

The News - Banner

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Leading women

On Thursday, the Wells County Chamber of Commerce hosted a Women in Leadership "Lunch 'n' Learn" with Brenda Jank of "Run Hard. Rest Well." Jank led the women through conversations about intentional rest and recharging throughout their life. (Photo by Holly Gaskill)

Disagreements arise on reducing state medical costs

By WHITNEY DOWNARD
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Senators and health care stakeholders alike seemed unable to find much agreement Wednesday on how to address Indiana's health care costs, or even how to measure and compare those costs to neighboring states.

Lobbyists from hospitals, insurers and employers presented lawmakers with reams of data in a health committee full of conflicting takeaways. Questions from senators revealed little consensus, even from those who were sponsoring the measure, House Bill 1004.

The multi-faceted bill would create a pathway for penalizing hospitals that exceed the national average for health care costs, incentivize Health Reimbursement Arrangements (HRAs), create a tax credit for physician-owned practices and establish a health care cost oversight board.

Roughly two dozen people spoke over four hours, most with mixed feelings about the legislation and with a particular focus on the provision capping hospital prices. Even senators seemed unclear about the provisions' impact, especially since the hospital penalty provision changed significantly from the first version.

Committee members welcomed additional input, noting that the bill would be called for amendments and a vote next (Continued on Page 2)

Train derailment, fire in Minnesota renew safety fears

By JOSH FUNK and TRISHA AHMED
Associated Press

PRINSBURG, Minn. (AP) — Hundreds of people had to evacuate their Minnesota town after a train hauling ethanol and corn syrup derailed and caught fire early Thursday, but authorities were hopeful that the quick response and cold weather would help limit the impact of this latest crash.

Still, those pushing to improve rail safety said the derailment only added urgency to the debate over reforms that Congress and regulators are considering, even as officials seemed to apply some of the lessons learned after last month's fiery derailment near East Palestine, Ohio.

Minnesota officials said the BNSF train derailed around 1 a.m. in Raymond, roughly 100 miles west of Minneapolis. That prompted the evacuation of essentially all of the town's 250 homes because they were within 1/2 mile of the derailment. The evacuation order was lifted around noon.

The nation has been increasingly focused on railroad safety since the Feb. 3 Norfolk Southern derailment that prompted several thousand evacuations in and around East Palestine near the Ohio-Pennsylvania border. Residents in that town of about 5,000 remain concerned about lingering health impacts after officials decided to release and burn (Continued on Page 2)

9 killed in Army Black Hawk crash

By SHARON JOHNSON, REBECCA REYNOLDS and DYLAN LOVAN
Associated Press

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. (AP) — U.S. Army investigators are trying to determine what caused two Black Hawk medical evacuation helicopters to crash during a routine nighttime training exercise in Kentucky, killing all nine soldiers aboard. No one was hurt on the ground.

Nondice Thurman, a spokesperson for Fort Campbell, said the deaths happened Wednesday night in southwestern Kentucky during a routine training mission.

A statement from Fort Campbell said the two HH-60 Black Hawk heli-

copters, part of the 101st Airborne Division, crashed around 10 p.m. Wednesday in Trigg County in southwest Kentucky. The 101st Airborne confirmed the crash about 30 miles northwest of Fort Campbell.

One helicopter had five people aboard and the other had four, Brig. Gen. John Lubas, the 101st Airborne deputy commander, said Thursday. The helicopters crashed in a field near a residential area with no injuries on the ground, Lubas said.

An Army spokesperson declined to comment on whether the helicopters collided in the air.

"At this time, there is no determination on the specifics regarding the accident," Daniel Matthews, a public

affairs officer for the 101st Airborne Division, said in an emailed statement Thursday afternoon. Matthews said an aviation safety team from Fort Rucker, Alabama, will investigate the accident.

Lubas said it is unclear what caused the crash.

"This was a training progression, and specifically they were flying a multi-ship formation, two ships, under night vision goggles at night," Lubas said. He said officials believe the accident occurred when "they were doing flying, not deliberate medical evacuation drills."

The helicopters have something similar to the black boxes on passenger planes, which records the performance (Continued on Page 2)

Speaker announced for mayor's prayer breakfast

Curtis Smith, the chief marketing and communications officer for Crosswinds Counseling in Fort Wayne, will be the speaker for Bluffton Mayor John Whicker's prayer breakfast Thursday, April 13.

Smith is perhaps best known for his 20-plus year stint as the chief meteorologist at WPTA, Channel 21 in Fort Wayne. He left that position in

2016 and was the corporate director of community engagement for Parkview

Health for nearly five years. He took his present position at Crosswinds in January of 2021.

The cost of the breakfast is \$18 and reservations are due no later than Thursday, April 6. A reservation form for the breakfast can be found at the city's website at <https://bit.ly/3zmRqT0>

Smith was to be the speaker for the mayor's prayer breakfast in 2020, but that event was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He has been a speaker at various churches in the area.

Smith earned a bachelor's degree in radio and television from Southern Illinois University and a certificate of broadcast meteorology from Mississippi State University. He also has a master's degree in organizational leadership from Huntington University.

Donald Trump is indicted by Manhattan grand jury

By MICHAEL R. SISAK, ERIC TUCKER and COLLEEN LONG
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Donald Trump has been indicted by a Manhattan grand jury, prosecutors and defense lawyers said Thursday, making him the first former U.S. president to face a criminal charge and jolting his bid to retake the White House next year.

The charges remained under seal late Thursday, but the investigation centered on payments made during the 2016 presidential campaign to silence claims of an extramarital sexual encounter. Prosecutors said they were working to coordinate Trump's surrender, which could happen early next week, but they did not say whether they intended to seek prison time in the event of a conviction.

The indictment, an extraordinary development after years of investigations into Trump's business, political and personal dealings, injects a local district attorney's

office into the heart of a national presidential race and ushers in criminal proceedings in a city that the ex-president for decades called home. Arriving at a time of deep political divisions, the charges are likely to reinforce rather than reshape dueling perspectives of those who see accountability as long overdue and those who, like Trump, feel the Republican is being targeted for political purposes by a Democratic prosecutor.

Trump, who has denied any wrongdoing and has repeatedly assailed the investigation, called the indictment "political persecution" and predicted it would damage Democrats in 2024. In a statement confirming the charges, defense lawyers Susan Necheles and Joseph Tacopina said Trump "did not commit any crime. We will vigorously fight this political prosecution in court."

A spokesman for the Manhattan district attorney's office confirmed the indictment and said prosecutors had reached out to Trump's (Continued on Page 2)

Inside

Local/Area

Obituaries 3
Police Notebook . . . 3

Opinion

Tom Purcell 4

Also...

Sports 6
Classifieds 7
Diversions 5

Outside

Showers and storms today, tonight, and tomorrow

Today	Saturday	Sunday
High 62	High 48	High 52
Low 40	Low 25	Low 43

More Weather on Page 2

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State medical costs

(Continued from Page 1)

week.

What's at stake?

Nearly 18 months ago, the General Assembly presented an ultimatum to hospitals and insurers: lower the state's health care costs before the 2023 legislative session or risk regulation. Just one health care system, IU Health, publicly promised to freeze its prices — something Rep. Donna Schaibley (R-Carmel), the bill's author, called “disappointing.”

Schaibley defended the bill's focus on the state's large health care systems, citing a fall presentation from researchers that analyzed the impact of consolidation on Indiana's health care prices.

“This is really to address the large hospital systems that are consolidated ... and driving the high costs,” said the Carmel Republican. “We've selected the largest groups because they tend to be the most consolidated.”

And while there was some agreement about affordability and the price of health care, there seemed to be some reservations about whether the bill would be the best solution.

Sen. Liz Brown, R-Fort Wayne, questioned the testimony of several representatives on both sides and noted that hospitals have some large costs — including security, helicopter pads and neonatal intensive care units.

“How can we get our costs down

in a way that makes sure our system is still in place?” asked Brown, who is one of the bill's sponsors.

But who's at fault?

Numerous other healthcare bills this session have devolved into finger pointing and those tensions were evident in committee testimony.

Employers say that hospitals have onerous charges that increase their health care costs even when hospitals sit on healthy reserves. Hospitals say that the pandemic strained their finances and poor reimbursements — from Medicaid and for physicians — mean that they have to charge private insurers more to break even.

Andrew Berger, with the Indiana Manufacturers Association, said his organization was neutral on the bill, citing problems with the low penalty as a percentage of profits for Indiana's largest systems.

“The penalties, as they're structured now, say, ‘We'll charge you \$5 if you don't cut \$100,’” Berger said.

Additionally, Berger said his members weren't interested in the credit incentives for HRAs, which they felt would lower employee morale and wouldn't be beneficial.

Meanwhile the Indiana Hospital Association President Brian Tabor said several organizations were actively campaigning against the state's biggest hospitals — which includes Ascension,

IU Health, Community Health Network and Parkview Health.

“I don't know that that is the best way to make policy,” Tabor said.

Tabor also disputed the oft-cited RAND Corp. report, which consistently ranks Indiana as one of the most expensive states for healthcare costs. He said their calculations were a bad way to make comparisons and dismissed the study's conclusions.

“If we base policy on it, we will miss the target,” Tabor said.

Was there any agreement?

Just one component seemed to inspire agreement between the various parties: Medicaid reimbursement rates.

“We've got multiple problems but I think the low Medicaid reimbursement rates is part of the cost shifting to (private pay),” Sen. Mike Bohacek, R-Michiana Shores, said.

Others, including senators, hospitals and employers, agreed and called for a review of Indiana's Medicaid reimbursement, which Brown said hadn't increased in 20 years.

Some health care providers will see a boost in Medicaid reimbursements due to federal pressure on an unrelated issue. That language is in the House version of the budget.

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

Train derailment

(Continued from Page 1)

toxic chemicals to prevent a tank car explosion. State and federal officials maintain that no harmful levels of toxic chemicals have been found in the air or water, but residents remain uneasy.

The major freight railroads have said they plan to add about 1,000 more track-side detectors nationwide to help spot equipment problems, but federal regulators and members of Congress have proposed additional reforms they want the railroads to make. A group of Ohio Representatives said at a news conference Thursday about their rail safety legislation that the Minnesota derailment reinforces the need for reform.

While state and federal agencies were quick to respond to the Ohio derailment, Norfolk Southern's CEO and Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg were slow to visit the town, and President Joe Biden has yet to survey the damage himself. The railroad even skipped one of the first com-

munity meetings because of fears about the safety of its employees. Contrast that with Thursday's response when BNSF CEO Katie Farmer showed up on day one to apologize and promise a thorough cleanup, and Buttigieg jumped on CNN within hours.

“We will have our team here until this is cleaned up,” Farmer said at a news conference with Gov. Tim Walz and other Minnesota officials.

Walz said the response from Burlington Northern was “unprecedented, in my opinion” with the railroad getting in touch with state and local officials before 6 a.m.

BNSF officials said 22 cars derailed, including about 10 carrying ethanol, and the track remained blocked, but no injuries were reported. The cause hasn't been determined, but EPA officials said on Twitter that four ethanol cars ruptured and the flammable fuel additive caught fire.

ADM confirmed that the

ethanol came from its corn processing facility in Marshall, Minnesota.

Evacuees went to nearby Prinsburg — first to a school and a church where volunteers prepared food and distributed donated bottled water. Emergency responders retrieved three dogs from homes in Raymond in the morning and brought them to the church shelter.

Darwin and Sharon Heida, both 81, said they received an evacuation alert on Darwin's cell phone around 2:30 a.m. at their home about three blocks away from the train tracks.

Darwin, who is a former volunteer firefighter for over 20 years, said the evacuation was “very orderly” and emergency personnel went door-to-door to relay the message. But it was unnerving to see flames above the tree line as they left home.

“It happens in other places but not in our backyard,” Sharon said.

Lawmakers pushing for

railroad safety improvements say statistics show too many communities are dealing with these issues.

“Three derailments per day on average. That's way too many,” Republican U.S. Rep. Bill Johnson of Ohio said. “When is the next one going to occur, and what is the next village or township or community in American that is going to have to be evacuated?”

Walz and railroad officials said they aren't especially concerned about groundwater contamination from the latest derailment because much of the ethanol will burn off and the ground remains frozen. Plus, the U.S. Energy Information Administration says pure ethanol is biodegradable and breaks down into harmless substances if spilled.

Environmental Protection Agency officials from the same regional office that responded to the Ohio derailment arrived on site and started monitoring the air for toxic chemicals by 6:30 a.m. Thursday.

Donald Trump indictment

(Continued from Page 1)

defense team to coordinate a surrender. A person familiar with the matter, who was not authorized to discuss sealed proceedings, said the surrender was expected to happen next week. District Attorney Alvin Bragg left his office Thursday evening without commenting.

The case centers on well-chronicled allegations from a period in 2016 when Trump's celebrity past collided with his political ambitions. Prosecutors for months scrutinized money paid to porn actor Stormy Daniels and former Playboy model Karen McDougal, whom he feared would go public with claims that they had extramarital sexual encounters with him.

The timing of the indictment appeared to come as a surprise to Trump campaign officials following news reports that criminal charges were likely weeks away. The former president was at Mar-a-Lago, his Florida estate, on Thursday and had filmed an interview with a conservative commentator earlier in the day.

For a man whose presidency was defined by one obliterated norm after another, the indictment sets up yet another never-before-seen spectacle — a former president having his fingerprints and mug shot taken, and then facing arraignment.

For security reasons, his booking is expected to be carefully choreographed to avoid crowds inside or outside the courthouse.

The prosecution also means that Trump will have to simultaneously fight for his freedom and political future, while also fending off potentially more perilous legal threats, including investigations into attempts by him and his allies to undo the 2020 election as well into as the hoarding of hundreds of classified documents.

In fact, New York until recently had been seen as an unlikely contender to be the first place to prosecute Trump, who continues to face long-running investigations in Atlanta and Washington that could also result in charges. Unlike those inquiries, the Manhattan case concerns conduct by Trump that occurred before he became president and is unrelated to his much-publicized efforts to overturn a presidential election.

The indictment comes as Trump is seeking to reassert control of the Republican Party and stave off a slew of one-time allies who are seeking or are likely to oppose him for the presidential nomination. An expected leading rival in the race, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, called the indictment “un-American” in a statement Thursday night that pointedly did not men-

tion Trump's name.

In bringing the charges, Bragg, the Manhattan district attorney, is embracing an unusual case that had been investigated by two previous sets of prosecutors, both of which declined to take the politically explosive step of seeking Trump's indictment. The case may also turn in part on the testimony of a key witness, Trump's former lawyer and fixer Michael Cohen, who pleaded guilty to federal charges arising from the hush money payments.

The fate of the investigation seemed uncertain until word got out in early March that Bragg had invited Trump to testify before a grand jury, a signal that prosecutors were close to bringing charges.

Trump's attorneys declined the invitation, but a lawyer closely allied with the former president briefly testified in an effort to undercut Cohen's credibility.

Trump himself had raised anticipation that he would be indicted soon, issuing a statement earlier this month in which he predicted an imminent arrest and called for protests. He did not repeat that call in a fresh

statement Thursday, but the New York Police Department told its 36,000 officers to be fully mobilized and ready to respond to any potential protests or unrest.

Late in the 2016 presidential campaign, Cohen paid Daniels \$130,000 to keep her silent about what she says was a sexual encounter with Trump a decade earlier after they met at a celebrity golf tournament.

Cohen was then reimbursed by Trump's company, the Trump Organization, which also rewarded the lawyer with bonuses and extra payments logged internally as legal expenses. Over several months, Cohen said, the company paid him \$420,000.

Earlier in 2016, Cohen had also arranged for the publisher of the supermarket tabloid the National Enquirer to pay Playboy model Karen McDougal \$150,000 to squelch her story of a Trump affair in a journalistically dubious practice known as “catch-and-kill.”

The payments to the women were intended to buy secrecy, but they backfired almost immediately as details of the arrangements leaked to the news media.

Weather

Friday, March 31, 2023

(24-hour observations at 10:20 p.m. Thursday)

High: 55; Low: 21; Precipitation: None

Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 3.32 feet at 9:45 p.m. Thursday

Wells County forecast

Today: Showers and possibly a thunderstorm before 2 p.m., then a chance of showers and thunderstorms between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., then showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm after 5 p.m. High near 62. Breezy, with a southwest wind around 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90 percent.

Tonight: Showers and thunderstorms before 11 p.m., then showers and possibly a thunderstorm between 11 p.m. and 2 a.m. Low around 40. Windy, with a south wind 25 to 30 mph, with gusts as high as 45 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100 percent. New rainfall amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible.

Saturday: A chance of rain showers after 8 a.m., mixing with snow after 5 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 48. Windy, with a southwest wind around 30 mph, with gusts as high as 45 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

Saturday Night: A 30 percent chance of snow showers before 8 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 25. Northwest wind 15 to 20 mph decreasing to 10 to 15 mph after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph.

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 52.

Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 43.

Helicopter crash

(Continued from Page 1)

of aircrafts in flight and are used by investigators to analyze crashes.

“We're hopeful that will provide quite a bit of information of what occurred,” Lubas said.

Speaking a news conference Thursday morning, Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear said the state would do everything it can to support the families of those killed.

“We're going to do what we always do. We're going to wrap our arms around these families, and we're going to be there with them, not just for the days, but the weeks and the months and the years to come,” Beshear said.

The Black Hawk helicopter is a critical workhorse for the U.S. Army and is used in security, transport, medical evacuations, search and rescue and other missions. The helicopters are known to many people from the 2001 movie “Black Hawk Down,” which is about a violent battle in Somalia eight years earlier.

Black Hawks were a frequent sight in the skies over Iraq and Afghanistan during the wars conducting combat missions and are also used by the Army's 160th Special Operations Aviation Regi-

ment. They were also often used to ferry visiting senior leaders to headquarters locations in the Iraq and Afghanistan war zones.

Fort Campbell is located near the Tennessee border, about 60 miles northwest of Nashville, and the crash occurred in the Trigg County, Kentucky, community of Cadiz.

Nick Tomaszewski, who lives about a mile from where the crash occurred, said he saw two helicopters flying over his house moments before the crash.

“For whatever reason last night my wife and I were sitting there looking out on the back deck and I said ‘Wow, those two helicopters look low and they look kind of close to one another tonight,’” he said.

The helicopters flew over and looped back around and moments later “we saw what looked like a firework went off in the sky.”

“All of the lights in their helicopter went out. It was like they just poofed ... and then we saw a huge glow like a fireball,” Tomaszewski said.

Flyovers for training exercises happen almost daily and the helicopters typically fly low but not so close together, he said.



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OBITUARIES

Marjorie Gaskill, 84

Marjorie Joan Gaskill, 84, was ushered into the presence of her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ at 10 p.m. on Sunday, March 12, 2023. There she was reunited with her husband of 65 years, Larry E. Gaskill, who preceded her just over six weeks ago, on Jan. 24. So shall they ever be with the Lord.



Marjorie was born on March 9, 1939, the youngest of six children to Noah and Amelia (Badertscher) Sprunger of Berne. She graduated from Adams Central High School and later went on to earn her certification in Dietary Management, which served her well in her love of cooking and serving food.

Early in her working career, she was employed at S.S. Kresge in Fort Wayne, later at Parkway Restaurant in Berne, also the former Food Town/Corner Meat Market in Berne, for several years at the locally famous Poplar Restaurant of Berne, The Rustic Cove of Bluffton, and for the last 25 years of her career she was the Head Cook and Dietician at the former Chalet Village of Berne. Almost everywhere Marj worked, she worked with food and feeding people, which was one of her favorite ways to express and communicate love.

Marj loved cooking, canning, camping and cross-stitching – but dearest to her heart was her family. She was a devoted wife, hard-working mother and a supportive and loyal grandmother. She lived sacrificially for her grandkids to cheer them on in 4-H, football, wrestling or whatever endeavors they pursued. Her grandkids always knew Grandma was in their corner.

Marjorie was a member of Grace Bible Church of Berne.

She is survived by two sons, Randy (Emiley) Gaskill of Monroe, and Jeff (Becky) Gaskill of Berne; a daughter, Vicki Gaskill of Berne; nine grandchildren, Aaron Gaskill, Brandon (Lindsey) Gaskill, Craig (Tazza) Gaskill, Bryan (Norine) Gaskill, Mandy (Clarence) Franklin, Jesse (Jamie) Gaskill, Joshua (Lori) Gaskill, Holly Gaskill, and Amelia Gaskill; and 16 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her sisters, Helen Buckingham and Katherine Sprunger; and brothers, Roger Sprunger, Adrian Sprunger, and Stanley Sprunger.

A funeral service will be held at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, April 5, 2023, at Zwick & Jahn Funeral Home, Yager-Kirchhofer Chapel in Berne, with son Rev. Dr. Jeff Gaskill officiating. Burial will follow at M.R.E. Cemetery outside of Berne.

Family and friends will be received for visitation from 4-7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at Yager-Kirchhofer Chapel and one hour prior to the service on Wednesday.

Memorials may be designated to Grace Bible Church. Arrangements by Zwick and Jahn Funeral Homes, Yager-Kirchhofer Chapel in Berne.

Melanie L. Schweikhardt, 64

Melanie L. Schweikhardt, 64, of Bluffton, passed away Thursday morning, March 30, 2023, at Stillwater Hospice Home in Fort Wayne.

Funeral arrangements are pending with Goodwin - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton.

State's '\$1 law' will expire under SB 391

By CASEY SMITH
Indiana Capital Chronicle

A bill originally focused on school building closures was transformed Wednesday to primarily provide Indiana charter schools with access to more state and local funding.

Lawmakers in the House Education Committee adopted the sweeping amendment to Senate Bill 391 along party lines and with mixed opinions from Hoosier parents and education advocates. Republicans supported the changes and Democrats opposed.

The latest version of the bill would sunset Indiana's existing "\$1 Law," which requires public school districts to sell or lease vacant or unused instructional buildings for a single dollar to public charter schools.

The change — an about-face from years of GOP support — was embraced by traditional public school officials, who maintained that local school boards should retain authority to

decide what to do with their buildings — especially because local districts are the original financiers.

"We want to ensure the use of those buildings supports our community. And there are a number of ways for that to happen. That flexibility, I think, would be great," said Aleesia Johnson, superintendent of Indianapolis Public Schools.

But another provision in the bill seeking to force school districts to share referendum funding with charter schools drew pushback from traditional school officials. They argued that charters are not entitled to funding from local property taxpayers because those schools generally do not have the same expenses as their traditional public counterparts.

Charter school proponents praised the move.

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

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City:
Wednesday, 2:17 p.m., Comfort Inn and Suites. Children running down the hallway screaming, one with a seemingly swollen face. Woman was seen yelling at them.

Wednesday, 3:07 p.m., Bluffton High School. Student found in possession of a vape.

Wednesday, 3:07 p.m., Dairy Queen. Property damage accident. Report to follow.

Wednesday, 4:39 p.m., East Walnut Street and South Main Street. Sign in north-bound lane.

Wednesday, 4:47 p.m., 410 East Arnold Street. Collected drug evidence from probationer's room.

Wednesday, 6:37 p.m., 907 West Washington Street. Collected pills during probation search.

Wednesday, 6:57 p.m., 501 West Market Street. Collected marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

Wednesday, 11:52 p.m., 424 East Central Avenue. Woman requested ride.

Thursday, 1:21 a.m., South Main Street and East Silver Street. Possible intoxicated driver.

Thursday, 3:47 a.m., North Main Street and East 300N. Citation issued for not providing financial responsibility.

Thursday, 9:03 a.m., East Townley Street and South Wayne Street. Citation issued for speeding.

Thursday, 11:30 a.m., Bluffton-Harrison Middle

School. Student found in possession of a vape at school.

Thursday, 12:51 p.m., Washington Park. Flagged down a dog running around and returned to the owner.

County:
Wednesday, 2:36 p.m., residence on the Hoosier Highway, rural Bluffton. Case manager has been unable to get in touch with the resident at this location for months. Deputy found no one home.

Wednesday, 4:50 p.m., 5353W Ind. 218, Poneto. Vehicle ran out of gas. Driver advised help was on the way.

Wednesday, 5:44 p.m., West Ind. 218 and South 500W. Vehicle ran out of gas. Driver requested a ride to Bluffton.

Wednesday, 5:37 p.m., North Ind. 1 and East 1200N. Traffic signal not working properly. Firefighter assisted in directing traffic.

Wednesday, 8:13 p.m., residence on South 100E, Poneto. Caller reported someone is receiving harassing text messages from an ex-girlfriend. Advised to block the number seek a restraining order.

Thursday, 12:40 a.m., North Ind. 1 and East 800N. Traffic stop. Juvenile driver issued a breath test and blew zero. Transported to Bluffton Regional Medical Center for a blood draw. Juvenile released to a parent at 2:39 a.m.

Thursday, West 900S and South 400W. Citation issued for expired license plate and

failure to update his driver's license within 30 days.

Thursday, 9:02 a.m., West 800S and South Ind. 3. Citation issued for speeding.

Thursday, 10:17 a.m., Elm Grove Cemetery. Report of vandalism to a memorial.

Thursday, 10:56 a.m., Southern Wells Schools. Irate parent.

Ossian:
Thursday, 10:26 a.m., Felger Hart. Report of fraudulent activity using the company's letterhead and email address. Approximate loss in this case was estimated to be \$43,175.79.

ACCIDENTS

City:
Wednesday, 3:07 p.m., 100W Lamar Street. Marisa A. Mailloux, 39, Decatur, was backing up in a 2019 Honda CR-V when a child in the back caused a distraction, causing Mailloux to accidentally crash into a light pole. Damage exceeded \$1,000.

County:
Wednesday, 3:08 a.m., South Jefferson at Hillcrest Drive, Ossian. Shelby L. Humphrey, 24, Fort Wayne, was driving a 2008 Mercury Milan and went off the roadway, striking a mailbox and News-Banner box. The vehicle continued north into the yard of 8713 N In. 1 where the vehicle hit a ditch and became air born, landed, and continued through the yard. The vehicle came to rest back on the roadway in the intersection of State Road 1 and Hillcrest Dr. Humphrey, uninjured by the accident, said he

had been up all day and was sent home from work for falling asleep. Deputies identified the smell of marijuana coming from the vehicle and conducted several field sobriety tests, one of which Humphrey failed. Humphrey blew a zero percent on a breath test, and consented to a chemical test. Results of the chemical test are pending. Raw marijuana and marijuana cigarettes were both located in the vehicle, which was towed from the scene by Freeman's. Humphrey was arrested for operating a vehicle while intoxicated, endangerment, a Class A misdemeanor, operating a vehicle without ever receiving a license, a Class A misdemeanor, and operating a vehicle while under the influence of a controlled substance, a Class C misdemeanor.

ARRESTS
John James Armstrong Jr., 39, Muncie; resisting law enforcement using a vehicle, a Level 6 felony, and reckless driving, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond set at \$5,500.

David James Wolford, 20, Ossian; contributing to the delinquency of a minor, a Class A misdemeanor, possession of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor, possession of controlled substance paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor, and operating a vehicle under the influence of a controlled substance, a Level 6 felony. Bond set at \$8,000.

Robert Lee Wine, 32, Bluffton; invasion of privacy, a Class C misdemeanor. Bond set at \$25,000.

High school military exam under fire

By DYLAN PEERS
MCCOY

WFYI Indianapolis

When Indiana policymakers set out to overhaul high school diplomas five years ago, their aim was simple: Ensure graduates are ready for the next step - whether that's college or a job with decent pay.

High schoolers have a lot of ways to prove they're prepared. Students can take rigorous classes and get an honors diploma. They can earn scores on admission tests like the SAT that show they are ready for college. Or they can train in fields like welding or health care.

Yet a military enlistment exam called the ASVAB Career Exploration Program has quietly become one of the most popular options. WFYI obtained state data that shows nearly 20 percent of all graduates relied on the test in 2021, the latest available year.

Now, the exam is under fire from critics who say it's become a loophole in state graduation rules. They say scores on the exam don't help students go to college or find jobs in other fields.

"I want to make sure that these pathways have value," said Behning, who is leading a legislative push to discourage students from relying on the test. He authored House Bill 1635, which is under review in the Senate Education and Career Development Committee.

Some educators argue,

however, that making it harder to use the ASVAB to graduate could discourage schools from administering a test that offers valuable information about students' strengths. And it could prevent some high schoolers from earning diplomas.

Checking off boxes
Indiana high schoolers not only need to take and pass classes to get a diploma, they also need to meet state expectations. The requirements, which were approved about five years ago, are called graduation pathways. Schools could opt in to the rules beginning with the graduating class of 2018, and students who graduate this year are required to use the pathways.

Many educators opposed the graduation pathways system, which can be complicated for students and counselors. But it was backed by businesses who said they struggled to find enough qualified workers. Today, industry leaders and policymakers continue to struggle with similar issues, such as more than 200,000 open jobs and a fast-paced decline in college enrollment.

After the rules were established, some high schools responded with a focus on career training, which can be used as a graduation qualification. At Bluffton High School in Northeast Indiana, almost 40 percent of 2021 graduates qualified for diplomas by focusing on a career field. None used the military

exam.

Principal Steve Baker said that's by design. He believes multicourse pathways, like academic honors or career training, are better for most students than a single exam.

The rural high school offers multiple classes in fields such as health care, teaching and welding. This allows students to pick a track and learn enough about a particular career to get a job after high school. Students use those focus areas to fulfill graduation requirements.

"I want to make the pathways applicable for our students and make it a connection for them," Baker said.

The future of graduation rules

Although educators and policymakers focus on how graduation pathways encourage career training, the ASVAB has actually proven to be a slightly more popular pathway.

Behning, the lawmaker who is leading the legislative effort to curtail the test, said the prevalence of the military test is a problem. The bill he proposed would limit ASVAB so that only students who later enlist can use it to graduate.

That would be difficult to implement, so Behning has also suggested other strategies. The state could limit the number of students at each school who use ASVAB as a graduation pathway. Or it could raise the score that

students must earn to use the test - currently 31 out of 99, the same minimum for Army enlistment.

If the state does not reduce the reliance on ASVAB, it could obscure how many students are prepared for college or jobs - besides the military - when they leave high school.

Students should learn basic math and literacy skills, said Jason Kloth, President and CEO of workforce development nonprofit Ascend Indiana. When lots of students in a school or district are not ready for college or good paying jobs, Kloth wants to know so he can put pressure on the system to improve.

"There should be a shared understanding of what a high school diploma signifies," Kloth said, "both to employers, as well as to parents and families."

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

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Dumbing America down – digitally?

IQs have dropped for the first time in American history, and the experts aren't quite sure why.

According to Neuroscience News, a new Northwestern University study finds that our average IQ scores have decreased in three out of four cognitive measures. The study found that "scores of verbal reasoning (logic, vocabulary), matrix reasoning (visual problem solving, analogies) and letter and number series (computational/mathematical) dropped during the study period ..."

The only IQ measure to increase was 3D rotation (spatial reasoning), which, ironically, could be due to the proliferation of video gaming.

The country's IQ drop is a drastic reversal of the "Flynn effect," a phenomenon in which "IQ scores have substantially increased from 1932 through the 20th century, with differences ranging from three to five IQ points per decade." Elizabeth Dworak, the study's author, says the findings do not mean Americans are necessarily getting less intelligent.

"It could just be that they're getting worse at taking tests or specifically worse at taking these kinds of tests," she says.

Perhaps. Or perhaps our outdated and dumbed-down approach to learning and teaching are making us duller.

When my parents graduated high school in the 1950s, they were well prepared to read, write clear and coherent letters (what we call "content" today), do basic math and manage their checkbooks.

That was a different era, to be sure.

But here we are, more than 60 years later, still running our kids through a creaky education model that seems more interested in promoting peripheral cultural shifts than in teaching the rigors of reading, writing and arithmetic.

Is it any wonder that the cognitive skills of American kids fall well below kids in 25 other developed countries, according to The Discovery Institute? Meanwhile, as our kids spend eight hours a day on social media, their attention spans and ability to concentrate are being compromised, The Guardian reports, to no one's surprise.

How can they ever learn to read and understand long essays or make a detailed, reasoned argument if they cannot focus and concentrate on anything more complicated than a text message?

Another key driver of the country's declining cognitive abilities could be that our Digital Age kids no longer spend hours outside playing.

Richard Louv, author of "Last Child in the Woods," says our kids are suffering from "nature deficit disorder," which he argues is a direct cause of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and other learning maladies in children.

Simply put, our kids spend too little time climbing trees, building forts and having all five of their senses engaged and unleashed by the wonders of playing in the woods.

"We don't yet know why it happens," says Louv, "but when all five of a child's senses come alive, a child is at an optimum state of learning. Creativity and cognitive functioning go way up." And conversely, as our kids spend more time indoors on social media, their creativity and cognitive functioning go way down.

All of this IQ decline is putting our country at a crossroads. As our Digital Kids become adults, their votes are increasingly replacing those cast by the common-sense high-school grads of the 1950s.

To maintain a stable and prosperous republic, and to thwart the silver-tongued politicians who push their expensive and foolish government policies, we will need voters with sound reasoning abilities.

That's one more good reason why we must reform our education system — and moderate the impact of social media on our kids — to re-reverse the Flynn effect while we still can.

Tom Purcell is a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review columnist. tom@TomPurcell.com.



Tom Purcell

Our broken political system

In the middle of his most recent offering, the Indiana Policy Review book reviewer Mark Franke asked one of the most important questions of the modern political era. In fact, if our polity is to survive its current state of fractured fragility, it might be the question:

"Where is the red line between reasonable compromise and dying on the hill of principle?"

I don't have any better answer to that question than Mark did, but it made me think. If this offering can get one other person to think, maybe we can get some kind of strange chain reaction of civic discussion started.

He posed the question in connection with reviewing three books having the same general theme: The two-party system is broken, and we desperately need to somehow find our way back to compromise before the nation is torn apart in the war of partisan extremes.

Mark agreed with the stated problem but expressed doubts about most of the solutions. Each of the suggested remedies — open balloting, constitutional nullification amendments, ranked ballot voting and so on — would create its own set of problems. On the other end of the spectrum from our dilemma, for example, would we really be better off with a multi-party system that required the corraling of a new governing coalition every few months?

Here is my thought: What if these analysts, in dissecting the sad state of our major political parties, are focusing on the wrong thing? Isn't it possible that the two-party breakdown is not the cause of our divisiveness but, rather, the result of it?

The names have changed, and some issues they favor have come and gone, but we have had two major parties almost from the beginning of the republic, ever since George Washington decided not to be president for life. They have survived and thrived by listening to the electorate, candidates doing their best to promise delivery of what is desired. The parties are what they are because of who we are.

At the very least, we should consider the relationship of our political class and voting citizenry to be a symbiotic one. Each has contributed to the policy mix and, however briefly and sporadically, somehow managed to tolerate the compromises that serve the commonweal.

Until now. We are taunted by the possibility that compromise has moved forever beyond our grasp. And the unanswered — because, so far, unasked — question is what has happened to us, the American people, to bring us to such an impasse? If we can figure that out, perhaps we can start understanding our "two-party problem."

I have a thought about that, too.

Stated succinctly if simplistically, what we have today is a war between liberals and conservatives. Whatever else we may say about them, it seems fair to describe liberals as always wanting change and championing strong government activity and spending to achieve it. Conservatives want the stability of preserved tradition and champion strong

government initiatives to achieve it.

Does that sound about right? If so, consider this:

It is much harder for conservatives to compromise than it is for liberals to compromise.

That has nothing to do with the character or intentions of the people involved. It is in the very nature of conservatism and liberalism.

Conservatives want the status quo. Liberals want to break the status quo as decisively and as often as they can.

And when "no change" and "big change" clash, there is only one compromise: a little change. So, every compromise is a defeat for conservatism, however small, and it is a victory, however small, for liberalism. We can see this most often in budget discussions: Let's keep the same budget (cuts are never on the table). No, let's increase it by 20 percent. OK, let's compromise at 10 percent.

The result is the inexorable march of change and an ever-contracting foundation of stability.

I think we have reached the point where conservatives are sick and tired of always being on the losing end of compromise. Because there are now a few news outlets not parroting the left-center narrative and because of the effects of social media, they are talking more to each other and getting in a "mad as hell and not going to take it anymore" mood.

Liberals, on the other hand, are giddy with success. The more gains they make, the more they want. Every extreme position they beat conservatives down on just spurs them on to even more extreme positions. Because they still mostly control the narrative, and because of the effects of social media, they've convinced themselves that their positions are the only moral ones.

If I'm even close to correct, I have no idea where we go from here. I keep thinking that the liberals will go one step too far and champion something so crazy no sane person would accept it. But so far it hasn't happened. I keep thinking conservatives will craft a coherent defense of American values and traditions, but that hasn't happened, either.

Maybe it is easier just to blame the parties. Not our fault, move along, nothing to see here.

Leo Morris is a Fort Wayne-based columnist for The Indiana Policy Review. Contact him at leodit@yahoo.com.



Leo Morris

Hoosier Opinions

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, March 31, the 90th day of 2023. There are 275 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On March 31, 1991, the Warsaw Pact military alliance came to an end.

On this date:

In 1492, King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain issued an edict expelling Jews from Spanish soil, except those willing to convert to Christianity.

In 1814, Paris was occupied by a coalition of Russian, Prussian and Austrian forces; the surrender of the French capital forced the abdication of Emperor Napoleon.

In 1931, Notre Dame college football coach Knute Rockne, 43, was killed in the crash of a TWA plane in Bazaar, Kansas.

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How to win the shame game

Dear Annie: I have a 40-year-old child who is transitioning from male to female. I was told of this decision by email. We haven't had much in-person discussion about this, but each time I post a picture or a memory, I feel I'm being scolded by them saying, "That's not who I am anymore," as if anything we did together or any memory I have doesn't exist.

"You are too skinny" comment from people who have a BMI of at least 30. I just usually listen and change the subject. Annie, I do not body-shame others, nor do I insist that others work out as much as I do. And I NEVER comment on someone's weight, whatever it might be. I am tired of being (wrongly) judged and am looking for an appropriate response. — Fit in Florida

Dear Annie by Annie Lane



Dear Fit: I'd like to think the people who are making these sorts of comments toward you are doing so out of love and concern. That said, I can sense your frustration and rightly so; it's not appropriate to make remarks regarding either side of the weight spectrum.

The next time you find yourself the target of a body-shaming speech or wisecrack, try responding with something like, "My health is really important to me. I'm proud of my lifestyle and my body," or "I appreciate your concern, but you should know that I am amazingly healthy the way I am." By directly addressing these comments in the moment, you can hopefully avoid having repeat discussions in the future — while simultaneously dishing out some food for thought.

"How Can I Forgive My Cheating Partner?" features favorite columns on marriage, infidelity, communication and reconciliation. It 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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My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



Everything we have has been given to us by God

Q: I'm a generous person and would rather give than receive, particularly to those who are on the front lines of getting the Gospel out. But my wife is suspect of those who are always asking for contributions; she is so reluctant that if I left it up to her we would never give to anything or anyone. — G.C.

A: Generosity doesn't come naturally to most of us — not the kind of generosity the Bible urges us to have. Most of us will gladly give if we think the cause is worthy and we feel we can afford it. But the Bible urges us to go beyond that: to give sacrificially to God's work. God's work demands

prayer, dedication, vision, and reliance on the Holy Spirit. But it also requires our financial resources. "So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver" (see 2 Corinthians 9:6-8).

Even Jesus' little band of disciples relied on the generosity of others to carry on their work; we read of a group of godly women who were helping to support them out of their own means (Luke 8:3).

We must never forget that everything we have has been given to us by God. Yes, we may have worked hard and earned what we have, but we should consider who gave us our abilities and

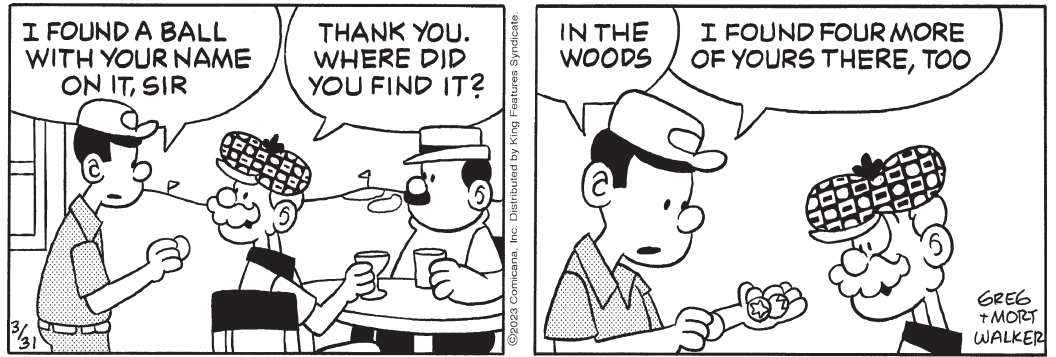
opportunities. We should be responsible givers and pray for those who do not have the spirit of giving, that the Lord may touch their hearts to help those doing good work in the name of the Lord, for the sake of the Gospel.

The Bible is indeed full of encouragement toward generosity. "Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over ... For the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you" (Luke 6:38).

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

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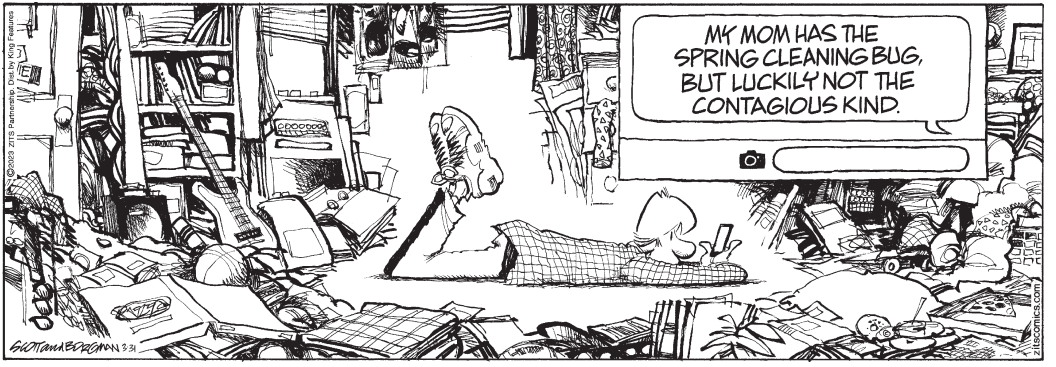
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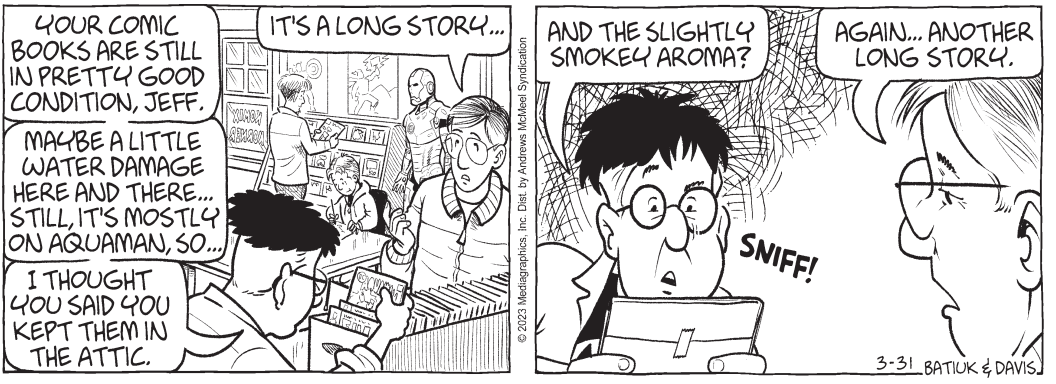
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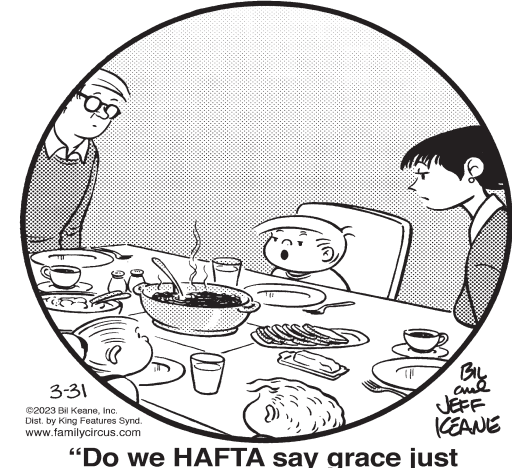


CRANKSHAFT



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



The LOCKHORNS

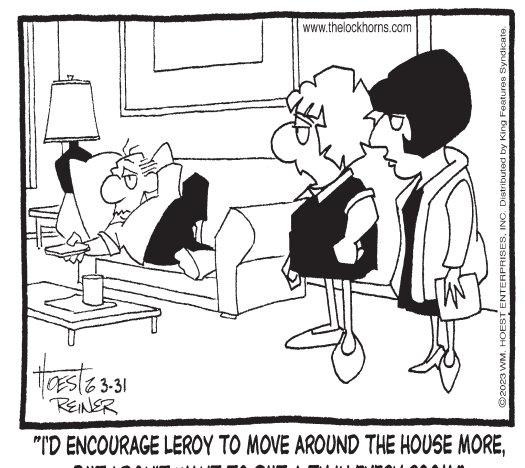
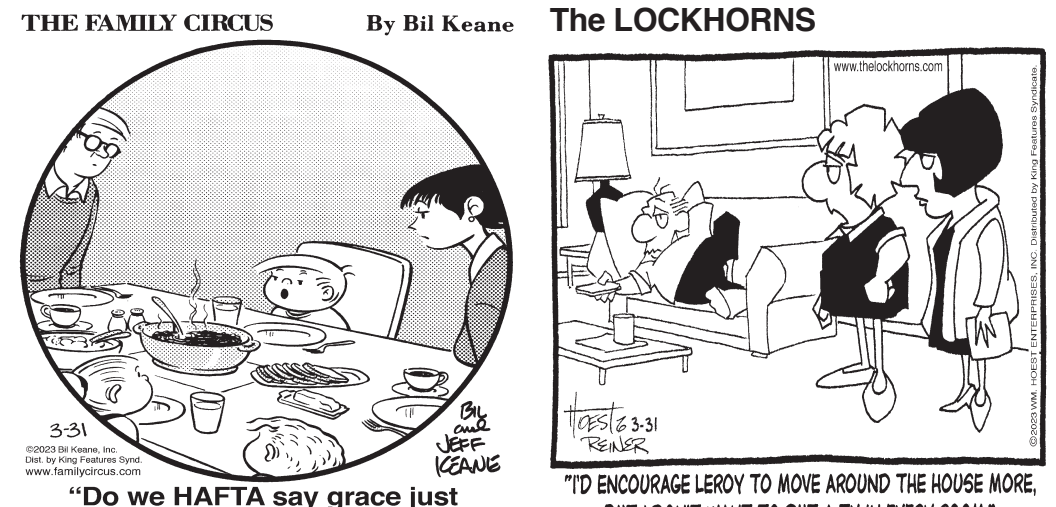


Table with columns for dates (03/31, 04, 05) and channels (W, M, A, D1, D2). It lists various TV programs and their corresponding channels for the week.



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Table for crossword puzzle clues, including Across and Down sections with numbers and descriptions.

Buy it, Sell it, Rent it, Find it, Fill it, Get it, Do it in the Classifieds! Place your Ad 24/7/365! www.news-banner.com

Yesterdays answer 3-31

Completed crossword puzzle grid with letters filled in.

Yesterdays answer 3-31

Grid for crossword puzzle solution, showing the layout of letters and empty spaces.

Indiana's Teri Moren wins Coach of the Year

By DOUG FEINBERG
AP Basketball Writer

DALLAS (AP) — Teri Moren has led Indiana to some unprecedented heights this season.

The team won its first Big Ten regular season championship in 40 years, rose to No. 2 in The Associated Press women's basketball poll and earned the school's first No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament.

Moren was honored Thursday as the AP women's basketball Coach of the Year, the first time she has won the award. She received 12 votes from the 28-member national media panel that votes on the AP Top 25 each week. South Carolina's Dawn Staley was second with eight votes. Utah's Lynne Roberts received five and Virginia Tech's Kenny Brooks three.

Voting was done before the NCAA Tournament.

"I think a lot of people were like this is going to be a year where Indiana is reloading, rebuilding, they won't be as good as they had been the year prior. We were picked third in the Big Ten," Moren said.

Moren was surprised by her team, who told her she won in an elaborate ruse.

"Anytime you can share it with people that made it happen, the staff, the players, the most important people who have been instrumental in the season and this award is special. I was speechless."

Moren accepted the award at the Final Four, sharing the stage with AP Player of the Year Caitlin Clark to complete a Big Ten sweep.



Teri Moren

The team has come a long way from when Moren was a young girl growing up in southern Indiana. She was a diehard fan of the Indiana basketball team. The men's one that is.

She would attend men's games with her family when she was a kid and was a big fan of coach Bob Knight. She has a constant reminder of the Hall of Fame coach in her office as a picture of his infamous chair-throwing incident hangs by the door. Moren said it's the last thing she sees before heading to practice.

As far as the women's team, they just weren't very good. Times have changed, as Moren has built the program into a blue-collar team that focuses on defense and is a consistent Top 25 team the last few seasons, appearing in the poll for 75 consecutive weeks starting with the preseason one in 2019-2020. That's the fourth-longest active streak.

Before that, the Hoosiers had been ranked for a total of six times.

"People still talk to me about living in Bloomington and they couldn't afford a ticket to the men's game. Not that they settled, but became women's basketball fans. At that moment, you could walk in and find any seat you wanted and watch women's basketball," Moren said.

"There were 300-400 people in the stands, now to what it is today, it's an unbelievable thing to watch it grow. Things you dream about to see fans and bodies up in the rafters."

The Hoosiers had six of the school's top 10 most attended games this season, including crowds of over 13,000 fans for the first round of the NCAA Tournament and 14,000 for the second round game — a shocking loss to Miami.

"It stings right now, but that last game doesn't define our season," Moren said.

High School Calendar

FRIDAY, MARCH 31
No events scheduled.
SATURDAY, April 1
BASEBALL: Norwell at Jennings County, 11 a.m.; Norwell vs. Seeger Memorial at Jennings County, 2 p.m.
SOFTBALL: Southern Wells at Wes-Del, 10 a.m.
MONDAY, APRIL 3
No events scheduled.
TUESDAY, APRIL 4
BASEBALL: South Adams at Norwell, 5 p.m.; New Haven at Bluffton, 5 p.m.; Oak Hill at Southern Wells, 5 p.m.
SOFTBALL: Eastbrook at Bluffton, 5 p.m.;

Southern Wells at Madison-Grant, 5 p.m.
TRACK & FIELD (CO-ED): Bluffton at Eastbrook, 5:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5
SOFTBALL: Southern Wells at Norwell, 5 p.m.; Bluffton at Bellmont, 5 p.m.
THURSDAY, APRIL 6
BASEBALL: Blackford at Bluffton, 5 p.m.
GIRLS TENNIS: Bluffton at Norwell, 4:30 p.m.
SOFTBALL: Eastbrook at Norwell, 4:30 p.m.
FRIDAY, APRIL 7
BASEBALL: Norwell at Eastbrook, 5 p.m.; Bluffton at Eastern High School Howard County Invitational, 5:30 p.m.

Swanson, Stroman help Cubs beat Brewers on opening day

By JAY COHEN
AP Baseball Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Right after it was over, Dansby Swanson soaked in one more moment in a very special debut with the Chicago Cubs.

He finally got to enjoy the victory song at Wrigley Field. "Hearing 'Go Cubs Go' is a lot better when you're on the team," the All-Star shortstop said.

Swanson had three hits and Marcus Stroman worked six scoreless innings, breezing past baseball's first pitch-clock violation on his way to a 4-0 victory over the Milwaukee Brewers on Thursday on opening day.

Swanson's first hit with his new team was an RBI single that sparked a four-run third. He tacked on two more singles and played his usual solid defense, including the turn on a key double play.

"Great debut for him," manager David Ross said.

Swanson signed a \$177 million, seven-year contract with Chicago in free agency, leaving the Atlanta Braves after seven seasons. The addition of the Georgia native was the marquee move in a busy offseason for the Cubs after finishing third in the NL Central with a 74-88 record.

"It was just an amazing day," Swanson said. "It's an amazing city, organization. Couldn't be more grateful to be here."

Milwaukee was limited to singles for rookie Brice Turang, Willy Adames, Brian Anderson and William Contreras. It also was a tough day for Brewers ace Corbin Burnes, who allowed four hits and issued three walks in five innings.

"We put some runners on, but there wasn't many hits for both sides today," Milwaukee manager Craig Counsell said.

Stroman struck out eight and walked three in the first start of his second season with the Cubs. Keegan Thompson and



Brad Boxberger each got three outs before Michael Fulmer finished the four-hitter.

Milwaukee threatened in the third, loading the bases with one out. But Rowdy Tellez bounced to second baseman Nico Hoerner for the start of a 4-6-3 double play.

"Once I saw it being hit at Nico, I had the utmost confidence in me that it was going to be rolled," Stroman said.

The inning featured the majors' first violation of its new pitch clock. With no outs, Turang on second base and Christian Yelich at the plate, plate umpire Ron Kulpa pointed to his left wrist and then pointed at Stroman in announcing the violation.

The automatic ball made it a 2-2 count, and Yelich ended up with a walk. But there was never any sign of any protest from Stroman.

Major League Baseball introduced the pitch clock this season to speed the pace of play. Players have 30 seconds to resume play between batters. Between pitches, pitchers have 15 seconds with nobody on and 20 seconds if there is a baserunner. Batters must be in the box and alert to the pitcher with at least eight seconds on the clock.

"It's definitely not easy to be a pitcher out there and feel rushed at times," Stroman said.

The Cubs went ahead to stay in the bottom half of the third. Swanson singled home Miles Mastrobuoni and scored on Trey Mancini's single. Hoerner scored on a throwing error on shortstop Adames.

UP NEXT

Following an off day, right-hander Brandon Woodruff and left-hander Justin Steele take the mound on Saturday afternoon. Woodruff went 13-4 with a 3.05 ERA in 27 starts for Milwaukee last year. Steele went 4-7 with a 3.18 ERA in a career-best 24 starts for Chicago.

Vaughn's double lifts White Sox over Astros on Opening Day

By KRISTIE RIEKEN
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — Andrew Vaughn's tiebreaking, two-run double in the ninth inning lifted the Chicago White Sox to a 3-2 win over the defending World Series champion Houston Astros in their season opener Thursday night.

The game was tied 1-all after a homer by Chicago's Yasmani Grandal in the eighth. Ryan Pressly (0-1) walked Tim Anderson with one out in the ninth before a single by Luis Robert Jr.

Vaughn then belted a double on a line drive that sailed over the head of leaping second baseman Mauricio Dubón and into center field to put the White Sox on top.

Pedro Grifol got the win in his managerial debut after spending the last 10 seasons as a coach in the Royals organization. It snapped a streak of 10 straight wins for the Astros in openers.

White Sox ace Dylan Cease allowed two hits and a run with 10 strikeouts over 6 1/3 innings in his first opening-day start. Kendall Graveman (1-0) worked a scoreless eighth for the win.

Reynaldo Lopez allowed a soaring solo home run to the second deck in right field to Yordan Alvarez with one out in the ninth but finished for the save.

UP NEXT

Houston RHP Cristian Javier opposes RHP Lance Lynn when the series continues Friday night.

Jays outlast Cardinals in opener

By STEVE OVERBEY
Associated Press

ST. LOUIS (AP) — George Springer had five hits and Vladimir Guerrero Jr. drove in three runs as the Toronto Blue Jays beat St. Louis 10-9 on Thursday despite the Cardinals' Tyler O'Neill tying a major league record by homering on opening day George for the fourth straight season.

Making his Cardinals debut, catcher Willson Contreras left after the eighth inning because of an injured knee and was sent for a scan.

Springer was 5 for 6 with five singles in the fourth five-hit game of his big league career to go along with a six-game game for Houston at Oakland in May 2018.

Bo Bichette had four hits and Matt Chapman three for the Blue Jays, who outhit the

Cardinals 19-15 and set a team record for hits in an opener.

"It was a grind. It was a roller-coaster," Toronto manager John Schneider said. "But up and down the at-bats were great."

Toronto won its fourth straight opener by overcoming a 9-8 deficit in the ninth against Ryan Helsley (0-1). Springer tied the score with an RBI single and Guerrero followed with a sacrifice fly.

UP NEXT

St. Louis RHP Jack Flaherty (2-1, 4.25 ERA last season) will face RHP Kevin Gausman (12-10, 3.35) in the second game of the three-game series on Saturday. Flaherty was the opening day starter in 2021 and 2022. Gausman is 1-4 with a 4.05 ERA in nine appearances against St. Louis.



NASCAR CUP SERIES
Toyota Owners 400
Site: Richmond, Virginia.
Schedule: Saturday, practice, 10:05 a.m., and qualifying, 10:50 a.m.; Sunday, race, 3:30 p.m. (FS1).
Last race: Tyler Reddick grabbed the lead on the third overtime restart at Circuit of the Americas and earned his first victory of the season and fourth overall.
Fast facts: Kyle Busch was second, followed by Alex Bowman, defending race winner Ross Chastain and William Byron. ... Reddick gave Toyota its first victory of the season. ... Chastain leads the points, followed by Busch, whose four top 10 finishes share the lead with Christopher Bell. Defending series champion Joey Logano is third, followed by retiring Kevin Harvick.
Next race: April 9, Bristol, Tennessee.

NASCAR XFINITY SERIES
Toyota Care 250
Site: Richmond, Virginia.
Schedule: Saturday, practice, 8:05 a.m., practice, 8:35 a.m., and race, 1 p.m. (FS1).
Last race: A.J. Allmendinger won after starting on the pole.

NASCAR TRUCK SERIES
SpeedyCash.Com 250
Site: Fort Worth, Texas.
Schedule: Saturday, practice, 10:35 a.m., practice, 11:05 a.m., and race, 4 p.m. (FS1).
Last race: Smith held off Kyle Busch to win his second straight race.
Next race: April 8, Bristol, Tennessee.

FORMULA ONE
Australian Grand Prix
Site: Melbourne, Australia.
Schedule: Sunday, race, 1 a.m. (ESPN)
Last race: Sergio Perez made it 2 for 2 for Red Bull to start the season, beating teammate Max Verstappen, who surged from 15th to 2nd.
Next race: April 30, Azerbaijan.

INDYCAR
PPG 375
Site: Austin, Texas.
Schedule: Sunday, race, 12:10 p.m. (ABC).
Next event: April 2, Pomona, California.

NHRA DRAG RACING
WORLD OF OUTLAWS
Next events: March 31, April 1, Mesquite, Texas.

News-Banner Scoreboard

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

Thursday's Games
Boston 140, Milwaukee 99
New Orleans at Denver, late

Friday's Games
Chicago at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Orlando at Washington, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.
New York at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Utah at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Houston, 8 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Sacramento at Portland, 10 p.m.
San Antonio at Golden State, 10 p.m.
Denver at Phoenix, 10:30 p.m.

National League

Toronto 10, St. Louis 9
Chicago White Sox 3, Houston 2
L.A. Angels at Oakland, 10:07 p.m.
Cleveland at Seattle, 10:10 p.m.

Friday's Games
Chicago White Sox (Lynn 0-0) at Houston (Javier 0-0), 8:10 p.m.
Cleveland (Gaddis 0-0) at Seattle (Ray 0-0), 10:10 p.m.

Saturday's Games
Chicago White Sox at Houston, 2:10 p.m.
Toronto at St. Louis, 2:15 p.m.
Philadelphia at Texas, 4:05 p.m.
San Francisco at N.Y. Yankees, 4:05 p.m.
L.A. Angels at Oakland, 4:07 p.m.
Baltimore at Boston, 4:10 p.m.
Detroit at Tampa Bay, 4:10 p.m.
Minnesota at Kansas City, 4:10 p.m.
Cleveland at Seattle, 9:40 p.m.

American League

CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Selected the contracts of INF Hanser Alberto and OF Oscar Colas from Charlotte (9L).
Optioned LHP Tanner Banks and INF Jake Burger to Charlotte. Requested unconditional release waivers on INF Leury Garcia. Placed LHP Garret Crochet and RHPs Matt Foster and Liam Hendricks on the 15-day IL, all retroactive to March 27.
CLEVELAND GUARDIANS — Agreed to terms with INF Andres Gimenez on a seven-year contract and with RHP Trevor Stephan on a four-year contract. Designated RHP Jason Bilous for assignment. Placed LHP Sam Hentges and RHP Triston McKenzie on the 15-day IL, retroactive to March 27. Placed RHP Cody Morris on the 60-day IL. Selected the contract of Cs Melby Vitoria and Cam Gallagher from Columbus (IL). Recalled RHP Xzavion Curry from Columbus.
DETROIT TIGERS — Placed 3B Tyler Nevin on the 10-day IL, RHPs Beau Brieske and Michael Lorenzen on the 15-day IL, all retroactive to March 27. Designated RHP Edwin Uceta for assignment. Selected the contract of RHP Trey Wingo and LHP Chasen Shreve from Toledo (IL). Optioned LHP Tyler Holton to Toledo.

National League

CHICAGO CUBS — Selected the contract of RHP Mark Leiter Jr. from Iowa (IL). Placed RHP Kyle Hendricks and LHP Brandon Hughes on the 10-day IL, retroactive to March 27. Placed OF Seiya Suzuki on the 10-day IL.
CINCINNATI REDS — Placed RHPs Luke Weaver, Tony Santillan and Lucas Sims, OF Nick Senzel and INF Joey Votto on the 10-day IL, all retroactive to March 27. Placed RHPs Justin Dunn and Tejay Antone on the 60-day IL. Activated OF Stuart Fairchild. Designated INF Nick Solak for assignment. Selected the contracts of RHP Derek Law, INF Jason Vosler and LHP Alex Young from Louisville (IL).

FOOTBALL
National Football League
CINCINNATI BENGALS — Signed TE Irv Smith Jr. to a one-year contract.
CLEVELAND BROWNS — Signed G Wes Martin.
DETROIT LIONS — Signed LS Scott Daly.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

Thursday's Games
Florida 5, Montreal 2
Pittsburgh 2, Nashville 0
Tampa Bay 5, Washington 1
Boston 2, Columbus 1, OT
Ottawa 5, Philadelphia 4, OT
Detroit 3, Carolina 2
St. Louis 5, Chicago 3
Los Angeles at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
Anaheim at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Vegas at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

Friday's Games
N.Y. Rangers at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.
Calgary at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Dallas at Arizona, 10:30 p.m.

BASEBALL

American League

Thursday's Games
N.Y. Yankees 5, San Francisco 0
Baltimore 10, Boston 9
Tampa Bay 4, Detroit 0
Minnesota 2, Kansas City 0
Texas 11, Philadelphia 7

TRANSACTIONS

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Major League Baseball

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

Difficulty: ★★★★★

3-31

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Lottery Numbers

Thursday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY
Cash 5 — 06-22-23-35-40
Cash4Life — 15-25-23-44-47, Cash Ball: 02
Quick Draw Midday — 03-06-08-09-11-15-20-23-25-33-45-49-52-56-57-58-66-70-74-77, BE: 23
Daily Three-Midday — 04-02-00, SB: 06
Daily Three-Evening — 06-05-00, SB: 07
Daily Four-Midday — 01-05-00-05, SB: 06
Daily Four-Evening — 03-04-03-04, SB: 07
Quick Draw Evening — 01-05-07-08-11-14-17-19-20-31-35-37-39-54-55-56-58-72-74-78, BE: 54
Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$13.7 million
MEGA MILLIONS Estimated jackpot (for Friday): \$355 million
POWERBALL Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$147 million

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HELOISE HINT: To get great bargains at garage sales, go early. You will have the pick of the best items that are being offered, and you can make deals with sellers. Fax Heloise @ 210-HELOISE (435-6473).

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SUDOKU ANSWER

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

Russia arrests Wall Street Journal reporter on spying charge

By The Associated Press
Russia's security service arrested an American reporter for The Wall Street Journal on espionage charges, the first time a U.S. correspondent has been detained on spying accusations since the Cold War. The newspaper denied the allegations and demanded his release.

Evan Gershkovich, 31, was detained in Yekaterinburg, Russia's fourth-largest city, about 1,035 miles east of Moscow. Russia's Federal Security Service accused him of trying to obtain classified information.

Known by the acronym FSB, the service is the top domestic security agency and main successor to the Soviet-era KGB. It alleged that Gershkovich "was acting on instructions from the American side to collect information about the activities of one of the enterprises of the Russian military-industrial complex that con-

stitutes a state secret." The Journal "vehemently denies the allegations from the FSB and seeks the immediate release of our trusted and dedicated reporter, Evan Gershkovich," the newspaper said. "We stand in solidarity with Evan and his family."

The arrest comes at a moment of bitter tensions between the West and Moscow over its war in Ukraine and as the Kremlin intensifies a crackdown on opposition activists, independent journalists and civil society groups.

The sweeping campaign of repression is unprecedented since the Soviet era. Activists say it often means the very profession of journalism is criminalized, along with the activities of ordinary Russians who oppose the war.

Earlier this week, a Russian court convicted a father over social media posts criti-

cal of the war and sentenced him to two years in prison. His 13-year-old daughter was sent to an orphanage.

Gershkovich is the first American reporter to be arrested on espionage charges in Russia since September 1986, when Nicholas Daniloff, a Moscow correspondent for U.S. News and World Report, was arrested by the KGB. Daniloff was released without charge 20 days later in a swap for an employee of the Soviet Union's United Nations mission who was arrested by the FBI, also on spying charges.

At a hearing Thursday, a Moscow court quickly ruled that Gershkovich would be kept behind bars pending the investigation.

While previous American detainees have been freed in prisoner swaps, a top Russian official said it was too early to talk about any such deal.

In Washington, the Biden

administration said it had spoken with the Journal and Gershkovich's family. White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre condemned the arrest "in the strongest terms" and urged Americans to heed government warnings not to travel to Russia.

The State Department was in direct touch with the Russian government and seeking access to Gershkovich, Jean-Pierre said. The administration has no "specific indication" that journalists in Russia are being targeted, she said.

Gershkovich, who covers Russia, Ukraine and other ex-Soviet nations as a correspondent in the Journal's Moscow bureau, could face up to 20 years in prison if convicted of espionage. Prominent lawyers noted that past investigations into espionage cases took a year to 18 months, during which time he may have little con-

tact with the outside world. The FSB noted that Gershkovich had accreditation from the Russian Foreign Ministry to work as a journalist, but ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova alleged that Gershkovich was using his credentials as cover for "activities that have nothing to do with journalism."

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters: "It is not about a suspicion, it is about the fact that he was caught red-handed."

Gershkovich speaks fluent Russian and had previously worked for the French news agency Agence France-Presse and The New York Times. He was a 2014 graduate of Bowdoin College in Maine, where he was a philosophy major who cooperated with local papers and championed a free press, according to Clayton Rose, the college's president.

His last report from Moscow, published earlier this week, focused on the Russian economy's slowdown amid Western sanctions imposed after Russian troops invaded Ukraine last year.

Ivan Pavlov, a prominent Russian defense attorney who has worked on many espionage and treason cases, said Gershkovich's case is the first criminal espionage charge against a foreign journalist in post-Soviet Russia.

"That unwritten rule not to touch accredited foreign journalists, has stopped working," said Pavlov, a member of the First Department legal aid group.

Pavlov said the case against Gershkovich was built to give Russia "trump cards" for a future prisoner exchange and will likely be resolved "not by the means of the law, but by political, diplomatic means."

Taiwan's leader, in U.S., stresses strong security for her island

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER, MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN and LISA MASCARO
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — In a highly sensitive U.S. visit, Taiwan's president is delivering a message that keeping her self-ruled island strong will help ensure the world's safety — even as her travel is carefully calibrated to try to contain what furious Chinese officials warn could be a strong response.

Taiwan is billing President Tsai Ing-wen's visit to New York as simply a "transit," but she kept a full agenda of events Wednesday and Thursday before flying to Central America.

Most provocatively in the eyes of Beijing, her trip is expected to include a meeting with House Speaker Kevin McCarthy next week. In a sign of the sensitivity of her visit, little about Tsai's full itinerary has been made public, and her events Thursday were closed to the media.

The visit — while important for Taiwan in demonstrating its overseas support — is fraught for both Taiwan and the U.S. because China views Taiwan as its territory and treats any dealings between U.S. and Taiwanese officials as a challenge to its sovereignty.

Even with the precautions, Tsai's trip, including any meetings with U.S. lawmakers, raises tensions

at a time when both China and the U.S. and its allies are boosting their military preparedness for a possible confrontation in the Indo-Pacific. China's often-stated determination to take Taiwan, by force if necessary, stands as one of the region's main flashpoints.

Chinese officials are focusing, angrily, on the expected meeting next week between Tsai and McCarthy. It would be one of the highest-level in-person meetings between U.S. and Taiwanese officials on U.S. soil.

Tsai, who arrived late Wednesday, tweeted a photo of herself and Taiwan's top diplomat in the United States, Bi-khim Hsiao, in a vehicle out on the streets of

New York on Thursday. Tsai declined comment when approached by an Associated Press reporter at her hotel.

Her day in New York on Thursday included a meeting with New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy and a gathering at Taiwan's economic office, where she met the winner of a junior chef contest.

A few dozen pro-China demonstrators — holding signs declaring "One China" and "Taiwan is an inalienable part of China" — gathered behind police barricades outside a hotel where Tsai was believed to be delivering a speech to dignitaries Thursday night.

In a speech Wednesday night to a full room of fellow Taiwanese in New

York, Tsai thanked the United States for its security assistance and urged Taiwanese unity. "The safer Taiwan is, the safer the world will be," she said.

She pledged Taiwan would work with its democratic partners to remain on a path of democracy, in unspoken contrast with the communist Chinese government.

Has T. rex lost its bite? Snarl may be wrong

By MADDIE BURAKOFF
AP Science Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Tyrannosaurus rex is often shown baring massive, sharp teeth, like the ferocious creature in "Jurassic Park." But new research suggests that this classic image might be wrong.

The teeth on T. rex and other big theropods were likely covered by scaly lips, concludes a study published Thursday in the journal Science. The dinosaur's teeth didn't stick out when its mouth was closed, and even in a wide open bite, you might just see the tips, the scientists found.

The research is the latest in a long back-and-forth

over how dinosaur mouths really looked.

Recent depictions show big teeth jutting out of the dinosaurs' jaws, even when closed. Some thought the predators' teeth were just too big to fit in their mouths, said study author Thomas Cullen, a paleontologist at Auburn University in Alabama.

When researchers compared skulls from dinosaurs and living reptiles, though, they found this wasn't the case. Some large monitor lizards actually have bigger teeth than T. rex compared to their skull size, and can still fit them under a set of scaly lips, Cullen said.

The scientists also found clues in the pattern of wear

and tear on tooth surfaces.

For a creature like a crocodile, whose teeth stick out of its mouth, the exposed part gets worn down quickly — "like someone's taken a sander to the side of the tooth," said another study author Mark Witton, a paleoartist at England's University of Portsmouth. But when researchers analyzed a tooth from a Daspletosaurus, a T. rex relative, they found it was in good condition and it didn't show that uneven damage pattern.

With this evidence and other clues from the dinosaurs' anatomy, the study makes a good case for lipped tyrannosaurs, said Univer-

sity of Maryland paleontologist Thomas Holtz, who was not involved with the study. Still, "we're not talking kissy lips," he pointed out — they'd be thin and scaly like those of the Komodo dragon, a large lizard.

Adding lips may make dinosaurs look a little less ferocious, but it also makes them feel more realistic, Witton said.

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Public Sale Calendar

BIDDING ENDS APRIL 2 - (Online Only Auction) - Leffers Family Partnership, seller. Huge online auction. Outstanding modern and antique furniture including Ridgeway grandfather clock, Amish made oak bedroom suite and dining room suite, wonderful curved front secretary, antique pump organ, feather weight sewing machines, glassware, primitives, tools, wicker patio furniture, rare Victor III talking machine, designer home decor, household. *The Steffen Group Inc.*, steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

BIDDING NOW OPEN AND STARTS CLOSING APRIL 7 - 10 a.m. EST - Secured creditors and various consignors, owners. Online only truck & equipment auction! Offering 400+ lots! 2012-2014 Freightliner M2106 box trucks, dump trucks, day cabs, utility trucks, utility trailers, 60+ various skid steer attachments, 40' shipping container, tents, work benches/tool boxes & much more! Preview by appointment, 815 Adams Street, Decatur. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.

APRIL 8 - 9 a.m. - Multiple consignors. 6632 N. 500 W., Decatur. Power tools, shop tools, hand tools, guns, crystal, china, glassware, Royal Copenhagen "Blue Fluted" Denmark vintage china, antiques, collectibles, toys, furniture, yard equipment, camping, hunting & fishing equipment, Stampin Up rubber stamps and more! We will be following the COVID-19 CDC guidelines at our auctions. Preview April 7, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. *Wiegmann Auctioneers*, wiegmannauctioneers.com, 260-447-4311.

APRIL 9-APRIL 16 - (Online Only Auction) - Various consignors, seller. Large collection of antique console and table top radios, railroad items including early 1900's map cabinet, antique and primitive furniture, coins, vintage jewelry, Fenton, Lesney Matchbox cars. Preview: April 6 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 102 South Jefferson St., Ossian, IN, (*Steffen Group Auction Gallery*). *The Steffen Group Inc.*, steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

APRIL 13 - 6 p.m. - Adams County Commissioners, owner. Adams County 4H Park dining hall, 160 W. Washington St., Monroe. Land located on N 200E between US Hwy. 33 & 300N (both sides of road). 132+/- acres offered in multiple tracts, Washington Township, Section 13, Adams County, Decatur. Tract 1: 9.96+/- tillable. Tract 2: 29.96+/- tillable. Tract 3: 29.94+/- till-

able. Tract 4: 61.42+/- tillable. Land sold as individual tracts or any combination! Possession to be taken immediately! *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.

APRIL 14-APRIL 21 - (Online Only Auction) - Harkelroad Buildings, LLC, seller. 8,142 SF multi tenant office building that has been well maintained. This building perfect for an owner occupant or as a multi tenant investment property. Zoned R-3 with variance, paved parking, prime NE Allen County location. Open house: April 11 and 18 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., 3705 Rupp Dr., Fort Wayne, IN. *The Steffen Group Inc.*, steffengrp.com, 260-426-0633.

APRIL 15 - Ian Freds, Auction Mgr. 260.227.1121. D & B Storage Rental Inc. will be offering at Live Public Auction the contents of the following storage units to satisfy the lien against their units. The following units are: Unit 25 B.A. Schollaert, Unit 64 Clyde Estep Jr., Unit 95 & 166, Daniel Hippenstele Unit 138 Tony Nunley, Unit 139 Ora Ducey, Units 162, 163, & 164 Jordan Gerardot. Auction Located at 820 North Clark St. Markle, IN. *Ness Bros. Realtors & Auctioneers*, 260-356-3911, www.NessBros.com.

BIDDING CLOSING APRIL 16 - 6 p.m. EST - Robert Shutt Estate, Brian & Andy Shutt, owners. Real estate sells at 6 p.m. 1,506 sq. ft., 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 26'x22' detached garage, 10'x10' shed, .27 acre lot, Fort Wayne Community Schools, Wayne Township, Section 74, Allen County. Personal property sells at 6:30. Furniture, household, collectibles, tools, kitchen appliances & more. Auction preview April 3, 5-6 p.m. Pick up April 18, 3-6 p.m. 6717 Fernwood Ave., Fort Wayne. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.

BIDDING CLOSING APRIL 19 - 6 p.m. EST - Estate of Leonard G. Edwards, owner, Leonard G. Edwards II Executor. Large amount of Craftsman & various hand tools, Craftsman tool box, lawn & garden items, tiller, snowblower, mower, neon signs & bar advertisements, fishing & outdoor items, household, collectibles, antiques, furniture, cast iron banks & much more! Auction preview April 18, 5-6 p.m. Pick up April 20, 3-6 p.m. & April 21, 9 a.m.-noon. 417 Homestead Court, Bluffton. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.

Online Directory

Check out these websites of local & area companies and businesses.

JC'S GARAGE DOOR SALES & SERVICE jcsgaragedoor.com	Daniel's JEWELERS daniels-jewelers.net	KELLY'S COLLISION CENTER, INC. Owners: Dustin Kelly 820 W. Washington Street, Bluffton kellysautocollision.com	FISHER'S GARAGE DOORS fishersgaragedoors.com
3RIVERS 3riversfcu.org	Myers FUNERAL HOMES A Friend of the Family myersfuneralhomes.com	STEFFEN GROUP REAL ESTATE & AUCTIONS steffengroup.com	STEFFEN Financial Group steffinancial.com
Riverstone DENTAL riverstonedental.net	Bluffton Tire blufftontire.com	HERITAGE POINTE COMMUNITIES www.lifeheritage.org	MOSER & SON Heating & Air Conditioning 219 E. Perry St. Bluffton Find Us On Facebook
INNOVATIVE CONCEPTS AUDIO VIDEO SECURITY NETWORKING icav.us	HIDAY AUTOMOTIVE GROUP hidaymotors.com	Edward Jones EdwardJones.com	State Farm Erin Daugherty 260.827.0527 www.Hybluffton31Agent.com
Lengerich MEATS lengerichmeats.com	Jerry Flack & Associates jerryflackinsuranceandinvestments.com	LaFontaine Center A RHF Community lafontainecenter.org	HOME COURT HOME CARE homecourthomecare.com
Still Waters FAMILY DENTISTRY stillwatersfamilydentistry.com	bi-countyservices.com OF Adams & Wells County bi-countyservices.com	Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home thomarich.com	NBDigital nb-digital.com

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