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THE BROOKVILLE DEMOCRAT



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One Section
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FCCSC BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESPONDS TO SOCIAL MEDIA OUTRAGE

Cheyenne Lance
LEAD STAFF WRITER

The Franklin County Community School Board held their board of directors meeting Monday, April 15th, at the FCHS auditorium. Due to past and newly recent backlash across social media from both ends, the board got together to discuss the implications these actions have had on the community, the staff and students of Franklin County, and the board members themselves.

Francis Brumback, school board president, presented the first set of agenda items for discussion and vote. These include the Amends/Expenditures/Resignations, the four grants awarded, and the financial reports, which were clarified by Kendra Franks.

The board took a moment to honor Joy

Bishop, who is retiring this year. Joy has been a pillar throughout her time with Franklin County, and her work with all of the students have made lasting impacts. Beth Foster, a board member, took the time to praise Joy for her years of teaching and mentions how she has been a wonderful addition to the schools.

The list of coaches, assistant coaches, and any sports volunteers were announced for a vote. All were approved with no discussion aside from one; Kevin Kaiser chose to abstain from giving his vote due to personal reasons.

Monday's meeting brought in a large crowd consisting of Franklin County staff, employed, or retired, all wearing red shirts in support of their profession.

This comes after a recent social media (See "SCHOOL" pg. 15)

A rising soccer star: Dalton Ward prepares for UDA Academy tryouts in Europe

Cassie Garrett
REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Franklin County High School (FCHS) junior and FCHS Varsity Soccer player Dalton Ward is preparing for a summer brimming with opportunities. Ward has been scouted by the UDA Soccer Academy, a renowned soccer training program known for its rigorous training and high success rate. He will embark on a journey to Europe on June 27, where he will tour and train at Gloucestershire University, a prestigious institution known for its strong soccer program.

"Basically, they are evaluating me as a goalkeeper," Ward explained. "They are checking my strengths and weaknesses, it's like a tryout almost. We have practice the first day I arrive, then I will



Pictured is FCHS Varsity Soccer player Dalton Ward.

photo by Donald Chaney

be playing in matches. We also get to tour the campus and professional stadiums and get the feel of what it would be like to live over there. I'm pretty scared, honestly. I've never been

out of the country and barely out of the state. I'm nervous, but it's a huge opportunity for me, and I love soccer." Ward shared he played sports in sixth grade, when he first

tried basketball but found it wasn't really his thing. So, Ward's dad, Daniel, suggested trying soccer the following year. Although Ward had never played (See "WARD" pg. 4)

ROAD CLOSURE CAUSING TRAFFIC ISSUES ON RESERVOIR RD.



Cassie Garrett
REGIONAL DIRECTOR

The replacement of the Butlers Run Bridge on State Road 1 in Franklin County began on Tuesday, April 9th, causing the closure of S.R. 1, approximately one mile north of S.R. 101. Weather permitting, the closure is expected to take up to 13 weeks. During the closure, motorists should use the official detour route, which follows S.R. 101 to S.R. 44 to S.R. 1 in Connersville. However, there have

been semi-trucks using Reservoir Road in Brookville as an alternate detour, causing major traffic issues and prompting some Reservoir Road residents to urge motorists to slow down and take the proper route.

Additional work will take place along S.R. 1 at a later time. Information will be released when provided by IN-DOT.

This project is part of a \$6.7 million contract awarded to Paul H. Rohe in March 2023. The contract includes (See "TRAFFIC" pg. 3)

BRC to support entrepreneurship initiative

Will Fehlinger
COPY EDITOR

Brookville Redevelopment Commission unanimously voted at Monday evening's meeting to give future financial support to a fledgling initiative in the community being tabbed the Brookville Entrepreneurship Incubator.

Ginnie Faller, business advisor and ag specialist with the 14-county southeast region of the Indiana Small Business Development Center, started the conversation by praising a trio of educational workshops held over the winter at the library. She said participation was well above her expectations, proof that there's an appetite locally to learn about developing small businesses. Faller thanked the



board again for a prior \$5,000 contribution, but added plans are developing even further. The goal is to ultimately redevelop some vacant properties into active businesses.

Bridget Hayes, town council president, spoke next to introduce a grant opportunity offered by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation called the Community Col-

laboration Fund. This is money designed to inspire new collaborations between entrepreneurs and supportive organizations to serve Indiana's entrepreneurial ecosystem and to fill gaps in such. A maximum of \$40,000 is available to spur entrepreneur education, connection and acceleration.

One partner is already on board - Frank-

lin County Community School Corporation. Business teacher Derek Stang conferred with FCHS principal Michelle South and this fall, FCHS will begin the DICE (Dreams, Ingenuity, Creativity, Entrepreneurship) Challenge. Already taking place at Oldenburg Academy, Lawrenceburg and Jac-Cen-Del (and proposed at East (See "BRC" pg. 4)

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MARCH/APRIL 2024

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Community Calendar

April
April 20th is the day Lew Wallace left his governorship of the New Mexican Territory by train, for a meeting with his Philadelphia Publisher. In his luggage in the baggage car, he had his 'Ben Hur' manuscript! Yes, handwritten in purple ink, and his pen ready to sign a contract. On the above date, April 20, 2024, a Saturday at 3:00 p.m., the latest biography of our Hometown Hero Lew Wallace can hear Author Peter Bronson, of Milford who is just as unique as the general, share his point of view of 'The Man who Saved Cincinnati'. All are welcome at The Old Brick Church, East Tenth Ave. Brookville, until 4:30 p.m. Lew may have visited the Church before the Wallaces moved to Covington, across Indiana on the Wabash River in 1837. **SAVE THE DATE!!**

Franklin County Discover 4-H Project Showcase
Saturday, April 20th, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Brookville Library. Open to all families who are interested in learning more about Franklin county 4-H and 4-H opportunities. Projects will be on display for you to get ideas or your own projects. 4-H members and volunteers will be available to answer questions you may have. This is an open-house event, so feel free to come by anytime between 10-1. Hope to see you there! Questions? Contact the Purdue Extension Office at (765) 647-3511! Purdue University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action institution.

Creekside Church Benefit 4 Day Yard Sale, April 24-27 W, TH, F (8-4) St. (8-1). Furniture, clothing all sizes, jewelry, books, household, toys, games, holiday décor. Hall will be packed! All proceeds benefit Kenyan Children in Need at Grain of Rice Academy. 11001 Bossert Rd., Brookville.

May
 Join the Franklin County Arts Council on Saturday, **May 11** (Mother's Day Eve!) as we travel to Richmond for a group excursion to dine at the Olde Richmond Inn and then head over to the Richmond Civic Theatre to see the hilarious musical comedy, "Something Rotten!" The Cost for the dinner and show is \$50. Reservations at the Olde Richmond Inn are for 5:15, and the plated meal (not buffet) includes – Choice of Roast Pork Loin, Virginia Ham, or Chicken Parmigiana w/ linguine; Vegetable of the day; Duchess Potato; Garden Salad; Breadsticks; Cheesecake w/ Strawberries, or Sherbet. Tax and gratuity are included in the package price. We will be seated in a separate room for our group. Call Patti Wilhelm at 765-309-1473 to reserve a spot! (If you need transportation, let us know.)

HAVE A COMMUNITY EVENT TO SHARE?
 To submit a community event for publication, send an email to info@whitewaterpublications.com.

This is our commUNITY

WCT/Trouf Unlimited Partnership, Cleanup Day

We are having the annual Whitewater Canal Trail and Franklin County Clean Up Day on Saturday April 20th (9am-12noon). We will gather at Moster Turf (Yellow-bank Trailhead) on route 52 at 9am. Need directions/info, contact Jeff Har-

meyer(765-698-7721) Station on Saturday. **NO TIRES OR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS ALLOWED.** Trash bags and gloves will be provided. Doughnuts and coffee prior to the event around 8:30 a.m. Rudy's food truck will have food to purchase at noon. **Source: Shirley Lamb, Whitewater Canal Trail**

Franklin County Community Clean Up Weekend! April 19th - 22nd, 2024

It is as easy as getting a team, picking a spot, picking a time over the weekend and picking up trash!

Register your Team at FCCF by calling 765-647-6810 or emailing: shelly@fccf.in



Join us as we spend a weekend cleaning up our community!

Franklin County DISCOVER 4-H PROJECT SHOWCASE



Open to all families who are interested in learning more about Franklin County 4-H and 4-H opportunities. Projects will be on display for you to get ideas for your own projects. 4-H members and volunteers will be available to answer questions you may have. This is an open-house event, so feel free to come by anytime between 10-1. Hope to see you there!

Questions? Contact the Purdue Extension Office at (765) 647-3511!

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HELP WANTED

In-Home Caregiver in St. Mary's, Indiana Area.

Contact: Adam, 513-607-5964

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CUSTOMER SERVICE PRINTING, ONLINE, ADVERTISING

We are hiring for a customer service position at Whitewater Publications. If you have a high level of customer service experience in any field you should reach out. We will train.

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FRANKLIN COUNTY YOUTH FOOTBALL SIGN-UPS NOW OPEN

Sign-Up Fee: \$120
2nd Player in Same Family: \$100
3rd Player in Same Family: \$80



1st Practice - July 29th, 1st Game - August 17th
 No Games Labor Day Weekend



Sign up online at: fcyfl.net



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2024 Pantry Schedule

- March 9th & 23rd – 5 to 7 pm
- April 13th & 27th – 5 to 7 pm
- May 11th & 25th – 5 to 7 pm
- June 8th & 22nd – 5 to 7 pm
- July 13th & 27th – 5 to 7 pm
- August 10th & 24th – 5 to 7 pm
- September 14th & 28th – 5 to 7 pm
- October 12th & 26th – 5 to 7 pm
- November 9th & 23rd – 5 to 7 pm
- December 14th & 28th – 5 to 7 pm



The Franklin County Health Department

will be raising the fee for TB tests from \$10 to \$15 due to rising costs.

This change will take effect Monday, June 3, 2024.

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BROOKVILLE DEMOCRAT

ESTABLISHED IN 1838
 Now in its one hundred and eighty-fourth year of publication, the Brookville Democrat, a democratic news weekly, is dedicated to the best interest of the people of the Whitewater Valley.

The Brookville Democrat, Brookville's oldest business and one of Indiana's oldest newspapers, is published weekly on Wednesday by Whitewater Publications, Inc., Brookville, IN 47012, (USPS 067260)

HOW TO CONTACT US:

531 Main Street, P.O. Box 38 • Brookville, IN 47012
 Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 Telephone: 765-647-4221 • Fax: 765-647-4811
 E-mail: Send all ads, articles and other email correspondence to info@whitewaterpublications.com

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- All other states: \$70-1 yr, \$120 2 yr,
- International: \$75-1 yr

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FOR ADVERTISERS:

For Advertising Department call 765-647-4221. All advertisements and news copy must be submitted before 2 p.m. Monday. When a holiday occurs, the deadline will be moved to the preceding Friday at 2 p.m.

All advertisers should check their ads for accuracy upon first publication. Typographical errors or errors in publication adjustments shall be limited to the portion of the ad where the error occurred. The newspaper will not be held responsible for errors after the first publication. Payment of ad may be made in cash, by check, or credit card (MasterCard, Visa, Discover and AmEx).

FOR THE POSTMASTER:

Entered as Periodicals Matter at the post office in Brookville IN. Postmaster: Please send Form 3579 to PO Box 38, Brookville IN 47012

Trouble with newspaper delivery?

If you are having trouble receiving your newspaper, please notify the Cincinnati Post Office Consumer Affairs division at 800-275-8777.

Whitewater Publications mails all newspapers on Wednesday. Whitewater Publications and the Brookville Post Office are doing everything possible to ensure you receive the newspaper as quickly as possible.

WWW.WHITWATERPUB.COM

Office Space FOR RENT

Office space available for rent in Brookville, IN on Main Street

- Dual or Single Suite
- Single Parking Space

Text Brian at: (317) 397-5116

Linda R. Winchester

Linda R. Winchester (nee: Leon), age 74, formerly of Cedar Grove, passed away unexpectedly on March 24, 2024, at her home in Northport, Alabama.

Linda was born on January 1, 1950, to Dorothy E. Leon (nee: Fox) and Cletus Leon in Cincinnati. Linda attended Western Hills University High School and Western Hills School of

Cosmetology.

Linda was a vivacious and sociable woman beloved by her friends and her community. She was a dedicated mother and grandmother who enjoyed gardening, singing, interior design, and impromptu rock concerts with her grandkids. She will be dearly missed by everyone who knew her.

Linda was preceded

in death by her parents, Dorothy and Cletus Leon, and her aunt, Catherine Bruewer. She is survived by her children and their spouses: Christopher Winchester (Paul Visscher); Lee Winchester (Diana Winchester); and Britt Winchester (Andy Sage). She is also survived by her beloved grandchildren, Jordan and Violet Winchester, and her beautiful cat, Rory.



Paid obituary.

Catherine Faye Slagle

Catherine Faye Slagle, age 77, of Brookville, died Saturday April 13, 2024 at the Waters of Batesville, following a lengthy illness.

Born May 24, 1946 in Batesville, she was one of three children born to the late Hubert and Margie (Isaacs) Kersey. She was a graduate of the former Brookville High School with the class of 1964.

Cathy worked for over 42 years at the former Sperry Rubber & Plastics in Brookville. In her leisure time she enjoyed going to church, and was a member of

the former Lighthouse Gospel Tabernacle. She also enjoyed reading, chocolate, hunting mushrooms, cooking and taking care of her family.

Survivors include two sons, Michael Scott (Kathleen) Slagle and Nathan Slagle both of Brookville; a grandson, Nate (Holly) Slagle of Brookville; two brothers, Leon (Becky) Kersey of Sunman and Jerry (Cindy) Kersey of Brookville; as well as several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her

former husband James R. Slagle Jr.

Family and friends may visit from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 18, 2024 at Phillips & Meyers Funeral Home, 1025 Franklin Avenue, Brookville.

Pastor Justin Bradley, of Red Life Church, will officiate the funeral service at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 18, 2024 at Phillips & Meyers Funeral Home. Burial will then follow in Cupps Chapel Cemetery in Metamora.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Alzheimer's Association. The staff



Paid obituary.

of Phillips & Meyers Funeral Home are honored to serve the family of Cathy Slagle, to sign the online guest book or send personal condolences, please visit www.phillipsandmeyers.com.

Paid obituary.

REZONE OKAYED DESPITE OBJECTIONS

Will Fehlinger
COPY EDITOR

Franklin County Area Plan Commission approved via a 6-1 vote at the April 10 meeting the petition from Nick and Danielle Butt to rezone the parcel at 129 East 11th Street, Brookville from multifamily residential to general business.

The Butts currently operate two businesses on the site - Fuel Nutrition and Faith and Fitness Gym. As Nick pointed out, the parcel has been the site of business ventures for at least 50 years. The Town of Brookville sent a favorable recommendation to the board, with all requirements having been met. There are potential plans for a new building, but future considerations weren't taken into account for Wednesday's hearing.

During public comments, Jimmy Moore

expressed his concerns about additional parking as he and wife Debbie occupy the home at 1051 Franklin Avenue at the corner of Franklin and 11th.

He said parking is an issue already with Phillips & Meyers Funeral Home and Sid Bradley Insurance adding to congestion along with traffic from the Butts' businesses. Occasionally he'll find no place to park near his home. "They're real good neighbors, it's nothing against them," said Moore, "but we're just afraid about the parking." He felt the situation could get worse if business expanded in the area, proposing signs that allowed for resident-only parking.

President Robert Braun reminded him that any changes to parking along the street would need to be initiated by the town.

Braun asked the applicants directly about parking considerations.

The owners said there's a possibility of installing parking spaces north of the street behind the main building; they also replied that any business expansion would be minimal, accommodating perhaps two to three more fitness customers at a given time.

Rob Seig said the Technical Advisory Committee took into account the number of customers in a given fitness class (limit of eight) and concluded that four parking spaces on either side of the street were enough to meet the zoning code. It was mentioned that if a building is added, a new plan would need to be presented to account for more customers and employees.

Dennis Brown was hesitant to accept the rezone due to uncertainties in the future. Todd Raible added that parking can be an unfortunate situation throughout the town at times. Seig responded that it wasn't a conditional use request, just a rezone.

Daryl Kramer emphasized the town should help with the parking issues. He then moved to send a favorable recommendation for the rezone to commissioners.

Brown, who opposed the rezone, said the county is setting up a problem for the town to resolve or "pushing something off on Brookville" in his own

words. Raible reminded him that the town had already given its support.

Attorney Geoffrey Wesling added that the board could get further control of parking situations by changing zoning guidelines.

John Estridge of Brookville Town Council, there to speak on a different item, said he'd investigate helping the Moores with their parking concerns.

Estridge addressed the board on a plan being hatched for a DORA district on and around Main Street. DORA stands for Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area and is gaining popularity across the state due to allowing adults to carry alcohol throughout an approved area while shopping or taking in live entertainment.

He said a tentative plan is to go from El Reparo down to Hilltop on Main Street while also taking in the Pioneer (Court Street) and Progress Street from roughly 3rd to 5th streets. Drinks would need to be in designated clear cups plainly visible to law enforcement. Estridge noted hardly anyone is against the idea at this time.

Braun asked what the hours would be. Estridge replied that ideally it would last from noon to 3 a.m. every day. With an unofficial (See "REZONE" pg.12)

ARREST REPORTS

Franklin County Sheriff's Office Media Arrest Summary (Only includes L6 Felony charges and higher, misdemeanors not included).

-All persons are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law

Arrest Time/Date: 15:26 4/3/24

Inmate Name: Dell, Steven D.

Arrest Location: Ripley Co. Jail

Birth Date: 12/5/75

Arrested by: C Kinnett

Agency: FCSD

Crime Class: L6

Offense: Failure to Appear

Road - Continued from Page 1

four district bridge projects. INDOT reminds drivers to slow down, be cautious, and avoid distractions when traveling near work zones. All work is weather-dependent, and schedules are subject to change.

Stay Informed

Motorists in Southeast Indiana can monitor road closures, road

conditions, and traffic alerts any time via:

* Facebook: facebook.com/INDOTSoutheast

* Twitter: @INDOT-Southeast

* TrafficWise: 511in.org

* Mobile App: iTunes App Store and the Google Play store for Android

ROAD CLOSURE ON US 52 BOTH WAYS NEAR ANDERSONVILLE



US 52 in both directions between Rushville and Andersonville is closed due to road construction (Mile

Point 125.9 - 137.2). The road is projected to re-open Oct. 21, 2024. See map below for detour. Source:INDOT

BRIDGE WORK BEGINS OVER BIG CEDAR CREEK



Indiana Department of Transportation contractor Paul H. Rohe Company plans to reduce U.S. 52 to one lane over Big Cedar Creek on or after Monday, April 9, to begin bridge rehabilitation work in Franklin County.

Work will take place just north of Cedar Grove and is expected to be complete by early November, weather permitting. Temporary traffic signals will be

utilized while work is in progress. Crews will begin to place signage in the area prior to the start of construction.

This project is part of a \$1.5 million contract awarded to Paul H. Rohe in December 2023. INDOT reminds drivers to slow down,

use extra caution and avoid distractions when traveling near work zones. All work is weather-dependent and schedules are subject to change.

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SEI RECEIVES 10 MILLION IN STATE READI 2.0 FUNDING

On Thursday, April 11, Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) made the exciting announcement that Southeast Indiana will receive a \$10 million allocation for the READI 2.0 program. These funds are expected to be invested into projects enhancing quality of life, quality of place, and quality of opportunity in Dearborn, Franklin, Ripley, Ohio, Switzerland, and Union counties.

“Southeast Indiana showed in READI 1.0 that we made meaningful investments to attract talent and grow our economy. We thank Gov. Holcomb and the IEDC for the opportunity to continue this momentum,” said Bill Schirmer, President of the SEI READI Board of Directors.

SEI READI asks our

region’s citizens and community partners to keep these important points in mind:

- All official information and SEI READI updates will continue to be published at www.southeastindiana.org. Information regarding the overall READI program at the state level can be found at www.indianareadi.com.

- No projects in the Southeast Indiana region have been selected or approved for READI investment at this time.

- As previously communicated by SEI READI, a request for project information issued in Fall 2023 was strictly for aiding SEI READI in preparing its READI 2.0 application to the IEDC. SEI READI thanks those who aided and strengthened our application by sharing project information.



- SEI READI expects to issue a request for proposals (projects) later in 2024 to ensure all stakeholders have the opportunity to submit detailed information, about their projects for consideration for funding. Exact timing and contents of the RFP are currently

being developed.

- In the meantime, project stakeholders are welcome to discuss potential proposals with the local economic development office in the project’s respective county. Find LEDO contact information below.

- Following the clo-

sure of the RFP period and time to closely evaluate the proposals received, final decisions on which Southeast Indiana projects to invest READI funds into will be made collaboratively between the SEI READI Board of Directors and Indiana Economic Development Corporation.

General questions about SEI READI may be directed to Southeastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission Executive Director Mary McCarty, mary.mccarty@sirpc.org, 812-689-5505.

LEDO contact information:

13-YEAR-OLD FROM CONNERSVILLE SINGS NATIONAL ANTHEM AT REDS GAME

Cassie Garrett
REGIONAL DIRECTOR

At just 13 years old, Allison Steinaud of Connersville had the experience of a lifetime when she sang the National Anthem at the Cincinnati Reds Game on Wednesday, April 10.

“My mother sent in an application and audition video on February 24 without me knowing,” Allison said. “The video was from when I sang in the Spartan Bowl. They emailed her on March 29 and said that they watched my video. They said I had an amazing voice, and

they wanted me to sing for them.”

Allison and her family arrived at the stadium to meet the staff and receive the special access stickers needed to go under the stadium to prepare to sing. However, it was raining, and when they reached the tunnel to the field, the staff informed them there would be a rain delay.

“After they had told me and my parents about the delay, I was worried the game might get canceled and I wouldn’t get the chance to sing the National Anthem,” Allison said. “About an hour later, they notified us the game would

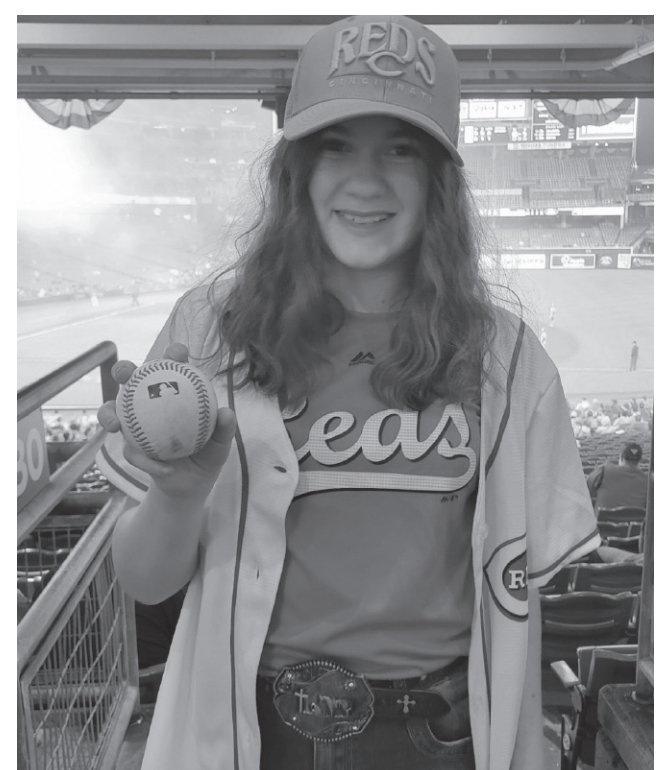
start at 8:30 p.m. At that point, my excitement returned, and I was relieved of all my worries. When they took us back down to the tunnels, and we walked onto the field, it hit me how amazing this opportunity was. The moment I actually stepped up to home plate and sang our National Anthem, I felt it inside my heart.”

As Allison began to sing, the entire stadium could feel the power of her voice in their heart as she belted out the National Anthem, bringing cheers of response and tears to the eyes of the audience.

“Afterward, my

heart was beating so fast, and it felt so cool to know that I just sang our National Anthem at a Major League Reds baseball game,” Allison said. “I felt pretty good about it when we were leaving because I knew I had just done something that most people don’t even get the opportunity to do. Another one of my favorite parts was being able to share this experience with several of my family members. I can’t thank the Cincinnati Reds enough for this great opportunity.”

Allison first showcased her singing talent at six by per-



forming a solo during the St. Gabriel’s Christmas Concert. She aspires to pursue

a career in veterinary medicine while continuing her passion. (See “REDS” pg. 16)

Ward ■ Continued from Page 1

before, he agreed. In middle school, Ward also tried wrestling and track but was always drawn back to the soccer field and knew he had found his sport. However, Ward’s freshman year was when he found his niche on the soccer field as a goalie. Ward’s statistics speak to his natural ability and dedication catch-

ing the recruiter’s eyes, prompting the invite to participate in the summer tour.

Ward’s dad shared, “He has had major improvements in footwork, agility, strength, and communication. It’s absolutely amazing to watch him grow and chase his dreams.”

With an impressive 207 saves, Ward is

ranked in the top 100 nationally, #8 in the state, #2 in 2A Boys Soccer and #1 in Eastern Indiana. He was also selected as the Franklin County player of the game on Sept. 11 in the match with Centerville.

“I put in a lot of effort and time; it’s my passion, and I love it,” Ward shared with a

smile. “I would rather be on a soccer field than anywhere else.”

Ward will be accompanied by his mom, Tasha, who is thrilled to have the opportunity to accompany and support him as he pursues his dreams. After Dalton returns from Europe, all he has left to do is wait.

“Once he comes back

after about two or three weeks, he will find out if he is accepted into the academy,” Ward’s dad explained. Then he will sign and commit and leave right after senior year.”

Ward’s love for soccer extends beyond the field. He volunteers as a referee for the Franklin County Youth Soccer Program and

assists coaching the Franklin County Middle School Boys Soccer Team.

Although Ward aspires to play professional soccer, he plans to get his sports psychologist degree. “Even if I don’t make it big like I want to, I still get to be around sports and help people with their mental game.”

BRC ■ Continued from Page 1

Central), this allows students to compete in a regional pitch contest a la the television show Shark Tank in the fall semester. Additionally, the state hosts Innovate WithIN in the new year – billed as the country’s largest and most competitive high school pitch competition.

Brookville would hold a similar competition coinciding with Innovate WithIN. Faller would be asked to facilitate an eight-

week boot camp with sessions once a week on helping people establish and develop a business plan. A pitch competition would ensue, with high school students also welcome to participate.

The grant would cover tuition over the eight weeks, as well as revolving Main Street Brookville fund costs (marketing and promotion) and finally rent subsidies for new businesses. Faller added the primary goal is to firm-

ly plant a business in downtown Brookville, aiding the winner in finding a site; accountability (finances and marketing) would be a factor as the business would need to report to collaborators regularly for the first year.

Hayes explained there’s a 25% match that figures in, amounting to \$10,000. With the application due May 3, several organizations already committed – namely Franklin County Community

Foundation, Whitewater Publications and MSB – and a couple others to be approached, John Rudisell moved to commit any necessary funding up to \$10,000 should the grant be approved. John Estridge seconded, and it passed unanimously.

In other news, Estridge thanked the board for their financial support of the eclipse planning. “It went perfectly,” he said. “With your help funding the different

things we needed, we were able to do that.”

The 1.6-acre parcel just south of First Street (between Harrison Street and Main) has been purchased by Communication Industrial Development LLC of Rushville with a proposed use of fueling semi-trucks.

Garrett Conway, community liaison with Indiana’s Office of Community and Rural Affairs, has confirmed that BRC may pursue a planning grant start-

ing in August with the goal of establishing a new comprehensive plan.

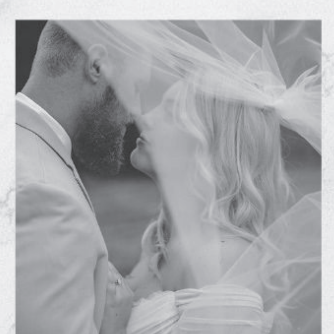
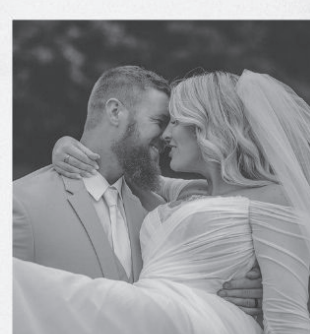
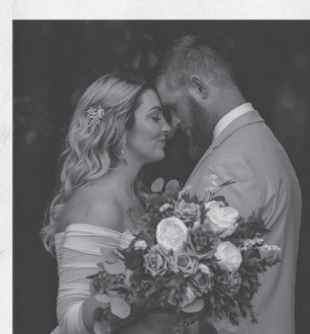
The Redevelopment Associations of Indiana is hosting a virtual meeting today and members were encouraged to participate.

In fund updates, after \$300,000 was invested from the TIF (Tax Increment Finance) fund and a few other debits, the fund stands at \$239,918.57. The operating fund remains unchanged at \$76,231.21.

Front Page
Photography



Contact Brian for Consult
(765) 647-4221



photos by Christian Lewis

FC track hosts senior night

Will Fehlinger
SPORTS EDITOR



photo Will Fehlinger
Carter Dozier.

Although Batesville tempered the good senior night vibes last Tuesday at the Franklin County track with a pair of wins, the Wildcats had several good performances. The BHS girls were 78-60 winners while the Bulldogs boys won 76-56.

Senior Owen Harvey won the 100-meter dash (11.6 seconds) and Joey Meyer was runner-up (11.61). Meyer was also 2nd in the 200 (24.52) while Keegan Clark placed 3rd (24.69). Brandon Willis was runner-up in the 400 (54.23) and senior Earl Carr the same in the 800 (2:15.77). Cole Kelley was the lone Wildcat to place in the distance runs, taking 3rd in the 3200 (12:39.97).

Carter Dozier won the 110 hurdles (16.25) and Justin Perry took bronze in the 300H (48.51). The 4x100 team of Bryant, Perry, Meyer and Clark won in 45.22 while the 4x400 squad also triumphed (Bryant, Meyer, Garcia, Willis; 3:36.84). Hunter Weartz was runner-up in high jump at 5-ft.-8-in. Cole Freese was likewise in pole vault (11-6) and Christian Ball was next (9 ft.). Carr and Kyle

Bolser took 2nd and 3rd, respectively, in long jump with leaps of 18-5 and 16-9. Seniors Lance Fields and Clayton Lunsford were 2, 3 in shot put (44-6 & 42-10). Lunsford won discus (121-8PR) and Evan Flaspohler was 3rd (108 ft.).

Senior Audrey Harper was runner-up in the 100 (13.69), a nanosecond ahead of teammate Taylor Brewer. Ella Flannery won the 200 (27.3). Batesville swept the intermediate and distance runs. Mackenzie "Z" Brzezinski claimed the 100 hurdles (16.42) and Hanna

won high jump (4-10) and Carlie Doherty was 2nd (4-8). FC swept pole vault with Betzing winning and Emma Rosenberger sparing at the 9-foot mark; Maggie Wilson sprang 7-6. Rosenberger won long jump (14-3) and Doherty was 3rd (13-7). Senior Maggie Riffle won shot put at 25-8 and she was 3rd in discus (76-8) behind her winning sister Izzie's spin of 83-1.

Other seniors are Sophie Garrett, Jacy Grimmeissen, Ethan Welke, Gabe Frazier, Austin Willis, Ian Flaspohler, Kirst-



photo Will Fehlinger
Cole Freese.

Betzing was 2nd (18.04); Z also won the 300 hurdles (51.84). Harper, Flannery, Z and Brewer took 1st in the 4x100 (52.33). Flannery

en Clark, Krish Patel and manager Nikki Scott.

FC is at the Pike Invitational Saturday in Indianapolis.

FC golf third

Will Fehlinger
SPORTS EDITOR

Wildcat boys golf finally saw action with a 4-way meet Monday at municipal Brook Hill Golf Club. Batesville won with 155, ahead of Connersville's 158 and FC's 175. Oldenburg

shot 205. Trey Hughes medaled for CHS at 2-under 33.

Brady Foster led the hosts with 7-over 42. Carson Allen and Gavin Gillman were both at 44 and Carsyn Patterson

shot 45. Hayden Rolfes came in at 47. Michael Wiesemann shot 54, Colin Troyer 55, Jackson Williams 60 and Cameron Young 67.

FC hosts South Dearborn Thursday.

Becker commits to Wabash



photo Red Caboose Photography
Ben Becker signs to play football at Wabash.

Wildcat softball

Will Fehlinger
SPORTS EDITOR

The Lady Wildcats traveled north to Union County Saturday to take on the Patriots in a doubleheader. The Wildcats were able to take both games with some phenomenal pitching and hot bats. There were four home runs on the day with three of them coming in game 1. Kensee Ferman had a 3-run home run, then Bailey Kai-ser came to the plate to send one out of the park for back-to-back shots in the second inning. Madison Perleberg hit a grand slam in the top of the fourth to give the Cats a 12-5 lead. Franklin County took game 1 by a 15-5 count. Bella Lee got the win in the circle for the Wildcats, giving up 5

runs on 6 hits in 3 innings. Jillian Harris came in to go 3 innings, giving up zero runs on 1 hit with 7 Ks.

Game 2 saw the Cats' bats really come alive. The Wildcats won 24-8 behind a flurry of hits. Brooke Stang, Annie Hoff, Ferman, Perleberg and Emily Fellure all recorded multiple hits in game 2. As a team the Cats recorded 20 hits. Stang had a 3-run shot in the 4th to extend the lead to 11-7. The Cats scored 6 runs in the fifth and 7 runs in the sixth. Hoff had 11 RBI in the twin bill.

FC traveled to Centerville last Tuesday after a week of rainouts to take on the Bulldogs. FC scored 3 runs in the first inning to take an

early lead. Stang led off the game by drawing a walk and then stealing second base. Hoff then hit a double off the left field fence to score Stang and get the Wildcats offense rolling. Ferman was hit by a pitch. An error by the left fielder scored Hoff and advanced Ferman to third and Perleberg to second. Ferman then scored on a passed ball.

Harris got the start for the Wildcats, going 5 innings. Harris allowed 2 runs on 6 hits with 6 Ks and got out of a bases-loaded jam in the fifth. Senior Bella Lee came in for the final two shutdown innings, allowing 1 hit and zero runs with 4 strikeouts.

The Wildcats go to South Dearborn today.

Cats 2-2 on diamond

Will Fehlinger
SPORTS EDITOR

FC baseball split four games since last Tuesday, starting with a win over Connersville (3-2), a doubleheader split at Union County (7-4 loss & 6-3 win) and Monday's tight 6-4 loss to Batesville.

Ben Becker had 2 RBI and 2 hits against CHS and Blake Stephenson added an RBI. Becker, Braylon Kruthaupt and Ethan Brewer each stole a bag. Branson Galyen won with 5 strikeouts in 5 innings.

In Saturday's opener, UC scored three times in the first and sixth frames to win. FC had a late-inning surge to win game two. Stephenson, Becker and Kaden Welch drove in runs. Kruthaupt, Stephenson, Porter Dorrel and Eli Butt each swiped



photo Red Caboose Photography
Braylon Kruthaupt.

a base. Welch was the winning pitcher, fanning nine in six frames.

FC rallied to tie Monday's game at four after five innings but BHS answered with two runs

in their next at-bat. The Cats committed five errors. Stephenson had a steal. Kruthaupt took the loss.

FC goes to Batesville Thursday.

FC tennis

Will Fehlinger
SPORTS EDITOR

Franklin County defeated Rushville 4-1 in the opener for FC girls varsity tennis last Tuesday.

#1 Nicole Mears-FC over Brooklyn Newbold-RV 6-2, 6-3; #2 Lola Mann-FC over Megan Alexander-RV 2-6, 6-3, 6-0; #1Doubles Kristen Ison/Vivian Silas-FC over Cora Morgan/Izzy Simmerman-RV 6-2, 6-0; #2Doubles Serena Silas/Mady Rosenberger-FC over

Karigan Cox/Kennedy Miller-RV 6-1, 6-1. The Lions' lone win was at 3 singles; Lanea Adams-RV over Moorea Nobbe-FC 6-2, 6-2,

In a tough tourney at Shelbyville, FC went 0-3. The Cats lost 5-0 to Lawrenceburg, Shelbyville and Triton Central. Mears, S. Silas/Rosenberger, Mann and S. Silas/Sayla Sacksteder all went three sets.

Hosting East Cen-

tral Monday, FC fell 4-1. All losses were straight sets, but S. Silas and Rosenberger won 3-6, 6-4, 6-1 at 2 doubles.

Winners for the JV included Lillie Graf/Sayla Sacksteder, Mady Wilson, Gen Puyo/Willa Bruns, and Savannah Nelson, V. Silas/Rosenberger and S.Silas/Ison.

FC (1-4) is at Cambridge City Lincoln Monday.



SHRED DAY 2024

Date: 04/20/2024

Time: 8:00 am - 11:00 am

Location: 105 W 3rd St, Connersville, IN 47331

Connersville



Partnering with Fayette County Junior Leaders



EDUCATOR OF THE MONTH

Superintendent, Ms. Tammy Chavis, is thrilled to announce that Mr. Dylan Huber has been selected as April's "Educator of the Month."

Mr. Huber is the Special Education Teacher at FCHS. Dylan has been with Franklin County Community Schools for six years. Dylan attended Hanover College where he received his bachelor's degree in economics and a minor in communication and business. He later attended Taylor University to complete his transition to teaching program.

Mr. Huber was nominated for this honor by a student and a parent. When asked why Dylan should be considered for this recognition, they responded, "Mr. Huber is an extremely hard working teacher that cares about his students and their future. He is very dedicated to his job. Dylan is a very approachable and amiable person who could brighten anyone's day by his kind words. Aside from his teaching position, Dylan also spends many hours coaching basketball

and golf. He really goes the extra mile in making sure all of his team is taken care of and has every change to excel. Mr. Huber is simply the best."

In addition to his role in the classroom, Dylan is also the coach of the junior varsity boys basketball team and the varsity boys golf team. In his "free" time, he enjoys golfing, concerts, sporting events, and porch sitting with his girlfriend, friends, and family.

When asked what he loves most about his job, Mr. Huber responded, "My favorite part of my job is giving back to the community that has given so much to me and where I was raised. I have always been a Franklin County kid and it has been a dream come true to work with the students here and athletes that I am able to coach. This community has given so much to me and I am glad to bring joy to the students here at Franklin County and help them reach their dreams as well. I enjoy coming to school each and every day with the opportunity to help brighten



a child's day or help them through some of their daily struggles. It means the world to me to help these children become the best versions of themselves and hopefully grow into someone that will help the Franklin County community be the best it can be."

The purpose of the "Educator of the Month" program is to recognize outstanding Franklin County educators who demonstrate excellence in the classroom, leadership in the school, dedication to the students, and involvement in the community. Nomination forms for "Educator of the Month" can be found on the school corporation website at www.fccsc.k12.in.us.

SUPPORT STAFF OF THE MONTH

Director of Operations, Mr. Keith Isaacs, is pleased to announce that Mrs. Cindy Adams has been selected as April's "Support Staff of the Month." Cindy currently serves as the Cafeteria Manager at Mt. Carmel Elementary School.

Mrs. Adams has been with the FCCSC for two years now. She graduated from Wright State University with a Project Management Certification.

Cindy was nominated for this honor by a parent. When asked why Mrs. Adams should be considered for this recognition, they responded, "Cindy goes above and beyond with providing tasty and nutritious meals for the students and staff at Mt. Carmel School. She is constantly encouraging everyone to try healthier options and makes nutrition a fun topic. She does all this with a smile on her face and kindness in her heart. More importantly, she truly cares for each and every student and staff member that comes into the cafeteria."

In addition to her role in the cafeteria, Cindy has coached soc-

cer for the last six years and has volunteered for many FCHS sporting events. She teaches Sunday School and has led Women's Bible studies. Cindy added, "My family moved to Franklin County to begin a homesteading lifestyle. We have 11 wooded acres, live in a cabin, heat only with wood and use a well for water. We forage for herbs, have an extensive garden, can and preserve our food and play outside or in the creek almost every day."

When asked what the best part of her job is, Mrs. Adams responded, "I absolutely love to cook and serve others. I have a wonderful hardworking and dedicated staff that shares the same vision. If we like to eat it, the kids will like it, too. When I semi-retired from corporate America, I wanted to find a new career where I could do that daily. This is my dream job because I just love to see and talk to the kids every day and receive many hugs. The excitement and joy when they walk in and see new things like a pizza oven or salad bar makes me smile every



day. To see how many kids have fallen in love with fruits and veggies is special. While my primary focus is the kids, I also take care of the teachers and staff. There aren't many options for lunch in this area so we cater to their favorites and I love making sure they have great food to eat as well."

The purpose of the "Support Staff of the Month" program is to recognize outstanding Franklin County Community School Corporation Support Staff who demonstrate dedication to his/her job, school, students, and community. Nomination forms for "Support Staff of the Month" can be found on the school corporation website at www.fccsc.k12.in.us.

LIBRARY CORNER

Lunar Art Show: Congratulations to our Lunar Art Show winners: Jameson and Nora Gandenberger, Lucas Eckerle, Hope Rice, and Diana Schuck. We had so many wonderful submissions and want to thank all of the very talented artists who participated!

LEGO Expo: Our 2024 LEGO Expo creative build competition winners were Lawson Payne, Ruthie Payne, and Zach Womack! We would like to extend a huge thank you to Third Place and the Wilz family for donating prizes. Our LEGO Expo will return in 2025, so start thinking about your builds now!

Solar Eclipse Glasses Collection: Brookville and Laurel Libraries will be drop-off points for your gently used solar eclipse glasses. These glasses will then be sent on to South America by Brookville Main Street for the eclipse in October. All glasses need to be collected by Saturday, April 27.

Earth Day Seed Bombs: Celebrate Earth Day by making Earth-shaped seed bombs to take home and plant wildflowers. April 18 at Laurel Library at 5 p.m.

Earth Day Story Time: Join us for a story time about recycling! April 19 at Brookville Library at 10 a.m.

Memory Café: Join us at the Franklin County Senior Center for a light lunch and fun oversized games! RSVP is preferred, but walk-ins are welcome! This program is open to family, friends, caregivers, and their loved ones with memory loss. Contact Missy Ratz at 765-647-3509 or by email at fcpt47012@gmail.com. Sponsored by: Lifestream Services, Franklin Co. Senior Center, and the Franklin Co. Public Library District. April 22 from 12-2 p.m.

Mario Gaming: Join us for a night of fun with Mario. Attendees will win points depending on where they are placed. In the end, the one with the most points will be crowned the champion! In addition, the nights will consist of various Mario games such as a Mario Kart Grand Prix, Mario Maker level challenge, and a Super Mario Party Showdown. April 22 at Laurel Library at 4:30 p.m.

Storywalk Celebration Day: Join us at the Brookville Town Park for a new storywalk, prizes, and other summer fun goodies. We will also have free shaved ice! April 23 from 4-6 p.m.

Candy Sushi Competition: Use our selection of candy to recreate popular sushi rolls. The best sushi remake will win a bag full of candy! April 25 at Laurel Library at 5 p.m.

Cake Jewelry Box: Enjoy making a one-of-a-kind faux cake jewelry box! This internet sensation uses lightweight spackle and piping tips to create something so cool you need to see it to believe it. Space is limited so please RSVP. April 29 at Brookville Library at 4:30 p.m. and April 30 at Laurel Library at 4:30 p.m.

Book Sale: Our Spring Friends of the Library Book Sale is coming up soon. We're currently accepting donations. Both libraries will be accepting book and DVD donations. We do not accept dictionaries, textbooks, magazines, or damaged items. The sale dates are May 6-8 at Laurel Library and May 8-11 at Brookville Library. The sale runs during the library's normal hours of operation, and until noon on May 11.

Non-resident Library Card Rate: Per the Indiana State Library, due to the increase in the cost of patron materials, the 2024 rate for non-resident library cards is \$82 effective April 1.

Learn ASL on Mango Languages: Mango Languages now offers American Sign Language (ASL) courses through its platform. Patrons will be able to model native ASL signers, learn at their own speed, use a magic mirror feature that allows for visual comparison to check for accuracy, and many other features. These practical lessons will enable patrons to carry on basic ASL conversations. These courses can be accessed via the Mango Languages app or our website fclibraries.org.

Dungeons and Dragons: Our weekly Dungeons and Dragons club meets on Thursdays at Brookville Library from 5:30 - 8 p.m.

Jr. Crafters: Create with us! In this weekly program, we'll explore art through various mediums. It is recommended for ages 9 and up. Fridays at 4:30 p.m. at Laurel Library.

Caregiver Memory Kits: Caregiver Memory Kits are resource kits designed for individuals living with dementia and their caregivers and care partners. These kits aim to help caregivers and care partners connect with helpful resources and increase interaction between the caregiver and their loved one. These kits consist of helpful books and resources for the caregiver and activities for the caregiver and their loved one to enjoy together, such as puzzles and bingo. These kits are available for checkout at both library branches.

StoryWalks®: The StoryWalk® continues at Brookville's Town Park, the Mounds State Rec Area's Wildlife Wander Trail, and the Yellow Bank Trailhead. Each trail features a picture book, encourages literacy, physical activity, and spending time outdoors, and is perfect for families of all ages! The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT, and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. StoryWalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson.

Brookville's Totspot Storytime: Mrs. Herbert conducts story times at 10 a.m. on Mondays. Check our Facebook page for updates.

24/7 Wi-Fi: Please feel free to utilize the Wi-Fi provided 24/7 in our parking lots in Brookville and Laurel.

Wowbrary: Subscribe to Wowbrary, the library's weekly newsletter. Stay up to date on new materials and library programs. To subscribe, visit our website at fclibraries.org and enter your email address under the rotating banners.

OLDENBURG ACADEMY HONOR ROLL - QUARTER THREE

First Honors | Class of 2027

Avery Austin, Lydia Ehrhard, Madison Hamilton, Ryan Hautman, William Hollander, Ava Hollins, Nash King, Olivia Leising, Campbell Miles, Alexandra Nobbe, Simon Nobbe, Wally Peralta, Clare Scheidler, Theodore Sheppard, Stephanie Wagner, and Isabelle Young

Second Honors | Class of 2027

Gina Grote, Rylan Hill, William Hillen-

brand, Connor Holder, David Koch, Cayden Lieland, Yuwei Ma, Gabriella Moore, Ellen Paul, Max Rees, Riley Siegel, Kira Sims, Garrett Sohmer, Masiela Stockman, Ellen Swain, David Wandstrat, Adam Weber, and Cecilia Wolfe

First Honors | Class of 2026

Felicity Brelage, Rachel Cigolotti, Laura Dennis, Eleanor Eaglin, Bridgette Ehrhard, Calyssa Evers, Norah Haverkos, Greg-

ory Heile, Hailey Hoffman, Ashley Hunter, Jayne Lamping, Bridget Lohmueller, Eleanor Pierce, Grant Rosenberger, Madeline Ryan, Rachel Suttman, Lillian Vanderpohl, Kaitlyn Wankley, and Kaitly Wolfe

Second Honors | Class of 2026

Aaron Bauer, Adam Dennis, Jack Freeland, Sophia Hohenstein, Luke Hopkins, Zachary Phillips, Ethan Short, and Donovan Wesseler

First Honors | Class of 2025

Sarah Bruce, Bryce Crain, Elisabeth Cranert, Ava Henry, Jacob Hilbert, Sullivan Hill, Elana Hollingsworth, Cale Johannigman, Lillian Kastl, Addison Lambert, James Lattire, Ninah Lewis, Christian Mack, Caroline Niese, Annabelle Nunlist, Santiago Schutte, Ainsley Sipples, Levi Stonebraker, Jacob Voegele, Henry Wanstrath, Jill Witkemper, Josephine

Wolfe, and Dominic Yane

Second Honors | Class of 2025

Hayden Blair, Gabriella Cullen, Grant Goldsmith, Zachary Hoff, Albert Hudepohl, Emily Schebler, Maria Voegele, and Isaiah Waggoner

First Honors | Class of 2024

Jacob Cornelius, Lily Dennis, Thaddeus Eaglin, Rachel Lamping, Sara Lamping, Thomas Lohmueller, Angus Lonergan, Ken-

lee Martin, Connor Miles, Isabel Price, Lauren Richards, Mary Ryan, Lillian Schebler, Noah Schenk, Jared Schuman, Alexandrite Simmonds, Evelyn Vanderpohl, Sadie Wachsmann, Claire Walke, and Kate Weber

Second Honors | Class of 2024

Chloe Bohman, Noah Bruce, Evan Flaspohler, Ryan Geis, Austin Gregory, Calvin Grote, Carson Phillips, and Jonah Short

Source: OA

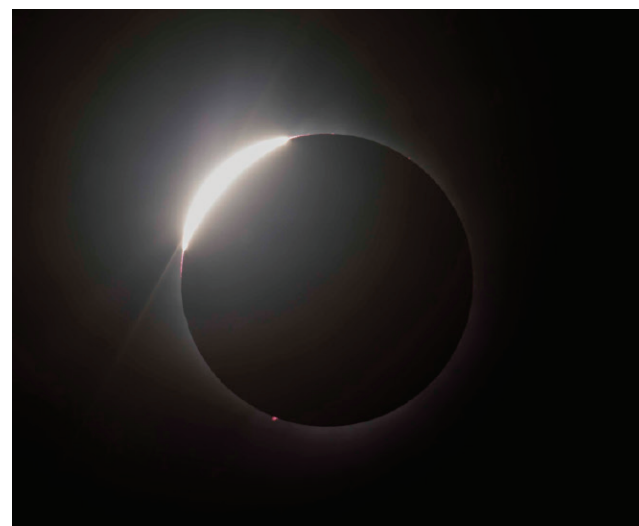
Remembering the 2024 Total Solar Eclipse

MOONED ON MAIN IN BROOKVILLE



Local families and visitors from all over the United States celebrates on courthouse lawn in Brookville during Mooned on Main.

PHOTOGRAPHER CAPTURES ECLIPSE ON BOUNDARY HILL

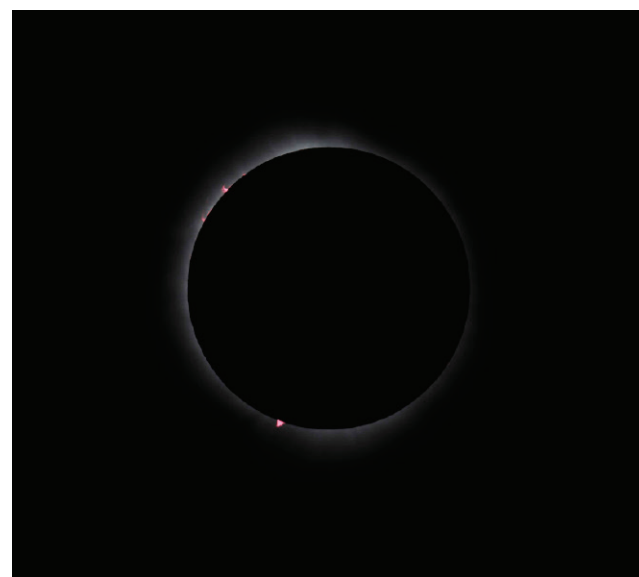


Pictured is the diamond phase of the eclipse, where the moon is nearly covering the entire sun disk.

THE DARKSIDE OF THE MOON FESTIVAL



The Gateway Park campground in Metamora was full and over 50 cars were parked in the field.



The pictures shows the Bailey's Bead where the moon covers the sun but some flares and protrusions from the sun's edge show.

WHITEWATER CANAL TRAIL



The Whitewater Canal Trail shared, "We had a 'totally' awesome day in Metamora. We had over 110 walking and biking on the trail from Texas, Virginia, Kansas and Ohio. Great time!"

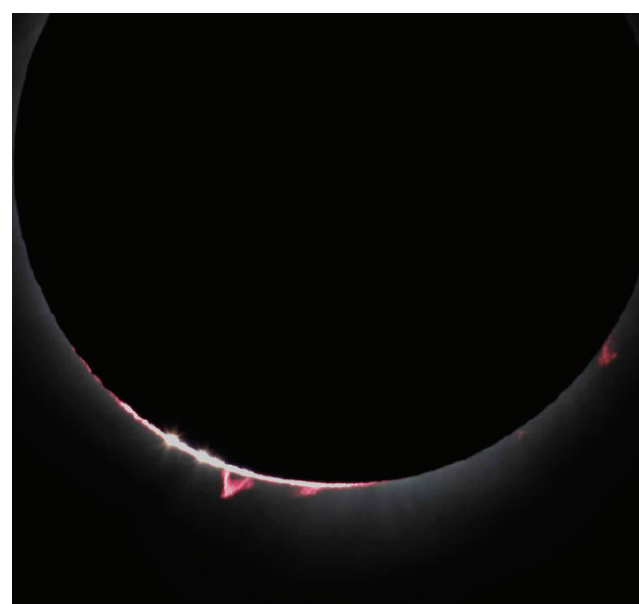


In this photo the sun is fully covered. If you look at the lower part of the image, there is a red area, which is called a solar prominence.

BLACKOUT ON MILL STREET



Several local vendors set up at "Blackout on Mill Street" party hosted by Shear Designs.



This is a closer view of the solar prominence. A solar prominence is something that typically can't be seen with the naked eye, and we were only able to see it because the moon was blocking the sun. The prominence is plasma that can be described as bursting out from the sun's surface. The bursts are extremely rare, and for it to be visible during totality was Mother Nature giving us a gift.

View videos of the Eclipse

SCAN THE QR CODE TO UNLOCK VIDEOS AND MORE

765

THE 765

BROUGHT TO YOU BY WHITWATER PUBLICATIONS

Enjoying the eclipse at the Brookville Lake

Amy Lindsey, FC EMA Director, gave the following brief of the solar eclipse at the Brookville Lake.

All six employees that work at the Dam/Overlook/Tailwater/south end of the lake with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers each worked hard.

Jacque Collins Office Admin and Tony Schoenecker, Project Mgr., both staffed the Visitor Center with almost 200 guests for the day (the little Visitor Center Trail connecting the Overlook and Visitor Center was used by some gathered at the Overlook). Natural Resources Specialist Ranger Stephanie Ison, and all 3 Maintenance staff: Scott Harper, Doug Miller, and Tony Schwab all did traffic control on Overlook Road and entrance to Bonwell Hill Boat Ramp

with Mgr. Schoenecker doing some of that too. Our overlook and visitor center parking lot reached max capacity before noon. So each car was stopped and the traffic control person gave a lake map and verbalized other parking options routing most to Bonwell Hill Boat Ramp (which pretty much completely filled up) to hike to Dam and Overlook from the west side entrance of the parking lot to Bonwell Hill section of the Adena Trace Hiking trail which leads one to the top of the Dam. At that point, they could enjoy the Dam or walk up the Dam Access Road up to the Overlook and join the crowd. The lake map also showed the other 8 boat ramps that were options as well as the 40 miles of shoreline that had a slight 1.5 foot edge

that day.

I had our Project UTV packed up as first aid, etc, cleaning supplies restocking 8 portapots... toilet paper, cleaning, changing out trash, distributing lake maps and water safety Frisbees, coloring water safety books to all kids, water safety towels to some adults, I personally bought and iced a case of bottled water and gave out to adults as emergency type dehydration, pets too. I think I gave away almost a whole case. I roved overlook twice and dam once and spent eclipse time with large crowd at overlook. Est. Maybe 2000 people between top of Dam and overlook. I performed a short historical talk to everyone who all listened to me at overlook and personally talked to every person I think. We had Katie



Pictured are Jacque Collins and Stephanie Ison.

photo provided

Cepero (photo journalist) with WCPO news whole time at overlook stock, clean, litter, signs, also. Afterwards, all cones, portraits, etc. staff helped with re-



Stephanie Ison shared, "We had a very well behaved/awesome crowd gathered at the Overlook and Dam areas. I would say most were from other states and were "eclipse chasers."



photos provided

Taking a break to enjoy the view Main Street Brookville



photo provided

Pictured is Blooming Grove VFD at Parkside Plaza, entrance to Mounds Campground Monday April 8.



Lunar Art Show winners Pen pals come together for eclipse



photo provided

Lucas Eckerle submission winner.

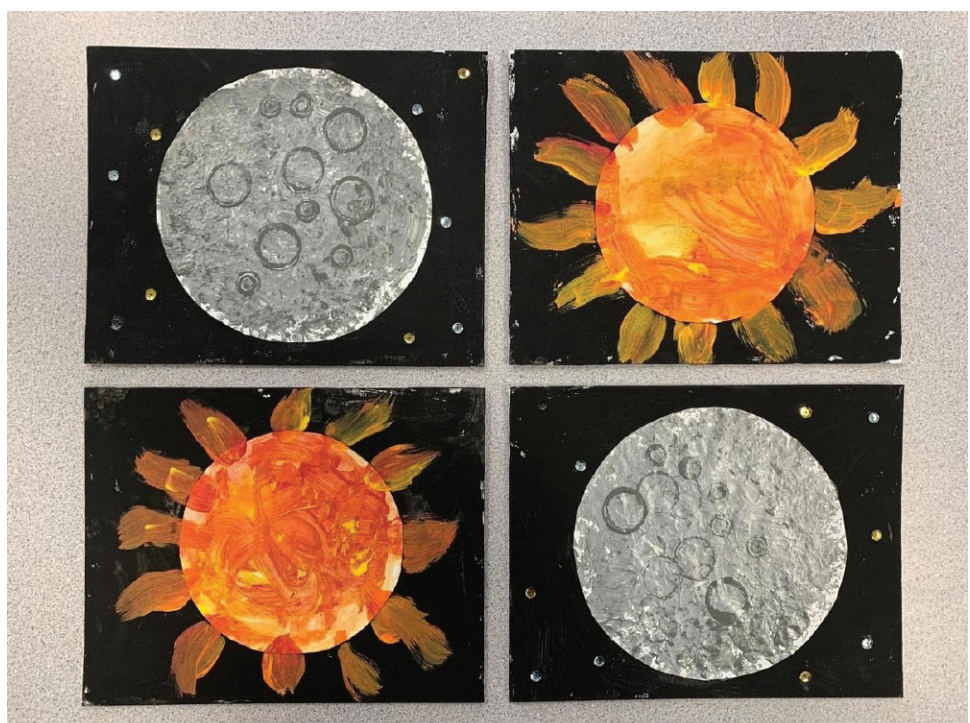


photo provided

James and Nora Gandenberger submission winner.



photo provided

Hope Rice submission winner.



photo provided

Diana Schuck submission winner.

Cassie Garrett
REGIONAL DIRECTOR

The 2024 Total Solar Eclipse, a celestial event that captivated the globe, drew people from all corners of the world to the quaint town of Metamora. Among the throng of visitors were Wendy Day and her husband Martin, who journeyed from Yately, England. Their purpose was twofold: to witness the awe-inspiring eclipse and to meet Wendy's

a form, and they gave you a pen pal, and I got Wendy."

Wendy agreed, "It was very similar for us; it was an international school thing. Sue actually has the original slip of paper she filled in. Being English girls, like teenage English girls, we all asked for American boys. But it was actually really great to get Sue because, you know, it started a friendship that lasted many years."

They both agreed

"It was in 2017, literally the first time we met. We had spoken on the phone several times but never met," Wendy explained. Funny enough, I had always wanted to come to Sue's hometown, but at that point, she had actually moved to Colorado Springs." Sue added, "I lived there for around three years, and there was an eclipse, and they were coming for that and came a little early to spend some time with me. We had a great



longtime penpal, Sue McKinney, from Plymouth. Their friendship, which began with the exchange of letters in 1981, was about to take a new turn with this in-person meeting.

"When I was in junior high, in 7th and 8th grade, we were allowed to take a foreign language. In that foreign language class, they offered cultural things, and one of them was to have a pen-friend from somewhere else in the world. So you had to pay like fifty cents or a dollar, fill out

that something about writing and receiving letters made their friendship extra special

"It was so exciting; it was like, oh, I got mail," Wendy said. You would see the air mail sticker on it, and the letter would have photos and things like that, and you waited so long for it. And know it's just like boom, we can message anytime."

Ironically, the first time Sue and Wendy met in person was also related to a total solar eclipse.

time." When they found out the next eclipse was in Indiana, they knew it was another perfect opportunity to get together.

"We would have always come back anyway, but the fact that there was another eclipse, it made sense to us to time it," Wendy said. "The fact this one was in her home state made it obvious, really."

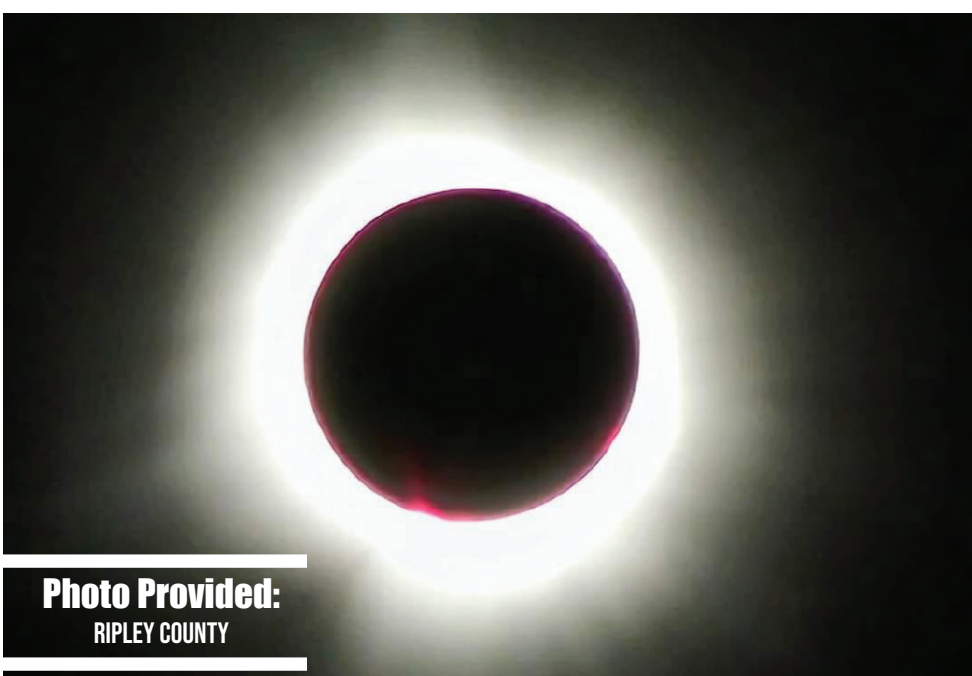
To watch the video, visit The 765 Facebook page.

ECLIPSE GLASSES COLLECTION

Brookville and Laurel Libraries will be a drop-off point for your gently used solar eclipse glasses. These glasses will then be sent on to South America by Brookville Main Street for the eclipse in October. All glasses need to be collected by Saturday, April 27.

FRANKLIN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Photos from around the region



4th annual Brookville, Indiana
Pet Parade
APRIL 26 | ALL PETS WELCOME!
Scan QR code for info/signup!

MAIN STREET BROOKVILLE
Indiana MAIN STREET
MAIN STREET AMERICA 2023 Accredited

FORGOTTEN FRANKLIN COUNTY

APRIL 17, 2024

11

The Riedman Brothers.....Part 2



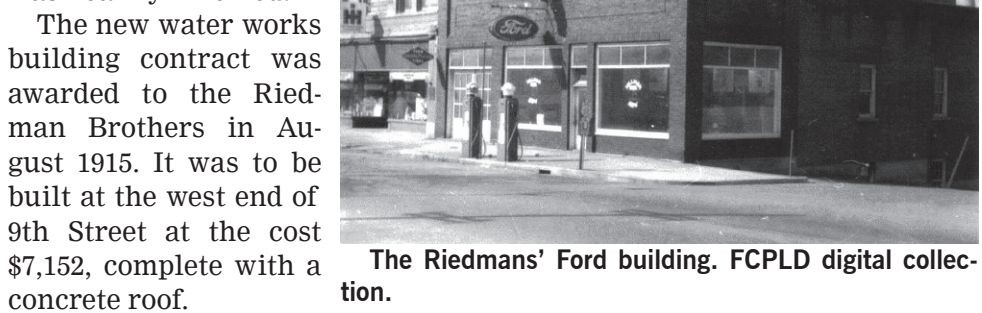
The Kirschbaum Garage built by the Riedman Brothers. FCPLD digital collection.

The old Kirschbaum garage (which later was a site for Riedman Dependable Motors) was built by the Riedman Brothers. It stood at the west end of 5th Street across from the Morin Theater in Brookville. Sadly, this unique piece of architecture was destroyed in 2003 to create a few parking spots.

According to family stories, Harry, Joe, and Albert Riedman had the first horseless carriage in Brookville, a Buick, which some thought the brothers took as partial payment for the construction of the Kirxschbaum Garage.

There was a building boom in Brookville during the early part of the 20th century, primarily during the 19-teens. Storefronts were updated and revamped and in many cases new modern buildings were erected, and of course the Riedman Brothers business was heavily involved.

The new water works building contract was awarded to the Riedman Brothers in August 1915. It was to be built at the west end of 9th Street at the cost \$7,152, complete with a concrete roof.



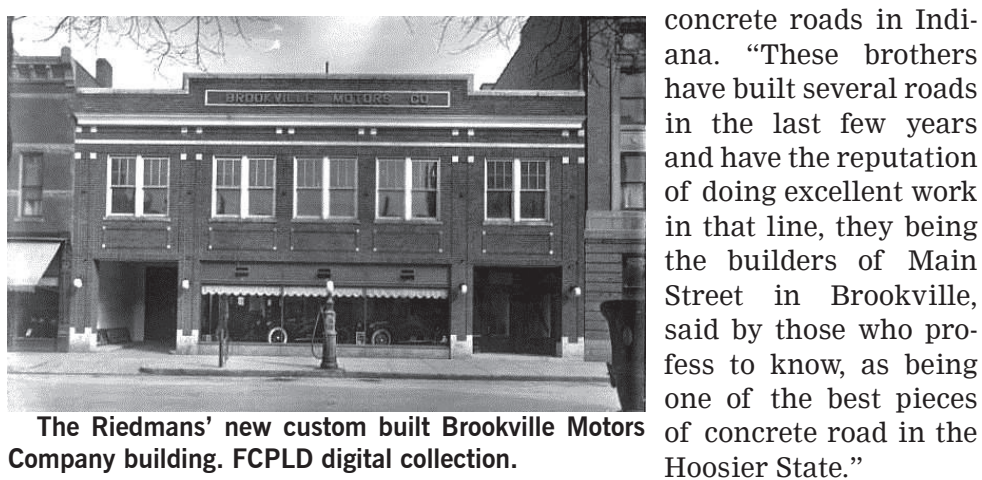
The Riedmans' Ford building. FCPLD digital collection.

The Ford building was constructed by the Riedmans at the southwest corner of 8th Street in 1917 at the cost of \$6,000. It was contracted by Ben Steiner and was built on the site of the old Kimble Mill. By this time the Riedman Brothers had a decent sized crew as they were noted as "working with a large force of hands." The multi-level building had a repair shop on the lower level and an automobile showroom on the first floor. Unfortunately this structure was badly damaged by fire in 1971 and the front portion had to be reconstructed.

In the early 1920s the Riedmans made the first concrete street in Brookville. It ran from approximately what is now CVS to the hill south of town (aka Oregon Hill). The cost was \$50,000, and when the project was done the brothers only made about \$2,000 to split between the three of them.

Construction of this road was all done by hand and was accomplished with horses and a scoop shovel. It was formed and graded and then four or five laborers would use a strap to level the concrete.

The brothers also worked on road construction in surrounding counties. The May 28, 1925 *Brookville Democrat* is an excellent example to share here as it mentions a 4-mile stretch of concrete road the brothers constructed in Hamilton County, Ohio called the Dunlap and Springfield Pike. This article also mentions that the road they laid in Brookville was one of the best concrete roads in Indiana.



The Riedmans' new custom built Brookville Motors Company building. FCPLD digital collection.

The northeast corner of 5th and Main streets looks like it does today in part, because of the Riedmans. While there is no reference that the Riedman Brothers actually helped construct the FCN Bank, according to the bank's history, it was decided in February 1912, that "the bank building committee was to contract with Riedman Brothers to wreck and remove old buildings from the building site and to make excavation for the new building."

What is now currently an extension of the FCN Bank to the north however was a Riedman built structure. It was constructed around 1924 and was used by the Riedmans. As I mentioned, the brothers were involved in everything from construction to cars - here's where the cars come in. The venture housed here was called Brookville Motors Company.

Initially, it was accidental that they sold cars. The contracting business they were involved in was for the most part weather-dependent. If the weather was bad, they had to have other avenues of income, and har-

vesting and selling ice, repairing equipment, and selling used vehicles fulfilled that need.

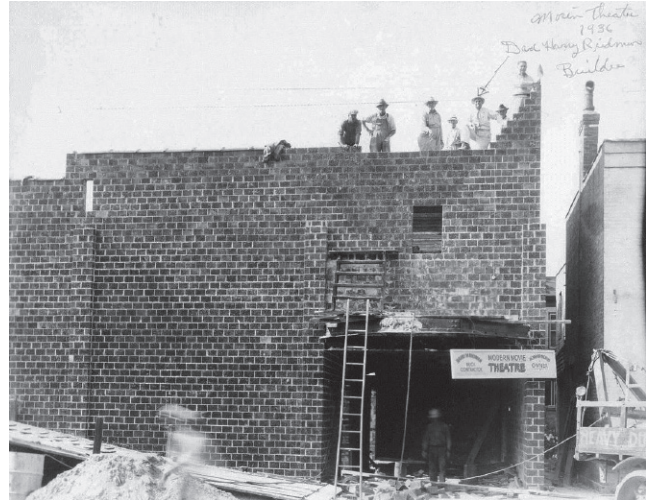
For a while the brothers operated from an old frame livery stable that stood north of the bank. Here they repaired old farm equipment and re-conditioned cars. In the local newspapers of Dec. 14, 1922, they announced their old building was to be torn down and a new modern facility was going to be erected. In early 1924 they had the grand opening of their new salesroom which was housed in a multi-faceted building. Over 2,500 people turned up to tour the facility.

The new Riedman Motors building was three full stories of reinforced concrete, including a full basement. There was a studio room above the garage that was used to make radio ads and a lift that raised cars from the basement to the street level floor showroom. Apartments were on the upper level facing Main Street and the short-lived Mexicana Garden nightspot was located there as well, but towards the back side of the building.

Mexicana Garden opened in December 1934 and was noted as being one of Brookville's most beautiful venues. Upon entering the club, one was awestruck with the soft lights, palms, and beautiful reproductions of old Mexico. It appears to have been a nightclub for only 2-3 years, then was repurposed for other uses. I recall being told that when FCN did some remodeling, they found evidence of painted palm trees on the walls, but no one at the time knew what they were or why they were there.

Out of the Riedman's Brookville Motors building they also sold Philco radios and Crosley refrigerators. What brand of cars did they sell? Chrysler, Hudson, Dodge, REO, Packard - just about any make that was available.

In 1937 Howard Morin erected a new modern theater in Brookville and



The Morin Theater under construction. The line points to Harry Riedman on the roof. Image from the Harry Riedman digital collection, FCPLD.

Harry Riedman was the contractor for the job. Construction began around June of 1937 and there were eight bricklayers and 15 additional workmen under Harry's supervision on this project. It was a modern, quality structure that used new materials and was considered relatively fire-proof.

As the Riedman brothers aged, married, and discovered new opportunities, each eventually went on to do

their own thing.

Joe Riedman decided that business opportunities in Connersville were too attractive to disregard. He opened an automotive agency there on Nov. 1, 1926 and after he had been there quite successfully for 10 years, the Riedman Brothers Brookville partnership was officially dissolved in 1936. Connersville is where he lived out his remaining years. Joe died in 1982.

In 1932 Harry was running for political offices as joint representative on the Democratic ticket...joint representative being for Fayette and Franklin counties. He won, but did not win his second term in 1934.

Harry continued to operate the Brookville auto dealership, which eventually became known as Dependable Motors, up until near the time he passed away. FCN Bank purchased the Riedman Brothers building on Main Street in 1960 for about \$40,000 and eventually connected the main bank building with this structure. Harry died August 12, 1965.

Albert was referred to by the family as the quiet one. He died in 1958 at the age of 74. Albert remained a contractor and still made some type of cement blocks even into the late 1940s.

If you have a concrete block structure located in a part of Franklin County other than Brookville, please refer back to a *Forgotten Franklin County* story I wrote on Dec. 25, 2019 regarding the Riedman Brothers and other known concrete block manufacturers in our area. Often times, each maker had a slightly different style of block face depending on the machine he used. This fact sometimes helps to pinpoint who the builder of a certain structure was.

Didn't save the *Forgotten Franklin County* article of four years ago? No worries, see Whitewater Publications to get your copy of *Volume 1* of the *Forgotten Franklin County* stories.

Julie Schlesselman

Local History & Genealogy Department Manager, FCPLD
765.647.4031

BROOKVILLE'S MEXICANA GARDEN



The Mexicana Garden as photographed for the local newspapers of February 1935.

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Contact the Franklin County Public Library at 765-647-4031 for more information on how to purchase your copy!

COPIES AVAILABLE NOW!

Rezone ■ Continued from Page 3

show of hands, the APC was in favor of supporting such a district.

Next came updates on floodplain and stormwater ordinances within the county code.

Executive director Kaitlin Sterwerf said DNR had sent recommendations for new floodplain rules which would supersede language in the former ordinance. Kramer moved to make a favorable recommendation to commissioners to rescind the former ordinance and institute a new one with proposed changes. It passed unanimously.

A new stormwater ordinance has yet to be established due to over 100 pages of technical standards missing from the commissioners' most recent approval. Seig remained adamant that the specs be included. It was agreed that Wesling and Seig would meet with the county attorney to come up with a consensus.

Updating violations/complaints, Wesling will proceed with further action against Lecher's Sawmill (4130 Moorman Road, Batesville), the resident living at 8143 Silver Creek Road, Metamora and Paul Helmers (Hill

Road, Brookville) after getting no response to letters. Sterwerf said the latter is using a pole barn as a dwelling; he would fall into compliance should he get a permit for a dwelling.

Michael and Manya Ridenour (23130 Stipps Hill Road, Laurel) is another case being escalated by Wesling. Braun asked about placing a lien on the residents' tax bill; Wesling confirmed that the government would have a priority lien that must be satisfied ahead of other obligations. The attorney will also move forward

against Patricia Grimes (18280 McGuire Ridge Road, Laurel) upon hearing no reply.

It was mentioned that Kelly King (17020 McGuire Ridge Road, Laurel) is making incremental improvements, so action was delayed with a checkup on her progress to be made in a month. There was a positive update on the Sturwolds (2139 East Road, Brookville); Sterwerf said she was contacted and expects to see progress due to the residents wanting a permit for a new residential dwelling on the parcel.

Two cases – Merrell Grain (20215 Seeley Road, West Harrison) and Kenneth and Constance Bischoff (802 Old State Road 1, Cedar Grove) – have been re-

ferred to state health/environment departments. Sterwerf noted the Sizemores (12047-55 US 52 West) are making substantial progress and "doing a great job."

COMMUNITIES RECEIVE STATE FUNDING FOR ROAD PROJECTS

Fayette, Union and Franklin counties can roll forward with road and bridge projects thanks to a recent boost in state funding supported by State Rep. Lindsay Patterson (R-Brookville)

A total of 252 communities across the

state will receive over \$207 million through Indiana's Community Crossings Matching Grant Program. Funds can be used for road and bridge preservation, road reconstruction, intersection improvements and other items.

"Having safe roads is vital in any local community," said State Rep. Lindsay Patterson (R-Brookville), a member of the House Roads and Transportation Committee. "These state dollars are a great tool for counties, cities and towns to make neces-

sary improvements and build for the future."

Area grant recipients (See "ROADS" pg. 13)

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2024 Calendar of Events

APR 19	Pet Parade	Courthouse Lawn @ 4th & Main St. Friday, 6:30 p.m.
MAY 4	Derby Day Bourbon, Wine and Beer Tasting and Pie Auction in Partnership with MMH Foundation	Third Place @ 734 Main St. Saturday, 6:30 p.m. Doors Open @ 2 p.m.
MAY 10-11	Girls Weekend	Brookville's Local Restaurants & Businesses Purchase Tickets @ 701 Main St. the week of event
JUN 28	Classic Car Cruise In Brookville Blazin' inferno Challenge	UMC Parking Lot @ 8th & Main St, 6:00 p.m. Municipal Parking Lot @ 650 Main St., 6:30 p.m.
SEPT 14	Chicken Festival and Fryoff	Courthouse Lawn @ 4th & Main St. Saturday, 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
OCT 19	Haunted Wine Walk and Cellar Tour	Starting at Third Place @ 734 Main Street
NOV 23	November Noel	Courthouse Lawn @ 4th & Main St. & Local Businesses Visit Santa @ Courthouse Gazebo, 1:00 p.m. to 4 p.m.
DEC 7	Cookie Crumb Trail	Brookville's Local Restaurants & Businesses
DEC 14	Holiday Tour of Historic Homes	Tour Historic Homes in Brookville

View Facebook for more details on events, times, locations, etc. See list in Brookville Newspaper.

Main Street Brookville, Inc. | P.O. Box 61, Brookville, Indiana 47012
info@mainstreetbrookville.org | A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization



Rail Cars annual trip to Metamora



photo provided

Sixty members of the Great Lakes Rail Cars make their annual stop in Metamora.

Jim Wilz: Pedaling for survivors, week five

Jim Wilz has reached week 5 of his six-week trek across the United States. Below is his newest blog update. For those new to the story, Jim Wilz is making this 6-week bike ride as a partner with Move Beyond Surviving, who promote additional support in breast cancer survivors as they try to gain some normalcy and activity in their new lives.

Hello Friends,
Wow! I have completed five weeks of my journey and only one week to go! The support and encouragement that I have received from all of you has been overwhelming! Thank You! To date, this journey has raised enough funds so that over 300 breast cancer survivors can participate in outdoor adventures as part of the healing process.

Day 31 - De Ridder La to Villa Platte La (77.77 Miles ,945 Ft elevation Gain, 4h 37 m in Seat) This was our first whole day in Louisiana and by far the cultural differences from Texas to Louisiana has been the most significant state to state change. From longhorn steers to alligators, ranches to plantations, and BBQ to crawfish. At our first stop of the morning, a local man gave us some alligator advice. "If an alligator looks at you directly, then puffs up its chest, and then looks away, run or pedal as fast as you can! Our ride today was in lowland farming country dominated by crawfish farms, with rice and sugar cane fields along the way.

Day 32 - Villa Platte La to St. Francisville La (79 Miles 869 Ft Elevation Gain, 4h 56 m in seat) We crossed the Mississippi River Today. This crossing was one our milestones for the trip. It was the first time I have crossed the river on a bicycle. Interestingly, we crossed on the James Audubon Bridge. Upon arrival in St Francisville, the town was dominated with things named for Audubon. The Audubon grocery was next to our hotel and Audubon State Park was just



down the street.

This Audubon find has an interesting connection to Cincinnati. James Audubon published a famous book called the Birds of North America. In 1819 he was hired as the first taxidermist and artist at the Cincinnati Museum Center. In that role he painted five of his famous bird paintings. Upon leaving that role in 1821, he settled in St Francisville, La and completed 32 of his paintings at the Oakley House now located in Audubon State Park.

Day 33- St Francisville to Franklinton La (88 Miles, 3530 ft elevation gain, 5h 28m in seat) A day of riding through lots of rolling hills in the Louisiana countryside. We did pass Glencoe, one of the best-preserved former cotton plantations in the south.

Day 34- Franklinton, LA to Wiggins Ms. (83 Miles 2851 ft elevation gain 5h 17m in seat.) We crossed the Pearl River today into Mississippi. Only three more states to go. We are crossing lots of rivers and seeing much more water than we did out west. Today was the first day my legs started feeling tired!

Day 35 - Wiggins, MS to Moss Point, MS (74 Miles 1657 ft elevation gain, 4h 54m in seat) We rode at a slightly slower pace today to do a little recovery. The ride was just beautiful today. The road to our lunch at the Mississippi Sandhill Crane Wildlife Refuge was among the most scenic on this trip so far.

Day 36 - Moss Point,

MS to Gulf Shores, AL (70 miles, 800 Elevation Gain, 4h 54m in seat) Early in the day we crossed into Alabama (Only 2 states to go !) The remainder of the ride was along the coastal waters of Mobile Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. Just a gorgeous ride, including six miles on a ferry.

I would like to introduce you two of my fellow riders, Tom and Athena. They are riding a tandem across the country after bicycling around the world. Before retirement Tom worked for the US Government US AID doing economic development in many countries. Those that I have had stories about include Nepal, Taiwan, Yemen, Ivory Coast and Mali among others. Tom always took his bicycles on these sojourns and has also raced bicycles in many of these countries. In Colombia, he completed the longest paved bicycle mountain climb in the world of 51 miles and over 13,000 feet. Athena had an illustrious medical career with the Peace Corps and State Department throughout the world often with Tom. On this journey, they have had their share of flat tires and mechanical problems, yet every day they are cycling together happily!

As Jim begins his last and final week of this bike ride, please send him support as he meets his family in Florida. Thank you for everything you have done so far, and for your dedication to breast cancer survivors.

Irv Vonderheide receives certificate of recognition



photo provided

Brookville Masonic Harmony Lodge#11 Master Jerry Stamper presenting a Certificate of Appreciation to Brookville Township Trustee Irv Vonderheide for donating the AED to the lodge.

HOOSIER HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

April 14 - April 20 1902

The Indianapolis Indians were organized as one of the original teams in the American Baseball League. They played in Washington Park, which was near what is now the entrance to the Indianapolis Zoo.

April 18, 1945

War Correspondent Ernie Pyle was killed by sniper fire near Okinawa. Born in Dana, he attended Indiana University.

diana University. During World War II, he wrote newspaper columns six days a week. Often on the front lines, he described the war through the lives of ordinary soldiers.

April 16, 1867

Wilbur Wright was born near Millville in Henry County. He attended school in Richmond, until his family moved to Dayton, Ohio. There he and his brother Orville

became aviation pioneers.

April 20, 1824

Albert G. Porter was born in Lawrenceburg. He attended Hanover and Asbury Colleges and became an attorney. He served in the United States Congress and, in 1880, was elected Governor of Indiana. Later he was appointed by President Benjamin Harrison to serve as Minister to Italy.

2024 COMMUNITY ART EXHIBITION

Celebrate Spring as the Dearborn Highlands Arts Council gallery is calling for entries for artists in a variety of mediums including painting, drawing, mixed-media, sculpture, and more. The 7th annual exhibition aims to highlight local and regional artists and celebrate the diverse perspectives and voices in visual culture.

This exhibition is open to everyone. Artists are welcome to submit up to two entries. All artists will be exhibited - one or both artworks, as gallery space permits.

This exhibition will be judged. Cash prizes will be awarded.

Application & Guidelines available by contacting the Dearborn Highlands Arts Council, dearbornarts@com-

cast.net

Entry Fee/Images: \$25 non-refundable entry fee for the submission of two pieces.

Awards:

Prizes awarded to equal entries received. Awards will be announced at the Closing Reception in a public ceremony. It is encouraged that artists attend the reception, but not required.

Roads ■ Continued from Page 12

- include:
- Connersville, \$374,680;
- Fayette County, \$1.4 million;
- Franklin County, \$1.1 million; and
- Union County, \$1.2 million.

To qualify for the competitive grant, smaller municipalities provide a 25 per-

cent match in local funds, while larger communities provide a 50 percent match. State law requires 50 percent of the available matching funds be awarded annually to communities within counties with a population of 50,000 or fewer. Since 2016, Community Crossings

has awarded more than \$1.6 billion to improve local roads and bridges.

Visit in.gov/indot/communitycrossings and click on "Community Crossings Matching Grant" to learn more about the program.

Source: Lindsay Patterson



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102 North Main Street, Liberty, Indiana 47353

SUNDAY, April 21, 2024

AUCTION TIME: 1 P.M.

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AUCTION TIME: 10 A.M.

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AUCTION

Saturday, May 4, 2024

Beginning at 10 a.m.

Located at: 9808 Camden College Corner Rd.
College Corner, Ohio 45003



Real Estate

This property features a two bedroom, 1 1/2 bath brick ranch home! Home has a large eat in kitchen, laundry, living room, dining room, plus a large basement! Home also has central heat/air, walk in pantry, gas fireplace, hardwood floors plus front and side porches. Outside features include a 30x40 pole barn /workshop with two overhead doors, concrete, electric and 14ft ceilings. Property also has a black top drive, plus mature shade trees! All this on a large 1.4 acre lot in a country setting!

Open house dates Tuesday April 16th 5-6 pm and Thursday April 25th 5-6 pm.

Terms on Real Estate Property sells with owner confirmation with 10% down day of Auction. Balance due on or before June 18th 2024. Property sells in "As is where is" Condition. Financing & Further Inspections are not a contingency to close! All information is believed to be accurate, but not guaranteed. Announcements made day of Auction take precedence over any and all ads. A 10% buyer premium will be added to the bid price to establish the final sale price on the Real Estate.

Auctioneer's Note Nice brick ranch home ideal for home or rental! Large amount of personal property items, Plan to Attend!

Klayton Juillerat - Agent/Auctioneer 937-205-5256
Owner: Deborah M. Willis, Kristi Pierce POA



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GARAGE/YARD SALE

Creekside Church Benefit 4 day yard sale. April 24-27, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, (8am-4pm) Saturday (8am-1pm). Furniture, clothing all sizes, jewelry, books, household, toys, games, holiday decor. Hall will be packed! All proceeds benefit Kenyan Children in Meed at grain of Rice Academy. 11001 Bossert Rd. Brookville. (16-1tp)

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School ■ Continued from Page 1

frenzy occurred following a contradictory post made by Brandy Wilson and her spouse. These posts garnered attention quickly and, with lack of insight or dignity, got the community involved. These subsequent post and comments threatened the jobs of the Franklin County teachers with its opposing views and therefore, the teachers have decided they have had enough.

Eight staff members took the podium to give out their testimonies over the social media post, starting with Shannon New, principal of Laurel Elementary School.

Shannon spoke up about how at Laurel, Kindness is Best. Laurel was heavily criticized in the past, but as she took over, she has worked hard to make Laurel inclusive and understanding for children, which is something she still receives backlash for even now. Furthermore, the post made by Wilson felt that no matter how hard New works, no matter how hard any teacher or staff member works, it will never be met with positivity.

“Kindness is best.

Talk with your staff. Understand what we need. Work with us. Are you on our side or not? Do you care about our schools or not? Kindness is best. As an educator, I have seen hate. I have seen criticism. I have been broken down, but I have never retaliated,” New states.

“This social media post has brought back so much hate towards us. Do our children deserve this? Do we deserve this? Our staff and school board need to work together. My fellow teachers and I do not want to be silenced. We are working hard for the community and our students. We love our students. This is our livelihood, our careers, and how we are feeding our families. Kindness is best. How can you be on our board and say you support us, but not follow through?” she adds.

Shannon’s testimony was raw, emotional, and appropriately scathing to show how much the actions of Wilson and her spouse, and the actions of any past commentators towards the board, have deeply affected herself and her fellow staff members.

These feelings come after the devastating news that Tammy Chavis is leaving after a culmination of harassment and bullying.

Following Shannon’s speech, several other staff members spoke up to explain how the actions of past social media posts, and now Wilson’s, have not been dealt with properly.

“There is a severe lack of communication between the board and our staff. There is not enough accountability being held. As a board member, there are values that you must adhere to, and several have been broken. Where is the fairness? Where is the understanding? Take responsibility, or consider removing yourself as a board member,” states another staff member (withheld for anonymity).

These testimonies came from a place of hurt, frustration, and anger. If the board is trying to contain matters and keep equality, then the use of social media to further drag our school corporation has exasperated any and all efforts made by our Franklin County

teachers. Each took the time to detail their feelings, their hard work, and data geared towards how they have had success versus the various ways all staff were told to do better. In the end, all eight speakers made it known that Wilson’s actions have negatively impacted our school corporation and that they will continue to protest for the safety of their jobs and the bettering of the children’s education.

Following the end of the guests, the board took the time to respond and give their own statements. While these were not accusatory, the board opted to recognize that there was a huge imbalance of communication and that they do want to see our schools and the board themselves do better. The students have always been a priority, and for them to succeed, the need the support and encouragement from our staff. The board should be ready to address any issues for the students and their futures.

Many staff members emailed the board members with their concerns following the social media post; how-

ever, not all were answered. Kevin Kaiser spoke up to apologize as there were quite a few that hadn’t been answered and that it wasn’t done intentionally. He showed support of the testimonies and their stand and agreed that communication and better practices should be a starting point.

With several board members having the same sentiment and desires for the students, staff, and community, Wilson took a moment to address the public as well.

She also apologized for her actions, and for her post, stating - “It was never my intention to hurt anyone. I love broken people. I love to find them and work on fixing them. I do love our schools. I do support our staff. I never intended for my views to be taken this way. It wasn’t my intention,” she states.

“I do plan on visiting the schools. I will be out there because I support you. I want to see your hard work, and I want to see the students thriving,” Wilson adds, responding to the accusations and her lack

of proper response to emailed concerns.

Despite all sides being discussed, it is now up to the board to better the communication and the moderation of social media. Board members are reminded that they are held to certain standards in their positions, and if members choose their personal views above the corporation, then it may be best if those members opt out of their position.

Chavis had no comments at this time and agreed with both the staff and her fellow board members.

Other agenda items discussed were the pathways of alternative education and on-line students, and how these programs give the same benefits. More to come on this item. The Consent Agenda was tabled for a later meeting to allow for proper discussion and methods on how to proceed with announcements such as resignations, hires, and celebrations.

The Franklin County School Board, Board of Directors meeting adjourned following no other discussions.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

NOTICE OF SHERIFF’S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me, directed from the Clerk of Circuit Court of Franklin County, Indiana, in Cause No. 24C01-1903-MF-000144, wherein BankUnited N.A. was Plaintiff, and Alexander G. Smith, et al., were the Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree, with interest and costs, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder on the 28th day of May, 2024, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. of said day at the Franklin County Sheriff’s Office, 371 Main St., Brookville, IN 47012, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Franklin County, Indiana:

TRACT 1: BEING A PARTY OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 12 NORTH, RANGE 13 EAST, BROOKVILLE TOWNSHIP, FRANKLIN COUNTY, INDIANA, BEING BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A MAG NAIL IN ROMER ROAD WHICH BEARS NORTH 89 DEGREES, 12 MINUTES, 01 SECONDS WEST 305.00 FEET FROM A RAILROAD SPIKE MARKING THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 12 NORTH, RANGE 13 EAST; THENCE ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID NORTHWEST QUARTER NORTH 89 DEGREES, 12 MINUTES, 01 SECONDS WEST 270.43 FEET;

THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES, 37 MINUTES, 21 SECONDS EAST 2.87 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES, 25 MINUTES, 32 SECONDS WEST 120.86 FEET TO AN IRON ROD STAKE; THENCE LEAVING SAID SOUTH LINE NORTH 00 DEGREES, 29 MINUTES, 56 SECONDS WEST 68.64 FEET TO AN IRON ROD STAKE; THENCE NORTH 66 DEGREES, 12 MINUTES, 52 SECONDS WEST 247.46 FEET TO AN IRON ROD STAKE; THENCE NORTH 18 DEGREES, 22 MINUTES, 34 SECONDS EAST 245.10 FEET TO AN IRON ROD STAKE; THENCE NORTH 88 DEGREES, 17 MINUTES, 09 SECONDS EAST 539.51 FEET TO AN IRON ROD STAKE; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES, 14 MINUTES, 00 SECONDS EAST 425.04 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 5.000 ACRES.

TRACT 2: BEING PART OF THE WEST HALF OF SECTION TWENTY-SIX (26), TOWNSHIP TWELVE (12), NORTH, RANGE THIRTEEN (13) EAST, SECOND PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, BROOKVILLE TOWNSHIP, FRANKLIN COUNTY, INDIANA, BEING BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF A 4.869-ACRE TRACT WHICH BEARS NORTH 89 DEGREES, 42 MINUTES, 31 SECONDS EAST 624.40 FEET FROM AN IRON PIPE MARKING THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP

12 NORTH, RANGE 13 EAST; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES, 42 MINUTES, 31 SECONDS EAST 75.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES, 14 MINUTES, 26 SECONDS EAST 11.73 FEET TO THE CENTERLINE OF ROMER ROAD; THENCE ALONG SAID CENTERLINE, SOUTH 88 DEGREES, 18 MINUTES, 33 SECONDS WEST 75.02 FEET TO THE EAST LINE OF SAID 4.869-ACRE TRACT; THENCE ALONG SAID EAST LINE, NORTH 00 DEGREES, 14 MINUTES, 25 SECONDS WEST 13.56 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 0.022 ACRES.

State Parcel No. 24-03-26-100-010.000-003, 24-03-26-100-015.000-003

More Commonly known as: 13155 Roemer Road, Brookville, IN 47012

Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal matters. All sales are subject to any first and prior liens, taxes and assessments legally levied and assessed thereon. Neither the Sheriff nor the Plaintiff in this case warrants either expressly or implied any title, location or legal description of any real estate sold at the sale. Any prospective bidder should obtain their own title evidence before making any bid on any properties subject to this sale. DATE: Brian K. Tekulve (30882-49) Law Office of Gerald M. Shapiro, LLP 4805 Montgomery Road, Suite 320 Norwood, OH 45212 (513) 396-8100 Fax: (847) 627-

8805 btekulve@logs.com

Peter Cates, Franklin County Sheriff

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

STATE OF INDIANA IN THE FRANKLIN CIRCUIT COURT COUNTY OF FRANKLIN CAUSE NO. 24C01-2404-EU-000208 IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF DONALD W. STANG, DECEASED NOTICE OF UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION Notice is hereby given that on April 9, 2024, Rebecca Kolb and

Lori Tebbe was appointed Personal Representatives of the Estate of Donald W. Stang, deceased, who died on March 21, 2024.

All persons having claims against said estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court, within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice of administration, or within (9) months after the decedent’s death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Brookville, Indiana, April 9, 2024

Neyssa R. Raible Clerk of the Franklin Circuit Court of Franklin County ATTORNEY FOR ESTATE: MULLIN, MCMILLIN & McMILLIN, LLP 814 Main Street

Brookville, Indiana 47012 765-647-4105

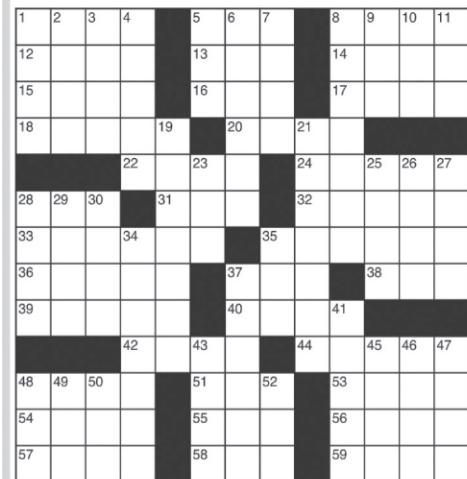
NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Town of Laurel is accepting sealed bids on a 1994 American General Hummer. Vehicle currently does not run, is being sold as is and will be required to be removed 2 weeks after winning bid is approved. Laurel Town Council at the regular Board meeting on Tuesday, May 7th, will open bids and approve of sale. Vehicle can be seen behind Laurel Community Center, sealed bids must be turned into Laurel Town Clerk by 5:30 p.m. May 7, 2024.

Laurel Civil Town, Franklin County, Indiana Cash & Investments Combined Statement - 2023

Table with columns: Local Fund Number, Local Fund Name, Beg Cash & Inv Bal Jan. 1, 2023, Receipts, Disbursement, End Cash & Inv Bal Dec. 31, 2023. Rows include Governmental Activities, WASTEWATER, WATER, and STORMWATER.

CROSSWORD



- 55. Jolly
56. Nights of anticipation
57. Pairs
58. Type of wood
59. Auto-mishap reminder

DOWN

- 1. Prepare for a test
2. Belief in future success
3. Under the covers
4. Decorated again
5. Eat late
6. Punctual
7. Card game
8. Supporters
9. House addition
10. Infant's sound
11. Jet
19. Apprehends
21. Inheritances
23. Electrified atom
25. Building sites

- 26. Gaze
27. Lively
28. "___ and the Fatman"
29. Certain exam
30. Flooring material
34. Guards
35. Small dog
37. Type of tire
41. Cut into cubes
43. Hem
45. Speak wildly
46. Square
47. Swallow's home
48. False front
49. Mouth part
50. "Long, Long ___"
52. Exercise room



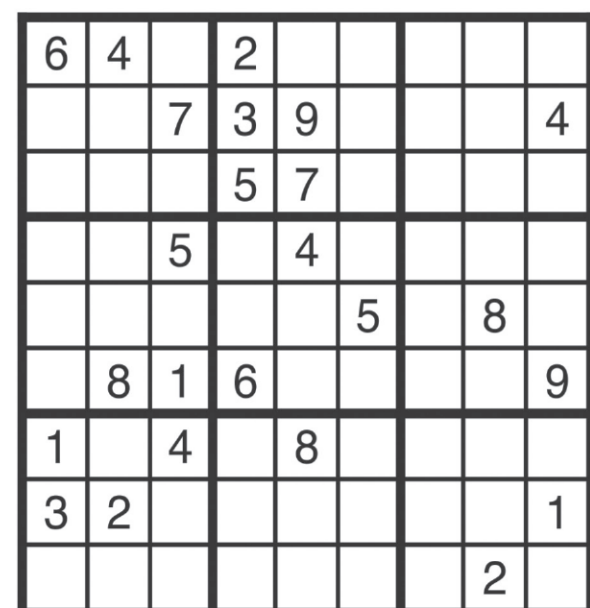
ACROSS

- 1. Blacken
5. Fitness facility
8. Asks for alms
12. After-bath garment
13. Coffee vessel
14. Sunburn soother
15. Mimicked
16. Cauldron
17. Cluster
18. Newspapers and radio
20. Submissive
22. Leak
24. Markets
28. Write hastily

- 31. Disintegrate
32. Company
33. Awakened
35. Clergyman
36. Cabbagelike veggies
37. Boring routine
38. Shade of blue
39. Choose by ballot
40. Ancient
42. Accustomed
44. Emergency signal
48. Slightly open
51. Get
53. Underground chamber
54. Pen

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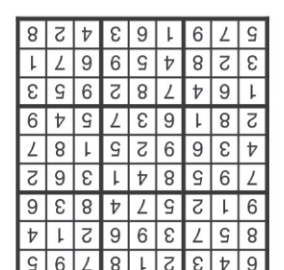
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ANSWERS



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FRIDAY 67° F LOW OF 46	SATURDAY 61° F LOW OF 43	SUNDAY 59° F LOW OF 40
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History makes an appearance



Cheyenne Lance
LEAD STAFF WRITER

During renovations for a private project, Curtis Ward and his team recently stumbled upon a piece of history when tearing down walls. Along the top of the wall over the original brick, you can see the painted sign for “Kings Drug Store.”

The on-site location is the second floor wall of building 612 Main Street.

During a demo, Ward’s team uncovered the wall and they immediately left it alone while they discussed preservation. King’s began around the early 1900s, and according to Ward, had been in business prior to Hartman Shoe Store, which is where Ward’s office resides now.

“We are going to use a seal on the brick and leave it exposed. It’s a great piece of history to have as decor,” Ward states.

With the discovery of this original signage, Ward hopes to find more as they continue the demo in the apartment.



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- Protecting our Community Values

VOTE ON OR BEFORE **MAY 7**

Reds - Continued from Page 4

for singing. Allison is the daughter of Brandy and Doug Steinard. “Her father and I couldn’t be prouder,”

Brandy said. “This was a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and she hit it out of the park.”

To see the video of Allison singing the National Anthem, scan the QR code below.



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MAY 2, 2024
6:00PM

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BUFFET
5PM

MUSIC
7PM

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