Page 6

New opportunities for Cocanower as Teacher of the Year



Indiana's Teacher of the Year, Tara Cocanower of Bluffton High School, speaks to students at Southern Wells. (Photo provided)

By HOLLY GASKILL

Overnight, Bluffton High School teacher Tara Cocanower went from teaching history to making it.

Since being named Indiana Teacher of the Year by the Department of Education, Cocanower has stepped into a completely new realm of speaking engagements, traveling, and statewide recognition. For a selfdescribed introvert, it's been a whirlwind.

"The best word I can use is 'overwhelming," Cocanower said with a laugh. "But I feel incredibly privileged to be doing this as a representative of this community.

Most recently, Cocanower went to California to meet with the other 54 teachers representing the U.S. and its territories. There, the teachers had the opportunity to meet one another in person, attend professional development seminars, and learn about emerging technology — a favorite of which was attending a presentation by Sal Khan, founder of the non-profit Khan Academy, which creates popular online education

Cocanower will continue to travel throughout the year, including a visit to the White House and Space Camp. That said, opportunities to speak to students, teachers and business leaders around the state are the most prevalent in her day-to-day role.

The IDOE has empowered Cocanower to speak on her unique platforms, which often leads her to topics regarding mental health,

teacher retention, literacy, imposter syndrome, the future of students, and, above all, empathy.

"At the end of it, it's really all about empathy and supporting one another — for

teachers and for students," Cocanower said.

One of Cocanower's favorite parts of speaking engagements has been connecting with future educators.

At a recent Trine University presentation, Cocanower found herself giving the same advice and inspiration she was once given when a young woman asked about being a woman teaching social studies, a typically male-dominated subject. Later, another student said the presentation was exactly what

he needed to hear. "My heart knows that if it matters for one it matters," Cocanower said.

Wanting to balance these new opportunities with her limits, Cocanower restricts herself to two speaking engagements a week on top of her teaching and coaching schedule. Nevertheless, she is ever aware she would be unable to do this without the support of her Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School

Cocanower said she's visited daily by Principal Steve Baker, who asks how she's doing, among other check-ins from Superintendent Brad Yates, Assistant Superintendant Julie Meitzler, and many others who have provided encouragement and take

(Continued on Page 2)

China takes issue with FBI on lab leak theory

BEIJING (AP) — For the second day in a row, China on Wednesday dismissed U.S. suggestions that the COVID-19 pandemic may have been triggered by a virus that leaked from a Chinese

Responding to comments by FBI Director Christopher Wray, Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning said the involvement of the U.S. intelligence commu nity was evidence enough of the "politicization of origin tracing."

"By rehashing the lab-leak theory, the U.S. will not succeed in discrediting China, and instead, it will only hurt its own credibility," Mao said.

"We urge the U.S. to respect science and facts ... stop turning origin tracing into something about politics and intelligence, and stop disrupting social solidarity and origins cooperation," she said.

In an interview with Fox News that aired Tuesday, Wray said, "The FBI has for quite some time now assessed that the origins of the pandemic are most likely a potential lab incident in (central China's) Wuhan."

'Here you are talking about a potential leak from a Chinese government-controlled lab," Wray

Referring to efforts to trace the origin of the coronavirus, he (Continued on Page 2)

Reaction time

Norwell boys bas-ketball center Brody Bolyn's parents -Ryan and Melissa react to a foul call on their son in the third quarter of Friday's boys basketball sectional semi-final at Peru. But the Norwell Nation's ultimate reaction was one of joy, below, as the Knights advanced to the championship game against the host Tigers. Story and game photo on Page 6. (Photos by Glen Werling)





Lesion removed from Biden's chest cancerous

By ZEKE MILLER **AP White House Correspodent**

WASHINGTON (AP) — A skin lesion removed from President Joe Biden's chest last month was a basal cell carcinoma — a common form of skin cancer — his doctor said Friday, adding that no further treatment was required.

Dr. Kevin O'Connor, the White House doctor who has served as Biden's longtime physician, said "all cancerous tissue was successfully removed" during the president's routine physical on Feb.

16. Biden, 80, was deemed by O'Connor to be "healthy, vigorous" and "fit " to handle his White House responsibilities during that physical exam, which comes as he is weeks away from launching an expected bid for reelection in 2024.

O'Connor said the site of the removal on Biden's chest has "healed nicely" and the president will continue skin screenings as part of his routine health plan.

Basal cells are among the most common and easily treated forms of cancer — especially when caught early. O'Connor said they don't tend to spread like other cancers, but could grow in size, which is why they are removed.

Biden had "several localized nonmelanoma skin cancers" removed from his body before he started his presidency, O'Connor said in his Feb. 16 summary of the president's health, noting it was well established that Biden spent a lot of time in the sun during his youth.

First lady Jill Biden in January had two basal cell lesions removed from her right eye and chest.

Indiana's townships hope to prove worth

By LESLIE BONILLA MUÑIZ Indiana Capital Chronicle

Indiana's 1,000-plus townships have largely survived nearly three-dozen legislative attempts to reorganize or extinguish them since 2004 - and they're hoping to deter future tries with a new, graph-heavy report released late last month.

Indiana's 1,000-plus townships have largely survived nearly three-dozen legislative attempts to reorganize or extinguish them since 2004 — and they're hoping to deter future tries with a new, graph-heavy report released late last month.

The 108-page document lays out a lengthy list of 27 recommendations to better bolster townships, plus data on township demographics, operations, service provision and finances.

The Indiana Township Association conducted the report with the Indiana University Public Policy Institute. ITA Executive Director Deborah Driskell said she hoped the report would deter future legislative attempts.

sures," Driskell told the Capital Chronicle Monday. "And on our end, we were struggling to tell our story because we did not have the appropriate data."

"It's just constant[ly] being hit with reform mea-

But townships' critics continue to say they're outdated and unnecessary.

"There's really nothing that townships do that couldn't and shouldn't be done at the county level," Indiana Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Kevin Brinegar said Wednesday.

Townships are a local unit of government dating back to the 1800s surveying of what was then the Indiana territory, according to the Indiana Historical Bureau — fueling both arguments that they're established sources of help and that they're approaching obsolescence.

Townships once held a wide-range of responsibilities, but today focus on township assistance - once called poor relief.

It's mostly utility and housing aid to low-income residents, according to the report, but can include funds for homeless shelters, funeral and other death services, food, health care and more. The state's 1,002 townships typically distribute more than \$20 million in township aid annually, plus funds from higher units of government.

'There's no other form of government where it is the [legal] duty of that elected official to ensure that the individuals in poverty within their commu-(Continued on Page 2)

Local/Area

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Opinion

Saturday Sub 4

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



Early spring weather returns

Today	Sunday	Monday
High 45	High 51	High 65
Low 31	Low 41	Low 45

More Weather on Page 2

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Cocanower

(Continued from Page 1)

care of some of the small things on her

It's these moments, and many more, that leave Cocanower with one feeling - humility.

Cocanower recalled the surprise announcement of Teacher of the Year in October, looking out into the high school auditorium of teachers cheering for her. She was moved deeply by the sight, knowing every teacher had been a large part of her journey and was just as worthy of the honor. It felt unnatural to take the recognition — she wanted to cheer for them too.

"No teacher does anything alone," Cocanower said. "There's no way I'm Teacher of the Year without all the support of the people I work with at BHMSD. I keep saying this — I didn't

win anything, I just have this opportunity to represent the awesome things that we all do."

This feeling rang through again when Cocanower was invited to speak at Southern Wells by her former firstgrade teacher, Southern Wells Elementary School Principal Cari Whicker. Later, Whicker presented Cocanower with a crystal star ornament and a card signed by all of Cocanower's previous teachers at Lancaster Elementary. The card read, "You're our shining star."

'To have people who taught you how to read, people who taught you division, say we're getting to see our legacy play out because of something that you're doing is immensely humbling," Cocanower said. "But it's also empowering because I am the type of teacher that I am because I had great

Cocanower has found that the combination of these new responsibilities and emotions can feel heavy at times. Even so, she counts herself lucky to still be teaching amidst everything, knowing some in her cohort are taking sabbaticals.

At the end of the day, Cocanower has found the greatest blessings of being an educator have been, and continue to be in this season, her classroom and community.

"I have felt nothing but support and empowerment and love from our entire community," Cocanower said. "And I'm just so glad that no matter how busy I am, no matter how many speaking engagements I have, I get to come back to my classroom, and my students are excited to see me - most of the time," she laughed.

holly@news-banner.com

Weather

Saturday, March 4, 2023 (24-hour observations at 8:46 p.m. Friday) **High:** 37; **Low:** 32; **Precipitation:** 1.38" (rain) 0.5"

Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 9.29 feet at 11:45 p.m. Friday

Wells County forecast

Saturday: Partly sunny, with a high near 45. West wind around 10 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 31. Southwest wind around 5 mph. **Sunday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 51. Northwest

wind around 5 mph becoming east in the afternoon. **Sunday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 41. Southeast wind 5 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Monday: A 20 percent chance of rain after 1 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 65. Breezy.

Monday Night: A 20 percent chance of rain before 1 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 35. Breezy.

Tuesday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 43.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 25. **Wednesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 42.

Wednesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around

Thursday: Partly sunny, with a high near 40.

Thursday Night: A chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 27.

Friday: A chance of rain and snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 37.

(Continued from Page 1)

added, "I will just make the observation that the Chinese government, it seems to me, has been doing its best to try to thwart and obfuscate the work here, the work that we're doing, the work that our U.S. government and close foreign partners are doing. And that's unfortunate for everybody."

On Tuesday, Mao pushed back at a report from the U.S. Department of Energy that assessed with "low confidence" that the virus that was first detected in Wuhan in late 2019 leaked from a nearby government labora-

The report hasn't been made public and officials in Washington stressed that U.S. agencies are not in

agreement on the origin of the virus. Mao on Tuesday insisted

that China has been "open and transparent" in the search for the virus' origins and has "shared the most data and research results on virus tracing and made important contributions to global virus tracing research.'

A World Health Organization expert group said last year that "key pieces of data" to explain how the pandemic began were still missing. The scientists cited avenues of research that were needed, including studies evaluating the role of wild animals and environmental studies in places where the virus might have

Townships

(Continued from Page 1)

nity are taken care of," ITA Associate Director Kevin Evans said.

Should nonprofits take over, he argued, they wouldn't be subject to the same level of financial reporting, via the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance, as would townships.

Most townships are also involved in certain fire and emergency medical services. Interrupting and reassigning those duties could get complicated, advocates say.

"Just there with township assistance and fire protection, and many times, emergency medical services is the foundation of why we must stay in place for the safety and wellbeing of Hoosiers," Driskell said.

Opponents say townships are one unnecessary layer of government that should go.

Brinegar said the chamber believes counties should take on township duties as part of broader philosophy of efficiency - the group also thinks Indiana has too many counties and school districts for its population, especially compared to states like Florida.

He cited a controversial 2007 report by former Gov. Joseph Kernan and former Indiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Randall Shepard that recommended ditching townships to achieve greater efficiencies.

ITA, meanwhile, argues the Kernan-Shepard report's methodology isn't strong enough to use to making decisions with statewide consequences.

Others say townships are just out-

"Townships were created when it was a day's ride for some people to get to the county seat on a horse, and we just don't operate that way anymore." said Rep. Jerry Torr, R-Carmel. He was involved in 2009, 2013 and 2018 attempts to eliminate or consolidate townships.

Torr recalled one trustee who testified that assistance averaged about \$20, and said instead of paying administrative costs, the township could "put up an ATM to just spit out a \$20 bill for anybody who's willing to put their fingerprint in."

High-quality services a top priority

ITA's report lists 27 recommendations to better resource townships - like making them eligible for state grants and low-interest loan funding, including them in public safety local income tax allocations and making it easier to pursue public safety levy appeals.

Other recommendations promote efficiency, such as supporting townships that wish to merge voluntarily, specifying under which conditions townships could be forcibly merged, mandating continuing education for staff and adding more board oversight or township finances.

But ITA emphasizes that locals should get control.

A merger "decision needs to be work.

made locally, in that they understand their area," Driskell said. "They understand, you know, where are the fire departments? Where's the manpower?"

Those who want to get rid of townships say greater effectiveness is better than nothing.

"If we can't achieve our ultimate goal, then let's at least work to make township government more efficient and more effective," Brinegar said.

But for those dedicated to critical services like firefighting, what gets done is more important than who's

Rep. Randy Frye, R-Greensburg, said a volunteer fire department in his district gets just about \$1,000 annually from its township trustee. Insurance on the station alone is 10 times that, Frye "Every week they have bingo and

sell food at the fire station to help keep the doors open. I think personally that's ridiculous," said Frye, who was a firefighter for 26 years before joining the General Assembly. We need to rethink how we fund

the volunteer fire service," Frye added. "Does it mean we do away with townships? I don't know. Not necessarily. But there's got to be a change. There's got to be consistency.'

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

Storms roll east after slamming South; 10 deaths reported

By KEN MILLER and STEFANIE DAZIO

Associated Press A large storm system took aim at the Northeast on Friday, threatening heavy snow and coastal flooding after heavy winds and possible tornadoes damaged homes and buildings, left thousands without power and caused 10 deaths in a wide swath of the South and Midwest.

Three people were killed by falling trees in Alabama as severe weather swept through the state. In Mississippi, a woman died inside her SUV after a rotted tree branch struck her vehicle, and in Arkansas a man drowned after he drove into high floodwaters. News outlets reported two people died in Tennessee when trees fell on them.

Three weather-related deaths also were reported in Kentucky in three different counties as storms with straight-line winds moved through the state. Gov. Andy Beshear had declared a state of emergency before the storm and on Friday evening the mayor of Louisville, Craig Greenberg, followed suit because of the severe storms, high winds, widespread damage and danger to lives and property.

"I encourage everyone in our community to exercise extreme caution this evening, and in the coming days - do not drive through standing water, do not approach downed power lines, or do anything that would put the lives of anyone at risk," Greenberg said in a Facebook post.

The National Weather Service in Louisville called the storm Friday "powerful and historic" with peak wind gusts between 60-80 mph (96-128 kph).

More than a million util-

ity customers in Kentucky, Tennessee and Michigan were without power Friday evening, according to poweroutage.us.

The storm barreled Friday afternoon into the Detroit area, quickly covering streets and roads beneath a layer of snow. The weather service said some areas could see blizzard conditions with snowfall approaching 3 inches (8 centimeters) per hour. The Detroit Metropolitan Airport closed Friday evening because of rapidly deteriorating weather conditions.

Detroit-based DTE Energy reported more than 130,000 customers lost power Friday evening. It was the latest slap after ice storms last week left more than 600,000 homes and businesses without power.

The National Weather Service reported poor road conditions and numerous vehicle crashes across much of northwest Indiana because of heavy snowfall Friday afternoon.

The storm system was turning toward New England, where a mix of snow, sleet and rain was expected to start Friday night and last into Saturday, prompting the National Weather Service to issue a winter storm warn-

There's a chance of coastal flooding in Massachusetts and Rhode Island and the storm could bring as much as 18 inches (45 centimeters) of snow to parts of New Hampshire and Maine. The storm will also bring strong winds that could

cause power outages. Airport officials in Portland, Maine, canceled several flights for Saturday ahead of the weather and some libraries and businesses in the region announced weekend closures. Still, with warmer weather expected to return by the end of the weekend, most New Englanders were taking the storm in stride.

It wasn't the same story in California, where the weather system slammed the state earlier in the week (3 meters) of snow. Some residents in mountains east of Los Angeles will likely remain stranded in their homes for at least another week after the snowfall proved too much to handle for most plows.

Many residents of Alabama, Louisiana, Kentucky, Arkansas and Texas emerged Friday to find their homes and businesses damaged and trees toppled by the reported tornadoes. Tens of thousands were without power and some were also without water.

In Alabama, a 70-yearold man sitting in his truck in Talledega County was killed when a tree fell onto his vehicle. A 43-year-old man in Lauderdale County and a man in Huntsville also were killed by falling trees Friday, local authorities said.

In Texas, winds brought down trees, ripped the roof off a grocery store in Little Elm, north of Dallas, and overturned four 18-wheelers along. Minor injuries were reported, police said.

Winds of nearly 80 mph (130 kph) were recorded near the Fort Worth suburb of Blue Mound. The roof of an apartment building in the suburb of Hurst was blown away, resident Michael Roberts told KDFW-TV.

"The whole building started shaking. ... The whole ceiling is gone," Roberts said. "It got really crazy."

Heavy rain was also reported in southern Missouri and northern Arkansas, causing flooding in both

In southwest Arkansas,

Betty Andrews told KSLA-TV that she and her husband took shelter in the bathroom of their mobile home while a tornado moved through.

"It was very scary. I I grabbed Kevin and went and got into the bathtub," Andrews said. "We hunkered down, and I said some prayers until it passed."

They were OK but the home sustained major damage and the couple was temporarily trapped in the bathroom until a neighbor cleared debris from outside the door.

Elsewhere in the Midwest, Minnesota and Wisconsin expected areas of freezing fog with less than a quarter mile of visibility into the weekend, the weather service said. In North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota, highways could get up to 10 inches (25 centimeters) of snow and 45 mph (72 kph) wind gusts on Sunday and Monday.

Contributing to this report were Associated

Press writers Kimberly Chandler in Montgomery, Alabama; Margery Beck in Omaha, Nebraska; Corey Williams in Detroit; Mark Pratt in Boston; Chevel opened the front door to Johnson in New Orleans; Trisha Ahmed in St. Paul, Minnesota; Emily Wagster Pettus in Jackson, Mississippi; Dylan Lovan in Louisville, Kentucky; and Lisa Baumann in Bellingham, Washington.



(Adams Wells



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OBITUARIES

J. Keith Fuller, 90

J. Keith Fuller, 90, of Bluffton, a longtime resident of Ossian, passed away early Friday morning, March 3, 2023, at Christian Care Retirement Community.

Keith was born Dec. 4, 1932, in Bluffton, to Harry W. Fuller and Mable M. (Tucker) Fuller. He graduated from Chester Center High School in 1951.

Keith served in the Armed Forces from 1953 to 1955,

where he trained as a Field Wireman. He served in the Korean War for 17 months as a Battery A. 1st Field Artillery Battalia. He worked at Franklin Electric for 44

years in Bluffton. Keith enjoyed spending time with his

family, wood working, reading and fish-

He was a member of New Hope Lutheran Church in Ossian

On June 14, 1975, Keith and Janet Nichols were married in Celina, Ohio.

Keith is survived by his wife of 47 years, Janet of Bluffton; a daughter, Jen



He was preceded in death by his parents; two sons, Gary Fuller and Rick Fuller; and two sisters and four brothers.

Funeral services will take place at 1 p.m. Monday, March 6, 2023, at New Hope Lutheran Church in Ossian with Rev. Daniel Burfiend officiating. Visi-

tation will be held for one hour prior to the service on Monday at the church.

Burial will follow at the Oak Lawn Cemetery in Ossian, with military honors.

Memorials may be made to New Hope Lutheran Church, Loving Shepherd Ministries, or Stillwater Hospice of Fort Wayne, and can be directed to the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can share memories and online condolences with the family at www.thomarich.com

Local Roundup

County Drainage Board will floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St. meet Monday afternoon

The Wells County Drainage Board will meet at 4:30 p.m. Monday, March 6, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

Topics on the agenda include project updates and discussion of miscellaneous drainage matters.

County Commissioners will meet Monday afternoon

The Wells County Commissioners will meet at 5 p.m. Monday, March 6, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Appointments with Wells County Sheriff Scott Holliday, Wells County Highway Supervisor Shawn Bonar, and Wells County Engineer Nate Rumschlag.
- Consideration of a preliminary engineering services agreement for Wells County Road 200S railroad coordination.
- Consideration of a local road and bridges matching grant agreement.
- A flood safety awareness proclamation, brought to the board by County Surveyor Jarrod Hahn.
- A Family Centered Services matter, brought to the commissioners by Paige Hamilton.
- · Discussion of a road use and decommissioning agreement.
- Discussion of a right-of-way or utility agreement(s).
 - Library board appointment.

Northern Wells school board will meet Monday

The board of the Northern Wells Community Schools will hold a special meeting at 5 p.m. Monday, March 6, at the school district's administrative office, 312 N. Jefferson St. in Ossian.

The meeting has been called to facilitate a work session for financial planning.

Ossian parks board will meet Monday evening

The Ossian parks board will meet at 7 p.m. Monday, March 6, at Collier's, 215 N. Jefferson St. in Ossian.

No agenda was available for the meeting at press time Friday night.

Bluffton Board of Works to meet Tuesday afternoon

The Bluffton Board of Public Works and Safety will meet at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 7, in the meeting room on the first Topics on the agenda include:

- An update on projects, brought to the board by City Engineer Kelly White.
- A discussion about 427 W. Lancaster St. · Bid openings for Lancaster Park improvements.
- Personnel matters, brought to the board by Police Chief Kyle Randall, Parks Superintendent Brandy Fiechter, and Street Commissioner Tim Simpson.

Bluffton Common Council will meet Tuesday evening

The Bluffton Common Council will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 7, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St.

Topics on the agenda include:

- An update on the Praxis of Fort Wayne by Landmark Recovery facility in Bluffton. Jeff Yergler, discussing opioids with the
- An amendment to an interlocal agree-
- An ordinance for an additional appropriation.

Wells County Council will meet Tuesday evening

The Wells County Council will meet at p.m. Tuesday, March 7, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

Topics on the agenda include:

Additional appropriations for the jail, LIT Public Safety (county share), and juvenile probration.

- An update on the county highway garage, brought to the council by Conor
- A discussion of the Property Tax Appeals Board of Appeals ethics, brought to the council by Brandon Harnish.
- A work session on taxes for 2023, led by Darren Bates.
- · Salary ordinance.

Rock Creek Conservancy District to meet Thursday

The quarterly meeting of the Rock Creek Conservancy District will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 9, at the Liberty Center Fire Department, 2954 W. Market St. in Liberty Center.

Topics on the agenda include training and compensation, maintenance and water monitoring program reports, annual review, treasurer's reports, claim forms, and account reconciliations.

The meeting is open to the public. For additional information contact RCCD Financial Clerk Pamela Gregory at 260/703-

Bluffton Parks Rec News Notes



By Brandy

Fiechter

Destination Recreation

There is a leprechaun on the loose! Patrick the Playful Leprechaun travels from park to park in Bluffton causing mischief, pulling pranks, and hiding his gold at the end of rainbows. We need children of all ages to help us find this mischievous leprechaun.

This is a "hide and seek" game with a paper cut out of Patrick that will be hidden until March 15. If you find the paper cut out of Lucky the Leprechaun, you must deliver it back to the Parks Department to claim your prize. We will then hide him again in a different location after he is found. Follow Bluffton Parks on Facebook to see when he is on the run.

Coloring contests were sent out to the schools this week and are due back to our office at the end of this month. If you would like to print off more copies, they can be found at https://tinyurl.com/ mvxrr58d.

The city of Bluffton has a tree-planting program that will assist residents in planting trees along city streets during the early spring of 2023. The cost of trees is \$37.00 each. Trees will arrive in a 5-gallon container. They must be ordered and paid for before March 17, 2023, at the Mayor's office. Trees offered will be red sunset maple, Eastern redbud - pink blooming, kousa dogwood — white blooming, Heritage River birch – multistem, and tulip tree.

The city will assist homeowners in planting trees by digging the hole for planting during early spring, provided the location can be reached from the street by the city's equipment. If you wish, the trees will be delivered to your home for in late March to Early April.

you to plant. Trees are expected to arrive The city cannot guarantee the tree's growth, since much of the success of planting depends upon the care of the tree after it is in the ground. Trees may not be planted under utility lines or where the growth of the tree may endanger either

overhead or underground utilities.

Speaking of trees, did you know that the Parks

Department accepts memorial tree donations? Honor a loved one by planting trees in their memory. Orders are collected all year long, and trees are planted at the best suitable time (typically spring or fall).

Your donation not only provides a home for wildlife and shade for families walking on the Rivergreenway trail, but it also protects the trail itself, as the tree roots stabilize the bank. Did you know that a single tree provides enough oxygen for one year for a family of 4 or that it can capture 18,000 gallons of water over the course of their lives, improving the watershed areas? By planting memorial trees, you not only honor the life and legacy of your loved one you also help preserve the tree canopy in our beautiful parks and trails for generations to come.

For more information about this program visit: https://tinyurl.com/5au5hx6r

If you are still looking for something fun to do next weekend ProFed Credit Union is proudly hosting the 7th annual BRRR Fest, a craft beer and wine tasting, home brew contest, local food, and live music event.

VIP Admission is at 1 p.m. and general admission begins at 2 p.m. To see if there are any tickets left visit https:// www.blufftonnow.org/brrr-fest.

We want to give a special thanks to Kappa Kappa Kappa for blessing us with a **generous donation** last week. We have a lot of projects we are working on and we really appreciate their support!

We are still accepting **Kehoe Concert** donations for the 2023 summer series. We would like to thanks AdamsWells Internet-Telecom TV, General Manufacturing, George and Jan Babcock, and Kappa Kappa Kappa for their support with bringing exceptional talent to the Kehoe stage for our community to enjoy.

Have a great week!

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City:

Thursday, 2:06 p.m., intersection of West Horton and South Morgan streets. School resource officer notified of a vehicle passing a stop arm on a school bus.

Thursday, 4:18 p.m., Walmart Supercenter, 2100 N. Main St. Report of a

Thursday, 8:31 p.m., motorist assist in the 1200 block of Manor Drive.

Friday, 6:53 a.m., Walmart Supercenter. Two semis asked to leave parking lot.

Friday, 7:02 a.m., intersection of North Morgan and West Perry streets. Black labrador sitting next to dumpster, possibly abandoned. Officer investigated; dog not found.

Friday, 9 a.m., 911 phone call from Comfort Inn, 1782 N. Main St. Children in a room made the call.

Friday, 10:32 a.m., Bluffton High School. Truancy report received.

Friday, 11:38 a.m. Wood reported as a traffic hazard near Bluffton Regional Medical Center. Wood cleared from roadway. **County:**

Thursday, 4:58 p.m., County Road 450E at 700N. Citation issued for 84 in a 45 mph zone. Thursday, 8:04 p.m., Ind.

ness Tomas Arriaga recalled the truck had been swerving all over the road in front of him. Investigating office smelled alcohol on Diek and received a warrant for blood draw. Results pending. Diek was transported to Bluffton Regional Medical due to his injuries. The vehicle was towed by Pemberton's. Damage exceeded \$10,000.

Thursday, 10:08 p.m., 5351E 1000S. Alarm. Located open doors, cleared building.

ACCIDENTS

City:

Thursday, 8:23 p.m., Ind. 1, 1,000 feet south of Wells County Road 350S, A Chrysler Pacifica van driven by Andrea S. Esterhai, 45, 1131 S. Jersey St., struck a deer as the vehicle was southbound on Ind. 1. Car damaged in right front head-

light area and bumper cover. Damage estimated at less than \$1,000. Vehicle was drivable.

County: Thursday, 5:35 a.m.,

County Road 700E at 300S 116 in Vera Cruz. Tyler M. in Vera Cruz. Travis J. Calla-Diek, 41, Geneva, was driv- han was driving northbound ing a 2002 Chevrolet S-10 on Country Road 700E in pickup truck and ran off the a 2005 Che Ave and failed road and rolled over. Wit- to see the road curve after dropping his cigarette. Callahan hit the brakes and continued into the guardrail. Vehicle was towed by Pemberton's and the guardrail received significant damage. Damage exceeded \$2,500.

FIRES

Friday, 12;02 p.m. Report of smoke in a house at 2822 E. Center Drive. No flames.



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Lincoln might think me a fool but hey, I get paid to do this

Two topics for this Saturday morning.

Saturday's Sub

First, a very brief follow-up on Friday's latest installment on property taxes — that 2023 data shows Wells County homeowners' share of the tax-levy pie continues to grow. It should not be assumed that the writer proposes that this is necessarily a terrible trend. The \$64,000-question: What is the proper mix of the different categories?

Perhaps tax consultant Darren Bates has some insight into that since he works with 56 other Indiana counties. It might be a good question to pose during his discussion with the Wells County Council Tuesday evening.

Readers may recall one of the revelations from last year's tax saga study that in 2021, property taxes made up just 24 percent of the funding for the county's budget (30 percent of Bluffton's) while the average for the eight comparable counties was 43.4 percent (55 percent for the comparable county-seat cities). We also did a shallow dive into how that taxlevy pie looks in other counties, with no definitive findings.

It may be that Wells County homeowners — as well as all property-tax payers — have enjoyed a lower burden than others and we're just now catching up.

Or not. This reminds me of the Daylight Savings Time debate. Indiana adopted it a number of years ago in order to be more in sync with the rest of the country. While the move made economic sense, I was of the opinion that Indiana had it right all along — that switching the clocks twice a year had outlived its usefulness and everyone else should join us.

So, perhaps we will figure this out.

And now, to what's been bugging me this week.

There have been two instances of what I will call "unforced errors" that have only ramped up our unfortunate, runaway cultural wars.

Perhaps you've seen the news of the kerfuffle in the Northwest Allen County Schools regarding a spring drama titled "Marian: The True Story of Robin Hood." Apparently it has a "non-binary character" and a same-sex couple as part of the story.

I pay a bit more-than-normal attention to news from the NWAC schools because a) we have three grandchildren in the

district and b) Wayne Barker, well known in these parts, is the new superintendent.

Carroll High School's principal had approved the play several months ago, but when auditions started and word got out, a number of parents pro-Mark Miller tested to the point that the principal relented,

fearing, he is reported as saying, for the safety of his students. His decision to cancel the production resulted in an uproar and an online petition to re-instate the play.

The issue drew a standing-room-only crowd to the board's Monday night meeting. Barker supported his principal's decision. Another script was chosen. Haven't seen the title but it's a

Some would describe the principal's initial approval as "woke" while some would use words less kind. I'm not so sure — I think he would have more vigorously defended the play if that was his motivation. I'd describe it more as "not well thought out." There are other words for that, also less

safe bet that it's a safe bet.

Meanwhile, a 65-year-old cartoonist of a very popular cartoon strip — "Dilbert" — felt compelled to voice some really strange things this week. He says he'll accept criticism from anyone who has consumed his entire message because his comments were taken out of context. Frankly, that sounds like a punch-line from one of his strips.

Scott Adams referenced a Rasmussen poll that found only a slim majority of Black Americans agreed with the statement "It's OK to be white." (As I understand it, this phrase is used by at least some white supremacist groups, which would obviously give it a tinged meaning for many Black people, not unlike "Black Lives Matter," which is obviously true but has also acquired its own cultural connotations because extremists have used to further their cause.) Adams went on to accuse Black Americans of being "a hate group" and advised white people to "get the hell away" from them.

There are darn few quality comic

strips these days, Dilbert being one of them. The comic page was never meant to cause controversy, which is why many shied away from "Doonesbury," famous for its political slant. I'm glad we never carried Dilbert, hence Doug Brown doesn't have to add this to his to-do list.

So, the question is: Why did these people even go there? Why would a principal of a high school in a suburban midwestern community approve a play that addresses such controversial topics as gender identity and human sexuality? He didn't foresee any issues? He didn't consider that perhaps these were topics left for a college-level drama production as opposed to 15- and 16-year-olds?

When I was in high school, I played a part in "Of Mice and Men." We changed a word here and there in the dialogue of the ranch hands because our director



wisely took his audience and community into account.

And why would a guy like Adams, who obviously has a creative mind, make such remarks in an atmosphere already supercharged over racial issues? I've read that his fellow cartoonists are not exactly coming to his defense. Apparently he "has a long history of spewing problematic views," as one commented. But I have to wonder what compelled him to even open his mouth at all.

Although there is some debate, Abraham Lincoln is generally given credit for the adage (which quite applies to Mr. Adams), "Better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak and remove all doubt." Saturday morning readers may be surprised that I believe that to be sound advice and try to adhere to it as much as possible ... at least six days a week.

As I contemplate all of this, there is

a third instance that's been bugging me. Perhaps there's something to that "things happen in threes" thing.

It was revealed this week that Fox News commentators and executives were sharing internal emails about how those voicing a conspiracy theory of rigged voting machines in the wake of the 2020 election were "nuts." They apparently didn't believe a word of it, yet they not only continued to give them a platform for their rants, they encouraged them or at least failed to question them.

Why? Because it was good for their ratings. Their audience was eating it up. That's not news; that's entertainment, which is why I have intentionally never watched any cable news stations or listened to talk radio.

We are, or at least should be, aggravated by our politicians who tell us what they believe we want hear. For example, they would rather deny or ignore such obvious facts that we need to do something to shore up Social Security and Medicare. They package their message to tell us what they believe we want to hear. Fox News and CNN learned that lesson of "how to succeed" long ago and only continue to feed our unfortunate and unnecessary cultural wars.

Not that the "mainstream" news media operates in a non-biased world. The tone of the coverage of the oral arguments before the Supreme Court of President Biden's student loan forgiveness is very instructive. The news stories I've seen have been more concerned about the "uncertain future of thousands of student loan borrowers" than the basic constitutionality of who controls the nation's purse strings — Congress, as stipulated in the Constitution, or a fickle president, in this case, one who was obviously trying to buy some votes.

Not to mention a basic foundation of any civilized society: you borrow money, you pay it back.

Not to mention the precedent and the lesson if Biden's proposal is allowed to stand: If you worked your way through college or chose not to borrow and get a degree, you are the fool.

I think that adds up to at least four rants from this Saturday morning muser. President Lincoln may have another phrase to describe me, probably less

miller@news-banner.com

Police flouted public access law in Delphi case

Hoosier

Opinions

Indiana State Police Superintendent Doug Carter had some bad news for the gathered reporters.

"While I know you are all expecting final details today concerning this

arrest, today is not that day," he said. "Today is not that day. This investigation is far from complete, and we will not jeopardize its integrity by releasing documents or information before its proper time."

There will always be some tension between the news media's role in keeping the public informed and a police agency's role in protecting an investigation.

Still, Oct. 31, 2022, was not the day law enforcement authorities should have been releasing information about the long-awaited arrest of a suspect in the deaths of two Delphi teenagers. That announcement should have come days earlier, on Oct. 26, the day authorities actually made the arrest and put the suspect in jail. But police did not make the announcement that day.

Nor did they make it the next day, the day they should have made available for public inspection a daily log listing the department's activities from the day before.

Police also did not release information the next day, Oct. 28, the day Ron Wilkins, a reporter for the Journal & Description of the Courier in Lafayette, filed a public records request. Nor did they release it the day after that, the day Wilkins' request was denied.

By the time police finally acknowledged they had made an arrest, the suspect had been in jail for five days. He had made an appearance in court, and a judge had sealed the probable cause affidavit, the document on which his arrest was based.

This is not the way the American system of justice is supposed to work.

Days after the news conference, Wilkins filed a complaint with the Indiana Public Access Counselor, and that office issued a ruling Feb. 10.

Maddeningly, the state police responded using an argument the access counselor had rejected more than two years earlier when a reporter for The Herald Bulletin sought a copy of the agency's daily log. They argued that while the law requires creation of such a log within 24 hours, it does not require that the log actually be made available for public inspection. Instead, they insisted, the law allows public agencies 21 days to respond to records requests and that same time period should apply

In the Delphi case, Luke Britt, the access counselor, said again what he had said before: The law requires police agencies to maintain a public record of their activities, and it stands to reason that record should be readily available to the public.

Britt also rejected a second argument, that sealing court records complicated the role of police agencies in releasing information. He pointed out that a police log isn't a court record and thus isn't covered by a judge's

Britt shouldn't have to keep repeating himself for the state police to get the message. They are charged with enforcing the law. They shouldn't also be flouting it.

THE HERALD-BULLETIN (Anderson)

The lab leak story: How elite scientists lied and concealed the truth

When the Wall Street Journal reported in a frontpage lead story that the Department of Energy had concluded the COVID-19 pandemic resulted from a leak from China's Wuhan laboratory, you might have argued it was old news. The FBI had already, it turns out, come to the same conclusion and with a higher degree of confidence (moderate) than the Energy Department (low).

Those agencies' conclusions, moreover, came as a result of a May 21 directive from President Joe Biden to multiple intelligence agencies to review two "equally plausible scenarios" for COVID's origin, "whether it emerged from human contact with an infected animal" (the zoonotic theory) "or from a laboratory accident" (the lab leak theory).

That should have been big news since the zoonotic theory, advanced early and widely accepted by government scientists and many journalists, had become entrenched as early as February 2020 when COVID first became big news.

Emails unearthed by a House committee and quoted by longtime New York Times science reporter Nicholas Wade showed that Scripps Research Institute scientist Kristian Andersen had written National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director

Anthony Fauci on Jan. 31, 2020, to inform him that he and other scientists had concluded that COVID-19 was "inconsistent with expectations from the evolutionary (that is, zoonotic) theory.'

But former National Institutes of Health Director Francis Collins emailed on Feb. 2 that if the lab leak theory were accepted, "the voices of conspiracy will quickly dominate, doing great potential harm to science and international harmony." Thus, after a teleconference with Col-

lins and Fauci, Andersen, in a Feb. 4 email, characterized the lab leak as one of an unnamed number of "crackpot theories." Later, on March 20, he said the virus was "not a laboratory construct."

So why the switch? Well, scientists like Andersen knew that Fauci and Collins controlled huge streams of research funding. Fauci and Collins knew that they had repeatedly approved funding at the Wuhan lab. The conspiracy was not to spread the lab leak theory but to suppress it.

The zoonotic theory had become unassailable dogma by the time Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR) advanced the lab leak theory on Fox News on Feb. 16. "Fringe theory" and "conspiracy theory," huffed The New York Times. "A coronavirus fringe theory," wrote the Washington Post . Other eminent journalists piled on, even though an accident, by definition, is not the result of a conspiracy.

Facebook, led and staffed almost entirely by leftwingers, promptly followed the lead of government science funders and suppressed news of the lab leak theory for more than a year. The State Departmentbacked Global Disinformation Index, the Washington Examiner's Gabe Kaminsky revealed, similarly sought to suppress the theory. Twitter, under its similarly biased pre-Musk regime, used "visibility filtering" to downplay the lab leak theory. President

Donald Trump's March 2020 tweets about "the China virus" were attacked as "racist" by multiple critics, and those advancing the lab leak theory were attacked for "racism." The lab leak theory, The New York Times science writer Apoorva Mandavilli tweeted in May 2021, has "racist roots." Even advocates of the zoonotic theory were briefly charged with racism, too.

Nevertheless, serious and carefully nuanced arguments were made for taking the lab leak theory seriously, in multiple articles by Nicholas Wade, in science writer Matt Ridley and Alina Chen's book "Viral: The Search for the Origin of Covid-19," in a National Review cover story and in a detailed report from the liberal ProPublica organization published

The press, even while proclaiming that "democracy dies in darkness," was reluctant to shed any light on the lab leak theory. Even worse was the behavior of scientists. "Welp," tweeted FiveThirtyEight founder Nate Silver when the Wall Street Journal story on the Energy Department's decision broke. "The behavior of a certain cadre of scientists who

used every trick in the book to suppress discussion of this issue is something I'll never forget. A huge disservice to science and public health."

The origin of COVID is not the only issue on which the scientists have disgraced themselves. Just this month, the prestigious British medical journal The Lancet published a review of 65 studies that concluded that the natural immunity of those who have contracted COVID provides more protection than

the vaccines. There goes the case for requiring that the previously infected get multiple vaccinations.

And just last week, Britain's prestigious Cochrane Library released a study of 78 randomized control trials with 610,000 participants, which concluded that masks make no difference -- none -- in stopping transmission of respiratory diseases like COVID. "There is just no evidence they make any difference. Full stop,' said the study's lead author. So much for the mask mandates, including the CDC masking guideline, which teachers unions got the CDC to impose upon schoolchildren by applying their undue political influ-

We don't know for certain -- and given Chinese secrecy, we probably never will -- that COVID resulted from a lab leak. But we do know that leading scientists and science funders in government lied, distorted and suppressed the truth. We do know that public health officials stuck and still stick to requirements that have negative effects but no scientific basis. We know that many journalists who arrogantly offer themselves as voices speaking truth to power were actually exerting power to suppress truth.

Elite scientists and journalists today complain that they get no respect. Their record shows they don't deserve much.



Michael **Barone**

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APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH - COUNTRY 1970 S.-800E., Bluffton 9:45 & 11:45 a.m. - Worship.

ASBURY CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST 8013 W.-1100S.-90.

Montpelier

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.

BETHEL

(Independent Bible) 4500E-300S, Bluffton 9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMS

6114E-750N, Ossian bethlehemossian.org 9 a.m. - Divine Service. 10:15 - Adult Bible Class, Youth Bible Class & Sunday School, 11:30 - Voice of Bethlehem on 92.7 FM.

> **BLUFFTON CHURCH OF GOD** 327 W. Cherry St.

10 a.m. - Sunday School. 11 a.m. - Worship. 6 p.m. -Service.

BLUFFTON WESLEYAN CHAPEL (Independent Holiness

Church) 1309 W. Washington St. blufftonwesleyan.net 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 & 6:30 p.m. -Worship.

> **BOEHMER UNITED METHODIST** 3467 S 600 W.

Liberty Center boehmerumc.org 9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:45 - Sunday School.

CALVARY LUTHERAN, ELCA 1532 N. Main St. 9 a.m. - Worship.

CHESTER CENTER 900S-300W, Poneto 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.



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630 E. Dustman Rd. 9:45 & 11:45 a.m. - Wor-

CHRISTIAN NEW LIGHT 1011 W. Washington St. 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School, 10:30 - Worship, 6 p.m. - Praise & worship.

CHURCH OF CHRIST 735 S. Marion St. 10 a.m. - Bible Study. 10:45 - Worship.

COVENANT CHAPEL 3550 S. SR 1

mycovenantchapel.org 9:15 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:15 - Worship. (Children's Church for ages 6-12).

> **DILLMAN UNITED BRETHREN** 8888S-1100W-90,

Warren 9 a.m. - Worship. 10 a.m. -Sunday School.

DOMESTIC CHURCH **OF CHRIST**

9 a.m. - Sunday school. 10 a.m. - Church service.

EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST 1204 W. Cherry St. 9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:40 a.m. - Sunday School.

> **FAIRVIEW CHURCH OF GOD**

5511 W. Yoder Rd., Yoder fairviewlife.com 9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST 210 W. Townley fbc-bluffton.com 9:30 a.m. - Sunday

School. 10:30 - Worship.

FIRST BAPTIST 202 W. Cherry St. fbcbluffton.com 10:15 - Worship.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF OSSIAN 1001 Dehner Dr.

FIRST CHURCH

OF CHRIST

909 W. Spring St.

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. - Worship. 6:30 - Service.

FCCfamily.com 9:30 & 11 a.m. - Worship. FIRST CHURCH

OF THE NAZARENE 1515 Clark Ave. blufftonnazarene org 9 a.m. - Sunday School 9-10 a.m. - Free ESL class-

es. 10:15 - Worship. 6 p.m. Service. **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**

215 E. Dustman Rd. firstpcbluffton.org 9:30 a.m. - Children/youth & Adult Sunday School.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN (EVANGELICAL)

10:30 - Worship.

S. Jefferson St., Ossian www.OssianChurch.com 8:45 a.m. - Sunday school. 10 a.m. - Worship.

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF BLUFFTON 301 W. Cherry St. 9:15 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST 325 W. Washington St. 9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:45 Sunday School.

FORGIVEN CHURCH 1409 S. Main St. forgivenonline.org 9 a.m. - Worship.

HARVEST TIME BIBLE 11015S-600E, Keystone 9:10 a.m. - Prayer. 10 a.m.

Worship.

HOPE MISSIONARY 429 E. Dustman Rd. hope4thefamily.com 8 a.m., 9:30 & 11 a.m. -

Service at Main Campus. 9:30 & 11 a.m. - Service, north campus, Ossian.

KEYSTONE CHURCH 10556S-200W 9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:30 - Sunday School.

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A Joyful Noise ...

FRENCH FRY **MEMORIES**

Miller often uses his weekly words to lament — or celebrate ... I'm not sure — his tendency to age each year, and certainly, at 72, Mark has secured the right to journey through the valley of the shadow of nostalgia — or curmudgeonliness ... again, I'm not sure.

I don't know if I, at only 42-years-old, dare join him on his journey, but I dared to indulge this week as I read a rough draft from a column at least a decade old:

(And if anyone doubts my qualifications to reminisce, I should note that an 18-year-old recently asked me a question that started with the phrase, "Back in your day ...")

"As we drag ourselves through the post-holiday blues of winter," I wrote in that draft, "I propose another holiday to help us survive: National Steal Your Uncle's French Fries Day. You can celebrate it anytime you eat out with your 6-year-old nephew.

"Nephews have the patience of a humming bird and the appetite of a killer whale, and while he waits for his cheeseburger, he'll relentlessly maul your French fries like a piranha.

"Actually, I'm pretty sure that a piranha would show more restraint.

And unless you stop him (which will require duct tape or a sedative) or distract him (which will require something he can attack his sisters with), you will order your lunch again."

Now a 19-year-old man, nephew Canyon presumably wouldn't steal my fries anymore, but in 2021, Canyon's sister Timber gave birth to Brooks Michael McClain, and perhaps Canyon will one day celebrate National Steal Your Uncle's French Fries Day with him.

And perhaps one day, Brooks will celebrate it with his own nephew (which will require siblings. Hint, hint, Timber).

The more things change, the cliché states.

But Moses states in Psalm 90:12. "So teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."

Like a field in the spring, each day promises potentially precious memories that can blossom for years, but people will only harvest them if they turn their eyes away from this life's cares and vanities — particularly its digital distractions — and purposely plant seeds through fellowship, forbearing, charity, laughter and tears (and regular meal

GRACE BAPTIST

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9:40 - Fellowship. 10 a.m. -

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10:30 a.m. - Service (Chil-

dren's programs available).

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10 a.m. - Worship. 11:30 -

LIVING WATER

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6486 S 700E, Bluffton

8:45-9 a.m. - Prayer. 9

a.m. - Sunday School. 10

Sunday School.

a.m. - Worship.

Worship.

times will help).

Moses also included Fellow columnist Mark a genealogy early in the Bible, perhaps to further remind readers that they can use those numbered days

and their anonymous moments to either bless or burden people for generations to come. Because of the

by Chet faithful legacy of Baumgartner Adam's son Seth, for instance, Noah walked in righteousness

and found grace in the eyes of the Lord. Cain's lineage, however, included Lamech, the world's first recorded adulterer and second recorded murderer.

Perhaps Cain didn't think his decisions would eventually create such a tidal wave of evil, but subtle compromises never advertise their intentions when they tempt one generation; they instead assure people that a little complacency or a little sin will remain little, while convincing the next generation to compromise 'just a little more ...

And eventually, the sin one compromises with today becomes the sin someone celebrates tomor-

Fortunately, the righteousness one pursues today becomes the righteousness someone consistently practices tomorrow.

"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed. which a man took and sowed in his field, which indeed is the least of all the seeds, but when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches," Jesus said in Matthew 13:31, 32.

One day King Jesus will return to reap the harvest of that righteousness, and those who stayed true to His Kingdom will enjoy an eternity of moments to make new memories (though the Bible doesn't say if restaurants on the new earth will serve French fries, but I digress ...).

Until that day, though, the Apostle Paul tells Christians, "See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is."

'Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time," Paul also told the Colossians.

And if Christians do, they too can leave a legacy of Timothys and Tituses, and they too can say, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness."

baumofchet@gmail.com

LIBERTY CENTER **BAPTIST**

3071 W. Cherry St. 8:30 a.m. - Pastor/Deacon's Prayer. 9 - Sunday School. 9:55 - Fellowship. 10:15 - Worship.

LIBERTY CENTER **COMMUNITY CHURCH** 8:45 a.m. - Choir practice. 9 a.m. - Coffee, donuts, conversation. 9:30 - Worship w/infant nursery & children's church. 10:45 -

OSSIAN CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 302 N. Metts St.

Sunday School.

ossiannaz.org 9:15 a.m. - Bible study. 10:30 - Service.

METHODIST 201 W. Mill St. ossianumc.org 9 a.m. - Worship, Worship child care nurse. 10 a.m. - Fellowship. 10:15 - Adult

Sunday School.

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470 E. Morse St. Saturday: 9:30 a.m. -Worship. 10:45 - Sabbath School (Bible study).

> **MARKLE CHURCH OF CHRIST**

455 E. Morse St. marklechurch.org 9 a.m. - Adult Bible study groups. 10:30 - Worship. Children's & student programming both hours.

> **MCNATT UNITED METHODIST** 9221 W 800S-90,

Montpelier 8:30 a.m. - Coffee fellowship. 9:15 - Worship.

MURRAY MISSIONARY

1117 N. Washington St., Murray murraymc.org 9:30 a.m. - Worship. 11 a.m. - Sunday School.

NEW BEGINNING 2187 W. SR 218 10 a.m. - Sunday School.

10:30 - Worship. **NEW HOPE LUTHERAN** (Missouri Synod) 8824 N. SR 1. Ossian

newhopelutheran-ossian. webs.com 9 a.m. - Sunday School & Adult Bible study. 10 a.m. -Worship.

NOTTINGHAM 1100 S. SR 1 9:30 - Sunday School. 10:30 & 6 p.m. - Worship.

PARK COMMUNITY 617 S. Bennett St. blog.parkub.org 10 a.m. - Connection. 11 a.m. - Worship.

PETROLEUM COMMUNITY CHURCH 3625 E. 2nd St. 9 a.m. - Worship. 10:30 -Sunday School.

PONETO BAPTIST Grape Street 8:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 9 a.m. - Worship.

PONETO UNITED METHODIST 36 E. Walnut St. 9 a.m. - Worship. 10 a.m. -

Fellowship. 10:15 - Sunday

RIVER OF HOPE 1224 W. Central 11 a.m. - Worship & the Word.

School.

RIVER OF LIFE 927 N. Main St. 10:30 a.m. - Worship.

SIX MILE 4790 SE SR 116 9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

SONLIGHT WESLEYAN 2350 S. SR 1 sonlightwesleyan.org

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship. Nursery & Children's classes available during Sunday School & Worship.

SOUTHERN WELLS COMMUNITY CHURCH 9450 S 300 W, Poneto 9 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship.

1300 N. Main St. Saturday: 7:45 a.m. -Prayer. 8 a.m. - Mass. 8:30 - Rosary. 4 p.m. or by

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC

5 p.m. - Mass. Sunday: 7:30 & 10 a.m. -Mass.

appointment - Confessions.

ST. LUKE CHURCH 4960W-100N, Decatur stlukechurch.in 9 a.m. - Worship. 10:15 - Sunday School.

> ST. MARK EV. **LUTHERAN** 16933 Thiele Rd. stmarkfw.org

8:45 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship. ST. MARK'S

LUTHERAN (NALC) 5912 N. Sugar St., Uniondale 10 a.m. - Worship. 10:15 -Children's Sunday School.

MARKLE UNITED METHODIST

145 W. Morse St. 9 a.m. - Sunday Service. 10 a.m. - Worship.

TOWER LIFE CENTER 11811 N. Wayne St.,

Zanesville towerlifecenter.com 9:30 a.m. - TLC Groups. 10:30 - Worship.

TURNPOINTE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN 500 W. Logan, Markle turnpointechurch.com 9:30 a.m. - Fellowship. 10

UNIONDALE UNITED METHODIST

a.m. - Adult & Children's

Worship.

5867 N. Main St. www.uniondaleumc.com 9 a.m. - Worship.

UNIONTOWN **CHURCH OF CHRIST** 11419 N-200W, Ossian 9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

VERA CRUZ FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER CCCU

2771 SE Mulberry St., Vera Cruz 9-10 a.m. - Sunday School. 10-10:30 - Fellowship. 10:30 - Worship.

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH 205 S. Adams St., Monroe

9 a.m. - Worship. 10:15 Discipleship for adults & children. **ZANESVILLE**

COMMUNITY

CHURCH OF GOD

11984 N. Marzane Rd.

9 a.m. - Bible Class. 10 a.m. - Worship. **ZANESVILLE UNITED**

BRETHREN IN CHRIST 3092 W. Broadway 9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.





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Knights advance to sectional title with victory over Braves

By RICK SPRUNGER

PERU — Maconaquah tried to run with Norwell Friday night in the Class 3A Peru sectional semi-finals.

That hasn't worked for anyone else this year and didn't work out so well for the Braves, either.

Norwell spotted the southern Miami County team a 34-33 halftime lead but then took control in the third quarter and kicked it into overdrive in the fourth on its way to an 80-60 blow-

The Knights, now 22-3 on the season, will face Peru (16-7) in the championship game Saturday night.

Peru won its way to the finals with a 55-47 upset win over Oak Hill (20-3) in the other semi-final.

With Norwell nursing a 55-51 lead midway through the fourth quarter, Luke McBride got open underneath for a feed from Lleyton Bailey, then picked the pocket of Maconaquah's Bauer Maple and rifled an upcourt pass to Cohen Bailey for another layup and a

Josiah Ball temporarily silenced the Norwell crowd with a couple of free throws.

But Cohen Bailey took the inbounds pass and dribbled his way coast to coast for a layup at the other end while being clobbered.

He converted the threepoint play to make it 62-53.

McBride rebounded a Ball miss at the other end, and Cohen Bailey got into the lane, drew his defender into the air, and dropped a sweet wraparound pass to a wide-open Ashton Federspiel for another bunny.

All of that in a 90-second

Suddenly, it was 64-53, and Norwell was headed downhill as fast and smooth as an Alpine skier.

Maple canned two more free throws for Maconaquah, but Luke Graft took sharp passes from Lleyton Bailey for two more wideopen layups and a 68-55

The rest of it was just a

"That's our game," said Maconaquah coach John Burrus on his decision to get into a track meet with the Knights. "We weren't afraid to run with them. And for the better part of three quarters, we stayed right with them. But then we couldn't score in the fourth quarter, and that makes a huge difference against a team like Norwell. When you're scoring, they have to take it out of the net instead of getting it into transition."

Up until that sequence, however, the game was very

much in play.

Norwell got off to yet another slow start, missed seven straight three-pointers in the first quarter, and trailed by seven points on three occasions and 18-13 at the first break only after Jake Parker's 10-footer from the left baseline popped off the rim and dropped straight through the net.

"They play a style that, unless you've played against it, it takes some time to adjust to it," explained Norwell coach Mike McBride of his team's chilly 5-for-18 start from the field and uncharacteristic eight firsthalf turnovers. "They made us rush our shots. But I'm a little concerned with our three-point shooting."

Lleyton Bailey connected with McBride on an alleyoop play, and the former finally got a three to stick to earn the Knights an 18-18 tie at the start of the second

But that was Norwell's only three of the first half, and the Knights went to the dressing room trailing,

Three-point shooting wasn't a problem for Maple, however.

The Maconaquah sharpshooter, who averages 26 points per game and finished with 29, had 19 by halftime, 12 of them on four three-pointers.

But Norwell had the answer for him in the second half.

"We went to a box-andone defense," explained the elder McBride on how he stuffed a cork in Maconaquah's main offensive threat. "That bothered him a little, I think, and then we just wore him down. I think he was getting tired because his shots were coming up short."

Burrus took umbrage with the suggestion that his sniper was off-target in the second half.

But the numbers are what

And the numbers show 1-for-8 from the arc in the second half, and the one he did hit didn't come until his team was in a 70-56 hole.

"What about his free throws?" challenged the first-year Maconaquah men-

Seven-for-ten. Solid, but not spectacu-

And each of them only

counts for one. "Well," he conceded, "Norwell's defense on him was leaving other guys open, and we just weren't

hitting shots that we usually In fact, Maconaquah hit just two of 16 fourth-quarter shots after hitting 17 of 38 (.447) through the first

Norwell, on the other hand, was red-hot.

Counting a McBride drive through the lane to end the third quarter, the Knights hit on 11 of their last 14 shots (.786) on their way to a 29-for-57 effort (.509) for the game.

Norwell came out of the third quarter gate on fire.

A McBride floater in the lane and back-to-back threes by Jake Parker and McBride put the Knights in front,

Maconaquah steadied and responded with six straight points before a Lleyton Bailey drive through the lane kept Norwell on top, 43-40.

But then came a sequence that McBride (the coach) called "huge."

Gavin Hoeppner nailed a three from the right wing, then stole the inbounds pass, went to the line, and hit

That made it 48-40 and had the Norwell crowd rockin'.

And while Maconaquah managed to knock it down to four, the Knights still had control before the gameending speedaway.

"Norwell is a really good team," acknowledged Burrus afterward. "They dodged a bullet Wednesday night, but tonight they found their legs again. They could go a long way.'

Cohen Bailey paced five players in double figures with 17 points and eight rebounds.

McBride added 13 points, 10 rebounds, and six assists; Parker and Federspiel contributed 12 points apiece; and Lleyton Bailey had 10 points and nine

sports@news-banner.com

NORWELL 80, MACONAQUAH 60 MACONAQUAH (16-8). Bauer Maple 7-19 10-14 29, A.J. Kelly 5-10 0-2 11, Josiah Ball 6-19 4-6 17, Ethan Zeiser 0-2 0-0 0, MJ Ellis 1-2 1-4 3, Frace Armstrong 0-0 0-0 0, Fuddy Kile 0-0 0-0 0, Oakley Reeser 0-1 0-0 0, Braxton Bimer 0-0 0-0 0, Jackson Collins 0-1 0-0 0, Kaden Miller 0-0 0-0 0. TOTAL: 19-54 15-26 60.

NORWELL (22-3). Jake Parker 4-7 3-4 12, Cohen Bailey 6-13 5-6 17, Lleyton Bailey 4-6 0-1 10, Luke McBride 6-14 0-0 13, Brody Bolyn 1-3 0-0 2, Ashton Federspiel 4-9 4-4 12, Luke Graft 3-3 2-2 8, Gavin Hoeppner 1-2 2-2 5, Adam McBride 0-0 0-0 0, Kaedyn Quintanilla 0-0 0-0 0, Brady Smith 0-0 0-0 0, Owen Wal-lis 0-0 1-2 1. TOTAL: 29-57 17-21 80.

Maconaquah 18 16 14 12 — 60 Norwell 13 19 19 28 — 80 Norwell 13 19 19 28 — 80 Three-point shooting: Maconaquah 7-25 (Maple 5-15, Kelly 1-3, Ball 1-5, Zeiser 0-1, Collins 0-1), Norwell 5-19 (Parker 1-3, C. Bailey 0-3, L. Bailey 2-4, L. McBride 1-5, Federspiel 0-2, Hoeppner 1-2). Rebounds: Maconaquah 29 (Ball 8), Norwell 43 (L.

McBride 10, C. Bailey 8, Federspiel 6). Turnovers: Maconaquah 9, Norwell 12. Personal fouls: Maconaquah 17, Norwell 19. Fouled out: None. Technical fouls: None.



Cohen Bailey leads the fast break past Maconaquah's Josiah Bell in the second quarter Friday night in Sectional 23 at Peru. (Photo by Glen Werling)

High School Calendar No events scheduled.

SATURDAY, Mar. 4 Norwell at Peru sectional championship boys basketball, 7:30 p.m. **MONDAY, MARCH 6**

No events scheduled. **TUESDAY, MARCH 7** No events scheduled. **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8**

THURSDAY, MARCH 9 No events scheduled. FRIDAY, MARCH 10 No events scheduled. **SATURDAY, MARCH 11** TRACK & FIELD (CO-ED): Norwell at IPFW Bulldog Invite, 10 a.m. **MONDAY, MARCH 13**

Holmes scores 27 points as No. 2 Indiana women hold off Michigan St

By PATRICK DONNELLY

Associated Press MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Mackenzie

Holmes scored 27 points and Sara Scalia added 20 as second-ranked and top-seeded

Indiana overcame a slow start to hold off Michigan State 94-85 in the quarterfinals of the Big Ten Tournament on Friday. Chloe Moore-McNeil had 19 points and 11

(27-2), while Yarden Gar-Mackenzie

zon added 12 points and five rebounds. "Obviously we're not proud of how we came

assists for the Hoosiers

out in that first half," said Holmes, whose team missed seven of its first eight shots and trailed by as much as 12 points in the second quarter. "But the fact that we were able to kind of weather the storm a little bit and keep our foot on the pedal, keep chipping away at the hole we dug ourselves, was

"That's not going to fly down the stretch here in this Big Ten Tournament. So we've got to learn from it, and we've got to be better. But I think it's a special thing that we were able to come back from something like that."

Kamaria McDaniel pumped in a seasonhigh 32 points for ninth-seeded Michigan State (16-14). DeeDee Hagemann had 18 points and four assists, while Moira Joiner added 16 points and nine boards.

"We were getting stops, and that was helping with momentum," McDaniel said. "So when you're playing good defense and your teammates are getting you the ball, I'm just able to kind of be myself and be that scorer that I've been." The Spartans handed Indiana one of its

two losses this season, and early on they seemed poised to take down the Hoosiers

Michigan State hit four 3-pointers in the first quarter, including a pair by McDaniel, who scored 10 as the Spartans took a 24-14 lead through the first 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, after Holmes converted a layup on their opening possession, the Hoosiers went more than seven minutes without a field goal. They missed seven straight shots before a Scalia 3-pointer ended the drought.

We did dig ourselves a little bit of a hole there, but I did anticipate us getting going, Indiana coach Teri Moren said. "I didn't think it would take till halftime or after halftime.'

Trailing by six to start the third quarter, Indiana finally got its inside-outside game working. Garzon opened the half with a 3-pointer, Holmes scored seven points in the paint, and Scalia hit a 3 to tie the game

Garzon then hit another 3-pointer with 3:55 left in the third quarter to give the Hoosiers their first lead since the game's open-

"This is a balanced team," Moren said. "If (Holmes) is being doubled, which we anticipate she's always going to be doubled,

then other people have to step up. ... We've seen it throughout the entire year, I think. with just different pieces

stepping up and providing scoring for us.' McDaniel wouldn't let the game get away from the Spar-

tans, however.

She quickly hit

consecutive jumpers to restore the Michigan State lead. McDaniel added three more points down the stretch as Indiana took a one-point edge into the fourth.

Sydney Parrish opened the final frame with two straight 3-pointers and the Hoosiers kept Michigan State at arm's length the rest of the way. Moore-McNeil hit 9 of 10 free throws over the final 45 seconds to seal

first Big Ten regular season championship in 40 years and looking for its second conference tournament title, having last won it The Spartans advanced to the quarterfi-

Top-seeded Indiana is coming off its

nals with a 67-64 victory over eighth-seeded Nebraska on Wednesday. Hagemann scored a team-high 18 in the win.

Now, they're left hoping the NCAA Tournament selection committee looks past their record and considers how the Spartans fared in the rugged Big Ten when the tournament field is decided.

"This team is so good. We've been very close against top tier teams, Indiana, Iowa in an overtime game, on and on I could go," acting head coach Dean Lockwood said. "I just really believe this team is worthy and could make a good showing, but that's going to be out of our hands."

'Every number is good': Analytics helping speed up baseball

By JIMMY GOLEN **AP Sports Writer**

Robot umpires. A strike zone that looks more like a stop sign than a rectangle. Allowing the batter to take off for first base on any pitch, not just a dropped third strike.

With the new pitch clock speeding up the sport, baseball's brain trust already is trying to figure out what might come next in its efforts to make games more exciting and keep them moving along.

And the people running the sport are using the same kind of number-crunching analytics that caused the problem to solve the problem.

"This is Phase One. There probably is more coming," Major League Baseball executive vice president Morgan Sword said Friday at the MIT Sloan School Sports Analytics Conference. "But with every single one of these things, we've always tried to (ask): 'Is this a reasonable change that baseball fans are going to support,

or are we veering toward something that's not baseball any more?

'It's a very subjective skill," Sword said. "There's lots of things that would work that would just irritate people too much to make it worth it."

The MIT conference began in 2007 as a small gathering of stat nerds who believed they had found a better way to measure everything from free agent signings to when to go for it on fourth down. It's now a 2,200-person conclave that fills a downtown convention center with powerful people.

Over the years, some of the strategies the statisticians came up with to help a team win also changed the nature of games. In basketball, that meant players attempting 3-pointers at unprecedented rate; in baseball, it led to a game that has gotten longer and more bor-

The average time of a nine-inning game has stretched from 2 hours, 30 minutes in the mid-1950s to 2:46 in 1989 and 3:10 in

Statistics pioneer Bill James said "it's past time" for those running the national pastime to fight back. And he praised them for using the nerds' own numbers to do it.

"In a sense, the game is a war between the front offices, who are trying to figure out a way to make the game slow and boring, and (league officials) who are trying to figure out a way to make it fast and exciting, he said.

"We have some very intelligent adversaries in that war," Sword replied.

Sword said the commissioner's office worked backward from surveys that showed fans want more action and less time waiting for events to happen. MLB tested dozens of possible solutions in the minor leagues during the past two years and some proved impractical.

'Many of them wound up on the cutting room floor," he said.

News-Banner Scoreboard

BASKETBALL

High School

Friday Boys' Scores Sectional Semifinal Class 4A 5. Carroll (Fort Wayne)
Ft. Wayne North 64, Ft. Wayne Snider

. Wayne Northrop 59, E. Noble 53 Kokomo 68, Lafayette Harrison 63, OT Marion 89, McCutcheon 51

8. Carmel Noblesville 47, Westfield 45 Zionsville 59, Fishers 53 9. Muncie Central Mt. Vernon (Fortville) 58, Anderson 57 New Palestine 48, Pendleton Hts. 35 10. Warren Central

Indpls Attucks 51, Lawrence North 38
Indpls Cathedral 64, Warren Central 61 11. Perry Meridian Indpls Ben Davis 76, Franklin Central

Indpls Pike 66, Decatur Central 51 12. Plainfield

12. Plainfield Brownsburg 62, Terre Haute North 41 Plainfield 78, Terre Haute South 59 13. Center Grove Bloomington North 84, Martinsville 70 Center Grove 62, Bloomington South 39 14. Columbus North
Columbus North 60, Columbus East

54, OT Whiteland 47, Shelbyville 45 16. Evansville North
Evansville Reitz 49, Evansville Central Jasper 51, Evansville North 37 Class 3A

22. Frankfort Rensselaer 47, Benton Central 44 Twin Lakes 45, Western 43 23. Peru Norwell 80, Maconaquah 60 Peru 55, Oak Hill 47 24. New Castle Delta 61, Hamilton Hts. 42 New Castle 54, Frankton 43 25, Danville

25. Danville
Danville 60, Lebanon 49
Tri-West 57, Crawfordsville 39
26. Northview Indian Creek 60, Northview 43 S. Vermillion 61, Edgewood 53 28. Christel House Manual

Beech Grove 71, Speedway 50 Indpls Ritter 67, Indpls Washington 45 Page 15 August 16 August 1

Washington 55, Heritage Hills 48 32. Boonville Evansville Mater Dei 57, Evansville Gibson Southern 66, Boonville 55

37. S. Adams Adams Central 65, Ft. Wayne Luers 44 Ft. Wayne Blackhawk 75, Manchester 38. Delphi

Carroll (Flora) 64, Covington 38 Clinton Prairie 57, Delphi 40 39. Taylor Taylor 45, Elwood 37 Tipton 73, Madison-Grant 56 40. Monroe Central Muncie Burris 59, Wes-Del 34

Wapahani 49, Lapel 41
41. Shenandoah
Hagerstown 65, Knightstown 44
Northeastern 66, Union Co. 33 42. Eastern Hancock Indpls Scecina 55, Eastern Hancock 40 Triton Central 78, Indpls Riverside 45 43. Cascade Indpls Park Tudor 67, Covenant Chris-

University 57, Cascade 32 44. Southmont N. Putnam 65, Riverton Parke 53 Parke Heritage 65, S. Putnam 40

45. S. Ripley Milan 48, Hauser 43 N. Decatur 44, S. Ripley 37 47. N. Knox Linton 74, Mitchell 42

Vincennes (South Knox— 65, Eastern (Greene) 32 48. Tell City Forest Park 74, Tell City 41 N. Posey 56, Perry Central 29 53 Southwood Ft. Wayne Canterbury 47, Ft. Wayne

Smith Academy 40 55. Tri-Central Daleville 74, Tri-Central 70 Liberty Christian 67, Cowan 48

Blue River 82, Union (Modoc) 17 Seton Catholic 75, Cambridge City 66 57. White River Valley Bloomfield 36, White River Valley 21 Bloomington Lighthouse 63, N. Central (Farmersburg) 62

58. Indiana Deaf Bethesda Christian 53, Indiana Math and Science Academy 35 Traders Point Christian 53, Indpls Metro

59. Indpls Lutheran Greenwood Christian 75, Victory College Prep 28 Indpls Lutheran 83, Providence Cristo

60. Edinburgh Jac-Cen-Del 44, Waldron 42 Oldenburg 52, S. Decatur 51

63. Loogootee Loogootee 46, Barr-Reeve 28 Orleans 62, Springs Valley 33 64. Wood Memorial 04. WOOD MEMORIAL
Dubois 56, Ev. Day 46
Evansville Christian 52, Tecumseh 39
POSTPONEMENTS AND
CANCELLATIONS

Bethany Christian vs. Elkhart Christian, ppd. to Mar 4th. Borden vs. S. Central (Elizabeth), ppd. Columbia City vs. Homestead, ppd. to

Corydon vs. Salem, ppd. to Mar 4th. Crown Point vs. Chesterton, ppd. to

Culver vs. Oregon-Davis, ppd. to Mar Faith Christian vs. Rossville, ppd. to

Fountain Central vs. N. Vermillion, ppd. to Mar 4th. Frontier vs. Tri-County, ppd. to Mar 4th. Ft. Wayne Dwenger vs. Heritage, ppd. to Mar 4th.

Ft. Wayne Wayne vs. Ft. Wayne South, ppd. to Mar 4th. Gary 21st Century vs. Andrean, ppd.

Gary 21st Certary vs. Andrean, ppd. to Mar 4th.
Glenn vs. Bremen, ppd. to Mar 4th.
Hammond Central vs. Hammond Morton, ppd. to Mar 4th. Hanover Central vs. Hammond Noll,

ppd. to Mar 4th. Henryville vs. Southwestern (Hanover), ppd. to Mar 4th. Illiana Christian vs. Bowman Academy, ppd. to Mar 4th. Indpls Brebeuf vs. Guerin Catholic, ppd.

to Mar 4th. Indpls Shortridge vs. Indpls Chatard, ppd. to Mar 4th. Jennings Co. vs. Jeffersonville, ppd. to Mar 4th.

Knox vs. Culver, ppd. to Mar 4th. Kouts vs. Hammond Science and Tech,

ppd. to Mar 4th. LaPorte vs. Michigan City, ppd. to Mar LaVille vs. S. Bend Career Academy,

ppd. to Mar 4th. Lake Station vs. River Forest, ppd. to Lakeland Christian vs. Lakewood Park,

ppd. to Mar 4th.

Michigan City Marquette vs. Argos, ppd. to Mar 4th. Mishawaka Marian vs. S. Bend Washington, ppd. to Mar 4th. Mishawaka vs. S. Bend Riley, ppd. to

Mar 4th. Morgan Twp. vs. Covenant Christian (DeMotte), ppd. to Mar 4th. Munster vs. Lake Central, ppd. to Mar

N. Judson vs. S. Central (Union Mills), ppd. to Mar 4th.

New Albany vs. Seymour, ppd. to Mar New Washington vs. Trinity Lutheran,

ppd. to Mar 4th. NorthWood vs. Fairfield, ppd. to Mar Northridge vs. Concord, ppd. to Mar Penn vs. Goshen, ppd. to Mar 4th. Prairie Hts. vs. Central Noble, ppd. to Mar 4th

Providence vs. Brownstown, ppd. to Mar 4th Rising Sun vs. Crothersville, ppd. to Mar 4th.

Rochester vs. Cass, ppd. to Mar 4th. Rock Creek Academy vs. Lanesville, ppd. to Mar 4th. S. Bend St. Joseph's vs. New Prairie,

ppd. to Mar 4th. Silver Creek vs. Scottsburg, ppd. to Mar 4th.

Wal 4th.
Valparaiso vs. Hobart, ppd. to Mar 4th.
W. Central vs. N. White, ppd. to Mar 4th.
W. Noble vs. Lakeland, ppd. to Mar 4th.
Westview vs. Eastside, ppd. to Mar 4th. Winamac vs. Wabash, ppd. to Mar 4th. Woodlan vs. Ft. Wayne Concordia, ppd.

National Basketball **Association**

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Divisi	ion									
	W	L	Pct	GB						
Boston	45	19	.703	_						
Philadelphia	40	22	.645	4						
New York	38	27	.585	71/2						
Brooklyn	35	28	.556	91/2						
Toronto	31	33	.484	14						
Boston 45 19 .703 - Philadelphia 40 22 .645 - New York 38 27 .585 7 Brooklyn 35 28 .556 9 Toronto 31 33 .484 1 Southeast Division 31 32 .484 1										
	W	L	Pct	GB						

GΒ 33 32 30 27 1½ 2 6 .508 Atlanta 32 37 .484 Washington Orlando Charlotte 20 45 .308 131/2 Central Division W GB Milwaukee 7½ 17 18 26 35 36 Cleveland 39 29 28 .600 .453 .438 Chicago Indiana Detroit 15 48 .238 WESTERN CONFERENCE 301/2

GB Memphis 23 31 .623 .516 38 33 31 16 13 Dallas New Orleans 6½ 8 23 25½ 32 .492 47 49 .254 San Antonio Houston Northwest Division **W** 44 GB 19 32 33 Denver Minnesota Utah .484 131/2 Oklahoma City 15 15

Southwest Division

Portland

Pacific Division GB 25 29 30 Sacramento .547 .524 Phoenix Golden State 33 30 L.A. Clippers L.A. Lakers Thursday's Games
Washington 119, Toronto 108
Dallas 133, Philadelphia 126
San Antonio 110, Indiana 99 Golden State 115, L.A. Clippers 91

Golden State 115, L.A. Clipl Friday's Games Orlando 117, Charlotte 106 Atlanta 129, Portland 111 Brooklyn 115, Boston 105 New York 122, Miami 120
Oklahoma City 130, Utah 103
Phoenix 125, Chicago 104
L.A. Clippers at Sacramento, 10 p.m. Memphis at Denver, 10 p.m. New Orleans at Golden State, 10 p.m. Minnesota at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m. Saturday's Games
Toronto at Washington, 5 p.m.

Detroit at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m. Atlanta at Miami, 8 p.m. Houston at San Antonio, 8 p.m. Philadelphia at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m. Minnesota at Sacramento, 10 p.m. Sunday's Games
Phoenix at Dallas, 1 p.m.
Golden State at L.A. Lakers, 3:30 p.m.
Indiana at Chicago, 3:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Brooklyn, 6 p.m.

Portland at Orlando, 6 p.m. San Antonio at Houston, 7 p.m. Utah at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m. Milwaukee at Washington, 7:30 p.m. New York at Boston, 7:30 p.m. Memphis at L.A. Clippers, 10 p. Monday's Games
Boston at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Indiana, 7 p.m.

Portland at Detroit, 7 p.m. Atlanta at Miami, 7:30 p.m. Toronto at Denver, 9 p.m.
New Orleans at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

College

Men's Scores Friday, Mar. 3 EAST Buffalo 68, Miami (Ohio) 63 SOUTH Campbell 81, Longwood 68 Chattanooga 92, VMI 72 Indiana St. 94, Belmont 91 Mercer 66, The Citadel 41 Monmouth (NJ) 100, Hampton 64 Radford 78, Winthrop 69 SC-Upstate 77, Gardner-Webb 76 Tulane 81, East Carolina 78

UNC-Asheville 75, Charleston South-MIDWEST
Ashland 76, Hillsdale 69 Bradley 72, N. Iowa 66 Drake 74, Murray St. 62 Emporia St. 79, Lincoln (Mo.) 70 Fort Hays St. 73, Rogers St. 56 Kent St. 89, Akron 84, OT Malone 83, Walsh 67 McKendree 80. William Jewell 68

Missouri-St. Louis 92, Rockhurst 58 N. Illinois 85, E. Michigan 66 Ohio 92, Bowling Green 58 Saint Louis 65, Dayton 61 Toledo 87, Ball St. 81 W. Michigan 81, Cent. Michigan 65 SOUTHWEST Sam Houston St. 72, Abilene Chris-

Tarleton St. 2, New Mexico St. 0 FAR WEST BYU 82, Portland 71 Grand Canyon 71, Utah Tech 61 North Dakota 83, Denver 68 Omaha 73, UMKC 61 S. Utah 81, Cal Baptist 71

Women's Scores Friday, Mar. 3

Utah Valley St. 113, Stephen F. Aus-

Maryland 73, Illinois 58 Princeton 71, Penn 52 Rhode Island 68, George Washington 56 Richmond 70, Fordham 65 Seton Hall 84, Xavier 58

UMass 63, George Mason 50 Chattanooga 69, ETSU 40 Duke 44, North Carolina 40 James Madison 62, Marshall 43 LSU 83, Georgia 66 Louisville 74, Wake Forest 48 Mississippi 77, Texas A&M 60 Notre Dame 66, NC State 60 Old Dominion 86, Troy 83 South Carolina 93, Arkansas 66 Southern Miss. 79, Arkansas St. 72 Tennessee 80, Kentucky 71 Virginia Tech 68, Miami 42 Wofford 68, UNC-Greensboro 63

DePaul 67, Providence 54 Georgetown 53, Butler 46 Indiana 94, Michigan St. 85 Iowa 69, Purdue 58 Ohio St. 81, Michigan 79 Saint Louis 59, Saint Joseph's 44 St. Thomas (MN) 61, W. Illinois 50 Tennessee Tech 66, E. Illinois 61 SOUTHWEST

Texas St. 56, Appalachian St. 47 UALR 49, SE Missouri 35 FAR WEST BYU 74, Pepperdine 59 Hawaii 66, CS Northridge 58 Pacific 82, Saint Mary's (Cal) 77

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

EASTERN CONFERENCE

L OTPts GF GA 61 48 8 62 38 16 5101233 130 8 84211 164 Toronto 5 79217 185 4 66224 215 Tampa Bay61 37 19 Buffalo 60 31 25 60 31 25 61 31 26 63 30 27 Ottawa 4 66194 191 6 66215216 61 28 24 9 65186 201 61 26 31 4 56168 218 Metropolitan Division

 Metropolitan Division

 GP W
 L OTPts GF GA

 Carolina
 59 39 12
 8 86200 154

 New Jersey6040 15
 5 85215 162

 N.Y. Rangers623518
 9 79207 175

 Pittsburgh
 61 31 21
 9 71200 195

 N.Y. Islanders643125
 8 70184 176

 Washington6330
 27
 6 66191 189

 Philadelphia6223
 28
 11 57163 205

 Columbus
 62 20 36
 6 46161 229

 WESTERN CONFERENCE
 Central Division

Central Division

GP W L OTPts GF GA Dallas 62 33 16 13 79204 163 Minnesota 62 35 21 6 76179 168 59 34 20 62 35 25 5 73190 164 2 72191 171 Colorado Winnipeg 59 30 23 61 27 29 61 21 31 6 66172 175 5 59189 223 9 51166 216 Nashville Arizona Chicago 61 21 Pacific Division 61 21 35 5 47152 222

GP W L OTPts GF GA61 36 19 6 78195 171
es6335 20 8 78214 213 Vegas Los Angeles6335 20 Seattle 62 35 21 6 76217 198 Edmonton 63 34 21 8 76243 210 Calgary 62 27 22 13 67197 194 Vancouver 61 24 32 5 53206 245 San Jose 62 18 32 12 48183 232 Anaheim 62 20 34 8 48158 255 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. layoffs.
Thursday's Games
Nashville 2, Florida 1
Ottawa 5, N.Y. Rangers 3
Boston 7, Buffalo 1
Seattle 5, Detroit 4, OT
Pittsburgh 5, Tampa Bay 4, OT
Dallas 5, Chicago 2 Toronto 2, Calgary 1 Minnesota 2, Vancouver 1 St. Louis 6, San Jose 3 Los Angeles 3, Montreal 2 Friday's Games
Seattle 4, Columbus 2
Edmonton 6, Winnipeg 3
Carolina at Arizona, 9:30 p.m.
Montreal at Anaheim, 10 p.m. New Jersey at Vegas, 10 p.m. Saturday's Games Detroit at N.Y. Islanders, 12:30 p.m. Tampa Bay at Buffalo, 12:30 p.m.

N.Y. Rangers at Boston, 1 p.m. Colorado at Dallas, 3:30 p.m. Pittsburgh at Florida, 6 p.m. Washington at San Jose, 6 p.m.
Columbus at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Edmonton at Winnipeg, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Vancouver, 7 p.m. Nashville at Chicago, 8 p.m. Minnesota at Calgary, 10 p.m. St. Louis at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m. St. Louis at Los Angeles, 10:30 Sunday's Games Tampa Bay at Carolina, 3 p.m. Detroit at Philadelphia, 6 p.m. Montreal at Vegas, 6 p.m. New Jersey at Arizona, 7 p.m. Seattle at Colorado, 9 p.m. Monday's Games

Monday's Games Edmonton at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m. San Jose at Winnipeg, 7:30 p.m. Calgary at Dallas, 8:30 p.m. Ottawa at Chicago, 9 p.m. Nashville at Vancouver, 10:30 p.m. Washington at Los Angeles, 10:30

BASEBALL

Spring Training

01.000

1 .875 2 .667

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Boston

Kansas City

Los Angeles

Detroit New York Chicago Toronto Texas Cleveland Seattle Minnesota Baltimore Oakland Tampa Bay NATIONAL LEAGUE		3 .625 3 .625 3 .571 4 .556 4 .500 4 .500 4 .429 4 .333 4 .333
St. Louis	W 4	L Pct. 2 .667
Los Angeles	3 4	2 .600
Philadelphia	4	3 .571
Chicago	4	4 .500
San Diego	4	4 .500 3 .500
Washington Colorado	ა ვ	4 .429
Atlanta	2	3 .400
Cincinnati	2	3 .400 3 .400 5 .375 5 .375
Milwaukee	3	5 .375
New York	3	5 .375
San Francisco	4 3 2 2 3 3 3 2 1	5 .375
Arizona	2	5 .286
Pittsburgh		4 .200
Miami	1	5 167

Thursday's Games Boston 15, Philadelphia 3 Houston 6, St. Louis 0 Miami 5, Washington 5 Minnesota 4, Tampa Bay 2 N.Y. Yankees 9, Pittsburgh (ss) 1 Detroit 10, Baltimore 3 Pittsburgh (ss) 2, Toronto 2 Atlanta 6, N.Y. Mets 2 Kansas City 8, L.A. Angels 4 Arizona 5, L.A. Dodgers 5 Chicago Cubs 6, Oakland 1 Cleveland 4, San Francisco 3 Chicago White Sox 6, Colorado 4 Seattle 5, San Diego 4 Texas 7, Milwaukee 4 Friday's Games Houston 11, Atlanta 8 Boston 9, Minnesota 4 St. Louis 8, Miami 3 Detroit (ss) 6, Philadelphia 3 Toronto 7, Tampa Bay 6 Washington 11, N.Y. Mets 6 Chicago White Sox 6. Cincinnati 4 Chicago White Sox b, Cincinnati 4
San Francisco (ss) 3, Colorado 2
Kansas City 6, Oakland 4
Cleveland 7, Milwaukee 4
Texas 11, San Francisco (ss) 7
L.A. Dodgers 2, L.A. Angels 2
Seattle 6, Arizona 3
Pittsburgh 1, Baltimore 1 Pittsburgh 1, Baltimore 1
Detroit (ss) 5, N.Y. Yankees 3
Chicago Cubs 4, San Diego 0

Saturday's Games
Atlanta (ss) vs. Baltimore at Sarasota, Florida, 1:05 p.m. Houston vs. Boston at Fort Myers,

Houston vs. Boston at Fort Myers, Florida, 1:05 p.m. Minnesota vs. Atlanta (ss) at North Port, Florida, 1:05 p.m. St. Louis vs. Washington at Palm Beach, Florida, 1:05 p.m. Tampa Bay vs. N.Y. Yankees at Tampa, Florida, 1:05 p.m. Pittsburgh vs. Philadelphia at Clearwater, Florida, 1:05 p.m. Toronto vs. Detroit at Lakeland. Toronto vs. Detroit at Lakeland.

Florida, 1:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets vs. Miami at Sarasota, Florida, 1:10 p.m.

L.A. Angels vs. Chicago Cubs at
Mesa, Arizona, 3:05 p.m.

Arizona (ss) vs. San Francisco (ss) at Scottsdale, Arizona, 3:05 p.m. Cleveland vs. Oakland (ss) at Mesa,

Arizona, 3:05 p.m. Kansas City (ss) vs. Cincinnati (ss) at Goodyear, Arizona, 3:05 p.m. Texas vs. Chicago White Sox at Phoenix, Arizona, 3:05 p.m. Colorado vs. Seattle at Peoria, Arizona, 3:10 p.m. San Diego vs. Arizona (ss) at Scott-

sdale, Arizona, 3:10 p.m. San Francisco (ss) vs. Milwaukee at Phoenix, Arizona, 3:10 p.m. Cincinnati (ss) vs. Oakland (ss) at Las Vegas, Nevada, 4:05 p.m. L.A. Dodgers vs. Kansas City (ss) at Surprise, Arizona, 8:05 p.m.

Surprise, Arizona, 8:05 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Baltimore vs. Tampa Bay at St.

Petersburg, Florida, 1:05 p.m.

Detroit vs. Minnesota (ss) at Fort
Myers, Florida, 1:05 p.m.

Miami vs. Boston at Fort Myers,

Florida, 1:05 p.m.

N.Y. Yankees vs. Atlanta at North Port, Florida, 1:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets vs. St. Louis at Sarasota,

N.Y. Mets vs. St. Louis at Sarasota, Florida, 1:05 p.m. Washington vs. Houston at Palm Beach, Florida, 1:05 p.m. Minnesota (ss) vs. Pittsburgh at Bradenton, Florida, 1:05 p.m. Philadelphia vs. Toronto at Dunedin, Florida, 1:07 p.m.

Florida, 1:07 p.m.
L.A. Angels (ss) vs. Texas at Surprise, Arizona, 3:05 p.m. Arizona vs. Cleveland at Goodyear, Arizona, 3:05 p.m. Chicago White Sox vs. L.A. Dodg-ers at Phoenix, Arizona, 3:05 p.m.

Kansas City vs. San Francisco at Scottsdale, Arizona, 3:05 p.m. Chicago Cubs vs. Colorado at Scottsdale, Arizona, 3:10 p.m. Cincinnati (ss) vs. L.A. Angels (ss) at Tempe, Arizona, 3:10 p.m. Seattle vs. Milwaukee at Phoenix,

Arizona, 3:10 p.m.
Oakland (ss) vs. San Diego at Peoria, Arizona, 3:10 p.m.
Cincinnati (ss) vs. Oakland (ss) at
Las Vegas, Nevada, 4:05 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

Friday's Transactions BASEBALL Major League Baseball
American League
MINNESOTA TWINS — Optioned
RHP Jordan Balazovic to St. Paul (IL).
Minor League Baseball
Frontier League
GATEWAY GRIZZLIES — Signed
RHP Sam Gardner to a contract

RHP Sam Gardner to a contract extension.
TRI-CITY VALLEYCATS — Traded

OD Denis Phipps to Charleston (Atlantic League).
WASHINGTON WILD THINGS -Acquired RHP Angel Landazuri from Southern (Atlantic League). BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association CLEVELAND CAVALIERS — Signed G Sam Merrill to a 10-day contract. DETROIT PISTONS — Signed F
Eugene Omoruyi to a 10-day contract.
WASHINGTON WIZARDS — Signed G Jamaree Bouyea to a 10-day contract. Women's National Basketball Asso-

ciation
PHOENIX MERCURY — Named Tully
Bevilaqua assistant coach. FOOTBALL

National Football League BUFFALO BILLS — Re-signed OL Ike Boeetger to a one-year contract. WASHINGTON COMMANDERS — Signed WR Marcus Kemp HOCKEY

National Hockey League
ANAHEIM DUCKS — Acquired LW
Brock McGinn and a 2023 third-round
draft pick from Pittsburgh in exchange for D Dmitry Kulikov. ARIZONA COYOTES — Recalled F Reece Vitelli from Tucson. Acquired F Brett Ritchie and D Connor Mackey from Calgary in exchange for F Nick Ritchie and D Troy Stecher. BOSTON BRUINS — Returned C Jakub Lauko to Providence (AHL). Jakub Lauko to Providence (AHL).
BUFFALO SABRES — Re-signed G
lke Boettger to a one-year contract.
CALGARY FLAMES — Returned RW
Walker Duehr and LW Jakob Pelletier

to Calgary (AHL). CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS Assigned RW David Gust and D Isaak Phillips to Rockford (AHL). Activated D Nikita Zaitsev from reserve. Recalled LW Anders Bjork from Chicago (AHL). Returned RW Joey Anderson to

COLORADO AVALANCHE -Recalled G Keith Kinkaid from Colorado (AHL).
COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS — Loaned C Cole Sillinger to Cleveland

DALLAS STARS — Returned C Fredrik Karlstrom, C Fredrick Olofsson, G Matthew Murray and G Adam Scheel to Texas (AHL). Reassigned G Adam Scheel to Idaho (ECHL) from Texas (AHL).
EDMONTON OILERS — Recalled D

Philip Broberg and F Devin Shore to Bakersfield (AHL). FLORIDA PANTHERS — Returned C Zac Dalpe and G Alex Lyon to Char-

LOS ANGELES KINGS — Returned F Quinton Byfield and C Rasmus Kupari to Ontario (AHL). MINNESOTA WILD -Acquired a

2023 second-round draft pick and a 2024 fifth-round draft pick from Buffalo in exchange for LW Jordan Greenway. Acquired C Oskar Sundqvist from Detroit in exchange for a 2023 fourth-round draft pick. Acquired D John Klingberg from Anaheim in exchange for D Andrej Susty and the rights to F Nikita Nesterenko and a 2025 fourthround draft pick.
MONTREAL CANADIENS — Acquired
C Frederic Allard and a 2024 fifth-

C Frederic Ailard and a 2024 fifth-round draft pick from Los Angeles in exchange for C Nate Schnarr. Loaned D Frederic Allard to Laval (AHL). NASHVILLE PREDATORS— Returned F Luke Evangelista, C Mark Jankowski, C Zach Sanford, RW Kiefer Sherwood, RW Phil Tomasino and LW John Leonard to Milwaukee (AHL). Signed D Dante Fabio and G Kevin Lankinen to one-year contracts. Acquired F Rasmus Asplund from Buffalo in exchange for a 2025 seventh-round draft pick. NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Acquired

F Curtis Lazar from Vancouver in exchange from a fourth-round 2024 draft pick. Loaned and recalled D Kevin Bahl and G Akira Schmid to Utica (AHL). Assigned F Graeme Clark to Utica. PHILADELPHIA FLYERS — Activat-

ed C Tanner Laczynski from injured reserve. Acquired LW Brendan Lemieux and a 2024 fifth-round draft pick from Los Angeles in exchange for C Zack MacEwen.
PITTSBURGH PENGUINS — Reassigned LWs Drake Caggiula and Drew O'Connor to Wilkes-Barre/ Scranton on loan. Acquired D Tony Sund from San Jose n exchange for a conditional 2024 fifth-round draft

pick. ST. LOUIS BLUES — Acquired ST. LOUIS BLUES — Acquired LW Jakub Vrana from Detroit in exchange for C Dylan McLaughlin and a seventh-round 2025 draft pick. TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Reassigned D Darren Raddysh to Syracuse (AHL). Reassigned LW Jaydon Dureau from Orlando (ECHL) to

pick and a 2023 seventh-round draft

Syracuse.
WASHINGTON CAPITALS — Recalled D Gabriel Carlsson and D Vincent Iorio from Hershev (AHL). Returned D Dylan McIlrath and C Aliaksei Protas to Hershey. MINNIPEG JETS — Acquired LW WINNIPEG JETS — Acquired LW Vladislav Namestnikov from San Jose in exchange for a 2025 fourthround draft pick. ECHL

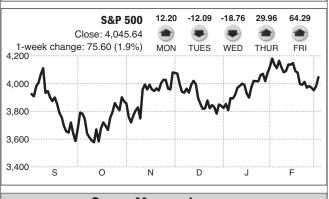
CINCINNATI CYCLONES — Signed F Adam Berg to a standard player IDAHO STEELHEADS — Acquired G Mario Vrab from the emergency backup goalie list (EBUG). RAPID CITY RUSH — Loaned D Tyson Helgesen to Calgary (AHL). Signed D Alex Carlson to a standard

player contract.

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

WEEKLY DOW JONES AND S&P 500

72.17 -232.39 5.14 341.73 387.40 **Dow Jones industrials** Close: 33,390.97 1-week change: 574.05 (1.7%) TUES MON WED THUR 34.000 32,000 30,000 28,000 S D



	STOCK MARKET INDEXES											
52-' High	Week Low	Name	Last	Wk Chg	Wk %Chg	YTD %Chg	12-mo %Chg					
35,492.22	28,660.94	Dow Jones Industrials	33,390.97	+574.05	+1.75	+.74	67					
16,728.57	11,946.21	Dow Jones Transportation	15,113.29	+484.28	+3.31	+12.85	-1.81					
1,077.08	823.64	Dow Jones Utilities	916.23	-12.21	-1.32	-5.29	-7.31					
17,034.91	13,278.56	NYSE Composite	15,721.06	+256.61	+1.66	+3.53	-2.53					
14,646.90	10,088.83	Nasdaq Composite	11,689.01	+294.06	+2.58	+11.68	-12.20					
4,637.30	3,491.58	S&P 500	4,045.64	+75.60	+1.90	+5.37	-6.54					
2,780.91	2,185.93	S&P MidCap	2,648.27	+47.59	+1.83	+8.97	+1.25					
46,793.61	34,917.15	Wilshire 5000	40,450.95	+760.21	+1.92	+6.24	-7.09					
2,138.45	1,641.47	Russell 2000	1,928.26	+37.78	+2.00	+9.48	-3.63					
16,360.71	11,517.23	Lipper Growth Index	13,224.97	+366.00	+2.85	+10.23						

STOCK EXCHANGE HIGHLIGHTS

NYSE ACTIVES (\$1 OR MORE)

NYSE GAINERS (\$2 OR MORE)

NYSE Losers (\$2 or more) Last Chg %Chg Name Name Last Chg %Chg Name Vol (00) Last Chg 5.16 +1.87 +56.8 s 3.64 +1.25 +52.3 SilvgteCap 5.77 Tegna 17.04 CorEn pfA 4.86 -8.56 -4.80 -.97 Gaotu Tch -59.7 FordM 3684717 13.08 +1.20 Heritagelns 3.64 +1.25 +52.3 HysterYale 47.76 +16.24 +51.5 -22.0 -16.6 LumenTch 2278264 -15.5 -15.0 -14.4 +.76 +51.0 +1.06 +43.6 CURO Gp EmergBio LL Floor 2.73 11.66 4.50 DesktpM 2.25 -.50 ItauUnH 2118694 4.60 -.29 3.49 8.35 +1.06 +43.6 +1.94 +30.3 Nerdy A RayAdvM -2.05 -.76 BkofAm 1817826 -4.71 -.35 -3.37 -14.2 -14.1 -13.7 8.33 2.52 4.68 Univ Insur 19.37 +4.33 +28.8 Box Inc 28.53 Palantir 1756648 8.74 +1.91 +28.0 6.34 +1.35 +27.1 CazooGp rs 2.14 MyersInd 21.25 Nu Hldg 1517080 SwstnEngy 1498060 Chicos NGL EnPt 3.53 +.75 +27.0 FstHorizon 21.46 -3.39 -13.6 NASDAQ GAINERS (\$2 OR MORE) NASDAQ ACTIVES (\$1 OR MORE) NASDAQ LOSERS (\$2 OR MORE) Name Last Chg %Chg Vol (00) Last Chg Last Chg %Chg Name 6.88 +5.77 +519.8 ProDvrs rs 2.70 -4.24 -61.1 8003146 197.79 +.91 CardioDi Tesla s 90.87 +46.36 +104.2 22.31 -16.17 -42.0

ReneoPh	2.19 2.23 5.45 16.75 4.20	+.90 +.76 +1.73 +5.25 +1.25 +5.43	+68.8 +51.4 +46.5 +45.7 +42.4 +40.6	Veru Ind ZimVie Xometry VerdeCl CareDx OceanB EtaoIntl IntuitMc	6.23 (A 18.40 A 8.99 h 8.97 io A 6.47	2 -4.37 -4 0 -12.75 -4 9 -5.81 -3 7 -5.48 -3 7 -3.52 -3 6 -1.13 -3	1.3 A 0.9 A 9.3 F 7.9 II 5.2 N 3.3 C	apple Inc amazon s aMD RiviaAu A atel Ividia CardioDi Meta Plt	254699 251034 233017 227511 216692 200356	90 94.9 14 81.5 71 16.9 16 26.4 27 238.9	0 +1.40 2 +3.43 240 0 +1.26 0 +6.04 8 +5.77
		S	тос	KS C	of Lo	CAL IN	TER	EST			
lame	Div	Last	Wk Chg	Wk %Chg	YTD %Chg	Name	Div	Last	Wk Chg	Wk %Chg	YTD %Chg
FLAC	1.68	68.44	13	-0.2	-4.9	iShiBxHYB	5.09	74.72	+.55	+0.7	+1.5
MC Ent		6.58	+.38	+6.1	+61.7	Intel	.50	26.40	+1.26	+5.0	1
T&T Inc	1.11	18.81	43	-2.2	+2.2	IBM	6.60	129.64	93	-0.7	-8.0
MD	1.60	81.52	+3.43	+4.4	+25.9	Inv QQQ	1.16	299.68	+7.83	+2.7	+12.5
Iphabt A s		93.65	+4.52	+5.1	+6.1	ItauUnH		4.60	29	-5.9	-2.3
mazon s		94.90	+1.40	+1.5	+13.0	Kroger	1.04	45.98	+2.23	+5.1	+3.1
ımbev	.05	2.52	03	-1.2	-7.4	LincNat	1.80	31.41	45	-1.4	+2.2
ÆΡ	3.32	89.09	-1.34	-1.5	-6.2	Lowes	4.20	199.73		-0.9	+.2
opple Inc s	.92	151.03	+4.32	+2.9	+16.2	LuciraHlt		.45	+.31-	+222.9	+307.2
pldMatl		118.96		+6.9	+22.2	LumenTch	1.00		39	-11.0	-39.3
BP PLC	1.44	40.22	+.52	+1.3	+15.1	McDnlds	6.08	269.07	+6.91	+2.6	+2.1
BkofAm	.88	34.16	+.17	+0.5	+3.1	Meta Plt		185.25		+8.7	+53.9
BedBath	.68	1.49	04	-2.6	-40.6	Microsoft	2.72	255.29	+6.07	+2.4	+6.5
BrMySq	2.16	69.30	88	-1.3	-3.7	MullnAuto		.22	01	-5.6	-23.4

HIVID	1.00	01.32	+3.43	+4.4	+20.9	IIIV QQQ	1.10	299.00	+7.00	+2.7	+12.5
Alphabt A s		93.65	+4.52	+5.1	+6.1	ItauUnH		4.60	29	-5.9	-2.3
Amazon s		94.90	+1.40	+1.5	+13.0	Kroger	1.04	45.98	+2.23	+5.1	+3.1
Ambev	.05	2.52	03	-1.2	-7.4	LincNat	1.80	31.41	45	-1.4	+2.2
AEP	3.32	89.09	-1.34	-1.5	-6.2	Lowes	4.20	199.73	-1.81	-0.9	+.2
Apple Inc s	.92	151.03	+4.32	+2.9	+16.2	LuciraHlt		.45	+.31-	+222.9	+307.2
ApldMatl	1.04	118.96	+7.65	+6.9	+22.2	LumenTch	1.00	3.17	39	-11.0	-39.3
BP PLC	1.44	40.22	+.52	+1.3	+15.1	McDnlds	6.08	269.07	+6.91	+2.6	+2.1
BkofAm	.88	34.16	+.17	+0.5	+3.1	Meta Plt		185.25	+14.86	+8.7	+53.9
BedBath	.68	1.49	04	-2.6	-40.6	Microsoft	2.72	255.29	+6.07	+2.4	+6.5
BrMySq	2.16	69.30	88	-1.3	-3.7	MullnAuto		.22	01	-5.6	-23.4
CampSp	1.48	52.41	72	-1.4	-7.6	NL Inds	.28	7.37	+.28	+3.9	+8.2
CardioDi		6.88	+5.77-	+519.8	+549.1	NiSource	1.00	27.70	12	-0.4	+1.0
Caterpillar	4.44	255.31	+19.14	+8.1	+6.6	NorflkSo	5.40	228.39	+3.62	+1.6	-7.3
Chevron	6.04	164.96	+2.55	+1.6	-8.1	Nu Hldg		4.68	26	-5.3	+15.0
Cisco	1.56	49.28	+.80	+1.7	+3.4	Nucor	2.04	178.37	+15.84	+9.7	+35.3
Citigroup	2.04	52.35	+2.17	+4.3	+15.7	Nvidia	.16	238.90	+6.04	+2.6	+63.5
CocaCola	1.84	59.44	40	-0.7	-6.6	ObsEva		.23	+.15-	⊦177.1	+58.6
ContxtLog		.50	01	-1.2	+3.3	Palantir		8.33	+.24	+3.0	+29.8
DxSOXBr rs		20.47	-1.96	- 8.7	-48.2	PepsiCo	4.60	173.15	-1.66	-0.9	-4.2
DxSOXBI				+9.6	+62.2	Petrobras	2.87	11.16	22	-1.9	+4.8
Disney		101.14		+0.8	+16.4	Pfizer	1.60	41.15	60	-1.4	-19.7
Eaton		177.55		+3.0	+13.1	PrUltPQ		23.46	+1.69	+7.8	+35.6
EliLilly	4.52	318.43		-1.0		PShtQQQ		36.73	-3.06	-7.7	-32.0
ExelaTc rs		.07	+.02	+40.8	-15.9	RiviaAu A		16.92	40	-2.3	-8.2
ExxonMbl	3.64	112.81	+2.06	+1.9	+2.3	SpdrDJIA	3.98	334.21	+6.09	+1.9	+.9
FardyFuIn		.57	+.01	+2.3	+96.6	S&P500ETF	4.13	404.19	+7.81	+2.0	+5.7
FordM	.60	13.08	+1.20	+10.1	+12.5	SPDR Fncl	.46	35.99	+.33	+0.9	+5.2
FrankElec	.90	96.78	+1.59	+1.7	+21.4	StlDynam			+17.56	+14.8	+39.3
FrptMcM	.30	43.73	+3.84	+9.6	+15.1	Tesla s		197.79	+.91	+0.5	+60.6
GenElec	.32	86.38	+2.83	+3.4	+32.7	VerizonCm	2.61	38.26	48	-1.2	-2.9
HP Inc	1.05	28.61	61	-2.1	+6.5	WalMart	2.28	140.67	-1.80	-1.3	8
HomeDp	8.36	298.45	+1.79	+0.6	-5.5	WalgBoots	1.92	36.09	+.29	+0.8	-3.4
ShChinaLC	.87	29.61	+1.70	+6.1	+4.6	WsteMInc		150.08	-1.23	-0.8	-4.3
iShEMkts	.59	39.54	+1.24	+3.2	+4.3	WellsFargo	1.20	46.85	+.23	+0.5	+13.5
						_					

MONEY RATES									
	Last	Pvs Week							
Prime Rate	7.75	7.75							
Discount Rate	5.25	5.25							
Federal Funds Rate	4.50-4.75	4.50-4.75							
Treasuries									
3-month	4.88	4.88							
6-month	5.15	5.15							
5-year	4.32	4.17							
10-year	4.06	3.92							
30-year	4.01	3.93							

CU	RRENCIES	
	Last	Pvs Day
Australia	1.4770	1.4865
Britain	1.2045	1.1943
Canada	1.3591	1.3603
Euro	.9404	.9443
Japan	135.85	136.76
Mexico	17.9703	18.1342
SwitzerInd	.9362	.9420
British pound expothers show dollar	oressed in U.S. r in foreign curre	dollars. All ncy.

	Μu	TUAL	FUND	S			
N		otal Asse			al Return		Pct
	Obj	(\$MIns)		4-wk	12-mo	5-year	Load
American Funds AmrcnBalA m	MA	/	29.33	-2.1	-5.7/B	+6.1/B	5.75
American Funds CptlIncBldrA m	IH	60,573	64.18	-1.2	-2.3/B	+4.6/B	5.75
American Funds EuroPacGrA m	FG	19,574	52.79	-1.9	-3.4/B	+2.5/D	5.75
American Funds GrfAmrcA m		101,668	54.55	-1.7	-9.9/B	+8.3/D	5.75
American Funds IncAmrcA m	AL	75,264	22.89	-1.6	-3.0/A	+6.0/B	5.75
American Funds InvCAmrcA m	LB	66,522	43.49	-1.1	-3.5/B	+7.9/E	5.75
American Funds NwPrspctvA m	WG	49,818	51.29	-1.3	-6.1/B	+8.4/B	5.75
American Funds WAMtInvsA m	LB	69,873	52.62	-1.5	-2.6/A	+9.3/C	5.75
Davis NYVentureA m	LB	4,196	24.46	-3.0	-3.6/B	+5.4/E	4.75
Dodge & Cox Stkl	LV	70,973	225.87	-2.2	-1.5/D	+9.5/A	NL
Fidelity 500ldxInsPrm	LB	364,991	140.70	-2.0	-5.7/C	+10.4/A	NL
Fidelity Contrafund	LG	85,075	12.84	-1.6	-10.4/B	+8.8/C	NL
Fidelity TtlMktldxInsPrm	LB	66,923	112.90	-2.0	-6.0/D	+9.8/B	NL
Fidelity USBdldxInsPrm	CI	58,041	10.17	-2.7	-9.5/B	+0.5/C	NL
Fidelity Advisor EquityGrowthA m	ı LG	1,416	13.59	-1.4	-8.4/B	+12.4/A	5.75
Fidelity Advisor GrowthOppsA m		2,671	98.74	-2.4	-16.2/E	+14.4/A	5.75
George Putnam BalA m	MA	1,141	20.07	-2.0	-6.0/C	+6.7/A	5.75
INVESCO MnStrA m	LB	7,491	46.13	-1.3	-7.9/E	+8.8/D	5.50
PIMCO Inclustl	MU		10.38	-2.2	-2.5/A	+2.1/B	NL
Putnam DiversIncA m	NT	615	5.57	-1.1	-3.3/C	-0.4/E	4.00
Putnam SustLeadersA m	LG	4,512	93.02	-2.0	-7.2/A	+10.7/B	5.75
Putnam TEIncA m	ML	572	7.56	-3.1	-7.0/B	+1.1/C	4.00
Schwab SP500ldx	LB	63,523	62.10	-4.6	-7.7	+10.0	NL
Thornburg IntermMnA m	MI	279	13.03	-1.6	-3.4/A	+1.1/C	2.00
Thornburg LtdTrmUSGvtA m	GS	50	11.71	-1.7	-6.3/E	-0.2/E	2.25
Vanguard 500ldxAdmrl		389,742		-2.0	-5.7/C	+10.4/A	NL
Vanguard InTrTEAdmrl	MI	66,298	13.35	-2.3	-3.7/B	+1.8/A	NL
Vanguard PrmCpAdmrl	LB		136.85	-3.6	-3.4/B	+9.1/C	NL
Vanguard TrgtRtr2025Fd	TG	75,189	17.31	-2.0	-6.7/B	+4.4/B	NL
Vanguard TrgtRtr2030Fd	TH	80,653	32.71	-2.1	-6.5/B	+4.8/C	NL
Vanguard TrgtRtr2035Fd	TI	79,867	20.26	-2.1	-6.1/C	+5.3/D	NL
Vanguard TrgtRtr2040Fd	ΤJ	69,412	35.74	-2.1	-5.8/C	+5.8/C	NL
Vanguard TrgtRtr2045Fd	TK	65,129	24.09	-2.0 -2.0	-5.6/C	+5.6/C +6.3/C	NL
Vanguard TtBMldxAdmrl	CI	97,840	9.47	-2.0 -2.7	-9.6/B	+0.5/C	NL
Vanguard TtInSIdxAdmrl	FB	70,444	29.63	-2.7 -1.7	-9.6/D	+0.5/C +2.5/D	NL
				-1.7 -1.7			
Vanguard TtInSldxInv		171,764	17.71		-3.1/D	+2.4/D	NL
Vanguard TtlSMldxAdmrl		293,318	99.08	-2.1	-6.1/D	+9.9/B	NL
Vanguard WingtnAdmrl	WΑ	92,616	67.51	-2.1	-5.8/B	+6.7/A	NL

CA -Conservative Allocation, CI -Intermediate-Term Bond, FB -Foreign Large Blend, GS -Short Government, IB -World Bond, IH -World Allocation, LB -Large Blend, LG -Large Growth, LV -Large Value, MA -Moderate Allocation, MI -Muni National Intermediate, ML -Muni National Long, NT -Nontraditional Bond, WS -World Stock, Total Return: Chng in NAV with dividends reinvested. Rank: How fund performed vs. others with same objective: A is in top 20%, E in bottom 20%. **Source:** Morningstar.

Stock Footnotes: g = Dividends and earnings in Canadian dollars. h = Does not meet continued-listing standards. If = Late filing with SEC. n = New in past 52 weeks. pf = Preferred. rs = Stock has undergone a reverse stock split of at least 50 percent within the past year. rt = Right to but security at a specified price. s = Stock has split by at least 20 percent within the last year. un = Units. yi = In bankruptcy or receivership. wd = When distributed, wi = When issued. wt = Warrants. Units. vj = In bankruptcy or receivership. wd = When distributed. wi = When issued. wt = Warrants.

Mutual Fund Footnotes: b = Fee covering market costs is paid from fund assets. d = Deferred
sales charge, or redemption fee. f = front load (sales charges). m = Multiple fees are charged. NA = not available. p = previous day's net asset value. s = fund split shares during the week. X = fund
paid a distribution during the week. Source: The Associated Press. Sales figures are unofficial.

Closer than ever but farther apart

Dear Annie: I came across your col- make it clear that umn while searching for tips on how to deal with my marital situation. I don't know what else to do. My heart's broken. I feel depressed, like my whole willing to do betworld has come crashing down on me. I have been with my husband for eight *halfway*. years and married for almost two years now. Things were overall great until we moved in together. I have tried everything I can to make my marriage work, but I am drained of trying.

He neglects me emotionally, always pushes me to the side like I don't matter, picks playing video games over spending a little time with me, and generally disrespects me. I just don't know what else to do. I have become lonely and depressed, and I feel like it is time for me to leave. Talking to him about how I feel angers him, and I feel like I have no one to turn to.

Obviously, he's not willing to put any work or effort into keeping me around. Do you have some advice? I feel like my only option is to leave and file for a divorce. I deserve better than this. I don't want to spend the rest of my life crying and being depressed. Recently, I've also been hurting due to my sister's drug addiction. I just have so much pain in my life, and I've lost myself in the process of helping everyone else. — Bruised at Heart

Dear Bruised: I can feel how exhausted, disappointed and lonely you've been, trying this hard to better your marriage by yourself. This surely isn't the way you envisioned spending your "honeymoon" period.

Before throwing in the towel, start by asking your husband to attend couples therapy with you. The first few years of marriage are a time of adjustment and compromise; it's also long been said that they are the most difficult. Ironically, sometimes moving in with a partner — getting physically closer together — can be what drives a wedge between you. It's crucial to make romance and quality time together a priority, despite your constant physical proximity. Never stop dating. Your husband doesn't have to give up his video games and alone time ENTIRELY, but

his current behavior will no longer fly. He must be ter and meet you

I'd also suggest checking out individual therapy focused entirely on you. Between your sister's addiction and your marital hardships, you

more than deserve

to take time and find ways to lighten your own load.

Dear

Annie

by Annie Lane

Dear Annie: I'm writing in response to "Lost My Daughter," the mom who is uncomfortable with her defiant daughter "Melanie"'s relationship with an ex-boyfriend's mother. I once heard that the more you criticize, the more the other person will defend. Stop badmouthing the Jehovah mom and let her actions speak for themselves. Do your best to accept their relationship, no matter how hard that is. Melanie is an adult and has to decide for herself if this woman belongs in her life. Maybe without the incentive to defy you, she'll realize that the relationship isn't all it's cracked up to be. - Been There and My Daughter Saw the Light

Dear Been There: Sage advice, indeed, and I echo every word. We can only impact what's in our control, and for "Lost My Daughter," that entails her one-on-one relationship with "Melanie." I hope they both turn their focus to that, paving the way for a happier, healthier dynamic.

"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.

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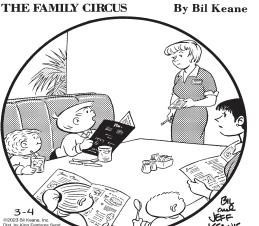




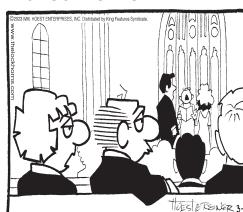
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"Does 'Child's Plate' mean no vegetables?"



"THEY'RE 'EXCHANGING VOWS,' LEROY, NOT 'ENTERING PLEAS."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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35 About, DOWN

My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham

Q: Is prayer a necessary part of living the Christian life, or something that certain people are gifted in doing? -P.L.

A: True prayer is a way of life and strengthens us in our daily walk with Jesus Christ. We should make prayer a habit, not a ritual. Prayer builds our relationship with the Lord. We should never be too busy to pray, just as we should never be too busy to spend time with those we love.

Habits can often become rituals that make no impact, but prayer is

Prayer drives people to God

a vital link in having strength and endurance. The old saying, 'A family that prays together, stays together," carries a lot of weight.

Prayer drives people to God — and God is ready to listen and answer. What a privilege that so many miss out on! Prayer unifies and energizes the believer. It can be a have to go out into the world without the power of God going with us. Only by direct contact with God through prayer can we hope to have the serenity and security that will enable us to be a witness for Him in a dark and confused world.

The practice of prayer

also equips family members to pray effectively amid the pressures of jobs, school, and community relations. The home is the best place to learn spiritual lessons such as these. And prayer is the best way to prepare for whatever is in store for us in the critical and testing times of life. When difficulties come, we don't have to be dependent on us, but on the hidden resource within us — and that is God Himself.

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

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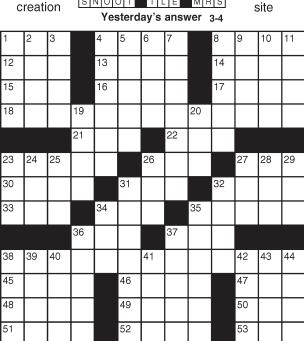
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BLUFFTON POLICE PARTMENT Now Hiring! The Bluffton Police Department is accepting applications for the position of police officer. Applicant must be 21 years of age by close of application date, but less than 40; have a high school diploma; two-year 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 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. Mon-day 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 ac-

Read & recycle

cept applications will be March

31, 2023

Help Wanted

SAF-T-LITE - LOOKING for individuals that want to work. See the products you'd be making at www.saftlite.com. Multiple positions, locally owned business, 1st shift hours, competitive pay, benefit package, family friendly envi-ronment. Contact us, jobs@saftlite.com, (260)824-3440, apply in person, 1336 W Wiley Ave., Bluffton. (EAP2)

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THE NEWS-BANNER IS looking for a part-time accounts receivable/payable position to fill an immediate opening. Excel, Quickbooks experience pre-ferred. Send resume to Doug Brown, dougb@news-banner. com or PO Box 436, Bluffton, IN 46714.

SERVICES

Services

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ANNOUNCE YOUR SER-VICES in the Bluffton News-Banner line classifieds. Contact the office, 260-824-0224, 125 N. Johnson St., or www.news-banner.com click on local classifieds.



Twelve bags, Easter grass plus 55 plastic Easter eggs, all \$10, 260-589-3786

Nine flashlights, 6 volt, all \$5, 260-589-3786. Positiv Rodney Jones skateboard, digital series 8.0, \$25,

Arnold Palmer, cart, golf bag, 15-way divider, \$25, 273-3950.

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Lottery Numbers

Friday's Drawings **HOOSIER LOTTERY**

Cash 5 — 3-15-25-29-31 **Cash4Life** — 25-38-57-59-60, Cash Ball: 2

Quick Draw Midday — 9-14-16-17-23-26-28-29-32-3 :35-36-39-44-47-65-72-75-79-80, BE: 33

Daily Three-Midday — 8-0-4, SB: 2 Daily Three-Evening — 3-5-4, SB: 4

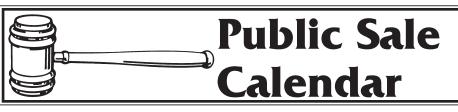
Daily Four-Midday — 2-2-4-3, SB: 2
Daily Four-Evening — 4-8-9-0, SB: 4
Quick Draw Evening — 05-06-09-12-19-21-23-24-26-

30-33-39-48-55-56-59-62-64-65-68, BE: 21 **Hoosier Lotto** — Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$12

MEGA MILLIONS

08-25-36-39-67, Mega Ball:11, Megaplier: X4 **POWERBALL**

Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$161 million



BIDDING ENDS MARCH - (Online Only Auction) -Richard Martarano, seller. 2008 Gulf Stream SuperNova 6400 RV, 2019 Ford diesel F-250SD Lariat Black Widow Edition, 1994 John Deere 750 diesel compact tractor, 3-PT equipment, Artic Cat 500 ATV, "Harley Davidson" tool chest, name brand power & hand tools, riding lawn mowers, electric go kart, new heavy duty pool pumps and supplies. Pat Carter, sale manager, The Steffen Group Inc., 260-824-LOTS CLOSING MARCH 9

STARTING AT 10 AM EDT Allen Acres Inc., Kandy Villanueva. Tractor, harvest equipment, planting equipment, tillage, application equipment, farm support items. Inspection: March 8, noon-4 P.M., 2413 E. Shafer Road Warren, IN. From Warren, travel north on St. Rd. 5 to CR 900S (Salmonie School), turn right (east) go 2 miles to CR 300E, turn right (south) go .3 miles to Shafer road, turn right (west) go .6 miles to farm on left. Merit Auctions, 833-273-9300, www.meritauctions.

MARCH 10 - 8 a.m. EST -Secured creditors & various consignors, owners. 815 Adams Street, Decatur. Live & online truck & equipment auction! Over 500+ lots! Off lease day cabs and sleepers, trailers, variety of trucks, group of 3/4 ton & 1 ton pickup & utilitv trucks, SUV's, motorcycles, directional bore machines, forklifts, skid steers, shop & construction equipment, 75+ skid steer attachments, 40' container loads of brand new items, more! Preview March 9, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC, kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.

MARCH 11 - 10:30 a.m. -

Robert Clifton, owner. 2092 E 500 S, Blufftón. From intersection of SR 1 & SR 116 on south side of Bluffton, travel 31/2 miles south on SR 1 to CR 500 S, then west approx. 11/2 miles. Online bidding available. Tractors, combine, corn head, grain platform, grain cart, semi, hopper bottom trailer, seed tender truck, pickup. Inspection March 10, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Auction managers: Arden Schrader, 260-229-2442, Al Pfister, 260-760-8922, Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc., SchraderAuction.com, 800-451-2709.

MARCH 13 - 6 p.m. ET - Eloise A. Hamrick Trust, farm. Adams County 4-H Park, dining hall, 160 W. Washington Street, Monroe. Property location: 6 miles east of Monroe, IN, Adams County, Blue Creek Township. 78+/- total acres, productive farmland, 62.2+/tillable acres, 15+/- woods, 0.8+/- non-tillable acres. Soil types: Blount silt loam, Pewamo silty clay, Morley silty clay loam. WAPI: 145.5 corn bu., 44 soybeans bu. Rick Johnloz: 260-827-8181, Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management, 800-424-2324, halderman.com.

MARCH 16 - 8 a.m.-6 p.m. ET - online Only - Spaulding Farms LLC, farm. Property location: 3508 E 500 N, Montpelier, IN. 23.57+/- total acres, 22+/- tillable, 1.57+/- other, Blackford Co., Harrison Twp Soil types: Blount-Glynwood Pewamo silty clay. WAPI: 141.3 corn bu., 43.5 soybeans bu. Contact us today! Scott Shrader, 765-348-6538, Rick Johnloz, 260-827-8181. Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management, 800-424-2324, halderman.com.

STATE OF INDIANA)) SS: COUNTY OF WELLS) IN THE WELLS

CIRCUIT COURT CAUSE NUMBER: 90C01-2302-JC-000004 IN THE MATTER OF: ALA - DOB 5/8/2013

A CHILD ALLEGED TO BE A CHILD IN NEED OF SERVICES

ANY UNKNOWN ALLEGED FATHERS SUMMONS FOR SERVICE BY
PUBLICATION &
NOTICE OF CHILD IN
NEED OF SERVICES

HEARING TO: Any Unknown Alleged Father

Whereabouts unknown NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to Any Unknown Alleged Fathers, whose whereabouts are unknown, that the Indiana Department of Child Services has filed its Verified Petition Alleging the child to be in Need of Services, in accor-dance with I.C. 31-34-9-3, and that

an adjudication hearing has been

scheduled with the Court.
YOU ARE HEREBY COM-MANDED to appear before the Judge of the Wells Circuit Court, 102 Market Street, Bluffton, IN 46714 - 260-824-6485 for a(n) Fact Finding/Disposition on 4/27/2023 at 3:00 PM

At said hearing, the Court will consider the Petition and evidence thereon and will render its decision as to whether the above named minor child is child in need of services and shall enter adjudication accordingly. Your failure to appear after lawful notice will be deemed as your default and waiver to be

present at said hearing.

UPON ENTRY OF SAID

ADJUDICATION, A DISPOSITIONAL HEARING will be held in which the Court will consider (1) Alternatives for the care, treatment, or rehabilitation for the child; (2) The necessity, nature, and extent of your participation in the program of care, treatment, or rehabilitation for the child; and (3) Your financial responsibility for any services provided for the parent, guardian or custodian of the child including child support.

YOU MUST RESPOND by appearing in person or by an attorney within thirty (30) days after the last publication of this notice, and in the event you fail to do so, an adjudication on said petition, judg-ment by default may be entered against you, or the court may proceed in your absence, without further notice. Beth Davis

Clerk Holly N Daniels, 31840-49 Attorney, Indiana Department of Child Services c/o Wells Co DCS 221 W Market St Bluffton, IN 46714

Public Notices

Union Township, Wells County, Indiana Cash & Investments Combined Statement - 2022 Beg Cash **End Cash** Receipts Disbursements Jan. 1, 2022 \$6.223.19 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$185.00 \$26,712.45 \$0.00 \$14,368.18 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$25,854.89 \$19,761.75

Local Fund & Inv Bal Dec. 31, 2022 Number Governmental Activities \$6,223,19 01 Rainy Day \$185.00 \$41,080.63 Cumulative Fire 101 \$50,299.58 Township Fire Fighting Fire Equipment Debt Fund \$37.362.64 \$16.872.85 \$21.096.75 \$41.586.54 \$4,848.54 \$32,839.46 205 \$27,649.70 \$27,560.46 Township Assistance
Total All Funds \$3.504.52 \$3.067.22 \$33,276,76 \$152,377.72 \$92,474.04 \$91,975.97 \$152,875.79 CERTIFICATION State of Indiana

Local

Wells County

I, Brian D. Imel, Trustee of UNION TOWNSHIP, Wells County, Indiana, do solemnly affirm under the penalty of perjury that the preceding report contains the information required by Indiana code 36-6-4-13, and is, true and correct; that the amounts with which I am charged in this report are all of the amounts received by me; and that the various items of expenditures credited have been fully paid in the amounts stated; that such payments were made without express or implied agreement that any portion thereof shall be retained by or repaid to me or to any other person. A complete abstract that contains the statements required under Indiana Code 36-6-4-13(a) (5) and (a)(6) is available for inspection in the county auditor's office.

I further affirm that a complete and detailed annual report, together with all accompanying vouchers showing the names of persons having been paid money by the township, have been filed as required by law in the office of the County Auditor, and that copies of such annual report are in custody of the Township Board and the State Board of Accounts. Said report is subject to inspection by any taxpayer of the township. Brian D. Imel

UNION TOWNSHIP Trustee

Telephone: 260-273-1834
Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, the Chairman of the Township Board of UNION TOWN-SHIP at its annual meeting, this 28th day of February, 2023. John M. Walmsley

Union Township Board: John M. Walmsley

Union Township Board Chairman This report was received, accepted, and approved by the Township Board at its annual meeting, this 28th

Robert L. Caley Kedric L. Bailey

nh 3/4 hspaxlp

Office: 260-824-3530

nb 3/4, 3/11, 3/18

Wells Superior Court **Criminal Cases**

Preliminary plea of not guilty entered for Kaitlin M. Ohern, 29, Uniondale, charged with possession of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor, and possession of drug paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor.

While assisting with a probationary search of O'Hern's residence Feb. 27, sheriff's deputies reportedly found a cylindrical container with a label that read "Holy Roller Consume Cannabis" that contained a green and brown leafy plant material with the odor and appearance of marijuana. They also allegedly found a glass and rubber smoking device.

Preliminary plea of not guilty entered for Jason A. Trudel, 37, Fort Wayne, charged with driving while suspended with a prior conviction for the same offense, a Class A misdemeanor; possession of drug paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor; speeding, a Class C infraction, and littering, a Class B infraction. Cory Spreen appointed public

At 1:33 a.m. on Oct. 3, 2019, on Ind. 116 near Vera Cruz, a sheriff's deputy spotted an oncoming vehicle with its bright lights on. Instead of the driver dimming the headlights, he turned the lights off entirely before turning them back on. That made the deputy suspicious and he turned around his patrol vehicle and started following the Pontiac. He observed in his report to the court that while following the Pontiac, the digital speedometer of his patrol vehicle showed he was driving 68 mph-55 zone.

The deputy performed a license plate check on the vehicle and discovered it was registered to Trudel, who had a suspended driver's license. The deputy continued to follow the Pontiac northwest on Ind. 116. Near the Six Mile Church, the driver reportedly tossed something from the vehicle.

The deputy pulled over the Pontiac. Trudel allegedly admitted to the deputy that he knew his driver's license was suspended. When the deputy asked him what he threw out his driver's side window, Trudel reportedly told the deputy it was a pack of cigarettes. The deputy asked him twice again during the course of his conversation with Trudel what Trudel had thrown out the window. Trudel reportedly insisted both times it was just a pack of cigarettes.

However, two Bluffton police officers who arrived to assist the deputy found the items near the church. They allegedly were not a pack of cigarettes as Trudel had claimed, but were reportedly a digital scales typically used to weigh out portions of illegal substances — and a straw that would be used to ingest illegal substances.

Trudel allegedly admitted to the deputy he threw the items out the window because he knew his license was suspended and he knew he would be pulled over.

Civil Cases

Final judgment of \$4,503.22 plus court costs of \$115 entered for Total Recovery Services, Fort Wayne, against Cheryl S. Hall, rural Bluffton.

File Reports

Reports of receipts and expenditures of political committees have been filed with the Wells County Clerk's office by:

• Wells County Democratic Committee, Bluffton.'For the period beginning Oct. 15 and ending Dec. 31, 2022, the committee showed \$6,057.10 in cash on hand at the beginning of the reporting period, receipts, \$57 in unitemized contributions and receipts, spent \$1,962.03 in itemized expenditures, \$28.71 in unitemized expenditures, and finished the reporting period with \$4,858.36 in cash on hand.

Wells Court Docket

The committee owed no debt. Itemized contributions and receipts were

from: Dylan McIntosh, Markle, \$100; Brian and Melanie Hollingsworth, rural Bluffton, \$300; John Bodner, Ossian, \$150; Larry and Teresa Sell, Bluffton, \$50; Sandra Shelly, Bluffton, \$30; and Joy Hann, Bluffton,

Itemized expenditures were to: AT&T, Carol Stream, Ill., \$131.40 for internet; Northern Indiana Public Service Company, Merrillville, \$166.07 for natural gas for the Democratic headquarters building; Bluffton Utilities, \$270.62 for electricity for the headquarters; Walmart Supercenter of Bluffton, \$139.81 for headquarters supplies; Act-Blue, Somerville, Mass., \$29.13 for fees; The Cincinnati Insurance Company, Cincinnati, Ohio, \$976 for property insurance for the headquarters; United States Postal Service, \$74 for post office box rental and postage; and Bodner Wells Democrat, Ossian, \$175 for a campaign contribution.

Wells County Republican Central Com-

mittee, Bluffton.

For the period beginning Oct. 15 and ending Dec. 31, the committee showed \$42,135.53 in cash on hand at the beginning of the reporting period, \$242.87 in itemized contributions and receipts, \$1,177.32 in unitemized contributions and receipts, \$4,250.17 in itemized expenditures, \$415.52 in unitemized expenditures and finished the reporting period with \$38,890.03 in cash on

Itemized contributions were from: Brandon Harnish, \$42.87; and Scott and Dayle Mentzer, Bluffton, \$200.

Itemized expenditures were to: Northern Indiana Public Service Company, Merrillville, \$316.17 for natural gas service to the headquarters; Yergy's State Road BBQ, Bluffton, \$380 for catering; Verizon Wireless, Lehigh Valley, Pa., \$54.11 for utilities; Bluffton Utilities, \$340.85 for electrical service to the headquarters building; Indiana Republican Party, Indianapolis, \$1,000 for an event; Preston Wright, Bluffton, \$352.68 as reimbursement; Auto Owners Insurance, Lansing, Mich., \$986.50 for property insurance for the headquarters; Zach Rodgers, Ossian, \$111.59 for reimbursement and Timber Ridge Catering, rural Bluffton, \$735 for catering.

U.S., World Roundup

Murdaugh judge's own legal story unfolded in **South Carolina**

The judge who sentenced Alex Murdaugh on Friday to life in prison for killing his wife and son has earned attention and plaudits for his even-handed demeanor throughout the trial and for his dressingdown of the once-prominent lawyer just before he sent him to prison.

Judge Clifton Newman, a South Carolina native who attended racially segregated schools in the 1950s and 1960s, addressed Murdaugh directly during roughly 20 minutes of comments that ranged from invoking the memories of the defendant's slain son Paul and wife Maggie to lamenting what he described as attacks on the credibility of the state's justice system during the trial. He noted that Murdaugh came from a prominent family of lawyers in the area and that a portrait of his grandfather, a former prosecutor, once hung in the courthouse where he was tried – until Newman had it removed to promote a fair trial.

Among the most poignant moments came when Newman spoke to Murdaugh about his wife and son. Referring to the shooting deaths and lies Murdaugh admit ted telling throughout the investigation, the judge said: "Within your own soul, you have to deal with that. And I know you have to see Paul and Maggie during the night time when you're attempting to go to sleep and I'm sure they come and visit you.'

"All day, and every night," said Murdaugh, who maintained his innocence during the sentencing hearing.

"And they will continue to do so and reflect on the last time they looked you in the eyes," the judge then replied.

Hong Kong court convicts activists behind Tiananmen vigil

HONG KONG (AP) - Three Hong Kong activists from a now-defunct group that organized annual vigils commemorating China's 1989 crackdown on pro-democracy protesters were convicted on Saturday for failing to provide authorities with information on the group in accordance with a national security law.

Chow Hang-tung, Tang Ngok-kwan and Tsui Hon-kwong were arrested in 2021 during a crackdown on the city's pro-democracy movement following massive protests more than three years ago. They were leaders of the Hong Kong Alliance in Support of Patriotic Democratic Movements of China before it disbanded under the shadow of the

Beijing-imposed law.

The alliance was best known for organizing candlelight vigils in Hong Kong on the anniversary of the Chinese military's crushing of the 1989 Tiananmen Square prodemocracy protests. Critics say its shutdown has shown freedoms that were promised when Hong Kong returned to China in 1997 are eroding.

Before the group voted to disband, police had sought details about its operations and finances in connection with alleged links to democracy groups overseas in August 2021, accusing it of being a foreign agent.

But the group refused to cooperate, arguing police were arbitrarily labeling prodemocracy organizations as foreign agents. It added the police did not have a right to ask for its information because it was not a foreign agent and the authorities did not provide sufficient justification.

Fired Memphis EMT says police impeded Tyre Nichols' care

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) - A former Memphis Fire Department emergency medical technician told a Tennessee board Friday that officers "impeded patient care" by refusing to remove Tyre Nichols ' handcuffs, which would have allowed EMTs to check his vital signs after he was brutally beaten by police.

pended for failing to give aid to Nichols and who has also been fired, appeared by livestream before the state Emergency Medical Services Board to share his version of events. He provided details about how he and another EMT, JaMichael Sandridge, responded after five Memphis police officers had punched, kicked and hit Nichols with a baton during an arrest following Nichols fleeing a traffic stop Jan. 7.

department Jan. 30. Their licenses were suspended by the board Feb. 3, after members watched a 19-minute video taken at the beating location. Officials said the EMTs failed to render aid to Nichols, who died

Sandridge did not perform basic emergency medical examinations while Nichols was handcuffed on the ground and slumped against a squad car, documents obtained by The Associated Press showed. Nichols showed "clear signs of distress, such as the inability to remain in a seated posture and laying prone on the ground multiple times," the documents showed.

tiate a primary examination, which could have helped identify the presence of any life-threatening injuries, the documents showed. Nichols' vital signs were not checked, he did not receive high-flow oxygen or an intravenous line, and he was not placed on a heart monitor.

U.S. sending bridge-launchers to **Ukraine for spring fight**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. announced a new \$400 million military aid package for Ukraine on Friday that for the first time includes armored vehicles that can launch bridges — allowing troops to cross rivers or other gaps as Russian and Ukrainian forces remain entrenched on opposite

The war had largely slowed to a grinding stalemate during the winter months, with Russia and Ukraine firing at each other from across the river. Both sides are expected to

existing U.S. weapons stockpiles so it can arrive in Ukraine faster. The U.S. and allies are trying to rush additional support to Kyiv to best position it for intensified spring fighting.

The Armored Vehicle Launched Bridge is a portable, 60-foot (18-meter) folding metal bridge that is carried on top of a tank body. Providing that system now could make it easier for Ukrainian troops to cross rivers to get to Russian forces.

Robert Long, whose license was sus-

Long and Sandridge were fired by the three days after the beating.

The board determined that Long and

Both Long and Sandridge failed to ini-

sides of the Dnieper River.

launch offensives as temperatures warm.

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