

■ TODAY'S VERSE

1 Corinthians 15:57-58

"But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." (NIV)

■ AWL TANK



Say hello to our newest addition to the Welcome Committee! Daddy Long Legs is a 3 year old male Jack Russell Terrier available at The Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County (AWL) since 3/18/26. Daddy Long Legs is all sorts of perfect and has even won the prestigious award of ULTIMATE CUTIE PIE!! Daddy Long Legs is looking for his best friend. Could that be you? Daddy Long Legs is available for adoption, to foster, or to take for walks. Come say hi! 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!

■ MONTGOMERY MINUTE

The Annual Meeting of the Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce will be held during Connections & Conversations May 6 beginning at 8 a.m. on the third floor of Fusion 54 (101 W. Main St.) in beautiful downtown Crawfordsville. The 2025-26 Chamber Nominating Committee has announced the proposed slate of candidates to serve on the Board of Directors, effective June 1, 2026. The slate can be found at the Chamber's website.



Well, the Big Tax Day is here. That's not the bad news. We have to work about two more months until we hit Tax Freedom Day. Hey, could be worse. Our Canadian friends don't get there until July.

■ QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle."
Winston S. Churchill

■ JOKE OF THE DAY

What sort of sense of humor do accountants have?
Self-deprecating.

The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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Fireside Chat Warms Hearts for Chamber

The Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce held its first-ever Fireside Chat event earlier this April, offering community members the opportunity to hear directly from the State Treasurer Daniel Elliott and State Comptroller Elise Nieshalla. Elliott and Nieshalla shared important updates, financial goals, and big plans moving forward for the state of Indiana.

Daniel Elliott serves as the 56th state treasurer, focusing on finances in fiscal responsibility, economic growth, and smart investments. Elise Nieshalla's state role oversees accounts payable and reporting by managing transactions, maintaining transparency, and ensuring accountability of taxpayer dollars.

The state officials reportedly confirm that the state of Indiana is in its most prosperous finan-



Photo courtesy Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber. From left, State Comptroller Elise Nieshalla, Chamber Executive Director Stacy Sommer and State Treasurer Daniel Elliott.

cial position in decades. With only six cents cash in hand 20 years ago, the state now has \$676 million cash in hand due to smart investments and settling debt. This amount rolls into the reserve funds for a total of \$2.5 billion in cash reserves. This provides up to 40 days of operations, should the state of Indi-

ana ever face a crisis. One major contributor to this stability is the last two years of fundraising. Elliott has raised a total of \$1.24 billion for the state of Indiana, doubling in two years what had been raised in the ten years prior.

Indiana also has a moder-

See Fireside Page 5

MoCo Mutual Aid: Solidarity, Not Charity

"Solidarity, not charity," Kay Whetstone, one of the founding members of MoCo Mutual Aid, told the Lunch with the League attendees on April 10. MoCo Mutual Aid is a grassroots, neighbor-to-neighbor network that helps county residents meet immediate needs by sharing time, skills and resources directly with one another, rather than routing everything through a traditional nonprofit or government program.

A few months ago, a woman caring for her mother, who has dementia, received notice from the city that she had to clear the trash bags off her mother's lawn within

two weeks. The woman was cleaning her mother's house and fixing it up. She couldn't afford a \$300 trash bin, nor could she set out all the trash that week. The city places a limit on the total number of bags it will pick up at any one home.

She put out an appeal for help, and members of MoCo Mutual Aid organized help. They picked up the bags, bought trash stickers and put the bags out with their own trash.

MoCo Mutual Aid formed about a year ago as a community-run Facebook group where people can post needs – food, rides, help with a bill – and other residents step in directly to



help. It is not a non-profit. There's no office, treasurer, bank account or paid staff. Money and goods move person-to-person instead of through the organization. Every donation, whether it's water for the coolers around town, food, help repairing a broken item or cash to cover a motel room for someone who is homeless, has either been donated or loaned by community members. In its first year,

See League Page 6

■ THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1. Jet Access announced the promotion of Phil Sparks to Chief Aviation Officer. This leadership advancement marks a pivotal moment for the company as it enters a new phase of growth, innovation, and operational alignment across its ownership solutions and aviation platform, signaling renewed energy across both its leadership team and verticals. Sparks, who most recently served as Executive Vice President of Owner Services, will now provide senior leadership across all aviation verticals, including Charter, Maintenance, FBOs & Airports, Flight Training, and Owner Services. Phil's new role will set direction, ensure alignment, and drive operating standards across the enterprise, while execution and day-to-day leadership remain with each division's respective leaders. This structure establishes clear accountability, strengthens coordination, and positions Jet Access for consistent, scalable performance.

2. Data has revealed which counties in Indiana are the least prepared for natural disasters, with Switzerland County ranking first, and experts have revealed the simple steps you can take to protect your home. Garage door service providers at A1 Garage analyzed data from the Federal Emergency Management Agency on community resilience scores for each county in Indiana, based on factors such as housing, healthcare access, education, communication, and poverty, to find those that are the most and least prepared for natural disasters. Switzerland County is the least prepared for natural disasters in Indiana, according to data based on factors including housing, healthcare access, education, communication, and poverty. The rest of the bottom 10 were Crawford, LaGrange, Union, Ohio, Scott, Washington, Parke, Harrison and Owen. The most prepared county in the state is DeKalb County.

3. The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra celebrates the 30th anniversary of the Metropolitan Youth Orchestra with a special fundraising concert on Sunday, May 3 at 3 p.m. at Hilbert Circle Theatre. Tickets are available now. This milestone performance will feature MYO students alongside special guest artists The String Queens, offering an afternoon of music that highlights the growth, talent, and impact of the program over the past three decades. Ticket prices start at \$35 plus fees for adults; \$10 plus fees for students. For this performance only, guests who donate \$50 to MYO will receive access to a special VIP meet and greet with The String Queens following the concert. All donations directly support MYO's mission to develop young musicians and strengthen families through music.

Butch's Diet Works Wonders!



Butch Dale
Columnist

Most of the people my age (i.e. the "Baby Boomers") followed one basic rule when sitting down at the table for our meals when we were young. "You're not getting up from the table until you finish everything on your plate. You should be glad you have food. People in Africa are starving." Yep, that's what our parents drilled into our heads hundreds of times. So . . . I choked down the liver and onions, mountain oysters, chicken gizzards, fried rabbit, asparagus, beets, cucumbers, lima beans, sweet potatoes, spinach, broccoli, brussels sprouts, sauerkraut and various other foods that I detested. Mom also reminded me, "If you keep eating it, you'll learn to like it one day." Broccoli is the only one that passed that test. I was active in all sports in high school, and as a senior I weighed 170 lbs.

My eating habits changed after I was married. I ate anything I wanted. And if I decided to NOT finish everything on my plate, I could get up from the table. The starving people in Africa would never know. However, another problem came up. I was a student at Purdue,

See Butch Page 2

When is Too Far Too Far?



Two Cents from Tim Timmons

Let me see if I have this straight. Inflation is at the highest level since Joe Biden was president. Gas is over \$4 for the first time in four years. The national debt is inching closer to \$40 trillion – and the debt is growing by \$7.5 billion a day.

A day.
A DAY!!!
Do you realize that's \$312 million an hour. That's more than \$5 million a second.
A SECOND.

In the 12 seconds it took you to read this, our nation's debt has gone up by \$60 million. Think about that please. In a few seconds, our nation's debt has rocketed north of \$60 million. Maybe it'll hit closer to home if you think about it this way. YOUR SHARE OF THE DEBT WENT UP 17 CENTS IN THAT TIME.

And Donald Trump is a great president?
Hang on MAGAs (and why is anything that says Make America Great Again a bad

See Two Cents Page 2

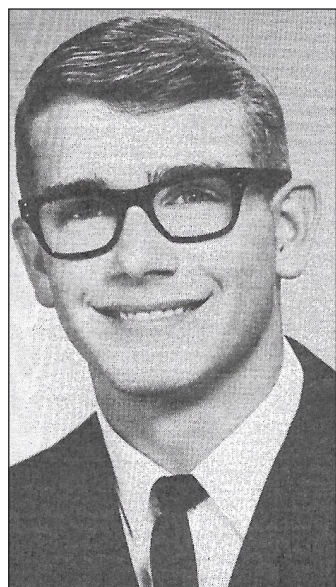
The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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RECOGNIZE ME?

Flashback Trivia with Butch Dale



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

HINT:

He was active in many clubs and all of the sports, attended Boys State and was the top drafting student in Indiana that year.

Answer on Page 3

Mayor's 154th 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

Barton 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.

Braun Appoints Local Woman

A local woman has been tabbed by Indiana Gov. Mike Braun to serve on a state commission. Christina Sharp was appointed to a term

on the Serve Indiana Commission. Her term will expire in 2029. She was one of 99 appointments Braun made in the month of March.

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200 New Jobs Coming to Pittsboro

Indiana Governor Mike Braun recently announced that Faith Technologies Incorporated will locate a new manufacturing facility in Pittsboro. The company, which specializes in engineering, construction, manufacturing and clean energy, will create up to 200 new Hoosier jobs by the end of 2027.

"FTI's investment in Pittsboro is a testament to Indiana's robust capability in advanced manufacturing and our commitment to lead advancements in the industry for years to come," said Gov. Braun. "The company's new operations will have a significant impact on this growing community and its economy, creating hundreds of new jobs and providing unique talent development opportunities to further skill up our workforce and prepare Hoosiers for high-pay, in-demand careers."

FTI will invest \$67.5 million to establish a new 500,000-square-foot manufacturing facility on 47 acres in Hendricks County, marking the first development of the planned Pittsboro Commerce Park conveniently located off Interstate 74. The new operation will support FTI's Excellerate brand, which specializes in modular electrical assemblies and energy solutions, helping the

company deliver complete modular electrical buildings to hyperscale data centers and other mission-critical facilities nationwide, reducing onsite labor needs and accelerating project schedules.

With construction already under way, FTI plans to begin hiring for foremen, superintendents and manufacturing leads. Later in the year, additional positions will include entry-level roles, paid apprenticeships and other support roles that contribute to operational growth and safety companywide. Interested applicants can learn more and apply online at faithtechinc.com/careers.

"We're excited to begin this new chapter for our team as a part of the Pittsboro community," said Patrick McGettigan, executive vice president of FTI. "As we grow, we continue to maintain our uncompromising focus on safety and our Culture of Care, which is our commitment to supporting our team members' total well-being and creating a workplace where people feel valued, respected and accepted. We look forward to this new partnership and making a positive impact in Pittsboro."

Founded in 1972, FTI is a national leader in engineering, construction, manufacturing and clean energy

solutions. The company, which is headquartered in Wisconsin, provides end-to-end electrical planning, design and installation services that support its partners and more than 5,000 team members through innovative solutions and a strong commitment to excellence. FTI's work to redefine the future of energy reinforces its leadership in delivering smarter, more sustainable solutions for customers nationwide.

"We're proud to welcome FTI to Pittsboro," said Jarod Baker, president of Pittsboro Town Council. "Their commitment to innovative manufacturing and workforce development makes them a strong partner as we continue to grow our local economy and create opportunities for residents."

Based on the company's job creation plans, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) committed an investment in FTI of up to \$3 million in the form of incentive-based tax credits. These incentives are performance-based, meaning the company is eligible to claim state benefits once investments are made and jobs are created. Hendricks County will consider additional incentives to support the project.

BUTCH

Continued from Page 1

also working at National Homes for \$2.00 an hour. My wife worked full-time as a typist. Her weekly take-home pay was \$49. So, we ate a LOT of TV dinners (5 for a \$1 on sale), chicken noodle soup and cheese sandwiches, hamburger helper, cornbread and beans and several types of sandwiches . . . hot dogs, sausage, luncheon meat, peanut butter and jelly, and chips. We also splurged and ate at McDonalds and the A&W root beer stand every so often, as back then their food was crazy cheap. My weight stayed the same . . . 170.

When I became a teacher and was making "big money" in 1971 (\$10,300 a year), we began eating better,

although quite a bit of my salary went for baby formula, diapers, etc. when our first two children came along. I had been at 170 pounds my senior year in high school, but as I ate more and had less exercise, I got up to 180 in those days. Two more children came along in 1979 and 1988, and in 1990 I began working two full-time jobs . . . as a deputy sheriff and librarian. Not only did I lose sleep, but also pounds. I smoked Marlboro cigarettes and drank Diet Pepsi and coffee, often skipping meals. However, it was not unusual for me to eat a half gallon of Breyer's butter pecan ice cream in one sitting. I maintained that 170 weight in a most unhealthy way.

Now at age 77, my weight is still 170 lbs. Sometimes my friends ask me how I still stay at my same high school weight, "Butch, what diet are you on?"

So for the benefit of everyone, here it is: For breakfast I have a bowl of Cream of Wheat or oatmeal, a glass of orange juice or a grapefruit, and a half cup of coffee. I skip lunch, but drink two or three half cups of coffee at work. For supper, I eat whatever my wife prepares, plus a salad. After supper, I eat eight Lorna Doone cookies with a glass of milk. I then snack on lots of things the rest of the evening . . . cashews, cheese crackers, pudding, yogurt, ice cream, popsicles, candy bars,

donuts, snack bars, etc. Before I hit the sack, I have a peanut butter and jelly sandwich or a big bowl of cereal. Amazing, isn't it? Of course, I walk two miles every morning and I am on the go all day at home and at work, so evidently, I burn off the calories that way.

There is one thing that I still do, as taught to me by my parents during my childhood. I don't get up from the table until I finish everything on my plate. The people in Africa are starving you know.

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.

TWO CENTS

Continued from Page 1

thing?). Before you go all ICBM on my big ol' butt – Trump isn't the only problem. The rest of the nabobs in Washington are as well.

The problem is all of them . . . as well as all of us who keep voting for them . . . as well as all of those who have checked out and don't vote anymore.

Like Pogo said so many years ago, we have met the enemy and he is us.

Friends, something has to give and give soon. The Don is starting to remind me of Bob Knight. Like a lot of Hoosiers, I grew up a big fan of the fiery coach in the plaid sport coat. He ran a clean program, his players played hard, saluted the flag and represented their school and our state pretty doggone well . . . and, oh yeah, they won a national championship or three. And Knight was the shining star above it all until he wasn't. It seemed about the time he decided he was bigger than the program is about the time things started going downhill.

Starting to sound familiar? The Don has been pretty busy renaming all sorts of things after himself (just for grins and giggles, I hope the next guy or gal who sits in the oval renames everything back to what it was). Trump is cleaning up some of the messes Biden left behind (and c'mon, even the staunchest Democrats have to admit by the end Biden was losing it almost as fast as the debt is rising).

(Just for your good information, your share of the debt has gone up 68 cents since you started reading this. And don't think if you stop reading it'll help. That meter for you, me and Aunt Sally is just whizzing away!)

Truth to tell, I'm not sure we can survive another few years of The Don – and whoever follows him, unless something changes.

Here's what we are seeing:

Trump draws lines in the sand, changes them and ignores them until they are a joke.

Everyone who works under him can't seem to make a statement unless they mention Trump by name and give him all the credit.

He actually said: "A whole civilization will die tonight, never to be brought back again."

That's even more mind-boggling than the debt. Do the leaders of Iran – the perpetrators of evil against the United States – need to die? Above my pay grade, but I wouldn't argue against it. But a whole civilization? Babies? Women? Children?

How did we as a nation not take that one comment and say enough. Enough!

Of course all that was before The Don decided to depict himself as Jesus Christ, healing a man. I'm not even sure which was worse, the blasphemy of the image (and is there any other word to describe it) or that Trump thinks we are all stupid enough to buy his lame explanation that he was trying to portray himself as a doctor. Sure, Don. Whatever you say.

J.D. Vance even tried to explain saying it was simply meant as a joke. Maybe he and his boss ought to get their stories straight. Trump said it was him posing as a doctor . . . and if anyone said anything else, it's fake news. Fake news? Tell you what, Trump's chilling image as Jesus, his words that said we were going to purposefully wipe out a while civilization, his continued spending extravaganzas . . . that's not fake. My gas bill isn't fake. Being \$1.02 deeper in debt right now isn't fake.

I voted for Donald Trump. I thought he would be better than Hillary, better than Biden, better than Kamala.

He's turning out to be just another politician who does some good while running up a bill our great-grandchildren will be paying. He's also turned out to be the least classiest president of all time.

When has any U.S. president stooped to this level?

Is it time to go back to the Democrats? They're classier (heck, a sloth is classier than Trump), but they are no better at the job.

It's time that love of country comes first. It's time to stop putting politicians above everyone like they are our overlords. It's time for those in Washington to start acting like the hired hands they are and not the ruling class. It's time they live with the same benefits, the same vacations and the same problems the rest of us do.

Been said in this space before and it'll be said again. Why do we want people in Congress who are ALWAYS going to vote party line? If you are a Democrat, you don't think a Republican can have a good idea? If you're a Republican, you can't find middle ground with Democrats? You nincompoops, you are supposed to be finding the best answers for the American people – not your damn party!

We got trouble my friends. We have a man who is more focused on himself than his country. We have most of the rest of Congress more worried about their party than their country. And if there is anyone out there who could make a difference, the rules are so stacked against them that chances are we'll never even learn their name.

It needs to change and it needs to change now. Anyone got \$1.68 I can borrow?

Tim Timmons is the former regional publisher for Moser Community Media and lived in Corsicana. He is now the Executive Director of the Kentucky Press Association.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY OF TAX RATES CHARGED

Notice is hereby given that tax duplicates for State, County, Townships, Schools and Corporations of MONTGOMERY COUNTY for the year 2025 Payable 2026 are now in the hands of the County Treasurer, who is ready to receive the Taxes charged thereon.

The following table shows the rate of taxation on each \$100 worth of taxable real and personal property due January 1, 2026. The first installment delinquent after 5/11/2026, second installment delinquent after 11/10/2026.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY Tax Rates For Year 2025 Payable 2026			ALAMO	BROWN	BROWN LRCD	CLARK TWP	COAL CREEK	CRAWFORDSVILLE	CVILLE O S NORTH	CVILLE O S SOUTH	DARLINGTON	FRANKLIN	LADOGA	LINDEN	MADISON	NEW MARKET BROWN	
Category	Fund	Fund Name															
County	101	County General	0.2430	0.2430	0.2430	0.2430	0.2430	0.2430	0.2430	0.2430	0.2430	0.2430	0.2430	0.2430	0.2430	0.2430	
	801	Health	0.0105	0.0105	0.0105	0.0105	0.0105	0.0105	0.0105	0.0105	0.0105	0.0105	0.0105	0.0105	0.0105	0.0105	
	790	Cum Bridge	0.0585	0.0585	0.0585	0.0585	0.0585	0.0585	0.0585	0.0585	0.0585	0.0585	0.0585	0.0585	0.0585	0.0585	
	124	Reassessment	0.0138	0.0138	0.0138	0.0138	0.0138	0.0138	0.0138	0.0138	0.0138	0.0138	0.0138	0.0138	0.0138	0.0138	
	2391	CCD	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	
	281	Loan & Interest Payment	0.0385	0.0385	0.0385	0.0385	0.0385	0.0385	0.0385	0.0385	0.0385	0.0385	0.0385	0.0385	0.0385	0.0385	0.0385
	1116	Emergency Medical Services	0.0978	0.0978	0.0978	0.0978	0.0978				0.0978	0.0978	0.0978	0.0978	0.0978	0.0978	0.0978
Total County Rate			0.4954	0.4954	0.4954	0.4954	0.4954	0.3976	0.3976	0.3976	0.4954	0.4954	0.4954	0.4954	0.4954	0.4954	
County Debt	181	Debt Payment	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	
	Total County Debt Rate			0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069	0.0069
Township	101	General	0.0677	0.0042	0.0042	0.0248	0.0202	0.0059	0.0059	0.0059	0.0128	0.0128	0.0248	0.0377	0.0377	0.0042	
	840	Poor Relief	0.0075	0.0115	0.0115	0.0037	0.0101	0.0165	0.0165	0.0165	0.0039	0.0039	0.0037			0.0115	
	1111	Fire and E.M.S.	0.0482	0.0613	0.0613	0.0081	0.0164							0.0926	0.0926		
	1190	Cum Fire	0.0333	0.0299	0.0299	0.0333	0.0333										
	2120	Cemetery						0.0008	0.0008	0.0008							
	8604	SP FIRE TER GEN									0.0496	0.0496					
	8692	SP FIRE TER EQU									0.0315	0.0315					
	Total Township Rate			0.1567	0.1069	0.1069	0.0699	0.0800	0.0232	0.0232	0.0232	0.0978	0.0978	0.0285	0.1303	0.1303	0.0157
Township Debt	1182	Fire Equip Debt	0.0697														
Total Township Debt Rate			0.0697														
City	101	General	0.7889					0.9868	0.9868	0.9868	0.3183		0.7778	0.4091		0.4917	
	2391	CCD	0.0402					0.0500	0.0500	0.0500	0.0500		0.0500	0.0500		0.0500	
	708	MVH						0.1679	0.1679	0.1679				0.1189			
	182	Bond #2						0.0229	0.0229	0.0229							
	1301	Park & Rec						0.1803	0.1803	0.1803							
	2102	Aviation						0.0308	0.0308	0.0308							
	1191	Cum Fire Spec						0.0333	0.0333	0.0333							
	1303	Park												0.0333			
Total City Rate			0.8291					1.4720	1.4720	1.4720	0.3683		0.8278	0.6113		0.5417	
School	3300	Operations	0.5228	0.5228	0.5228	0.5228	0.6106	0.5840	0.6106	0.5228	0.6106	0.6106	0.5228	0.6106	0.6106	0.5228	
	Total School Rate			0.5228	0.5228	0.5228	0.5228	0.6106	0.5840	0.6106	0.5228	0.6106	0.6106	0.5228	0.6106	0.6106	0.5228
School Debt	180	Debt Service	0.4395	0.4395	0.4395	0.4395	0.2676	0.6663	0.2676	0.4395	0.2676	0.2676	0.4395	0.2676	0.2676	0.4395	
	287	REF DEBT POST 09						0.3123									
Total School Debt Rate			0.4395	0.4395	0.4395	0.4395	0.2676	0.9786	0.2676	0.4395	0.2676	0.2676	0.4395	0.2676	0.2676	0.4395	
Library	101	General		0.0845	0.0845	0.0595		0.0769	0.0769	0.0769	0.0623	0.0623	0.0595	0.0871	0.0871	0.0845	
	283	Lease/Rental												0.0120	0.0120		
	Total Library Rate				0.0845	0.0845	0.0595		0.0769	0.0769	0.0769	0.0623	0.0623	0.0595	0.0991	0.0991	0.0845
TOTAL TAX RATE			2.5201	1.6560	1.6560	1.5940	1.4605	3.5392	2.8548	2.9389	1.9089	1.5406	2.3804	2.2212	1.6099	2.1065	
MONTGOMERY COUNTY Conservancy Rates For Year 2025 Payable 2026			TAXING DISTRICTS														
Category	Fund	Fund Name	ALAMO	BROWN	BROWN LRCD	CLARK TWP	COAL CREEK	CRAWFORDSVILLE	CVILLE O S NORTH	CVILLE O S SOUTH	DARLINGTON	FRANKLIN	LADOGA	LINDEN	MADISON	NEW MARKET BROWN	
Conservancy	101	Lake Holiday Cons Gen															
	101	Lake Holiday Cons CCI															
	2393	Little Raccoon Cons Gen			0.0264												
MONTGOMERY COUNTY Property Tax Replacement Credit (PTRC) Rates For Year 2025 Payable 2026			TAXING DISTRICT														
LIT PTRC	ALL Properties		0.051009	0.051009	0.051009	0.051009	0.051009	0.051009	0.051009	0.051009	0.051009	0.051009	0.051009	0.051009	0.051009	0.051009	
	Home-stead Properties		0.221392	0.221392	0.221392	0.221392	0.221392	0.221392	0.221392	0.221392	0.221392	0.221392	0.221392	0.221392	0.221392	0.221392	

STATE OF INDIANA, MONTGOMERY COUNTY : I, Mindy Byers, Auditor of MONTGOMERY COUNTY, hereby certify that the above is a correct copy of all tax levies for the taxes collectible in the year 2026.
Mindy Byers, MONTGOMERY COUNTY Auditor

PL5298 4/08 04/15 04/22 3t hspaxlp

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RECOGNIZE ME?
Flashback Trivia with Butch Dale
ANSWER: Steve Swick



PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY OF TAX RATES CHARGED

Notice is hereby given that tax duplicates for State, County, Townships, Schools and Corporations of MONTGOMERY COUNTY for the year 2025 Payable 2026 are now in the hands of the County Treasurer, who is ready to receive the Taxes charged thereon.

The following table shows the rate of taxation on each \$100 worth of taxable real and personal property due January 1, 2026. The first installment delinquent after 5/11/2026, second installment delinquent after 11/10/2026.

Table with columns for Category, Fund, Fund Name, and various Taxing Districts (NEW MARKET SCOTT, NEW MARKET UNION, NEW RICHMOND, NEW ROSS, NORTH UNION, RIPLEY, SCOTT TOWNSHIP, SOUTH UNION, SUGAR CREEK, UNION CRAWFORDSV, WALNUT, WAVELAND, WAVELAND LRCD, WAYNE). Rows include County, County Debt, Township, Township Debt, City, School, School Debt, Library, and Conservancy rates.

STATE OF INDIANA, MONTGOMERY COUNTY : I, Mindy Byers, Auditor of MONTGOMERY COUNTY, hereby certify that the above is a correct copy of all tax levies for the taxes collectible in the year 2026. Mindy Byers, MONTGOMERY COUNTY Auditor

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

FIRESIDE

Continued from Page 1

ate-sized pension fund of \$50 billion, comparable to other states. But what sets it apart is how well-funded it is.

“Lots of states have pension funds that are a similar size or bigger, but very, very few have one that is well-funded,” states Elliott. “We go between 85 and 90 percent. In a couple of years, we’ll be 100 percent funded. That’s almost unheard of in the state of Indiana.”

This means that civilians in Montgomery County—teachers, nurses, firefighters, etc.—can count on their pensions. In recent years, Indiana was rated as the #1 state in the country to build a business. The Indiana Bond Bank provides excellent rates on loans to provide financial assistance to business professionals and civilians alike.

“The state of Indiana is ranked third in economic outlook by the American Legislative Exchange Council,” reports Nieshalla. “And our growth rate for our gross state product is twice that of Illinois and Ohio, three times that of Kentucky, and six times that of Michigan.”

Aside from the numerous successes, Elliott and Nieshalla still recognize the ongoing challenges in the economy, making them responsible for properly equipping the next generation. They express a deep concern for the country’s federal debt, which is nearly \$39 trillion. This number far exceeds the budget of the United States military and the annual budget for Medicare. Since a sizable portion of Indiana’s state funding comes from the federal government (44%), this directly affects the state. They also acknowledge the constantly developing digital landscape, in which they must educate and prepare students. Another concern is the soaring housing

market in recent years, a challenge that they aim to address by providing more affordable housing to younger generations.

Given the challenges, they recognize the need for long-term strategic planning. This is not only for mitigating financial risk but also for striving toward growth to provide future generations with a sustainable economic landscape. In response to managing federal debt, Nieshalla is currently organizing a national debt crisis task force to minimize the weight of federal debt and restore national stability.

Additional efforts include the prioritization of the reserves by having good fiscal discipline to avoid overspending. This is supported by tax-free government agencies that provide college savings programs, disability programs, and funds for community projects. Having the ability to invest through funding is important as the state looks toward the future and provides a prosperous economy for Indiana residents. A new feature to be released soon on the Indiana Transparency Portal is residential access to view the amount of federal funding that comes to the state and what is done with those dollars.

As the state looks ahead, its priority and obligation are the people of Indiana. These long-term plans are designed to minimize debt, prepare for the future, and fulfill the state’s motto of being “At your service” to Indiana residents. “We’re honored to be one of only three communities selected to host a Fireside Chat and to bring this level of insight and conversation to Crawfordsville,” said Stacy Sommer, Executive Director of the Crawfordsville | Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce.

Master Gardeners Annual Plant Sale & Show May 2

By Sheri Bethard, President Master Gardeners of Montgomery County

Plants, plants and more plants! This is what you will see when you visit the Montgomery County Master Gardeners’ Plant Sale & Show, held this year in the 4-H Building on the 4-H Fairgrounds at 400 Parke, Crawfordsville, Saturday, May 2, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (extended time), rain or shine. You will not be disappointed. There will be hundreds of plants to choose from to beautify your landscape, patio and home – all which have been locally grown by the Master Gardeners and local wholesale nursery suppliers.

Indiana grown sweet strawberries, a large variety of tomatoes, peppers and lettuce mixes will be available. We will also have a large selection of 23 herbs for your culinary needs.,

For your landscape and flower beds, Native, perennial, and annual plants which grow best in our area will be for sale. With such a large assortment of plants for inside and outside, sun or shade, wet or dry areas with too many to list, you will have to come see for yourself.

The plant sale is the main and

sometimes only fundraiser the Master Gardeners of Montgomery County has each year. With monies raised, it helps fund projects and educational opportunities for all of Montgomery County in the horticultural area such as the Nicholson Elementary School Garden for second and third graders. In addition, we award a scholarship yearly to a high school senior who will be seeking a degree in agriculture, horticulture, environmental science or plant-related fields of study along with a Floral Culture award at the 4-H annual fair. We are currently working on the Montgomery County Pollinator Garden and planting native trees on the 4-H Fairgrounds. With funds raised we are supporting the Seed Library located in Crawfordsville District Public Library. Throughout the year, we will be presenting programs for the public to attend in the gardening / horticulture arena, such as our recent leaf cutting propagation and the winter seed sowing workshops and the gardening programs at the library last month.

Our Master Gardeners will be on premise to answer your gardening questions and make suggestions to best suit your landscape project/needs. This

year nine vendors will be on premise to accentuate your plant buying, such as house plants, tropicals, specialty plants, landscape information, garden décor, birdhouses, plant stands, homemade jams / jelly & honey products, yard maintenance. The vendors scheduled this year will be ProGreen Gardening Center, Yund Outdoor / Davidson’s Greenhouse, Walnut Fork Crafts, Sugar Creek Lawn & Hardscape, Gilley’s Metal yard art, The Plant Pub, Stadler Laser Wood Crafts, and Denhart’s along with five of the non-profit organizations serving Montgomery County and a Wildfire348 with biscuits and gravy, pizza’s and drinks So, come prepared to spend time browsing all our plants and vendors. Nucor will be giving away free Eastern White Pine, American Arborvitae, Northern Red Oak and Hybrid Poplars in the 4-H Barn. So, come early and make a day of it.

To learn more about Montgomery County Master Gardeners please visit our Facebook Page - Master Gardeners of Montgomery County (Indiana) at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1084061839634585> or email montcoinemg@gmail.com.

PUBLIC NOTICES

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES NOTICE OF SHERIFF’S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me, directed from the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Indiana, in Cause No. 54C01-2510-MF-001314, wherein NewRez LLC was Plaintiff, and Roberto Hernandez, The United States of America, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and City of Crawfordsville were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree, with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder on the 13th day of May, 2026, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as is possible, at Sheriff’s Office at 600 Memorial Drive, Crawfordsville, IN 47933, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Montgomery County, Indiana.

Lot Numbered 2, as the same is known and designated on the recorded plat of Samuel S. Thompson’s First Addition to the Town (now City) of Crawfordsville, excepting 57 feet of even width off of the South end of said Lot Numbered 2, in Montgomery County, Indiana.

More commonly known as: 115 West Chestnut Street, Crawfordsville, IN 47933

Parcel No. 54-10-05-223-127.000-030

Together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws.

“Subject to all liens, encumbrances and easements of record not otherwise extinguished in the proceedings known as Cause 54C01-2510-MF-001314 in the Circuit Court of the County of Montgomery, Indiana.”

Attorney for Plaintiff: J. Dustin Smith
ATTORNEY NO. 29493-06
MDK Legal
P.O. Box 165028
Columbus OH 43216-5028
Ryan Needham
Sheriff of Montgomery County
Union Township
115 West Chestnut Street
Street Address

The Sheriff’s Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein.

PL5296 4/1 4/8 4/15 3t hspaxlp

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MONTGOMERY COURT
COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY) CAUSE NO. 54D02-2512-MI-001511
IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF)
MINOR:)
Ahmad James Sharify)
Petitioner)

ORDER SETTING HEARING

Notice is hereby given that Petitioner, Ahmad James Sharify, as self represented litigant, filed a Verified Petition for a Change of Name on December 16, 2025 to change the name of Gabriel Ace Sharify to Gabriel Ace Draven. The Petition is scheduled for hearing in the Supreme Court 2 on March 3, 2026 at 8:30 am.

Filed Dec 16, 2025
Sondra K Sixberry
Clerk

PL5289 4/1 4/8 4/15 3t hspaxlp

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MONTGOMERY COURT
COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY) CAUSE NO. 54D02-2512-MI-001511
IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF:)
Ahmad James Sharify)
Petitioner)

ORDER SETTING HEARING

Comes now Ahmad James Sharify, pro se, having filed a Verified Petition for Change of Name, and he Court finds that the matter should be set for hearing. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that this matter be heard on May 5, 2026 at 8:30 am.

Ahmad James Sharify
Petitioner
Filed Dec 16, 2025
Sondra K Sixberry
Clerk

PL5290 4/1 4/8 4/15 3t hspaxlp

3/139FA Reunion May 16

Plans are complete for the annual 3/139FA Gunners Reunion for former members and friends of the 3d Battalion, 139th Field Artillery, Indiana Army National Guard, that was headquartered in the Crawfordsville armory prior to being phased out several years ago. Other units of the battalion were located in Darlington, Kempton, Danville, Spencer, Attica, Lafayette and Rockville.

This year’s reunion will be held on Saturday, May 16 at the Darlington (Armory) Community Center beginning at 11 a.m. A catered lunch and a golf outing for those interested are planned. Cost is \$20. Anyone wishing to play golf afterward should contact Steve Taylor at (765) 491-6677 or staylor7@tds.net.

“Like most reunions, ours is designed to bring together those individuals who served together over the years and give them a chance to renew old friendships and share individual stories”,

S. David Long, a retired Sergeant First Class of the organization and reunion coordinator, said. “Having served and worked close to 40 years at the Crawfordsville armory, it’s great to get a chance to catch up with people who are now scattered all over the state. The 3d Battalion has a long and proud history in the state of Indiana and has seen several of its members assume Division and State level leadership positions over the years. Our members were proud to be a part of the communities in which they served.”

Information has been emailed to individuals who have attended in the past. Due to increased costs, notices will not be sent out by regular mail. Anyone wanting more information about the event or wishing to register please, contact Long at (765) 362-4395 or dlong1172@gmail.com. Reservation deadline is May 11. Any contact information about other former members would be appreciated.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY Tax Rates For Year 2025 Payable 2026				
Category	Fund	Fund Name	WAVNETOWN	WINGATE
County	101	County General	0.2430	0.2430
	801	Health	0.0105	0.0105
	790	Cum Bridge	0.0585	0.0585
	124	Reassessment	0.0138	0.0138
	2391	CCD	0.0333	0.0333
	281	Loan & Interest Payment	0.0385	0.0385
	1116	Emergency Medical Services	0.0978	0.0978
Total County Rate			0.4954	0.4954
County Debt	181	Debt Payment	0.0069	0.0069
Total County Debt Rate			0.0069	0.0069
Township	101	General	0.0075	0.0202
	840	Poor Relief		0.0101
	1111	Fire and E.M.S.	0.0323	
	1190	Cum Fire	0.0333	
	2120	Cemetery		
	8604	SP FIRE TER GEN		
	8692	SP FIRE TER EQU		
Total Township Rate			0.0731	0.0303
Township Debt	1182	Fire Equip Debt		
Total Township Debt Rate				
City	101	General	0.4654	1.1823
	2391	CCD	0.0500	
	708	MVH		
	182	Bond #2		
	1301	Park & Rec		
	2102	Aviation		
	1191	Cum Fire Spec		
	1303	Park		
Total City Rate			0.5154	1.1823
School	3300	Operations	0.6106	0.6106
Total School Rate			0.6106	0.6106
School Debt	180	Debt Service	0.2676	0.2676
	287	REF DEBT POST 09		
Total School Debt Rate			0.2676	0.2676
Library	101	General		
	283	Lease/Rental		
Total Library Rate				
TOTAL TAX RATE			1.9690	2.5931
MONTGOMERY COUNTY Conservancy Rates For Year 2025 Payable 2026			TAXING DISTRICTS	
Category	Fund	Fund Name	WAVNETOWN	WINGATE
	101	Lake Holiday Cons Gen		
	101	Lake Holiday Cons CCI		
Conservancy	2393	Little Raccoon Cons Gen		
MONTGOMERY COUNTY Property Tax Replacement Credit (PTRC) Rates For Year 2025 Payable 2026			TAXING DISTRICT	
LIT PTRC	ALL Properties		0.051009	0.051009
	Homestead Properties		0.221392	0.221392
STATE OF INDIANA, MONTGOMERY COUNTY : I, Mindy Byers, Auditor of MONTGOMERY COUNTY, hereby certify that the above is a correct copy of all tax levies for the taxes collectible in the year 2026. Mindy Byers, MONTGOMERY COUNTY Auditor				

Legal Scholar to Deliver Lecture at Wabash

By Richard Paige
Wabash College

Wabash College welcomes to campus Erwin Chemerinsky as the 2026 recipient of the David W. Peck Senior Medal for Eminence in the Law.

Chemerinsky, dean of the University of California School of Law, will present the annual Peck Lecture, "Why is Free Speech Under Attack and What Can We Do About It?" at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday in the Fine Arts Center's Salter Hall on the Wabash College campus.

Chemerinsky is a noted legal scholar, a prolific author, and a renowned free speech expert. In addition to his duties as dean in Berkeley, he is a professor of law with a focus on constitutional law and law and society. National Jurist magazine named Chemerinsky as the most influential person in legal education in the United States in 2024. He served as president of the Association of American Law Schools in 2022 and was named a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2016.

He frequently argues appellate

cases, including in the United States Supreme Court.

Following the lecture, the College will host the Peck Dinner. Established in 1974, the Peck Dinner provides a unique opportunity for Wabash students interested in the law to meet lawyer alumni and to benefit from the wisdom of the Senior Peck Medal recipient. The event also recognizes student pre-law award winners.

"New free speech controversies seem to arise every day, including in the media, on college campuses, with respect to law firms, and even in how we teach our nation's history," said Scott Himsel, associate professor of political science and pre-law advisor. "No one is better qualified to explain why these controversies are arising or what we should do about them than Dean Chemerinsky."

Chemerinsky is the author of 22 books that address constitutional law, criminal procedure, and federal jurisdiction. His two most recent books are 2026's "Campus Speech and Academic Freedom: A Guide for Difficult Times (with Howard Gillman)" and 2025's "Taking

Sides: The Supreme Court October 2025."

Additionally, Chemerinsky has written more than 200 law review articles and is a contributing writer for the opinion section of the Los Angeles Times. He writes regular columns for the Sacramento Bee, the ABA Journal, and the Daily Journal, and frequently contributes op-eds in newspapers nationally.

He was the founding dean and distinguished professor of law, and Raymond Pryke Professor of First Amendment Law, at the University of California, Irvine School of Law (2008-17). Prior to that position, he was the Alston and Bird Professor of Law and Political Science at Duke University (2004-08), served as professor at the University of Southern California Law School (1983-2004), and was an assistant professor at the DePaul University College of Law (1980-83).

He is a graduate of Northwestern University and the Harvard Law School.

The Peck Lecture and Peck Dinner honor the memory of Judge David W. Peck, Wabash Class of 1922, a Harvard law graduate who



Erwin Chemerinsky

founded the litigation department at Sullivan & Cromwell, served as presiding justice of the appellate division of the New York Supreme Court, and was a long-time member of the Wabash College Board of Trustees.

LEAGUE

Continued from Page 1

the group has distributed at least 1,002 bottles of water between August and November alone through "water box" stations, not counting summer months or newer sites like Linden.

MoCo Mutual Aid has emerged in a county historically proud of its rugged individualism. But the need in Montgomery County is real and has been growing. The average rent increased by about 12 percent from 2020 to 2023. In 2023, just under 10 percent of residents of all incomes lacked health insurance. In 2024, about 10 percent of the residents lived below the poverty rate, but the rate from children was 13 percent. A little over 2,800 residents rely on SNAP for nutrition.

Administered by a small board of local volunteers—currently Aaron Casper, Jazerik Garman, Aaron Morrison and Kay Whetstone – MoCo Mutual Aid is seeking a fifth board member.

The board members moderate the Facebook space, upholding the community rules – such as, "avoid judgment," "be clear about your requests," "either help, or don't comment on posts" and "don't be a bigot." Sometimes they submit anonymous requests on behalf of people who cannot or do not want to post themselves. The group has grown to roughly 380 members in its first year, with only one person banned for violating the basic respect rules.

The local group is founded on an idea that goes back centuries. In the 18th and 19th centuries, mutual aid looked like the Free African Society, which provided education, banking and health care to free black Americans in Philadelphia because they were shut out of services. In the 1960s, it was the Black Panther Party providing food and support for urban communities.

Mutual aid has been reinvigorated in times of crisis. Organizer and author Dean Spade defines mutual aid as "a form of political

participation in which people take responsibility for caring for one another and changing political conditions by building new social relations that are more survivable." Mutual aid is not a charity project funded by wealthy donors. It's a way for ordinary people to meet each other's needs and challenge the systems that produce poverty and exclusion.

Charity and mutual aid differ in key ways. Charity is top-down, with wealthy people or institutions providing funds, serving as deciders of who is "deserving" and attaching conditions to help. In contrast, mutual aid is horizontal and rooted in solidarity. Charity often treats poverty as an individual failing and reinforces existing hierarchies; mutual aid assumes the system is the problem and says everyone deserves what they need. Charity tends to funnel support through organizations and professional helpers, while mutual aid prioritizes person-to-person relationships and long-term community ties. Mutual aid – neighbors helping neighbors – seeks to cover the nooks and crannies of unmet need that non-profits and social safety nets cannot.

Locally, mutual aid shows up in the increasing number of little free food pantries, along with water coolers. Outside MoCo, mutual aid looks like "sharing sheds" where

neighbors loan and borrow tools, mowers and other items. In many ways, it's common sense. Not every household needs every tool at the same time – why not share one well-maintained lawn mower instead of many?

It's not just food, shelter, and repairs that MoCo Mutual Aid members have provided. They coordinate rides for medical appointments, filling gaps in chronically limited transportation. When an apartment complex accidentally sprayed herbicide on a young couple's garden, neighbors donated soil and plants so they could rebuild; the couple later shared extra produce with FISH. The group has also distributed more than 1,000 "red cards" explaining legal rights in encounters with police or immigration officers, in multiple languages.

All of this is coordinated largely through the Facebook interface, where users can tag MoCo Mutual Aid

when they see someone being ridiculed or ignored in local "chatter" groups. The goal is to change the culture, to build a stronger community and keep people from falling into the gaps.

Notably, MoCo Mutual Aid is committed to including people who are often excluded from formal volunteerism and leadership. The idea is to keep participation simple and with low barriers. In her presentation, Whetstone shared the story of Robert, a neighbor who cooks omelets at St. John's, provides sound for

local protests, teaches people to drive and stays civically engaged, yet whose history with the criminal legal system would bar him from many traditional volunteer roles.

Whetstone reminded Lunch with the League attendees that the goal is as simple and old-fashioned as "helping your neighbor with a cup of sugar" regardless of their history, ethnicity or identity. In fact, it binds together people in a county where the cost of living is rising and formal systems will never catch every falling person, MoCo Mutual Aid

offers a simple invitation: show up as you are, give what you can, ask when you need help and help build the kind of Montgomery County where no one has to navigate crisis alone.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, multi-issue political organization which encourages informed and active participation in government. For information about the League, visit the website www.lwvmontcoin.org; or, visit the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, Indiana Facebook page.

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