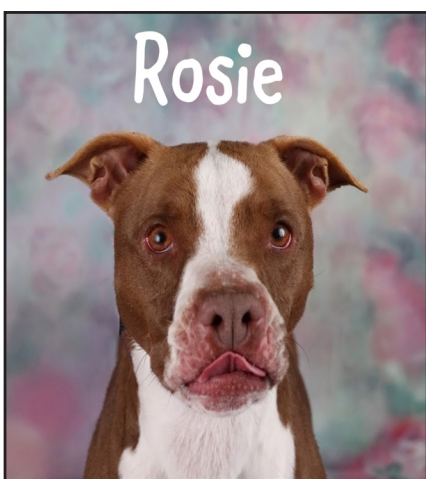


■ TODAY'S VERSE

Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." (NIV)

■ AWL ROSIE



Rosie is a 4 year old female American Pit Bull Terrier available for adoption since 4/22/25. Rosie loves going out for walks, frolicking in a fenced yard, and spending time with her favorite person. Rosie is spayed, dewormed, microchipped, and up to date on all of her shots. Rosie is looking for her BEST FRIEND! Could that be you!? Rosie is available to take for walks, foster, or adopt! AWL is open Monday-Friday from 12:15p-5p and Saturday's from 12-3p. Come snuggle cats in a community cat room, walk dogs, or lend a helping hand!



Enjoy life now, today, right now all you soon-to-be graduates. You know pretty much everything today.

In a few years, you'll see things differently.

■ MONTGOMERY MINUTE

The Montgomery County Community Foundation will hold its annual meeting on Thursday, May 21, at 4:30 p.m. at the Hoosier Heartland State Bank Success Center at 1623 South US-231 in Crawfordsville. This year marks another major milestone for us as MCCF celebrates 35 years in Montgomery County. The Foundation will also be celebrating its achievements, welcoming new board members and conducting necessary business. The Volunteer of the Year Award and the Peggy Herzog Youth Volunteer of the Year Award will be presented and the recipients honored at the meeting. The meeting is open to all residents of Montgomery County.

■ QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Set your own sail."

Jim Rohn

■ JOKE OF THE DAY

Remember to always give 100 percent . . . unless you're at a blood drive!

The Paper

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Getting Numbers from the Cone Zone 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!

Thanks to our friends at the Indiana Department of Transportation, we bring you a look at the numbers that make up the 2026 roads and highways construction and maintenance season. And like our friends at INDOT, we kindly ask all of us to slow down and pay extra attention when entering what we kiddingly call the Cone Zone. Truth is, without all those workers doing the good work they do, Indiana highways and byways would be much more challenging to drive on. So please keep that in mind while we peruse the cone zone . . . by the numbers!

\$2,600,000,000

Yup, that number begins with a B. In Indiana this year, our government will be spending more than two-and-a-half billion dollars on Hoosier transportation infrastructure.

6,297

That's how many miles of roads will be resurfaced or replaced.

2,441

And that's how many miles will be chipped and sealed.

4

There are four Safe Zones sites currently active in the following locations:

- Clear Path I-465/I-69 in Marion County
- I-65 in Jasper County
- I-70 in Hancock County
- I-74 in Decatur and Shelby counties

To learn more about Safe Zones, visit SafeZonesIN.com.



Photo courtesy Andy Chandler

1 The top spot in the state – the Indiana Governor's Chair – is occupied by one guy – Mike Braun. And here's what he had to say about all this work.

"Drivers across the Hoosier State will encounter orange barrels and active work sites this spring and summer. Making improvements to our state's transportation infrastructure is critical to boosting economic growth and quality of life, and it takes all of us slowing down and paying close attention to ensure safety for everyone on the road."

1,075

More than 1,000 projects are planned on state highways, U.S. routes and interstates this construction season in Indiana.

130

Of those 1,075 projects, 130 of them are designed to improve traffic flow and safety.

674

Yup, almost 700 Hoosier bridges will be replaced or repaired.

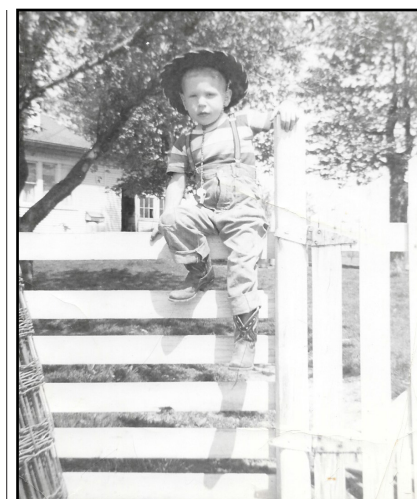


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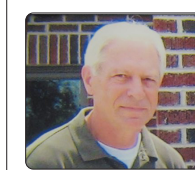
Pay attention if you don't want to get a speeding ticket to this one. Indiana's worksite speed control pilot program, known as Safe Zones, continues to be an investment in safety for all Hoosiers. Research from Purdue University shows from August 2024 to July 2025, excessive speeding, or vehicles traveling more than 11 mph over the posted speed limit, decreased 34% for passenger vehicles and 41% for commercial vehicles in enforcement sites between the hours of 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. At individual sites, reductions of 70 to 80% have been documented.

16 and 1,500

These are the most important numbers. Sixteen people died and more than 1,500 were hurt in Indiana work zones, according to Secretary of Transportation and Infrastructure Matt Uebelhor. "While we've seen improvement in these numbers in recent years, there is still work to be done. We are asking for help from drivers to continue bringing these numbers down by slowing down, avoiding distractions behind the wheel, and driving unimpaired, especially in work zones."



Butch Loves Horses!



BUTCH DALE
Columnist

When I was growing up, I always wanted to own a horse. I think it was because of all the westerns that were on TV back in the 1950s. I had a cowboy hat, cowboy boots and a capgun and holster by the time I was 3 years old. I pretended that I was Hopalong Cassidy or Gene Autry fighting the bad guys, but the only horse I had was a wooden sawhorse, with a pillow as my saddle. Two cousins who lived across the road had a black and white pony named Star, and they let me ride it a few times, but my folks just couldn't afford to buy me one.

My wife had a pony, a donkey, and a horse at various times when she was young. She was very fond of her pets, and rode all of them quite often, most of the time without a saddle. She was an only child, and developed strong bonds with her animals. Working with a horse requires developing empathy and using non-verbal communication skills, as horses react to subtle movements and emotions. They are highly sensitive animals and form trusting relationships with people. She loved to ride and care for them. I have a granddaughter who has a quarterhorse, and she is the same way. She is a barrel racer, and she loves her horse. Caring for it has taught her responsibility, loyalty and also to be patient.

When we were first married, my wife had a sweet and gentle Appaloosa mare named "Appy" which she rode in our pasture every so often. One day as I was mowing our lawn, I noticed Appy was standing by the fence grazing. I decided that I would try to ride her, so I shut off the mower and started to climb over the fence. Appy glanced my way and never moved. I slowly made it over the fence and eased down on her back and prepared to grab the halter. Well, folks . . . I rode Appy approximately two seconds . . . before she bucked me off! My riding days were over before they began! I haven't been on a horse since that day. Appy lived to be over 30 years old. She was a good horse.

Well, no matter. I still love

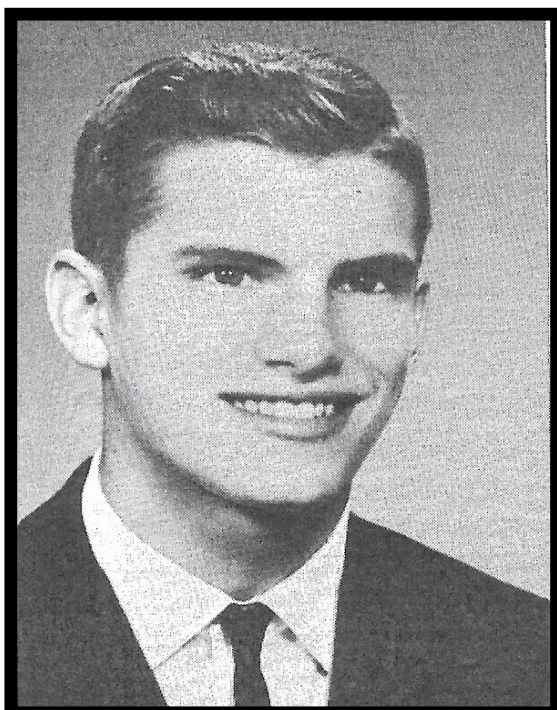
See **BUTCH** Page 5

The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



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

HINT: He belonged to several school clubs, and participated in all of the sports . . . and he has been a basketball referee for many years.

Answer on Page 5

CFD Stops Basement Fire on Meahme Trail

On Wednesday, April 29 at approximately 5 p.m., The Crawfordsville Fire Department responded to a reported residential structure fire in the 1100 block of Meahme Trail.

Upon arrival, fire crews observed smoke coming from the basement of the residence and confirmed that all occupants had safely evacuated. Firefighters entered the home, conducted a search, and quickly located a small fire at the basement ceiling level. The fire was rapidly extinguished, and ventilation operations were initiated to minimize smoke damage.

The residence sustained minor to moderate structural damage as a result of the fire and subsequent overhaul operations.

At this time, the fire is considered unintentional with the cause still under investigation.

Assisting agencies were the Waynetown Volunteer Fire Department, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, Montgomery County Central Communications Center, Centerpoint Energy, and Crawfordsville Electric light & Power.

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The author and archivist at the grave of Thomas Posey.



Photos courtesy Andy Chandler

John Gibson is buried in Carroll County, near Lafayette.

Indiana Celebrates 226 Years on May 7



ANDY
CHANDLER
Columnist

On May 7, Indiana will be celebrating the 226th anniversary of its establishment as a territory, with its current established boundaries. In 2022, I set out to visit the grave of every Indiana governor. It was an enlightening journey and helped me understand history through their perspective and the times in which they lived. How did Samuel Bigger attempt to balance a deficit? How did Oliver P. Morton keep the State together despite it barely electing Lincoln in the 1860 election? These are the men who have governed Indiana, the state. However, who made it a state?

According to the Northwest Ordinance of 1787, statehood could be achieved by two qualifiers. 1) A voting population of 60,000 people or more. 2) Ratification of a State Constitution.

There were four men who held the position of governor of the Indiana Territory before it became a state. As one would expect, I've been to their graves. I'll skip William Henry Harrison since he's been covered.

General Arthur St. Clair. Before Indiana was a Territory, it was part of the Northwest Territory, and St. Clair was its governor. Despite experience as the president of the Continental Congress (1787) he proved ineffective and commanded the worst military defeat of U.S. forces by Native Americans in 1791 at Ft. Recovery. The one silver lining of his administration was that he was absent enough that Territorial Secretary William Henry Harrison was able to get administrative experience for his future role in Indiana.

St. Clair is buried in Greensburg, Penn., next to a concert venue in a park. Originally founded as Old St. Clair Cemetery in 1818, the property was abandoned in 1888. Eventually the city took over and in 2002 made it into a park. Most of the interments went to other cemeteries, but St. Clair stayed.

Thomas Posey. Posey spent his childhood as George Washington's next-door neighbor. He was a veteran of the Revolutionary War. During the Revolution and ensuing Indian Wars, he was a staff



Arthur St. Clair is buried in Pennsylvania.

officer with General "Mad" Anthony Wayne.

Posey was appointed territory governor in 1813 to replace William Henry Harrison. As governor, he organized the court jurisdictions and approved the State Bank. Scorned by most of the legislature for his pro-slavery leanings, he lost to Jonathon Jennings in 1816 in his bid to be the first state governor. He spent the last two years of his life as an Indian Agent in Southern Illinois. He is buried in a cemetery outside of Shawneetown, Ill.

John Gibson. Gibson was appointed governor general at the tender young age of 60 and served in that role from July 1800 to January 1801 when Harrison arrived in Vincennes. As territorial secretary, he was somewhat of a filler when Harrison was out of town and in the interim 1812-13 period between Harrison and Posey. Gibson's language skills proved invaluable during Harrison's treaty nego-

tiations with the Native Americans. His final act as governor was to oversee the move of the territorial capitol from Vincennes to Corydon in 1813.

Gibson remained Indiana Territory Secretary until statehood in 1816. He returned to Pittsburg, Ind. and died in 1822. For having a significant role in Indiana history, his grave marker in Allegany Cemetery is rather unobtrusively placed on the side of a hill.

In the State Archives are documents preserved in a temperature-controlled room pertaining to this time. To my surprise, the territorial seal has the presidential eagle on it, a reminder of Indiana's territorial years. More than likely, these documents were drafted by Gibson.

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

Prescription Drug Take Back Day a Success

On Saturday, April 25, the Drug Free Montgomery County Harm Reduction Committee hosted the bi-annual Prescription Drug Take Back Day event in the parking lot of First Christian Church.

On this day, Det. Lt. Bob Rivers, with the Crawfordsville Police Department, was visited by a total of 29 cars stopping by to properly dispose of unwanted, unneeded, or unused medication. Lieutenant Rivers was able to collect 63 pounds of medications!

Not only do we collect unneeded, unused, and expired medications during Drug Take Back Day, Montgomery County also has two permanent drop-off locations that are available year-round. The locations where medications can be properly

disposed of include the Montgomery County Sheriff's office, located at 600 Memorial Drive and the Crawfordsville Police Department, located at 311 North Green Street.

In the last six months, the Montgomery County Sheriff's office has collected around 147 pounds of medication, and the Crawfordsville Police Department has collected around 849 pounds of medication. An approximate total of 1,059 pounds was taken to the DEA for proper disposal! This total comes from medications disposed of at each permanent site and Prescription Drug Take Back Day.

The permanent disposal locations and the Prescription Drug Take Back Day events help reduce the risk of old medications ending up in the wrong hands. By

reducing this risk, we also reduce the risk of substance misuse which plays a key role in combating the issue of substance use within our community.

It is also important to remember the importance of proper disposal for not only medication, but for sharps/needles. Sharps can be safely disposed of at the Montgomery County Health Department, located at 1580 Constitution Row, Suite G and at the Crawfordsville Police Department lobby, located at 311 North Green St.

The Drug Free Montgomery County Harm Reduction Committee would like to give a special thanks to First Christian Church for partnering with Drug Free Montgomery County on this initiative. The First Christian Church graciously allowed Lieu-

tenant Rivers to utilize the church parking lot as the location for this event. The Harm Reduction Committee would also like to give a special thanks to the Crawfordsville Police Department and Det. Lt. Bob Rivers for making this event possible!

As always, many resources can be found on the Drug Free Montgomery County's website at drugfreemoco.org. For further questions, reach out to Diamond Justus at diamond@mcysb.org. Drug Free Montgomery County is a program of the Youth Service Bureau. The YSB is a United Way in Montgomery County partner agency and is also supported by the Montgomery County Community Foundation.

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2026 CHEVROLET TRAX MAY BE GM'S LEAST-EXPENSIVE MODEL, BUT THERE'S NOTHING CHEAP ABOUT HOW IT DEVOURS DRIVES SHORT AND LONG

After using up her Honda Odyssey, Casey's sister picks fine points of her new little Chevy crossover.



CASEY WILLIAMS
Columnist

My sister called a couple of weeks ago. Her Honda Odyssey that she loved and raised three kids was nearing its end...at over 250,000 miles! She still has tuition payments and dorm fees for my niece and nephews, so she needed a new car that was affordable, but also efficient, stylish and fun-to-drive. She found a Chevy Trax at the right price and asked what I thought. I said, "Buy it!"

By coincidence, I had a Trax scheduled for a round-trip from Indianapolis to Memphis and back, hauling tail across cornfields, city freeways and undulating hills through Corvette country and Music City on the way. I've tested the sporty RS trim before, but chose my sister's middle-class LT instead.

It does without the RS' red flourishes and black chrome grille, not to mention 19" wheels, but the LT looks just as handsome wearing 17s with flashes of chrome decorating the Camaro-inspired grille. Compared to its ungainly predecessor, this longer and lower version throws even more attitude than the similar Buick Envista. It's pretty stealth in our car's Sterling Gray Metallic paint, but is clearly inspired by the more upscale Trailblazer, Equinox and Blazer.

If there's Camaro on the outside, Corvette seeped inside with the twin-screen arrangement for gauges and infotainment. Devices connect via wireless Apple CarPlay and Android Auto or click into USBs. Our LT trim had cloth seats and rubber steering wheel, but even during 800 miles of driving, the seats were supportive. Tap around and you realize the textured dash is hard plastic, seats

are manually adjusted, and there's only one zone for the automatic climate control, but the cabin is hushed with active noise cancellation.

One of my favorite parts of the Trax is its 1.2-liter turbocharged three-cylinder engine that delivers a peppy 137 horsepower and 162 lb.-ft. of torque. And unlike many competitors, it routes that power through a proper six-speed transmission instead of a CVT. All of this allows the Trax to keep steam in reserve through the hills and shift like it cares when it doesn't. It only comes in front-drive, so check the similar Trailblazer if you need all-wheel-drive. Fuel economy is rated 28/32-MPG city/highway. My sister claims over 40-MPG on the highway.

On paper, the chassis doesn't look sophisticated, but where some competitors bump and thump over pavement, the Trax behaves much more like the larger Equinox or Blazer. It soaks up long roads with comfortable motions, but even when flicked through the twists or tossed over rough pavement, seems balanced and sophisticated. GM is adept at developing chassis. Four-wheel disc brakes are right-now ready. You'll barely notice

the torsion beam rear suspension that keeps costs low.

Even in this value-conscious crossover, safety was a priority. Our Trax included forward collision alert, automatic emergency braking, and rear cross traffic warning. Lane keep assist and blind spot warning kept me alert no matter the road or distance.

I asked my sister for things she likes and doesn't like about her Trax. On the pluses, there's plenty of room in the back seat and it drives very nice on the highway. Fuel economy is better than expected. Negatives include refocusing quite a distance from instruments to infotainment screen while driving. Especially for the price, she's very happy.

And, what about that price? The least expensive Trax costs a bargain \$21,700. Our LT came to just \$23,200. What a deal. You'll agree when you drive the Hyundai Venue, Kia Soul, Nissan Kicks, or Volkswagen Taos.

Storm Forward!

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

LIKES

- SPORTY DESIGN
- STYLISH INTERIOR
- TURBO-3 ENGINE

DISLIKES

- INTERIOR PLASTICS
- ONE-ZONE CLIMATE CONTROL
- NO AWD

2026 Chevy Trax LT

Five-passenger, FWD
Crossover Powertrain: 1.2-liter T3, 6-spd
Output: 137hp/162 lb.-ft. torque
Suspension f/r: Ind/Torsion beam
Wheels f/r: 17"/17" alloy Brakes f/r: disc/disc
Fuel economy: 28/32 mpg city/hwy
Assembly: Changwon, Korea
Base/As-tested price: \$21,700/\$23,200

400 Square Feet Is More Than Enough



CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

Last week, we thought we would leave our little place in Casa de los Soles.

If you've read my column, you know about this place my husband, Peter, and I stay in while in Mexico. The interior of our apartment will set you right back to the 1980s. The Formica countertop has seen better days. I write in a corner of the living room and have exactly 6 inches between the back of my office chair and the end of the couch. Peter measured our apartment, and it is 400 square feet—and that includes a rather large bedroom.

So, last week, we decided to look around for a place with a little more space. We told our landlord, Jorge, we were thinking about doing this, and he said he understood, and we went looking at apartments.

We did not make it easy on ourselves. In addition to loving this particular place, we love the neighborhood it is in, and the street it is on, so our circle of investigation was small. When we heard of an apartment for rent just a block away and on the same street, we were very excited.

The apartment was much bigger. It had a fireplace and a rooftop terrace. It had two bedrooms and a full dining room. It would need a little work, but we were very excited. We met with the landlord two days later.

But later that night, I started to think about what we would have to do to live in that apartment. There was nothing on the walls. There was not a lot of furniture. The couch looked a little worse for wear. The furniture on the roof needed replacement. None of it was big stuff, but it added up.

We'd have to pay an electric bill. If we wanted housekeeping, we'd have to figure that out and pay for it. We'd have to get our water and our gas delivered. We'd have to get the garbage out on the curb on the right days at the right time—which, in the center of an old town with cobblestone, one-way streets, is not as easy as it sounds.

I lay in bed that night and thought of all the things I don't have to worry about now, like having regular internet and a front desk

that will accept our deliveries and someone on staff if we ever have a medical emergency.

Then I thought about the things that give me such joy here: the lively restaurant below, which will deliver lunch right to our door. The staff that will store my computer monitor and my clothes and take them out again when we arrive. The bouquet of flowers that is always waiting for me when we check in. The going-away party that the entire staff throws for Peter and me when we leave at the end of the season. And the kindness of Jorge, our landlord who, whenever we have a request, no matter how unusual, will say, "Certainly!"


I thought of how very easy my life was in 400 square feet, how free of worries, and of how much writing I had accomplished sitting at my little green Formica desk with the fresh flowers in front of me.


I talked to Jorge the next day. "We love this place too much to leave!" I told him. And I felt tearful.

Then I looked with fresh eyes at my 400 square feet and realized there was a lot I could do in this space. Because right now, 400 square feet is more than enough.

Till next time,

Carrie





I WANT TO BE YOUR GO-TO AGENT!

I'm the KEY to your new home! If you are ready to find yours or know someone who is, give me a call. I can't wait to hear from you!

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▶ LETTER TO EDITOR

Reader Takes Timmons to Task Over Column

Dear Editor,

Let me enlighten you about Trump spending money we don't have. He spent money to destroy rockets and many other items of warfare, that was purchased by our #1 ENEMY with the BILLIONS

of dollars that was given to said ENEMY, by two of his predecessors named Barky and Joey . . . This #1 enemy had said for 70 years they wanted Americans dead, that included you and yours, I assume. Being a former Marine in my younger days, I have

seen first-hand what these warheads can do. He spent it, so you can go to bed tonight and not have to worry about a rocket being a sleeping partner. Capeesh?

*Jim Clements
Crawfordsville*



State Rep. Matt Commons (R-Williamsport) stands alongside Governor Braun and stakeholder on April 30, 2026, as Senate Bill 256 is signed into law.

Governor Signs Commons Bill

The governor recently ceremonially signed into law legislation sponsored by State Rep. Matt Commons (R-Williamsport) to crack down on foreign adversaries and their influence in Indiana's political, academic and economic sectors.

Commons said Senate Enrolled Act 256 creates one of the strongest foreign adversary transparency frameworks in the country by expanding protections on Indiana land from prohibited foreign actors, securing our research institutions from hostile interference, safeguarding critical state technology contracts and preventing them from accessing state resources.

"From contracts to land ownership, Indiana is

taking action to ensure our sensitive and critical resources are protected," Commons said. "This new law continues our efforts to identify and reduce potential threats from foreign adversaries."

The U.S. Department of Commerce maintains a list of adversarial countries including Russia, China, North Korea, Iran, Cuba and Venezuela. Senate Enrolled Act 256 expands current policy restricting foreign adversaries from owning farmland and further limits acquiring or leasing land in Indiana. It also prohibits affiliates of foreign terrorist organizations from accessing state resources including funding, contracts, jobs and tax benefits.

State-funded entities are also banned from providing them any financial support. Commons said intellectual property will be protected by requiring students from adversarial countries, who are not dual citizens or permanent residents of the U.S., to pass a security review before being admitted into qualifying programs such as engineering, computer science and more at state education institutions.

Learn more about SEA 256 by visiting iga.in.gov.

Commons represents House District 13, which includes all of Benton and Warren counties, and portions of Fountain, Jasper, Montgomery, Newton, Tippecanoe and White counties.

Where's the Ball?



Photo courtesy Andy Chandler

Wabash sophomore infielder Jimmy Hawksworth stretches for the ball last week in a game against Franklin College. The Little Giants won 10-7, providing a bright spot in a tough season.

INAUGURAL MAYOR'S BALL

A ROARING '20S EXPERIENCE

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**THURSDAY
MAY 7, 2026**

5:00PM

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110 WHISKEY ROW | CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN

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It's Nobody's Vault



DICK WOLFSIE
Columnist

I recently received in the mail (Yes, the real mail) a notice from Chase Bank informing me of a very distressing policy change. The note begins: "Thank you for being a valued customer." This introductory phrase always scares me. It's usually followed by something like: "Our bank was robbed, and it was your money they stole."

Then this: "We wanted to let you know that we will no longer renting safe deposit boxes." Initially, I thought this was great news. Finally, something for free. Isn't that why they began their letter by thanking me for being an awesome (Okay, valued) customer?

This struck me as very odd, like getting a note from your kennel saying they no longer have room for dogs. Or from Kroger telling everyone there is no longer space on their shelves for Rice Krispies. Isn't one of the original purposes of a bank to keep your valuables safe? Like in a vault.

No explanation was given for why this was happening. They told me

to visit my branch and "formally close the box." Why does this event have to be formal? I haven't worn a tux in years, and I wasn't going to rent one just to see my marriage license.

I was also informed in the letter that if I do not close my box within the next 30 days, they will drill it open and "carefully remove the contents." I was glad to hear that because I wouldn't want anyone to rough up my birth certificate. After all, it's almost 80 years old.

They go on to say that if they remove any contents, they will be securely stored in a vault "in accordance with state retention laws." I already have enough retention problems at my age, and I wasn't banking on this kind (Don't excuse the pun). By the way, what vault are they using to store my valuables? And why can't they just keep my stuff in that vault? I think that is a very reasonable request.

Next, I turned to AI, my source for the latest dubious information. I asked CoPilot if they had any

idea why Chase was doing this. Their first explanation was that this service was not a money-maker for banks because many people have gone digital with their storage. What a great idea! I'll just upload my father's Bronze Star from WWII. If you hack me next month, just look for the folder MY FATHER'S BRONZE STAR. Don't blame me if your printer jams.

Banks also claim that the boxes increase personnel costs. Huh? I put my stuff in. I take out my stuff. I look at my stuff and I put my stuff back in. I'm the one doing all the work.

Now I have a final question. What are the banks going to do with all these unused safe deposit boxes? How about places for paper clips, rubber bands, and thumbtacks? And, of course, loose change.

And what about all the room they'll now have in the private viewing areas? Why not open a coffee shop? Maybe a Star BUCKS. How about a liquor store, a Fifth THIRST Bank? Expect it to be pricey.

They'll make you fill out a deposit SIP.

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

horses. They are highly intelligent creatures. They are strong and powerful, but sensitive and loving. They allow humans to form an almost symbiotic relationship. They are beautiful animals . . . their coat, their stature, their graceful movement. Riding a horse can give a person a sense of freedom and adventure, and also relieve stress. Although I don't ride, I love to pet horses and talk to them, and I really believe they understand what I'm

saying. I even love the smell of a horse!

No, I never owned a horse or pony as a youngster. With four siblings, I knew it would be too expensive for my parents to buy me one and pay for the feed, vet bills, etc., but that's OK. I sure had a lot of fun doing other things such as playing sports and enjoying many activities with my cousins and friends. But wouldn't it be great if every boy and girl had their own horse or

pony . . . especially in this crazy, stressful world we live in now?

Any you know what? Some day I am going to try to ride Appy again . . .

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.



State Sen. Brian Buchanan (R-Lebanon, to the right of the governor) attends a ceremonial bill signing of House Enrolled Act 1177, which he sponsored to expand eligibility for the state's childcare tax credit.

Buchanan Bill Signed by Governor

A bill sponsored by State Sen. Brian Buchanan (R-Lebanon) that expands eligibility for the state's childcare tax credit was ceremonially signed by the governor today.

House Enrolled Act 1177 incentivizes more businesses to offer childcare for their workers by increasing the number of employees a business can have up to 500 to receive the credit, an increase from 100 employees under previous state law.

keeping many Hoosier parents out of the workforce," Buchanan said. "Childcare is a vital part of our state's economy, and finding ways to increase access is important as Indiana continues to attract new businesses to our communities."

Eligible businesses can now claim the tax credit for operating costs, not just start-up costs, and for payments to unaffiliated childcare providers on behalf of their employees.

innovative ways to ensure our children are well cared for and parents can find the higher-wage jobs Indiana is attracting," Buchanan said.

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.IndianaSenateRepublicans.com/Buchanan or by phone at 800-382-9467.

"As chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Technology, I've heard from business leaders across the state of the lack of access to reliable and affordable childcare options,

"House Enrolled Act 1177 is a great step forward toward access to childcare in Indiana, and I look forward to working with my colleagues and other state leaders to find

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



State Sen. Spencer Deery (R-West Lafayette, to the right of the governor) attends a ceremonial bill signing of Senate Enrolled Act 160, which allows judges to increase penalties for individuals who disguise their faces while committing a crime.

Sen. Deery's Bills Signed by Governor

Two bills spearheaded by State Sen. Spencer Deery (R-West Lafayette) were ceremonially signed into law by the governor today.

Senate Enrolled Act 160, authored by Deery, allows judges to increase penalties for individuals who disguise their faces while committing a crime.

"Whether it's assaulting Jewish students on a college campus, or ANTIFA agitators trespassing onto a stage to cancel a speaker, wearing a mask to conceal your face during a crime can hinder a police department's efforts to apprehend criminals," Deery said. "This new law increases public safety by ensuring those who wish to harm Hoosiers remain behind bars longer."

The law also creates the crime of malicious littering if a hate group distributes leaflets with the intent to create a fear for physical

safety.

House Enrolled Act 1242, sponsored by Deery, requires two studies that will help the General Assembly make better informed decisions regarding education policy. One is a joint study between the Indiana Department of Education and Department of Local Government Finance that will look at disparities in operational funding per student, including a comparison of funding between districts in the same county and the impact of local assessed property values on funding disparities.

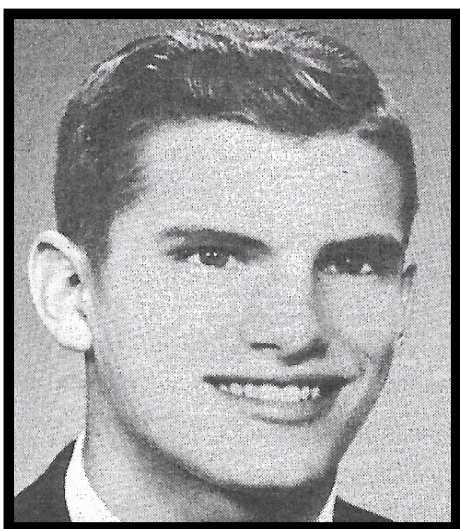
The other study requires the Department of Education to compile a report looking at various statewide metrics that measure administration efficiency and student outcomes like student population, chronic absenteeism, test performance, reading comprehension and teacher salary.

"Throughout my time in the state Senate, I have always worked to ensure I'm making informed decisions," Deery said. "These studies will help my colleagues in the General Assembly see if our policy decisions are working and how we can create better legislation that will positively impact our schools, and most importantly, outcomes for our students."

Deery encourages residents of Senate District 23 to contact him with any questions or comments they may have. Deery can be reached by filling out a "Contact Me" form online at www.IndianaSenateRepublicans.com/Deery or by phone at 800-382-9467.

Deery represents Senate District 23, which includes Fountain, Parke, Vermillion and Warren counties, and portions of Montgomery and Tippecanoe counties.

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Library Going Evergreen; Opens Doors to 8 Million Items

On May 19, Crawfordsville District Public Library will be joining Evergreen Indiana.

What does that mean for patrons? It means they will have access to nearly 8 million items from various libraries across Indiana with their CDPL card.

The library's mission is to provide collections services, and programs that encourage the love of reading and learning. Joining Evergreen supports this mission in a big way by giving our community easier access to even more books and materials to read, learn and grow.

Evergreen Indiana is a growing consortium of over 130 libraries located

throughout Indiana. Patrons of member libraries can use their library card to borrow materials from the other member libraries. This means that you can use your CDPL card to request and borrow books, movies, music, and more from any other participating library in Indiana!

Benefits of Joining Evergreen

- Expanded collection: As a member of Evergreen, our patrons will have access to millions of books, movies, music, and more from other libraries across Indiana.
- Cost savings: Joining the consortium saves us over \$16,000 per year

on our cataloging system, giving the community more for less.

- Seamless borrowing: You can simply use your CDPL card to place holds and check out materials from any Evergreen library.

What Will Change?

- A new online catalog: Our new catalog will show materials from both CDPL and other Evergreen libraries.
- Changed borrowing periods: Most check-out limits will be increased to match Evergreen policies. Most items will be checked out for 21 or 7 days with one or two renewals.

- Increased number of checked-out materials: With your CDPL Evergreen card, your total check-out limit increases to 100 items at a time with some limitations to specific items.
- Reading History: While you will be able to record new reading history in Evergreen, any reading history from our past catalog will not carry forward.

What Will Stay the Same?

- Library services: Our library will continue to offer the same great services as before, such as computer access, printing, and access to Libby and our

other digital resources.

- CDPL remains fine-free: We continue to be fine-free, meaning you won't have to worry about late fees for materials borrowed at our library.

What Else Do I Need to Know?

- Our online catalog will be unavailable from May 13-18. You will still be able to check out items, but making account changes and placing holds will be unavailable during this time. Your reading history in our current catalog will no longer be accessible. Ask our Circulation staff before this date

and we can print your list out for you!

- The Library will be closed Monday, May 18 for staff training.
- You can come in and get a new Evergreen Library Card and update your password anytime on or after May 19 during our open hours.
- E-Content accounts will need to be updated with your new card information and passwords.
- Staff will be available to help you with any questions regarding changes to your account, our digital collection, or how to navigate the new system.

Crawfordsville District Public Library

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SAT/SUN |
|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| 27 SCAN ME SCAN ME | 28 Sign up for BEANSTACK! It's Our Online Reading Program Hub | 29 Access Digital Resources online 24/7. SCAN ME SCAN ME | 30 Library Hours: Mon-Thu: 10a-8p Friday: Closed Sat: 10a-5p Sun: 1-5p | 1 CLOSED | 2 Scaly Safari Spotlight: Bearded Dragons: 11a 3 National Wordsmith Day |
| 4 Cville Chess Club: 5:45p Drop-in Resume Help: 6-7p | 5 Baby Story Time: 10:30a | 6 Toddler Story Time: 10:30a Kindergarten Book Club: 4p Understanding Alzheimer's & Dementia: 6p | 7 Preschool Story Time: 10:30a Drop-in Tech Help: 6-7p | 8 CLOSED | 9 Book Sale 10a-4p 10 Mother's Day |
| 11 Yarn Works: 10a Cville Chess Club: 5:45p Drop-in Resume Help: 6-7p | 12 Yoga for Better Mental Health: 5:30p Genealogy Club: 6p | 13 National Apple Pie Day | 14 CDPL Board Meeting: 4p Drop-in Tech Help: 6-7p | 15 CLOSED International Day of Families | 16 17 |
| 18 CLOSED Network Infrastructure Upgrade | 19 Welcome to the Evergreen Indiana Library Consortium | 20 Wyrd Words Book Club: 5:30p National Streaming Day | 21 Yarn Works: 10a Craft Collective: 5:30p Drop-in Tech Help: 6-7p | 22 CLOSED | 23 24 CLOSED |
| 25 CLOSED Memorial Day | 26 SUMMER PROGRAMS BEGIN | 27 Mystery of History Club: 5p | 28 Teen Anime Club: 6p Drop-in Tech Help: 6-7p | 29 CLOSED | 30 Summer Hours Start Today Mon-Thu: 10a-8p Fri-Sat: 10a-5p Sun: CLOSED 31 CLOSED |

MAY 2026

Adults

Teens

All ages

Children

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

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