serve our community and be a voice in the state senate. The best way I can do this is to be on the floor during debates and votes."

The following are just some of the new laws Buchanan supported in the 2026 session.

Cut red tape for Hoosier pharmacists

Senate Enrolled Act 293, authored by Buchanan, removes the requirement for pharmacists to take a law exam to become a licensed pharmacist in Indiana. Instead, pharmacists will take continuing education courses to ensure they understand current state laws and policies.

Prevent waste, fraud and abuse

Senate Enrolled Act 1, Senate Republicans' top priority, will help prevent waste, fraud and abuse in Indiana's SNAP and Medicaid programs by increasing eligibility checks for public assistance pro-

grams. It also requires the state government to verify the citizenship or immigration status of people applying for Medicaid and SNAP to help prevent illegal immigrants from claiming benefits and preserve the integrity of the program for the Hoosiers who need it most.

Improve public safety

Senate Joint Resolution 1 seeks to amend Indiana's constitution so judges can hold arrestees without bail if there is no way to release them without threatening the safety of the public. While most states already allow judges to deny bail for dangerous suspects, current Indiana law only allows bail to be withheld in instances of murder and treason. Under

Indiana's constitutional amendment process, Hoosier voters will have a chance to vote on SJR 1 on this November's ballot. Senate Enrolled Act 2 is a companion law that will guarantee all arrestees have legal protections like the right to an attorney at their bail hearing, the right to present evidence and the right to have their bail set in a timely manner.

No taxes on tips, overtime

Senate Enrolled Act 243 couples Indiana's tax code to the federal tax code regarding no tax on tips, no tax on overtime and no tax on loan interest for American-made vehicles in 2026. This means Hoosier workers will benefit from those same tax cuts

passed in the federal One Big Beautiful Bill on their state taxes. These cuts are estimated to save Hoosiers up to \$237 million on their state and local taxes this year.

Lower utility rates

House Enrolled Act 1002 is the biggest change to Indiana's ratemaking process in over 100 years, changing from a fee-for-service model to a performance-based ratemaking model. HEA 1002 will ensure electric utilities promote affordability, predictable monthly bills and reliable service by tying the amount utilities can collect to the quality of service they provide to customers.

Buchanan encourages constituents to con-



State Sen. Brian Buchanan

tact him by filling out a Contact Me form online at IndianaSenateRepublicans.com/Buchanan or by calling 800-382-9468.

Buchanan represents Senate District 7, which includes portions of Boone, Clinton, Hendricks and Montgomery counties.

SAGAMORE NEWS MEDIA

WE'RE HIRING

Looking for a flexible position?
Interested in learning more about the newspaper industry?
Ready to learn something new or challenge yourself to improve your current skills?

WE ARE LOOKING FOR CANDIDATES FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

- Sales Get to know local businesses and find advertising options to fit their needs
- Pagination Flex your creative muscle as you lay out news stories using inDesign
- Clerical Assist our business department with account and subscription management

Training available for motivated individuals!

Join our team today!

Send your resume to jobs@thepaper24-7.com

WWW.THEPAPER24-7.COM

Rokita Co-Leads Opposition to Court-Ordered Prisoner Sex-Change Surgeries

Attorney General Todd Rokita, together with Idaho Attorney General Raúl Labrador and a coalition of 24 states, has filed an amicus curiae brief in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals strongly arguing that the Eighth Amendment does not require states to provide prisoners with risky, controversial and medically debated sex-change surgeries.

The case, *Emalee R. Wagoner v. Jennifer Winkelman*, Commissioner of Department of Corrections (No. 25-6813), arises from a U.S. District Court for the District of Alaska order directing the state to refer the prisoner for surgical consultation. The multi-state brief argues that this ruling exceeds constitutional limits and overrides states' authority over prison medical care and policy, so the decision should be reversed.

According to Rokita, Indiana is co-leading this brief because a ruling upholding the order could

create a nationwide precedent. That would pressure prison systems across the country – including in Indiana – to provide or pay for similar surgeries, even though many states do not offer them to inmates or even to free citizens.

"The Eighth Amendment stops cruel and unusual punishment. It doesn't give prisoners the right to demand risky, optional surgeries when doctors and scientists still strongly disagree about whether they're safe or even helpful," Rokita said. "If courts force states to provide these expensive, controversial procedures in one prison, it will open the floodgates everywhere – putting Hoosier taxpayers and families across the country on the hook for hundreds of thousands of dollars per surgery in virtually every state. We cannot let that happen. We have to win this case to protect hardworking taxpayers from footing the bill for these insane surgeries."

The brief stresses that the Eighth Amendment bars deliberate indifference to serious medical needs but does not guarantee prisoners access to any particular treatment—especially those that are unproven, highly debated, and carry significant risks with uncertain benefits.

It notes that such surgeries are unavailable to free citizens in nearly half of U.S. states, underscoring they are not a basic necessity. The amici also contend that prior Ninth Circuit case law does not require these procedures, and mandating out-of-state prisoner transfers for unavailable care raises major federalism issues and conflicts with the Prison Litigation Reform Act.

The coalition asks the Ninth Circuit to vacate the district court's injunction and affirm states' discretion in managing prisoner healthcare and corrections.

KENNY THOMPSON

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

Catch Kenny every Friday in The Paper!

Thank you for subscribing!

Join our Kennel Tech Team

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!

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