

The News - Banner

www.News-Banner.com

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2023 | BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection | \$1.00

Area legislators present updates on Statehouse

Holdman and Lehman, GOP leaders, give insight into General Assembly actions

By DAVE SCHULTZ
Wells County's two primary state legislators were in Bluffton Saturday morning, leading a one-hour Third House meeting. The events are held during meetings of the General Assembly and give State Sen. Travis Holdman, R-Markle, the majority caucus chair in the Senate, and State Rep. Matt Lehman, R-Berne, the majority floor leader in the House, an opportunity to interact with constituents. It was a fast-

moving meeting as each man had a lot to say, and they also took questions from the floor. Holdman went first, and he particularly wanted to emphasize a two-year project that would, he hoped, get the state to a position where Indiana residents would have to pay "zero individual income tax" within the next three to four years. He referred to the proposal, labeled as Senate Bill 3, which he initiated, as "transformational tax reform." In



Indiana State Rep. Matt Lehman, R-Berne, makes a point during Saturday morning's Third House meeting while State Sen. Travis Holdman, R-Markle, looks on. (Photo by Dave Schultz)

a handout, he said it would create a State and Local Tax Review Committee "to study the feasibility of ending Indiana's income tax and reforming property taxes for Hoosiers." Again, quoting from the handout, Holdman

acknowledged that Indiana's tax climate "consistently ranks among the best in the nation. Senate Republicans want to take a holistic look at our tax structure to ensure we remain competitive in today's economy." Lehman took advantage

of his time to speak on a wide range of topics. They included:
• The next state budget proposal was released Friday. There are a number of things in it — accelerated income tax regulation, putting \$155 million into Hoo-

siers' pockets; a \$2 billion investment in education, that will eliminate the need for parents to pay textbook rental fees; increasing Medicaid funding, and putting money into local mental health. He said the state
(Continued on Page 2)

Fond remembrances, well wishes for Jimmy Carter after entering hospice

By JEFF MARTIN and MAYSOON KHAN
Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Dozens of well-wishers made the pilgrimage Sunday to The Carter Center in Atlanta, as prayers and memories of former President Jimmy Carter's legacy were offered up at his small Baptist church in Plains, Georgia, a day after he entered hospice care. Among those paying homage was his niece, who noted the 39th president's years of service in an emotional address at Maranatha Baptist Church, where Carter taught Sunday school for decades. "I just want to read one of Uncle Jimmy's quotes," Kim Fuller said during the Sunday school morning service, adding: "Oh, this is going to be really hard." She referenced this quote from Carter: "I have one life and one chance to make it count for something. I'm free to choose that something. ... My faith demands that I do whatever I can, wherever I can, whenever I can, for as long as

I can." "Maybe if we think about it, maybe it's time to pass the baton," Fuller said before leading those gathered in prayer. "Who picks it up, I have no clue. I don't know. Because this baton's going to be a really big one." Carter, at age 98 the longest-lived American president, had a recent series of short hospital stays. The Carter Center said in a statement Saturday that he has now "decided to spend his remaining time at home with his family and receive hospice care instead of additional medical intervention." In Atlanta, people, some traveling many miles, made the trip to The Carter Center to reflect on the life of the former president on a spring-like Sunday under a sunny sky. "I brought my sons down here today to pay respect for President Carter and teach them a little bit about how great a humanitarian he was, especially in the later stages of his life," said James Cul-

(Continued on Page 2)

Bird flu drives costs up as outbreak enters second year

By JOSH FUNK
AP Business Writer

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The ongoing bird flu outbreak has cost the government roughly \$661 million and added to consumers' pain at the grocery store after more than 58 million birds were slaughtered to limit the spread of the virus. In addition to the cost of the government response that the USDA tallied up and rising prices for eggs, chicken and turkey, farmers who raise those animals have easily lost more than \$1 billion, said an agricultural economist, though no one has calculated the total cost to the industry yet. The bad news is that with the outbreak entering its second year and the spring migratory season looming, there is no end in sight. And there is little farmers can do beyond the steps they have already taken to try to keep the virus out. Unlike past years, the virus that causes highly pathogenic avian influenza found a way to survive through the heat of last summer, leading to a rise in cases reported in the fall. The outbreak is already more widespread than the last major bird flu outbreak in 2015, but it hasn't proven as costly yet partly because the government and industry applied lessons learned eight years ago. "The past year has been devastating for the turkey industry as we experience,

unequivocally, the worst HPAI (highly pathogenic avian influenza) outbreak in the industry's history," National Turkey Federation spokeswoman Shelby Newman said. In the current outbreak, 58.4 million birds have been slaughtered on more than 300 commercial farms in 47 states. That is because any time the virus is detected, the entire flock on that farm — which can number in the millions — must be killed to limit the spread of the disease. Only Hawaii, Louisiana and West Virginia have yet to report a case of bird flu. Iowa — the nation's biggest egg producer — leads the nation with nearly 16 million birds slaughtered. In 2015, about 50 million chickens and turkeys were slaughtered on more than 200 farms in 15 states. That previous outbreak remains the most expensive animal health disaster in U.S. history. The federal government spent nearly \$1 billion to deal with infected birds, clean up barns and compensate farmers. It cost the industry roughly \$3 billion as farmers incurred additional costs and lost money when they didn't have any birds on their farms. This bills continue to pile up this year as cases spread, and that includes the cost to consumers. Egg prices shot up to \$4.82 a dozen in January from \$1.93 a year earlier, according to the latest government figures. That
(Continued on Page 2)

North Korea fires short-range missiles after making threats

By HYUNG-JIN KIM and KIM TONG-HYUNG
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea fired two short-range ballistic missiles off its eastern coast on Monday in its second weapons test in three days that drew quick condemnation from its rivals. The weapons firings follow an intercontinental ballistic mis-

sile launch Saturday and North Korea's threats to take an unprecedented strong response to U.S.-South Korean military drills that the North views as an invasion rehearsal. Some experts say North Korea could use a new testing spree to expand its arsenal and intends eventually to use its boosted capability as leverage in negotiations the United States. South Korea's military said it

detected the two missile launches from a western coastal town, just north of Pyongyang, the North Korean capital, on Monday morning. Japan said both missiles landed in the waters between the Korean Peninsula and Japan and that no damage involving aircraft and vessels in the area was reported. According to Japanese and South Korean assessments, the North Korean missiles flew at a

maximum altitude of 30-60 miles and a distance of 210-250 miles. South Korea's military said North Korea's repeated missile launches are "a grave provocation" that undermine international peace. Japan condemned the launches as a threat to the peace and safety of Japan and the international society. The U.S. Indo-Pacific Command said the missile launches high-

light "the destabilizing impact" of North Korea's unlawful weapons programs. It said the U.S. commitments to the defense of South Korea and Japan "remain ironclad." North Korea's state media said long-range artillery units on its western coast fired two rounds cross-country toward the eastern waters on Monday morning, possibly referring to the same activity
(Continued on Page 2)

Ukrainian grain shipments drop as ship backups grow

By COURTNEY BONNELL
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The amount of grain leaving Ukraine has dropped even as a U.N.-brokered deal works to keep food flowing to developing nations, with inspections of ships falling to half what they were four months ago and a backlog of vessels growing as

Russia's invasion nears the one-year mark. Ukrainian and some U.S. officials are blaming Russia for slowing down inspections, which Moscow has denied. Less wheat, barley and other grain getting out of Ukraine, dubbed the "breadbasket of the world," raises concerns about the impact to those going

hungry in Africa, the Middle East and parts of Asia — places that rely on affordable food supplies from the Black Sea region. The hurdles come as separate agreements brokered last summer by Turkey and the U.N. to keep supplies moving from the warring nations and reduce soaring food prices are up for renewal next

month. Russia is also a top global supplier of wheat, other grain, sunflower oil and fertilizer, and officials have complained about the holdup in shipping the nutrients critical to crops. Under the deal, food exports from three Ukrainian ports have dropped from 3.7 million metric tons in December to 3 million

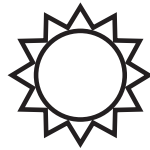
in January, according to the Joint Coordination Center in Istanbul. That's where inspection teams from Russia, Ukraine, the U.N. and Turkey ensure ships carry only agricultural products and no weapons. The drop in supply equates to about a month of food consumption for Kenya and Somalia combined.
(Continued on Page 2)

Inside
Local/Area
Obituaries 3
Indiana News 3

Opinion
Dave Schultz 4

Also...
Sports 6-7
Classifieds 9
Diversions 8

Outside



Mostly sunny today, wind gusts tonight, tomorrow

Today	Tuesday	Wed.
High 49	High 43	High 51
Low 35	Low 32	Low 50


More Weather on Page 2

Online


Follow us on Facebook!
Go to www.facebook.com/newsbanner

Place Your Classified Ads 24/7

Vol. 94 No. 93
MONDAY
February 20, 2023



Do you live with & care for a loved one that is on Medicaid?



Spouses, Parents, Grandparents, & Grandchildren

Call today to find out how you can become their paid caregiver!
260-333-1114

How to contact us:
Call us: **824-0224**
or **1-800-579-7476**
Fax us: **824-0700**
email@news-banner.com

On the Web:
www.news-banner.com

Follow us at:
twitter.com/newsbanner



Updates on Statehouse

(Continued from Page 1)

plans to spend \$1 million on veterans' suicide prevention and removing all income tax requirements from active duty service members.

- More money for the Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative, known as the READI program, which is similar to the Regional Cities Initiative. This time, Lehman said, it would push money into more rural areas, not just the larger metropolitan areas.

- Increase state police pay and also pay for statewide officers' training at the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy.

- Ensure that all funds from the state's gasoline tax goes to roads and bridges. The most recent gas tax increase, Lehman noted, sunsets next year.

Holdman and Lehman both talked

about eliminating sales tax collections on sales by not-for-profit groups. As Holdman put it, "you should have been collecting sales tax on those bratwursts you sell at the Street Fair each year.

Lehman said a bill is moving forward on workforce development, which will include a requirement that students are exposed to a larger spectrum of trades in high school.

A bill that would alter school board elections is coming up on its third reading, and both legislators indicated it is likely to pass. The bill allows local school boards to decide if they want to allow candidates to identify themselves with a political party. Because the school boards would make the decision, and it would not be a state mandate, both legislators said they were likely to vote for it.

Public health was a priority for both Holdman and Lehman, with Holdman

emphasizing SB 4, which would, as he put it in his handout, "modernize Indiana's state and local health departments."

Indiana's creation of tax increment financing districts are getting a review. Instead of 100 percent of the tax revenue generated by development, it's been proposed that a certain percent will be going to schools and/or cities. That can be negotiated now, they said.

When asked about the legalization of marijuana in Indiana, Lehman — wanting to hold to the meeting's one-hour time limit — said "Look at the time." Holdman said the 34 states that have legalized marijuana in violation of federal law. Neither legislator indicated any support for the measure or deemed it likely to pass in Indiana.

daves@news-banner.com

Jimmy Carter enters hospice

(Continued from Page 1)

bertson, who drove an hour to Atlanta from Calhoun, Georgia.

The presidential library was closed in honor of President's Day weekend, but people were still showing up to walk past the fountains and through the gardens.

David Brummett of Frederick County, Maryland, said he changed his Sunday morning plans when he heard news that Carter was in hospice care.

Brummett paused near a large statue of Carter, where someone had placed a potted plant of purple chrysanthemums at the base.

"Great man, great president, probably underappreciated by those who didn't know much about him," Brummett said. "People should come here to appreciate the life, and the contributions he made both during his presidency and after."

Margaret Seitter of Atlanta met Carter in the 1980s, when he spoke about foreign relations in one of her classes at Emory University. Seitter and her friend, Larry Goesser, visiting from Florida, were among those paying their respects at The

Carter Center.

Both said they were inspired by Carter's work with Habitat for Humanity, which he continued by helping to build houses well into his later life.

"Definitely want to go build a Habitat for Humanity house in his honor," Seitter said.

Following Fuller's Sunday school service at Maranatha Baptist Church, Pastor Hugh Deloach offered prayers for the Carter family, particularly for Rosalynn Carter, the wife of the former president.

The Carters have been married for more than 75 years, making American history as the longest-married presidential couple.

"Lord, especially Mrs. Carter, and God look back on times and years that they've been together and Lord just strengthen her in the power of your might as well," the pastor said.

Others took to social media to remember Carter, who served one term after defeating President Gerald Ford in 1976.

President Joe Biden tweeted: "To our friends Jimmy and Rosalynn and to their family — Jill and I are

with you in prayer and send you our love."

"We admire you for the strength and humility you have shown in difficult times. May you continue your journey with grace and dignity, and God grant you peace," Biden wrote.

U.S. Sen. Raphael Warnock, a Georgia Democrat, also took to Twitter to pay homage to Carter: "Across life's seasons, President Jimmy Carter, a man of great faith, has walked with God. In this tender time of transitioning, God is surely walking with him."

"May he, Rosalynn & the entire Carter family be comforted with that peace and surrounded by our love & prayers," Warnock wrote.

The Carters volunteered for decades with Habitat for Humanity, beginning in 1984 and continuing until 2020.

"All of us at Habitat for Humanity are lifting up President and Mrs. Carter in prayer as he enters hospice care," Habitat for Humanity International CEO Jonathan Reckford said in a statement.

"We pray for his comfort and for their peace, and that the Carter family experi-

ences the joy of their relationships with each other and with God in this time," Reckford said.

Nicholas Kristof, a New York Times columnist, tweeted: "Prize winners and truly impressive people. Few are as truly good as Jimmy Carter, who at age 98 is now entering hospice. He leaves this planet so much better than he found it. A great, great, great man."

Carter was a little-known Georgia governor when he began his bid for the presidency ahead of the 1976 election. He went on to defeat Ford, capitalizing as a Washington outsider in the wake of the Vietnam War and the Watergate scandal that drove Richard Nixon from office in 1974.

Carter served a single, tumultuous term and was defeated by Republican Ronald Reagan in 1980, a landslide loss that ultimately paved the way for his decades of global advocacy for democracy, public health and human rights via The Carter Center.

The former president and his wife, Rosalynn, 95, opened the center in 1982. His work there garnered a Nobel Peace Prize in 2002.

North Korea fires missiles

(Continued from Page 1)

its neighbors said were missile launches. The official Korean Central News Agency said the North Korean artillery rounds simulated strikes on targets up to 395 kilometers (245 miles) away.

The North said the launches involved its new 600 millimeter multiple rocket launcher system that could be armed with "tactical" nuclear weapons for battlefield use. Some experts viewed the weapons system as a short-range ballistic missile.

"The frequency of using the Pacific as our firing range depends upon the U.S. forces' action character," Kim Yo Jong, the powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, said in a statement carried by state media. "We are well aware of the movement of U.S. forces' strategic strike means, (which are) recently getting brisk around the Korean Peninsula."

Calling the United States "the worst maniacs," she threatened to take unspecified "corresponding counteraction" in response to the future moves

by the U.S. military.

She could be referring to the U.S. flyover of B-1B long-range, supersonic bombers on Sunday for separate training with South Korea and Japan. The B-1B deployment came as response to North Korea's launch of the Hwasong-15 ICBM off its east coast on Saturday in the country's first missile test since Jan. 1.

North Korea is extremely sensitive to the deployment of B-1B bombers, which can carry a huge payload of conventional weapons.

North Korea's state media said Sunday the ICBM test was meant to further bolster its "fatal" nuclear attack capacity and verify the weapon's reliability and the combat readiness of the country's nuclear force. In her earlier statement Sunday, Kim Yo Jong threatened to take additional powerful steps over upcoming military drills between the United States and South Korea.

North Korea has steadfastly slammed regular South Korea-U.S. military drills as a practice for a north-

ward invasion though the allies say their exercises are defensive in nature. Some observers say North Korea often uses its rivals' drills as a pretext to hone and perfect its weapons systems.

The South Korean and U.S. militaries plan to hold a table-top exercise this week to hone a joint response to a potential use of nuclear weapons by North Korea. The allies are also to conduct another joint computer simulated exercise and field training in March.

Hours after Monday's launches, South Korea's Foreign Ministry said Seoul placed unilateral sanctions on four individuals and five institutions it said were involved in illicit activities supporting the North's nuclear arms development and evasion of sanctions. While South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol's government has so far placed sanctions on 31 individuals and 35 organizations for supporting the North's nuclear ambitions, such steps are seen as mostly symbolic considering the lack of business activities between the rivals.

Ukrainian grain shipments

(Continued from Page 1)

It follows average inspections per day slowing to 5.7 last month and 6 so far this month, down from the peak of 10.6 in October.

That has helped lead to backups in the number of vessels waiting in the waters off Turkey to either be checked or join the Black Sea Grain Initiative. There are 152 ships in line, the JCC said, a 50 percent increase from January.

This month, vessels are waiting an average of 28 days between applying to participate and being inspected, said Ruslan Sakhaudinov, head of Ukraine's delegation to the JCC. That's a week longer

than in January.

Factors like poor weather hindering inspectors' work, demand from shippers to join the initiative, port activity and capacity of vessels also affect shipments.

"I think it will grow to be a problem if the inspections continue to be this slow," said William Osnato, a senior research analyst at agriculture data and analytics firm Gro Intelligence. "In a month or two, you'll realize that's a couple a million tons that didn't come out because it's just going too slowly."

"By creating the bottleneck, you're creating sort of this gap of the flow, but as long as they're getting some out, it's not a total disaster."

U.S. officials such as USAID Administrator Samantha Power and U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Linda Thomas-Greenfield have blamed Russia for the slowdown, saying food supplies to vulnerable nations are being delayed.

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba and Infrastructure Minister Oleksandr Kubrakov said in statement Wednesday on Facebook that Russian inspectors have been "systematically delaying the inspection of vessels."

They accused Moscow of obstructing work under the deal and then "taking advantage of the opportunity of uninterrupted trade shipping from Russian Black Sea

ports."

Osnato also raised the possibility that Russia might be slowing inspections "in order to pick up more business" after harvesting a large wheat crop. Figures from financial data provider Refinitiv show that Russian wheat exports more than doubled to 3.8 million tons last month from January 2022, before the invasion.

Russian wheat shipments were at or near record highs in November, December and January, increasing 24 percent over the same three months a year earlier, according to Refinitiv. It estimated Russia would export 44 million tons of wheat in 2022-2023.

Weather

Monday, February 20, 2023

(24-hour observations at 7:30 p.m. Sunday)

High: 54; Low: 34; Precipitation: None

Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.81 feet at 9:45 p.m. Sunday

Wells County forecast

Today: Partly sunny, with a high near 49. Northwest wind around 5 mph becoming calm.

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 35. South wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to 10 to 15 mph after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 43. West wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Tuesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 32. Northwest wind 5 to 15 mph becoming east in the evening. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

Wednesday: Rain likely, then rain and possibly a thunderstorm after 1 p.m. High near 51. Breezy. Chance of precipitation is 90 percent. New rainfall amounts between a half and three quarters of an inch possible.

Wednesday Night: Rain, mainly before 1 a.m. Low around 50. Breezy. Chance of precipitation is 90 percent.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 67. Windy.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 23. Windy.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 35.

Friday Night: A 30 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 28.

Saturday: A 30 percent chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 49.

Saturday Night: A chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 34.

Bird flu

(Continued from Page 1)

spike prompted calls for a price-gouging investigation although the industry maintains that the combination of bird flu and significantly higher feed, fuel and labor costs is what's driving prices so high.

The price for a pound of chicken breast was \$4.32 in January. That's down slightly from last fall when the price peaked at \$4.75, but it is up significantly from the year before when chicken breasts were selling for \$3.73 per pound.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics doesn't track retail turkey prices the same way as part of its inflation data, but the Agriculture Department says the wholesale price of turkey went from \$1.29 per pound last January just before the bird flu outbreak began to \$1.72 per pound last month.

The number of birds slaughtered peaked last spring at almost 21 million in March, leaving farmers leery of what they must face in the months ahead. University of Georgia virus researcher

David Stallknecht said there is some hope that this spring might not be quite as bad because turkeys and chickens may have developed some immunity to the virus.

The key problem with bird flu is that the highly contagious virus is spread easily by wild birds through their droppings and nasal discharges. Despite the best efforts of farmers, it is hard to keep the virus out.

Farmers have gone to great lengths by requiring workers to shower and change clothes before entering barns, sanitizing trucks that enter a farm and investing in separate sets of tools for every barn. Some farms have even upgraded barn ventilation and installed laser systems to discourage wild birds from congregating.

"We recommend all producers redouble their efforts to protect their birds through good biosecurity practices," said Lyndsay Cole, a spokeswoman for the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service that's leading the government's response.

THINKING OF SELLING?

LET MY
**35 YEARS OF
EXPERIENCE**
WORK FOR YOU!

•ESTATE LIQUIDATION AUCTIONS
•REAL ESTATE
•PERSONAL PROPERTY
•ANTIQUES
•FARM MACHINERY
•FARM GROUND

PAT CARTER
REAL ESTATE BROKER & AUCTIONEER

STEFFEN GROUP
260.273.8294 • STEFFENGRP.COM

AU19500212 - AC30500053

OUTSTANDING ONLINE PERSONAL PROPERTY

AUCTION

2008 SUPERNova 6400 - 2019 F250 BLACK WIDOW - MOWERS - TOOLS

SUN. FEBRUARY 26TH - SUN. MARCH 5TH

PREVIEW LOCATION: 102 S. JEFFERSON STREET, OSSIAN, IN



2008 SuperNova 6400 RV - 2019 Ford Diesel F-250SD - 2006 John Deere - X720 Gas Riding Lawn Mower - 1994 John Deere 750 Diesel Compact Utility Tractor - John Deere Model #35 3pt. Grader Blade - Haul Master 3-pt. Quick Hitch - 2003 Artic Cat 500 4x4 Automatic ATV - Craftsman "Harley Davidson" Stacking Tool Chest - Craftsman 2-pc. Tool Chest - Stihl Chain Saw - Stihl Pole Pruner - Stihl Hedge Trimmer - Delta Job Site Container - Large Assortment of Name Brand Power & Hand Tools



VIEW COMPLETE CATALOG AT STEFFENGRP.COM/PROXBID

SELLER: RICHARD MARTARANO - SALE MANAGER: PAT CARTER (260.273.8294)

AUCTION PREVIEW & ONLINE BIDDING ASSISTANCE:

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD (3:00 - 6:00 PM) & THURSDAY, MARCH 2ND (3:00 - 6:00 PM)

STEFFEN GROUP

REAL ESTATE & AUCTIONS

260.426.0633

STEFFENGRP.COM

AU19500212 - AC30500053

We Serve Various Industries and We Won't Stop Until the Job is Done

Accounting Services
Tax Services

Schedule Your Initial Consultation
Let us know how we can help you or your business.

www.foodycpa.com

FOUDY CPA GROUP, P.C.
Certified Public Accountants

cpa Bluffton: 260-824-1040
Fort Wayne: 260-432-4565

★TROUBLED?
TRY PRAYER!

deweeseappliance.com

DeWeese

SOFTWARE & APPLIANCES
We Service All Appliances

1-800-356-4440 • 231 N. Wayne St., Warren

MAYTAG
WHAT'S INSIDE MATTERS!

260.426.0633

STEFFENGRP.COM

AU19500212 - AC30500053

OBITUARIES

Rebecca "Becky" Jo Schwartz, 70

Rebecca "Becky" Jo Schwartz, 70, of rural Bluffton, passed away Saturday morning, Feb. 18, 2023, at her residence.



Becky was born in Bluffton on Sept. 24, 1952, to Robert and Martha (Heller) Walburn. She married Robert "Bob" S. Schwartz in Bluffton on May 20, 1973; he survives.

A 1970 graduate of Bluffton High School, Becky later graduated from Indiana Purdue University in Fort Wayne with her bachelor's degree in medical technology. She worked as a medical technologist for many years for several area hospitals. She also taught for three years at MedTech College and for a few years at New Life Christian School in Bluffton. Becky also served as a substitute teacher for several years and worked as a bookkeeper for RS Construction and Schwartz Builders.

Becky was one of the founding members of Bethel Church in Bluffton, a past member of Grace Baptist Church in Bluffton, and a current member of Grace Bible Church in Berne. Becky had a servant's heart and enjoyed volunteering with not only her church, but also other organizations like Wells County 4-H and the Indiana State Wrestling Association.

In addition to her husband, Becky is survived by her three sons, Craig (Reese) Schwartz of Soldotna, Ark., Cory (Rachel) Schwartz of Van Wert, Ohio, and Adam (Jessica) Schwartz of Bluffton; three brothers, David (Victoria) Walburn of Fort Wayne, Richard (Victoria) Walburn of Bluffton, and James (Lora) Walburn of Vera Cruz; and a sister, Constance (Michael) Graham of Bluffton. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Catherine, Bryson, Katherine, Jordan, Zekarias, Orion, Allison, Daniel, Evie, Tom, Eli, Lakely, Kai'Ana, Moriah, Eden, Adelina, Ariannah, Arabella, Adelynn, Jenae, Jared, Timothy, Mikel, Michael, and Victoria.

Aside from her parents, Becky was preceded in death by a sister, Carol Timmons.

Visitation will be Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2023, from 3:00 until 8:00 p.m., at Goodwin - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton. Services will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., at the funeral home, with one hour of visitation prior to the service. Pastor Jeff Gaskill will officiate. Burial will follow at Six Mile Cemetery in Bluffton.

To watch the funeral via Facebook Live, a link will be published at the top of Becky's obituary page at www.goodwincaleharnish.com immediately before the service on Wednesday morning.

Memorial contributions may be made to Grace Bible Church in Berne.

Online condolences may be made at www.goodwincaleharnish.com.

Remington A. Johnston, III., 89

Remington "REM" A. Johnston, III., 89 of Fort Wayne and a longtime Bluffton merchant, died Saturday, Feb. 18, 2023, at Parkview Hospital, Randallia, in Fort Wayne.

Funeral arrangements are currently pending with the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.

Marjorie A. Sanders, 70

Marjorie A. Sanders, 70, of Bluffton, passed away on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 19, 2023, at her residence, surrounded by her loving family.

Funeral arrangements are currently pending with the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.

Fred 'Sonny' Trent, 82

Fred "Sonny" Trent, 82 of Bluffton, died on Saturday morning, Feb. 18, 2023, at Ossian Health & Rehabilitation Center.

Funeral arrangements are currently pending with the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.

Man convicted of murdering girlfriend; remains found buried

COLUMBUS, Ind. (AP) — A jury convicted a southern Indiana man of murder Friday in connection with the death of his girlfriend whose remains were found buried in a shallow grave.

A Bartholomew County Circuit Court jury brought in from Shelby County deliberated for about an hour before finding Patrick Doyle, 40, of Columbus, guilty in the August 2021 murder of his live-in girlfriend, 37-year-old Heather Ann Steuver of Columbus.

Steuver's remains were found buried near Columbus, police said.

An autopsy revealed Steuver died of blunt force trauma to her head.

Sentencing was scheduled for March 23.

The jury was brought in from another county because of pre-trial publicity, The Republic reported.

Trial date to be set this summer in Delphi case

By RON WILKINS
Journal and Courier

DELPHI — Carroll County Prosecutor Nicholas McLeland will have two days in June to persuade Special Judge Frances Gull that Richard Allen — the man accused of killing Libby German and Abby Williams in 2017 — should remain jailed while awaiting trial.

Gull — with agreement from McLeland and Richard Allen's attorneys — also vacated Allen's March 20 trial date during Friday's hearing. The new trial date will be set during the June bail hearing.

Gull set aside June 15 — and June 16, if needed — for a bail hearing for Allen.

Prosecutors accuse Allen of forcing the girls off of the trails east of the city near the Monon High Bridge. He is accused of killing the teenage girls about a quarter of a mile east of the bridge on the north bank of the Deer Creek.

Prosecutor will argue to keep Richard Allen in jail before trial

The burden is on the prosecutor to persuade Gull that Allen is more than likely the killer and should remain in jail awaiting trial, according to Indiana law and McLeland's motion filed earlier this week.

In Indiana, every defendant is entitled to a bond set high enough to ensure the defendant's appearance in court. The exceptions are the charges of murder and treason. In those instances, bond may be granted if the state's case is weak.



Richard Allen

Allen's attorneys requested on Feb. 7 that the bail hearing scheduled for Friday be continued, and McLeland did not object to it.

Friday's hearing became a housekeeping hearing, setting dates and outlining what is to come in the next few months. The hearing also pushed the March 20 trial date further into 2023.

Why was Richard Allen's trial delayed in the Delphi murders?

The defense's reason for the delay in the bond hearing is that they have not received all the evidence in discovery, and Allen's attorneys will need time to go through it once everything is turned over to the defense team.

"There's no way practical to have a bond hearing without offering up the discovery," said Brad Rozzi, one of Allen's attorneys, who also noted that they continue to receive discovery documents from the prosecutor.

"I would anticipate we would want to set the bond hearing out to May," Rozzi said during the hearing held over remote links from Gull's courtroom in Fort Wayne, Rozzi's office, defense attorney Andrew Baldwin's office, the Carroll County Superior Courtroom and the Westville Correctional Facility.

Defense says March date for Delphi

Wastewater Bill 180 draws mixed testimony

By LESLIE BONILLA MUÑIZ
Indiana Capital Chronicle

A Senate panel on Thursday approved a bill that would let utility companies ask the state for permission to pass some wastewater infrastructure costs to regular water ratepayers.

"Senate Bill 180... creates a tool for the [Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission] to use as, essentially, a last resort option when all other solutions won't work relative to a distressed wastewater utility," author Sen. Eric Koch, R-Bedford, told his committee.

Under the bill, utility companies that provide both water and wastewater services — if they've acquired wastewater infrastructure and want to fix it up — could ask regulators to let them pin some of the costs on water ratepayers, not just wastewater customers.

Lawmakers first made a smattering of changes before advancing the measure.

A 2016 Indiana University Public Policy Institute report found that the state and local communities will need to spend \$15.6-\$17.5 billion on water and wastewater by 2034, but is on track for a funding gap of \$6.5-\$8.5 billion.

List of guardrails augmented in amendments

Utilities would have to send regulators a list of required items, used in decision-making. Several items were made stricter or were added Thursday in a flurry of amendments.

• The estimated rate hike

on wastewater customers without approval to spread costs more, especially if some customers would need financial assistance to pay the higher bills.

• What 2 percent of total authorized revenues are, so regulators could make sure approval wouldn't inflate revenue beyond that amount.

• A description of the company's efforts to get federal or state grants, low-interest loans or other financial assistance.

• Proof that the company has established an asset management program.

• An estimate of maintenance costs throughout the infrastructure's life cycle.

• Whether the infrastructure was subject to any enforcement orders before it was acquired.

Companies would also have to get a copy of the requests to each interested party on their most recent rate cases — often utility consumer advocates, other utility companies, and so on.

Boosting infrastructure efforts...

Proponents said the bill would help poorer communities struggling to get old infrastructure fixed up, and help growing ones add more capacity to maxed-out systems.

"I regularly field calls from communities who have not been able to address the challenges in their systems and are seeking assistance in a way that will keep the rates affordable and allow the communities to grow," said Justin Schneider. He's director of consumer affairs for Indiana American Water,

a Greenwood-based utility company.

Schneider said the bill had enough controls built in to ensure that utilities wouldn't abuse it, and that no classes of water customers would see their bills explode.

"The longer problems are allowed to go unaddressed, we are increasing the likelihood of more expensive remediation of environmental harm and health issues, with more expensive construction projects," Schneider said.

Residential utility consumer supporters and local government advocates also spoke in support, particularly of the safeguards added in amendments. The Indiana Chamber of Commerce was neutral.

... at a cost

But manufacturers and industrial energy consumer supporters said water customers should not subsidize costs for wastewater customers.

Joe Rompala, who spoke on behalf of Indiana Industrial Energy Consumers, said his group believes rates should be based on how much it costs a utility to provide service.

Another utility company, Aqua Indiana, came out against the bill because only 5 percent of its Hoosier customers are for water — the rest are for wastewater.

This story was provided to the News-Banner by the Hoosier State Press Association's Information Network.

Still Waters
FAMILY DENTISTRY

YOUR SMILE.
OUR PASSION.
EVERY TIME.

Accepting many new insurance plans including Humana and United Healthcare. Always accepting new patients. Please call today to schedule an appointment.

10045 North State Road 1 Ossian, IN 46777

(260)-622-4138
www.stillwatersfamilydentistry.com

FRESH • VARIETY • LOCAL • QUALITY
3095 VAN HORN ST., ZANESVILLE
LOCALLY SUPPLIED • LOCALLY OWNED

Lengerich
MEATS • SPECIALS

260.638.4123
Mon.-Wed. 9-5 • Thur.-Fri. 9-6 • Sat. 8-1
(Subject to change)

Meatloaf Mixture\$5.19/lb.
Frozen Pork Baby Back Ribs.\$5.29/lb.
Frozen Pork Amish Sausage Patties ...\$3.29/lb.
Mozzarella Cheese\$6.29/lb.

Sides of Beef Available at Market Prices
Whole or Half Hog.\$2.99/lb. (dressed weight)

www.lengerichmeats.com PRICES GOOD Feb. 20 - Feb. 25, 2023

ARE YOU READY FOR THE NCAA TOURNAMENT?
Pulled Pork with or without BBQ sauce • Sloppy Joe • Smoked Pork Chops
Meat & Cheese Trays • Roasting Hogs • Homemade Chicken and Ham Salad
CALL IN ADVANCE FOR ALL SPECIAL ORDERS

GET YOUR EASTER HAM

WE HELP YOU GET SOCIAL SECURITY, MEDICARE AND MEDICAID READY!

Jerry Flack & Associates
WE REPRESENT MANY - MANY - MANY INSURANCE COMPANIES
WE HAVE ALL THE MEDICARE AND MEDICAID OPTIONS AVAILABLE

WE HAVE THE MARKETPLACE UNDER 65 PRODUCTS
The Price Tag is the Same Everywhere Consider Local for Better Service

FREE INFORMATION - FREE EDUCATION ON ALL OUR PRODUCTS WE ARE FORMER TEACHERS

WHEN YOU HAVE PROBLEMS AND YOU WILL HAVE PROBLEMS YOU WILL HAVE US TO COUNT ON
MEDICARE SUPPLEMENTS - MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLANS - PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLANS.

Life Insurance - Long Term Care Insurance - Investments - Individual and Small Group Health - Dental - Vision - Hearing - Cancer Insurance

Folks on Medicare A and B and Diabetic can get FREE Nice Looking Diabetic Shoes Every Year from Us | We Do FREE Information/ Education Seminars In Your Business (Again Former Teachers)

WE CAN MEET: IN OUR OFFICE - IN YOUR HOME - IN A FAVORED LOCATION

In the 1882 Building at Main & Market with the mural on the outside wall • 260-824-1618

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

www.news-banner.com or
www.facebook.com/news-banner

A partisan school board? Is that really a good idea?

I'm concerned about a bill making its way through the Indiana General Assembly concerning school board elections.

The bill, as I understand it (and it was discussed in the Third House meeting here in Bluffton Saturday), would allow school boards to identify candidates, and eventually members, to identify by political party. The idea behind that is that it provides more information about a candidate and what he or she would do if and when they take office.

I'm inclined to think that's baloney. There are variances within each political party; not every Democrat and not every Republican thinks alike on all issues. Maybe it would give you a general idea, but even that would be suspect. I remember when Bob Kyle won the mayoral race in our neighboring city of Huntington as a Democrat, and a reporter (not me) asked him how a Democrat could win in what was becoming a ruby red city in terms of its politics. Kyle replied, "I'm a very conservative Democrat."

Also, Bluffton was led by a Democratic mayor, Ted Ellis, for 24 years, and Democrats constituted on majority on the Common Council until Jan. 1, 2020. It's worth noting that the city did not slide into the Wabash River.

Back in the day (Nelson Rockefeller, perhaps?), there were liberal Republicans, but that day is long, long past.

I do not know what would be gained by identifying school board candidates by political party. What I fear is that it would become shorthand for ideological purity. The otherwise uninformed voter could look at the primary ballot and say, "Oh, look. This guy is an R" or "This guy is a D." I would rather they looked at the issues — this is supposed to be about education, after all — and not at any party affiliation.

Besides, an increasing number of people are identifying themselves as independents. Maybe someone would choose to identify as a member of the Libertarian Party, or the Green Party, or something else. What education policies would a member of the Green Party espouse, anyway? I suppose I'll receive an answer.

The proposal in the Statehouse would allow school boards to set their own rules for political affiliation. School board members could keep the current non-partisan setup, should they choose. They could opt for a referendum. They could implement the change on their own.

I realize there is a big-time push on between "us" and "them," depending on how you see things politically. This is a bridge too far.

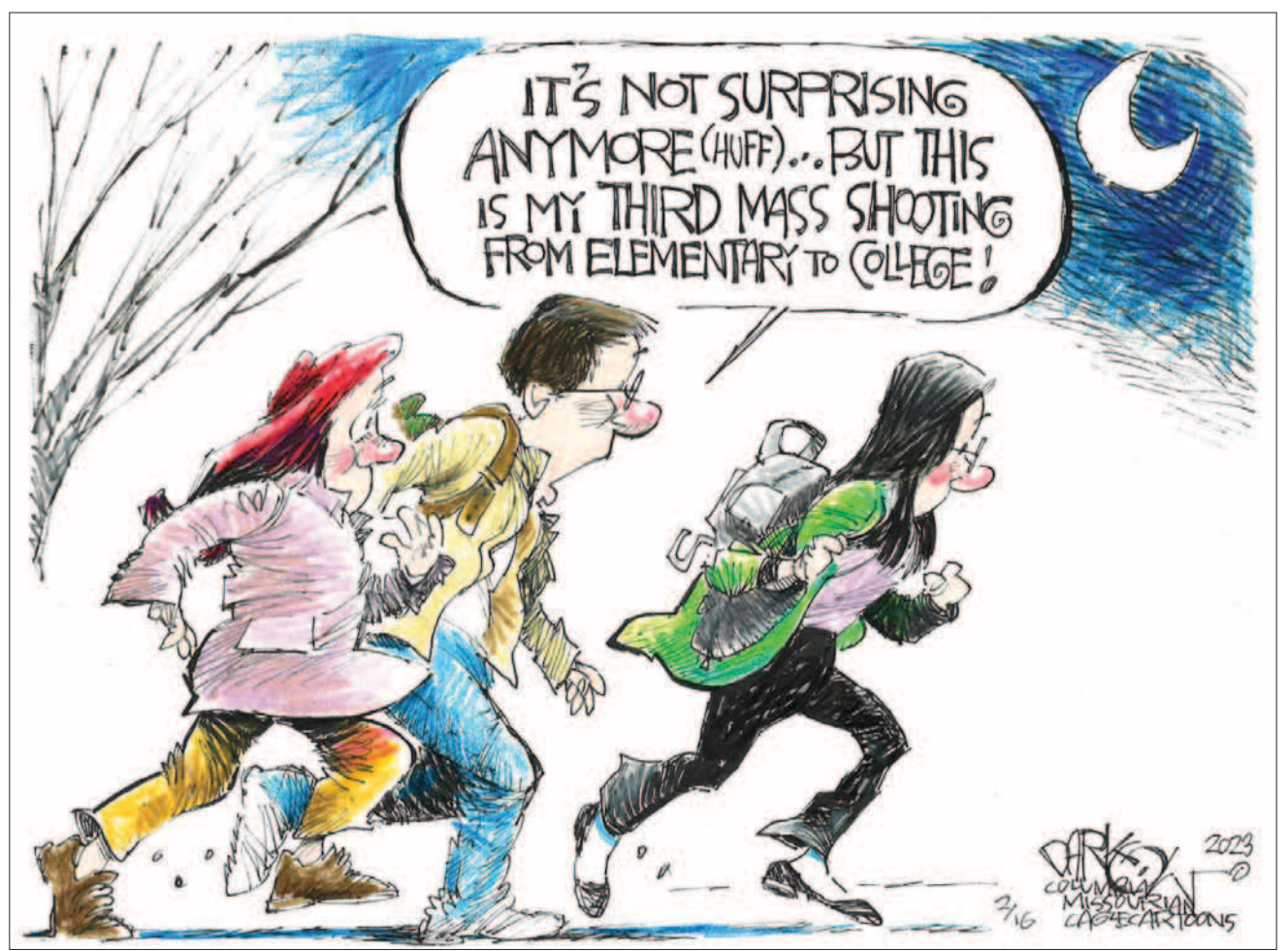
The bill will probably pass the General Assembly. I haven't heard if Gov. Eric Holcomb supports it or not.

If it does become law, I ask kindly, gently, but forcefully, that the local school boards kick the idea to the curb. We shall see.

daves@news-banner.com



Dave Schultz



Armed Hoosier toddlers

The fact that there's been 67 mass shooting events in the United States this year by this date (Feb. 16) is ample evidence that something is going terribly wrong. Things are haywire in American society.

Now, consider this new phenomenon: Armed Hoosier toddlers.

In January, a 4-year-old Beech Grove boy was seen in a shocking live video during the TV show "On Patrol: Live on Reelz" that went viral nationally. According to Marion County court documents, Beech Grove Police found the boy in a diaper in an apartment complex hallway waving around a handgun. The father is facing three felony charges of neglect of a dependent and dangerous control of a firearm.

In early February, a Lafayette 3-year-old shot himself in the leg and was treated at the hospital for minor injuries. WFLI-TV reported that LPD Lt. Mike Brown said there were multiple people were in the house when the shot was fired.

Last November, a 4-year-old Muncie boy shot and killed himself in front of his 2-year-old sister. The boyfriend of the mother, according to Fox59, "routinely left his Glock on a dollhouse inside his girlfriend's home."

On Feb. 9, a 2-year-old Portage girl died after "accidentally" shooting herself. WLS-TV reported: Officials said the initial investigation shows that the child was able to gain access to a family-owned firearm and discharged a single round, striking herself.

In East Chicago a few days later, it was a 14-year-old boy who "accidentally" shot an 11-year-old boy, according to WLS-TV.

WRTV reported in August 2022 that 76 children had been gun violence victims so far that year, 11 of them fatally. In 2021, according to IMPD data, a total of 92 kids were victims of shootings, 12 of them fatally. In 2021, a record 48,000 Americans were killed by firearms, including suicides, homicides and accidents.

On Valentine's Day, the Washington Post's John Woodrow Cox and Steven Rich reported that the total number of children exposed to gun violence at school had risen from 187,000 in 2018 to a staggering 338,000 this year. "By nearly every meaningful measure, 2022 was the worst year of school shootings in history," Cox and Rich continue. "Across 46 acts of violence during school hours, 34 students and adults died while more than 43,000 children were exposed to gunfire at the places they go to learn and grow."

Kate Woodsome, a producer, writer and director, writes in a Washington Post op-ed, "American kids are unwell because American society is unwell. The systems and social media making teenagers sad, angry and afraid today were shaped in part by adults who grew up sad, angry and afraid themselves."

Woodsome cites a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released data from the first Youth Risk

Behavior Survey collected across the United States since the start of the coronavirus pandemic. "It is devastating," Woodsome writes. "Nearly 1 in 3 high school girls reported in 2021 that they had seriously considered suicide."

There is a plethora of reasons for this deep funk, ranging from bullying to social media impacts, but the fact that our kids are stepping on to the school bus and having to take part in "active shooter drills" and knowing, in the back of their minds,

that they may leave school in a body bag is part of our harrowing reality.

At Michigan State University last Monday, a gunman shot and killed three students and critically wounded five others before taking his own life. As tens of thousands of students have endured in recent years, MSU students received the hallmark text of our haywire times: "Run, hide, fight."

The next day, the Indiana House Republicans passed a bill 71-24 that would begin a state-funded handgun training program for teachers. "Sadly, it's something that's necessary for the tragic world we live in today," said Rep. Jim Lucas, R-Seymour.

Sadly, I personally know several teachers, and not one of them believes that arming themselves in the classroom is a good idea. It is a bandage step to a catastrophic epidemic of violence. They are, to a person, thinking of leaving the profession. That's part of the reason we are having a teacher shortage.

"Guns are part of the American way of life," Lucas said. "It's enshrined in our Constitution. It's enshrined in our Bill of Rights."

I want to remind Rep. Lucas that the preamble to the U.S. Constitution reads: "We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

Our leaders and lawmakers are failing us; leaving our students vulnerable and frightened; many of our children exposed and endangered. In a nation awash in guns, they are refusing to take common sense preventative steps to staunch this violence. A society that refuses to protect its children is an endangered one.

U.S. Rep. Elissa Slotkin, whose district includes MSU, said, "I'm filled with rage that we have to have another press conference to talk about our children being killed in their schools. And I would say that you either care about protecting kids or you don't."

The columnist is publisher of Howey Politics Indiana at www.howeypolitics.com. Find him on Facebook and Twitter @hwypol.



Brian Howey

Politicking

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Feb. 21, the 51st day of 2023. There are 314 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Feb. 20, 1962, astronaut John Glenn became the first American to orbit the Earth as he flew aboard Project Mercury's Friendship 7 spacecraft, which circled the globe three times in a flight lasting 4 hours, 55 minutes and 23 seconds before splashing down safely in the Atlantic Ocean 800 miles southeast of Bermuda.

On this date: In 1792, President George Washington signed an act creating the United States Post Office Department.

In 1862, William Wallace Lincoln, the 11-year-old son of President Abraham Lincoln and first lady Mary Todd Lincoln, died at the White House, apparently of typhoid fever.

In 1905, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Jacobson v. Massachusetts*, upheld, 7-2, compulsory vaccination laws intended to protect the public's health.

In 1907, President Theodore Roosevelt signed an immigration act which excluded "idiots, imbeciles, feeble-minded persons, epileptics, insane persons" from being admitted to the United States.

In 1933, Congress proposed the 21st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution to repeal Prohibition.

In 1965, America's Ranger 8 spacecraft crashed on the moon, as planned, after sending back thousands of pictures of the lunar surface.

In 1987, a bomb left by Unabomber Ted Kaczynski exploded behind a computer store in Salt Lake City, seriously injuring store owner Gary Wright.

In 1998, Tara Lipinski of the U.S. won the ladies' figure skating gold medal at the Nagano Olympics; Michelle Kwan won the silver.

In 2003, a fire sparked by pyrotechnics broke out during a concert by the group Great White at The Station nightclub in West Warwick, Rhode Island, killing 100 people and injuring about 200 others.

It's best never to take White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre's word for anything, but we can presumably believe her when she says that the flying objects shot down by the United States in recent days aren't from an alien civilization.

Although she left herself some wiggle room — "there is no indication" of extraterrestrial activity, she said, displaying the weasel-word instincts of someone whose job involves dancing around the truth.

If she's wrong, we are having close encounters of the most unwelcome kind, as our alien visitors learn more than they presumably wanted to know about the business end of the F-22. Poor E.T. is not going to be phoning home, or anywhere else.

The Chinese spy balloon incident appears to have quickly evolved from embarrassing national security failure to national farce. We let a sophisticated Chinese surveillance balloon fly the length of the United States and now, in reaction to that embarrassment, are practically scrambling the jets every time a little girl lets go of her helium balloon at a birthday party.

Maybe the objects we've subsequently shot down were Chinese or Russian and deserved to be taken out with extreme prejudice. Maybe they were stray commercial or research objects that were minding their own business before having a very bad day. Who knows? Certainly, the



Rich Lowry

administration doesn't know, or isn't telling.

You can't really blame the Chinese for spying. That's what all states do, and in the context of Beijing's long-running, highly successful full-spectrum effort to steal every military and industrial secret we have, the spy balloon is small beer.

Nor can you blame them for lying — that's one of their core competencies.

If you believe that the Chinese balloon was an off-course weather device that China simply didn't mention to us once it entered our sovereign territory, well then, you should take to the bank Beijing's assurances that its labs had nothing to do with the emergence of COVID-19.

No, the failure here is ours and ours alone. How can the most sophisticated society in human history lack the capacity to track a primitive aviation technology dating back to the 18th century?

The head of the North American Aerospace Defense Command, known as NORAD, calls it a "domain awareness gap." Radar surveillance filters apparently weren't set to detect objects flying slowly and at unexpected altitudes. Fine. Surveillance and countermeasures are always a cat-and-mouse game of adjustments.

If, as NORAD says, it learned about prior intrusions after the fact from the intelligence agencies, though, why weren't such adjustments made then? Why wasn't this vulnerability discussed in strategic

documents related to China?

Congress must demand answers to these questions.

The administration shows every sign of having wanted to hide the ball, except, in this case, the ball happened to be 200-feet tall. Had private citizens not raised questions about a strange object in the sky two weeks ago, it seems likely the Chinese surveillance balloon would have been allowed to complete its mission without anyone in the U.S. government saying a peep in public about it.

If true, that's an outrage.

One purpose of the brazen Chinese overflight obviously might have been to test President Joe Biden's mettle. He cancelled the scheduled meeting between U.S. Secretary of State Anthony Blinken and President Xi Jinping, which was welcome, but the balloon was taken down after only after hesitation and delay. The new "Top Gun: Maverick" posture toward myriad other unidentified objects seems like an implicit acknowledgment that the first response, when it really mattered, was too slow.

If it takes the balloon to get us to grapple more seriously with the Chinese threat, so be it. But it's not as though that threat is new or has heretofore been hidden — China just surpassed the U.S. in the number of intercontinental ballistic missile launchers it has.

As far as know, we have nothing to fear from little green men. It's the hostile civilization on the other side of the planet that we have to worry about, and balloons are the least of it.

Rich Lowry is on Twitter @RichLowry

The News-Banner

(USPS 059-200)

Evening News est. 1892 • Evening Banner est. 1899 • Consolidated 1929

News-Banner Publications, Inc.

George B. Witwer, Chairman of the Board
Doug Brown, President, Publisher
Dianne Witwer, Secretary/Treasurer

Periodicals Postage Paid at Bluffton, IN 46714. Published every day except Sundays and principal holidays at 125 N. Johnson St., Bluffton IN 46714, Post Office Box 436

David Schultz, Editor
Mark Miller, Opinion Page Editor

Events at the Creative Arts Council of Wells County, 428 S. Oak St. in Bluffton 260-824-5222

www.wellscocreativearts.com
creativeartscouncil@gmail.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/wellscocreativearts

Instagram: @creativeartscouncil
Creative Arts office hours — Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to noon.

Encouraging, presenting and promoting the arts for the benefit of the entire community.

CREATIVE ARTS SUMMER CAMPS

Registration opens March 1 for four summer arts camps sponsored by the Creative Arts Council of Wells County.

- The camps are:
- Theater Intensive “The Wizard of Oz” for youth ages 12-18.
 - Theater Intensive: “Disney’s Winnie the Pooh” for youth ages 8-11.
 - Dance Camp, for ages 4-18.
 - Art Academy, for elementary-school students.

More information can be found at <https://www.wellscocreativearts.com>

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Creative Crew: Tuesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Life Community Church. All forms of creativity are welcome — painting, drawing, needlework, and more. Spend the morning working on your craft and socialize with other artists.



Enter Door 1 or Door 10 at Life Community Church. The creative crew meets in the café.

Readers’ Brown Bag Luncheon: Meeting the last Tuesday of the month at noon at Life Community Church; enter Door 10. All readers are welcome. Call the CAC office for more information.

Important Scheduling Note: Changes can occur after Creative Happenings have been published. Confirm dates and times before planning to participate in programs and activities.

Creative Arts Council activities are supported by memberships, sponsors and grants from funders including Arts United, a regional agency; the Indiana Arts Commission, a state agency; and the National Endowment for the Arts, a national agency.

Zanesville News

by Melba Edwards

The Coffee Cafe is still open to all every weekday morning.

UPWARD basketball is also still happening at the Tower Life Center.

Dear residents, friends, former residents, and history buffs:

Any of you out there that have had family ties in the Zanesville area will be interested to know that we are compiling a “sequel” to the 1976 Zanesville History Book.

Those of you who already have a history in the book will need to update that history for us so we can print it in the new one.

Those of you who didn’t get your families in the book will want to do that now.

Those of you who have moved in the last 50 years will also want to get your family down in history.

Our books are in libraries all over Indiana and the Lafayette Central third graders studied our book for several years in their history class.

I am sending this letter out to the schools in the area in hopes that history teachers will urge some of their students from the Zanesville area to write their histories and submit them.

There is a Zanesville History at the Ossian Library that you can check out if you want to use it for a guideline. In fact, there is one in most libraries.

I will try to put down sort of an outline for you:

Start with your grandfather and grandmother furthest back.

Go ahead with other generations telling some short stories of how they got to Indiana or eventually how you arrived in Indiana.

Tell of achievements, occupations, and any other interesting things that happened in your lifetime or the lifetime of your forefathers.

Hunt up at least one picture that you would like to see on the page with your family history; also bring along any others that we might be interested in.

We ask that you have your article in by December 2023. We would appreciate it if you get it in as soon as possible so we can be working on the book before that deadline. We will have the book ready for sale hopefully July 2024.

If you have a family history in another more recent book just add to it.

If you have any problem writing, please let me know and I will help you out.

Your article need not be typed but if you have a computer please do. If you hand write it be sure to print names.

I am looking forward to reading your new histories.

There is no charge to have your history in the book.

Contact Melba Edwards, Zanesville historian, 11118 So. Co. Line, Box 43, Zanesville, IN 46799, 1-260-638-4327.

The Zanesville Lions held a community meet-

ing on Feb. 13. Everyone was invited but not many came yet. We did get lots of ideas for our “Sesquicentennial Celebration” to be held on Saturday, July 29, at the same time as our annual Lions Club Summer Fun Festival.

Those Lions members present were Steve Keesler, Charles and Melanie Martin, Robin Phillips, Herman and Ann Hans, Steve Whetstone, Melba Edwards, Tom and Cheryl Tracey, and Cheri Robbins Steed. Present representing the Zanesville Council were Barbara O’Connor and John Schuhmacher. Guest was Ilene Schuhmacher.

Melba presented a list of what happened at the 150-year celebration held for three days in 1998. Here were some suggestions: beard contest, karaoke contest, quilt show, pioneer camp, craft/flea market, style show, basketball/volleyball contest, talent contest, clogging, cake decorating, children’s games, memorabilia display, commemorative seal art contest, Little Miss/Mister contest.

We will need lots of volunteers. If you want to help with any of these let me know at 638-4327.

I will also take some suggestions. Already set are lots of activities we have every year for the Fun Festival. We will be having another meeting maybe in early April. I will keep you informed or you can go to the Lions Facebook page.

Taste of Warren slated March 4 at Dogwood Glen golf course

Tickets are going fast for the Taste of Warren fundraising event to be held from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, March 4, at the Dogwood Glen golf course.

Local food and drink establishments offering food will be East of Chicago Pizza, Esmeralda’s 2, Golfo Di Napoli Dairy Caffe, Son-Rise Bakery and the Wagon Wheel Cafe. In addition there will be wine and slushy tasting from Dash 90 Wines.

Entertainment will include the Rylie Lynn Acoustic Trio and Jim Barron’s magic show. Donated items also will be raffled.

Sponsors for the event include Accent Interiors, Bippus State Bank, Bolinger’s Propane Service, Citizens Telephone Corp.,

East of Chicago, Mandy Surfus Realtor/Broker, Smekens Education Solutions, T.D. Wall, Inc, Warren Health & Fitness and Warren Service & Supply.

Tickets are priced at \$50 per person and are available at the Bippus State Bank.

Dogwood Glen Golf Course is located at 763 East 900 South, Warren.

All About Health

Whether or not to have surgery when you’re older; flexitarian diet

QI’m 82 and could benefit from a hip replacement, but a lot of folks, including some of my doctors, say it’s too risky at my age. I would really like to be able to walk without pain. How do I figure out what’s smart to do -- or not do? -- Gerald F., Cleveland

ASo many things that affect the outcome have to be taken into consideration. Most important is your physiologic age or what I call your RealAge. Next is your posse (support system), and then your specific health conditions, the medications you take, your history of reaction to anesthesia, and your ability and willingness to do post-surgical rehab.

Around a million major surgeries are done on folks 65+ every year in this country. (Major surgeries are invasive procedures, done in an operating room, using general anesthesia.) And almost one in seven of those folks die within a year of their operation. General frailty contributes to the risk, as does having previous heart disease or increased susceptibility to infection. Older patients with probable dementia are especially at risk -- a third die within a year. Having emergency surgery triples the risk.

The reasons for these alarming statistics are, as I said, complex. You and your doctors need to take all this into consideration -- and to discuss the remarkable power of physical therapy to ease joint pain and make you better

prepared to sail through surgery if you choose to have it.

Harvard Medical School says “The main component of joint surgery avoidance is strengthening the muscles that support your joints,” and suggests exercises that strengthen gluteal muscles in the buttocks and flexors in the pelvis.

Beyond PT, you can make a huge difference in your surgical risks by rebooting your age at GreatAgeReboot.com. At 80, you can become about 30 years younger than your calendar age and that means your risk of surgery would be 1/27 of that of someone whose RealAge is 80. * * *

QI just read that the Mediterranean, the DASH and something called the Flexitarian diet are the three healthiest choices. What is Flexitarian and is it a smart way to eat? -- Jaclyn E., Des Moines, Iowa

AThe Mediterranean diet centers on eating less animal foods (with an emphasis on healthy fish), more fruits and vegetables, more legumes, more healthy fats like olive oil and having a glass of wine a day. The DASH diet, originally designed to lower elevated blood pressure, is similar to the Med diet with the additional emphasis on low-sodium, unprocessed foods -- and no wine. Research supports the benefits of both of those approaches. They help reduce chronic inflammation and lower your diabetes risk and

boost heart health and gut biome and immune system function, while helping you maintain or achieve a healthy weight.

The Flexitarian diet is a “mostly vegetarian” way to reclaim and hold on to your health. The aim is to increase the number of meat-free days and reduce your saturated fat intake. The animal proteins you do eat occasionally should be more healthful, like salmon and skinless poultry. (Although the original diet said red meats were OK sometimes, I don’t agree.)

One recent study found that the Flexitarian diet nurtures maximal gut microbiome diversity -- and that improves cognition and gives you a more robust resistance to infection and some cancers. Another study found that this mostly vegetarian approach helps lower lousy LDL cholesterol levels and reduces blood pressure.

Just make sure you get enough calcium on this diet by eating plenty of calcium-rich dark leafy greens, almonds, edamame and tofu -- and canned salmon and sardines with bones if you want. If you enjoy dairy, choose reduced or nonfat products.

If this appeals to you and you can stick with it for the long run, I think it’s a good choice. It will help you live younger longer -- but don’t compromise by having red meat, processed meat or egg yolks.

STAG BAR & GRILL SPECIALS

PIZZA BREAD BOWL
Tues., Feb. 21 - Wed., Feb. 22

FISH TACOS
Fri., Feb. 24 - Sat., Feb. 25

205 W. MARKET ST. BLUFFTON, IN
MON-SAT 7AM - 3AM
CLOSED SUNDAY

PRACTICING EXCELLENCE. SETTING THE STANDARD.

Dr. Amy Lai specializes in pediatric and adult diseases of the ear, nose and throat including: sinus and allergy disorders, ear and throat infections, and facial plastic surgery.

Dr. Elizabeth Davis has joined the ENT team and will be providing hearing care services in Wells County.

ENT
Ear, Nose & Throat Associates, P.C.

Ear, Nose and Throat Associates, P.C.
1169 NORTH MAIN ST. • SUITE 5 • BLUFFTON
NEW HOURS: TUESDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS 8:30-4PM
To schedule an appointment, please call:
260-827-4368

www.entfw.com www.thehearingcenter.com

PUT YOUR BUSINESS HERE!

Have your ad be seen by an audience all week long!
CALL FOR DETAILS!

260.824.0224

By Michael Roizen, M.D. and Mehmet Oz, M.D.

Norwell wins 2nd straight swim sectional

By RYAN WALKER

PORTLAND — Norwell dominated the competition Saturday afternoon at Jay County High School in boys' swimming, winning the sectional for the second year in a row and placing first in five of the 11 swimming events.

Shortly after the final event, the team scores were announced one by one, and the Knights, with its undefeated regular season, were in familiar territory — first place. Bluffton also had a solid day in the pool. The Tigersharks ended up in third-place out of 11 schools in attendance and a 263 score.

Last year, Norwell graduated five seniors that helped them win the sectional, three of which competed at the state finals. With that much roster turnover, the team didn't take any of it for granted this year to do it again.

"It feels great," senior Mikey Reidenbach III said after the meet. "I mean, after how much we lost last year at the beginning of the season, it didn't seem like it was going to be likely that we were going to win, but as the season went on, it grew more and more likely as I saw my teammates get better and better. It all accumulated to this right now, and I'm just happy it worked out in our favor."

Shortly after the Knights received the trophy and celebrated near the far end of the pool by the scorer's table, first-year head coach Stephanie Scott was announced as the boys' swim coach of the year.

"I was going to cry. I was surprised," Scott said. "I was very surprised. Honored and surprised."

About five minutes later, her team shoved her into the pool just as they did after winning the Northeast 8 Conference championship.

"It felt good because that's just that final signal that we did it. They did it," she said, soaking wet.

Though the entire team will not be moving on to the state final next week at the Indiana University Natatorium in Indianapolis, five of the individual events will be. To advance to the final stage, an individual event or relay team must win first or meet the cut time listed on the heat sheet with times based on previous state competitors.

Reidenbach will participate in the 50-yard and 100-yard freestyle, and Sam Peterson will be in the 100-yard butterfly.

Norwell's 200-yard and 400-yard freestyle relay teams of Emerson Graft, Rodrigo Segovia, Reidenbach, and Peterson

(Continued on Page 7)



We are the champions

The Norwell Knights' boys' swimming team poses with the sectional championship trophy moments after receiving it Tuesday afternoon at Jay County High School. At left, senior Sam Peterson embraces for a hug with head coach, now coach of the year, Stephanie Scott. Below, Peterson and teammates Reece Lobziger celebrate after placing first and second in the 100-yard butterfly. (Photos by Ryan Walker)



Shooting woes continue as Knights fall to Cadets

By RICK SPRUNGER

Norwell is picking a bad time to go into a team-wide shooting slump.

One night after hitting a woeful 12 of 36 shots in a surprisingly close 36-35 win over a so-so (at best) Jay County team, the Knights were just about as cold in a 62-52 loss to Fort Wayne Concordia Saturday night.

The loss snapped Norwell's 12-game winning streak and left it at 19-3 on the season.

Against the Cadets, Norwell managed just 18-for-51 (.353) accuracy — and that includes an uncontested Lleyton Bailey layup at the final buzzer.

"We obviously didn't shoot the ball well tonight," a baffled Norwell coach Mike McBride said quietly after it was over. "We didn't finish well inside. I don't know if we were rushing things, but we didn't shoot well from outside, either. Even our transition opportunities, we didn't convert."

At least against Jay County, the poor shooting was limited to three-point range. Against Concordia, the Knights weren't hitting from anywhere.

They did connect on five three-pointers in the first quarter in surging to a 17-14 lead, a hint that they had left the previous night's shooting woes in Portland, but it was not to be.

After Luke McBride's second triple of the game with 0:36 left in that opening quarter, they didn't hit another trey until Ashton Federspiel connected from the corner to trim the margin to 56-50 with 0:58 left in the game — almost too late to matter.

In between the two, they missed 10 in a row.

Of course, it wasn't all just poor Norwell shooting.

A pretty good (14-6) Concordia club, and especially Ajani Washington, had plenty to say about who won that game.

Washington, a highly-

recruited 6-2 junior and already a 1,000-point career scorer, dropped 28 on the Knights on 12-for-20 shooting, including four three-pointers.

"Washington had a big game for them," acknowledged McBride later. "He's been struggling lately, but he came out of it tonight. We made some adjustments on him at halftime. We tried to deny him the ball and get extra help on him."

He scored 17 of his points in the first half, including a 15-footer from the lane that gave his team a 30-28 lead at the intermission.

He then added a baseline drive 18 seconds into the second half and a three-pointer moments later that made it 35-29 and ensured that Norwell would be playing catch-up the rest of the night.

Two free throws apiece by Jake Parker and Cohen Bailey narrowed the margin to 35-33, but that was as close to the Cadets as Norwell would come the rest of the game.

It was 46-39 after three quarters, and with Norwell's transition opportunities few and far between and the Knights hitting just one of 10 third-quarter shots from anywhere, that seven-point margin was looking bigger and bigger.

The Cadets successfully kept a half-court tempo by taking care of the basketball (just five turnovers), shooting nearly 50 percent from the field (23-for-48 for .479), and using its size advantage (they go 6-6, 6-5, 6-5, 6-4) to pound Norwell on the glass, 35-29.

The Knights got it down to five for the last time at 48-43 on a Lleyton Bailey shot with 4:18 left.

But Concordia spun off six quick ones to kick it out to 54-43 with 2:28 to play.

Norwell had one last glimmer of hope after that Federspiel three-pointer knocked it down to 56-50 with 0:58 remaining.

After a timeout, Federspiel intercepted Concordia's inbounds pass and got it to Lleyton Bailey on the right wing.

But his shot was off the mark, and McBride's rebound putback rolled off the rim.

"We had two chances in that sequence to get it down to three or four, but we just couldn't take advantage of opportunities," said the elder McBride of an offensive series that summed up Norwell's night in a microcosm.

Luke McBride led Norwell in scoring with 16 points but was an uncharacteristic 5-for-15 from the floor.

Cohen Bailey joined him in double figures with 10, and Parker added nine before fouling out with 0:27 left.

But no one else scored more than six.

Norwell won the reserve contest, 51-46.

Kaedyn Quintanilla and Owen Wallis each scored 14 points for Norwell, while Brady Smith added eight points and Caiden Petrie and Garry Riley two apiece.

Concordia took the freshman game, 45-39, despite 19 points by Noah Schamerloh, seven by Noah Comer, and two apiece by Grant Shelton and Luke Ward.

sports@news-banner.com

CONCORDIA 62, NORWELL 52
FORT WAYNE CONCORDIA (14-6):
 Ajani Washington 12-20 0-0 28, David Speckhard 4-6 3-3 13, Alan Ter Molen 1-4 0-2 2, Joe Tapp 3-8 2-3 8, Cole Hayworth 2-6 1-2 5, Avery Cook 0-2 4-4 4, Grant Hayworth 1-1 0-0 2, Ben Bentz 0-1 0-0 0, TOTAL: 23-48 10-14 62.
NORWELL (19-3): Gavin Hoepfner 2-4 0-0 6, Jake Parker 3-8 2-2 9, Lleyton Bailey 2-7 0-0 4, Luke McBride 5-15 4-5 16, Brody Bolyn 1-5 0-0 2, Luke Graft 0-2 0-0 0, Ashton Federspiel 1-2 2-2 5, Cohen Bailey 4-8 2-4 10, TOTAL: 18-51 10-13 52.
Concordia 14 16 14 18 — 62
Norwell 17 11 9 15 — 52
 Three-point shooting: Concordia 6-18 (Washington 4-9, Speckhard 2-3, Ter Molen 0-3, Tapp 0-1, C. Hayworth 0-2, Bentz 0-1), Norwell 6-21 (Hoepfner 2-4, Parker 1-5, L. Bailey 0-5, McBride 2-6, Federspiel 1-1). Rebounds: Concordia 34 (C. Hayworth 8, Washington 7, Tapp 5), Norwell 29 (Bolyn 5, Graft 5, C. Bailey 5). Turnovers: Concordia 5, Norwell 5. Personal fouls: Concordia 15, Norwell 16. Fouled Out: Parker. Technical fouls: None. Junior Varsity: Norwell 51, Concordia 46. Freshmen: Concordia 45, Norwell 39.



Jake Parker knifes through the Concordia defense trying to cut the deficit in the third quarter. (Photo by Glen Werling)

Indians' late run downs Raiders

By ANDREW FEEBACK

UNION CITY — A shorthanded Southern Wells team battled hard for much of the game before running out of gas late, falling to the host Union City Indians 57-45 Saturday night.

The Raiders (5-14) faced an uphill battle with Chandler Oswalt and Quinton Mullins not in the lineup. They fell behind by 11 points early, rallied to take a brief lead late in the third quarter, then saw the Indians (4-17) surge back in front.

"Honestly, they made shots," coach Joel Roush said. "I didn't think we gave up a bunch of easy looks. I didn't think we were bad defensively. I thought they just started to make a few."

Union City made 9 of 16 from beyond the arc, four of those coming after the Raiders had taken their only lead of the game.

A poor start to the game put the Raiders in a bind right out of the gate. The Indi-

ans raced out to an 11-2 lead, which soon became 15-4 due to the hot shooting of point guard Angel Nieto.

The Raiders outscored the Indians 10-4 in the second quarter to work their way back and tied the game twice early in the second half.

A jump shot from Andrew Aker gave Southern Wells a 31-29 lead with under a minute left in the third. That was the Raiders' first and only lead of the night.

It lasted all of 15 seconds before the Indians' Conner Walser knocked down a 3-pointer to put Union City back in front. The Indians got it back after a Raider miss, and just when it looked like they would struggle to get a shot off in time, Walser hit another one as the buzzer sounded to put Union City up 35-31.

The Raiders found themselves down 40-32 after Trendon Spence made a triple.

(Continued on Page 7)

JC's
GARAGE DOOR
Sales & Service

AUTHORIZED DEALER

- Replace Broken Springs and Cables on All Makes
- Replace or Repair Doors and Openers on All Makes
- Residential & Commercial

James Fisher - Owner
 Carl Fisher - Sales
 Serving Surrounding Counties
Bluffton
824-3262

News-Banner Scoreboard

BASKETBALL

High School

Saturday Boys' Scores

Angola 77, W. Noble 71, OT
Benton Central 60, Seeger 56
Chesterton 79, Boone Grove 44
Christian Academy 72, Cannelton 34
Clinton Prairie 62, Tri-County 41
Cloverdale 65, Eminence 44
Columbus North 70, Franklin 58, 2OT
Connersville 53, Lawrenceburg 37
Covenant Christian (DeMotte) 70, Frontier 61
Covington 55, S. Vermillion 50
Cowan 63, Elwood 52
Culver Academy 63, Maconaquah 52
E. Chicago Central 63, Morgan Twp. 56
Evansville Harrison 67, Terre Haute North 56
Ft. Wayne Concordia 62, Norwell 52
Ft. Wayne Luers 58, Bellmont 51
Greenfield 60, Martinsville 47
Greensburg 53, S. Ripley 47
Hagerstown 67, Knightstown 44
Hammond Science and Tech 63, Attica 52
Hanover Central 65, Kankakee Valley 31
Henryville 58, Crothersville 25
Heritage 54, Ft. Wayne Canterbury 49
Indpls Lutheran 57, Monrovia 35
Indpls N. Central 74, Carroll (Ft. Wayne) 62
Indpls Seccia 62, Speedway 58
Jennings Co. 76, Bloomington South 50
Knox 62, S. Central (Union Mills) 41
LaPorte LaLumiere 75, Homeschool Resource Center, Ill. 60
Lafayette Harrison 78, Hammond Morton 52
Lanesville 45, Crawford Co. 21
Lawrence Central 66, Indpls Tindley 63
Lawrence North 92, Ft. Wayne South 46
Linton 85, Indpls Metro 64
Lou. Male, Ky. 69, Indpls Cathedral 62
Madison Shawe 57, Union (Dugger) 42
Madison-Grant 67, Eastern (Green-town) 54
Marion 62, Huntington North 65
Merrillville 75, Hobart 41
Mississinewa 61, Bluffton 41
N. Daviess 78, Edinburg 34
N. Judson 64, Hebron 56
N. Posey 81, Tell City 30
N. Putnam 55, Riverton Parke 45
New Palestine 66, Whiteland 50
Noblesville 74, Evansville Christian 53
Paoli 54, Eastern (Greene) 33
Peru 80, Argos 63
Pike Central 89, Brown Co. 35
Pioneer 55, N. White 41
Plainfield 62, McCutcheon 44
Princeton 52, Mt. Vernon (Posey) 35
Rossville 64, Faith Christian 56
Rushville 48, Oldenburg 46
S. Adams 58, Ft. Wayne Smith Acad-emy 31
S. Central (Elizabeth) 70, Springs Valley 48
S. Decatur 56, Hauser 48
S. Newton 47, N. Miami 46, 2OT
Sheridan 42, Western Boone 41
Silver Creek 63, Providence 49
Southridge 61, Barr-Reeve 55
Southwestern (Hanover) 81, Scotts- burg 71
Tecumseh 66, Perry Central 47
Union City 57, Southern Wells 45
University 67, Decatur Central 66
W. Lafayette 59, Lebanon 57

W. Vigo 43, N. Central (Farmersburg) 33
Wapahani 54, Yorktown 46
Whitko 59, Churubusco 35
Zionsville 58, Indpls Tech 44

College

Sunday, Feb. 19

EAST

George Washington 83, St. Bonaven- ture 81, OT
Iona 73, St. Peter's 53
Manhattan 73, Fairfield 72
Marist 61, Niagara 52
Mount St. Mary's 75, Canisius 74
Quinnipiac 90, Rider 88, 2OT
Temple 76, Tulsa 53

SOUTH

Cincinnati 73, UCF 71
Furman 83, ETSU 79
NC State 77, North Carolina 69

MIDWEST

Bellarmino 68, Cent. Arkansas 67
Bradley 50, S. Illinois 48
Case Western 76, Chicago 67
Cleveland St. 64, N. Kentucky 63
Detroit 81, IUPUI 68
Drake 70, Belmont 56
Fort Wayne 77, Wright St. 75
Georgetown 68, Butler 62
Ill.-Chicago 74, Valparaiso 73
Nebraska 70, Maryland 66, OT
Northwestern 80, Iowa 60
Purdue 82, Ohio St. 55
Washington (Mo.) 81, Carnegie Mel- ion 57

SOUTHWEST

Houston 72, Memphis 64
SMU 86, East Carolina 70

FAR WEST

Chicago St. 75, Hartford 53
Washington St. 68, Oregon 65

Saturday, Feb. 18

EAST

Army 53, Lafayette 43
Boston U. 77, Bucknell 61
CCSU 94, Stonehill 90, 3OT
Colgate 96, Holy Cross 73
Columbia 71, Dartmouth 65
Creighton 77, St. John's 67
Delaware 75, UNC-Wilmington 66
Duke 77, Syracuse 55
Elon 75, Monmouth (NJ) 68
Fairleigh Dickinson 66, Wagner 48
Harvard 73, Cornell 56
Hofstra 68, Stony Brook 65
Howard 80, Coppin St. 70
Lehigh 62, American 59
Maine 74, Albany (NY) 72
Marshall 88, Troy 78
Mass.-Lowell 84, Binghamton 70
Md.-Eastern Shore 78, SC State 62
Merrimack 67, Sacred Heart 55
NC Central 66, Delaware St. 58
NY 65, Loyola (Md.) 53
New Hampshire 75, UMBC 66
Northeastern 69, William & Mary 57
Penn 90, Brown 69
Providence 85, Villanova 72
Robert Morris 80, Milwaukee 60
St. Francis (Pa.) 93, LIU 82
Texas Tech 78, West Virginia 72
Towson 87, NC A&T 75
UConn 64, Seton Hall 55
UMass 69, Rhode Island 45
Vermont 82, NJIT 80, OT
Yale 93, Princeton 83, OT

SOUTH

Alabama 108, Georgia 59
Alabama A&M 90, Bethune-Cookman 56
Alcorn St. 75, Jackson St. 60
Austin Peay 73, North Florida 71
Boston College 75, Florida St. 69
Campbell 74, Presbyterian 57
Charlotti 74, Louisiana Tech 67

Davidson 76, Saint Joseph's 75
Florida A&M 60, Alabama St. 54
George Mason 70, La Salle 66
Georgia Tech 79, Florida Tech 66
Hampton 75, Drexel 72
High Point 81, SC-Upstate 66
James Madison 74, Louisiana-Lafay- ette 68
Kentucky 66, Tennessee 54
Liberty 79, Jacksonville St. 55
Lipscomb 62, Jacksonville 59
Longwood 73, Radford 63
Louisville 83, Clemson 73
Miami 96, Wake Forest 87
Middle Tennessee 69, FIU 58
Mississippi St. 69, Mississippi 61, OT
Morehead St. 71, Lindenwood (Mo.) 58

Murray St. 74, Evansville 58
New Orleans 68, Northwestern St. 65
Nicholls 84, Incarnate Word 74
Norfolk St. 72, Morgan St. 50
North Alabama 98, E. Kentucky 93, OT
OT Dominio 74, Appalachian St. 63
Queens (NC) 83, Kennesaw St. 76
Samford 96, VMI 61
South Alabama 81, Louisiana-Monroe 45
South Carolina 82, LSU 73
Southern Miss. 73, Georgia Southern 62
Stetson 88, Florida Gulf Coast 84
Tennessee St. 100, SIU-Edwardsville 85
Texas A&M-CC 77, McNeese St. 54
Texas St. 78, Coastal Carolina 75
Tulane 84, South Florida 66
UNC-Asheville 75, Gardner-Webb 63
UNC-Greensboro 93, Chattanooga 76
UT Martin 100, Tennessee Tech 91
VCU 80, Fordham 61
Vanderbilt 67, Auburn 65
Virginia 57, Notre Dame 55
Virginia Tech 79, Pittsburgh 72
W. Carolina 71, Mercer 68
Winthrop 75, Charleston Southern 67
Wofford 72, The Citadel 68

MIDWEST

Akron 86, Buffalo 66
Ashland 80, Hillsdale 67
Augsburg 78, Macalester 75
Benedictine (Ill.) 88, Aurora 83
Bethany Lutheran 80, North Central 71
Blackburn 79, Principia 73
Calvin 77, Albion 58
Capital 80, Baldwin Wallace 67
Carleton 90, St. Scholastica 70
Carroll (Wis.) 81, Millikin 80, OT
Carthage 69, Illinois Wesleyan 67
Cent. Oklahoma 67, Northeastern St. 52
Central College 76, Simpson 74
Coe 70, Nebraska Wesleyan 63
Concordia (Moor.) 68, Hamline 65
Cornell (Iowa) 63, Beloit 56
Denison 72, Kenyon 60
Emporia St. 72, Lincoln (Mo.) 66
Eureka 76, Spalding 68
Ferris St. 72, Lake Superior St. 58
Findlay 70, Cedarville 62
Finlandia 82, Maranatha Baptist 65
Fontbonne 135, Greenville 96
Fort Hays St. 84, Missouri Southern 70
Fort Lewis 80, S.D. Mines 69
Grand Valley St. 71, Wayne St. (Mich.) 67
Heidelberg 92, Marietta 80
Hope 77, Kalamazoo 62
Huntington 95, Goshen 72
Ill.-Springfield 73, William Jewell 65
Illinois College 86, Lawrence 67
Indiana 71, Illinois 68
Indiana St. 80, Illinois St. 64
Indianapolis 86, Southwest Baptist 79
John Carroll 85, Wilmington (Ohio) 72

Kansas 87, Baylor 71
Kansas St. 61, Iowa St. 55
Lake Forest 121, Grinnell 120, OT
Lakeland 107, Concordia (Wis.) 92
Loras 84, Wartburg 77
Maryville (Mo.) 78, Missouri S&T 42
McKendree 79, Drury 64
Michigan 84, Michigan St. 72
Minn. Duluth 87, Bemidji St. 53
Minn. St. (Moorhead) 86, Mary 76
Minn.-Morris 74, Northland 70
Mount Union 88, Otterbein 76
N. Iowa 69, Missouri St. 66
N. Michigan 84, Purdue-Northwest 78
NW Missouri St. 68, Missouri West- ern 59
North Park 73, Augustana (Ill.) 65
Northern St. 74, Minot St. 71
Northwestern (Minn.) 84, Martin Luther 49
Ohio 76, Cent. Michigan 59
Ohio Dominican 69, Northwood (Mich.) 64
Ohio Northern 62, Muskingum 50
Ohio Wesleyan 88, Hiram 74
Olivet 88, Alma 85, OT
Oral Roberts 74, N. Dakota St. 66
Penn St. 76, Minnesota 69
Pittsburg St. 93, Neb.-Kearney 85
Quincy 83, Truman St. 75
Ripon 65, Knox 53
Rockford 66, Illinois Tech 62
Rockhurst 69, Lewis 66
Rogers St. 88, Newman 81
Rutgers 58, Wisconsin 57
S. Dakota St. 91, Omaha 70
SE Missouri 85, S. Indiana 80
SW Minnesota 67, Wayne St. (Neb.) 54
Saginaw Valley St. 95, Davenport 90
Saint Louis 90, Duquesne 85
Sioux Falls 61, Augustana (SD) 60
St. Cloud St. 90, Minn.-Crookston 64
St. John's (Minn.) 81, Bethel (Minn.) 52
St. Mary's (Minn.) 77, Gustavus Adol- phus 69

St. Norbert 86, Edgewood 66
St. Thomas (MN) 82, W. Illinois 69
Texas A&M 69, Missouri 60
Tiffin 81, Bowling Green 86
Toledo 91, Lake Erie 74
Trine 86, Adrian 48
Upper Iowa 86, Minnesota St. 84
W. Michigan 78, Ball St. 68
Washburn 65, Cent. Missouri 53
Webster 94, Westminster (Mo.) 59
Wheaton College (Ill.) 77, Elmhurst 70
Winona St. 81, Concordia (St.P.) 77
Wis. Lutheran 90, Milwaukee Engi- neering 71
Wis.-Parkside 76, Michigan Tech 58
Wis.-Superior 72, Crown (Minn.) 61
Wittenberg 72, Oberlin 63
Wooster 75, Wabash 74
Xavier 82, DePaul 68
Youngstown St. 95, Green Bay 65

SOUTHWEST
Arkansas 64, Florida 65
Arkansas St. 75, Georgia St. 70
Houston Christian 93, Lamar 74
North Texas 80, UTEP 72, OT
Prairie View 82, Ark.-Pine Bluff 71
Rice 83, W. Kentucky 77
SE Louisiana 78, Texas A&M Com- merce 76, OT
Sam Houston St. 64, Tarleton St. 59
TCU 100, Oklahoma St. 75
Texas 85, Oklahoma 83, OT
Texas Southern 80, MVSU 62
Texas-Arlington 75, Stephen F. Austin 70
UAB 83, UTSA 78
UALR 81, E. Illinois 77, OT
FAR WEST
Arizona 78, Colorado 68
Arizona St. 67, Utah 59

Cal St.-Fullerton 83, Cal Poly 62
Colorado St. 60, Fresno St. 57
Denver 86, South Dakota 68
E. Washington 89, N. Colorado 77
Gonzaga 97, Pepperdine 88
Grambling St. 69, Southern U. 64, OT
Hawaii 70, Long Beach St. 67
Loyola Marymount 90, Pacific 88
Montana St. 72, Montana 68
N. Arizona 72, Idaho 50
North Dakota 81, UMKC 73
Sacramento St. 70, Idaho St. 65
Saint Mary's (Cal.) 71, BYU 65
Santa Clara 103, Portland 84
Southern Cal 85, Stanford 75
Texas Rio Grande Valley 2, New Mexico St. 0
UC Irvine 78, UC Davis 76
UC Riverside 74, UC Santa Barbara 63
UC San Diego 75, CS Northridge 62
UCLA 78, California 43
Utah St. 75, Nevada 66
Utah Valley St. 67, Seattle 58
Washington 61, Oregon St. 47
Weber St. 65, Portland St. 57

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	57	30	15	12	72185	148
Winnipeg	56	34	21	1	69177	147
Colorado	55	31	19	5	67173	155
Minnesota	56	30	21	5	65167	161
Nashville	54	26	22	6	58152	163
St. Louis	56	26	27	3	55175	205
Arizona	57	20	28	9	49155	199
Chicago	55	18	32	5	41136	201

Pacific Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vegas	56	34	18	4	72184	157
Los Angeles	57	32	18	7	71196	193
Seattle	56	32	18	6	70197	174
Edmonton	57	30	19	8	68214	192
Calgary	56	26	19	11	63180	173
Vancouver	56	22	30	4	48192	229
San Jose	57	17	29	11	45170	213
Anaheim	56	17	33	6	40141	236

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Saturday's Games

Colorado 4, St. Louis 1
Nashville 7, Florida 3
Boston 6, N.Y. Islanders 2
New Jersey 5, Pittsburgh 2
Columbus 4, Dallas 1
Toronto 5, Montreal 1
Carolina 4, Washington 1
Calgary 3, N.Y. Rangers 2, OT
Vancouver 6, Philadelphia 2
Seattle 4, Detroit 2
Vegas 5, Tampa Bay 4
Buffalo 4, San Jose 2
Los Angeles 6, Arizona 5, SO

Sunday's Games

Minnesota 4, Nashville 3
Ottawa 7, St. Louis 2
Colorado 6, Edmonton 5, OT
Chicago 5, Toronto 3
New Jersey 4, Winnipeg 2
Arizona 3, Columbus 2, OT
Monday's Games
Anaheim at Florida, 1 p.m.
Ottawa at Boston, 1 p.m.
Philadelphia at Calgary, 4 p.m.
Seattle at San Jose, 4 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Winnipeg at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Tuesday's Games
Anaheim at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Washington, 7 p.m.
Montreal at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
St. Louis at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.
Los Angeles at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Vancouver at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Vegas at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
Wednesday's Games
Winnipeg at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Washington at Arizona, 9:30 p.m.
Chicago at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.

NBA

Saturday's Games

No games scheduled.

Sunday's Games

2023 All-Star Game
Team 184, Team 175

Monday's Games

No games scheduled.

Tuesday's Games

No games scheduled.

Wednesday's Games

No games scheduled.

HOCKEY

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	55	42	8	5	89207	117
Toronto	57	34	15	8	76194	153
Tampa Bay	55	35	17	3	73195	162
Florida	59	28	25	6	62205	207
Buffalo	54	28	22	4	60201	187
Detroit	55	26	21	8	60172	179
Ottawa	55	27	24	4	58171	176
Montreal	56	23	29	4	50151	205

Metropolitan Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Carolina	55	37	10	8	82188	147
New Jersey	56	37	14	5	79195	149
N.Y. Rangers	56	33	14	9	75191	152
Pittsburgh	55	27	19	9	63178	174
N.Y. Islanders	59	28	24	7	63171	168
Washington	58	24	6	6	62175	170
Philadelphia	57	22	25	10	54153	183
Columbus	57	18	34	5	41146	212

High School Calendar

MONDAY, Feb. 20

No events scheduled.

TUESDAY, Feb. 21

BOYS BASKETBALL: Wes-

Del at Southern Wells, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 22

No events scheduled.

THURSDAY, Feb. 23

No events scheduled.

FRIDAY, Feb. 24

BOYS BASKETBALL:

Homestead at Norwell, 7:45 p.m.; Bluffton at Southwood, 7:30 p.m.; Southern Wells at Cowan, 7:30 p.m.

SWIM & DIVE: (state preliminaries): Norwell at IU Natatorium, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, Feb. 25

No events scheduled.

MONDAY, Feb. 27

No events scheduled.

Norwell swim champs

(Continued from Page 6)

round out the list.

“Over my four years in high school, I’ve never been able to compete individually until this year,” Reidenbach said, who went to state last year on the 200-yard medley relay team. “And I think that having the fact that I’m a senior just out pushed me at practice every day and helped me be a leader, and that kind of just wore on me a little bit and worked on me. Yeah, I’m just really excited that I get to go individually.”

For the second-straight year, Bluffton placed third at the sectional but dis-

tanced themselves again on the team score from fourth place. Despite not having a first-place finisher or qualifier for the state final, the Tigersharks are showing they belong competing with the top schools every year at the sectional level while separating themselves from the rest of the field.

“We did well,” head coach Justin Upgraft said. “We had a good couple of days. Finished third. Anytime you finish on the podium, it’s a good time. It’s kind of our tradition finishing in that third spot.”

Admittedly, Upgraft said that his team this season

“exceeded his expectations by far.” The 2021-22 team, like Norwell, graduated a fair amount of seniors and even sent one to the state finals, but that didn’t stop the team from motivating itself.

Right at the beginning of the year, Upgraft said he was looking for leadership on the team, someone to step up and take charge. What he got in return was an entire group leading one another and was one of his tightly-knit groups in his fifth year at the helm.

Swimmers were motivated in practice, spending time with one another in and out of the pool, and that bond

has already started to turn its attention over to the offseason.

“They’re already talking about what they’re going to do in the offseason, getting involved in club swim and being in the water. That comes with them, so I can’t take credit for that. That’s a testament to these guys and how hungry they are and wanting to succeed.”

The five individual events for Norwell heading to the state final will start at 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24, for preliminary rounds, and the finals will begin at 1 p.m. the following day.

sports@news-banner.com

IHSAA releases boys’ sectional pairings

By RYAN WALKER

It’s that time of year again, that late February basketball Hoosier Hysteria for the 2023 boys’ state tournament.

Sunday night at 5 p.m., the IHSAA hosted its annual pairings show announcing each sectional field that includes the day, time, and opponent each school is seeking information for. The tournament is set to begin on Tuesday, Feb. 28.

Here are the results for all three Wells County schools.

Norwell (19-3): In the

Peru sectional 23 in Class 3A, the Knights drew Northwestern (8-9) and will play at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 1. Other schools in the drawing include Peru vs. Mississinewa, Maconaquah vs

Is my online romance going anywhere?

Dear Annie: I am in contact with this guy who is 52 years old, and I am 58. I have never actually met him; he said he was planning to visit me, but when he arrived at the airport to fly to see me, he realized he needed more money for his flight. I told him to go home and said we can meet another time.

Then he told me he had to go to France for work, and we talked when he was there. After he returned to the States, it seemed that things had changed, that he was more serious about me.

I told him I was coming to visit him, and I spent Christmas in the town where he lives, but he ended up getting COVID and was not allowed to have visitors because he was in quarantine. So I came home. And now we talk, but not a lot.

However, after he saw how much I cared for him, he said he would visit me for two weeks with his "team-mates," and I'm not sure what that means. I really want to believe him but don't know anymore.

I've tried to quit talking to him, and it's not working. He says he loves me so much. But I don't know what to believe. — Relationship Question

Dear Relationship: How can he love you so much if he has never met you? If it walks like a duck and talks like a duck, then it probably is a duck. In other words, it sounds like this relationship is not going anywhere.

Dear Annie: Over the years, I have seen letters in your column dealing with the question of what gifts to buy for people who have it all, and I wanted to share my thoughts in case any of your readers find them helpful.

Like many seniors, I don't need much. At 73, I don't have as much energy as I used to, but I still enjoy a

plate of homemade cookies, banana or pumpkin bread, fudge or pies, all kinds of pies. My favorites are packed in small sizes so I can eat some now and freeze some for another week. Even a small caserole or two of comfort food like lasagna, meatloaf, or tuna and noodles goes a long way to help out.

There are so many things I enjoy but don't take the time to make for myself anymore.

It might be a cliché, but some tasty smoked cheese, salami and crackers or bagel chips to munch on — those would be great gifts, so yummy when sitting home on a chilly winter night. They are things I don't buy for myself. Mini bottles of wine, perhaps, so I don't have to open and spoil a large bottle, are always appreciated. — Homemade is Best

Dear Homemade: Thank you for sharing your gift giving suggestions. I have no doubt they will come in handy for many readers who want to do something special for friends or loved ones. Your gifts sound delicious.

"How Can I Forgive My Cheating Partner?" is out now! Annie Lane's second anthology — featuring favorite columns on marriage, infidelity, communication and reconciliation — is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit <http://www.creatorspublishing.com> for more information. Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

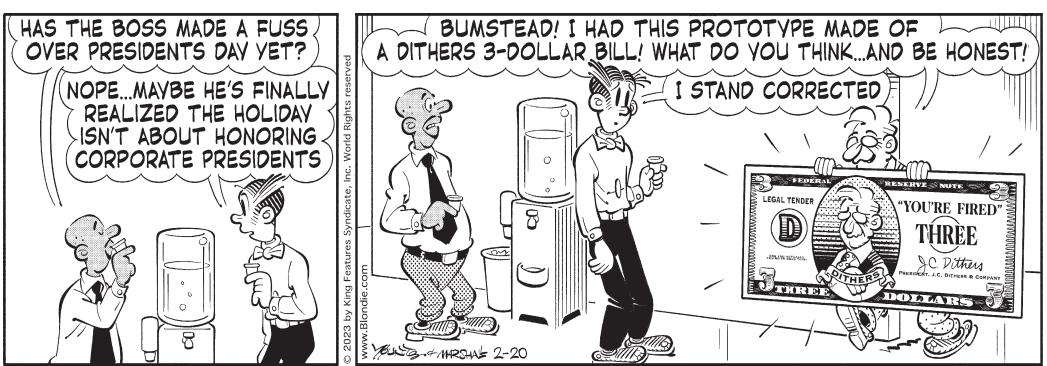
© 2023 CREATORS.COM



BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



ZITS



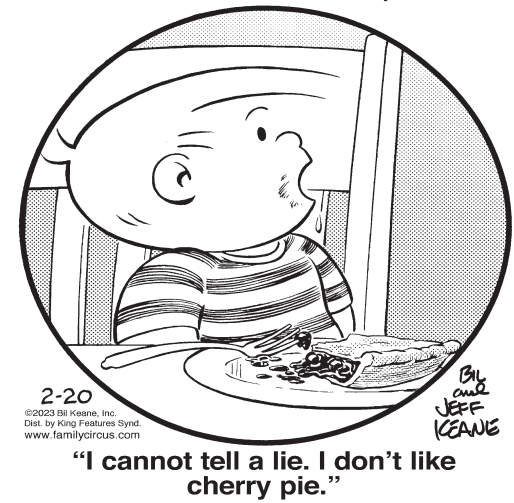
CRANKSHAFT



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

The LOCKHORNS



My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



Science cannot change man's basic nature

"new man." From this, it's clear that they acknowledge that man, as he is, is not good enough. So they look for the arrival of the new man who, they say, will come into being when society has been changed so that a new environment can produce him.

We live in a revolutionary, changing world. Man's moral capacities lag far behind his technological skills and discoveries. The greatest need in the world is to bring about the transformation of human nature, something man cannot do. There are technocrats who believe that technology is now advancing so rapidly that mankind will be able to create an entirely new human race. Some genetic engineers believe that they will be

able to create any type of person they want. The Bible states, "Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light" (2 Corinthians 11:14).

Science cannot change man's basic nature. The only One who can recreate us is God. And that is precisely what He does when we humble ourselves and submit to His Son, Jesus Christ. The Bible says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17). What a tremendous truth.

(This column is based on the words and writings of the late Rev. Billy Graham.)

©2023 Billy Graham Literary Trust. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

Q: Hollywood has taken to using a form of artificial intelligence praising the cutting-edge technology called "deep fake, a form of synthetic media. It manipulates an existing image with someone else's likeness that easily deceives. This is scary stuff. Some claim that eventually it will enable science to create what they call "non-existent people" to use as weapons. I wonder if this is what the Bible means in Job 15:35, "They conceive trouble and give birth to evil; their womb fashions deceit." — D.F.

A: Many of our technologists are saying there is a great need for a new breed of man. Even the political radicals and the humanists talk about the

02/20	M	A	D1	D2	5 PM	5:30	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM	12:30
WINM (12)	11	26	63		3D Woman	Julie & Friends	Unapologetic-6	Movie			TCI Today	News-watch	Prop. Com James Robison		Dr. Robert Jeffress	Creflo Dollar	Andrew Womack	Ask the Pastor		Rabbi Lapin
CBS WANE (15)	2	2	15	15	News (N)	Inside Edition (N)	News at 6 (N)	CBS News (N)	Wheel of Fortune (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	Neighbor	Bob Hearts Abishola	NCIS: The Good Doctor		NCIS: Hawaii 5.0	Primal Fear	Nightcap (N)	The Late Show With Stephen Colbert		(3:35) James Corden
Antenna WANE-2 (15)	106	20			Criminal Minds	Rusty	Criminal Minds	Family Tree	FBI "Undisclosed"	FBI "Salvation"	FBI "Undisclosed"	FBI "Salvation"	FBI "Salvation"		FBI "Ties That Bind"	FBI "Fallout"	FBI "Hard Decisions"			
ABC WPTA (21)	4	3	21	21	ABC21 News at 5 (N)		ABC21 (N)	ABC World News (N)	ABC21 (N)	Ent. Tonight (N)	Bachelor	Ent. Tonight (N)	Got Talent	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	Wraith	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Mom	Mom
NBC WPTA-2 (21)	7	8		14	Pictionary	25 Words or Less	News (N)	NBC News (N)	Family Feud (N)	Family Feud (N)	Family Feud (N)	Family Feud (N)	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	All American: Homecoming (N)	All American: Homecoming (N)	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs
MNT WPTA-3 (21)	10	9	56	34	King of the Hill	The King of Queens	Modern Family	21Alive News at 6	Divorce Court	Divorce Court	World News	Matters of Mind	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Antiques Roadshow (N)
CV WISE (33)	8	4	33	33	The Steve Wilkos Show	Judge Lake	Judge Lake	Judge Lake	World News	PBS NewsHour (N)	World News	PBS NewsHour (N)	World News	PBS NewsHour (N)	World News	PBS NewsHour (N)	World News	PBS NewsHour (N)	World News	PBS NewsHour (N)
PBS WFWA (39)	13	5	39	39	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"
PBS WIPB (45)	3				Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"	Antiques Roadshow "Indianapolis Hour 3"
FOX WBFF (45)	6	6	55	55	Neighbor	Neighbor	Neighbor	Neighbor	Big Bang	Big Bang	Fantasy Island (N)	Fantasy Island (N)	Alert: Missing Persons Unit (N)	Alert: Missing Persons Unit (N)	Alert: Missing Persons Unit (N)	Alert: Missing Persons Unit (N)	Alert: Missing Persons Unit (N)	Alert: Missing Persons Unit (N)	Alert: Missing Persons Unit (N)	Alert: Missing Persons Unit (N)

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Priestly vest-ments	35 Fiesta food	56 Scale amts.	10 Fury winter coaster
5 Tavern spoiling	37 Keep from	57 Now, in a memo	17 Droop
8 Ever-greens	39 Citric beverage		19 Operatic solo
12 Use a phone	41 Brewer's kiln	DOWN	22 Director
13 Corn spike	42 Building managers	1 Advocacy org.	Almo-dóvar
14 Human rights lawyer	45 Hardly sufficient	2 Reclined	24 Bit of butter
15 Steadfast	49 Charisma	3 Botched	25 Vitamin stat
16 High standing	51 "Damn Yankees" role	4 Drinks noisily	26 Fugitives
18 Open, as a gift	52 Mellows	5 Enlivened	27 Fantasts
20 Was patient	53 Scull need	6 Eg. and once	29 Speed (up)
21 Get ready, briefly	54 Nile bird	7 Cauldron	30 Fury
23 "Today" rival, briefly	55 Small plateau	8 Daughter of Muhammad	33 Being, to Brutus
24 Officiated		9 Copycat	36 Texas city
28 Long-fellow's bell town			38 And others, in Latin
31 TV spots			40 Before
32 Poet Lorde			42 Pesky email
34 Not 'neath			43 Desire
			44 Winter blanket
			46 Sailors
			47 Director Kazan
			48 Grate
			50 Manx, for one

Solution time: 21 mins.

Saturday's answer 2-20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
12					13			14				
15					16			17				
18					19			20				
				21				22				
								23				
24	25	26						27	28	29	30	
31					32			33		34		
35					36			37		38		
					39			40		41		
42	43				44			45		46	47	48
49					50					51		
52					53					54		
55					56					57		

The Classifieds

Place Your Ad 24/7: GO TO www.news-banner.com AND CLICK ON "Classifieds"

OR CALL 824-0224 MON-FRI 8-5 • TOLLFREE 800-579-7476 • FAX 824-0700

WE ACCEPT



SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

King Classic Sudoku

6	3	9	4	8	7			5
						4	7	9
		7	1					8
	2							1
8	1		7	6	5	4		
5				1	6			
6	2	7	9					
		3	2				5	6
5	8	3		4		1	7	

© 2023 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Difficulty: ★

2-20

VEHICLES

Auto/Trucks

1994 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN, 2500, 184,000 miles, white/blue, 4x2, 6.5 turbo diesel, new paint, loaded, Reese hitch, trailer brakes, original, 260-450-2432.

SERVICES

Services

MARV'S CONSTRUCTION Room additions, fix old saggy floors, all types remodeling. Redo bathrooms, old foundation repairs. Marv Schwartz: 260-525-8877.

LAWN CARE & LANDSCAPING

Ethan's Outdoor Services LLC is taking on new Residential & Commercial accounts for 2023. We offer Lawn Care, Landscaping & Landscape Maintenance. Free Estimates. 260-827-7945 ethansoutdoor@gmail.com

LIVE PAIN FREE with CBD products from AceWellness. We guarantee highest quality, most competitive pricing on CBD products. Softgels, Oils, Skincare, Vape & more. Coupon Code: PRINT20 Call Now 833-226-3105 (I)

Lottery Numbers

Saturday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY
Cash 5 — 04-22-25-26-30

Cash4Life — 02-07-09-27-51, Cash Ball: 03

Lotto Plus — 01-03-12-16-35-37

Quick Draw Midday — 18-19-22-27-31-33-34-36-39-41-46-48-50-54-57-60-62-65-71-78, BE: 60

Daily Three-Midday — 02-02-05, SB: 06

Daily Three-Evening — 07-08-07, SB: 07

Daily Four-Midday — 09-08-06-03, SB: 06

Daily Four-Evening — 02-09-01-08, SB: 07

Quick Draw Evening — 04-06-12-14-18-23-25-38-43-46-47-49-54-55-57-60-70-76-77-79, BE: 18

Hoosier Lotto — 07-15-16-21-30-37

POWERBALL
08-21-31-32-37; Powerball: 23; Power Play: 4X

Sunday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY
Cash 5 — 04-25-27-29-31

Cash4Life — 08-37-43-56-57, Cash Ball: 02

Quick Draw Midday — 01-05-07-10-14-18-19-25-26-30-31-37-41-48-54-58-60-63-70-74, BE: 30

Daily Three-Midday — 06-00-02, SB: 02

Daily Three-Evening — 09-09-04, SB: 01

Daily Four-Midday — 05-09-03-00, SB: 02

Daily Four-Evening — 02-04-01-07, SB: 01

Quick Draw Evening — 01-07-09-12-15-18-19-23-41-42-44-47-56-63-66-67-72-74-75-77, BE: 74

Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$11 million

MEGA MILLIONS
Estimated jackpot (for Tuesday): \$104 million

POWERBALL
Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$87 million

Help Wanted

DUE TO RETIREMENT following more than 20 years of service, The United Way of Wells County is seeking qualified candidates for the position of CEO. This position requires a professional who is focused on achieving results in an environment of rapid change. Successful candidates are innovative problem-solvers who can handle multiple projects simultaneously without direct oversight and are able to engage quickly with others. Previous non-profit management and fundraising experience is required. If this sounds like you, please submit your resume, salary requirements, and letter of interest to doug@news-banner.com no later than March 1, 2023. For information on the programs and services of the organization, please visit our website unitedwaywells.org.

BLUFFTON POLICE DEPARTMENT Now Hiring! The Bluffton Police Department is accepting applications for the position of police officer. Applicant must be 21 years of age by close of application date, but less than 40; have a high school diploma; two-year college degree or equivalent (60 hours), or three years of work experience in police related field or an ILEA Basic graduate or equivalent. Must provide college transcripts. Applicant must possess and maintain a valid Indiana driver's license and responsible work experience. Applicant must pass a background investigation, written test, physical agility test, oral interview, voice stress examination, required statewide baseline physical and psychological examination and drug test. Applications may be picked up at the Clerk-Treasurer's Office, 128 E Market St, Bluffton, IN, between the hours of 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday or online at blufftonindiana.net. If you have questions about the application process, you may call the Bluffton Police Department at 260-824-3320, Kyle Randall, Chief of Police. Last day to accept applications will be March 31, 2023

HELOISE HINT: To get ahead at work. Avoid office gossip or groups of people who are unhappy. Stay focused at doing your job well and remain pleasant and professional. Fax HELOISE@210-HELOISE.com (435-6473).

Help Wanted

PART TIME HANDYPERSON needed for yard work and miscellaneous jobs, 565-3780.

CHILD CARE TEACHER Full-time infant teacher/Full-time toddler teacher.

Infant room responsibilities: attend to multiple babies, manage feeding schedules, diaper changes, nap schedules, sensory play and daily cleaning. Toddler room responsibilities: attend to multiple children, plan activities, potty train, help with snacks/lunches, daily cleaning. Applicants MUST be patient, caring, motivated and willing to learn. Must be 18 to apply/21 for infant room. Starting pay is \$13/hr. Hours of work 8-5. Send resumes to learningtree123@yahoo.com or message on FB messenger.

Follow us at... twitter.com/newsbanner

Help Wanted

THE CITY OF Bluffton is accepting applications for a Water Treatment Operator. High school diploma or equivalent required. The City utilizes E-Verify and follows EEOC guidelines. Applications may be obtained from the Clerk Treasurer's Office, 128 East Market Street, Bluffton, IN between 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday or on our website www.blufftonindiana.net.

FOR SALE

Wanted to Buy

WANTED TO BUY silver and also wanted to buy guns. Call M. Schwartz, 260-525-8877.

Pets

HELOISE HINT: When you take your dog out for a walk. Be sure it has on a collar/harness with an ID tag in case it runs away. Fax HELOISE@210-HELOISE.com (435-6473).

REAL ESTATE

Real Estate

LOOKING TO SELL your Home? Save time & money, connect with the Top Agents in your area to get more MONEY and close FASTER! Call 317-854-9781 (I)

GREAT LOCATION

MAKE YOUR AD STAND OUT! Add a graphic or photo for an extra \$5 and draw extra attention to your line classified ad. Contact the Bluffton News-Banner office at 824-0224, 125 N. Johnson St., or online at www.news-banner.com and click on classifieds.

HELOISE HINT: If a fire breaks out in your home. If you have a fire extinguisher and the fire is small, try to put it out. But if the flames have spread, get everyone out of the house immediately and then call 911. Fax HELOISE@210-HELOISE.com (435-6473).

February

GOODS & SERVICES DIRECTORY

Come See Us for Your CBD Oil Needs

R. Warren Pharmacy
(260)375-2135

Nature's Sunshine Distributor
222 N. Wayne St., Warren • 1-800-895-7035
Terry Daniels, Pharmacist • Melinda Daniels, RN

STOR-N-GO

STORAGE UNITS

2740 E. 200 N. • Bluffton, IN • 260.273.8345
with Security Cameras

Jerry Flack & Associates
Jerry Flack & Julie Myers
Retirement Advisors
A Senior Citizen Answers Our Phone!
OFFICE 260-824-1618 • Corner of Main & Market • Bluffton, IN

ASSISTING IN:

- FREE Medicare Supplement Comparison
- Life Planning
- Safe Money Ideas
- Dental - Vision - Hearing

Need Cash?

We Buy Cars & Trucks
Any Condition
CALL: 260-403-4646

A-1 U-Stor

Safe & Secure Self Storage
824-1846

- Safety Lighting • Clean Units
- 24 Hr. Access
- Video Cameras

www.a1-ustor.com
After hours & Saturdays
Call 273-9678 or 824-4782
In Monroe at corner of U.S. 27 and S.R. 124
Office at 1180 N. Main, Bluffton

As a resident of the Wells County community for decades, Attorney, Gerret J. Swearingen, has devoted his legal practice to assisting clients in preserving the family assets from the high cost of Nursing Home and In-Home Healthcare.

As your guide through the "Medicaid Planning" process, Swearingen Elder Law will provide the right path to both protect your life savings and receive the quality of care we all deserve.

1645 Hillcrest Dr., Suite 2A
Ossian, IN 46777
Attorney Gerret J. Swearingen

SWEARINGEN ELDER LAW

- Medicaid Planning
- Durable Power of Attorney
- Estate Planning & Deeds
- Special Needs Trusts
- Long Term Care Planning
- In-Home Healthcare Planning
- Wills, Living Wills, & Advance Healthcare Directives

(260) 888-9256
FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION!

Sure-Flo

Seamless Gutters
5" & 6" Continuous Gutters
Leaf Protection Systems
Large Color Selection • FREE Estimates
260-888-5062
www.seamlessgutter.net

INDIANA FARM BUREAU INSURANCE
YOUR LOCAL AGENTS
Bluffton Office: (260) 824-2234
1307 Baker Place • Bluffton, IN
Mike Lampton • Matt Schweikhardt • Michael Towne

AMISH CREW

will do roofing, siding, remodeling, pole barns. Specializing in redoing old barns. Free estimates. Call 260-438-2508

JC'S GARAGE DOOR SALES & SERVICE

All makes & models • broken springs & cables
Owner: James Fisher • Sales: Carl Fisher
"50 Years of Combined Experience"
Call us at 824-3262

Complete Line of Sliding Door Accessories
Roofing Accessories • Roof Boot
Outside Closures • Flovent • EM Seal
Clear Skylight • Clear Ridge

SWISS METALS LLC

MANUFACTURER OF METAL ROOFING, SIDING & TRIM
260-251-4366
7877 S. US HW 27, Berne IN 46711

The HIDEAWAY BEER & BOURBON

THURSDAY - Dollar Off Drinks (Excludes Pop)
WEDNESDAY - KARAOKE
FRI. & SAT. - Live Music
Follow us on Facebook for our Events.
123 S JOHNSON ST. • 824-0455

Minnich's LAWN CARE

Tree Removal
Lawn Care & More
260-827-7524 Fully Insured
Call for an Estimate

COUNTRY PLACE Apartments

408 Countryside Drive, Ossian

- 1 & 2 Bedrooms
- Laundry Facilities On-Site
- All Ground-level
- Private Entrances
- Equipped Kitchen

260 622-6429
Virtual Tours Offered
TDD: 7-1-1
OssianApartments.com

AMISH CONSTRUCTION

We specialize in your Home Remodel or New Homes

- Kitchen Cabinets
- Bathroom
- Vanities
- Metal Roofs
- Shingle Roofs
- Siding

Free Estimate
1-260-307-6355
Call or Text

Primary Contracting, LLC 260-223-4276 Free Estimates

Decks • Garages • Pole Barns • Siding • Remodeling
Metal and Shingle Roofing • Storm Damage • Trim Wood Working and more!

Owner - Edwin Wickey COMPETITIVE RATES!

Zap Electric, Inc.

260-824-2927
Commercial-Industrial-Residential
24 Hr. Emergency Service
Charles Miller-Electrical
1233 W. Cherry St., Bluffton
FREE Estimates

For as little as ... \$123 PER ISSUE
YOUR BUSINESS IN THE NEWS-BANNER
Every Day!
Call 824-0224 or 622-4108
Mar. deadline is Tues. Feb. 21st

SUDOKU ANSWER

0	2	1	7	9	8	6	9	
9	9	6	8	1	7	8	1	7
7	8	8	9	6	1	7	9	1
8	6	9	1	7	8	7	9	1
7	7	9	9	1	6	1	8	8
1	8	1	8	7	9	9	7	6
8	9	8	6	9	1	1	7	7
6	1	7	7	8	9	9	1	8
9	7	1	1	8	7	6	8	9

Michigan State set to resume classes after fatal shootings

By JOEY C APPELLETTI
Associated Press
 EAST LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Michigan State University professor Marco Díaz-Muñoz is still haunted by what he witnessed last Monday night, when a gunman entered his classroom in Berkey Hall, killing two of his students in what he describes as “12 minutes of terror.”

“Those images haunt me. The images of those two girls,” Díaz-Muñoz told The Associated Press.

Arielle Anderson and Alexandria Verner, both juniors, would die that night, Feb. 13. The gunman would

shoot six more students during the rampage in two campus buildings. Brian Fraser also would die. Five others would suffer critical gunshot wounds.

Classes are resuming Monday at the 50,000-student university, though Berkey Hall, an academic building, will not reopen. Officials said Sunday that swiftly resuming classes makes sense for the 2 1/2-month balance of the spring term.

“Coming back together is something that will help us,” said Thomas Jeitschko, executive vice president for academic affairs, adding that faculty will have exten-

sive flexibility in how they run their courses.

“We know that everybody heals at their own pace and in their own manner. Getting it exactly right will not be possible,” Jeitschko said at a news conference Sunday. “Coming back into spaces that are familiar, interacting with people who are familiar, is helpful in the process of healing and grieving.”

Díaz-Muñoz said the university had offered to have another professor teach through the end of the semester.

“On one hand, I want to forget it all. But then on the other hand, I think I need

to help my students pick up the pieces,” Díaz-Muñoz said. “I think I need to help my students build a sense of meaning. It’s not going to be the same as before, but there has to be something good out of it.”

Some in the community, however, aren’t ready. The editorial board of The State News, the student newspaper, wrote Thursday that they wouldn’t immediately attend classes, saying more time was needed to heal.

Jo Kovach, president of student government, said “students are scared” and will need “flexibility, empathy and options” from their professors.

Following the shooting, parents arrived from all over the state to bring students home, at least for the rest of last week. A petition demanding hybrid or online options for students received more than 20,000 signatures by Saturday.

Jeitschko said students will have weeks to decide whether to take a regular grade or a credit/no credit option, which would not affect their overall grade-point average.

“Let the semester play out. Come back. Try to heal,” he said.

Díaz-Muñoz understands that some students won’t be ready to return, saying that

some will still have “the fear of looking over their shoulder and looking out the window, at the doors.”

“There are some kids in my class that are graduating this semester. And they need this horrific nightmare to have a better ending than the way it ended on Monday,” Díaz-Muñoz said.

Sparrow Hospital said three wounded students remained in critical condition Sunday while one was upgraded to fair and another was listed in serious but stable condition. Interim university President Teresa Woodruff said Michigan State would cover funeral costs and hospital expenses.

Buttigieg warns Norfolk Southern to support Ohio community

By JOSH BOAK
Associated Press
 WASHINGTON (AP) — Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg sent a letter Sunday to the CEO of Norfolk Southern, warning that the freight rail company must “demonstrate unequivocal support for the people” of East Palestine, Ohio, and surrounding areas after a fiery train derailment led to the release of chemicals and residents expressing concerns about their health.

“Norfolk Southern must

live up to its commitment to make residents whole — and must also live up to its obligation to do whatever it takes to stop putting communities such as East Palestine at risk,” Buttigieg wrote. “This is the right time for Norfolk Southern to take a leadership position within the rail industry, shifting to a posture that focuses on supporting, not thwarting, efforts to raise the standard of U.S. rail safety regulation.”

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine

said Friday that the chemicals that spilled into the Ohio River are no longer a risk, even as people in the community say they have constant headaches and irritated eyes. The state plans to open a medical clinic in the village of 4,700 to analyze their symptoms, despite repeated statements that air and water testing has shown no signs of contaminants.

Still, uncertainty persists about the consequences of a derailment that occurred roughly two weeks ago.

Peter DeCarlo, a professor of environmental health and engineering at Johns Hopkins University, told ABC News on Sunday that more testing is needed to determine which chemicals are present.

“We just don’t have the information we need to understand what chemicals may be present,” DeCarlo said. “We know it started as vinyl chloride, but as soon as you burn that all bets are off. You have a lot of chemical byproducts that can hap-

pen from a combustion process like that.”

Asked if he would move back to East Palestine if he were already living there, DeCarlo said: “I have two little boys. I would not.”

Norfolk Southern CEO Alan Shaw issued a statement on Saturday that he “returned to East Palestine today to meet with local leaders, first responders, and a group of Norfolk Southern employees who live in the area.”

“In every conversation

today, I shared how deeply sorry I am this happened to their home,” Shaw said. The Atlanta-based company has created a website with updates, NSMakingItRight.com.

The transportation secretary’s letter on Sunday came across as a stern warning to Norfolk Southern, saying: “It is imperative that your company be unambiguous and forthright in its commitment to take care of the residents — now and in the future.”

Special Feature

Your MONEY \$ Your TAXES

The basics of long-term care insurance

Many older adults get some peace of mind by taking steps to finance long-term care should they become incapable of living independently.

LT Care Consumer, a health care advisory company, says 70 percent of people over age 65 will require some type of care at some point in their lives. According to the 2017 Cost of Care study by Genworth Financial, the average annual cost for a private room at a nursing home is \$97,455. Such costs illustrate why long-term care insurance can be a wise investment.

Long-term care, or LTC, encompasses services and support that assist individuals with the activities of daily living. ADLs include bathing, eating, dressing, toileting, and more. In addition, LTC may support needs such as caring for pets, household chores, medicine management, and meal preparation. LTC may be provided by specialized assisted living facilities or by in-home care workers.

The resource Long Term Care Primer advises that individuals typically must fund their own long-

term care. Many facilities are not subsidized by government assistance programs under Medicare in the United States. Medicaid may step in for certain individuals who are of limited means, but that assistance may be exclusive to those living in skilled nursing facilities. That means the bulk of paying for long-term care rests on the individual.

Long-term care insurance can pay for care to treat chronic health conditions and meet personal needs over an extended period of time. This is known as custodial care. Individuals who have habits or health issues that could result in the need for LTC in the future should look into LTC insurance. LTC insurance also can be a sound investment for individuals who cannot afford extended nursing care out-of-pocket.

The Ohio Department of Insurance notes that policies may vary, but they typically include a deductible or elimination period, which is a time when the policy holder is liable for payment before the insurance begins. Policies typically include a daily benefit as well. This

is the maximum amount the insurance company will pay toward each day in the nursing facility; the policy holder may be responsible for the difference. Policies also include a benefit period, or the length of time the policy will pay the daily benefit, which can be a few years or a lifetime.

Individuals also have other options in regard to securing long-term care. Care.com says comprehensive LTC policies, combination policies and riders to current life insurance policies may help augment long-term care needs. Because LTC insurance — and paying for health care in general — can be quite confusing, people are urged to speak to professionals about their options and

whether LTC insurance is necessary. A 2014 study by the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College estimated that only 20 to 30 percent of people would benefit from a policy. Researchers concluded that, while many people do need long-term care, they may not need it for an extended period of time and may be able to cover their care with their own savings. Furthermore, cost for policies may be \$2,000 a year — which is a concern for some people.

Individuals who purchase LTC insurance should know that medical underwriting for policies can be extensive. Coverage may be denied for current or past health conditions. Most people find that the best age at which

to buy LTC insurance is in one’s mid-50s. Healthy individuals may be eligible for discounts on LTC premiums.

Long-term care insurance is a consideration for older adults facing

the potential for care assistance in the future. Because considerable cost is involved, potential policy holders should discuss their options with insurance and financial professionals.



RAYMOND JAMES
 Raymond James Financial Services, Inc.
 Member FINRA/SIPC

Kim Gentis
 Financial Advisor
 Wealth Management Specialist

260-824-8070
 1245 N. Main St.
 Bluffton, IN

Investment Advisory Services are offered through Raymond James Financial Services Advisors, Inc.

Foudy CPA Group, P.C.
 Certified Public Accountant

2401 N Main Street, Bluffton 260-824-1040
 5730 Falls Drive, Fort Wayne 260-432-4565

Full-Service Firm: Tax Preparation
 Bookkeeping & Payroll • Financial Planning
 College Planning • Financial Statement Audits

Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
 Call for evening appointments.

Email: info@foudycpa.com • www.foudycpa.com

STEFFEN
 Financial Group

110 W Cherry St, Bluffton IN

A Bank CD is an option. Is it the BEST option for you? Let's talk...

TIM STEFFEN
 Financial Consultant
Tim@Steffinancial.com
 (260) 824-8175

Securities offered through LPL Financial Member FINRA/SIPC

Edward Jones

> edwardjones.com Member SIPC

Have IRA questions? Let's talk.

BLUFFTON
DOUG FEAR, AAMS
 Financial Advisor
 2035 Commerce Dr., Suite 209
 260-565-4134

JEREMY TODD, AAMS /CFP
 Financial Advisor
 1169 N. Main St. Suite 2
 260-824-0686

JEREMY PENROD, AAMS
 Financial Advisor
 201 E. Market St., Suite 1
 260-824-2354

OSSIAN
LARRY A. SMITH, AAMS
 Financial Advisor
 102 S. Jefferson
 260-622-7952

TOPP CPA FIRM
 CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT P.C.

Topp notch tax service

Dean (Chip) Topp, CPA
chip@toppcpa.com

- Individual Taxes
- Corporation Taxes
- Partnership Taxes
- Bookkeeping & Payroll
- Property Taxes
- Quickbooks ProAdvisor

Mon-Friday 8-5; Sat 8-12
 Call for evening appointments
 159 N. Jefferson St., Berne, IN 46711
 260-589-8778