

■ TODAY'S VERSE

1 John 4:10 (NIV)

"This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."

■ AWL BLONDIE



Blondie

Say hello to BLONDIE — a beautiful 4-year-old ORANGE tabby domestic shorthair looking for her forever family!

Did you know orange tabby females are pretty rare? About 80% of orange tabbies are male, making Blondie one special girl!

Blondie is friendly with her kitty pals in the community cat room, but she's dreaming of a home to call her very own. She has been available for adoption since 2/5/26 and is also available for foster care while she waits for her perfect match.

If you've been thinking about adding a furry friend to your family, Blondie would love to meet you! Stop by and spend some time snuggling cats in our community cat room, walking dogs, or lending a helping hand around the shelter.

AWL Hours:
Monday–Friday:
12:15 PM – 5 PM
Saturday: 12 PM – 3 PM

■ MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Beginning May 31, the Crawfordsville District Public Library will switch to its summer hours. That means it will be open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. On Fridays and Saturdays the library will open at 10 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. And on Sundays the library will be closed. Patrons can always access digital resources and other information from the library by going to <https://crawfordsvillelibrary.in.gov/>



We take a break from our regular programming to say enjoy the last weekend of May. The lusty month of May will fade in the gloaming in a couple of days, to be replaced by the month when weddings and summer begin.

■ QUOTE OF THE DAY

"You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough."

Mae West

■ JOKE OF THE DAY

What's the difference between spinach and boogers?

You can't get your 5-year-old to eat spinach!

Have a
great
weekend.

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BOOMER BITS...Tips and Advice from Boomers to Boomers

What About Social Security's 'First Year Rule'?

Dear Rusty: I am 63 years old, and about to apply for my Social Security benefits. I am self-employed but only working part time. I know about Social Security's annual earnings limit but recently I learned I must also be concerned about a monthly earnings limit of \$2,040. My questions are:

1) How do I find out if I will be subject to a monthly earning limit of \$2,040 per month? I thought it was only evaluated annually.

2) If I choose to cancel Social Security within the first year or after, what are the penalties? Would I have to pay them back for the whole amount for the whole time that they paid me? Which makes no sense, since I have been paid into SS since I was 13 years old.

Can you help me understand this?



ASK RUSTY

Social Security Advisor

Signed: Claiming Early and Still Working

Dear Claiming Early:

It can get tricky if you are still working after claiming your Social Security before your SS full retirement age (FRA), especially during your first year collecting. I'm happy to answer your specific questions:

1. There is a special rule which applies during your first year collecting early

Social Security benefits (e.g., before your full retirement age or "FRA," which for you is age 67). What will happen is this: when the IRS provides SSA with your 2026 earnings (in 2027), SSA will review to see if your total 2026 net earnings from self-employment exceeded the 2026 annual limit of \$24,480. If not, no further action is necessary. But if you did exceed the

See Rusty Page 3

Medicare Roadmap: What to Know Before You Turn 65

(Feature Impact)

Sixty-five is more than a number. It's a milestone. A moment to reflect on where you've been and look forward with confidence to what comes next. For millions of Americans, turning 65 also means unlocking one of the most valuable benefits you've earned: Medicare.

The best is still ahead, and it starts with knowing your options. The official source for Medicare information, Medicare.gov, is here to help with clear, trusted information.

The path to Medicare is not the same for everyone. Some people get Medicare automatically and others have to sign up. It depends on whether you are already

getting Social Security. Either way, you'll want to choose how you get your Medicare coverage.

Get information for your path at Medicare.gov, where you can find out when and how to enroll and explore your coverage options.

Understanding Your Medicare Coverage Options

When you first sign up for Medicare, you choose how to get your coverage. There are two main options: **Original Medicare and Medicare Advantage.**

Original Medicare is health coverage provided directly by the federal government. It has two parts:

Part A (Hospital Insurance) covers inpatient hospital stays, skilled nursing facility care, hospice care and home health care. Most people pay no premium for Part A.

Part B (Medical Insurance) covers doctor visits, outpatient care, preventive services (like screenings, vaccines and annual wellness visits) and durable medical equipment like wheelchairs and walkers. The standard Part B premium is \$202.90 per month and is typically deducted from your Social Security check.

With Original Medicare,

See Medicare Page 2

■ THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1. New research has identified the states with the highest numbers of lottery winners per capita, and guess what? Hoosiers are No. 4 in the U.S. The study by online casino Winz.io examined the locations of all Powerball and Mega Millions winners across the United States from the present to their establishments in 1992 and 2002, respectively. It then used population data to calculate the number of winners per million residents to determine which states have been the most fortunate in major lottery drawings. Indiana stands out in the study for having the highest volume of jackpot winners among the top five states. While smaller states like Delaware and New Hampshire have higher per capita rates, Indiana's 41 winners show a significant level of historical success in Powerball and Mega Millions drawings relative to its population of nearly 7 million.

2. The CDC Foundation recently released a report from Economics for Health on the early results from Indiana's 2025 tobacco tax increase. This report focuses on retail sales data and shows that due to the \$2 per pack tax increase that took effect on July 1, 2025 an estimated 12.6 million FEWER packs of cigarettes were sold in the final six months of 2025. In addition, sales of e-cigarettes were down an estimated 8.3 percent. "The American Heart Association is committed to bringing health and hope to everyone everywhere, which includes protecting youth from the burdens of tobacco and nicotine addiction as well as helping adult smokers quit, said Christina Cesnik, Indiana Government Relations Director for the American Heart Association. "Strategies such as tax increases and funding prevention and cessation programs have proven to be effective in reducing tobacco use time after time. This will translate into fewer heart attacks and chronic health conditions that are a direct result of tobacco use."

3. A new study has revealed the most confusing movies among fans in Indiana, with Donnie Darko ranking number one. The study, conducted by transcription services company Ditto Transcripts, analyzed the average monthly number of Google searches in Indiana for terms related to explanations of popular movies, such as 'Donnie Darko plot explained' and 'Shutter Island ending explained,' to determine which movies are confusing viewers in the state the most. Inception, Enemy

Social Security: The Mystery of Spousal Benefits

By Russell Gloor
AMAC Foundation
Social Security Advisor

Probably the most common fallacy about SS spouse benefits is the belief that a spouse always gets 50 percent (half) of their marital partner's monthly Social Security payment. And that is simply not the case.

We try to address questions about Social Security spouse benefits diligently with individual answers to the specific questions we receive, and also through our weekly "Ask Rusty" articles published in national media. We've addressed these questions, too, in our weekly "Ask Rusty" podcasts, in the periodic public webinars and seminars we do, and in regular separate articles posted on two of our AMAC Foundation websites – www.SocialSecurityReport.org and www.AmacFoundation.org. In other words, we are quite proactive in our efforts to clarify the mystery of Social Security benefits for spouses.

Nevertheless, the questions keep on coming. So, at risk of being repetitive, I'll say it again – spouses do not always get half of their marital partner's Social Security benefit. And that results in the mystery of why.

The Mystery: Understanding the Basics

To understand this mystery, we must first know that Social Security spouse benefits are always determined by comparing each partner's "Primary Insurance Amount" (PIA). This is the retirement amount that each spouse is eligible for based on their individual lifetime work history and is the amount they will receive if they claim benefits to start at their own full retirement age (FRA)[2]. PIAs (FRA amounts) for both partners are compared and, if one spouse's PIA is less than half (50%) of their partner's PIA, then the difference between those two figures becomes a supplemental amount (e.g., a "spousal boost") which can be added to the personal SS retirement amount of the spouse with the smaller PIA. But if the spouse benefit is claimed before FRA, the amount of the "spousal boost" is actuarially reduced (by a fraction of 1% per month early) and, when added to the spouse's actual SS retirement amount, will result in a payment which is less than half of their partner's monthly payment. With few exceptions, any Social Security benefit taken before the recipient's

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MEDICARE

Continued from Page 1

you can visit any doctor or hospital in the U.S. that accepts Medicare. You can also add optional coverage to help manage costs:

Medigap (Supplemental Insurance) helps pay your share of Medicare costs.

Part D (Prescription Drug Coverage) helps pay for medications.

Medicare Advantage is an alternative to Original Medicare that provides Part A and Part B and is offered by private insurers approved by Medicare. You still pay the Part B premium. Some plans charge an additional premium – though many carry a \$0 plan premium and may even help cover part of your Part B cost. Most plans include in Part D drug coverage along with extra benefits like dental, vision and hearing. Keep in mind most plans require you to use doctors within the plan's network.

5 Steps to Enroll with Confidence

Use official sources. Go to Medicare.gov or call 1-800-MEDICARE for step-by-step, personalized guidance on coverage and enrollment.

Start early. You don't have to wait until your birthday. Explore your options now so you're ready when your enrollment window opens.

Know your enrollment path. Your path depends on

your circumstances – some people are automatically enrolled and some are not. There are unique steps for people who are still working.

Avoid late enrollment penalties. Missing your enrollment window can result in a permanent premium penalty for both Part B and Part D. Signing up on time protects your wallet for years to come.

Compare plans and save. At Medicare.gov, you can compare plan costs side-by-side, based on the specific drugs you take. A quick comparison could save you money each year. You can also confirm your current doctors are in-network before you choose a plan.

Turning 65 is a milestone worth celebrating and it's the perfect time to focus on what matters most: your health and well-being. That includes eating well, exercising and making sure you have health insurance that fits your needs. There's no one-size-fits-all plan. What's important is finding an option that works for you and your health and financial needs.

Start your journey at Medicare.gov – your roadmap to a healthier and confident future.

Information provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

OBITUARY

Randy Blye

It is with heavy hearts and joyful memories that we announce the passing of Randy Blye at the age of 79. He was the eldest of three children born to Ernie & Edie Blye. His brother Jerry and sister Pam have all preceded him in death.

Randy graduated from New Market High School in the class of 65. Throughout the years he worked at several auto dealers as an auto sales representative.

He loved spending time with his wife of almost 60 years and their family; sons, Randall II (Dhiann) and Mike (Leslie) and daughter Kim; and grandchildren, Collin, Gabe, and Vivian.

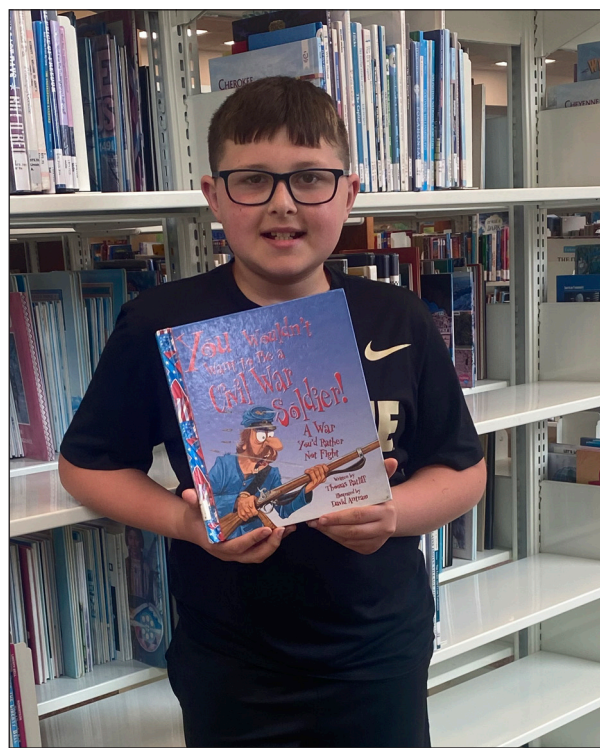
Randy enjoyed traveling, going to classic car shows, listening to 60's music and was so happy to teach the grandchildren how to fish.

Visitation will be at Faith Baptist Church, 3860 E Main St, in Danville, Indiana, where he was a member, on Monday, June 1, 2026 from 10:00am till the time of the memorial service at 12:00pm. The family wishes to express deep gratitude to Hendricks Oncology Group for their care and support through this journey and also Life's Journey Hospice for make him comfortable during his last days with us. Sanders Funeral Care was entrusted with Randy's final wishes being



carried out. Share memories and condolences online at www.SandersFuneralCare.com.

YEARLONG JOURNEY



Courtesy Photos

Emily Allen, age 8, and Mason Allen, age 10, have completed the Crawfordsville District Public Library program the "Yearlong Reading Journey." Emily and Mason are the children of Mike and Casie Allen. On this journey, Emily was challenged to read 12 chapter books and 12 picture books. She read 1,836 pages during the year. She also practiced library skills and learned about a different author each month. Her favorite book is Love from Bluey by Suzy Brumm. Emily said, "I love going to the library. The Book Club and Reading Journey are fun because I get to read so many interesting books and learn so much." On his journey, Mason was also challenged to read 12 chapter books and 12 picture books. He read 2,038 pages during the year. He also practiced library skills and learned about a different author each month. His favorite book is You Wouldn't Want to be a Civil War Soldier! by Thomas Ratcliff. Mason said, "I enjoyed the Reading Journey because I got to read some history and learn more about many different things, I am excited to do it for another year." The Crawfordsville District Public Library congratulates Mason and Emily on their completion of The Yearlong Reading Journey, and celebrates their dedication to reading!

Rokita Unveils Office's New Seal

Attorney General Todd Rokita released the official Indiana Attorney General's America 250 seal this week, commemorating the 250th anniversary of the United States.

"It is an incredible honor to serve as Indiana's Attorney General during this historic milestone, so we wanted to do something meaningful to recognize it," Rokita said. "The timeless values that forged our country – self-governance, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness – are the very ideals our office fights tirelessly to defend every single day. This America 250 seal is a visual reminder of that daily mission and our unwavering commitment to ensuring that our sacred,

God-given rights are maintained."

The new circular seal features a blindfolded Lady Justice holding the scales high against a waving American flag backdrop. The bold "250 YEARS" sits prominently in the center, encircled by the words "Indiana Attorney General" and "America's 250th Anniversary."

"The blindfold on Lady Justice in this seal is not just symbolism, it's an anti-DEI statement of truth," Rokita added. "She doesn't care what color you are. She doesn't care if you're a man or a woman. She doesn't care how rich or poor you are. True justice must be completely impartial – blind to politics, power, special



interests, or identity. As we mark 250 years of American liberty, our office will continue to defend that principle against government over-reach, radical ideologies, and those who

seek to divide us. This anniversary is not just a celebration – it is a call to every Hoosier to actively renew and protect the Republic our founders entrusted to us."

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Mitch Daniels to Serve as Purdue Interim President



Photo Courtesy of Purdue University

Mitch Daniels

The Purdue Board of Trustees at a public session on Monday (May 25) voted to approve the appointment of Mitch Daniels to serve as interim president of Purdue University, effective July 1.

Daniels, Purdue president emeritus and chair of the board of the Purdue Research Foundation, served for 10 years as Purdue's president (2013-2022). He succeeds Mung Chiang, who will become president of Northwestern University on July 1. "We are extremely

grateful to President Emeritus Daniels for his willingness to continue his long and successful service to Purdue University in a role with which he is very familiar," trustees Chair Gary Lehman said. "We look forward to working with Mitch and the executive team in leading Purdue to even greater heights as it continues to impact lives through its landmark mission and the persistent pursuit of excellence in higher education."

"President Chiang has led Purdue forward in a host of im-

portant ways, and it's essential that the momentum he has generated be maintained," Daniels said. "If the board believes that recalling me to active duty temporarily can help in this respect, no one as devoted to this institution as I am could say anything but yes."

Lehman said Daniels has agreed to serve as interim until the next president is identified and takes office. A national search will be launched in the coming weeks.

RUSTY

Continued from Page 1

full year 2026 earnings limit, SSA will contact you and ask you to provide them with details about your monthly 2026 net earnings. If you have exceeded the monthly limit in any 2026 month after your SS benefit started, you will not be entitled to SS benefits for that month. Essentially, if you have exceeded the annual limit, you cannot exceed the monthly earnings limit in any remaining month during your first year of collecting. If you exceeded the annual limit, and also any monthly limit, SSA will send you an overpayment notice saying you must repay them for the benefits you were not entitled to receive because you exceeded the monthly earnings limit.

2. You can, within 12 months of applying for Social Security, ask SSA to withdraw your application for SS retirement benefits. They will do that for you, but you will also be required to repay them all SS benefits that they have already paid to (or for) you. This essentially would "wipe the slate clean" and enable your

SS benefit to continue growing, allowing you to apply for a larger monthly benefit later. But if you wait longer than 12 months after you first apply for SS benefits, you can no longer withdraw your application for Social Security. Thereafter, you would be subject to the annual earnings limit (the monthly earnings limit would no longer apply).

FYI, after you reach your FRA, there is no limit on your earnings, and you could choose to suspend your benefit payments and earn Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) to get a higher monthly benefit. Also at your FRA, if SSA withheld any of your benefits because you exceeded the earnings limit before reaching your FRA, you would get time credit for the number of months your benefits were withheld. Essentially, they would advance your benefit-start month by the number of months your benefits were withheld, yielding a slightly higher monthly amount after your FRA.

Finally, it's important to know that the contributions you made

to Social Security from payroll taxes (FICA/SECA) over your lifetime are not what determines your monthly SS benefit amount. Your monthly SS benefit is based on two main factors: a) your average monthly earnings (indexed for inflation) for the highest earning 35 years over your lifetime as reported to the IRS, and b) the age at which you claim your SS benefits. Your contributions to Social Security while working only provide you with eligibility to collect SS benefits; the contributions aren't put into a separate account for you and are not used to calculate your monthly SS benefit.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. Russell Gloor is the, National Social Security Advisor at the AMAC Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

SPOUSE

Continued from Page 1

FRA will be reduced. Even if the spouse claimed a reduced retirement benefit before FRA, or if their partner claimed SS retirement before or after FRA, the calculation still uses their individual PIAs (FRA amounts) to determine the amount of the spousal boost.

If the spouse is not eligible for their own SS retirement benefit the spouse benefit will be based only on their partner's FRA entitlement. To illustrate, a spouse whose FRA is 67 and who claims spouse benefits at age 62, will only get about 32.5% of their partner's PIA, rather than 50%. And if the spouse's marital partner waited beyond FRA to claim SS retirement benefits, the percentage of the partner's monthly amount received by the spouse would be less than 50% of the partner's SS amount (because the partner's SS payment would be higher than their PIA due to Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs). Hence, again, spouses do not always get half of their marital partner's Social Security benefit. Only when a spouse claims SS at full retirement age will the spouse's benefit be 50% of the partner's FRA' entitlement.

The Enigma: When Should I Claim my Spouse Benefit?

Considering all of

this, many spouses face a puzzling decision: When is the best time to claim my spousal benefit? Well, though that is somewhat of an enigmatic question, here are some things which should help you decide:

- If you are working but have not yet reached FRA, and your earnings will substantially exceed Social Security's Annual Earnings Test limit (\$24,480 for 2026 but the limit changes annually), then consider waiting longer to claim your spousal benefit. The AET would likely result in some (if not all) of your benefits being withheld.

- If you're not working (thus not subject to the AET) but urgently need the SS money, then claiming before FRA would be a prudent choice. You wouldn't get the full spousal benefit (all SS benefits taken before FRA are reduced), but if you urgently need the SS money, then claiming early is a viable option.

- If you have reason to believe your life expectancy will be short, then claiming before FRA is usually the right choice. Spouse benefits do not reach maximum until you reach your full retirement age but, if you will have a short life, claiming early will likely provide the most in lifetime benefits. FYI, the average life ex-

pectancy for those first eligible to claim Social Security is about 84 for a man and about 87 for a woman.

- If it is probable that you will be entitled to a surviving spouse (widow(er)) benefit later, then taking the spouse benefit early is usually a smart choice. For example, if your marital partner is older or is in poor health, and there are high odds that you will be a surviving spouse, then claiming your spouse benefit early is usually the right decision. FYI, a surviving spouse receives the higher of two benefits – either their own SS retirement benefit, or the amount their deceased marital partner was receiving at death.

In the final analysis, no one knows what lies ahead (the future is always a mystery) but an informed decision based on the above considerations should allow you to make the right personal choice, even if your spouse benefit comes out to be less than 50% of your partner's amount.

Of course, if you are still perplexed by this topic, the AMAC Foundation's Social Security Advisory Service provides expert Social Security advice at no charge.

This service is available via email to ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org, or by phone at 1.888.750.2622.



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Looking Deep Inside Some of Purdue Recruiting Stories

Glenn Robinson could be credited for Gene Keady remaining head basketball coach at Purdue for 25 years.

The period between the Troy Lewis-Todd Mitchell-Everette Stephens teams that produced back-to-back Big Ten championships in 1987 and 1988, and when Robinson donned a Boilermaker uniform in 1992 was mediocre.

The 1990 squad that came within a loss at Michigan State of winning Keady a fourth Big Ten championship was the exception. The 1988-89 Boilermakers still had Melvin McCants and Kip Jones from the Big Ten title teams, but disappointing recruiting led to Keady's first losing season at Purdue (15-16). Big Ten Player of the Year Stephen Scheffler and point guard Tony Jones sparked a brief revival with a 22-8 season in 1990.

But the following two seasons produced 17-12 and 18-15 records and some grumbling among the Purdue faithful.

One result of that 1988-89 disappointment was Keady's decision to add Frank Kendrick to his staff just before the 1989-90 season.

"I wanted to improve the recruiting situation, and I thought a change was necessary," Keady said. "He knows basketball and he knows talent. He wants to be a national champion.

"I think he has great salesmanship abilities and that's what you need in recruiting. You need someone who can sell your program."

At the top of Purdue's wish list was Robinson and Bre-

beuf forward Alan Henderson. Robinson was ranked No. 1 in the 1991 high school recruiting class by Bob Gibbons — ahead of Chris Webber, who was headed to Michigan as the top prize among the Fab Five.

Gibbons also proclaimed that if Purdue landed Henderson, it would have the nation's No. 1 recruiting class.

Gold and Black Illustrated carried the fantasy one step further when it published its Oct. 5, 1990, issue with a cover featuring Robinson, Henderson and Brandon Brantley inside a Tippecanoe County courtroom.

The Journal and Courier reported on Oct. 13 that the NCAA was taking an "interpretative review" of that front page. Three guesses who squawked to the Big Ten and the NCAA and the first two don't count. (Hint: the coach's initials were BK).

At the time, only the 6-8 Brantley of Andreean was committed to Purdue. Gold and Black publisher Ken Halloy told the Journal and Courier he had received the NCAA's approval before publishing the photo. Nothing happened thanks to the First Amendment but it's likely Keady had a few words for Halloy afterward.

Robinson crossed Indiana off his list quickly after an incident in Bob Knight's office. While watching film with assistant coach Joby Wright, Knight entered the room and saw Robinson's feet propped up. "Hey, get your feet off the desk," Knight said according to a Los Angeles Times story.

Knight later claimed

to be joking. Robinson didn't laugh. Knight later told Robinson's high school coach, Ron Heflin, that he believed the prank cost Indiana a chance with Robinson.

On Oct. 23, Kendrick's main mission was accomplished when Robinson committed after canceling visits to Tennessee, UNLV and Syracuse. The class now consisted of Robinson, Brantley, Cuonzo Martin and Herb Dove with room for one more.

"I never doubted it," Heflin told the Journal and Courier. "It was a good situation. He's going to a first-class institution in Purdue. Academically, they're very sound, and Gene has always done a great job. (Glenn's) going to be around quality people and he knows that."

A lesser-known recruiting expert, the well-read Matt Painter, was a sophomore guard when Robinson chose Purdue.

"I think Purdue landed the best player in Glenn Robinson since Joe Barry Carroll," Painter said. "Right there we're getting the best player in the nation, and I don't know if we've ever even done that."

On signing day, Keady said Robinson was "the closest to a program-turner that we've had here."

Purdue was pinning its hopes of landing Henderson on the fact that he had attended and later worked at Keady's summer basketball camp. But those dreams were dashed shortly after Robinson's announcement, when Henderson canceled his official visit. Henderson would later choose

Indiana.

"He just said he wasn't interested anymore," Keady said.

Robinson, whose on-the-court vindictiveness was like Michael Jordan's, was diplomatic at the time.

"I'm not mad. I'm not disappointed that he went to Indiana," the Journal and Courier reported. "I have to respect that that's the team he thought would be best for him."

Evidence that Robinson was not pleased with Henderson's decision came months later in the Indiana state championship game between Gary Roosevelt and Brebeuf. Robinson's 22 points, 10 rebounds, four steals and three blocked shots led Roosevelt to an easy 51-32 victory. In the final moments, the TV broadcast focused on Henderson crying on the Brebeuf bench.

Robinson was diplomatic after the victory, which locked up Indiana Mr. Basketball honors.

"Great players are always going to play great against each other, and I think we both took it calm," Robinson said. "We never took it personal."

This was not the last time fans would see Robinson's wrath toward an opponent.

In the past 40 years, I cannot recall a single recruit for whom Purdue went out of its way to attract than 6-11 center Rashard Griffith of Chicago King High School.

On Halloween Night 1992, Purdue held a "Midnight Magic" event to open college basketball. The fans inside Mackey Arena were chanting "We want Rashard! We want Rashard!" ac-



**SPORTS,
SPORTS, &
MORE SPORTS**
with Ken Thompson

ording to Tom Perrin of the Journal and Courier.

By this time, Griffith was down to Purdue, Wisconsin and Oklahoma. Griffith came to West Lafayette for his official visit with his mother. Some media reports indicated that she preferred Purdue.

In addition to Keady and Kendrick, Purdue turned to Robinson to make the pitch.

"Glenn told me it was going to be like this," Griffith told the Journal and Courier. "He told me they're crazy about basketball down here. From what I'm seeing I'm believing."

Wisconsin first-year coach Stu Jackson had already been reported to the Big Ten commissioner's office by an unnamed school.

During Griffith's official visit he was taken to the Wisconsin press box before and during halftime of the Badgers' football game against Ohio State.

NCAA rules at the time prohibited recruits watching a game from the press box. Wisconsin argued that Griffith was only visiting the press box as part of a tour. Naturally, nothing happened.

Griffith chose Wisconsin. Although he would never publicly admit it, Keady thought Jackson and assistant coach Ray McCallum broke NCAA rules during their recruitment of

Griffith.

Robinson didn't forget or forgive Griffith and the Badgers. In a 67-64 victory in Mackey Arena on Feb. 16, 1994, Robinson scored 13 of Purdue's final 17 points to lead the Boilermakers to a 67-64 victory. Robinson finished with 27 points and 16 rebounds. Griffith, conveniently, sat out with back spasms.

In the aftermath of Purdue's Elite Eight loss to Duke, Journal and Courier sports editor Jim Lefko wrote what many Boilermaker fans were asking: what if Griffith had chosen Purdue? What if Griffith was playing alongside Robinson and Cuonzo Martin?

"We could be undefeated and maybe the national champion," assistant coach Frank Kendrick said. "He'd have been a great kid to have."

Griffith, ironically, was taken by Robinson's Milwaukee Bucks in the second round of the 1995 NBA Draft. Griffith did not sign with the Bucks, instead choosing a lengthy pro career overseas.

Next time: The recruiting loss that turned into Carsen Edwards.

Kenny Thompson is the former sports editor for the Lafayette Journal & Courier and an award-winning journalist. He has covered Purdue athletics for many years.

Health Department, Purdue Offering Local Lead Testing

The Montgomery County Health Department and the Purdue University Center for Rural and Migrant Health have collaborated to encourage Montgomery County parents to get their children tested for lead poisoning.

Lead is a naturally occurring metal that, when children are exposed through their environment, can cause developmental delays, difficulty learning, and behavioral issues that can be permanent and disabling. (CDC.gov) Testing children and identifying areas of concern, i.e., chipping or peeling paint in homes or buildings built before 1978, water from lead pipes, contaminated soil, or imported

items, can provide a plan of action for prevention of further exposure.

Purdue's Center for Community Health Empowerment and Learning has provided funding for a team of faculty, students, and staff to conduct research on best practices for communicating health calls to action with the public. Surveys have been conducted and images have been designed by students. Billboards are installed all around Montgomery County, and social media posts will help spread the message. Follow up surveys will follow to measure the messaging success.

Montgomery County Health Officer, Dr. Scott Douglas said,

"We are pleased to partner with Purdue University Center for Rural and Migrant Health to increase recommended lead screening of our children in Montgomery County. We hope to increase awareness of lead exposure and decrease the risk to our children."

Parents and/or caregivers are encouraged to talk to their child's physician about testing or contact the Health Department to schedule a rapid diagnostic test. The MCHD staff are there to help make the process as painless and helpful as possible. You can schedule an appointment by calling the Health Department clinic at (765) 364-7255.

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Photo courtesy Andy Chandler

Indiana History

Talented photographer Andy Chandler captured this stunning image of the George Rogers Clark Memorial in Vincennes recently. Chandler was there as part of the annual Memorial Day event that replays the victory of Lt. Col. George Rogers Clark over the British at the siege of Fort Sackville. The monument is part of the George Rogers Clark National Historical Park. It is open during the summer months seven days a week, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (except holidays).

Home Food Preservation Program Tuesday, June 23

It is finally starting to warm up and that means all the yummy foods growing in our local gardens. Home food preservation is a fantastic way to preserve it now and enjoy it later. But, before I start, I must stop and ask myself, "What methods are safe?" To learn safe canning methods join me June 23 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Waveland Fire Department for a food preservation workshop. Space is limited so reserve your spot by calling (765) 364-6363.

If you're looking to can produce from your garden there are only two safe methods, boiling water bath canning and pressure canning. Boiling water bath canning is safe to use when canning high-acid foods, which are the majority of your fruits and pickled foods. Pressure canning is required when canning low-acid foods, which includes most vegetables and meats. Tomatoes are borderline acidic so it is important to add an acid such as lemon juice when canning tomatoes. Pressure canning is required for low-acid foods because of the risk of Clostridium botulinum. C. botulinum can survive 5 1/2 to 12 hours of boiling, so to destroy it, water must reach 240 degrees F which

Monica Nagele, MS/RD
Montgomery County Extension Director



can only be achieved under pressure. C. botulinum has an 8% fatality rate according to the World Health Organization.

Some general guidelines to help get you started.

Use only tested recipes from the USDA, these recipes can be found in: USDA Complete Guide to Home Canning, So Easy to Preserve or the Ball Blue Book. All recipes should be from 1994 or more recent editions to ensure safety.

Use mason jars because they withstand higher temperatures. Do not use single use jars like jelly or mayonnaise.

Only tighten lids finger-tip tight.

Be careful not to tilt jars. Use a jar lifter to place jars into canner.

Processing time doesn't start until water is boiling or pressure is met.

Let jars rest in canner for five minutes, this will reduce the loss of liquid from the jar.

Do not leave jars in canner overnight. This

could allow for other spoilage organisms to grow.

Do not turn jars upside down.

Allow jars to cool 12-24 hours. Press the center of the lid to see if it is concave.

If you are a beginner or someone who has been canning for years, reviewing guidelines each year is important. Produce and procedures are constantly changing, so it is important to make sure you are finding the most recent recipes to ensure safety.

Reminder: pressure canner dial gauges should be tested for accuracy each year. This can be done at the Montgomery County Extension office. Contact me at (765) 364-6363 to ensure I am here when you bring your canner lid in for testing. Do not hesitate to call at any time with canning questions. It is better to be safe than sick.

Monica Nagele, MS/RD, is the Montgomery County Extension Director

New Market Elementary Character Counts and Honor Roll

4th Quarter and 2nd Semester Character Counts

Preschool:
Fairness-Delilah Hester, Annabelle Tolin

Caring-Brynlee Roe, Radley Woodall
Citizenship-Charlie Bayird, Kinslee Wilhelm

Kindergarten:
Fairness-Atraeus Custer, Elaina Blanco-Hernandez, Madly Verhey
Caring-Ethan Griffin, Owen Carrell, Allis Wilson

Citizenship-Cooper Monroe, Stallone Pullen, Tallisin Fields

1st Grade:
Fairness-Landyn Bryan, Ellie Brown, Georgia Collins, Jasmine Bonilla

Caring-Tobias Vesey, Kali Hess, Annabelle Cox, Sawyer Kirby
Citizenship-Demi Morrison, Jenson Buck, Saban Pierce, Taylin Strickland

2nd Grade:
Fairness-Noah Wilkinson, Anna Hawkins, Barry Scott

Caring-Olivia Stonebraker, Hinley Mills, Keith Gernigin
Citizenship-Elodie Chism, Conor Edwards, Nate White

3rd Grade:
Fairness-Kane Barsotti, Tinsley McCloud, Jordan Olinger, Mason Brown

Caring-Emerie Stoner, Hayden Davis, Jaxon Cummins, Sylas Twitty

Citizenship-Averi Schick, Javan Hoenshell, Calli Dittmer, Maylee Grady

4th Grade:
Fairness-Forrest Smith, Michael Mobley, Alex Hutchison, Cayson Thomas,

Caring-Frances Cotten, Alexia Abbott, Riley Ward, Delaney Carr

Citizenship-Paige Simpson, Noah Fruits, Jocelyn Radcliff, Atlas Custer

5th Grade:
Fairness-Hudson McCandless, Davin Gentry, Liam Howard, CJ Johnson

Caring-Charlotte Stull, Amariah Pyle, Vera Carrell, Levi Badillo

Citizenship-Luci Fishero, Peyton Doss, Mackenzie Peterson, Oliver Vice

4th Quarter High Honor Roll

3rd Grade: Kane Barsotti, Mason Brown, Patrick Heimbach, Gemma King, Kordelia Maddock, Emerson Miles, Liam Page, Teagan Priebe, McCartney Pullen, Cole Ramsey, Averi Schick, Emerie Stoner, Audrey Stringfield

4th Grade: Alexander Badertscher, Cole Boyd, Elizabeth Emberton, Braden Ford, Hudson Hock-

ersmith, Harrison Melton, Michael Mobley, Paige Simpson, Isaac Vincent, Brecken Thomas

5th Grade: Tyberius Anglin, Isla Beach, Vera Carrell, Ace Charles, Audri Cohee, Sawyer Cohee, Sutton Cohee, Oliver Cook, Peyton Doss, Lucille Fishero, Nicholas Heimbach, Lux Highland, Briley Malone, Hudson McCandless, Mackenzie Peterson, Tristan Stafford, Zane Turner, Gage Van Dorn

4th Quarter Regular Honor Roll

3rd Grade: Amelia Allen, Adeline Beeler, Mason Brant, Jovie Bray, Mackenzie Brown, Owen Buck, Jep Carrell, Orion Collins, Kendrix Cope, Westyn Cummins, Jaxon Cummins, Hayden Davis, Calli Dittmer, Brantley Grady, Theodore Hartman, Holly Hedge, Gavin High, Javan Hoenshell, Weston Hoskins, Everett Kaur, Emma Kelsey, Hudson Landaverde, David Livengood, Jeremiaha Lyon, Tinsley McCloud, Rylee Mullis, Asher Newlin, Jackson Olinger, Briar Osborn, Maddux Perez, Michaila Peterson, Silas Porter, Coralynn Pritchett, Alex Reed, Willow Schaaf, Nashlyn Starcher, Lydia Stull, Everlee Surber, Sterling Trent

4th Grade: Delaney Carr, Enzo Carr, Hadley Cornelius, Frances Cotton, Leo Cox, Noah Fruits, Christopher Hess, Elijah Hester, Benson Jones, Ainsley Kight, Jason McNair, Paisley Pfunter, Aynussa Pyle, Maverick Roach, Kaydan Sims, Forrest Smith, LauraBelle Surber, Riley Ward, Kerstin Wilson, James Wurtsbaugh, Jason Yeary

5th Grade: Sylis Barnett, Alden Bray, Elijah Brown, Cale Cunningham, Maverick Dorsey, Mariela Guzman, Maxine Hartman, Madeline Hawkins, Reyna Hernandez, Liam Howard, Stella Hughes, Beckett Jones, Kyhia Larrance, Ayana Mace, Calvin McCandless, Mallory Morphew-High, Samuel Newlin, Amariah Pyle, Levi Rhodes, Eva Rice, Kaison Steiner, Charlotte Stull, Henley Surface, Gabriel Turner, Derrick Ward, Colton Watson

Second Semester High Honor Roll

3rd Grade: Kane Barsotti, Mason Brown, Owen Buck, Hayden Davis, Calli Dittmer, Theodore Hartman, Patrick Heimbach, Weston Hoskins, Everett Kaur,

Gemma King, Hudson Landaverde, David Livengood, Kordelia Maddock, Tinsley McCloud, Emerson Miles, Asher Newlin, Liam Page, Teagan Priebe, McCartney Pullen, Cole Ramsey, Averi Schick, Emerie Stoner, Audrey Stringfield

4th Grade: Alexander Badertscher, Cole Boyd, Elizabeth Emberton, Braden Ford, Hudson Hock-

ersmith, Harrison Melton, Michael Mobley, Paige Simpson, Isaac Vincent, Brecken Thomas

5th Grade: Tyberius Anglin, Isla Beach, Vera Carrell, Ace Charles, Audri Cohee, Sawyer Cohee, Sutton Cohee, Oliver Cook, Peyton Doss, Lucille Fishero, Nicholas Heimbach, Lux Highland, Briley Malone, Hudson McCandless, Mackenzie Peterson, Tristan Stafford, Zane Turner, Gage Van Dorn

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Gemma King, Hudson Landaverde, David Livengood, Kordelia Maddock, Tinsley McCloud, Emerson Miles, Asher Newlin, Briar Osborn, Liam Page, Teagan Priebe, McCartney Pullen, Cole Ramsey, Averi Schick, Emerie Stoner, Audrey Stringfield

4th Grade: Alexander Badertscher, Cole Boyd, Elizabeth Emberton, Braden Ford, Harrison Melton, Michael Mobley, Paige Simpson, Isaac Vincent, Brecken Thomas

5th Grade: Tyberius Anglin, Isla Beach, Elijah Brown, Vera Carrell, Ace Charles, Audri Cohee, Sawyer Cohee, Sutton Cohee, Oliver Cook, Peyton Doss, Lucille Fishero, Nicholas Heimbach, Lux Highland, Briley Malone, Hudson McCandless, Mackenzie Peterson, Tristan Stafford, Kaison Steiner, Zane Turner

Second Semester Regular Honor Roll

3rd Grade: Amelia Allen, Mason Brant, Jovie Bray, Mackenzie Brown, Jep Carrell, Orion Collins, Kendrix Cope, Westyn Cornelius, Isabelle Cregger, Jaxon Cummins, Brantley Eskra, Maylee Grady, Holly Hedge, Gavin High, Javan Hoenshell, Emma Kelsey, Jeremiaha Lyon, Paisley Newkirk, Jackson Olinger, Maddux Perez, Michaila Peterson, Silas Porter, Coralynn Pritchett, Alex Reed, Willow Schaaf, Nashlyn Starcher, Lydia Stull, Everlee Surber, Sterling Trent

4th Grade: Delaney Carr, Enzo Carr, Cora Clos, Hadley Cornelius, Frances Cotten, Leo Cox, Atlas Custer, Noah Fruits, Christopher Hess, Elijah Hester, Hudson Hockersmith, Benson Jones, Ainsley Kight, Jason McNair, Serafina Nowak, Aynussa Pyle, Jocelyn Radcliff, Maverick Roach, Forrest Smith, Eliana Starceovich, LauraBelle Surber, Riley Ward, James Wurtsbaugh

5th Grade: Roran Alesi, Sylis Barnett, Alden Bray, Elle Collins, Cale Cunningham, Maverick Dorsey, Maxine Hartman, Madeline Hawkins, Reyna Hernandez, Liam Howard, Stella Hughes, Beckett Jones, Wyatt Kingery, Ayana Mace, Calvin McCandless, Mallory Morphew-High, Levi Rhodes, Eva Rice, Charlotte Stull, Henley Surface, Gabriel Turner, Gage Van Dorn, Derrick Ward, Colton Watson

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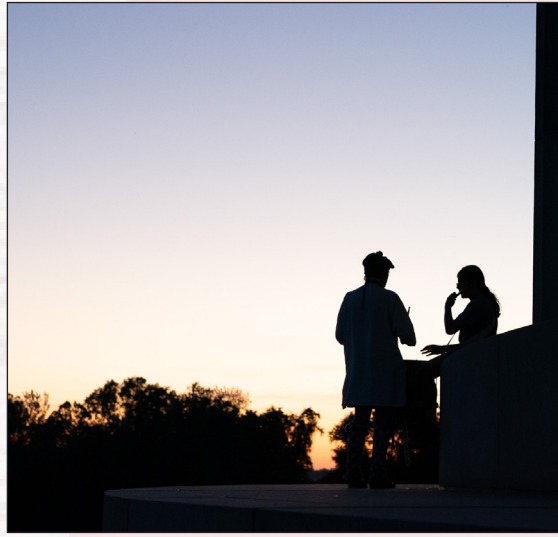


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Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous



Photos and story courtesy Andy Chandler

Memorial Day is normally associated with backyard barbecues, solemn ceremonies in cemeteries to commemorate those who gave their lives defending the United States, and, around the great Hoosier State, the Indy 500.

However, in the southwestern part of the state, every Memorial Day Weekend the city of Vincennes is transported back to the 18th century. Living historians from the North West Territory Alliance come by the hundreds to attend the Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous, a two-day gathering commemorating the victory of Lt. Col. George Rogers Clark over the British at the siege of Fort Sackville.

With it being the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the United States, this year brought in a crowd that by the opinions of some of the living historians, is larger than previous years. There's good reason: Clark's 1779 victory at Ft. Sackville put British claims to the Northwest Territory into question and four years later, that land was ceded to the United States in the Treaty of Paris. This

is important because a counterfactual argument was made by Hoosier writer and politician William English that without this battle, Indiana might have become a Canadian province.

Attendees to the Rendezvous were treated to period entertainment, games, cooking and craft demonstrations, a host of vendors and the much anticipated battles. Many participants and the public came from out of state as far as Chicago, Louisville, Milwaukee and Grand Rapids.

There were moments with serious tones: on Sunday morning, there was a rare sight at a National Park, as a cannon was fired in honor of NWTA members who had passed as well as a 21 gun salute to the soldiers who fought at Ft. Sackville.

The event was punctuated by a candlelight tour of the George Rogers Clark Monument led by living historians from Worthington's Illinois Regiment of Virginia. Walter Hast, a living historian from that group explained to the audience the story of George Rogers Clark and candles are lit at the grave markers in the Old French Cemetery.



Each Memorial Day holiday, the city of Vincennes joins historians from the North West Territory Alliance at the Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous. It's a two-day event that replays the victory of Lt. Col. George Rogers Clark over the British at the siege of Fort Sackville. Talented photographer and historian himself Andy Chandler was present to capture these great images.

Witham Announces June Schedule

In June, Witham Health Services will host support groups, community education classes, and a blood drive, as well as sales in its retail shops and fundraisers led by its volunteer organization.

Support Groups and Education

Witham will host the following support groups and community education classes in June. The support groups are free unless indicated. For more information, visit www.witham.org/classes-and-support-groups.

The Breastfeeding Support Group meets weekly on Mondays (except holidays) from 10-11 a.m. in the VIP Dining Room (2605 N. Lebanon St., Lebanon) and gives mothers the opportunity to meet and discuss their breastfeeding needs in a group setting with other mothers. Meetings are facilitated by a board-certified lactation consultant. Individual breastfeeding support is available with a lactation consultant is also available. For individual pricing and to schedule an appointment, call 765-485-8411.

The Alzheimer's Support Group for those who care for individuals living with Alzheimer's will meet on Tuesday, June 16, at 6 p.m. in the VIP Dining Room (2605 N. Lebanon St., Lebanon).

The Cancer Support Cooking for Wellness class will be held on Tuesday, June 16, at 1 p.m. at the Boone County Cancer Society (1208 N. Lebanon St., Lebanon). Participants will receive recipes focused on using fresh, nutritionally dense ingredients and samples of every delicious dish. Please call the Boone County Cancer Society at 765-482-2043 to RSVP.

The Cancer Support Group is for patients living with cancer and for those supporting a loved one with cancer. The group will meet on Monday, June 22, at 6 p.m. at the Boone County Cancer Society (1208 N. Lebanon St., Lebanon). Please call the Boone County Cancer Society at 765-482-2043 for more information.

Witham's Diabetes Self-Management Class is designed for people with pre-diabetes, diabetes or gestational diabetes. Call the Diabetes Education Department at 765-485-8256 for individualized classes, scheduling and pricing.

Wellness Classes
The Witham Wellness Center will host the following wellness classes in June. Classes are held in the Witham Wellness Center in the South Pavilion on the Witham Main Campus at 2505 N. Lebanon St., Lebanon. Payment can be made in person at the start of class by cash or check. Call the Wellness Department at 765-485-8126 or visit www.witham.org/our-services/wellness for more information.

The High Intensity Functional Fitness class movements include mobility, functional, plyometric, gymnastics, and Olympic lifts at a challenging heart rate. It's held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 7-7:45 a.m. Cost is \$5 per class.

Cardio Boxing features High Intensity Interval Training (HIIT) movements combined with boxing movements. It's held on Mondays and Wednesday from 8:15-8:45 a.m. Cost is \$5 per class.

Flow Yoga is a great way to center your day with movement and mind-

ful breathing. It's held on Wednesdays from 12:30-1:30 p.m. Cost is \$15 per class.

The free Indoor Cycling and Stretching program is designed to reduce the risk of chronic disease or help manage weight. It's held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10-10:45 a.m.

Restorative Yoga is a gentle and slow style of yoga that encourages physical, mental and emotional relaxation. It's held on Mondays from 6-7 p.m. Cost is \$15 per class.

Rock Steady Boxing 1 & 2 is a non-contact boxing program for people with Parkinson's Disease. It's held from 9-10:15 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays and is \$30 per month for unlimited sessions.

Rock Steady Boxing 3 & 4 is a non-contact boxing program for people with Parkinson's Disease. It's held from 10-11 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays and is \$30 per month for unlimited sessions.

SilverSneakers Classic, a free class designed for those 65 or older, uses a chair for seated support while listening to music, moving and having fun. It's held from 11:15 a.m.-12 p.m. on Mondays.

SilverSneakers Chair Yoga, a free class designed for those 65 or older, calms the mind and body with seated meditation and gentle stretching. It's held from 11:15 a.m.-12 p.m. on Wednesdays.

SilverSneakers Cardio Circuit, a free class designed for those 65 or older, increases cardiovascular and muscular endurance with a seated/standing circuit workout. It's held from 11:15 a.m.-12 p.m. on Thursdays.

Tai Chi for Health (Be-

ginners and Advanced) improves flexibility, muscular strength, fitness and balance. It's held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-10 a.m. Cost is \$5 per class.

Blood Drive

Witham Health Services will host a community blood drive on Wednesday, June 24, from 11:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. in the North Pavilion Conference Room on the hospital's main campus. Enter North Pavilion Entrance A at 2705 N. Lebanon Street, Lebanon.

Appointments are encouraged, but walk-ins are always welcome. To schedule a time to donate, visit: https://donateblood.verisiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11629284.

Volunteer Organization Fundraisers

The Witham Volunteer Organization will host a series of fundraising events throughout June at 2605 North Lebanon Street in Lebanon, with proceeds supporting the Witham Volunteer Scholarship Program and various fund-the-need initiatives for Witham.

The first event will feature Simply Jill's Fudge on Wednesday, June 3, from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at the main entrance. Guests can shop cinnamon sugar roasted pecans, assorted specialty flavors of fresh fudge and saltwater taffy.

Jawbone BBQ will visit the ER entrance on Wednesday, June 10, from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., offering lunch options.

The final fundraiser of the month will take place Wednesday, June 17, from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at the main entrance and will feature Cloud 9 Designs. Shoppers can browse a variety of handcrafted items including badge buddies, badge

charms, keychains, lanyards, phone wristlets, magnets, earrings and more.

Father's Day Basket Sale and Raffle

The Waterfall's Edge Gift Shop and Pavilion Boutique on the Lebanon campus are celebrating Father's Day with a special shopping event from June 15-19. Customers can enjoy 25% off all merchandise throughout both retail locations. In addition to the storewide savings, guests can participate in the Father's Day Basket Raffle for a chance to win a gift basket valued at more than \$100. Tickets are \$1 each or six tickets for \$5. The drawing will be held on Friday, June 19.

Firecracker Sale

Visit the Waterfall's Edge Gift Shop and Pavilion Boutique on the Lebanon campus between June 23-27 for 25% off all merchandise in the store. Customers who spend \$50 will receive an additional 10% off their purchase.

About Witham

Witham Health Services is an independent county health system established in 1915 through a monetary gift from Flavius J. Witham. Our desire is to provide exceptional and easy experiences to all we serve and improve health through genuine care and unwavering support. Witham's main campus in Lebanon, Indiana, includes a 60-bed acute care facility. Witham is located in Lebanon, Crawfordsville, Frankfort, Jamestown, Thorntown, and Zionsville. In Whitestown, Indiana, at Anson, Witham operates a 24-7 ER and a full array of radiology and laboratory services, as well as primary care, specialty care, and convenient care practices. More information about Witham Health Services can be found at www.witham.org.


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