

■ TODAY'S VERSE

Psalm 19:14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

■ AWL KUSH



Kush is sadly one of our LONG-TIMERS since 2021. Kush is a 9 year old (senior) female Siberian Husky that has been at the Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County (AWL) since 8/15/2021 (over 4 years). That is WAY to long! Kush LOVES going for walks, playing fetch, running zoomies in a fenced yard, and being showered with love/treats! Kush might be a senior, but she's still got some pep in her step! She's FAST and FULL OF ENERGY! Kush doesn't like snow or rain! She usually opts to stay in her kennel when weather is bad. She would love a nice warm home before winter! Kush is dog selective with a high prey drive. A meet and greet required to ensure good fit. NO CATS/SMALL DOGS . Kush is spayed, dewormed, microchipped, and up to date on all of her shots. Kush is looking for her best friend. Could that be you? Kush is available for adoption, to foster, or just simply going out for walks. 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!



Property taxes are due today. It always makes me so happy to write that check for a house that needs work while seeing government buildings all new and sparkly. So happy.

■ MONTGOMERY MINUTE

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

■ QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We all have two lives. The second one starts when we realize we only have one."

Confucius

■ JOKE OF THE DAY

Why don't drivers eat before the race?

So they don't get Indy-gestion!

The Paper

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Let's Take a Trip Into the Twilight 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!

Imagine if you will another dimension, another time. You're traveling through another dimension – a dimension not only of sight and sound but of mind. A journey into a wondrous land whose boundaries are that of imagination. That's a signpost up ahead: your next stop: the Twilight Zone! And believe it or not, today, May 11, is a day when we can wander back into that old dimension. It's a day where we can remember Rod Serling, standing in living black-and-white on our small screens in our living room every Friday night. Yes friends, today, is that day to remember, a day when we can wander into the Twilight Zone . . . by the numbers!

5-11

There appears to be a day for everything and May 11 is Twilight Zone Day. We're not sure why, but we sure enjoy the trip into another time and dimension!



39

Serling was 39-years-old when the show debuted. As a child, he loved to listen to radio, especially some of the old drama and thriller shows. He graduated from Binghamton Central High School in New York.

10-2-59

It was a Friday and CBS premiered a new show that featured a man with dark hair, dark eyebrows and a cigarette in his hand. Rod Serling introduced us all to the beginning of a five season run that ended in 1964.

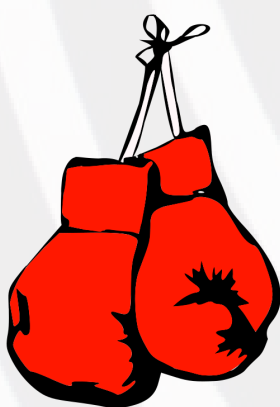


1943

The day after his high school graduation, Serling chose to enlist in the U.S. Army rather than go to college. He ended up serving in the 511th Parachute Infantry Regiment.



64 Serling was only 64 inches tall – five foot four.



17

He may have been small, but he had 17 boxing bouts, competing as a flyweight.

156

The number of episodes of the Twilight Zone, running from Oct. 2, 1959 to June 19, 1964.

25

Each episode was approximately 25 minutes in length. However, season four of five expanded to one hour.

3 The Twilight Zone has had three remakes – taking place in 1985, 2002 and 2019.

92 Of the 156 episodes, Serling wrote more than half – 92 – of them.



■ THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1. Indiana Governor Mike Braun joined Eli Lilly and Company recently to celebrate a major expansion at the company's Lebanon campus, including the opening of Lilly Lebanon Advanced Therapies – its first dedicated genetic medicine manufacturing facility – and additional investments across its Indiana operations. Lilly's latest commitment brings its total planned capital investments in Indiana to more than \$21 billion since 2020, further solidifying the state's position as a global leader in life sciences, advanced manufacturing and innovation. This builds on Gov. Braun's recent announcement of a \$1 billion, 10-year life sciences initiative focused on creating 100,000 new jobs within plant, animal and human health. The Lebanon site, located within the state's LEAP Innovation District, plays a central role in Indiana's strategy to grow next-generation industries and attract transformational investment. Lilly Lebanon Advanced Therapies will support both clinical and commercial production of advanced medicines, including genetic therapies designed to address disease at its source.

2. ParaPsyCon 7, a massive Paranormal and Psychic Convention, is slated for May 15-17 in Mansfield, Ohio's famed Ohio State Reformatory. OSR gained international notoriety 30 years ago starring as Shawshank Prison and continues to grow in popularity. The site for countless hauntings, apparitions and paranormal investigations, the prison is cited as "most haunted" and "scariest places" in America by the Travel Channel and other sources. Wall-to-wall psychics, paranormal teams, celebrities, Bigfoot and cryptid researchers, UFO investigators, authors, healers and vendors offering stones, crystals, jewelry, tarot and more will fill ParaPsyCon 7. Q&A panels and speakers present on topics ranging from cryptids and UFOs to wraiths, hauntings, psychics and mediums and other mysteries of the paranormal and unexplained. Details and event tickets are available at Parapsycon.com

3. As the Indianapolis International Airport puts a strong spring-break travel period in its rearview mirror, it is now looking ahead to welcoming fans from around the world to the greatest spectacle in racing, and gearing up for a summer packed with new routes, a new airline, more flights and heavy passenger travel. The airport had 403,000 passengers fly through the Indy airport during spring break 2026 and March 2026 was the second-highest capacity month in IND's history. The terminal is now decked out and ready to welcome hundreds of thousands of fans from across the country and around the world for the Indianapolis 500 race.

The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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► OBITUARY

Antoinette Shannon

June 10, 1951 - May 7, 2026

Antoinette (Toni) Madeline Shannon, 74, of rural Crawfordsville passed away peacefully on May 7, 2026 surrounded by her family. After an extended battle with cancer, she is free from pain and rejoicing in heaven with her parents.



Toni was born on June 10, 1951 to Norman J. Grewe and Helen R. Grewe (Mayerowicz) in Elmhurst, IL.

During sophomore year at Glenbard East High School, she met the love of her life, Randall (Randy) T. Shannon and they have been inseparable over the last 60 years. They wed on September 8, 1973 in Lombard, IL.

She was a 50 year resident of Lombard before retiring and moving to Marco Island, FL and ultimately settling in rural Crawfordsville, IN across the farm field from her son, daughter-in-law, and beloved granddaughters.

Toni and Randy were blessed with their only son Jonathan (Kelly) Shannon in 1980. He and his wife gave her the gift of three granddaughters; Sophia, Amarah, and Adelle Shannon. They were her everything. She finally had a chance to do girly things and spoil them with dresses and nail appointments after raising a boy for so many years.

Toni graduated from Glenbard East High School and went on to get her bachelor's degree from George Williams College in Downers Grove. She worked for Maple Investments and West Suburban Bank over the years, but ultimately chose to raise her son and help her husband successfully operate Shannon's Specialty in Lombard for 20 years.

Many years were spent on Lake Michigan at the boat and later on in life on Marco Island and in Naples enjoying the sun, warm air, and beach.

Toni is survived by her brother William (Patty) Grewe of Logan, UT. She has many loved nieces and nephews that were always looking out for "Aunt Toni". She was preceded in death by her mother, father, and a brother, Gerald (Jerry) Grewe.

In honoring her wishes, no services will be held and her ashes will be spread at locations that meant the most to her. Sanders Funeral Care entrusted with care. Share memories and condolences online at www.SandersFuneralCare.com.

**Thank you for
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Photos courtesy Andy Chandler

Wabash College Sphinx Club and others helped cut the ribbon.



A host of local dignitaries turned out for the ceremony.



Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton and a good crowd was on hand for the rededication.



Judge Heather Barajas recounted nights she stayed in the courthouse when she was a student.

Rededication of Courthouse Drew Crowd

By Andy Chandler

Residents of Montgomery County and individuals representing multiple civic groups in Crawfordsville, gathered at the Montgomery County Courthouse for the rededication after a lengthy restoration process. In total about 100 people were in attendance.

The lineup of speakers included County Commissioner Dan Guard, Judge Heather Barajas, architect Henry Stellema and Tom Meeks, Associate Director

of the Lew Wallace Study.

The invocation was performed by Pastor Tim Luekin of Woodland Heights Christian Church. Channeling his inner John Adams, Pastor Luekin prayed that none but the wise and prudent judge within the walls.

The ceremony was also attended by Randolph Seipel, Grand Master of the Freemasons, as well as many of his brother Masons. Also in attendance were members of

the Wabash College Sphinx Club, who participated in the ribbon cutting.

Barajas spoke about how much the courthouse meant to her and her development in the legal profession. She spoke of how she would spend many a night there as an employee and student studying for the bar. "I'd bring my air mattress and sleep in the basement."

Meeks spoke of a similar ceremony that occurred in 1875 during the first

dedication. At that time, Meeks recounted, Gen. Lew Wallace himself was the keynote speaker and spoke for nearly an hour until it started to rain, at which point they had to reconvene inside a nearby building. Meek's speech did not eclipse the one hour mark, and the rain held off during the ceremony.

After the dedication, those present were encouraged to go inside and walk through the hallways and enjoy snacks and pizza.

Spring Property Taxes Due Today

Property owners in Montgomery County, don't forget that the spring due date is today, Monday, May 11.

Montgomery County's tax statements are mailed by mid-April each year, complying with the Indiana state guidelines. Statements include payment coupons for both

the spring and fall payments and dog tax forms. The payments are due every May 10 and Nov. 10. If those dates fall on a weekend or holiday, the deadline is extended to the next business day.

To check balances and other property details, taxpayers are directed to research their parcel

and current balances at the county's GIS website, <https://beacon.schneidercorp.com/>.

For taxpayer convenience and safety, the Treasurer provides several payment options.

Pay in the Office. The office is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. It

is located at 1580 Constitution Row, Suite B. The Treasurer's office will only accept cash and checks. To pay by credit card, please go to the county website www.montgomerycounty.in.gov.

Use the Drop Box. A secure drop box is located

See **TAXES Page 5**



2026 SUBARU OUTBACK XT IS THE SUPER COMFY ALL-TERRAIN TURBO WAGON THAT ELICITS NOSTALGIA OF VOLVOS PAST

Better than a Lamborghini toting a trailer, it takes kids to school and families on adventures



CASEY WILLIAMS
Columnist

One of my favorite cars from the late 1980s/90s is the Volvo 740 Turbo Wagon, a car once compared in advertising to a Lamborghini Countach hitching a trailer. For the time, it was fast, luxurious, and innately practical. It was understated and durable. Which, brings me to the car I'm driving this week: The redesigned 2026 Subaru Outback Limited XT.

That XT is the important part as this Outback turbo has nearly a hundred horsepower over the old brick-square Volvo and can run 0-60 mph in about 2 seconds less – not quite as fast as the V-12-powered Countach, but nipping the bumpers of late-80s Corvettes. Imagine an all-road WRX rally car with a cavernous trunk and penchant for off-grid camping.

By the numbers, the Outback's 2.4-liter turbo-charged four-cylinder engine conjures 260 horsepower and 277 lb.-ft. of torque – all routed to the standard all-wheel-drive system through a continuously variable transmission. I don't love CVTs, which are pretty revvy in non-turbo models, but are more subdued under a turbo's torque. Shift through eight pre-set gear ratios with paddles for a more natural feel. Fuel economy is pretty frugal for a tall turbo wagon at 21/29-MPG city/highway.

I suspect nobody will complain about the Outback XT's performance on- or off-road, but the new fit is certainly gaining controversy. As Subaru discontinued the similar Legacy sedan, it had the opportunity to endow the Outback with more SUV style. That means a taller grille, squared body that would make a classic Volvo jealous, and liberal application of black plastic. Our Limited includes 19-inch black wheels, 8.7

inches of ground clearance and a roof rack rated for 800 lbs. of static load – enough to loft a pop-up tent sheltering a couple of campers.

Far less controversial is the new interior fronting a 12.1-inch infotainment screen with crisp graphics, quick start-up, and intuitive controls. Drivers get a fully digital instrument cluster. Harman Kardon audio provides sound the Outback deserves – as do wireless Apple CarPlay, Android Auto and console phone charging. Heated seats and steering wheel, dual-zone automatic climate control and sweet bovine leather upped the luxury. Enjoy the power moonroof on spring days and summer nights.

Much of the new Outback's underlying architecture is shared with the previous generation. Passengers slide in slightly higher, but the view over the hood and windshield rake are more wagon than SUV. Outback fans can stand down; it's still a wagon whether its sleek or looks like a Volvo had relations with a Land Rover.

Being a Subaru, safety is still paramount. Beyond its body structure that's expected to ace crash tests, active tech includes the automaker's three-camera EyeSight system to enable adaptive cruise, automatic emer-

gency braking, lane keep assist, and lane-centering steering. It also employs blind spot warning, rear auto brake, and emergency evasive steering assist. I'd like it even better with a head-up display and hands-off cruising.

I've owned two previous-generation Outbacks, including our current 2022 Outback Wilderness with the turbo. There's also a 1989 Corvette in my garage. The Corvette will out-run the Outback at top end, but will not get away from it 0-60 mph. The Outback XT is a seriously quick car that just happens to be an excellent family wagon no matter the trails you roam.

The Outback's price has been steadily rising, now starting at just under \$35,000. Our Limited with turbo and trimmings comes to \$45,815. Inflation adjusted, the old Volvo started at \$70,079 – or about a \$25,000 discount with an extra hundred horsepower, fortified all-road capability and famous durability. Today's competitors include the Ford Bronco Sport, Nissan Rogue, Toyota RAV4 and Volvo XC60.

Storm Forward!

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

LIKES

- UPDATED INFOTAINMENT
- ALL-ROAD CAPABILITY
- TURBO ACCELERATION

DISLIKES

- CONTROVERSIAL STYLING
- NO HUD
- NO HANDS-OFF

2026 Subaru Outback XT
Five-passenger, AWD Crossover
Powertrain: 2.4-liter T4, CVT
Output: 260hp/277 lb.-ft. torque
Suspension f/r: Ind/Ind
Wheels f/r: 19"/19" alloy
Brakes f/r: disc/disc
Towing: 3,500 lbs.
Fuel economy: 21/29 mpg city/hwy
Assembly: Ota, Gunma, Japan
Base/As-tested price: \$34,995/45,815

I Know They Belong Together



CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

Three years ago, I was in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, walking through what had once been a large fabric mill. It has since been turned into an art gallery called, appropriately, La Fabrica, where artists of all kinds lease space to show their work. There are always people and art and dogs, and flowers blooming and banners flying, making this former mill one of the liveliest places in town.

One day, while passing a shop, I saw the most outrageous couch.

It was an old camelback couch—a loveseat, really, but with wide, rolled arms. It appeared to be an older piece of furniture that had been restored. The fabric was crazy. It was a patchwork of burned velvet fabric in brilliant hues. It was the brightest, craziest couch I'd ever seen, and it was being sold alongside art and sculpture, which made sense, because it really was a work of art.

I don't know how stories come into being, but that brilliant couch, three years ago, left an impression on me.

I started writing a new book. The book was about a house that had lived in a small town by the river for

150 years and had, over the course of time, developed a fondness for the women who lived in it, especially its current tenant, Max. "What did Max do?" I wondered. And then I saw her making a couch very much like that one I'd seen, using crazy fabrics, and selling it to her art dealer, Bobby.

The story became "The Turnip House." When it was finished, I sent it to my agent and, after editing it, we submitted it to my publisher. And we have just learned that they want to publish it.

Last week, my husband, Peter, and I were considering moving from our tiny and much-loved apartment at Casa de los Soles. We decided not to move. We realized we could not stand to be away from this place that has become our home away from home. Since we are not spending money on a larger apartment, I was walking through La Fabrica, wondering how we could make our place a little nicer. Just as I was thinking this, I saw a couch very similar to the one that had inspired "The Turnip House," the book that had just sold.

I went into the shop. "You had another couch," I began, "but it was in brighter

colors."

The young woman did not look perplexed in the least. She headed off to the back of the store and indicated that I should follow her.

"No way," I thought.

We climbed a flight of stairs. And there, sitting like it was waiting for me, was my couch. Except now, it was 40% off.

"Oh my gosh," I said in English.

I came home and told Peter.

"If you like it, that's all that matters," Peter said. (Peter is wonderful that way.)

Then I asked Jorge, our landlord, if he'd mind if I replaced his couch with a new one. At first, he thought I was asking him to buy it.

"No! No," I told him. "It's a gift—to me." And I told him the story.

Jorge smiled. "No problem!"

So today I am waiting. I should be getting the final contract for "The Turnip House," which will make it all official. And I should be getting delivery of the brightly colored couch that inspired it. I'm not sure which will arrive first, and I guess it doesn't matter. I know they belong together and are part of the same story.

Till next time,

Carrie





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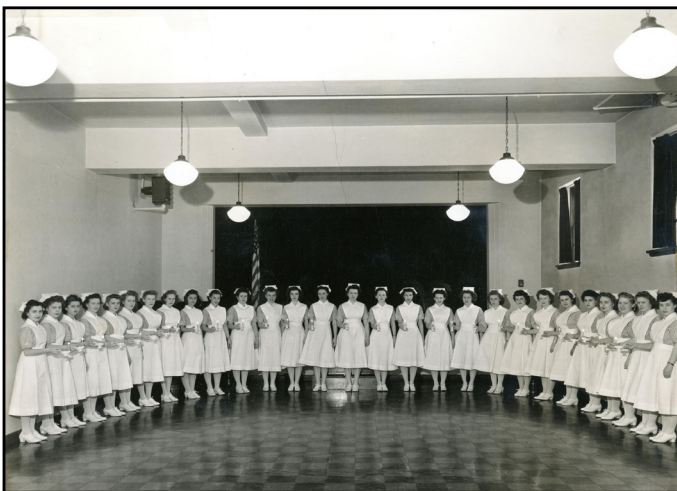
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Betty Williams is at the top in the center.



Photos courtesy Betty's daughter Lisa Hall

The May 1946 pinning ceremony. Betty is third from left.

Andy Takes Us Back for International Nurses Day



ANDY CHANDLER
Columnist

At the time of this publishing, tomorrow, May 12th is International Nurses Day.

Working in the archives at a museum dedicated to a reporter who documented people's daily lives, it's easier to discuss a specific government program, time, or issue through the eyes of someone who experienced it.

Most people come to museums expecting to see a collection of artifacts. Among the many time period pieces, are items that make the visitor pause and reflect. In many ways, a museum is a collection of biographies.

At the Ernie Pyle WWII Museum in Dana, the archives have one such biography: a 1944 Cadet Nurse Corp (CNC) blouse donated on behalf of Ms. Betty Williams, one of the first women to participate in a government program to train nurses during World War II (WWII).

Betty Lou Williams was born in Indianapolis in 1926. During her infancy, her family moved to a farm in Odon, IN, a town west of what is now Crane Naval Center. She spent her childhood in

school, helping with farm chores and raising her dog, Spitz. She graduated from Odon-Madison High School in 1944.

It's hard to fathom that during the US involvement in WWII the American war effort, the US went from 100,000 people in uniform, to over sixteen million. During the five years of CNC's existence, more nurses were pinned than there were military service members prior to 1941.

We can learn a lot about Betty as a person based on the CNC requirements. Candidates were to be between 17-35 years of age, of good moral character, fit and have good grades.

Motivations varied, but in many interviews later conducted by Case Western University, women in the program cited that the chance to wear a uniform, free college, free tuition room and board, a chance to make more than being an office clerk and a desire to help people, as main motivators.

One feature of Ohio Senator Frances Bolton's 1943 Nurse Training Senate Bill was the prohibition against racial discrimination. CNC was five years ahead of the

formal armed forces' integration. While numbers are not fully known, Case Western University, in the same study, estimated four thousand minorities were pinned over five years.

Betty was trained through Union Hospital's program in Terre Haute under the watchful eye of Bessie Small. The collection of ID cards and photographs from that time have been a godsend to archivists. She completed the program with top grades.

Eventually, she went on to a career in rural medicine starting in Oden and then went to work at IU Medical for cancer research and treatment. She married and had a family. It was her daughter Lisa Hall, who donated the artifacts to the Pyle Museum where eventually they will be on display by this summer.

Recently, during a visit to the Ernie Pyle WWII Museum by Governor Mike Braun, Ms. William's nurses' blouse was put out on display. Even Gov. Braun didn't realize Union Hospital had such a program. When I asked how her mother might feel with the Governor learning about her, Lisa stated, "my mother would be so proud, and probably a little embarrassed."

As a post-script to this article: in researching this program I discovered that in December of 2025, a federal law was signed designating nurses who served in the CNC during



Betty Williams, November 1944



Photo courtesy Andy Chandler

Gov. Mike Braun with Betty's uniform.

1943-1948 and discharged honorably, to be considered active duty military and eligible for VA benefits including the famous white gravestone, and burial in Arlington.

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

Save A Life - Be Aware: May Motorcycle Safety Month

Governor Mike Braun has proclaimed May as Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month in Indiana, joining a nationwide campaign by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. With riding season underway, this annual observance serves as an important reminder that safety on our roadways is a shared responsibility.

As temperatures rise and traffic increases, so does the presence of motorcycles on Hoosier roads. For many riders, this marks a return after months off the bike. May presents the ideal time to remind motorists to look for motorcyclists, as well as offer tips for riders who have been inactive since last fall and

could be a bit rusty.

Motorcycle crashes continue to have devastating consequences across our state. Behind every incident is a person, a family, friends, and communities left to cope with the loss. These are not isolated events. They are preventable tragedies that demand our collective attention.

A large percentage of multi-vehicle motorcycle crashes occur when a driver fails to recognize a motorcycle in traffic, often turning into or pulling out in front of a rider. It is not enough to simply glance. Motorists must actively look for motorcycles and account for them in every driving decision. The

proliferation of Automated Driving Systems that do not yet accurately detect motorcycles compounds this issue. At the same time, riders must take personal responsibility by riding within their abilities, maintaining control, and staying alert to the actions of others.

Training and proper licensing continue to play a critical role in rider safety. Motorcyclists who invest in professional instruction and ongoing skill development are significantly better equipped to handle real-world riding situations. Experience matters, but so does preparation.

ABATE of Indiana encourages all riders to

make safety a priority this season: get trained, get licensed, practice regularly, and ride defensively. Motorists are urged to slow down, eliminate distractions, allow additional space, and treat motorcycles with the same respect as any other road user.

Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month is not just about awareness; it's about awareness in action. Every decision made behind the wheel or on the handlebars has the potential to save a life.

"Save a Life - Be Aware - Motorcycles Are Everywhere."

MoCo VSO Says May Busy Month for Veterans



NICK KASHON
Guest Columnist

This month, there are several great opportunities and important updates for veterans and their families in Montgomery County.

Join us as we honor and remember our veterans.

Veteran Charity Golf Tournament

- Date: May 22
- Location: Crawfordsville Municipal Golf Course
- Format: Four-person veteran or first responder
- Extras: Lunch for all participants
- Sign-Up Deadline: May 20th at the Municipal Pro Shop

New Property Tax Reform for Disabled Veterans

Beginning Jan. 1, 2027 (for the 2026 tax year), new property tax benefits are available for disabled veterans. What you need to know:

- Applications required by Dec. 29 (not automatic - must reapply)
- Forms available at Crawfordsville Veteran Service Office starting in JULY
- Bring your current disability awards letter (showing percentage of disability)
- To get a new awards letter: visit VA.gov or call 1-800-827-1000

This event is hosted with Folds of Honor. Gather your team and sign up early!

Memorial Day Events - May 25

- Car Cruise-In: Classic, vintage, and antique cars at the American Legion, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.. Rain or shine. Dash Plaques for first 50 vehicles.
- Honor Guard Ceremony: Veterans Memorial Park, 11 a.m. Sharp!
- Lunch at the Legion: Noon - 1:30 p.m. (\$10 per person)

Veteran Service Office Information

- Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Appointments preferred: 765-361-4133

Nick Kashon is the Veterans Service Officer for Montgomery County. You can reach him at Nick.Kashon@montgomerycounty.in.gov or (765) 361-4133. His office is located at 1580 Constitution Row Crawfordsville.

► FOR THE RECORD

For The Record is a public service and regular feature in The Paper of Montgomery County. It is designed to tell you what is scheduled to happen and what actually does happen in meetings paid for with your tax dollars. The Paper encourages all citizens to take an active role in being involved in local government.

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

The Board of School Trustees of the Crawfordsville Community School Corporation will conduct a regular meeting on Thursday, May 14, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at 3 West Athenian Dr.

The public is invited to attend.

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Dick's Little Experiment



DICK WOLFSIE
Columnist

I don't want Mary Ellen and me to end up like our friends the Rodmans, who, up until their 40th wedding anniversary, couldn't keep their mitts off each other, but after returning from celebrating in the Bahamas, they sued each other for divorce. They were so happy they didn't realize how miserable they were. My diagnosis was that they had not been upfront and honest about their annoying behaviors.

"I have an idea," I told my wife. "This evening, I'll act out all your bad habits, and you can act out all mine. That way, we'll both get a clearer picture of how much we annoy each other. It will add a little spice to our relationship and reveal which irritating actions we need to work on."

I jotted down a few of

Mary Ellen's little idiosyncrasies. I didn't want to overdo it, knowing how challenging it would be for my wife to compile a comparable list. I'm very much the perfect husband.

That night, after I returned from playing pickleball, Mary Ellen walked in from a church meeting. It was her turn to be me. She began by not shutting the door behind her, letting every fly and bug get into the house. She also tracked a lot of mud in on her shoes, but she wiped her feet on the throw rug. Hmm, she was off to a good start.

Then she popped open a can of beer and guzzled it. She wiped the beer that ran down her chin with her sleeve. After turning on the bedroom TV, she clicked on the living room TV so we could hear both sets blaring at once. Then,

to nail me on my most annoying habit, she searched every room in the house, pretending she had lost her cell phone. I hated to admit it, but she was me all over.

Now it was my turn to be Mary Ellen. First, I took all the dirty plates and glasses I had left in the sink and put them in the dishwasher, but not before I rearranged the dirty utensils and put them in the proper compartments. Then I turned off all the lights throughout the house that I had left on all day. Next, I swept up all the crumbs on the floor that some slob (me) had forgotten to clean up. I also wiped down the counter because someone hadn't cleaned up the orange juice he spilled. Yes, my wife has a lot of annoying habits, mostly cleaning up after me.

I asked Mary Ellen if she was okay with my little experiment. "Oh, yes," she said. "Let's do it again next week."

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

About Humane World for Animals

Together, we tackle the root causes of animal cruelty and suffering to create permanent change. With millions of supporters and work happening in over 50 countries, Humane World for Animals—formerly called the Humane Society of the United States and Humane Society International—addresses the most deeply entrenched forms of animal cruelty and suffering. As the leading voice in the animal protection space, we work to end the cruelest practices, care for animals in crisis and build a stronger animal protection movement. Driving toward the greatest global impact, we aim to achieve the vision behind our name: a more humane world. humaneworld.org



Photo courtesy Humane World for Animals

If you have any information about this case, please call police at (765) 482-1412 and select option 4. A reward up to \$5,000 is being offered.

Emaciated Dog Found in Trash; Reward Offered

Humane World for Animals, formerly called the Humane Society of the United States, is offering a reward of up to \$5,000 for information leading to the identification and arrest of the person or persons responsible for abandoning an emaciated dog in a trash can.

The Boone County Sheriff's Office gave the following account: On the evening of April 20, a homeowner found an emaciated female shepherd mix abandoned in their trash can. The trash can was situated at the end of their driveway along 200 E in Lebanon. The dog, named "Prim" by authorities, survived and is now in a foster home.

Securing the serious attention and engagement

of law enforcement, prosecutors and residents in cases involving allegations of cruelty to animals is an essential step in protecting the whole community. The connection between animal cruelty and human violence is well documented. Studies show a correlation between animal cruelty and many other crimes, from narcotics and firearms violations to battery and sexual assault.

"Allowing a dog to decline into such a poor body condition and then leaving her for dead in a trash can is a heartbreakingly cruel crime," said Samantha Chapman, Indiana state director, Humane World for Animals. "We hope our reward offering helps find the person or persons responsible for this despicable act."

The Boone County Sheriff's Office is investigating this case. Anyone with relevant information is asked to call Boone County dispatch at (765) 482-1412 and select option 4 to provide a tip.

Humane World for Animals' Animal Cruelty Campaign raises public awareness and educates communities about the connection between animal cruelty and human violence while providing a variety of resources and support to law enforcement agencies, social work professionals, educators, legislators and families. We offer rewards in animal cruelty cases across the country and work to strengthen laws against animal cruelty.

TAXES

Continued from Page 2

ed under the front door awning of the County Government Center and is checked multiple times daily. We discourage the use of cash in this box. When using the drop box, please put payments in an envelope and mark them clearly with information to identify the taxpayer, the address, and the parcel. Your canceled check will serve as a receipt or you can include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for a returned receipt. Confirmation of payment history is available to view online for your parcel at <https://beacon.schneidercorp.com/>.

Mail Payments. Please mail payments to the Treasurer at 1580 Constitution Row, Crawfordsville, IN 47933. If a receipt is desired, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. The postmark date is accepted as an on-time payment, but it is not encouraged to wait until the final day to ensure that the mail is truly processed and postmarked on the due date.

Pay at Local Banks. All Montgomery County First Financial, Hoosier Heartland, and Tri-County banks offer a great service to our county residents

by accepting payment for three weeks before each due date. The taxpayer must submit the payment coupon and pay the exact amount listed to pay at the banks.

Pay Online or by Phone. To pay online, go to the home page of the county website, select Online Bill Pay. Next choose the Property Tax, Dog Taxes & Tax Payments option. Search by parcel number OR name OR address. To pay by phone, call (855) 276-8051 and have your parcel number ready. Please be aware that using any type of online system charges a service fee. Paying with an ACH e-check (your bank routing numbers) has a lower fee than using a card.

Though the county does not have formal payment plans, full and partial payments are accepted anytime throughout the year. Appropriate penalties will apply if installments are not paid in full by the due date.

Our County Commissioners enacted the Dog Tax in 2007. All dog owners are legally bound to pay \$5 for each dog over 6 months of age, with the maximum

of \$30 per family. Kennel owners pay \$30 for 1-6 dogs and \$50 for 7 dogs or more. Those payments can be made at the same time property taxes are being paid. The dog tax funds go toward the Montgomery County Animal Welfare League, animal control, claim reimbursements, and canine research and education.

To lower future property tax bills, many are eligible for deductions including the Homestead, Over 65, Blind and Disabled, Disabled Veteran, or Geothermal. To check deductions and eligibilities, contact the Auditor's Office.

If you have any questions, please contact the appropriate office:

Tax Payments, Treasurer at 364-6410

Deductions, Auditor at 364-6400

Mailing Address Changes, Mapping at 361-4123

Assessed Values, Assessor at 364-6420

Ditch Reconstruction Fees, Surveyor at 361-32350

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Crawfordsville District Public Library

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
27  SCAN ME 	28 Sign up for BEANSTACK! It's Our Online Reading Program Hub	29 Access Digital Resources online 24/7. 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
All ages

Teens
Children

CenterPoint Steps Up For U.S. Veterans

In celebration of the upcoming 250th anniversary of the United States of America, the CenterPoint Energy Foundation is launching a new and unique grant opportunity to support nonprofit organizations that serve and focus on our U.S veterans in CenterPoint Energy's four state service area in Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio and Texas.

Through this special grant opportunity, the Foundation plans to invest up to \$250,000 in the states the company serves, with individual grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$25,000. Grants will be awarded to eligible nonprofit organizations with a primary location within CenterPoint's service areas and whose programs support veterans and individuals connected to the military.

"As our nation approaches its 250th

anniversary, this grant opportunity reflects our deep respect for the men and women who serve and have served, and our privilege to support them beyond their time in uniform," said Jason Ryan, Executive Vice President, Regulatory Services and Government Affairs at CenterPoint and United States Navy veteran.

"We see the value every day of our veteran workforce. We have more than 700 employees who once served in uniform and who are today working to deliver safe and reliable energy services to nearly 7 million customers. Through the CenterPoint Energy Foundation, we appreciate being able to give back to veterans by supporting nonprofit organizations that provide critical resources for mental health, housing stability and everyday needs. It's an honor to invest in programs that

help veterans and their families thrive in the communities we are proud to serve," Ryan added.

Grant funding will focus on nonprofit programs working to strengthen veteran resilience through:

- Mental health and peer support services.
- Transitional and stable housing assistance.
- Daily living support, including transportation, benefits navigation and basic needs.

Funded separately and financially independent from the utility, the CenterPoint Energy Foundation strives to be a catalyst for good by leveraging everyday opportunities and resources to strengthen communities. This grant opportunity for veteran-serving organizations expands on the Founda-

tion's two main strategic giving areas of community vitality and education to help address critical challenges facing veterans and their families.

CenterPoint employs more than 700 veterans across its four-state service area, who continue their commitment to service by strengthening the communities where they live and work by helping provide vital electric and natural gas service.

In 2025, the CenterPoint Energy Foundation awarded more than \$15 million to support nonprofit organizations focused on increasing community vitality and investing in education.

To learn more about this program and to apply for a grant, visit CenterPointEnergy.com/Community.

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Mecum Auctions Back at Indiana State Fairgrounds

Mecum Auctions is back at the Indiana State Fairgrounds and Event Center for Dana Mecum's 39th Original Spring Classic, bringing one of the nation's largest collector car auctions back to Indianapolis now through May 16.

In its 19th year in Indianapolis, the nationally televised event has become the largest non-fair event hosted annually at the Indiana State Fairgrounds and Event Center and continues to generate major economic impact for the Fairgrounds, Indianapolis, and the State of Indiana.

This year's event is expected to feature approximately 2,500 collector vehicles and 28 private collections, attracting buyers, sellers, and automotive enthusiasts from across the country.



INDIANA STATE FAIR

"Our partnership with Mecum Auctions reflects the strength of our campus as a destination for world-class events," said LeRoy Lewis III, Director of Community and Media Engagement at the Indiana State Fairgrounds and Event Center. "Year after year, Mecum chooses the fairgrounds, and we are proud to continue hosting an event that delivers economic impact, national attention, and a unique experience for our guests."

Top 3 Takeaways

- Largest non-fair event hosted annually

- Approximately 2,500 to 3,000 collector vehicles expected throughout the event
- Nationally televised auction with major economic impact across Indianapolis and Indiana

Featured collections this year include The M Group Collection, highlighted by rare European exotics and iconic American muscle vehicles.

For more information about the event, visit www.Mecum.com.

2 Hoosier National Guard Soldiers Shine

Two Indiana National Guard soldiers scored big at a Midwest regional competition held at Fort Custer Training Center, near Augusta, Michigan, from April 30 to May 2. Sgt. Brendan Bartlett and Spc. Caleb Chambers, who won Indiana's statewide competition in March at Camp Atterbury, competed against Guardsmen from Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Chambers took top honors for junior-enlisted soldiers, and Bartlett placed second among noncommissioned officers. Together they won the state team award with overall combined score that bested the other states.

"I love the competition, spirit and everyone just cheering each other on," said Chambers after earning the top spot and an infantryman with 1st Battalion, 151st Infantry Regiment.

The 14 National Guardsmen faced off in several events testing their soldier skills, physical fitness, mental fortitude and overall resilience.

Over the three days, events included firing multiple weapons systems — M4 carbine, M17 pistol, M240 machine gun, a day-to-night land navigation course, an obstacle course, a water survival insertion, an appearance board, a 12-mile road march and the Army Expert Fitness Test. Additional tests included evaluating injuries on mock casualties, firing a Claymore mine and assembling three weapon systems under time constraints.

Preparing for the grueling competition took many hours of work, dedication and discipline that was also a point of pride for the Hoosier soldiers.

"It's an opportunity to show the best the Guard has to offer, and I am extremely proud of the type of soldiers we have in Indiana," said Chambers who took part in shooting competitions and hit the gym in preparation for the Best Warrior Competitions.

Chambers, who works at a factory when not wearing a U.S. Army uniform, said it's also pride in serving the country is how he manages two careers.

"I truly enjoy what I do here," said Chambers while on a Camp Atterbury range training for the regional competition. "I put in effort wherever I am. It's a constant effort."

For Bartlett, a 147th Cyber Warfare Company cyber operations specialist, part of the motivation that drove him is his love of the Hoosier state.

"Competing in the regional competition to me, it just means being with the best of the best within the regionals," said Bartlett at the Camp Atterbury training. "Personally, I feel like it's an honor. I love Indiana. I went to school here. I lived here for most of my life, and I am just very happy to have the honor of being the Indiana representative and NCO of the year."

Bartlett said that preparation helped him meet the moment.

"For regionals, I am en-

suring that I am fit, mentally sharp," said Bartlett. "Really this entire week, pre train-up is the biggest thing and having the option to shoot, hit the obstacle course, land navigation course, all the Army warrior tasks, just ensuring I am prepared as I possibly can be."

While the preparation helped during the three-day challenge, Bartlett finished second among noncommissioned officers. Yet, he enjoyed the experience of the Midwest competition.

"I felt great. I mean I was tired and sore, but the entire time I was having a great time," said Bartlett following the regional awards ceremony. "I enjoyed the entire thing. It was a fantastic opportunity."

Though Bartlett had a great time, he had mixed emotions about not joining his Hoosier compatriot on the top spot.

"It's more like a bitter-sweet feeling right now," said Bartlett. "I really wanted first, obviously, but you know I am so very happy with what I've accomplished here, and what I've done here. I'm very happy overall."

As the runner-up, Bartlett will be on the bench so to speak should the first place NCO, Staff Sgt. Logan Pasker of the Iowa National Guard, fall off. Chambers will go on to the national-level Best Warrior Competition slated for July in Florida.

"I'm pumped, I'm excited for going onto nationals. I'm proud to represent Indiana. Just loving the whole feeling right now," said Chambers.

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