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THE BROOKVILLE AMERICAN est. 1833



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Wednesday, January 29, 2025

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FEELING SMALL IN THE DISTRICT



photo by Will Fehlinger

The Willard Hotel salutes our 47th President. Evidently, this is nicknamed the "residence of presidents" as every U.S. president since Franklin Pierce has either slept in a room or attended an event there.

Will Fehlinger COPY EDITOR

The Saturday before Inauguration Day, I turned on SNL in anticipation of guest host Dave Chappelle's monologue. Comics are great sages in big moments, throwing jabs and roundhouse hooks from the sidelines. But toward the end of his 17-minute intro - a Saturday

Night Live record, incidentally - Chappelle took a serious tone.

He gave an anecdote of once being in the Middle East at the same time as former president Jimmy Carter, who walked through Palestine with little security as surrounding crowds cheered him on. Chappelle recalled thinking, "I don't know if that's a good president, but (See "SMALL" pg. 9)

WHAT TO DO WHEN THE WEATHER CHANGES



photo by Cassie Garrett

Visiting the house where Lincoln died is a part of the Ford Theatre experience.

Ron Yurcak CONTRIBUTOR

The excitement of the Inauguration in Washington DC was the talk. It was surely going to be cold as the 47th President took the oath, but we planned for the cold. But soon the news arrived as we entered the city limits that it would be moved indoors. Space went from unlimited to just dignitaries and such. So now it is time to figure out what to do on a Saturday in Washington. We started with a

visit to the Ford Theater. This is a must see on your to do list. A short walk just four short blocks to the museum. The detail of the museum, theater and house is amazing. We then needed to walk over to the Dirksen Senate Office Building to pick up our press passes. Upon arrival we found that all press passes had been suspended due to the limited room. So the four mile walk over and four miles back was all for naught. So now what to do? Stop for lunch (See "WHAT" pg. 8)

Lines, Loyalty and a New Era: The Atmosphere of Trump's Inaugural Weekend



photo provided

The Trump Victory Rally held the day before the 47th Presidential Inauguration brought thousands to the streets of Washington D.C., as they lined up hoping to secure a spot inside the Capitol One Arena for the rally.

Cassie Garrett REGIONAL DIRECTOR

One of the striking themes observed in

Washington, D.C., during the weekend leading up to the inauguration and on the day itself was the overwhelming presence of long lines.

The massive lines began forming with the Trump Victory Rally held the day before the Presidential Inauguration. Throngs of excit-

ed supporters created a serpentine line that snaked through the city streets, stretching over approximately 20 (See "LINES" pg. 8)

Trump's Inauguration: A civilian's perspective

Brandy Todd ADVERTISING

Last week, four of my co workers and I

traveled to Washington DC to cover the inauguration of Donald Trump. The excitement was obvious as we arrived to check in to our

hotel, with a "Trump Won" bridge, signs and merchandise lining the street. This being my first time in Washington DC, I was excited

but a little apprehensive with the amount of people expected to be there. The vibe was mostly positive with a few (See "CIVIL" pg. 9)

Power of the people: A reflection on the People's March against Trump's Inauguration

Cassie Garrett REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Two days prior to Trump's inauguration, on Jan. 18, the People's March took place in Washington, D.C. Organizers anticipated an attendance of around 50,000 participants, though law enforcement on scene estimated the number was between 5,000 and 10,000.

The rally commenced with a spirited procession heading toward the iconic Lincoln Memorial. A large stage was set up at the base of the steps, framed against the imposing figure of Abraham Lincoln as if he were watching over the demonstrators.



The crowd expanded along both sides of the Reflecting Pool, the serene body of water that stretches from the Lincoln Memorial to the towering Washington Monument. Across the expanse, a sea of colorful hand-

made signs rose high into the air, each one reflecting the passions and demands of the protesters. Slogans such as "Girls just wanna have fundamental rights," "Bans off our bodies," "Day one deport Trump back to Germany," and

"We will not go quietly into the night" echoed the urgency of their message. The People's March attendees represented a wide range of progressive causes, from immigration to climate change, abortion (See "PROTEST" pg. 9)

SENATOR LEISING CHAIRS RURAL CAUCUS MEETING



photo provided

State Sen. Jean Leising (R-Oldenburg) chairs the first meeting of the year for the Rural Caucus on Jan. 22. Indiana State Health Commissioner Lindsay Weaver spoke at the event, which covered topics such as public health and other issues significant to rural Indiana.

AMERICAN REVOLUTION EXPERIENCE EXHIBIT ARRIVES IN BROOKVILLE

The Twin Forks Chapter, DAR is pleased to announce the arrival of the American Revolution Experience Exhibit created by American Battlefield Trust and Daughters of the American Revolution in Brookville starting Monday, Feb. 3. The county courthouse judges have graciously welcomed us to the building for the display and will be speaking to

some of the students when they arrive for this traveling exhibit.

This exhibit contains 12 panels highlighting thematic connections between profiled individual stories and three interactive kiosks that connect to the full digital biographies, provide documentary context on the Revolutionary War, and offer information on how (See "DAR" pg. 14)

OPINION

LETTER TO THE EDITOR GUIDELINES

We accept Letters to the Editor limited to no more than 250 words. The opinions expressed are always the writer's own. Libelous, obscene, rude or disrespectful letters will not be considered. Letters may be edited for clarity.

All letters must be submitted by individuals who are area residents, visitors, property or business owners or have some direct connection to our community. Letters must include the writer's full name; anonymous letters and letters written under pseudonyms will not be considered. For verification purposes, they must also include the writer's home address, email address and a daytime telephone number. The letter may not have been submitted to, posted to or published by any other media. No more than one letter each month per individual will be published.

Not all letters will be published due to content or space constraints.

BROOKVILLE AMERICAN

ESTABLISHED IN 1833



Now in its one hundred and ninety-second year of publication, the Brookville American/Democrat, a news weekly, is dedicated to the best interest of the people of the Whitewater Valley.

The Brookville American, 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 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

This is our commUNITY

Honoring our heritage: A new era for local journalism

Brian Noah
CO-OWNER, WHITEATER PUB

In 2019, when we purchased Whitewater Publications from the people I had the privilege to work for, I embraced the responsibility of becoming a steward of this community. From the outset, our ownership group established two core goals:

To return the newspaper to the foundational principles of journalism, including a commitment to minimizing harm.

To report the facts objectively and empower the community to form its own opinions, ensuring that, after five years, readers couldn't discern whether we leaned politically left or right.

I believe we've succeeded. The feedback we've received—from letters, emails, and phone calls—speaks volumes. In the same week, we've been ac-

cused of being both "too far left" and "too far right," sometimes regarding the same article. This balance, while challenging, is exactly what we strive for.

As we approach a new year in an era of rapid change, we're reflecting on the role of local journalism in fostering community unity. Recently, Whitewater Publications sent five members of our team to Washington, D.C., to witness the peaceful transfer of power. Their stories and experiences, shared in this edition, underscore the vital connection between informed civic engagement and a thriving democracy.

Locally, we're taking proactive steps to adapt and strengthen our service to the community. We are consolidating our two newspapers into one: The Brookville American. This decision respects our history while posi-

tioning us for a sustainable future. Let me be clear—this is not the end of the Brookville Democrat, but rather its unification under one banner to reflect and honor our shared legacy.

Why The American? Established in 1833, it is the oldest consecutively published newspaper in Indiana. Think about that for a moment—1833. While parts of Indiana were still experiencing frontier violence, this community was progressive enough to support a newspaper. The Brookville Democrat followed in 1838, providing a distinct political voice.

For years, people have asked: "Why does Brookville still have two newspapers?" Aside from historical differences in political perspectives and the requirements of legal advertising, the distinctions between the two have diminished over time. Consolidat-

ing now allows us to focus our resources and vision on delivering impactful, inclusive journalism while preserving the integrity of our shared history.

Our commitment to honoring that history remains unwavering. Each week, Julie Schlesselman, our local genealogist and historian, contributes stories that celebrate the heritage and resilience of this community. These features, alongside our evolving news coverage, reflect our dedication to connecting past and present.

Remarkably, the roots of this newspaper extend back to 1815 under various names. By uniting under The American, we pay tribute to this extraordinary legacy while ensuring that local journalism continues to thrive for generations to come. This is your newspaper—a source of pride for all of us in this community.

Morgan's Canoe Center is for sale

After more than 54 years as a leading outdoor recreation hub in Southeast Indiana, Morgan's Brookville Canoe Center is officially for sale. Listed with White Realty, this popular business has been a favorite destination for families and friends seeking canoeing, camping, kayaking, rafting, and tubing adventures on the Whitewater River since 1971.

This sale represents a fantastic opportunity for an enthusiastic buyer to take the legacy built by Morgan's Outdoor Adventures into the future.

With the right vision and leadership, the canoe livery is poised for continued growth as the region's premier outdoor activity destination.

The listing comes at a time of transition for the Morgan family. Just last week the Morgans announced their operation on the Little Miami river in Ohio would cease operations and their properties would be protected for future generations as state preserves under the direction of the



ODNR.

Brothers Rob, Randy, and Dirk Morgan are set to operate the establishment for the 2025 season beginning in May! "Morgan's Brookville Canoe Center has been a place where memories are made for generations of families," said the Morgans. "We're excited to find the right buyer who shares our passion for the outdoors and conservation and sees the incredible potential this business holds."

The Morgan brothers are confident they can find someone with the "Right Stuff" required to successfully operate an outdoor recreational business. While the Morgan brothers have committed to the 2025 season,

there is also the opportunity for them to remain longer and pass along the magic that has helped Morgan's connect their guest with the river and nature for so many years!

A Legacy of Adventure and Connection

Morgan's Brookville Canoe Center has long been a cornerstone of the Brookville community, offering outdoor enthusiasts a chance to enjoy the beauty of the Whitewater River.

Its loyal customer base, prime location, and strong brand recognition make it an exceptional investment opportunity for buyers passionate about outdoor recreation.

For more information, interested parties are encouraged to contact White Realty to learn more about the sale and explore the potential of owning this beloved business.

Source: Dirk Morgan

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Jack Olson

On January 19, 2025, Jackie Leon Olson Jr. went home to his Heavenly Father at the age of 73. He was born on November 4, 1951, at Barksdale Air Base, Shreveport, Louisiana, to Jackie Leon Olson Sr. and Norma Jean Olson (Brunner). Jack attended elementary school at St. Paul's Lutheran School in Herington, Kansas and graduated from Herington High School with the class of 1969.

After graduation, Jack enlisted in the United States Navy. He completed basic training at San Diego Naval base after which he served two tours of duty in Vietnam having served aboard the USS Floyd B. Parks and USS Fox. After leaving the Navy, Jack joined the Kansas Army National Guard ultimately transferring to the Kansas Air National Guard from which he retired in 1997. It would be hard to find someone who loved his country more than Jack did.

It was during his Naval service that he fell in love with Brenda Lee Schneider. They were

married on September 29, 1973, and recently celebrated 51 years of marriage. To this marriage were born four boys who were the center of Jack's life.

Jack never met a stranger. His ornery personality and playful sense of humor made him adored by many. Each of his grandchildren has endless stories of fun times and memories. His grandchildren were the light of his world and there was not anything he would not do for them.

Jack was a dedicated worker, who in addition to his military career, worked for 33 years at Ft. Riley in civil service in the heating and air conditioning shop. He also worked part time at St. Andrew's Catholic School in Abilene, Kansas in a variety of roles for 28 years.

Jack was involved in the community being a member of St. Andrew's Catholic Parish, lifetime member of American Legion Post 39, American Legion Riders Chapter 39, VFW Post 3279, Knights of Colum-



bus Council 1661, and Knights of Columbus 4th degree Assembly 290.

Jack was predeceased by his parents Jack Sr. and Norma Olson as well as father and mother-in-law Louis and Betty Schneider. He is survived by his loving wife Brenda of Enterprise, Kansas, sons Chris (Melissa) Olson of Lexington, Illinois, Ryan Olson of Goessel, Kansas, Steven (Kellie) Olson of Abilene, Kansas, and Daniel (Erin) Olson of Topeka, Kansas. Jack is also survived by his grandchildren Jonathan (Lillian), Andrew, Katelyn, Rachel, Benjamin, Michael, Haylie, Levi, Hannah, Rebekah, Noah, Madelyn, and Connor. Jack is also survived by his older brother Greg (Sharon) of Bella Vista, Arkansas.

A Mass of Christian burial was held on Monday January 27, 2025, at 10:30am at St. Andrew's Catholic Church in Abilene, Kansas with burial at St. Joseph's Cemetery. Fr. Peter O'Donnell officiated. A Rosary by the Knights of Columbus was 3:00 p.m., Sunday January 26, 2025, at St. Andrew's Catholic Church with visitation following until.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to St. Andrew's Catholic School or American Legion Riders Chapter 39. Memorials may be dropped off or mailed to Martin-Becker-Carlson Funeral Home, 414 NW Third St., Abilene, Kansas 67410. Online condolences may be sent to www.martinbeckercarlson.com.



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Paid obituary

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: 3:33 11/30/24
Inmate: Wilson, Jeremy D.

Arrest Location: Elm Tree Road, Brookville
Birth date: 3/26/75
Arrested by: T Ford
Agency: FCSD
Crime class: L5
Crime: Criminal Recklessness

Arrest time/date: 16:47 11/30/24
Inmate: Ingram, Winright A.

Arrest Location: McDonald's, Brookville
Birth date: 3/16/91
Arrested by: S Williams
Agency: Brookville Police Department
Crime class: L6
Crime: Possession of Methamphetamine

Arrest time/date: 17:12 12/2/24
Inmate: Burgess, Dakota L.

Arrest Location: Bentley Road, Brookville
Birth date: 9/11/96
Arrested by: A Henson
Agency: FCSD
Crime class: L6
Crime: Habitual Traffic Violator

Arrest time/date: 11:34 11/29/24
Inmate: Asher, Damon M.

Location: Scenic Drive & State Road 101, Brookville
Birth date: 9/28/87
Arrested by: S Mast
Agency: Indiana Conservation Officer
Crime class: L4
Crime: Possession of Firearm by Serious Violent Felon

Arrest Time/Date: 22:45 12/29/24

Inmate Name: Hamilton, Ethan L.
Arrest Location: Main Street, Brookville
Birth Date: 2/28/90
Arrested by: A VanWinkle
Agency: FCSD
Crime Class: L6
Offense: Habitual Traffic Violator

Arrest Time/Date: 16:42 12/23/24

Inmate Name: Hannebaum, Nichole M.
Arrest Location: Henry Co. Jail
Birth Date: 6/5/82
Arrested by: N Brown
Agency: FCSD
Crime Class: L6
Offense: Possession of Methamphetamine

Arrest Time/Date: 11:15 12/23/24
Inmate Name: Isaacs, Dalton B.
Arrest Location: Rush Co. Jail
Birth Date: 7/4/98
Arrested by: N Brown
Agency: FCSD
Crime Class: L6
Offense: Arrest Warrant

Arrest Time/Date: 20:52 12/17/24
Inmate Name: Templeton, Laura A.
Arrest Location: Little Duck Creek Road, Laurel
Birth Date: 8/23/79
Arrested by: D Forsee
Agency: FCSD
Crime Class: L6
Offense: Residential Entry, Legend Drug Deception

Arrest time/date: 23:23 1/7/25
Inmate: Rose, Lauren M.
Birth date: 11/14/93
Arrest location: 4th & High streets, Brookville
Arrested by: B. Neuen-schwander
Agency: BPD
Crime class: L6
Crime: Possession of Methamphetamine

Arrest time/date: 11:05 1/10/25
Inmate: Wingham, Jared K.
Birth date: 7/27/88
Arrest Location: Boone Co., Kentucky
Arrested by: N. Brown
Agency: FCSD
Crime class: L6
Crime: Arrest Warrant

Arrest time/date: 22:46 1/15/25
Inmate name: Noble, Jessica L.
Arrest Location: Baltimore Street, Laurel
Birth Date: 7/23/83
Arrested By: A Van Winkle
Agency: FCSD
Crime Class: L6
Offense: Arrest Warrant

Arrest time/date: 15:15 1/15/25
Inmate name: Trammell, Joshua T.
Arrest Location: Pendleton Correctional Facility
Birth Date: 10/18/77
Arrested by: N. Brown
Agency: FCSD
Crime Class: L4
Offense: Court-related

Arrest time/date: 20:16 1/16/25
Inmate name: Hance, Justin W.
Arrest Location: Duck Creek Road, Metamora
Birth Date: 3/31/84
Arrested By: n/a
Agency: BPD
Crime Class: L6
Offense: Possession of Methamphetamine

Norma Thompson

Norma Lee Thompson, age 90, of Laurel, died Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at her residence following a brief illness.

Born May 26, 1934 in Hamilton, Ohio, she was the daughter of the late Theodore and Virgie (Cowan) Lovins. On August 27, 1982 she became the wife of Elmer 'Clayton' Thompson, and he preceded her in death on September 22, 2014.

She was retired, having worked for many years at the former Sperry Rubber & Plastics in Brookville. She was a member of the Buena

Southern Missionary Baptist Church.

In her leisure time she enjoyed Bluegrass music, and attending Bluegrass festivals, especially Bean Blossom.

Survivors include a daughter, Vickie Ratliff of Laurel; daughters-in-law, Debbie Lee, Vicki Lee both of Brookville and Linda Lee of Harrison, Ohio; step-children, Rick Thompson, Nick Thompson, David Thompson, Lisa Hokey; 12 grandchildren, Tonya White, Rob Lee, Mic Lee, William Ratliff, Jamie Lee, Bo Barger, Lesley Lee, Misty Lewis, Ja-

son Lee, Justin Barger, And Chris Lee; 44 great-grandchildren, and 30 great-great grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by three sons, Robert E. Lee, David Lee, Gary Lee; granddaughter, Angie Lee; a brother, Damon Lovins, as well as a step-son, Danny Thompson.

Private graveside services will be conducted with burial in Laurel North Cemetery in Laurel.

Memorial contributions may be directed to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The



staff of Phillips & Meyers Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Norma Thompson, to sign the online guest book or send personal condolences, please visit www.phillipsandmeyers.com.

Paid obituary

Kathryn (Katie) Peters

Kathryn (Katie) Michelle Peters (née Scott) age 44 of Metamora, passed away peacefully at J.W. Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown, West Virginia on January 13, 2025, at 8:50 a.m. with her husband, daughter, and siblings by her side.

Katie was born on November 18, 1980, at McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital in Oxford, Ohio. Katie was the youngest of four children to the late Priscilla and Michael Scott.

She expressed her infinite creativity and drive through the pursuits of cosmetology, crafts, tinkering, decorating, and any avenue she could

find. It would be difficult to find anything she couldn't or wouldn't do. She loved deeply extending to the children and animals she cared for and pampered. Katie was loved and respected by so many.

Her love and memories will be cherished by: her husband Kurtis Peters; daughter Grace Walker; sisters Chasta Carter (née Scott) and Rachel Miller; Brother Morgan Scott; Brothers-in-law Shaun Miller, and Jacob Peters (Alyssa) and Clayton Peters(Amanda). Her loving in-laws Brian (Todd) and Lisa Peters. Paternal grandmother Anna (Maw) Scott. Along with many loving aunts,

uncles, and cousins, as well as her beloved nieces and nephews.

Awaiting her in Heaven with open and loving arms: her parents Michael and Priscilla Scott; her grandparents Pearl and Katie Allen and Melvin Scott, along with her brother-in-law Adam Peters.

A celebration of life for close friends and family was held on Thursday, January 23, 2025; 1:00 p.m. at Phillips and Meyers Funeral Home, 1025 Franklin Avenue, Brookville, with burial following in Cupps Chapel Cemetery.

Family and friends visited until the time of the service on Thursday, January 23, 2025 at Phil-



lips & Meyers Funeral Home.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the family.

The staff of Phillips & Meyers Funeral Home are honored to serve the Peters family, to sign the online guest books please visit www.phillipsandmeyers.com.

Paid obituary

Viola L. Stenger

CINCINNATI - Viola L. (nee Kunkel) Stenger, age 100, beloved wife of the late Sylvester C. (Wes) Stenger; devoted

mother of Kenneth (June), Marna (Kathy) McMahan (the late Keith), David (Kim), Melvin (Vince Morgan-

te), Janet Jester (Kevin), Kevin (Pat); Grandmother to 25 cherished grandchildren; 37 great-grandchildren and four great-great

grandsons. Departed January 25th, 2025. Visitation, rosary and Mass to be held Saturday, February 8, 2025 10 a.m. at St Saviour

Church, Cincinnati. Interment at Gate of Heaven Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Oldenburg Academy,

Oldenburg IN or to the American Legion, 464 Post Rd., St Leon IN. Details at Gilligan-FuneralHomes.com Paid obituary

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OVERVIEW OF KEY HOUSE BILLS INTRODUCED IN THE 2025 INDIANA LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Cassie Garrett REGIONAL DIRECTOR

There have been over 600 House Bills introduced in the 2025 legislative session, encompassing a diverse range of topics, from the implementation of chemical castration for sex offenders and the legalization of recreational and medical cannabis use to the designation of persimmon as the official fruit of Indiana.

During the legislative session, bills are introduced and recorded in a list on the IGA.

To remain active, all bills must meet specific milestones within established deadlines throughout the legislative process. Active bills are indicated in blue on the website, while bills displayed in gray are considered inactive.

Below is an overview of several bills that have been referred to committee for review.

House Bill 1231 Display of the Ten Commandments

Authored by: Rep. J.D. Prescott.
Co-Authored by: Rep. Bruce Borders.

Digest

Requires each school corporation to place a durable poster or framed picture representing the text of the Ten Commandments in each school library and classroom.

The bill will be reviewed by the House of Education today, Jan. 29.

House Bill 1145 Decriminalization of Marijuana

Authored by: Rep. Heath VanNatter.

Digest

Decriminalizes possession of two ounces or less of marijuana.

The bill will be reviewed by the Committee on Courts and Criminal Code n Wednesday, Jan. 29.

House Bill 1447 State Forest Areas Restricted From Logging

Authored by: Rep. Dave Hall.
Co-Authored by: Rep. Kyle Miller.

Digest

Requires the Department of Natural Resources (department), before Jan. 1, 2026, to designate at least one undivided area comprising at least 10% of each state forest as an old forest area. Provides that, wherever possible, the size of a designated old forest

area must be at least 500 acres. Sets forth certain purposes to guide the department in designating the old forest areas. Prohibits the department from conducting or allowing timber management in the old forest areas. Requires the department to produce and keep on file maps and legal descriptions of the designated old forest areas. Provides that the designation of the old forest areas may not affect hunting, fishing, trapping, and other recreational uses of the state forests, the maintenance of access roads in the state forests, or rights of access through the state forests.

The bill will be reviewed by the Natural Resources Committee on Jan. 29.

House Bill 1453 Pediatric Cancer Research and Treatment Grant

Authored by: Rep. Timothy O'Brien.

Co-Authored by: Rep. Ryan Lauer, Rep. Robb Greene.

Digest

Establishes the pediatric cancer research and treatment fund. Establishes the pediatric cancer research and treatment grant program to be administered by the Indiana Department of Health. Sets forth requirements for an entity to receive a grant. Requires the state department to develop criteria, policies, procedures, and a plan concerning awarding grants. Prioritizes the use of funds on innovative research and treatments with the potential of resulting in novel therapies for pediatric cancer. Requires the state department to submit an annual report to the governor and legislative council concerning the grant program and publish the report on the state department's website.

The bill will be reviewed by the Ways and Means Committee on Jan. 29.

House Bill 1454 Emergency Ambulance Services

Authored by: Rep. Timothy O'Brien.

Co-Authored by: Rep. Brad Barrett, Rep. Doug Miller, Rep. Steve Bartels.

Digest

Specifies that emergency medical services, including emergency ambulance services,

are essential services in Indiana. Specifies the provision of emergency medical services is an essential purpose of political subdivisions. Requires the county commissioners of each county to: (1) identify areas that are unserved by emergency ambulance services; and (2) provide emergency ambulance services to the areas by establishing a county emergency ambulance service, contracting with a public, private, or nonprofit provider of emergency ambulance services, or by any other available means.

The Veterans Affairs and Public Safety Committee will review the bill on Jan. 30.

House Bill 1455 Chemical Castration for Certain Sex Offenders

Authored by: Rep. Elizabeth Rowray.

Digest

Allows a court to order that a sex offender whose victim was under 14 years of age may only be eligible for parole, probation, or community corrections if the sex offender consents to chemical castration treatment. Makes it a Level 4 felony if a person who consents to chemical castration treatment knowingly or intentionally stops receiving the chemical castration treatment. Requires the Department of Correction to administer or contract with a provider to administer chemical castration treatments.

The Courts and Criminal Code will review the bill on Jan. 29.

House Bill 1476 Funding for Child Trauma Support Programs

Authored by: Rep. Renee Pack.

Digest

Establishes the childhood trauma support fund. Requires the division of mental health and addiction to develop and administer a grant program for certain entities that create support programs for children who have experienced trauma. Makes an appropriation.

The Family, Children and Human Affairs will review the bill on Jan. 29.

House Bill 1505 Use of SNAP benefits

Authored by: Rep. Lindsay Patterson.

Digest

Prohibits recipients of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits from purchasing: (1) energy drinks; (2) sweetened beverages; (3) carbonated beverages; (4) candy; (5) snack chips; and (6) cookies; with SNAP benefits. Requires the office of the Secretary of Family and Social Services (office) to provide to an individual, at the time the office approves the individual's application to receive SNAP benefits, specified educational materials regarding the effects of diet on an individual's health. Requires the office to apply for a waiver or authorization to implement the prohibition if a waiver or authorization from a federal agency is required, and allows a delay in implementation until the waiver or authorization is received.

The Family, Children and Human Affairs will review the bill on Jan. 29.

House Bill 1507 Low water crossings

Authored by: Rep. Lindsay Patterson.

Co-Authored by: Rep. Alex Zimmerman, Rep. Cory Criswell, Rep. Garrett Bascom.

Digest

Authorizes a local county road and bridge board to undertake low-water crossing projects. It requires the commissioner of the Department of Transportation (department) to ensure that the department makes information about funding from federal and private sources that might be available to the counties for low water crossing projects available to county boards of commissioners and county highway departments. Amends the law on the local road and bridge matching grant fund: (1) to allow grants to local units to be used for low water crossing projects; and (2) to provide that funds allocated for grants to local units having a population of less than 50,000 can be used to make grants to counties below the population limit as well as to municipalities located in counties that are below the population limit.

The Roads and Transportation Committee passed the bill. It will now go to the House of

Representatives for review.

House Bill 1508 - Middle school health curriculum

Authored by: Rep. Lindsay Patterson.

Co-Authored by: Rep. Lorissa Sweet.

Digest

Provides that each school corporation must include instruction on fetal development as a part of the health education curriculum for students enrolled in grades six through eight.

The Education Committee will review the bill on Jan. 29.

House Bill 1512 Outdoor recreation

Authored by: Rep. Tonya Pfaff.

Co-Authored by: Rep. Carey Hamilton.

Digest

Establishes the outdoor recreation development program within the Indiana destination development corporation to coordinate tourism development activities with outdoor recreation business opportunities.

The Natural Resources Committee will review the bill on Jan. 29.

House Bill 1531 Various immigration matters

Authored by: Rep. J.D. Prescott.
Co-Authored by: Rep. Chris Jeter, Rep. Michelle Davis, Rep. Garrett Bascom.

Digest

Clarifies the enforcement of federal immigration laws may be carried out by federal, state, or local law enforcement. Removes the mens rea standard in the statute concerning governmental entities or postsecondary institutions violating the citizenship and immigration status information and enforcement of federal laws chapter. Provides that a governmental body that has the custody of an individual who is the subject of an immigration detainer request shall: (1) provide the judge authorized to grant or deny the individual's release on bail notice that the individual is subject to an immigration detainer request; (2) record in the individual's case file that the individual is subject to an immigration detainer request; (3) comply

with the immigration detainer request; and (4) inform the individual that the individual is being held pursuant to an immigration detainer request. Provides immunity to a governmental body or an employee of a governmental body for any action taken concerning an immigration detainer request. Provides that if the attorney general determines that probable cause exists that a governmental entity has not complied with an immigration detention request, the attorney general may: (1) issue a cease and desist order; (2) bring a court action to enjoin an action or practice constituting a violation of an immigration detention request or compel compliance with the immigration detention request; and (3) impose a civil penalty for non-compliance with an immigration detention request. Provides that if the attorney general determines a governmental body did not comply with an immigration detention order, upon the advice of the attorney general, the governor may order that state funding and grants be withheld to the governmental body. Requires a judge who receives notice that an individual is subject to an immigration detainer request to ensure that the notice of the immigration detainer request is recorded in the court's record. Requires a judge to report to the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency an individual who has been convicted in the judge's court of a felony or misdemeanor. Prohibits an employer from recruiting, hiring, or employing an unauthorized alien. Provides that if the attorney general determines that probable causes exists that an employer has recruited, hired, or employed an unauthorized alien, the attorney general may enjoin the action and seek the suspension of the employer's operating authority. Requires a parole sponsor to submit certain information to the state Department of Revenue annually. (See "BILLS" pg. 5)

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Bills ■ Continued from Page 4

Provides that the state Department of Revenue shall retain the information submitted by parole sponsors and may share the information with the attorney general. It makes it a Level 6 felony if a parole sponsor knowingly or intentionally submits a false statement or false supporting documentation to the State Department of Revenue. It requires each school corporation and charter school to report certain student information to the Department of Education.

The bill was reviewed by the Judiciary Committee on Jan. 27 and will move to the house with amendments.

**House Bill 1548
Motor Vehicle
Matters**

Authored by: Rep. Jim Lucas.

Digest

Increases the penalty for operating a motor vehicle without being issued a valid driver's license. Provides that if an unlicensed driver is at fault for a vehicle accident, the driver or the registered owner of the vehicle used by the individual shall pay the insurance deductibles for any person not at fault. Provides that if an individual operates a motor vehicle without financial responsibility, a valid certificate of registration, and valid driving privileges, their motor vehicle shall be impounded.

The bill is still in review by the Roads and Transportation Committee.

**House Bill 1554
Driving With
Suspended Driving
Privileges**

Authored by: Rep. Garrett Bascom.

Co-Authored by: Rep. Alex Zimmerman.

Digest

Provides that a person who operates a motor vehicle after the person's driving privileges are forfeited for life commits a Level 6 felony.

The bill will be reviewed by the Courts and Criminal Code

Committee on Jan. 29.

House Bill 1566 - Bail
Authored by: Rep. Ragen Hatcher.

Digest

Prohibits a court from requiring an arrestee to pay bail as a condition of pretrial release unless: (1) the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that the arrestee is a flight risk or danger to the community; (2) the arrestee is charged with murder or treason; (3) the arrestee is on pretrial release not related to the incident that is the basis for the present arrest; or (4) the arrestee is on probation, parole, or other community supervision. Requires that the amount of bail be the lowest amount required, based on the defendant's financial circumstances, to assure the arrestee's appearance at trial and to protect the community.

The Courts and Criminal Code Committee will review the bill on Jan. 29.

**House Bill 1611
Exemption from
Daylight Saving Time**

Authored by: Rep. Shane Lindauer.

Co-Authored by: Rep. J.D. Prescott.

Digest

Exempts Indiana from Daylight Saving Time.

The bill was reviewed by the Public Policy Committee on Jan. 28.

**House Bill 1618
Designation of
Persimmon as State
Fruit**

Authored by: Rep. Shane Lindauer.

Digest

Designates the persimmon as the official state fruit of Indiana.

The bill was amended and passed by the Government and Regulatory Reform Committee on Jan. 27.

**House Bill 1630
Cannabis
legalization**

Authored by: Rep. Heath VanNatter.

Co-Authored by: Rep. Justin Moed, Rep. Steve Bartels, Rep. Jake Teshka.

Digest

Establishes a pro-

cedure for the lawful production and sale of cannabis in Indiana. Makes conforming amendments.

The bill will be reviewed by the Courts and Criminal Code Committee on Jan. 29.

**House Bill 1635
Medical Cannabis**

Authored by: Rep. Jake Teshka.

Co-Authored by: Rep. Steve Bartels, Rep. Doug Miller.

Digest

Permits the use of medical cannabis by a person with a serious medical condition as determined by the person's physician and establishes a procedure for the production and distribution of medical cannabis. Makes conforming amendments.

The bill was reviewed by the Public Health Committee on Jan. 27.

**House Bill 1647
Paid Leave for
Mental Health**

Authored by: Rep. Ragen Hatcher.

Digest

Entitles an employee to at least 36 hours of paid mental health leave per calendar year. Provides that unused paid mental health leave rolls over to the next calendar year and that an employer is not required to pay out unused paid mental health leave upon the termination of an employment relationship. Requires an employee to provide reasonable advance notice when paid mental health leave will be used. Prohibits an employer from discriminating or taking adverse action against an employee who uses paid mental health leave.

The bill will be reviewed by the Employment, Labor and Pensions Committee on Jan. 29.

**House Bill 1669
Adult Oriented
Performances**

Authored by: Rep. Bruce Borders.

Co-Authored by: Rep. Michelle Davis.

Digest

Defines "adult oriented performance". Provides that a gov-

ernmental entity may not organize or host an adult oriented performance or fund an adult oriented performance using public funds. Requires an adult oriented performance operator to check identification at the entrance to an adult oriented performance to prevent a minor from attending. Allows the attorney general to issue civil investigative demands or bring an action if certain measures are not taken to prevent a minor from attending the adult oriented performance. Establishes a criminal penalty if an individual knowingly and intentionally does the following: (1) Engages or participates in an adult orientated performance on public property or with public funds. (2) Fails to prevent a minor from attending an adult oriented performance.

The bill will be reviewed by the Courts and Criminal Code Committee on Jan. 29.

**House Bill 1684
Irretrievable
Breakdown of
Marriage**

Authored by: Rep. Timothy Wesco.

Digest

Provides that if the parties to a petition for dissolution of marriage are the parents of one or more minor children for whom the parties have legal and physical custody, and the sole ground for dissolution of the marriage asserted in the petition is irretrievable breakdown of the marriage, a court may enter a dissolution decree only if: (1) at least one party to the petition presents a witness at the final hearing on the petition who testifies to affirm the irretrievable breakdown of the marriage; or (2) the parties can show cause as to why the petition should be granted. Specifies the individuals who may provide testimony as to the irretrievable breakdown of the marriage, and provides that an individual other than a licensed counselor may not have received any form of compensation for acting as a witness.

The bill was reviewed by the Judiciary Committee and passed with amendments on Jan. 27.

**SENATE BILL 515 WILL
IMPACT METAMORA IF PASSED**



photo by Mick Wilz
The Committee of Natural Resources reviews Senate Bill 515.

**Cassie Garrett
REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

Senate Bill 515 - Historic Sites, authored by State Sen. Jean Leising (R-Oldenburg), was reviewed by the Natural Resources Committee at the Statehouse on Monday, Jan. 27. The bill would establish the division of historic sites within the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and transfer management of state historic sites to the division.

"Many of our his-

toric sites, including the Metamora canal in Franklin County, are in poor shape and critical need of support," Leising said. "It is disappointing to see these locations, which symbolize our state's heritage, in this condition. By enacting this bill, our historic sites could see greater support and rehabilitation."

The bill was passed unanimously by the Natural Resources Committee and will now go to the Appropriations Committee for review.

**COMMUNITY RALLIES BEHIND
CONNERSVILLE RESIDENT**

**Cassie Garrett
REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

Long-time Connersville resident Xan Davis is currently facing Stage 5 kidney failure and is in desperate need of a kidney donor. Xan and her husband, Ronnie Batten, are well-known in the community for their generosity and unwavering support for others. In light of this challenging situation, Xan's friends hope to reciprocate their kindness to the community by organizing a Spaghetti Dinner Benefit, launching a GoFundMe campaign and raising awareness about Xan's critical need for a kidney donor.

"She is known for her giving heart and love for the Lord," said Paula Moore, a friend of Xan. "She is in need of a kidney ASAP and is trusting the Lord will help her in her need. Her match would have to be an adult with O- blood type and in good health. If you have ever wanted to help change a life, help Xan, a wife, mother, grandmoth-

er and sister in Christ."

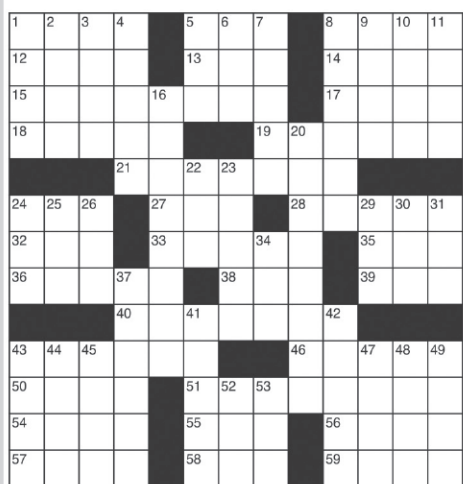
Moore, alongside Xan's friend, Verneisha Walden, are hosting the Spaghetti Dinner Benefit to raise funds to assist with various medical treatment expenses, including transportation costs, uncovered medical bills, and essential living expenses.

"Xan has been hospitalized a few times due to Stage 5 Kidney Failure," Moore said. "She is taking kidney dialysis and is often in pain and not feeling well. Verneisha Walden and I really want to help them. So, we are selling tickets for the benefit."

The benefit will be held on March 8 at 2 p.m. at the Miller Building in Roberts Park in Connersville. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for children over five. The ticket includes a spaghetti dinner, drink and dessert. Tickets can be purchased by messaging Paula Moore or Vaneisha Walden on Facebook.

To make a donation, to the GoFundMe Campaign, visit <https://go-fund.me/915a7cc7>

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1. Fitness clubs
- 5. Dads
- 8. Step
- 12. Luxurious
- 13. Wheel part
- 14. Ducks in
- 15. Part of a phone number
- 17. ___-and-take
- 18. Hurrah!
- 19. Dwellings
- 21. Went in
- 24. Fore's counterpart
- 27. Cape _____

Massachusetts

- 28. Mist
- 32. Seed
- 33. Scoundrel
- 35. Hubbub
- 36. Examine
- 38. Use poor judgment
- 39. Moisten
- 40. Everlasting
- 43. Symbol
- 46. Celebrations
- 50. Back of a plane
- 51. Underground floor
- 54. Sugar unit
- 55. Doctor or chart

- 56. Head
- 57. Cobra's comment
- 58. Low grade
- 59. Erupt

DOWN

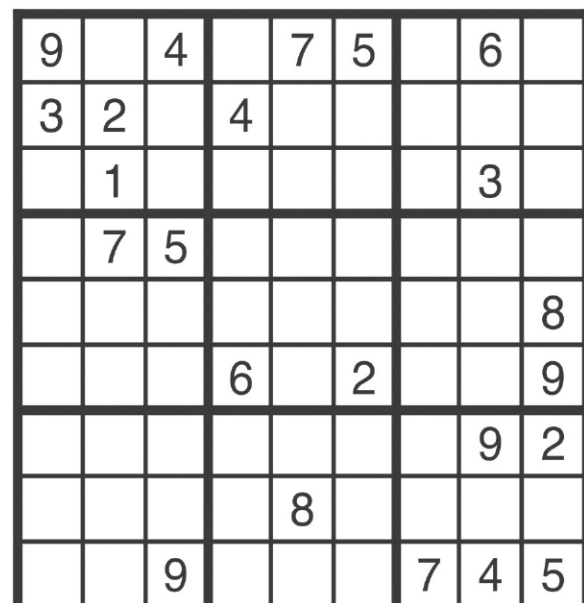
- 1. Chunk
- 2. Contented sound
- 3. Voyaging
- 4. Use a razor
- 5. Paid athlete
- 6. Help out
- 7. Smudge
- 8. Chinese temple
- 9. Extremely dry jump
- 10. Sheltered bay
- 11. Rams' mates
- 16. Solid
- 20. Drink
- 22. ___ good to picture be true
- 23. Lawn tool
- 24. What bit Cleopatra
- 25. "Bedtime ___ Bonzo"
- 26. Duet number
- 29. Bear's

- extremity
- 30. Poetic form
- 31. Go bad
- 34. Coffee server
- 37. Southern damsels
- 41. Implant
- 42. Genies' homes
- 43. Imprint firmly
- 44. Hawaiian island
- 45. Shirt protectors
- 47. Dancer's
- 48. Gambler's bet
- 49. Hearty soup
- 52. Yes
- 53. Get the



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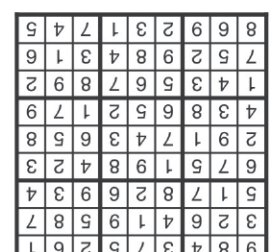
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ANSWERS



Presidential Inauguration named National Special Security Event

Cassie Garrett
REGIONAL DIRECTOR

The 47th Presidential Inauguration of Donald Trump was designated as a National Special Security Event (NSSE) by the Department of Homeland Security, putting the Secret Service at the helm of a multi-agency effort to ensure a safe transition of power. The NSSE designation grants federal resources and mandates close collaboration with agencies, including the FBI, Capitol Police, and the Department of Defense. The FBI, for instance, is responsible for thwarting any potential terrorist attacks.

As I strolled through the bustling streets over the weekend and into Monday, I was struck by the palpable sense of unity among law enforcement officers gathered from across the nation to maintain order during the inauguration. An



photo by Army Spc. Joseph Liggio
The Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps conducts a pass in review as part of the First Honors Ceremony at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, Jan. 20, 2025. The corps has participated in every inaugural parade since President John F. Kennedy's in 1961.

impressive group of approximately 25,000 law enforcement and military personnel had been deployed throughout the city, creating a formidable presence. This included around 4,000 officers from the D.C. police force, alongside officers from various out-of-state departments, as well as crucial support from the Capitol Police and the National Guard. I caught sight of a group

of officers proudly wearing hats emblazoned with "NYPD," unmistakably identifying them as members of the New York Police Department. Nearby, I also noticed officers marked with badges from the Milwaukee Police Department, highlighting the diverse range of law enforcement agencies coming together for this significant event. "Nearly 8,000 Na-



photo by Cassie Garrett
Law enforcement could be seen all over assisting citizens as they navigated the crowd.

tional Guard troops were on duty as part of the sizeable inter-agency presence to ensure the transition of power, continuing a legacy that began in 1789 when their predecessors escorted George Washington to the first inauguration," the Department of Defense wrote in a press release.

While safety remained the foremost priority for law enforcement and the

National Guard, their demeanor was remarkably approachable. I often observed them engaging with the crowd, patiently answering questions and providing guidance. A common inquiry from attendees was where to line up for the various events. Officers readily offered assistance, creating a reassuring presence amid the hustle and bustle.

The military also played other roles

in the inauguration, such as the U.S. Army Band, the U.S. Air Force Band, "The President's Own" U.S. Marine Band, as well as Honor Guard teams representing all military service branches performing at numerous special events and observances that took place during the days surrounding the inauguration of President Trump, alongside Vice President JD Vance.

Feeling Safe and Secure at the Presidential Inauguration

Ron Yurcak
CONTRIBUTOR

I've had people ask if we felt safe and secure while in town for the inauguration. I must say that never ever did I feel as though it was unsafe. We were never in a place where the police presence was more than a hundred feet away. Every morning, we would wake up to a new traffic pattern. Checkpoints were on every corner for block after block. Then the checkpoints were stronger the closer you got to an event. When we arrived on Friday, we could drive straight to our hotel. By Saturday morning you would have to drive through two checkpoints. The first being a National Guard checkpoint, the second a Metro Police checkpoint. If you passed them, you could move freely for two blocks then you were faced with a stronger point. If you did not have permission at that point,

you and your car were not going through. This point was manned by the Capitol Police. That point was pretty much restricted to those with badges. After that point a dump truck was parked across the street being manned by National Guardsmen. On the other side of the dump truck, you would find a tent you had to drive into, everyone out of the car along with all contents of the car. Bomb sniffing dogs would then go through your belongings as Secret Service would crawl under and over top your car. This was one of three points you would have to go through, depending on where you were allowed access to. If you were walking, as I said you were never more than a hundred feet from several police officers. Police with K9 dogs were about 500 feet apart. These dogs walked around every trash can, building, garage entrance or anything else they could smell.

If a crowd for anything gathered, 50 to 100 police were quickly dispatched to that area. This does not include how many undercover police that were in the crowd. I spoke with a lot of police from all over the United States who shared their stories of extremely long hours and not knowing when their shift would end. Kyle from the Arkansas State Police told me he had started his shift at 2 a.m. and had no idea when he would be off duty; that was at noon on Sunday. I must say that our hotel, Embassy Suites, did do all they could for the police. Feeding them breakfast every morning and allowing them to warm up and use a restroom when they needed. At times it was difficult to walk through our lobby, due to the number of police there. I did see two men in a car looking at their phone using a map app trying to get to their destination. They unknowingly drove past

two check points, while not noticing the Capital Police car behind them with lights and sirens trying to stop them. This was rather entertaining as they drove on another block and turned left onto another street. Soon 20 to 25 Capital Police cars, trucks, K9 units and, they got the attention of the black SUVs. I don't know how it ended but I bet they were shocked when they stopped. This also attracted a DC Police helicopter circling overhead. We learned early on when police told you not to go somewhere, we didn't. We got a little more access as we were wearing press badges. But if it was restricted, you were not going into that area. For me this was my story. I thoroughly enjoyed the logistic part of emergency services. I spoke with many National Guardsmen mostly about the weather as many were from Florida. The police I spoke with were from Wash-

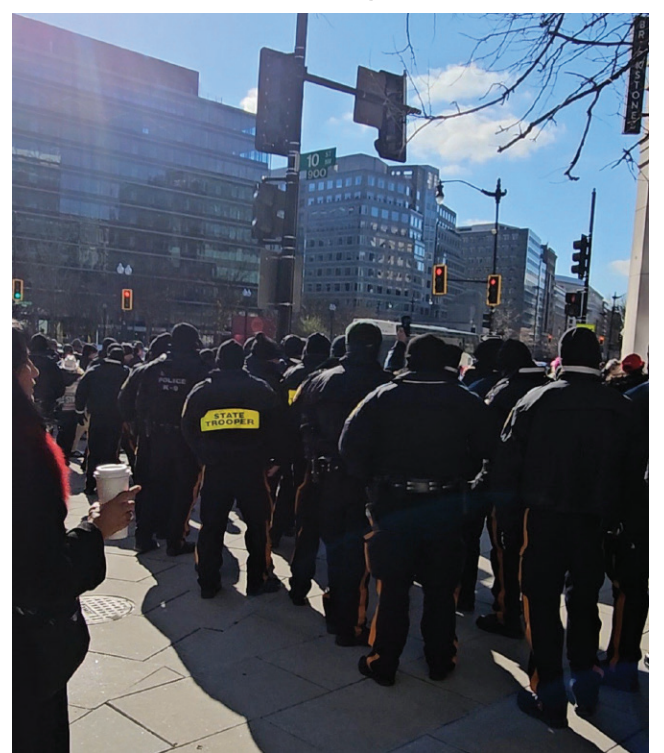


photo provided
Law enforcement could be seen on every block and walking the streets.

ington DC, Indiana, Arkansas, Pennsylvania, New York City, Delaware, Connecticut, and more. I witnessed but did not talk to about 200 FBI agents unloading near the White House. If you parked on the street, you got a warning siren from a DC Police tow truck before your car was quickly

swept away to who knows where. So, if you ask if we felt safe, the answer would be never felt safer. Any groups of police moving about were responded to by loud cheers; if you heard cheering, the police were arriving. It was fascinating to watch this all happen.

Honoring Heroes: President Trump Celebrates Military Service Members at the Commander in Chief Inaugural Ball

Cassie Garrett
REGIONAL DIRECTOR

America's military service members, dressed in their uniforms, waited in a line stretching down the streets, their breath visible in the air as they waited for their entry into the Commander in Chief Inaugural Ball, which is geared toward military service members. Every branch of the U.S. Armed Forces was represented at the ball.

The Commander in Chief Ball was the first ball of the evening the President, Donald Trump, and First Lady Melania attended. Standing before

the cheering crowd, Trump addressed U.S. Military Service Members with gratitude.

"There is nowhere else I would rather be tonight than with some of the greatest American patriots of all, the men and women of the United States Military," Trump began. "Thank you very much. I have had no higher privilege in life than to serve as your Commander in Chief not once but twice. You are incredible, and the people of our country respect you and love you so much."

Trump then took a moment to recognize the sacrifices made by military members, spouses and families.

Thanking them wholeheartedly before he shared his vision of the military's future, including implementing an Iron Dome Defense, which is a mobile air defense system developed by Israel to intercept and destroy short-range threats such as rockets, artillery sales, and mortars.

"We won't be defeated or humiliated," Trump said. "We will measure our success not only by the battles we win but also by the wars we end and, perhaps most importantly, the wars we never get into. It's called peace by strength. We won't have to fight wars if we can do it without fighting. As long as we

have total victory, we do it without fighting. Through our power and might, we will lead the world to peace. Our friends will respect us; our enemies will fear us and the whole world will admire the unrivaled greatness of the United States Military."

The country music band Rascal Flatts and country singer Parker McCollum were the featured performers at the ball. Musician Kid Rock and actor John Voight were also in attendance.

President Trump and First Lady Melania attended two other inaugural presidential balls to celebrate his 2025 inauguration,



photo provided
U.S. Military Members could be seen braving the cold as they waited in line for the Commander in Chief Ball.

the Liberty Ball and the Starlight Ball.

According to the White House Historical Association, the na-

tion's first inaugural ball was held in 1809 for President James Madison and his wife, Dolly.

Celebrating despite sub-zero temperatures

Cassie Garrett
REGIONAL DIRECTOR

The sub-freezing temperatures on Inauguration Day, Monday, Jan. 20, made President Trump's inauguration quite different from what attendees had anticipated. Instead of taking place on the Capitol steps, the swearing-in ceremony was held in the Capitol Rotunda. This marked the first time in 40 years the ceremony was not conducted on the steps of the Capitol, meaning almost everyone visiting Washington missed the chance to witness the event in person. However, following the swearing-in ceremony, President Trump announced he would give a speech at the Capital One Arena, where the parade was scheduled to occur that would be open to the public. So, just hours after the Trump Victory Rally

line dissipated, people began lining up again for a chance to hear Trump speak at the arena. The line again weaved through the streets, which looked more like a celebration than a line. The streets were filled with noise as Trump signs and flags waved. Strangers in line struck up conversations, making new friends as they waited.

For others, the experience was still about being part of the occasion, albeit from a cozy seat in one of the bustling downtown establishments. We found ourselves among the many hopeful patrons lining up outside "Yard House," eager to catch the ceremony on the numerous televisions dispersed across the restaurant. Arriving at 10:30 a.m., we aimed to secure a prime spot; the restaurant opened its doors at 11 a.m. When they finally swung open, a wave of bod-

ies surged forward in a rush to claim the best vantage points. Within moments, the dining area was filled to capacity, and a waitlist was quickly implemented to manage the excited crowd. We were told to expect a brief 15-minute wait, which seemed nothing compared to the festivities ahead, giving us ample time to settle in before the swearing-in ceremony commenced at noon. However, as I stood near the host stand, I overheard the hostess informing incoming customers that the wait had ballooned to an astonishing hour and 45 minutes, a testament to the overwhelming demand for a seat during such a historic event.

Although we were indoors, the atmosphere inside the restaurant was one of as much excitement as if we were standing near the Capitol steps watching the ceremony in person.



photo by Cassie Garrett
Patrons at Yard House watching the Inauguration stood with their hands over their heart while others saluted as Carrie Underwood sang "America the Beautiful."

Sights around D.C. leading up to the Inauguration



Trump supporters waiting in line for the victory rally.

photo by Ryan Thalls



photo by Cassie Garrett
A couple asking law enforcement where the end of the line was for the military ball.



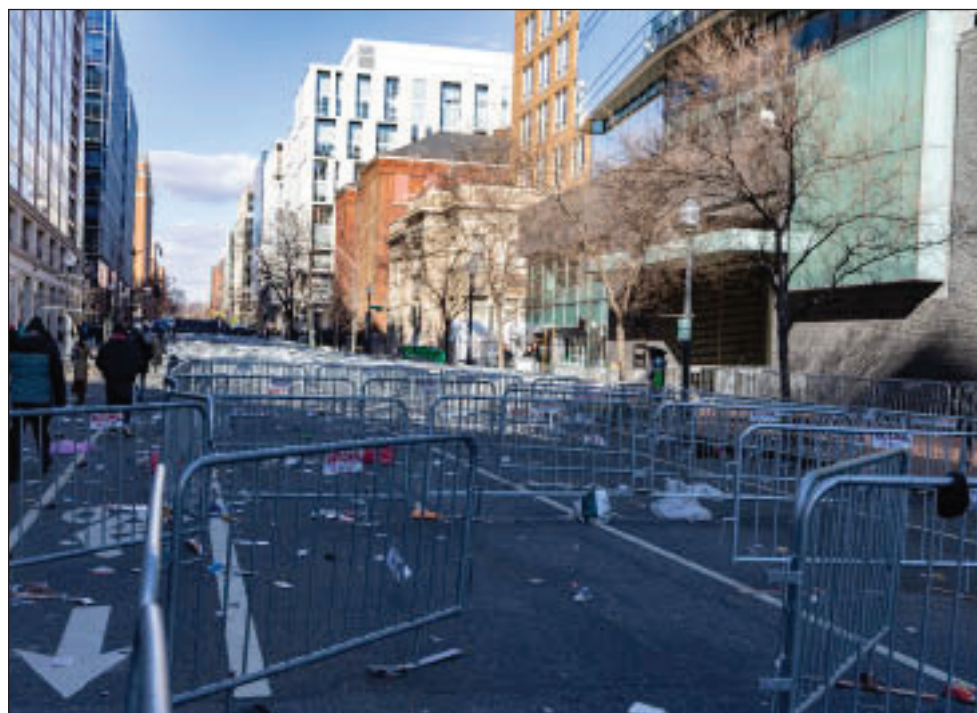
Snow and sleet couldn't keep crowds inside.

photo by Ryan Thalls



National Guard members from Florida securing the street.

photo by Cassie Garrett



After Trump spoke at Capitol One Arena on Inauguration Day.

photo by Ryan Thalls



photo by Army Spc. Joseph Liggio
Army Pfc. Ezira Schenck, a military police officer assigned to the 222nd Military Police Company, 102nd Military Police Battalion, stands watch at a Metro station in Washington, Jan. 20, 2025.

Street vendors thrive amidst the excitement of Inauguration

There were hundreds of vendors present for Inauguration Day, crowding the streets and sidewalks selling merchandise to commemorate the 60th Presidential Inauguration. Items included blankets, hats, pins, t-shirts, sweatshirts, bags, umbrellas, mugs, key chains and more. Some vendor booths were expansive, with tables and racks, while others set up their merchandise directly on the sidewalks. Others held them in their hands and advertised their items by yelling out prices and options while you walked by.

In front of our hotel, a vibrant vendor's "Trump Won" trailer from Michigan has set up shop, offering an array of Trump souvenirs and a photo op. The trailer boasts signs saying, "Make America Great Again, Secure America Borders, Unite Ameri-



photo by Cassie Garrett

Hundreds of vendors lined the streets.

ca First, Drain the Swamp, Build the Wall, "Freedom Over Mandate," etc. The vendor arrived on Friday night and mentioned although the Inauguration Ceremony has been relocated indoors and many attendees have departed from town, their sales were not affected.

Although participating as a vendor during the 2025 Presidential Inauguration offers unique opportunities,

it also comes with important tax obligations. Vendors must comply with the following requirements:

- Apply for special permit

- An individual, organization, business, or consumer engaging in business in the District of Columbia must collect District of Columbia sales tax from the purchaser on sales of tangible personal property delivered to a customer in



photo by Cassie Garrett

A vendor from Michigan brought a festive back drop for his vendor booth pulled by a vehicle stating "Honk for Trump" on the back and "Trump 2024" on the front.

the District, certain foods and drinks sold at retail, rental or leasing of tangible personal property, and admissions to certain public events that take place in the District.

- Income earned by vendors during the 2025 Presidential Inauguration is subject to DC income tax, as well as federal income tax.



After the Inauguration, representatives get to work

During Indiana Secretary of State Diego Morales' visit to Washington, D.C., he participated in a series of productive meetings with members of the U.S. Congress representing Indiana.

As a part of these visits, Secretary Morales discussed initiatives aimed at strengthening election integrity, enhancing business landscape, and ensuring Indiana continues to be a national leader.

Secretary Morales also met with international delegations and counterparts from other states to discuss developments in election, corporate ownership reporting, business development, and securi-

ties regulation issues.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to meet with Indiana's congressional delegation to discuss how we can work together to address the unique challenges and opportunities facing our state. The collaboration between state and federal leaders is critical to ensuring that Indiana's businesses, communities, and citizens continue to thrive. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Congressmen Stutzman, Shreve, and Messmer for their time and their commitment to Indiana's future. I look forward to working alongside our delegation to create more opportunities for

Hoosiers," said Diego Morales, Indiana Secretary of State.

Secretary Morales also thanked Indiana's Congressional leaders for their ongoing support and cooperation to maintain Indiana's position as a leader in economic development and innovation.

Secretary Morales' periodic meetings in Washington, D.C. mark an important step in reinforcing the partnership between state and federal governments, and it underscores Indiana's commitment to both fostering local economic growth and strengthening its national presence.

Source: Office of Diego Morales



photo provided

Pictured is Secretary of State Diego Morales and Representative Stutzman.

What ■ Continued from Page 1

at the Hard Rock Café, before walking to the other end of town to the Lincoln Memorial for a protest rally. We were told there would be 25 to 50 thousand protesters, and we for a lack of common sense decided we should be in the middle of them. Well 25 to 50 thousand turned out to be about 3,000. Being from a small town in Indiana, this was kind of educational. I learned that protest speakers could say things that would make a trucker blush. Now it was time to pay our respects, starting with Abe at the Lincoln Memorial. Then on to the most amaz-

ing place, The Vietnam War Memorial; being a child of the sixties, this is always a place I pay respects to when I come to Washington. Men I knew as a kid are on that wall. Then moving east it was time to enter the Pacific and the Atlantic of the World War Two Memorial. On my last trip to Washington this was still under construction; it was my first chance to see it completed.

A quick trip past the Washington Monument and on to Pennsylvania Avenue to see the White House. Unfortunately a clear view of the White House was difficult due to ev-

erything set up for the welcoming of the new President. It was crazy to see all the changes taking place. Fencing and barriers being removed on one corner to be set up three blocks away. The entire city it seemed was being moved from here to six blocks away. The logistics of the city was my fascination with seeing all the work put into motion on street after street. Meeting people became the best part. Hoosier hospitality is our strongest suit. Talking to people in the elevator was a natural, or stopping to talk to police and National Guard was my enter-

tainment.

With all the changes there was disappointment, but all in all it was very educational. It seems that this city, much like Las Vegas, really doesn't sleep. When you go to your room in the evening, a whole group of workers take to the streets. Like little mice in the night, the forklifts move fencing and concrete. They load it onto trucks to be unloaded just a few blocks away. The overflowing trash cans are reset with new bags and every coffee cup on the street is picked up, and believe me that is a lot of coffee cups. The ten-

foot high fences are taken down, stacked on a fork truck and driven to their next post and reassembled using battery-operated impacts for speed.

Then the last touch is the police are directed to their post for the new day. Roads are closed and as one officer from Arkansas quoted, "I started at 2 a.m. and I don't know how long I have to stay on, that was at noon." It seems every police car moves with flashing lights, Secret Service only going through intersections, and Capital Police tow trucks sound their siren once as a warning before hooking you up

and removing you.

If you pass a police checkpoint without explaining where you are going, you will be very quickly accompanied by many vehicles with lights. I did see this once. You attract trucks and cars from capital police, just before the black SUVs join in. When they show up, you're in for a long day. There is a good chance to see 50 bicycle police riding two by two, or 20 police walking two by two. A bus full of National Guardsmen drive by are unloading.

For me it was a fascinating weekend; for others, it was boring.

Lines ■ Continued from Page 1

blocks. The rally took place at the Capital One Arena, with gates set to open at 1 p.m. However, eager attendees braved the freezing temperatures and gathered long before, as the event was expected to draw considerable crowds eager for one of the 20,000 available seats. The determination of the first person in line was especially impressive—she arrived at 3 a.m. the night prior.

As those waiting in line stood in the biting cold, a light sleet began to fall, adding to the

frigid atmosphere. Yet, the inclement weather did little to dampen the spirits of the attendees, who remained steadfast in their enthusiasm for the Celebration Rally ahead. One attendee hopeful to join the rally who lined up at 8:30 a.m. Unfortunately, they could not enter the venue as the arena had already reached its capacity. Although he wasn't able to attend, he was unbothered, saying, "It's still a great day for America, and I am going to take it all in and enjoy it."

When Trump took the stage and addressed the crowd, he began by saying, "We won, we won." In response, the crowd roared with applause and began chanting U.S.A.

"Tomorrow at noon, the curtain closes on four long years of American decline, and we begin a brand new day of American strength and prosperity, dignity and pride," Trump continued.

Trump reiterated some of his top priorities upon taking office that were pivotal in his

successful bid for the presidency.

"We are going to stop the invasion of our borders, we are going to reclaim our wealth, we are going to unlock the liquid gold that is right under our feet. We are going to bring back law and order to our cities, we are going to restore patriotism to our schools, get radical left-woke ideologies the hell out of our military and out of our government, and we are going to make America great again," Trump said. "Tomorrow, I will act

with historic speed and strength and fix every single crisis facing our country. We have to do it. We are not going to have a country left. Before even taking office, you are already seeing results nobody expected to see."

Trump thanked all of his supporters who filled the arena and watched from home, attributing America's past and future successes to the patriots of the nation.

"From New York to Los Angeles, from Philadelphia to Phoe-

nix, from Chicago to Miami, and from Houston to right here in Washington, D.C., our country was won and built by generations of patriots who gave everything they had for our rights and freedom. They were farmers and soldiers, cowboys and factory workers, steel workers, coal miners, police officers and pioneers who pushed onward and marched forward and let no obstacle stand, and nothing could get in their way. Together, they (See "LINES" pg. 14)

Small ■ Continued from Page 1

I am sure, that right there is a great man.”

The host then segued directly to President Trump with “The presidency is no place for petty people.” He added “whether people voted for you or not and whether they like you or not, they are all counting on you. The whole world is counting on you. I mean this when I say this ... good luck.”

Chappelle’s right, the U.S. president must go beyond pettiness or personal grievances and aspire to more lofty ideals. Some things are just bigger.

I was reminded of this throughout the long weekend.

Despite a reputation of wanton crime on the streets of Washington, the city came together to welcome visitors from across the country intent on witnessing a consequential time in U.S. history. From my viewpoint, I saw no acts of violence or carjackings and heard no gunshots. Now, was it just because of intense secu-

rity that temporarily turned the metro area into Fort Washington with strategically placed fencing and concrete barriers? Perhaps, but Mayor Muriel Bowser deserves credit for a peaceable weekend and utterly walkable/pedestrian-friendly downtown.

At midday Saturday, I found myself astride the People’s Protest – a vocal mass of marchers in unity against the former and future president’s administration. At one point, several police officers on bicycles mobilized right in front of me; they were moving to head off any possible confrontation between the marchers and the Jesus people shouting condemnations through a sound system on the sidewalks near the Washington Monument. Whether you side with the protesters’ slogans or think them repulsive, law enforcement was there to allow both opinions to be expressed. Some things, like our First Amendment, are just bigger.



photo by Will Fehlinger
Inside the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle.

Sunday, amid an overestimated snowfall, I found my way to St. Matthew’s Cathedral for the 1 p.m. Spanish mass. Taking in the majestic apse and mosaics, I was surprised when Ohio Governor Mike DeWine sat down with his wife and several grandchildren in a pew not 10 feet in front of me. As the priest said the mass and sang in a language foreign to me – the Hay-Zeus part I picked up on – I looked around and wondered to what extent those Hispanic

folks were participating in the robust U.S. economy and where they were getting their “milk and honey.” No matter what their station is in life, I’m sure they routinely show up every week and give praise to the higher power. Some things, like faith, are just bigger.

On to Monday and probably the biggest event happening in the world at the time – the inauguration of Donald J. Trump. We watched on television like 99.9% of the world. The cameras showed a



photo by Will Fehlinger
The James Buchanan Memorial in Meridian Hill Park (informally known as Malcolm X Park).

steady stream of guests entering or seated in the Capitol Rotunda – many very antagonistic toward Trump over the years like the Clintons, Bernie Sanders, Bidens, Kamala Harris, Barack Obama, George W. Bush, etc. Even Trump’s first vice-president, Mike Pence, strolled down the hall into a room where a little over four years ago, people were calling for his execution. They were there because the transition of power is a foundational principle of the republic. Some things

are just bigger.

As we left for home Tuesday, the second Trump administration was beginning its first full day. In June, it will be one full decade since the Donald came down the escalator and announced his political aspirations. It’s a movement that took root that summer and will continue for another four years. There’s no way of knowing how it will turn out but everyone’s counting on strong returns.

Some things are just bigger.

Civil ■ Continued from Page 1

people protesting. I have traveled to many places in my lifetime and seen a lot of things, but nothing could have prepared me for the people, sights and sounds of inaugural weekend. Driving anywhere streets were bumper to bumper traffic.

The sidewalk was shoulder to shoulder people and the lines to go anywhere were like nothing I had ever seen. Every ten feet or so there were vendors selling Trump merchandise

and even though the inauguration was moved indoors, it did not deter consumers from purchasing the many t-shirts, hats and memorabilia. Excited Trump supporters started lining up around 9 p.m. the night before to watch the inauguration from the Capitol One Arena and by morning the line was estimated to be around 15 blocks.

The unlucky people who failed to read the rules and regulations were forced to leave their belongings on

the street before entering security as they were only permitted to have a jacket or coat with nothing in their pockets, a bottle of water and their phone. Military, police and secret service members were helpful and willing to chat. We watched the inauguration with a group of very excited people who cheered and chanted “USA” after Trump’s Oath of Office. It was an amazing experience and I’m so grateful to have been a part of this historic event.



Protest ■ Continued from Page 1



Thousands participated in the People’s March starting at the capitol and ending with a rally at the Lincoln Memorial.



photos by Ryan Thalls

toward the iconic Lincoln Memorial. A large stage was set up at the base of the steps, framed against the imposing figure of Abraham Lincoln as if he were watching over the demonstrators. The crowd expanded along both sides of the Reflecting Pool, the serene body of water that stretches from the Lincoln Memorial to the towering Washington Monument.

Across the expanse, a sea of colorful handmade signs rose high into the air, each one

reflecting the passions and demands of the protesters. Slogans such as “Girls just wanna have fundamental rights,” “Bans off our bodies,” “Day one deport Trump back to Germany,” and “We will not go quietly into the night” echoed the urgency of their message. The People’s March attendees represented a wide range of progressive causes, from immigration to climate change, abortion rights and the war between Israel and Gaza.

The People’s March Event website provided an overview for individuals eager to participate in the protest against the inauguration of Donald Trump. It included details about the rally’s location, schedule, and agenda, as well as guidance on how to join and engage effectively in this significant demonstration. The website states,

“If you believe that decisions about your body should remain yours, that books belong in libraries,

not on bonfires, that healthcare is a right, not a privilege for the wealthy; if you believe in the power of free speech and protest to sustain democracy; or if you want an economy that works for the people who power it—then this march is for you.

The People’s March is about one thing: our power. It’s a bold demonstration of the resilience of resistance:

We march to unite the people who’ve been the backbone of resis-

tance for generations and to welcome even more. We march to remind civil servants they answer to us. We march to inspire, energize, and drive change long after the day is done.

This is our moment to remind Washington elites and Americans everywhere where the power truly lives: with the people. Let’s make it count.”

One of the speakers, Raquel Willis, co-founder of the Gender Liberation Movement spoke to the crowd, re-

iterating some of the shared values behind the protest.

“We are a collective that believes in bodily autonomy, self-determination, and the pursuit of fulfillment for all,” Willis said. “And we know we can get that without the collective. So it’s midnight in America, ya’ll. Every bogeyman you can think of, from white supremacy to patriarchy to transphobia to ableism and capitalism, is coming together to try and make our lives smaller.”

Wildcats complete 1-2 week

Will Fehlinger
SPORTS EDITOR



photo Will Fehlinger

Quinn Gillman.

The Franklin County Wildcats' fifth win of the season came last Tuesday night in Osgood as the Cats held off Jac-Cen-Del's Eagles by a 51-47 count.

With just over a minute left, JCD's Italian exchange student James Pardhanini completed a 3-point play that brought the Eagles within three at 48-45. After an FC turnover, the hosts whiffed on a pair of open looks and Lane Simon committed his fifth personal foul. This sent junior Carson Allen to the line where he made it a two-possession game by sinking both. Devin Grieshop scored at the other end with 23 seconds remaining, but Allen hit 1 of 2 to ice the road win.

Jac got on the board first after a 2-minute cold spell to open the contest. Junior Brady Foster tied it up on an and-one opportunity. Simon did him one better by getting the bonus foul shot to drop for a 5-2 lead. The Eagles' Chase Youngman kept his side clinging to the lead by scoring JCD's next three baskets.

Blake Wagner hit a long 3 later in the frame that had the Eagles up 14-9 but senior Isaiah Kemp knotted things with a triple of his own and two via a layup. It was still even at 15 as the first quarter came to an end.

A three by senior Quinn Gillman and another Kemp bunny made it 20-15 early in the second stanza. Jac-Cen-Del made just 1 of 4 FTs in a pair of charity trips, allowing senior Landon Johnson to extend the lead to 23-16 on a 3-pointer. Johnson's next make from beyond the arc pushed FC's advantage to 26-18. Teammate Ezra Kolb got into the 3-point club late in the half to make it 29-18 at the break.

The visitors went on another solid run in the third, getting baskets by Gillman, Allen and Kemp to build a 37-21 lead and

force a JCD timeout. Allen kept the margin at 16 with a deuce and Kemp pushed it to 42-25 on a successful 3-point play. The Eagles finally got liftoff by piecing together a 12-0 run that lasted into the fourth.



photo Will Fehlinger

Nick Vanoven.

Grieshop, Simon and Youngman all hit from the field. Foster put in a leaner to stop the flurry.

As the game entered its last five minutes, a 3-point combo by Grieshop and Youngman's transition bucket had FC coach Mark Foster calling time with his Cats up 44-42. Franklin County wrestled control back with two Foster foul shots and an Allen putback.

Kemp led FC with 15 points, Allen adding 10, Foster 8 and Johnson and Gillman 6 each. Kemp and Nick Vanoven had 7 rebounds apiece.

Batesville shot out to a 15-2 lead Friday and although FC got it back to a manageable 18-10 score at halftime, the visiting Wildcats largely scuffled against the Bulldog 2-3 zone as they fell to 0-6 in the Eastern Indiana Athletic Conference with a 51-36 loss.

Brayden Maple and Cade Kaiser set the tone with two early buckets as the Dogs led 4-0. The Cats' lone points of the quarter followed as Gillman found

Vanoven for two. After an FC turnover, James Hughes passed to Trenten Luers to make it a 6-2 game. Before the quarter stop, Kamryn Holcomb had deposited a triple, and Kaiser sent a long pass ahead to a sprinting Maple for an 11-2 advantage.

BHS also started quarter two with four in a row, getting two Luers foul shots and Maple's 18-footer. Then the Wildcats began finding the bottom of the net from both the foul line and the field. At 15-5, Foster gave a handoff to Allen for three and Kemp slipped along the baseline for a deuce. Hughes followed the latter with a quick three.

A deep Luers 3 kicked off a 10-0 run by the hosts when play resumed; the junior would add a runner in the lane and a trio of foul shots after being fouled on another long attempt. Vanoven stemmed the tide with a jump shot and Foster again fed Allen for three to make it 28-15. Allen's third triple negated a Maple basket, but the Bulldogs were in control after three, ahead 32-18.

Allen made it an 11-point game with his fourth bomb of the contest. Hughes answered it with an assist from Maple. A steal by Luers netted two more and Maple completed a 3-point play for a 40-21 lead. Johnson's second 3 of the frame and two Allen FTs had FC within 12 late as Batesville's reserves closed out the win.

Allen's 16 led FC as Vanoven added 7 and Johnson 6. Luers tied for game-high with 16 and Maple had 15 while Hughes posted 8.

Northeastern's Knights came to the FC gym Saturday afternoon the losers of only one previous game and ranked in the top 10 of Indiana's Class 2A. They showed why they deserved the ranking, displaying enough offensive firepower to win 66-45.

NE got out to a 25-14 lead after one and went up 40-21 at halftime. The guests boosted that to a 56-30 advantage after three



photo Will Fehlinger

Carson Allen.

complete.

Allen matched the Knights' Trey Vanlandingham and Noah Payne for game-high point honors (18). He hit 4 of 8 from the arc. NE's Sam White added 14 and Kemp scored 11.

FC (5-11) has an 11-day break until visiting Shelbyville Feb. 5.

Lady Cats heading to sectional

Will Fehlinger
SPORTS EDITOR

In the final two home games of the 2024-25 campaign, Franklin County's Lady Wildcats prevailed respectively over Shenandoah Thursday and Talawanda (Oxford, Ohio) Saturday. The best stretch of the season - 3-game win streak - sent FC to 10-11 overall, a double-digit win total for the fourth consecutive year under Kyle VanMeter.

The girls established themselves early against the foes at the other end of Oxford Pike, getting threes by senior Bailey Kaiser and junior Kendall Cox to force a quick Lady Brave timeout. Talawanda soon evened things at six apiece with two true shots from behind the crooked line.

The Cats then gained separation for good by scoring the game's next nine points; Cox and junior post Ruby Singer made it 10-6 and senior guard Tiffany Billman had a personal 5-0 run. A Brave basket set the count at 15-8 midway through the half.

FC had seven different players on the scoresheet by the half-time break. Senior Madesyn Sunderhaus etched in her name with a layup to begin the second period. Kaylee Hanna added hers via the 3-pointer and it was 20-9. Talawanda got a jumper to fall, leading to a timeout at 21-11. Hanna then laid in two and a pair of free throws by freshman

Audrey Mears made it 25-13. The Brave cut it to an 8-point game at intermission.

Sunderhaus again got things going with a triple to begin the third. The visitors hit a jump shot but it would be their last points until later in the frame; by that time, the Wildcats had gone on a 9-0 run to lead 37-19. Singer had a pair of buckets, followed by a Billman deuce and Sunderhaus 3. A Cox trey would make it 40-21, Talawanda again stopping play at 3:06 of the quarter. Kaiser was later fouled with zeroes on the clock and hit 1 of 2 in solitude. FC had a 20-point lead, 45-25.

With the outcome effectively decided, the guests got within 13 at one point before a final of 51-35.

Billman led FC with a dozen points with Cox going for 10, Sunderhaus 9, Singer 8 and Hanna 6.

The Lady Cats honored school staff members Thursday. Each player and manager in the high school program selected a teacher, coach, or any staff member to honor between the JV and varsity games.

"It was a great night where we honored so many great people who have positively impacted the lives of our young student athletes," VanMeter said. "We want to thank them for all they have

done for our students! They are the best!"

The game itself seemed to be in hand as FC held a big 37-23 advantage after a dominating 16-1 third quarter. But the Lady Raiders had other ideas, storming back with a 23-point fourth quarter to match their output from the previous three. The visitors, with the help of missed shots and turnovers by FC, went ahead 46-45 late.

VanMeter eschewed the expected timeout, allowing his offense to attack. Billman got the ball on the wing, drove to the rim and was fouled with three seconds left. She calmly put her side up 47-46 with FTs, standing up as the final as the Raiders missed a desperation try.

"It was a great game to watch and be part of," said the coach.

FC saw themselves up 12-11 after one despite Shenandoah banking in a halfcourt three at the buzzer. Poor FC shooting permitted the Raiders a 22-21 halftime lead.

Singer led the way with 22 points and Billman added 11 outside her game-winning charities.

FC (10-11) visited South Dearborn Tuesday to close the regular season (result not available). The Cats open the Lawrenceburg Sectional Tuesday against Batesville, tip 6 p.m.

Wrestling sectional is Saturday

Will Fehlinger
SPORTS EDITOR

Ahead of hosting the IHSAA sectional Saturday, the FC wrestling team fell to visiting Milan 50-29 last Tuesday.

The Wildcats are one of 10 teams suiting up to grapple this weekend. Joining them are Rushville, Batesville,

Union County, East Central, Connersville, Greensburg, Lawrenceburg, Milan and South Dearborn.

White's Realty Star Student



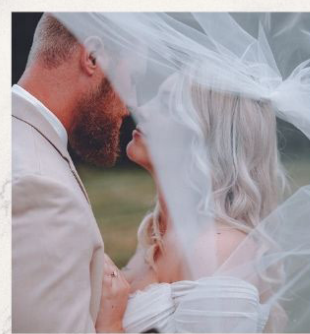
photo provided

We want to recognize Riviera Godar as White's Realty Star Student. Riviera is the daughter of John and Deanna Godar. Miss Wendy Bischoff of the English department nominated Riviera. Miss Bischoff stated, "What impresses her most about Riviera is her work ethic. She ended the semester with an A in English 10 Honors with no late or missing work. Riviera earns high scores on her quizzes and homework. She did an excellent job on both her summer reading annotated notebook and analytical essay over the novel Fahrenheit 451. Furthermore, Riviera is a role model for her peers, frequently participating in class discussions with insightful comments about the literature and making connections to today's society. She always exhibits a positive attitude towards school, her teachers, and classmates. Miss Bischoff has enjoyed having Riviera in class and is looking forward to seeing how she progresses the rest of the year." Congratulations, Riviera, for earning White's Realty Start Student Award!

Front Page
Photography



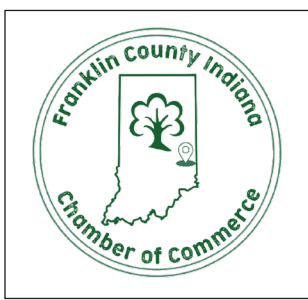
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photos by Christian Lewis



Why should I join the local Chamber of Commerce?



We get this question all the time. There's

not one answer, there are multiple answers. Did you know that according to the Shapiro Group Study Report, when consumers know that a small business is a member of the chamber of commerce, they are 44% more likely to think favorably of it

and 63% more likely to purchase goods or services from the company in the future. That's a significant advantage. The Franklin County Chamber of Commerce is striving to help all businesses in Franklin County have that advantage. We also work

to provide information and training for all members. On Feb. 4th at 5pm at the Brookville Branch of the Franklin County Library, we will be holding the first of our 2025 Meet & Greets. Our presentation for the evening will be "The Importance of

Your Google Profile." We will go over why this is an important for your business and help show you how to set up if you currently do not have a Google Page. We will also be rolling out our new GrowthZone Information Hub. We hope to see all of you

there! For more information on joining the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce please visit: www.fc-chamber.net

Submitted by Alan Stenger, President, Franklin County Chamber of Commerce

LOOKING ON THE BRIGHTER SIDE: MAKING THE BEST OF WINTER

Mary Ellen Rippe
CONTRIBUTOR

I try to be an optimist. At times it's difficult. For example, when it's 6 degrees outside, cloudy, and with wind gusts, it feel like -6 degrees. I admit I am not at my best at times such as these. But there really are some good things about cold weather. My research came up with

the following:

Ten advantages of the winter season include:

Increased calorie burning: Cold weather forces your body to work harder to maintain temperature, leading to more calories burned during daily activities.

Improved sleep quality: Cooler temperatures are often associated with better sleep qual-

ity.

Reduced inflammation: Cold exposure can potentially reduce inflammation in the body.

Boosting the immune system: Adapting to cold weather can strengthen your immune system.

Detoxification potential: Winter can be a good time to focus on a cleansing diet, aiding detoxification.

Fresh air: Winter of-

ten brings cleaner air with less pollution.

Outdoor winter sports: Winter provides opportunities for activities like skiing, snowboarding, and ice skating.

Festive atmosphere: Winter holidays like Christmas bring a sense of joy and community.

Reduced stress levels: Some people find the calmness of winter to

be relaxing.

Better brain function: Studies suggest cooler temperatures may positively impact cognitive function.

Additionally cold weather can inhibit Microbial growth. This is because, many bacteria and germs grow best at warmer temperatures (around 37°C or 98.6°F, like body temperature). Cold environments slow down the

metabolism and reproduction of these microorganisms, effectively reducing the spread of contamination. And hopefully, helping us to stay healthier.

As the 15 inches or so of snow begins to melt, and as the official start of spring, March 20th draws closer, may we not look back on this January with animosity, but perhaps joy; (See "LOOK" pg. 16)

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2025 Calendar of Events

APRIL 12	An Evening with Bronson Arroyo	Third Place @ 734 Main St. Saturday, 6 p.m.
MAY 3	Derby Day Pie Auction	Third Place @ 734 Main St. Saturday, 6:30 p.m. Doors Open @ 2 p.m.
MAY 30	Music on Main: Divas & Drinks	Band @ Courthouse Lawn 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Band @ Municipal Parking Lot 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
JUN 27	Music on Main: Blazin' Wings & Classic Chrome; Beatles vs. Stones	Cruise @ Municipal Parking Lot @ 650 Main St., 6:30 p.m., UMC Parking Lot @ 8th & Main St, 6 p.m.; Third Place @ 734 Main St. 7 p.m.
JUL 25	Music on Main: Brookville Lake Turns 50	Band @ Courthouse Lawn 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Band @ Municipal Parking Lot 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
AUG 29	Music on Main: Summer Send-Off	Band @ Courthouse Lawn 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Band @ Municipal Parking Lot 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
SEPT 13	Chicken Festival & Fry Off	Courthouse Lawn @ 4th & Main St. Saturday, 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.
OCT 18	Haunted Spirits Walk & Tour	Starting Location TBD
NOV 22	November Noel & Cookie Crumb Trail	Courthouse Lawn @ 4th & Main St. & Local Businesses Visit Santa @ Courthouse Gazebo, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
DEC 13	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 and online mainstreetbrookville.org.
Main Street Brookville, Inc. | P.O. Box 61, Brookville, Indiana 47012
info@mainstreetbrookville.org | A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

LIBRARY CORNER

Life is What You Bake It: We'll feature a non-perishable item each month in our Take and Make Cooking Series. Show off your creativity by making new healthier, tastier, or completely different recipes! All cooking must be done at home, but please join us on the last Wednesday of every month to swap recipes and share ideas. The first one is on Jan. 29 at Laurel Library at 4:30 p.m.

Groundhog Day Dessert: Learn about Groundhog Day and make dirt pudding! Feb. 3 at Brookville Library at 5 p.m. and Feb. 4 at Laurel Library at 5 p.m.

Second Monday Book Club: The Second Monday Book Club will meet on Feb. 10 at Brookville Library at 6 p.m. The February book selection is "Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine" by Gail Honeyman.

Book Buddies Book Club: Join us for the reading of a brand new picture book and a fun activity! Feb. 6 at Brookville Library at 5 p.m.

Playdough Party: Gather with friends to try a new playdough recipe! Feb. 7 at Brookville Library at 10 a.m.

Aquatic Mammals: Join our friends from the DNR and learn about our local aquatic mammals! Feb. 10 at Brookville Library at 5 p.m. and Feb. 11 at Laurel Library at 5 p.m.

Sunset Silhouette Painting: Come paint with us! This month's painting contains tall silhouetted trees against a vivid, multi-colored sky. Feb. 17 at Brookville Library at 4:30 p.m. Feb. 18 at Laurel Library at 4:30 p.m. Call the libraries to RSVP.

Chapter Chasers Book Club: Pick up a copy of "Marshmallow Pie the Cat Superstar" by Clara Vulliamy, read the book, and join us at book club for discussion and enjoy a mini pie. Feb. 17 at Brookville Library at 5 p.m.

Kids Bring Your Own Book Club: Bring a board book, picture book, chapter book, graphic novel, or magazine, and tell others about what you are reading! Snacks will be provided during our book discussion. Feb. 18 at Laurel Library at 5 p.m.

ABC Bootcamp: Let's practice those ABCs! Join us for a time of play while we learn about the letters in our names. Playdough, songs, yoga, magnets, and more will help us practice our letters and their sounds! Feb. 18 at Laurel Library at 10 a.m. and Feb. 21 at Brookville Library at 10 a.m.

Minecraft Challenge: Test your Minecraft skills in a 1-hour creative mode challenge. Details will be given at the start of the challenge. Feel free to bring your own devices and/or login information! Feb. 24 at Brookville Library at 5 p.m.

Shelfie Squad Book Club: Pick up a copy of "Puppy Love" by Gary Soto, read the book, and join us at book club for discussion and to play a fun basketball game! Feb. 27 at Brookville Library at 5 p.m.

Fantasy Book Club: Fantasy Book Club is a flexible, online book club where everyone can participate when it is most convenient. Book discussions will happen online via the book club's Facebook page, which you can find on the library's website. We will vote on a new book each month.

Dungeons and Dragons: Take role-play gaming to the next level with Calloway and Tiffany as your Dungeon Masters. Calloway hosts an 18+ D&D on the first and third Mondays of the month. All D&D events take place at Brookville Library at 6 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.

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.

Attention local businesses: Support "FCHS Beat Cancer in Four Quarters"

Dear Businesses:
Franklin County High School Student Council and Bleacher Bums are continuing our Beat Cancer in 4 Quarters fundraiser event between FCHS and Connersville. This event takes place on Feb. 21. The student bodies of each school are having a friendly competition to see which school can raise the most money for a cure. We are requesting your support of this community

event. The money will be given to the American Cancer Society and FC CAN.
The Student Council and Bleacher Bums at FCHS are taking the lead and overseeing this project, so a student will most likely be bringing this letter to gain your monetary support for this event.
Checks can be made out to the FCHS Student Council and sent to Tanya Wirtz at, 1 Wildcat Lane, Brookville, IN 47012. Please put my

name, Tanya Wirtz, on the envelope. Please have your checks to the school by Feb. 14, so we have an accurate count to give at the game on Feb. 21. If a check needs to be sent at a later date, then just let us know the amount that you plan on donating to this great cause. Please send all donations to FCHS.
Thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter.
Submitted by Tanya Wirtz

STUDENT OF THE MONTH



The St. Michael School 8th Grade Student of the Month is Trent Wuestefeld.

The student of the month is voted on by our staff. The staff considers behavior, academics, leadership,

kindness, and overall character.

Trent is the son of Tim and Teresa Wuestefeld. Trent is involved in Student Council and enjoys activities with the Kindergarten Buddies. He currently has

a GPA of 4.0 and is interested in attending Rose Hulman.

Trent received a certificate and a week-long out of uniform pass. Congratulations, Trent.

Submitted by Michelle Gramman

ST. MICHAELS HONOR ROLL

4th Grade First Honors
Nora Sturwold
Rayna Wooley

4th Grade Second Honors
Desmond Dorrel
Lucas Eckerle
Gunner Gillman
Owen Holman

Cassie Keck
Julia Kohlsdorf
Charlotte Lamping
Maverick Mullikin
Paul Nafe
Audrey Partin
Greta Rabe
Kendall Rauch
Will Ritzi
Claire Ross

Claire Schneider
Abi Schuman
Caleb Sims
Isla Striegler
Georgia Suding
Dustin Whittington
5th Grade First Honors
Kyndal Burns
(See "HONORS" pg. 14)

PET OF THE WEEK

FRANKLIN CO. ANIMAL SHELTER

Meet Joshua!

Everyone meet Joshua! Joshua is a great boy! He has come so far with the volunteers; working so hard! He does well with other dogs and connects great with people. He loves to play and chase balls. We are so proud of him! Joshua is around 2-years-old and has been neutered and is up to date on all shots. You can meet this smiling sweetheart at The Franklin County Animal Shelter 9076 Landfill Road, Metamora Indiana on Mondays and Thursdays from 4:30-6:30 or Saturdays from 9:00-12:00. Please contact The Friends of Franklin County Animal Shelter via Facebook for more information about sweet Joshua.

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FORGOTTEN FRANKLIN COUNTY

JANUARY 29, 2025

13

“...an interesting and instructive feast of intellectual food”

This was the description given about the many years' worth of content of *The Monthly Visitor*. That would be the newspaper, in case that phrase is confusing. Never heard of it? You're not alone. *The Monthly Visitor* is a true rarity and only a few original issues still exist. The three issues in the Brookville Library's outstanding Archives are the only ones I know of locally. This Franklin County newspaper appears to be in an equal deficit as the *Ragged Orphan* that was written about for this column on Jan. 17, 2024, and the *Andersonville Herald* discussed in the Feb. 24, 2021 column.



The *Monthly Visitor* was no slouch in its content, format, or overall quality. The examples in the Brookville Library's Archives are approximately 15 inches wide by 22 inches in length. More than likely, for the newspaper's existence it was probably always a 4-page format as are the extant examples. FCPLD collection.

The library's three prized "*Visitors*" came our way from a local antique store, Keys to the Past, about 9 years ago. How they came by the papers is a mystery, but they were probably retrieved from a random lot bought at auction or an estate sale. The one time owner of our trio was Russell R. Logan whose name is handwritten at the top of each. Two of our copies are from 1885 (v. 1 #11 and v. 2 #3) and one copy is from 1887 (v. 4 #1).

The early issues of this newspaper appear to have been had at a subscription rate of only 50 cents a year. That was just over 4 cents per copy. A later reference or two implied that the price had gone up to 10 cents per issue.

To date, only a few lines about *The Monthly Visitor* exist. They have been repeated in a variety of publications but seem to have originated in Reifel's *History of Franklin County*. Reifel's narrative claimed: "*The Monthly Visitor* was published in Brookville by James M. Miller from July 15, 1884 to his death, January 7, 1901. Although it was published in Brookville, it was printed in Cincinnati. Its editor was a man of striking personality. It was started, as the editor says, with "neither money, office nor material." It was non-political and non-sectarian, and was started by the editor to aid him in his struggle for a livelihood, which extended over the last thirty-eight years of his life."

"The distinct feature of *The Monthly Visitor* was a series of articles bearing on the history of Brookville and Franklin County. As a matter of fact, this constituted about the only material in the paper pertinent to the county. After the death of the editor, January 7, 1901, his sister Jennie, issued one number. Probably the most striking issue of this paper during its existence of seventeen years was that of July 4, 1898, when the editor issued a supplement which contained a ten-column history of Brookville."

What!? Seventeen years of publication, yet hardly any copies exist today. How is that possible considering there should have been approximately 200 issues if a dozen monthly papers were actually printed each year?

What happened to these newspapers? The Library of Congress knows that this paper existed but does not have any copies curated or scanned in their Chronicling America database. They know it was produced in Brookville, Indiana and that's about it. Their description is bare-bones: "Published the third Wednesday of each month and it contains news and feature articles from all over the world."

According to the Library of Congress, the Indiana State Library should have approximately 17 copies in their collection, but the State Library's Evergreen Indiana holdings shown in our consortium do not reflect that many.

So what can I add to Reifel's narrative? A little background information about James Miller, some educated guesses about what transpired, and a lot of questions.

Hopefully my exhaustive research that yielded meager contributions to this column will be of some value to those eager to learn more about this unique, and for the most part, forgotten Franklin County publication.

The Jan. 10, 1901 *Democrat* announced James Miller's death and claimed more about him would be in the next edition. This first acknowledgement of Miller's passing claimed he died after an illness of several weeks, and stated: "When only ten years old Mr. Miller began working as an apprentice in the *Democrat* office. Two years later he was attacked by rheumatism and has been almost helpless ever since." It ended by saying in spite of his physical disabilities he acquired a good education, engaged in the real estate business, and had been editor and proprietor of *The Monthly Visitor*.

The local newspaper of one week later, the Jan. 17, 1901 *Democrat*, had quite the extensive obituary for Miller. Of course it was a lot of the flowery prose most obituaries of the time used to contain, but fortunately for us it was quite detailed in some respects, and it was written by our old friend "T.L.D." If you are an avid reader of this column you may recall that T.L.D. is Theophilus L. Dickerson, local archaeologist, museum curator, educator, writer, etc., from the Fairfield area. Dickerson was probably as close to James Miller as anyone since he claims he first met Miller in 1858-59 when they were classmates at the Brookville College.

There is no other biographical information about James Miller anywhere. Nothing in the library files, no pictures, no family trees on Ancestry, just *nothing*. So to build a biography of this overlooked, yet truly significant contributor to Franklin County's history, I am relying heavily on what Dickerson wrote.

Dickerson claimed Miller was born in Brookville in 1842 and "departed this life at his 'shut-in' home in the valley..." He was just over 58 years old. His parents, Joseph and Margaret, as well as five siblings all died before him. The siblings who survived James were Mrs. Samuel Marlatt of Richmond, Indiana; Mrs. A.C. Crouch of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania and Miss Jennie Miller, his younger sister "who has been his devoted attendant and loving companion during his 36 years of illness."

"James was first stricken with an attack of rheumatism when about nine years old and partially recovered the use of his limbs until his 19th year. His second affliction occurred in 1860, when his health failed, making him a 'shut-in' invalid the remainder of his life."

Dickerson claimed James "was a bright student with a wonderful retentive memory, and never failed in his studies, being a favorite with teachers and students. He was a monument of energy, always cheerful and a lover of the beautiful in nature and art which made his life full of pleasant sunshine amid the clouds of sorrow and distress as an invalid."

Dickerson claimed James was unique for "under like circumstances hundreds of men would have become discouraged, but our friend had the nerve to work harder and make a success in life as a business man."

James Miller "became an apprentice of the *Franklin Democrat* and learned the art

when a small boy, and had not afflictions crippled the use of his hands he would have held the highest position of printer and publisher."

"In the year 1880 at the suggestion of friends who wanted a man to fill the office of Treasurer of the Brookville Corporation who possessed character and educational requirements the name of James M. Miller was presented and in April of that year he was elected without opposition, and held the position for 16 years."

Dickerson claimed "for the past 17 years Mr. Miller has acted in the capacity of editor and publisher of *The Monthly Visitor*. Although unable to do the laborious work, his busy fertile mind found the means to furnish an interesting and instructive feast of intellectual food for the readers and patrons of *The Visitor* by the bands of an amanuensis." (*A what? I had to look that one up too. Amanuensis means a literary or artistic assistant, in particular one who takes dictation or copies manuscripts.*)



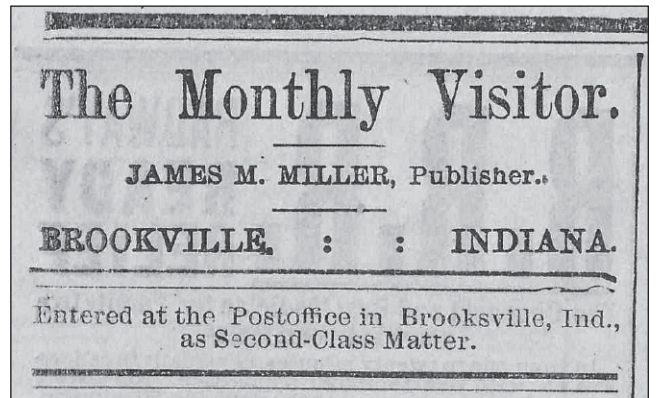
The former James Miller house was a featured site on the 2023 Brookville Holiday Tour of Historic Homes. Image from the promotional material for that event.

Unfortunately Dickerson does not give details such as a house number or intersection where Miller lived or compiled the materials for his publication. Dickerson only commented that Miller lived in the valley in Brookville. However, census records and Miller's death certificate show he lived on East 6th Street. Digging deeper into public records and estate distributions I discovered that James Miller and his loving sister who served as his caregiver, lived at 561 E. 6th Street, which is the charming little house on the northwest corner of 6th and Market streets.

After Miller's passing, the January 31, 1901 *Brookville Democrat* stated

that Miller's sister, Jennie, released his last edition of *The Monthly Visitor* and that it will no longer be published. I would assume James already had the January issue compiled and ready to go and that's why Jennie released it. Unfortunately after reviewing a variety of local and regional newspapers, no description of what appeared in Miller's last publication was found anywhere.

So if James' sister lived with him and helped care for him, how involved was Jennie with his newspaper? Did she help do research? Did she take dictation from James? Did she make sure the contents were sent to Cincinnati for printing? Did she make sure the copies were picked up at the train station, or how exactly was that process accomplished? Did Jennie get the subscriptions and make sure the issues were mailed out? No details regarding any logistics whatsoever were found.



It's known from Miller's own comments that his newspaper subscriptions could be received through the postal service, but where else could they be had?

Miller's *Monthly Visitor* was occasionally mentioned by other newspapers especially when they recognized something of importance. The July 14, 1898 *Democrat* claimed: "In a special edition of *The Monthly Visitor* issued last week, James M. Miller gives a twelve column historical sketch of Brookville giving an account of its settlement and growth, a history of its churches, schools, societies, manufactories, banks, newspapers, etc., etc., that is worth several times ten cents, the price at which it is sold. Our readers are advised to procure a copy ere the edition is exhausted."

Another example in the March 29, 1900 *Democrat* stated: "One article in *The Monthly Visitor* of March 21st, entitled 'The Richmond and Brookville Canal' is well worth the price of a year's subscription of *The Visitor*. If you have not read it get a copy of James M. Miller, the publisher, as the historical sketch is worth preserving for future reference. The author and editor, Mr. Miller, devoted much time in collecting reliable information and putting it in readable shape for the public. He has presented facts that few of the present generation have any knowledge of. We repeat, get a copy and file it away for future reference."

So as most of you may have figured by now - my main reason for bringing this newspaper to your attention is because I want to know what happened. Where did all the old copies go? Were there extra copies not sold that were saved by Miller - were they disposed of - were they given to the editors of the *Democrat*? Maybe there weren't as many extra copies printed as I think. Perhaps if Miller only had 100 paid subscribers at any given time he only had an extra 50 to 100 copies of any given month printed as reserve to sell at local drugstores, saloons, or out of his house. I would think that Miller was extremely proud of his newspaper and that he kept copies of each edition as a sort of archive. If nothing else, surely he would have kept at least one copy of each issue for himself as a reference to make sure he didn't duplicate story topics.

I would have thought that my favorite newspaper historians, Harrell, Showalter, and Everett, would have noted something in their decades of writings about James M. Miller or his newspaper. *Not the case.*

I only found one mention made, which was of no consequence, by Portia Everett about Miller - and it wasn't even in regards to the man himself.

In 1952, over half a century after Miller died, Portia Everett claimed in her Feb. 7th column, *A Glimpse at the Past*, that she was searching for a specific article. Details of what she was searching for are not important here, so long story short, Portia said, "I had about given up when a scrap book belonging to the late James M. Miller fell into my hands. Now, Mr. Miller was another with the love of the historical incident and preserved some of his interest in a little paper called *The Monthly Visitor* which circulated hereabouts for years." The rest of Portia's ramblings are insignificant as they say *NOTHING* else about Miller's scrap book, where she got it, what she did with it, or if there were any more scrap books that belonged to him. And Portia never mentions Miller, his newspaper, or his scrap book again in any of her columns or writings.

Was the Miller scrap book in Portia's parents' collection? They were the Harrells and they were known to have had a fabulous library and collected lots of memorabilia. Did it come from the newspaper office? If Portia had easy access to a simple scrap book kept by Miller then she surely had access to some of his newspapers as well.

Since my paper trail ran dry for James Miller, I thought perhaps by researching his sister, Jennie, whom he lived with, illusive facts about James would come to life. *Once again, not the case.*

Jennie was mentioned in James' will and inherited everything but nothing was stated in any specific detail. Missouri Jennie Miller died two decades later in March of 1924. She was 76 years old and never married.

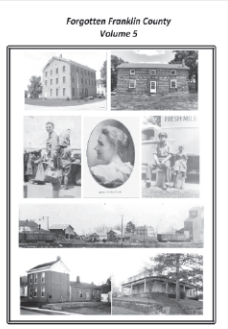
(See "HISTORY" pg. 14)

YOU ASKED FOR IT!

Many readers have called Whitewater Publications and the Brookville Library asking if and when the Forgotten Franklin County stories were going to be put into book form. Each book contains a year's worth of stories, and volumes 1-4 will be available alongside Vol. 5!

Contact Whitewater Publications at 765-647-4221 or info@whitewaterpublications.com for more information.

VOL. 5 AVAILABLE NOW!



DAR ■ Continued from Page 2

to visit the places tied to these individuals today. The American Revolution Experience features custom illustrations by South Carolina-based artist Dale Watson. In creating his unique art, Watson used historical descriptions, images, and other resources to make portraits for each figure highlighted on the site and for larger scenes to show events

during the 18th century. The exhibit is closed to the public during scheduled classroom visits. Here are the available dates and times for everyone else to experience the exhibit.
 Monday, Feb. 3, 1 to 4 p.m.
 Tuesday, Feb. 4, to 4 p.m.
 Wednesday, Feb. 5, 1 to 7 p.m.
 Thursday, Feb. 6, 9

a.m to 4 p.m.
 Saturday, Feb. 8, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 Monday, Feb. 10, 1 to 4 p.m.
 Tuesday, Feb. 11, 1 to 4 p.m.
 Wednesday, Feb. 12, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Wednesday, Feb. 12, 5 p.m. - Living History Presentation, Martha Washington
 The American Revolution Experience invites visitors to consid-

er the choice faced by members of the revolutionary generation as tensions mounted in the 1770s: Would these ordinary citizens risk their lives and livelihoods in pursuit of liberty? Or would they remain loyal subjects of the British crown, coming into conflict with neighbors and family? The exhibit surfaces diverse viewpoints and experiences, touch-

ing on the literal and figurative journeys of Patriots and Loyalists, men and women, Black and Native populations, and even international allies. Rather than focusing only on generals and famous statesmen, it introduces audiences to drummer boys, military mapmakers, and other ordinary people impacted by global events.
 Learn more about

the American Battlefield Trust organization at www.battlefields.org. Learn more about The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution at www.dar.org/. Email TwinForksDAR@gmail.com to share a photo of yourself at the exhibit.
 Submitted by Barbara Vonderheide, Twin Forks Chapter, DAR
Source: DAR

Honors ■ Continued from Page 12

Cora Clark
 Axton Geiling
 Lucy Harpring
 Will Huerkamp
 Emma Merchant
 Reghan Ratz
 Vincent Sacksteder
5th Grade
Second Honors
 Cullen Back

Peter DeFossett
 Swayzie Freshour
 Lydia Geiser
 Maddie Hildebrand
 Phoenix Kramer
 Sophia McGuire
 Roman Munden
 Braxton Sacksteder
 Elliot Smith
 June Smith

6th Grade
First Honors
 Ava Schneider
 Charlotte Sturwold
 Eddie Tebbe
6th Grade
Second Honors
 Leo Clark
 Dylan Dorrel
 Lilly Keck

Denver Kramer
 Eli Smith
 Nick Thompson
 Ben Wurzelbacher
7th Grade
First Honors
 Lena Huerkamp
 Gage Sacksteder
7th Grade
Second Honors

Joseph Kelley
 Levi McGuire
 Alina Seals
 Jayce Stivers
 Kiptyn Thomas
8th Grade
First Honors
 Shelby Fellure
 Arden Henley
 Virginia Sacksteder

Trent Wuestefeld
8th Grade
Second Honors
 Gianna Aicken
 Melia Baker
 Dylan Bruns
 Maria Cox
 Thomas Davis
 Dexter Dorrel
 Kate Dorrel

Lines ■ Continued from Page 8

laid down the railroad, raised up the skyscrapers, built the great highways, won two world wars, defeated fascism and communism and launched American astronauts to the moon. It was hardworking patriots like you who built this country, and 75 days ago, on Nov. 5, it

was hardworking patriots like you who saved our country. You saved our country.” Trump addressed his supporters for nearly an hour. In closing, he stated, “Now, after all we have been through together, we stand on the verge of the four greatest years in Amer-

ican history. With your help, we will restore America’s promise and we will rebuild the nation that we all love so much . We are one people, one family and one glorious nation

under God. We will never give in, we will never give up, we will never back down, and we will never ever, ever, ever surrender. We will fight, fight, fight, and we will win, win, win.

And together, we will make America powerful again, we will make America wealthy again, we will make America healthy again, we will make America strong again, we will make

America proud again, we will make America safe again, and we will make America great again. Thank you very much; what a great victory for everyone. Thank you, America.”

History ■ Continued from Page 13

Jennie’s personal property was sold on-site at public auction on Friday May 2, 1924. In addition to the normal personal items, beds, chairs, kitchen utensils, the advertisement noted: “There are several pieces of very old antique furniture to be sold and much of said property is in first class condition.” The ad said nothing about any of Jennie’s tricks of the trade. She herself was a seamstress and dressmaker who did work out of her home. Nor did the auction ad say anything about boxes of research, books, or original issues of *The Monthly Visitor* that I would have thought would have been a big deal and still should have been stored at the Miller house.



James Miller’s weathered and practically illegible gravestone at the Old Brookville Cemetery. Image from findagrave.com.

James must have been somewhat well known across the state as news of his passing appeared in regional newspapers and as far away as Indianapolis. The Jan. 8, 1901 *Indianapolis News* stated: “His life was a remarkable example of success against almost insurmountable difficulties.” James M. Miller is buried at the Old Brookville Cemetery with his parents and some of his siblings, including Jennie who always stayed by his side.

Needless to say, if you have any copies of *The Monthly Visitor*, the library’s History Department would love to help you make sure they get copied and preserved.

Julie Schlesselman
 Local History & Genealogy Dept. Manager, FCPLD
 765.647.4031

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NOTICE OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE

TO: JORDAN PHILIP KRAMER
Notice is hereby given to Jordan Philip Kramer ("Kramer") pursuant to IC 6-1.1-25-4.5 and IC 5-3-1-4 that a tax sale certificate was sold on October 31, 2024, to Honey Rock Rentals LLC ("LLC") for the following property located on Buena Vista Rd., Laurel, IN 47024: Parcel Nos. 24-01-15-400-004.000-013; 24-01-14-300-002.000-013; and 24-01-23-100-006.000-013. The property may be redeemed by paying: 110% of the minimum bid within 6 months of sale or 115% of the minimum if between 6 and 12 months of sale; 5% per annum on the amount the purchase price exceeds the minimum bid; all taxes and special assessments on property paid by LLC after the sale plus 5% per annum; attorney's fees and costs of notice;

costs of a title search or examination and updates; all taxes, special assessments, interest, penalties, and fees on the property accrued and delinquent after sale and paid by the county treasurer under IC 6-1.1-24-7(b). LLC is entitled to be entitled to reimbursement for additional taxes or special assessments paid by the LLC after sale and before redemption, plus interest; and costs in IC 6-1.1-25-4 and IC 6-1.1-25-2(e). If the property is not redeemed, LLC may have a right to the tax sale surplus. The minimum bid was \$6,993.36. The property has not yet been redeemed, and the redemption period ends on October 1, 2025. LLC intends to file a petition for a tax deed to be issued on or after November 1, 2025.

3-3tcA hspaxlp

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me, directed from the Clerk of Franklin Circuit Court of Franklin County, Indiana, in Cause No. 24C01-2409-MF-000526, wherein PennyMac Loan Services, LLC was Plaintiff, and Shawn Mink, Dividend Solar Finance LLC and Aqua Finance, Inc. were Defendants, required me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree, with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder on the 25th day of February, 2025, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 371 Main Street, Brookville, IN 47012, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Franklin County, Indiana. Lots Four (4) and Five (5) in M.P. Hubbard's Addition to the Town of Brookville, Indiana, EXCEPT Sixty (60) feet off of the North end of said Lot Number Four (4), heretofore sold by James Lynn and wife to John Glaub and Gladys Glaub, by Deed dated January 20, 1915 and recorded in Deed Record 46, at page 557, in the Recorder's Office of Franklin County, Indiana. More commonly known as 1060 Fairfield Ave, Brookville, IN 47012-1024 Parcel No. 24-10-20-405-016.000-004

Terms of sale: cash, certified check or money order of the full amount of the purchase price due at the time of sale. The rest estate will be sold to the highest bidder. If the highest bidder does not produce cash, certified check or money order, for the full amount of the purchase price, the bidding will be immediately re-opened. Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisement laws. /s/ BRYAN K. REDMOND BRYAN K. REDMOND, Plaintiff Attorney Attorney # 22108-29 FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C. 8415 Allison Pointe Blvd., Suite 400 Indianapolis, IN 46250 Peter W. Cates, Sheriff Brookville Township The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein. SERVICE DIRECTED TO: Shawn Mink 1060 Fairfield Ave. Brookville, IN 47012-1024 Service Type: Serve By Sheriff NOTICE FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C., IS A DEBT COLLECTOR.

3-3tcA hspaxlp

Board of Directors Election

The Franklin County Water Association will hold its Annual Meeting on Tuesday March 11, 2025, 7:30 PM at the Franklin County Water Office at 9112 State Road 1, Brookville. Elections will be held for two incumbents on the Board of Directors. Applications and a list of the requirements can be found

at FranklinCountyWater.org or by requesting a copy by emailing: billing@franklincountywater.org. The application must be submitted to the water office at the above address no later than February 11, 2025 at 4:00 PM.

4-2tcA hspaxlp

SUMMONS - SERVICE BY PUBLICATION STATE OF INDIANA IN THE FRANKLIN CIRCUIT COURT 1 COUNTY OF FRANKLIN CAUSE NO: 24C01-2411-MF-000730 CINFED FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff, vs. UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, DONEES, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, SPOUSES AND ASSIGNS AND THE UNKNOWN GUARDIANS OF MINOR AND/OR INCOMPETENT HEIRS OF RICHARD E. OWENS, et al., Defendants.

whereabouts are unknown: Unknown Heirs, Beneficiaries, Legatees, Devisees, Donees, Executors, Administrators, Spouses and Assigns, and the Unknown Guardians of Minor and/or Incompetent Heirs of Richard E. Owens In addition to the above-named defendants being served by this summons there may be other defendants who have an interest in this lawsuit If you have a claim for relief against the plaintiff arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer. You must answer the Complaint in writing, by you or your attorney, within thirty (30) days after the last notice of this action is published, and, if you fail to do so, judgment by default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. ATTEST: Neysa R. Raible Clerk, Franklin County Circuit Court 1 By: DT Deputy /s/ Jeffrey R. Pfirrmann Jeffrey R. Pfirrmann (37347-15) Attorney for Plaintiff Cinfed Federal Credit Union BRICKER GRAYDON LLP 312 Walnut Street Suite 1800 Cincinnati, OH 45202-4060 Phone: (513) 629-2743 Fax: (513) 651-3836 E-mail: jpfirrmann@brickergraydon.com

4-3tcA hspaxlp

NOTICE OF SUIT The State of Indiana to the above-named Defendants, and any other person who may be concerned. You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit against you is a Complaint for In Rem Foreclosure of Mortgage concerning the following described real estate: And commonly known as: 3315 Johnson Fork Road, West Harrison, IN 47060 (Parcel No. 24-17-22-201-012.000-021).

This Summons by Publication is specifically directed to the following named defendant(s) whose addresses are known: N/A And to the following defendant(s) whose addresses and

IN THE FRANKLIN CIRCUIT COURT FRANKLIN COUNTY, INDIANA CAUSE NO. 24C01-2412-EU-000784 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF FINLEY CHARLES POTTER DECEASED NOTICE OF UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION Notice is hereby given that on the 7th day of January 2025, Mary Lou Broughton was appointed personal representative of the estate of Finley Charles Potter, deceased, who died on the 28th day of October 2024, leaving a Will. The estate will be administered without court supervision. As an heir, a devisee, or a legatee of the estate (a "distributee"), you are advised of the following information: 1. The personal representative has the authority to take action concerning the estate without first consulting you. 2. The personal representative may be serving without posting a bond with the court. You have the right to petition the court to set a bond for your protection. 3. The personal representative will not obtain court approval of any action, including the amount of attorney's or personal representative's fees. 4. Within two (2) months after

the appointment of the personal representative, the personal representative must prepare an inventory of the estate's assets. You have the right to request and receive a copy of this inventory from the personal representative. 5. The personal representative is required to furnish you with a copy of the closing statement that will be filed with the court, and, if your interests are affected, with a full account in writing of the administration of the estate. 6. You must file an objection to the closing statement within three (3) months after the closing statement is filed with the court if you want the court to consider your objection. 7. If an objection to the closing statement is not filed with the court within three (3) months after the filing of the closing statement, the estate is closed, and the court does not have a duty to audit or make an inquiry. IF AT ANY TIME BEFORE THE ESTATE IS CLOSED, YOU HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE SHOULD BE SUPERVISED BY THE COURT, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO PETITION THE COURT FOR SUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION. IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND THIS NOTICE, YOU SHOULD ASK YOUR ATTORNEY TO EXPLAIN IT TO YOU.

The personal representative's address is 202 Lakeview Lane, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830 and the telephone number is 865-7650-752. The attorney for the personal representative is Alan R. Trenz, whose address is 1149 Stone Drive, Suite 200, Harrison, Ohio 45030, and telephone number is 513-367-5656.

Dated at Brookville, Indiana, this 8th day of January, 2025. Neysa R. Raible Clerk of the Circuit Court of Franklin County, Indiana

interested parties are entitled to attend. The meeting will be held at the Franklin County Farmer's Mutual 4-H Expo Hall in Brookville. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Mike Schwegman, Chairperson Dated this 24 day of January, 2025. 5-1tcA hspaxlp

STATE OF INDIANA IN THE FRANKLIN CIRCUIT COURT COUNTY OF FRANKLIN CAUSE NO. 24C01-2501-EU-000023 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF FREDERICK. J. KAUFMANN III, DECEASED NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION Notice is hereby given that Frederick J. Kaufmann IV was on the 21st day of January, 2025 appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Frederick J. Kaufmann III, deceased, who died on the 8th day of January, 2025. All persons having claims against this 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, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Brookville, Indiana, on January 2, 2024. Neysa R. Raible Clerk of the Franklin Circuit Court of Franklin County Douglas C. Wilson #1282-69 Attorney for the Personal Representative 130 S. Walnut Street Batesville, Indiana 47006 812-934-2173

PUBLISHED NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Area Plan Commission & Board of Zoning Appeals of Franklin County, Indiana, on Wednesday, February 12th, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Franklin County Government Center in Brookville, Indiana, will hold a public hearing on a Petition for Conditional Use for Cell Tower changes on 13188 Bentley Rd, Brookville, IN 47012. The proposed Petition for Conditional Use for Cell Tower changes is located at the following described real-estate: Parcel: 24-03-15-200-001.000-002 - Located in Blooming Grove township. Written suggestions of objections to the provisions of said proposed Petition for Conditional Use for Cell Tower changes may be filed with the Director of the Board at the time and place specified. Said hearing may be continued as necessary. Interested persons desiring to present their view on the proposed Petition of Conditional Use for Cell Tower changes either in writing or verbally will be given the opportunity to be heard at the above-mentioned place. Area Plan Commission & Board of Zoning Appeals of Franklin County Kaitlin Sterwerf PUBLISHED NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Notice is hereby given that the Area Plan Commission & Board of Zoning Appeals of Franklin County, Indiana, on Wednesday, February 12th, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Franklin County Government Center in Brookville, Indiana, will hold a public hearing on a Petition for Conditional Use for Cell Tower changes on 24016 Hamburg Rd, Batesville IN 47006. The proposed Petition for Conditional Use for Cell Tower changes is located at the following described real-estate: Parcel: 24-13-06-400-001.000-022 - Located in Ray township. Written suggestions of objections to the provisions of said proposed Petition for Conditional Use for Cell Tower changes may be filed with the Director of the Board at the time and place specified. Said hearing may be continued as necessary. Interested persons desiring to present their view on the proposed Petition of Conditional Use for Cell Tower changes either in writing or verbally will be given the opportunity to be heard at the above-mentioned place. Area Plan Commission & Board of Zoning Appeals of Franklin County Kaitlin Sterwerf PUBLISHED NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Notice is hereby given that the Area Plan Commission & Board of Zoning Appeals of Franklin County, Indiana, on Wednesday, February 12th, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Franklin County Government Center in Brookville, Indiana, will hold a public hearing on a Petition for Conditional Use for Cell Tower changes on 9043 Smith Rd, Brookville IN 47012. The proposed Petition for Conditional Use for Cell Tower changes is located at the following described real-estate: Parcel: 24-10-21-400-001.000-003 - Located in Brookville

township. Written suggestions of objections to the provisions of said proposed Petition for Conditional Use for Cell Tower changes may be filed with the Director of the Board at the time and place specified. Said hearing may be continued as necessary. Interested persons desiring to present their view on the proposed Petition of Conditional Use for Cell Tower changes either in writing or verbally will be given the opportunity to be heard at the above-mentioned place. Area Plan Commission & Board of Zoning Appeals of Franklin County Kaitlin Sterwerf PUBLISHED NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Notice is hereby given that the Area Plan Commission & Board of Zoning Appeals of Franklin County, Indiana, on Wednesday, February 12th, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Franklin County Government Center in Brookville, Indiana, will hold a public hearing on a Petition for Conditional Use for Cell Tower changes on 4064/4070/4072 West St, New Trenton IN 47035. The proposed Petition to Rezone is located at the following described real-estate: Parcel: 24-17-32-400-016.000-021 & 24-17-32-300-009.001-021 - Located in Whitewater township. Written suggestions of objections to the provisions of said proposed Petition to Rezone may be filed with the Director of the Board at the time and place specified. Said hearing may be continued as necessary. Interested persons desiring to present their view on the proposed Petition to Rezone either in writing or verbally will be given the opportunity to be heard at the above-mentioned place. Area Plan Commission of Franklin County Kaitlin Sterwerf PUBLISHED NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Notice is hereby given that the Board of Zoning Appeals of Franklin County, Indiana, on Wednesday, February 12th, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Franklin County Government Center in Brookville, Indiana, will hold a public hearing on a Petition for Variance for the lot to be less than 10,000 sq ft (10,000 required for R-3) for 4064/4070/4072 West St, New Trenton IN 47035. The proposed Petition for Variance is located at the following described real-estate: Parcel: 24-17-32-400-016.000-021 & 24-17-32-300-009.001-021 - Located in Whitewater township. Written suggestions of objections to the provisions of said proposed Petition for Variance may be filed with the Director of the Board at the time and place specified. Said hearing may be continued as necessary. Interested persons desiring to present their view on the proposed Petition for Variance either in writing or verbally will be given the opportunity to be heard at the above-mentioned place. Board of Zoning Appeals of Franklin County Kaitlin Sterwerf

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF LAUREL, STATE OF INDIANA NUMBER 2025-02

An Ordinance of the Town Laurel Adopting a Four-Way Stop WHEREAS, the Board of the Town of Laurel, State of Indiana, recognizes the impotence of ensuring the safety of all pedestrians, cyclists and motorists within the incorporated town limits of Laurel, Indiana; and WHEREAS, the intersection of Pearl Street and Lafayette Street in the town of Laurel, State of Indiana, is not currently a four-way intersection; WHEREAS, the Board of the Town of Laurel, Indiana has assessed the traffic conditions at this specific intersection and has concluded that converting the intersection to a four-way stop would significantly enhance safety and traffic flow, with the goal of reducing the risk of accidents and improving overall community safety for both motorists and pedestrians; WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the residents of Laurel, Indiana to promote a safer environment for all users of the road; NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of the Town of Laurel, State of Indiana, does ordain as follows: 1. A four-way stop shall be established at the intersection of Pearl Street and Lafayette Street in the Town of Laurel, State of Indiana. 2. Vehicles approaching said intersection outlined above in paragraph one (1) shall be required to make a complete stop whether approaching either direction of Pearl Street or Lafayette Street and proceed pursuant to Indiana Law. 3. The Town of Laurel, State or

Indiana, shall be responsible for the installation and maintenance thereto of any and all appropriate signage indicating the four way stop and shall ensure all signage is compliant with Indiana Law. 4. The Town of Laurel Police Department shall be responsible for the enforcement of said travelers in violation of the four-way stop. 5. Violations of the established four-way stop shall be subject to fines and penalties as currently applicable and as set forth in local, county and/or state codes. 6. The said ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its passage and publication as required by Indiana Law. 7. The Town of Laurel, State of Indiana, shall take necessary measures to inform the residents and public thereof about the four-way stop, including but not limited to any social media outlets, any local media outlets, and a general outreach within the community. 8. If any section, clause or provision of this ordinance is deemed invalid or unconstitutional for any reason, the remaining sections, clauses and provisions shall continue to be in full force and full effect. PASSED, ORDAINED and ESTABLISHED by the Town Board of Laurel this_ day of 2025. President Member Member Member Attestation: I, the duly appointed and acting Town Clerk of Laurel, do hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was duly adopted by the Town Board on

5-2tcA hspaxlp

ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF LAUREL, STATE OF INDIANA NUMBER 2025-03

An Ordinance of the Town of Laurel Adopting an Updated Uniform Speed Limit Applicable to all Incorporated Streets within the Town of Laurel, State of Indiana WHEREAS, the Board of the Town of Laurel, State of Indiana, recognizes the importance of ensuring the safety of all pedestrians, cyclists and motorists within the incorporated town limits of Laurel, Indiana; and WHEREAS, the current speed limit on all streets within the incorporated town limits of Laurel, Indiana is currently 25 miles per hour; WHEREAS, the Board of the Town of Laurel, Indiana recognizes that the existing speed limit is not aligned with the needs of our community and that reducing it would significantly enhance the safety and well-being of our residents and visitors, given the town's unique conditions and usage patterns. WHEREAS, higher speeds in more populated areas can be a contributing factor to accidents; WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the residents of Laurel, Indiana to promote a safer environment for all users of the road; NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of the Town of Laurel, State of Indiana, does ordain as follows: Section I. Speed Limit Change. 1. The speed limit on all streets within the incorporated Town of Laurel, State of Indiana, shall be 20 m.p.h. 2. This speed limit change shall apply to all public streets, roads and highways that fall under the jurisdiction of the Town of Laurel, State of Indiana. 3. Said speed limit change shall not apply to any section of Indiana State Route 121. Section 11. Signage and Notifi-

cation. I. The Town of Laurel, State of Indiana, shall update all appropriate signage within the town's limit to notify drivers, pedestrians, cyclists, and others of the updated speed limit. 2. The Town of Laurel, State of Indiana, shall take necessary measures to inform the residents and public thereof about the speed limit change, including but not limited to any social media outlets, any local media outlets, and a general outreach within the community. Section III. Enforcement. 1. The Town of Laurel Police Department shall be responsible for the enforcement of said new speed limits. 2. Violations of the established speed limit shall be subject to fines and penalties as currently applicable and as set forth in local, county and/or state codes. Section IV. Effective Date. The said ordinance shall become effective ninety (90) days after its passage and publication in accordance with applicable laws. Section V. Severability. If any section, clause or provision of this ordinance is deemed invalid or unconstitutional for any reason, the remaining sections, clauses and provisions shall continue to be in full force and full effect. PASSED, ORDAINED and ESTABLISHED by the Town Board of Laurel this day of 2025. President Member Member Member Attestation: I, the duly appointed and acting Town Clerk of Laurel, do hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was duly adopted by the Town Board on

5-1tcA hspaxlp

ORDINANCE #2025-3 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 52 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF BROOKVILLE, INDIANA

WHEREAS, The Town of Brookville seeks to increase the Fees for trash and recycling due to the contract signed with Rumpke of Indiana, LLC for contract services from December 3, 2024 through December 4, 2027. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BROOKVILLE, INDIANA, AS FOLLOWS: 1. In Chapter 52 Section 52.06 FEES of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Brookville, Indiana, shall be rewritten as follows: § 52.06 FEES. (A) For purposes of this section, the term ELIGIBLE RESIDENTIAL DWELLING UNIT means a structure located within the town which includes a room or series of rooms located within a building or mobile home and forming a single habitable unit with facilities, which are used, or are intended to be used for living, cooking, eating and sleeping, and are either: (1) A SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DWELLING UNIT, defined as a dwelling unit separated from any other dwelling unit by open space, and designed for occupancy for one person or family; (2) A MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DWELLING UNIT, defined as a building or related group of buildings not to exceed four units located on the same lot, tract, or parcel of real estate, with each dwelling unit being independent of the other; or (3) A CONDOMINIUM, defined as any multi-family residential unit where the owner pays separately assessed property taxes. (B) There is hereby imposed a trash collection fee as follows: (1) Beginning with the first bill after the adoption of Ordinance 2025-3 for eligible residential dwelling units payable through bills payable in November of 2025, the imposed trash and recycling collection fee shall be \$16.75, plus \$0.25 for composting; (2) Beginning with the bill payable in December of 2025 through

bills payable in November of 2026, the imposed trash and recycling collection fee shall be \$17.51, plus \$0.26 for composting; (3) Beginning with the bill payable in December of 2026 through bills payable in November of 2027, the imposed trash and recycling collection fee shall be \$18.29, plus \$0.27 for composting. © The rate imposed by this section shall be in addition to the rates charged by the town to operate its municipal sewage works and any other rates for the collection and treatment of wastewater by the town's wastewater utility. (D) All unpaid fees imposed by this section are subject to the same delinquency fees, penalties, and interest authorized for delinquent sewer bills and may be collected by any lawful means including the filing of liens as authorized by I.C. 36-9-23. (E) The rates approved by this section shall be in full force and effective for all wastewater bills due after February 20, 2025, and thereafter. (F) In the event a resident will be leaving his or her residence unoccupied by any person for a continuous period of not less than 90 days and, as a result, shall not require pickup, such resident may notify the town and during such period shall be entitled to an abatement of the fees normally charged under this section. The resident must, within five days of the reoccupancy of his or her residence, after a period of suspension of charges under this section, notify the town of the date of reoccupancy and charges and pickup shall resume under the normal fee and pickup schedule. DULY ORDERED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BROOKVILLE this 21st day of January, 2025. John Estridge, President Richard Whitaker, Vice President Bridget C. Hayes, Councilmember Rebecca Beesley, Councilmember Ethan Orschell, Councilmember Gina Gillman, Clerk-Treasurer

5-1tcA hspaxlp

Family & Friends

3-DAY FORECAST

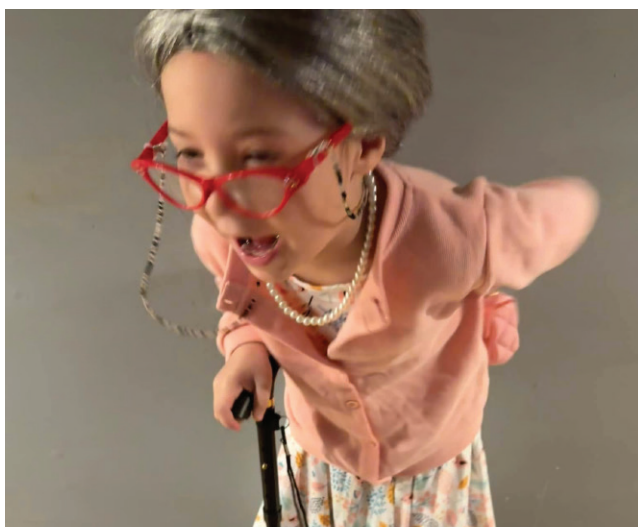
FRIDAY 52° F LOW OF 36

SATURDAY 41° F LOW OF 33

SUNDAY 50° F LOW OF 36

Students celebrate the 100th day of school

Franklin County elementary schools celebrated the 100th day of school with various festive activities. One of the highlights was the elementary students dressing up as if they were 100 years old, complete with gray wigs, oversized glasses and creative props. The hallways were filled with laughter and excitement as children showcased their imaginative outfits. Enjoy these photos capturing the spirit of the day!



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Look - Continued from Page 11

from losing five pounds from the cleansing diet you started, or not catching COVID, or being able to ski and not breaking your leg.

Hal Broland's words seem fitting for this time of year: "No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn. The promise of spring's arrival is enough to get anyone through the bitter winter!"

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JIMMY DAVIS BAND

14 FEB
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21 FEB
LONE WOLF & FRIENDS

BUFFET 5PM **MUSIC 7PM**

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