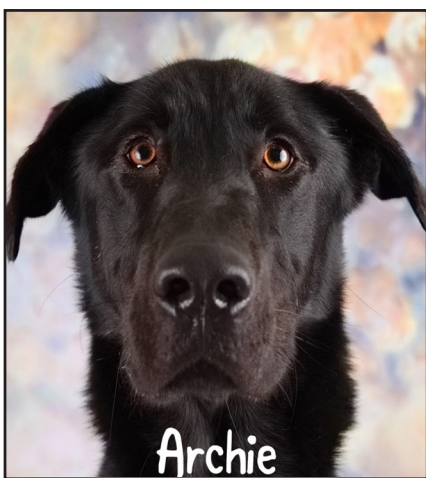


■ TODAY'S VERSE

**Romans 8:18** For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

■ AWL ARCHIE



Archie

Archie is a 1 year old male Black Labrador Retriever available for adoption at AWL since 9/7/25. Archie loves going out for walks, frolicking in a fenced yard, and will gladly sit for treats. Archie is looking for his best friend. Could that be you? Archie 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!



T-minus 2 days and counting to the Big Tax Day! If you have to write a check to mail in Wednesday, don't be late. The IRS frowns on that. But think they'll hurry any sort of return along? Think all you want my friend.

■ MONTGOMERY MINUTE

National Park Day is April 25 and you could spend the day at the Gen. Lew Wallace Study & Museum. Each year, thousands of history enthusiasts, community-minded citizens, families, Boy and Girl Scouts, ROTC units and more come together in an effort to help keep our nation's heritage not only preserved, but pristine. Officials at the Gen. Lew Wallace Study & Museum are hoping that volunteers will remember one of Crawfordsville's gems that day and volunteer. Park Day (April 25) 2026 begins at 9 a.m. For more information, visit [www.ben-hur.com](http://www.ben-hur.com) or email [study@ben-hur.com](mailto:study@ben-hur.com)

Park Day projects included painting signs, garden maintenance, trash and leaf removal, marker clean-up, trail and fence building and more!

■ QUOTE OF THE DAY

"One thing is clear: The Founding Fathers never intended a nation where citizens would pay nearly half of everything they earn to the government."

Ron Paul

■ JOKE OF THE DAY

What do actuaries do to liven up their parties?

They invite an accountant over.

# The Paper

## OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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## Devil Dogs

# 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!

**No one wants war, and we're reminded of that almost daily by what's going on in Iran. But if and when things get to that point, the United States has always been lucky to have the best military in the world. Coming up on April 27 is a day designated as Devil Dog Day, a reference to the U.S. Marine Corps. When the worldwide HQ of Sagamore News Media heard that, we knew we had to find out more . . . By The Numbers!**

### 4-27-1918

It was in a small woods around Chateau-Thierry in France in World War I. The French were joined by the U.S. 2nd Division, 4th Marine Brigade in a battle to stop Germany from advancing to Paris. The fighting was fierce. So fierce, in fact, that it got down to hand-to-hand combat. The Marines held the ground and did so so fiercely and so well that the German soldiers called them Teufelshunde, which we are told translates to Devil Dogs. The name has stuck with the Corps ever since.

### 9,700

But that battle resulted in almost 10,000 Allied casualties.



### No. 2

Despite the fierce reputation, did you know the U.S. Marine Corps is the second-smallest branch in the U.S. armed forces? They have around 175,000 active personnel with around 30,000 reserves.

### 1,300

Marines have a little more than 1,300 manned aircraft.



Photo courtesy US Marine Corps

### 8 percent

Speaking of women, females make up only about 8 percent of the USMC personnel. A little less than that make up the officer ranks. That's the lowest percentage of any branch of the U.S. military.

### 35,000

At any given time, the Marines have around 35,000 men and women actively deployed around the world.

### 150+

There's no question that the Marines create leaders. At any given time, there are 150 or more Fortune 500 companies have CEOs who came from the USMC.

### 7-11-1798

Yup, you guessed it. That's when The Corps was founded. But wait, that's not the whole story. July is when the current version of the Marines began. But the Continental Marines got their start back during the American Revolution – on Nov. 10, 1775.

### 1926

That's the year the snack cakes called Devil Dogs were founded by N.E. Drake Baking Co. in New York. The company is now owned by McKee Foods.

### ■ THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

**1.** Understanding that every penny counts, Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita said that his office will actively monitor fuel prices across the state to prevent price gouging and ensure drivers receive the full benefit of the relief following the temporary suspension of Indiana's gas tax. "With the suspension of Indiana's gas tax for the next 30 days, my office will closely monitor fuel prices to guard against any potential price gouging," Rokita said. "Hoosiers deserve the full relief intended by this emergency measure and we will use every tool at our disposal to ensure that the removal of the tax translates into lower prices at the pump – and that consumers are not taken advantage of during this time. "If a consumer suspects that a gas station in Indiana is still charging tax during the suspension, they should file a consumer complaint with our office."

**2.** By the time late winter rolls around, a lot of Americans start looking for signs that spring is finally on the way. The calendar might say it begins in March, but most people know that the real turning point comes later – that first stretch of mild air, longer evenings, and trees suddenly filling with leaves again. Curious about when that moment actually happens around the country, travel company Exotica looked at when each state tends to experience its most convincingly "spring-like" conditions - the point when the season really starts to feel settled in rather than just beginning. To work it out, researchers analyzed the average timing of the last spring freeze in different parts of the country, since that's typically when winter finally stops threatening gardens and new growth. Because plants usually need a little time after the final frost to properly leaf out, the analysis also included a point three weeks later, when greenery tends to be more noticeably returning. The midpoint between these two markers was used to estimate each state's "springiest day" – the point when spring feels most clearly established. Indiana experiences its last freeze of spring on Saturday, April 18th. Its greenery return becomes more noticeable around three weeks later, on Saturday, May 9th. Based on these combined indicators, the state's "springiest day" is estimated to fall on Tuesday, April 28th.

**3.** A memorial service for someone who was a huge part of the Indianapolis Jazz Foundation and Indy Jazz Fest is set for Saturday. The Jazz community will remember Charlene Norwood who passed away on Thursday, March 19, 2026. Charlene's organizational skills, attention to detail, and caring personality made her the perfect fit as Volunteer Coordinator for the Indianapolis Jazz Foundation and Indy Jazz Fest. For over 15 years, Charlene was respected and adored by the volunteers as well as the IJF staff. Her presence behind the scenes and onsite at events will be greatly missed for years to come. Service for Charlene will be held on Saturday, April 11th at Greater Northwest Baptist Church, 3402 W. 62nd Street in Indianapolis. Visitation is at 10 a.m. followed by an 11 a.m. service. All are welcome.

## Butch Was Taught 'Country Courtesy'



BUTCH DALE  
Columnist

Back in the day, most kids were taught to be courteous and exhibit good manners by their parents and grandparents. This behavior was also reinforced at school and in church. For instance, I was always taught to hold a door for someone coming in behind me, and in turn thanking a person who did the same for me. Letting someone go ahead of me and order their meal in a restaurant is another courteous habit that I picked up early on. If the seats are full in the waiting area, and an older person, someone with a small baby or a woman comes through the door, I offer my seat. It's just the right thing to do.

There are several other ways to be polite and courteous. If I am in a large group and I see someone who may be standing alone and appears to be shy or nervous, I often go up to them and begin a conversation to make them feel more at ease and accepted. If I meet someone for the first time, I listen attentively, without interrupting, and try to remember things about that person in case we meet again. When discussing politics or other controversial topics, I also listen to their views, regardless of how I feel about the same topic. Sometimes that is very difficult to do!

As a librarian, I am around people all day. I enjoy discussing just about anything and everything, especially shared interests. The Dale family members, for the most part, have always been "talkers." We also tend to use a lot of humor and tell stories to break the ice and make people feel more comfortable. We never hesitate to pull a few practical jokes on people, too, and most people enjoy being kidded. I try to compliment others, especially if I believe they could use it.

In rural Indiana, most people say hello and greet people, even strangers. If the other person does not respond, I just make a mental note not to take it personally. I always wave to other drivers who pass me going in the opposite direction, even if I have no idea who they are, and most of the time they wave back. Saying "please" and "thank you" is also standard procedure here. One thing that I enjoy doing is helping older people, or disabled people, at the supermarket. Last week I helped two people at Wal-Mart who could not reach items that were stacked too high for them to reach. Both expressed many thanks for just that simple gesture. Recently, while shopping in Lafayette, I noticed that an older lady had a large package in her cart as she stopped behind her car. I offered to help place the package in the trunk. She looked at me almost in disbelief at first, and after I was done, she thanked me two or three times.

One thing that I have always

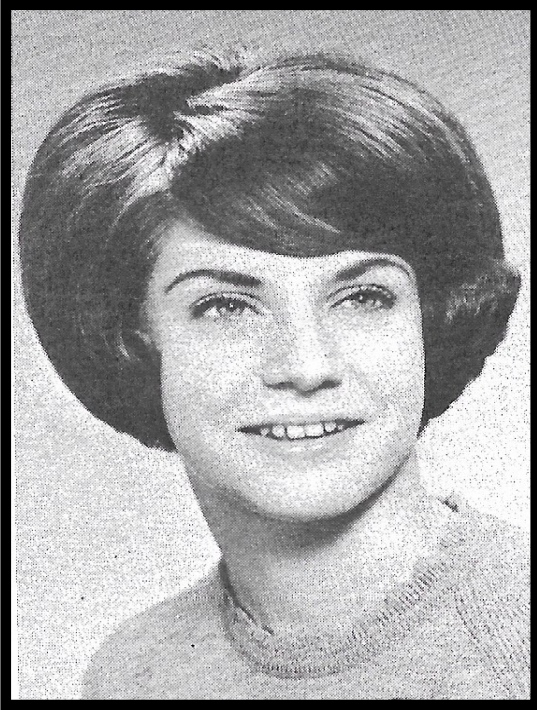
See BUTCH Page 4

# The Paper

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## Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



**Do You Recognize This 1966 Coal Creek H.S. Graduate?**

*HINT: She was in French Club, SSS, 4-H and was a cheerleader all four years.*

**Answer on Page 4**



Pvt. Williams got a wreath-laying ceremony, courtesy of an archivist.



The cemetery is behind a retirement home in Jay County, Indiana.

Photos courtesy Andy Chandler

## Last Soldier Killed in Civil War Was Hoosier



**ANDY CHANDLER**  
Columnist

Portland, Indiana. May 2025.

Ask most people when the Civil War ended; they'll tell you it was when General Lee surrendered to General Grant at Appomattox on April 9, 1865. History buffs like an effect as great as the cause, complete with brave men. The last of the chivalry ends with two gentlemen meeting in a parlor. However, the Civil War didn't end with a dramatic crescendo and curtain call of important characters. It ended in a somewhat gradual and often confusing way.

Appomattox wasn't the largest surrender. That would happen a few weeks later outside of Durham, North Carolina, when General Joseph E. Johnston surrendered 89,000 soldiers to William T. Sherman.

Still, that wasn't the end. There are two candidates for the last battle: Palmetto Ranch on the U.S. / Mexico Border, fought on May 13 and Hobby's Bridge in Alabama fought May 19. For the sake of discussion, I'll say it was Palmetto Ranch since that battle involved a known chain of command with orders given and received. The Confederates won that battle, meaning that the Civil War opened and closed on Confederate victories.

Last year was the 160 anniversary of the end of the Civil War. I'm big for dates and making sure that these dates are remembered. However, I'm sure that most people didn't realize that Palmetto Ranch occurred or that the last soldier killed in battle was a Hoosier, Private John J. Williams

There is scant informa-

tion on him, but here's what we know: he was born and raised in Jay County. In the fall of 1863, he enlisted and was assigned to Company B of the 34th Indiana Infantry Volunteer Regiment. Originally sent to New Orleans for occupation at the end of the war, he was later sent to Brazo's Santiago in Texas to secure the port near Brownsville.

It was near there on May 13, 1865, that Colonel Theodore Barret attempted to take Fort Brown on the Rio Grande and make a name for himself. Reminiscent of the end of WWI, this action wasn't necessary. He took the fort, but it was during the counterattack a few hours later, that Pvt. Williams was killed. The Civil War's last battle casualty.

He was originally buried in New Orleans, but reinterred back in the Hoosier state, just north of Portland in the Jay County Farm Cemetery. What used to be the asylum is now a retirement home, and in the back is the cemetery.

I've been to multiple wreath laying ceremonies. William Henry Harrison's

in North Bend, Abraham Lincoln's in Springfield and Ernie Pyle's in Dana. Why not a wreath laying to this significant soldier who fought for the Union? Even if it was a one-person ceremony attended by me.

It was storming that day, and I spent an hour in a nearby Walmart getting out of the rain. I couldn't find a wreath, so I just settled on a small flower arrangement (artificial).

Then came a lull. I drove to the cemetery. The rain and lightning picked up again. Getting impatient; I tore out of my car, ran to the cemetery at a full sprint. His grave is obvious. I planted the arrangement in the ground, took a few photos, saluted, and ran back to my car.

The gesture was hardly symbolic, but I'd like to think it was reverent. There's no reason to forget these men.

*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.*



Photo courtesy Andy Chandler

Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton meets with the public every month.

## Crawfordsville Mayor Forum April 29

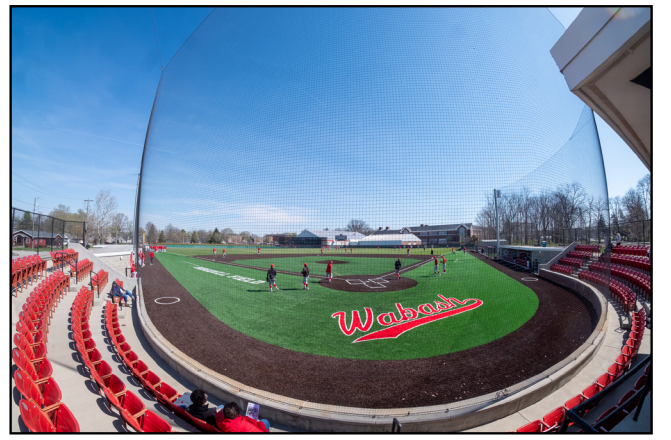
Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton has scheduled his monthly Community Forum for Wednesday, April 29 from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at his office, 300 E. Pike St.

This will be Barton's 154th such event since taking office. Holding a monthly community forum was something Bar-

ton pledged to do during his campaign 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.

## Renovated Stadium; Tough Losses



Photos courtesy Andy Chandler

**Photographer Andy Chandler swung by the renovated Birdzell Field when the No. 1 team in the country came to town last week. Denison won both ends of a double-header by 10-0 and 27-4 counts. Dennison is 21-1 overall. Unfortunately, the Little Giants are struggling through a tough season. They were 6-17 and 1-5 in North Coast Athletic Conference play. Wabash is home today at 4 p.m. against Eureka. The Little Giants hit the road tomorrow for a game at Earlham.**

## Buchanan Honors Schools for Top Literacy Achievement

Several schools from Senate District 7 were honored last week for achieving 95 percent or higher pass rates on the 2025 IREAD assessment said State Sen. Brian Buchanan.

Schools honored include:

- Boone Meadow Elementary School;
- Clinton Prairie Elementary School;
- Granville Wells Elementary School;

- Pittsboro Elementary School;
- Rossville Elementary School;
- Saint Malachy School;
- Thorntown Elementary School;
- Traders Point Christian Schools;
- Union Elementary School; and
- Walnut Elementary School.

"Our state's teachers all

work hard to ensure Hoosier students are prepared for their futures," Buchanan said. "In recent years, I have supported legislation that places an importance on literacy in our schools, and I'd like to thank the teachers in our schools for the work they've done to help achieve these honors."

Buchanan encourages residents of Senate District 7 to contact him with any questions or comments

they may have. Buchanan can be reached by filling out a "Contact Me" form online at [www.IndianaSenate.com/Buchanan](http://www.IndianaSenate.com/Buchanan) or by phone at 800-382-9467.

Buchanan (R-Lebanon) represents Senate District 7, which includes portions of Boone, Clinton, Hendricks and Montgomery counties.

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## PRICED AT NEARLY \$90K, THE 2026 LINCOLN AVIATOR BLACK LABEL IS VERY CONTINENTAL

Supple leather, electronic chassis, twin-turbo power, etched wood and seat massagers spoil travelers.



**CASEY WILLIAMS**  
*Columnist*

In 1976, a top-of-the-line Lincoln Continental Mark IV Cartier was priced at \$88,000. Elvis ate them like popcorn, but for the rest of America, it was one the country's most expensive automobiles. A half-century later, we have the 2026 Lincoln Aviator Black Label, a three-row Explorer-based crossover with luxuries that make the old Continental seem like a Ford Granada. And if you don't know what that means, keep reading because this Lincoln is loaded.

The Mark IV aside, Lincoln was historically known for the understated elegance. That's also true of the Aviator. It has glitz in its grille and lower body accents, but there's a gracefulness to how the roofline recedes rearward as accented by thin chrome window strips. Large 22" wheels fill the sculpted body forms while taillamps wrap across the hatch. Even the Continental grille star is lit.

As big as the Mark IV was, it could barely squeeze six people in two sofas. The Aviator easily carries six, seven if three tiny tots are stationed out back. The third row powers down for disgusting amounts of luggage space behind the motion-sensitive power hatch, but real drama occurs forward.

There's no pillar-to-pillar screen like the Navigator or Nautilus, but it doesn't need one given crisp flatscreen instruments and intuitive center touchscreen. A wide head-up display puts speed, navigation, and safety system status high and light. Gears are selected via buttons while wireless phone connections and charging add convenience. Crank up the 28-speaker Revel audio system for aural nirvana. Rear passengers even have their own touchscreen for audio and

climate controls.

And there's still some old school cool with soft Scottish Bridge of Weir leather as in the 1956 Continental Mark II. Elvis would recognize its buttery aroma. Etched wood veneers the dash, doors and console while four-zone automatic climate control creates personal spheres of comfort. Front and middle rows are heated and ventilated. Front seats that look like Eames loungers are 30-way adjustable with their own massagers. It's all so ridiculous, but oh so glorious.

Under the Aviator's curvaceous hood is a 3.0-liter twin-turbo V6 engine, whomping out 400 horsepower and 415 lb.-ft. of torque, routed to the all-wheel-drive system through a 10-speed transmission. The old Mark IV's 7.5-liter V8 produced half that power and less torque too. Fully stomped, the big crossover surges from 0-60 mph in a brief 5.5 seconds. Fuel economy rates 17/25-MPG city/highway. All nice, but I'd still love to see the Aviator with a supercharged V8!

While the old Continental needed a captain and a skipper to pilot her curbside, the Aviator is a sport wagon by comparison. Its adaptive suspension system just rumbles over rough roads. Click the

drive mode into "Exite" to stiffen the suspension, tighten the steering, and sharpen the throttle. It's never harsh, but make weekend backroads a little more fun.

If you don't want to drive, you don't really have to. Safety is bolstered by automatic emergency braking, lane keep assist, blind spot warning and rear cross path detection, but our Aviator also came with Ford's Blue Cruise system for hands-off touring on approved roads. Sensors insure you're paying attention, so no reading books or snoozing, but drivers can sit back and drink a cup of coffee while the world slips by.

Lincoln's most expensive car in America's Bicentennial year reached \$15,000, or \$87,700 adjusted for inflation. By comparison, the Aviator starts at \$56,910, rising to \$89,955 for our Black Label edition. That's not even the most expensive Lincoln today as Navigators easily top \$100k. Compare to the Audi Q7, Cadillac XT6, Genesis GV80, Lexus TX, Mercedes-Benz GLE and Volvo XC90.

*Storm Forward!*

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

LIKES	DISLIKES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ELEGANT STYLE</li> <li>HEAVENLY SEATS</li> <li>REFINED DRIVING</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TIGHT THIRD-ROW</li> <li>NO V8</li> <li>WICKED EXPENSIVE</li> </ul>
<p><b>2026 Lincoln Aviator Black Label</b> Seven-passenger, AWD Crossover Powertrain: 3.0-liter TTV6, 10-spd Output: 400hp/415 lb.-ft. torque Suspension f/r: Elect Ind/Ind Wheels f/r: 22"/22" alloy Brakes f/r: disc/disc Towing: 5,000 lbs. 0-60 mph: 5.5s Fuel economy: 17/25 mpg city/hwy Assembly: Chicago, IL Base/As-tested price: \$56,910/89,955</p>	

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# Wearing Sensible Shoes



**CARRIE CLASSON**  
*The Postscript*

Yesterday, I saw a woman trip on the pavement. She immediately turned to her husband and started to complain.

I couldn't hear all she was saying, but I was thinking there was really no point in complaining to your husband when you trip on the pavement. It might be your fault, or the fault of the pavement, or the fault of your shoes, but it almost certainly has nothing to do with your husband, and the odds are he is wearing sensible shoes.

San Miguel de Allende, where my husband, Peter, and I spend much of the winter, is a city that requires sensible shoes. The entire town is a World Heritage Site, which means that the things you see outside must look pretty much exactly as they did in the mid-1700s, unless there is some life-threatening reason to change them. Tripping on the pavement does not qualify as life-threatening.

Peter loudly lobbies for hiking poles. He says every person should be using at least one at all times and two if taking a hike of any length. Peter probably has a good point, but he is not going to win this argument

with most women, who are going out to dinner and carrying a purse and taking photos with a phone and possibly holding an ice-cream cone or a churro. Adding hiking poles to the ensemble is not going to be an option for most—in spite of Peter's well-intentioned entreaties.

I have noticed that footwear varies greatly by age. Young women will wear chunky, practical sneakers with dresses and pull it off with ease and charm. Slightly older women will wear more fashionable footwear and risk falling on the slippery, uneven, (but historically accurate) pavement. Women who are older yet will revert to chunky sneakers very similar to the ones their young counterparts are wearing. I can see a convincing argument for skipping the fashionable shoe phase and jumping right to the chunky sneaker phase, but I'm not there yet. And neither, apparently, was the woman complaining to her husband.

Perhaps we are in no hurry to reach the "I'm wearing chunky sneakers for the rest of my life" phase. Or perhaps we somehow relish the challenge of navigating the rounded, irregular

stones beneath our feet and making a triumphant entry into the restaurant, unscathed. Or perhaps we are slightly jealous of the women who come in from Mexico City who wear not just impractical shoes but shoes with towering narrow heels, and traipse about the city with a small dog under their arm as if there was no skill involved at all.

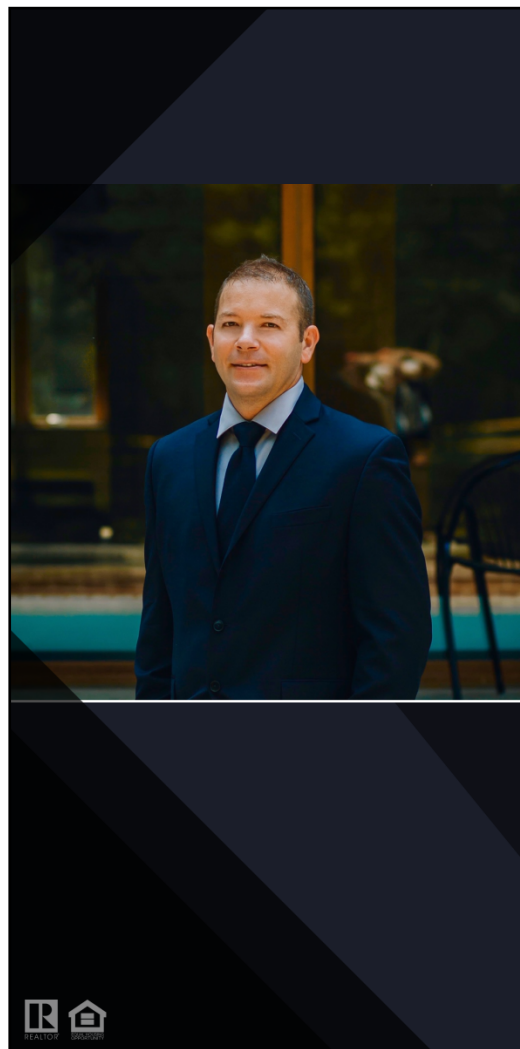
My suspicion is that there are women in parts of the world trained from a very early age to manage high-altitude heels and, like learning a foreign language, one will never master it effortlessly unless they begin young. This is surely true of women in Paris. My dearest girlfriend used to live in Paris, and I would fret over what to wear when I went to visit her. She told me before a visit in July, "Don't worry about what to wear. The streets are filled with tourists in ugly shoes."

Meanwhile, the men wear pretty much whatever they feel like wearing and manage the cobblestones much better. I agree it makes no sense. I believe my health and safety should come before anything as frivolous as fashion. I can imagine how effortless it would feel to walk after dark on slippery stones with a heavy rubber cushion beneath my feet.

But this does not mean that I'm ready for sensible shoes. Yet.

*Till next time,*

*Carrie*



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# Dick's Cure for Leg Cramps



**DICK WOLFSIE**  
Columnist

The piece I wrote about my nighttime leg, thigh, and hand cramps generated more emails than any other piece I've written. In the column, I complained about this persistent problem and mentioned that I had received a lot of advice from others who also suffered from it. Suggestions included: zinc, vitamin E, turmeric, potassium, vitamin C, acupuncture, biofeedback, folic acid, calcium, quinine, fiber pills, cauliflower extract, and yoga.

My college friend Marvin emailed me from Washington, DC and recommended magnesium. This is the same guy who, in 1970, advised me to take one more shot of gin while we were sitting on a second-story roof of a house getting drunk watching girls walk by.

My sister told me that her friend said pickle juice would do the trick. But what kind of pickles? I'm a pickle connoisseur. I can't name all nine Supreme Court justices, but I can rattle off 14 kinds of pickles.

And then the really bizarre emails started coming in:

"Dick, ever think of using soap?"

"Mr. Wolfsie, do you realize the importance of a bar of soap?"

"Hey, DW, a cake of soap can make a big difference."

At first, I was mortified. I'm not a hygiene fanatic, but I don't think I missed a shower all last year. Many of the emails contained a similar suggestion: To cure leg cramps, sleep with a cake of soap under your sheets. Maybe this was a grand conspiracy to entice me to do something really bizarre; then these folks could all laugh themselves silly about me. "Hey, Dick, did you know that despite the old saying, you CAN have your cake and sleep with it, too?"

I showed these emails to my doctor during my annual check-up that week. He said he often recommends pickle juice but hadn't mentioned it to me because he figured I had tried it on my own. "Everyone knows that," he said. Now, how would I know to drink pickle juice to cure cramps? Did I go to Harvard medical school

like he did?

Anyway, that evening I tried both ideas. I stuck a bar of ivory soap under the sheets and downed a bottle of the juice from a jar of Claussen garlic pickles. I was hoping Mary Ellen wouldn't notice, because she's always accusing me of falling for every wacky idea out there.

That night, as we went to bed, she said, "Dick, what's that strong soapy odor? And I also smell garlic. I will never fall asleep. I'll sleep on the couch."

"Look, Mary Ellen, I haven't mentioned recently the discomfort I've been feeling. Please don't think I'll believe every crazy suggestion people email me. That smell is just a bar of Ivory Soap I put between the sheets of the bed. And I also drank a glass of pickle juice an hour ago."

"Well, I don't know why you'd do such incredibly weird things. But at least it might cure those leg cramps."

That night, my leg, thigh, and hand cramps had virtually disappeared.

But I did have stomach cramps... from the quart of pickle juice I drank.

*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

done occurs almost daily when I am driving to or from work. If I see someone coming up from behind my car at a greater speed, I slow down and pull over slightly to allow them to pass. And if I get behind someone who is driving more slowly than me, I usually just slow down and not try to pass them, especially if I know who they are. Doing so might indicate impatience. And after all, I am no hurry to get somewhere.

I am not sure why a few people are not polite and courteous, but I suspect

their parents just didn't take the time to instill that behavior in them when they were growing up. Perhaps it is because fewer children attend Sunday School and church nowadays. They might not have heard of the Golden Rule . . . "treat others the way you would like to be treated." Many people are shocked when another person is nice to them without wanting anything in return. Being nice to others is contagious, and it helps to build good relationships, and as a plus, it can boost one's self-esteem and put you in a good mood. I

know I always feel better.

I will say that most everyone here in our rural county are nice and friendly, use good manners, and enjoy helping others. In the very large cities . . . maybe not so much. No matter where you live, "country courtesy" is always a good thing!

*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.*

## ► 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, MARCH 23, 2026

8 AM

1580 Constitution Row -Room E109

Crawfordsville, IN 47933

YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TWTYBiNFQRO>

CALL TO ORDER Board President Dan Guard

PLEDGE ALLIGENCE and PRAYER

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Claims: AP \$ & 4/3 Payroll \$

Minutes: March 23, 2026

NEW BUSINESS

Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program

MOU Amendment of Time Extension

Program Remaining Funds

Addendum -711 Green Street -Blessed Construction

Arbor Day Proclamation -Friday, April 24, 2026

Section Corner and Regulated Drain Certification Report

Community Crossings Matching Grant -Award Bid

Notice to Bidders for Bridge #80

ORDINANCE

RESOLUTION

Resolution 2026-6 Resolution Approving Loan Documents for Purchase of Priority Dispatch Software

Resolution 2026-7 Resolution Authorizing Crawfordsville Area Transportation to Coordinate and provide 5311 Public Transportation in Montgomery County

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

\*\*Next meeting Monday, April 27 2026 @ 8:00 am\*\*

### WAYNETOWN TOWN COUNCIL

The Town Council of the Town of Waynetown is cancelling the regular scheduled Town Council Meeting on Wednesday, April 8, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at the Waynetown Town Hall Community Room, 106 North Vine Street, Waynetown, Indiana 47990. The Town Council of the Town of Waynetown has rescheduled the above Town Council Meeting to Monday, April 13, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at the Waynetown Town Hall Community Room, 106 North Vine Street, Waynetown, Indiana 47990. If disability accommodations are required, or if you have any questions about this notice, please call the Town office at the number below.

Sandy Proctor, Waynetown Clerk-Treasurer

106 North Vine Street

PO Box 215

Waynetown, IN 47990

765-234-2154, ext. 102

waynetownclerk@sbcglobal.net

### MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLAN COMMISSION

The April 14, 2026 Montgomery County Plan Commission meeting has been cancelled due to lack of agenda items. The next regularly scheduled meeting in May 12, 2026.

## 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!**

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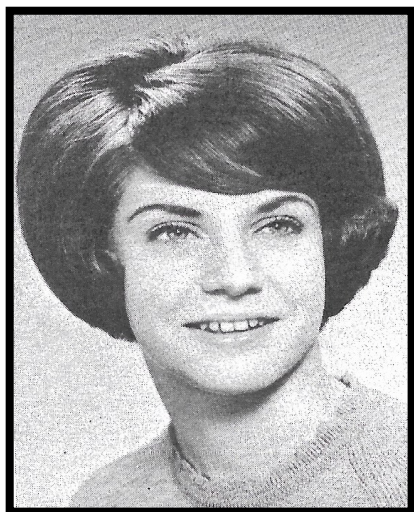
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## Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



**ANSWER:**  
Phyllis Edwards

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Photos courtesy Andy Chandler

From left, Gail Friend, Firefly; Karen Branch, Youth Service Bureau; Lisa Long and Karlie Hall, Child Abuse Prevention Council.



In addition to YSB, Firefly and the Child Abuse Prevention Council, the Indiana Department of Child Services, Valley Professionals Health Center and Recovery Coalition Inc. also had a presence.

## Family Night Out Shows Up for Children

Last week at Pike Place in downtown Crawfordsville the annual Family Night Out took place. This event, held during National Child Abuse Awareness Month, is hosted by Firefly Children and Family Alliance and Youth Service Bureau.

In addition to creating a fun and festive atmosphere for both local children and parents, according to Gail Friend at Firefly, the goal is to connect families

with resources and to raise awareness about child abuse prevention.

“Safety is a priority and if they need help, they can go to this organization (meaning the ones on hand) and get what they need,” Friend said

According to Lisa Long of the Child Abuse Prevention Council, “I’d like people to know there are a lot of entities. It takes

all of us to get the ground covered to prevent child abuse and get awareness out there. To educate the children and parents about how to keep kids safe.”

This evening’s event was attended by multiple organizations including the Indiana Department of Child Services, Valley Professionals Health Center and Recovery Coalition Inc.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### 5th Annual Crawfordsville Mayor’s Breakfast for Scouting

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank Mayor Todd Barton, the scouts and leaders of Crawfordsville Pack 909, Troops 247 and 365 as well as John Cary, Scout

Executive and CEO, Crossroads of America Council, for their time and help in making this year’s Crawfordsville Mayor’s Breakfast for Scouting a success. The donations raised will help to ensure scouting in

Crawfordsville remains strong and relevant in the future for our youth.

Mark Allen,  
Event Coordinator  
Crawfordsville

## Wabash Lacrosse



Photo courtesy Andy Chandler

The Little Giants took it on the chin last week in a lacrosse match against Denison, 19-4. Wabash’s record dipped to 2-9 with that loss. The Little Giants travel to Wittenberg tomorrow before returning home for a match against Wooster.



Casey Hockersmith



Steve Collisi

## Tucker Honors Two Agents

F.C. Tucker West Central is proud to celebrate its February Agents of the Month, honoring Steve Collisi as Sales Agent of the Month and Casey Hockersmith as Listing Agent of the Month. Both agents continue to demonstrate a strong commitment to their clients and communities through their hard work and results.

Hockersmith earned Listing Agent of the Month recognition for her outstanding work representing sellers across West Central Indiana. Known for her communication, organization, and attention to detail, Casey consistently helps her clients navigate the selling process with confidence.

A Southmont High School graduate and Indiana University alum, Casey holds a degree in Sport Marketing and Management. Before entering real estate, she built a strong professional foundation working with Indiana University Men’s Basketball, Wabash College Career Services and the

Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce.

Casey and her husband Zach stay busy raising their two sons, Hudson and Camden, along with their Australian Shepherd Remy. Her connection to the community and dedication to her clients make her a trusted resource for those looking to buy or sell.

Collisi was recognized as Sales Agent of the Month for his continued success serving buyers and sellers throughout Parke, Putnam and Montgomery Counties. Steve brings a steady, client-focused approach to every transaction and is known for his reliability and professionalism.

Before beginning his real estate career, Steve owned and operated his own business for more than three decades and also served as a police officer. Those experiences helped shape his strong work ethic and commitment to serving others, which continue to guide his work today.

Steve remains actively involved in the community through his role on the Parke County Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals and as a member of the Rockville Rotary Club. He values building lasting relationships and takes pride in helping clients through one of life’s biggest decisions.

He and his wife, Leanna, call Marshall home and enjoy spending time with family. Whether buying or selling, Steve is committed to understanding each client’s goals and delivering results.

“Casey and Steve both bring a level of consistency, care, and professionalism that truly benefits their clients,” said Chad Hess, co-owner at F.C. Tucker West Central. “They approach every opportunity with a strong work ethic and a commitment to doing things the right way. We’re proud to have them representing our office and our communities.”

## FBI Joins Search for Missing Teen

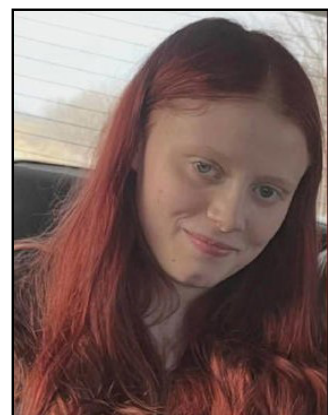
FBI Indianapolis has joined the Owen County Sheriff’s Office and the Indiana State Police in the search for a missing juvenile last seen in Owen County.

Lexie M. Mitchell, 17, was last seen around noon on March 31 at her home in Cunot in Owen County. Investigators are actively working to determine her whereabouts and are asking for the public’s

assistance.

Mitchell is described as a white female with long red/auburn hair and blue-green eyes. She was last seen wearing blue jeans, a white windbreaker-style jacket, and white boots.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Indiana State Police Putnamville post at (765) 653-4114. Tips may be provided anonymously.



If you see Lexie M. Mitchell, please call (765) 653-4114.

THE PAPER OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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