

The News - Banner

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Explaining the path to road conversion

With the deadline for road conversion petitions looming, County Engineer Nate Rumschlag details the process

By HOLLY GASKILL

Wells County has been converting its gravel roads since its beginning, said County Engineer Nate Rumschlag.

Although the process has changed over the years, Rumschlag's current procedure puts property owners at the forefront.

That said, not every property owner wants this for their road. Rumschlag stated the department often encounters one property owner holding out on a specific section. Their reasons are often varied — some are wary of potentially higher traffic, while others dislike construction or are simply uninterested.

"Chip and seal is actually more expensive to maintain than gravel roads," Rumschlag said. "But it's a public service, so we do it — we just need people to show they actually want it."

To begin the process, property owners submit petitions to show their interest in chip and seal conversion of their road, which involves using a loose aggregate and permanent sealant for smoother travel.

Once all petitions are received for a section, the county asks the petitioners to donate the necessary right-of-way. The ROW is the area acquired for the construction of the highway, including a portion of the property alongside the road.

The Indiana Department of Transportation recommends a 30-foot ROW for a 10-foot lane, measured from the center of the road on either side. The remaining space allows for a safe slope on the road edge, a 2-foot shoulder and a clear ditch line.

Rumschlag stated many gravel roads were put in place before the modern combustion engine, often leaving a ROW of just 16-18 ft. Regardless of conversion status, this issue has been outlined in the Wells County Vision 2035 Comprehensive Plan.

While some have asked about conversion without acquiring the ROW, Rumschlag emphasized how this creates a liability for the county. Rumschlag noted specific areas where a tree is just a few feet away from the roadway, posing a significant risk to someone traveling at higher speeds.

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NYC converts hotels to shelters to house asylum seekers

By DEEPTI HAJELA and BOBBY CAINA CALVAN Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The historic Roosevelt Hotel in midtown Manhattan shuttered three years ago, but it will soon be bustling again — reopening to accommodate an anticipated influx of asylum seekers just as other New York City hotels are being converted to emergency shelters.

Mayor Eric Adams announced Saturday that the city will use the Roosevelt to eventually provide as many as 1,000 rooms for migrants who are expected to arrive in coming weeks because of the expiration of pandemic-era rules, known collectively as Title 42, that had allowed federal officials to turn away asylum seekers from the U.S. border with Mexico.

Across the city, hotels like the Roosevelt that served tourists just a few years ago are being transformed into emergency shelters, many of them in prime locations within walking distance from Times Square, the World Trade Center memo-

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Ukraine: counteroffensive won't aim to attack Russian territory

By FRANK JORDANS Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Sunday that his country is preparing a counteroffensive designed to liberate areas occupied by Russia, not to attack Russian territory.

Speaking during a news conference with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz in Berlin, Zelenskyy

said Ukraine's goal is to free the territories within its internationally recognized borders.

The Washington Post cited previously undisclosed documents from a trove of U.S. intelligence leaks suggesting that Zelenskyy has considered trying to capture areas in Russia proper for possible use as bargaining chips in peace negotiations to end the war

launched by Moscow in February 2022. This would put him at odds with Western governments that have insisted that weapons they provide must not be used to attack targets in Russia.

Asked about the report, Zelenskyy said: "We don't attack Russian territory, we liberate our own legitimate territory."

"We have neither the time nor

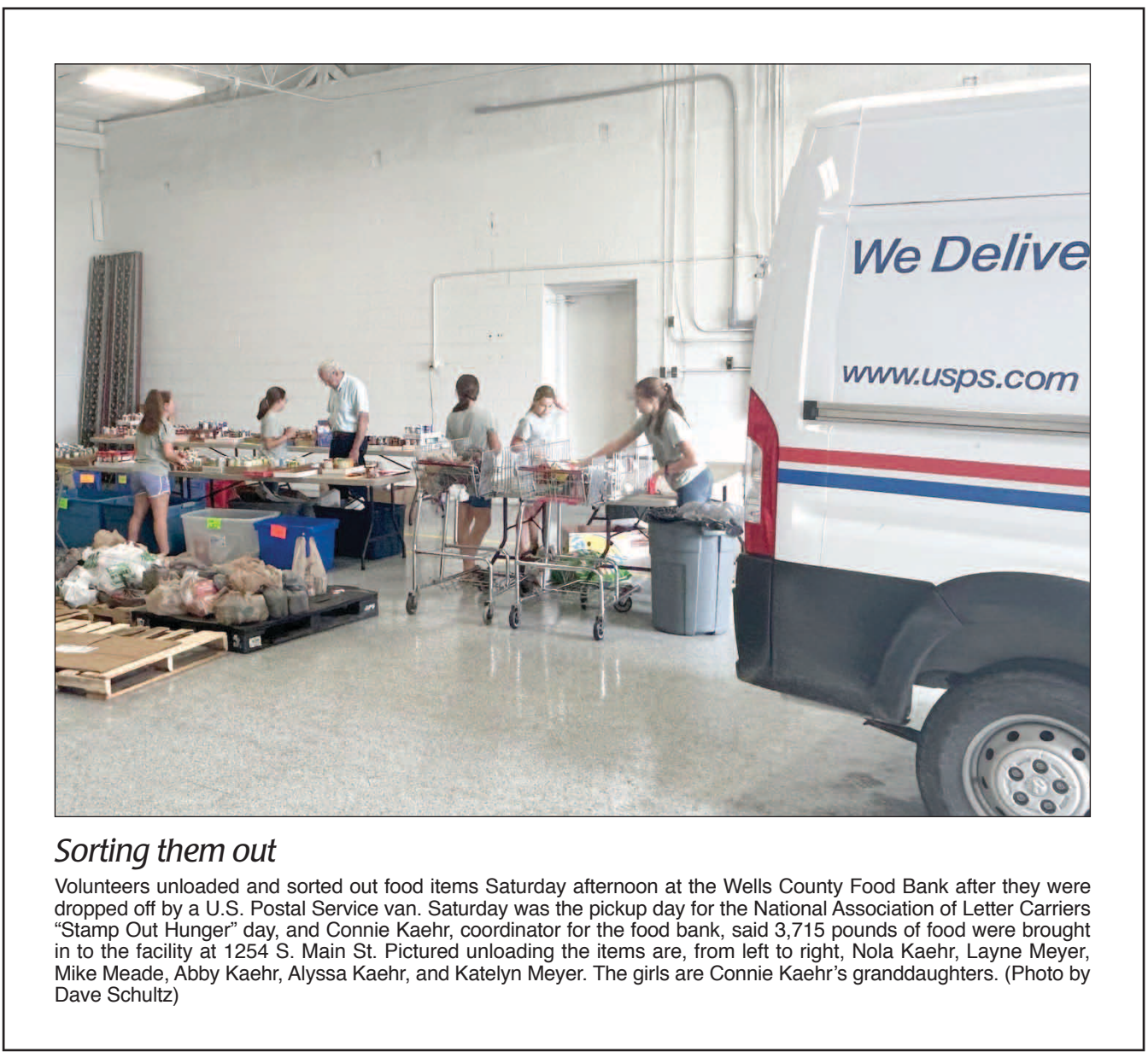
the strength (to attack Russia)," he said, according to an official interpreter. "And we also don't have weapons to spare, with which we could do this."

"We are preparing a counter-attack for the illegally occupied areas based on our constitutionally defined legitimate borders, which are recognized internationally," Zelenskyy said.

Among the areas still occupied by Russia are the Crimean peninsula and parts of eastern Ukraine with mainly Russian-speaking populations.

The Ukrainian president is visiting allies in search of further arms to help his country fend off the Russian invasion, and funds to rebuild what's been destroyed by

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Sorting them out

Volunteers unloaded and sorted out food items Saturday afternoon at the Wells County Food Bank after they were dropped off by a U.S. Postal Service van. Saturday was the pickup day for the National Association of Letter Carriers "Stamp Out Hunger" day, and Connie Kaehr, coordinator for the food bank, said 3,715 pounds of food were brought in to the facility at 1254 S. Main St. Pictured unloading the items are, from left to right, Nola Kaehr, Layne Meyer, Mike Meade, Abby Kaehr, Alyssa Kaehr, and Katelyn Meyer. The girls are Connie Kaehr's granddaughters. (Photo by Dave Schultz)

AI presents political peril for 2024

By DAVID KLEPPER and ALI SWENSON Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Computer engineers and tech-inclined political scientists have warned for years that cheap, powerful artificial intelligence tools would soon allow anyone to create fake images, video and audio that was realistic enough to fool voters and perhaps sway an election.

The synthetic images that emerged were often crude, unconvincing and costly to produce, especially when other kinds of misinformation were so inexpensive and easy to spread on social media. The threat posed by

AI and so-called deepfakes always seemed a year or two away.

No more. Sophisticated generative AI tools can now create cloned human voices and hyper-realistic images, videos and audio in seconds, at minimal cost. When strapped to powerful social media algorithms, this fake and digitally created content can spread far and fast and target highly specific audiences, potentially taking campaign dirty tricks to a new low.

The implications for the 2024 campaigns and elections are as large as they are troubling: Generative AI can not only rapidly produce targeted cam-

aign emails, texts or videos, it also could be used to mislead voters, impersonate candidates and undermine elections on a scale and at a speed not yet seen.

"We're not prepared for this," warned A.J. Nash, vice president of intelligence at the cybersecurity firm ZeroFox. "To me, the big leap forward is the audio and video capabilities that have emerged. When you can do that on a large scale, and distribute it on social platforms, well, it's going to have a major impact."

AI experts can quickly rattle off a number of alarming scenarios in which

(Continued on Page 2)

Israeli cease-fire with militants holds

By FARES AKRAM and TIA GOLDENBERG Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — A fragile cease-fire between Israeli forces and militants in the Gaza Strip appeared to be holding on Sunday after a five-day clash that killed 33 Palestinians and two people in Israel.

In an early test for the truce, Palestinian militants fired a rocket that landed in an open area of southern Israel Sunday evening. Palestinian media said the launch was caused by a technical error as militants were trying to deactivate the rocket.

Israel responded with tank fire on what it said were two military posts belonging to Gaza's ruling Hamas militant group. Hamas stayed out of the recent round of fighting, but Israel says it holds the group responsible for fire coming out of the territory.

The latest round of Gaza fighting was sparked Tuesday when Israeli jets killed three top commanders from the Islamic Jihad militant group in response to earlier rocket launches from Gaza. Those killings set off a barrage of militant fire and the conflagration threatened to drag the region into another all-out war until Egypt medi-

ated a cease-fire that took hold late Saturday.

While the calm appeared to bring a sense of relief to Gaza's 2 million people and hundreds of thousands of Israelis who had been largely confined to bomb shelters in recent days, the agreement did nothing to address the underlying issues that have fueled numerous rounds of fighting between Israel and Palestinian militant groups in the Gaza Strip over the years.

In Gaza, residents surveyed the latest damage caused to their surroundings, with gaping holes left in the

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Outside
It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood

Today Tuesday Wed.
High 71 High 72 High 66
Low 52 Low 47 Low 42
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Road conversion

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“It is a life risk and a liability,” Rumschlag said.

Although the road conversion petition includes information about the ROW, some property owners have rescinded their support of conversion because of this. Rumschlag noted these reasons vary but often involve objections to removing landscaping, moving a fence or losing farmland. However, Rumschlag said there are no circumstances where an increased ROW would interfere with a structure.

Despite a majority approval, one property owner can completely stall a road conversion.

In this circumstance, Rumschlag said the county may negotiate with a property owner to purchase or amend the scope of the ROW. However, the county budget does not currently include ROW purchases and would be unattainable on a broad scale.

If that offered no results, Rumschlag

advised the county could pursue legal action to condemn the ROW. To do this, the county would need to make a case that a specific property owner was uncooperative, and that the ROW presents a significant life risk to the public. This process involves many steps and reviews, often bearing a financial burden to the pursuant.

“Condemnation is a slow, arduous and frustrating process for everybody involved,” Rumschlag said.

If and when all ROWs have been received, the Highway Department ranks the road section among others given its condition and crash history. In the meantime, property owners can electively pay for dust control, an annual treatment that attempts to mitigate the dust from summer travel on gravel roads.

The chip and seal process itself is generally straightforward — crews go out to the area and clear the right of way, prepare the road, and begin the physical conversion process. The

Highway Department completes the process with another seal treatment the following summer.

And, while the road conversion process may face delays, it has garnered momentum, finishing several miles every summer. Previously, the county engineer identified roads and pursued paperwork from each property owner, which led to slow development and frequent stalls.

Because of the overall efficiency of this new method, several neighboring counties have implemented similar processes for their road conversions.

Petitions for road conversion are due June 1 to be considered in the upcoming season. Road conversion documents — including upcoming road conversions, petitions received, and donated ROWs — can be viewed at wellscounty.org/highway-department. Further questions about the road conversion process can be directed to the Highway Department.

holly@news-banner.com

Weather

Monday, May 15, 2023

(24-hour observations at 10:19 p.m. Sunday)

High: 69; Low: 55; Precipitation: 0.02 inches of rain
Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 2.21 feet at 8:45 p.m. Sunday

Wells County forecast

Today: Partly sunny, with a high near 71. East wind 5 to 10 mph.

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52. Northeast wind around 5 mph becoming calm.

Tuesday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 72. West wind 5 to 10 mph.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 47. Northwest wind around 10 mph becoming north after midnight.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 66.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 42.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 71.

Thursday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers, mainly after 2 a.m. Mostly clear, with a low around 51.

Friday: A chance of showers, with thunderstorms also possible after 2 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 73. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.

Friday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 48.

AI peril

(Continued from Page 1)

generative AI is used to create synthetic media for the purposes of confusing voters, slandering a candidate or even inciting violence.

Here are a few: Automated robocall messages, in a candidate's voice, instructing voters to cast ballots on the wrong date; audio recordings of a candidate supposedly confessing to a crime or expressing racist views; video footage showing someone giving a speech or interview they never gave. Fake images designed to look like local news reports, falsely claiming a candidate dropped out of the race.

“What if Elon Musk personally calls you and tells you to vote for a certain candidate?” said Oren Etzioni, the founding CEO of the Allen Institute for AI, who

stepped down last year to start the nonprofit AI2. “A lot of people would listen. But it's not him.”

Former President Donald Trump, who is running in 2024, has shared AI-generated content with his followers on social media. A manipulated video of CNN host Anderson Cooper that Trump shared on his Truth Social platform on Friday, which distorted Cooper's reaction to the CNN town hall this past week with Trump, was created using an AI voice-cloning tool.

A dystopian campaign ad released last month by the Republican National Committee offers another glimpse of this digitally manipulated future. The online ad, which came after President Joe Biden announced his reelection campaign, and starts with

a strange, slightly warped image of Biden and the text “What if the weakest president we've ever had was re-elected?”

A series of AI-generated images follows: Taiwan under attack; boarded up storefronts in the United States as the economy crumbles; soldiers and armored military vehicles patrolling local streets as tattooed criminals and waves of immigrants create panic.

“An AI-generated look into the country's possible future if Joe Biden is re-elected in 2024,” reads the ad's description from the RNC.

The RNC acknowledged its use of AI, but others, including nefarious political campaigns and foreign adversaries, will not, said Petko Stoyanov, global chief technology officer at Force-

point, a cybersecurity company based in Austin, Texas. Stoyanov predicted that groups looking to meddle with U.S. democracy will employ AI and synthetic media as a way to erode trust.

“What happens if an international entity — a cybercriminal or a nation state — impersonates someone. What is the impact? Do we have any recourse?” Stoyanov said. “We're going to see a lot more misinformation from international sources.”

AI-generated political disinformation already has gone viral online ahead of the 2024 election, from a doctored video of Biden appearing to give a speech attacking transgender people to AI-generated images of children supposedly learning satanism in libraries.

NYC converts hotels

(Continued from Page 1)

rial site and the Empire State Building. A legal mandate requires the city to provide shelter to anyone who needs it.

Even so, Adams says the city is running out of room for migrants and has sought financial help from the state and federal governments.

“New York City has now cared for more than 65,000 asylum seekers — already opening up over 140 emergency shelters and eight large-scale humanitarian relief centers in addition to this one to manage this national crisis,” the mayor said in a statement announcing the Roosevelt decision.

The storied hotel near Grand Central Terminal served as election headquarters for New York Gov. Thomas Dewey, who in 1948 was said to have wrongly announced from the Roosevelt that he had defeated Harry Truman for president.

As the city faces growing pressure to expand its shelter system, it is turning to vacant hotels for those who need a roof and a place to bunk down as they sort out their lives. One of them is the Holiday Inn, located in Manhattan's Financial District. A few months ago, signs in the lobby windows of the 50-story, 500-room hotel said it was closed.

Scott Markowitz of Tarter Krinsky & Drogin, attorneys for the hotel's owner, said reopening as a city-sponsored shelter made financial sense.

“They rent out every room at the hotel at a certain price every night,” Markowitz said, adding that it is bringing “substantially more revenue” than normal operations would have brought in.

It's not new for the city to turn to hotels for New Yorkers without homes when shelters and other options weren't available.

During the pandemic, group shelters made it difficult to comply with social distancing rules, prompting the city to rent out hundreds of hotel rooms as quasi COVID wards. As the pandemic eased, the city became less reliant on hotels.

That changed as thousands of migrants began arriving by bus last year.

The Watson Hotel on West 57th Street, which used to receive rave reviews for its rooftop pool and proximity to Central Park, is now being used to house migrant families.

“It is our moral and legal obligation to provide shelter to anyone who needs it,” the city's Department of Social Services said in a statement. “As such, we have utilized, and will continue to utilize, every tool at our disposal to meet the needs of every family and individual who comes to us seeking shelter.”

Cease-fire

(Continued from Page 1)

apartments serving as what Israel said were hideouts for the six senior Islamic Jihad members killed during this round. Gaza's main cargo crossing with Israel reopened Sunday after warnings that keeping it closed would force Gaza's sole power plant to shut down, deepening a power crisis.

Israel was gradually lifting restrictions on residents in southern Israel, which

had borne the brunt of the rocket fire.

Israeli officials expressed satisfaction with the latest battle, having killed at least six members of Islamic Jihad's top brass in what it says were pinpointed strikes based on solid intelligence. But at least 13 of those killed in Gaza were civilians, among them children as young as 4 years old, as well as women.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the targeted

attacks on the militants' hideouts would reverberate around the region.

Israel has faced criticism in the past from rights groups over the civilian casualties in its bombardments in Gaza. Israel says it does its utmost to avoid harming civilians in its strikes and says militants operate from within the territory's densely populated areas to fire rockets indiscriminately at Israeli communities.

Even if some of the strikes were precise, others destroyed the homes of uninvolved Palestinians.

Throughout the fighting, Israel's repeated airstrikes targeting Islamic Jihad and its command centers and rocket-launching sites showed no signs of stopping the rocket fire, prompting Islamic Jihad to declare victory and sending cheering Palestinians out into the streets late Saturday.

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OBITUARIES

Rosemary Hegerfeld, 81

Rosemary Hegerfeld, 81, of Roanoke, died Friday evening, May 12, 2023, at the Ossian Health and Rehabilitation Center. She was born May 8, 1942, in Bluffton, to Henry Gerber and Ada Heyerly Gerber. She married Edwin E. Hegerfeld Jan. 28, 1968, in Bluffton; her husband preceded her in death Nov. 16, 2008. Survivors include a son, Clark Hegerfeld of Roanoke; a daughter, Crystal Lake (fiancé Eugene Roberts) of Bluffton; four sisters, Gladys Gerber, Virginia Gerber, Martha (Rex) Gentis, and Marcella Dillman, all of Bluffton; and three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. In addition to her parents and husband, Rosemary was preceded in death by a brother, Joseph Gerber, and a sister, Susan "Sue" Kipper. Private family graveside services will be held at Apostolic Christian Cemetery in Adams County with Doyle Frauhiger officiating. The Goodwin-Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Jean Ann Lawhorn, 66

Jean Ann "Shorty" Lawhorn, 66, of Bluffton, died Thursday afternoon, May 11, 2023, at the IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie. She was born April 8, 1957, in Huntington, to Richard Douglas and Treva Morris Douglas. Her mother survives in Ossian. She is also survived by a daughter, Heather Scott (Rob Schocke) of Kendallville; a son, David (Brandi) Lawhorn of Bluffton; a sister, Sharon Baker of Bluffton; and eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her father; her lifelong companion, Richard Lanning; a sister, Bonnie Haler; and a great-granddaughter. Calling will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, May 19, at the Goodwin-Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton, followed by a time of sharing at 7 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the family in care of the Goodwin-Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel. Online condolences: www.goodwincaleharnish.com

Michael R. Young, 68

Michael R. "Mike" Young, 68, of rural Zanesville, died Friday afternoon, May 12, 2023, at his residence. He was born Dec. 23, 1954, to Ralph and Beula Young. He married Jackie Perry June 10, 1994, in Angola; his wife survives. Also surviving are three sons, Kevin (Jamie) Perry, Jonah Perry, and Shawn Perry, all of Zanesville, and nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and a son, Steven Perry. Calling will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 16, at the Goodwin-Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel, followed immediately by a funeral service at 2 p.m. at the funeral home. Burial will follow at the Fairview Cemetery in Bluffton. Online condolences: www.goodwincaleharnish.com

Sharon D. Binegar, 71

Sharon D. Binegar, 71, of Montpelier, died Saturday, May 13, 2023, at Parkview Randallia Hospital in Fort Wayne. Arrangements are pending at the Walker & Glancy Funeral Home in Montpelier.

Stephan D. Holmes, 81

Stephan D. Holmes, 81, of Warren, died Saturday morning, May 13, 2023, at Heritage Pointe of Warren. Arrangements are pending at the Glancy-H. Brown & Son Funeral Home in Warren.

Viola M. McCoin, 86

Viola M. McCoin, 86, of Montpelier, died Friday, May 12, 2023, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne. Arrangements are pending at the Walker & Glancy Funeral Home in Montpelier.

2 Bluffton nurses nominated for DAISY Awards

Teresa Ley and Rachel Quillen, two registered nurses at the Bluffton Regional Medical Center, were recently nominated by patients for the DAISY Award.



Teresa Ley, R.N.



Rachel Quillen, R.N.

Patients, families and colleagues may nominate nurses for this award from any Lutheran Health Network hospital, RediMed or MedStat urgent care clinic or Lutheran Health Physicians practice.

DAISY Awards are made possible by the DAISY Foundation. The acronym stands for "diseases attacking the immune system," referring to the memory of J. Patrick Barnes. Barnes died in 1999 at the age of 33 from complications of idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, an autoimmune disease. His family established the DAISY Foundation.

Ley also received the DAISY Award in 2021. A patient nominated her, writing: "Teresa was my pre-op nurse for two different procedures. Before the second procedure, we were going over my medical history and she recalled being my nurse the first time. I talked about all I'd been through and how it has been such a tough road. She held my hand and prayed for me. I will always remember the love and care she showed for me that day. It was such a comfort. I left feeling like I was more than just a patient."

Another patient nominated Quillen, writing: "I was scheduled for a procedure but wasn't feeling well prior to it. Rachel was compassionate and caring, notifying the doctor of possible complications because of how I was feeling. Medications were provided so they could safely continue with the procedure, doing all they could to make the experience less stressful for me. Rachel was wonderful."

Obituary Policy

The News-Banner and Ossian Journal publishes "basic" obituaries free of charge for "local" deaths. "Basic" obituaries will include the deceased's name, age, community of record, date and place of death, basic genealogical information, the date, time and location of calling hours and services and the name of the funeral home handling arrangements.

If additional information and/or a photo is desired to be included, or if the deceased does not meet the definitions of a "local" person, there is a charge.

Area funeral homes will provide details on the policy and will coordinate obituary publication.

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Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

Ossian: Thursday, 11:53 p.m., 5406W 300S, Liberty Center. Tree on fire. Property owner advised he had set it on fire to get rid of three squirrels.

Friday, 12:30 a.m., Silo Farms. Multiple complaints of a driver yelling obscenities from his vehicle and claiming his children were being murdered. Driver Tyler K. Miller, 34, Zanesville, was located by law enforcement and continued to act erratically and yell about members of his family being murdered. Law

enforcement threatened use of a Taser and K9 to get Miller to comply. A warrant was received for a blood draw, and Miller was transported to Bluffton Regional Medical Center. On the drive, Miller began yelling that the cocaine in his vehicle wasn't his. At the hospital, it was noted there were small bleeding holes in Miller's arm believed to be from a needle. Family members later advised Miller had been abusing meth, which often causes him to hallucinate. Miller was arrested for resisting law enforcement, a Class

A misdemeanor, disorderly conduct, a Class B misdemeanor, operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class C misdemeanor. Bond set at \$3,000. Freeman's towed the vehicle.

ACCIDENTS

County: Wednesday, 2:40 p.m., CR 1100E at U.S. 224, Bluffton. Anna Thomas, 17, Markle, was driving a 2012 Jeep Wrangler stopped in traffic. Thomas began to pull forward as traffic let up, but failed to stop properly when traffic stopped again, colliding with a 2007 Lexus ES driven by Grant Mishler,

17, Ossian. Damage exceeded \$1,000.

FIRES

Thursday, 11:54 p.m., 300 south between 500 west and 600 west, tree on fire, fire extinguished. Owner did not want tree removed.

ARRESTS

Alonzo Paul Howard, 43, Bluffton; breaking and entering, a Level 6 felony, unauthorized entry of a vehicle, a Class B misdemeanor, disorderly conduct, a Class B misdemeanor, public intoxication, a Class B misdemeanor. Bond set at \$8,000.

Corrections and clarifications

In Friday's News-Banner, a typo indicated membership to the Indiana Tourism Association would cost \$7,000. This membership costs \$700.

Financial Focus

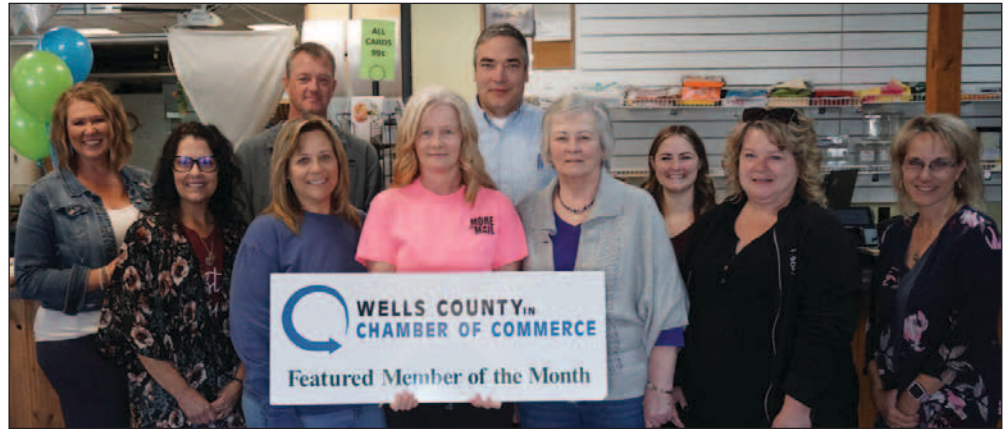
Four ways to use cash wisely

We haven't yet reached the "cashless" society. In fact, cash can still be a valuable element of your overall financial picture - if you employ it wisely. But how? Actually, you can find at least four good uses for cash. First, of course, you need it for everyday expenses - your mortgage, utilities, groceries and so on. You can also use cash to build an emergency fund containing several months' worth of living expenses. You could use this fund to pay for unexpected costs, such as a major home repair. Cash can also be used to meet short-term goals, such as a wedding or a long vacation. Finally, you can benefit from having cash in your investment portfolio. For one thing, the presence of cash, which has a stable value, may help reduce the impact of market volatility on your investment mix, which likely includes stocks and stock-based funds, whose value will fluctuate. Also, by having cash available in your portfolio, you can quickly take advantage of new investment opportunities. By putting your cash to work in different ways, you can gain some key benefits - and help yourself keep moving toward all your financial goals.

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Edward Jones
 MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.



Pictured in the photo from left, Heather Morgan of National Oil & Gas, Rachel Reinhard of Grace & Mercy Transitional Housing, Kevin Pritchard of Ruoff Mortgage, Jennifer Earhart and April Wimmer of More Than Mail, Keith Muhlenkamp of First Merchants Bank, Jane Haworth of More Than Mail, Alyssa Brown of Archbold & Lewis Insurance, Pam Gregory of Pages & Staff of Special Events, Wells County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Erin Prible. (Photo submitted)

Bluffton's More Than Mail is delivering service

The Wells County Chamber of Commerce staff and Ambassadors surprised owner April Wimmer of More Than Mail as the May Member of the Month. More Than Mail is located at 619 North Main Street in Bluffton.

Wimmer walked into an opportunity in 2020 when her current position as a contractor was going to be eliminated due to COVID. "I was dropping off my very last package at More Than Mail and the previous owner asked if I knew of anyone that needed a job," explained Wimmer. "I jumped on the opportunity because I needed a job to figure out what I was going to do next."

Wimmer realized immediately how much she enjoyed working at More Than Mail and delivering a service that comes very naturally to her. "I am a people person, I love talking to everyone, and found this job to be a lot of fun for me. I learned a new skill and figured out I am pretty good at it. Puzzle solving skills come into play packing and shipping items and that is very enjoyable for me."

A short year later, in March of 2021, the business was for sale and Wimmer decided to take advantage of the opportunity. During that time, More Than Mail was located at the Interurban Park complex north of Bluffton. At the end of 2022 Wimmer moved the business to the current location.

"My goal in the future is to have a drive-thru drop

off and the other building was not logistically set up to accommodate that need," stated Wimmer. "We have a lot of Senior Citizens with walkers or parents with babies trying to carry in packages and it is very cumbersome for them. A drive-thru would make it more convenient for many people. In addition, it was more cost effective to come here and it is working out very well with space."

Wimmer explained another goal for the business to grow is seeking a location in the Portland or Red Key area due to the lack of mailing services. "They have limited ability to mail packages and with Amazon exploding, people need mailing services to take back products."

More Than Mail offers services beyond mailing packages such as laminating, shredding, faxing, copying, and scanning for a reasonable cost. Personal mailboxes are also offered at this location. Three different sizes are available and open 24 hours to retrieve mail.

Due to the increase of online buying, additional services are now being offered such as an Amazon Hub. "Customers can use More Than Mail as their drop off location instead of the product being delivered to their homes for security reasons or convenience," said Wimmer. "The best part is, there is no additional fee for this service. When selecting the location in the shipping area, More Than Mail should come up as an option."

"My biggest pride of the

store is customer service," said Wimmer. "My parents owned their own business, and I was raised in understanding what service means. I really feel like customer service has gone by the wayside in our society. We welcome customers to come in and even if they spend a quarter, we will give the same level of service as someone who spends more. I believe it is worth it in the long run and that you are doing good for the right reasons. I want to be known in the end that I was friendly and willing to help anyone I meet."

More Than Mail is open Monday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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6 shot, wounded after fight at gathering

ANDERSON, Ind. (AP) — Police in central Indiana are investigating a shooting that left six people wounded. Police said in a statement that the shooting happened around 2:30 a.m. Sunday in Anderson, a city of about 29,000 people. According to the statement, a large crowd had gathered when a fight broke out. Several gunshots were heard. Police officers pushed their way through the crowd and discovered someone had been shot in the leg. That person was transported to an Indianapolis hospital and was in stable condition. Five more people checked themselves into local Anderson hospitals with gunshot wounds later Sunday. No arrests have been made.

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

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

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

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

CREATIVE ARTS SUMMER CAMPS

Registration is now open for four summer arts camps sponsored by the Creative Arts Council of Wells County.

Among the programs are:

- Summer Dance Camp, for ages 4-18, to be held June 26 through June 30. Classes are as follows: Intermediate Advanced Class (Ballet 4, 5, or 6), 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., tuition \$350; Continuing Ballet (Ballet 3), 10:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., tuition \$125; Ballet Basics (6-8 year olds), 11:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m., tuition \$125; and Creative Movement (4-5 year olds), 10 to 10:45 a.m., tuition \$75.
- Summer Arts Academy, for ages 8-11, June 7-9, 10 a.m. to noon or 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., tuition \$75.

For more information on the CAC Summer camps, visit <https://www.wellscocreativearts.com/creative-arts-summer-camps-2023>

KEEP IN SHAPE THIS SUMMER WITH KELLY!

"It can be a shock to your child's system to jump back into fall activities after summer break," says Kelly McCormick Bangs, kinesiologist and professional dancer who is the Creative Arts modern instructor. "A proven best practice is to keep a 'low burn' of training and structure over the summer."

Here are Saturday classes — tuition is \$50 each — scheduled for June 3, 10, 17, and 24:

- Creative Movement, ages 3-8
- Conditioning Dance Sampler, - ages 8-15
- Barre Fitness, for ages 15 and over

To register, visit: <https://www.wellscocreativearts.com/summer-saturdays-with-kelly-registration>

GUITAR LESSONS

Anyone interested in private instruction this summer on either the acoustic or the electric guitar should contact the CAC office at 824-5222. Lesson spots are available on Tuesday afternoon and evenings at the CAC. Call for information and times available.



SUMMER THEATER STUDENTS ARE EXCITED TO PRESENT ...

'The Wizard of Oz, Youth Edition'

Performances at 7 p.m. Friday, June 16, and at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, June 17, at 3 p.m.

Tickets \$10 can be purchased at: <https://www.wellscocreativearts.com/upcoming-shows-1>

The venue is the auditorium of Life Community Church, 428 S. Oak St. in Bluffton.

'Disney's Winnie the Pooh Kids'

Performances at 7 p.m. Friday, June 23, and at 3 p.m. Saturday, June 24.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at <https://www.wellscocreativearts.com/upcoming-shows-1>

The venue is the auditorium of Life Community Church, 428 S. Oak St. in Bluffton.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Creative Crew: Tuesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Life Community Church. All forms of creativity are welcome — painting, drawing, needlework, and more. Spend the morning working on your craft and socialize with other artists. Enter Door 1 or Door 10. The Creative Crew meets in the café.

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

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

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



Photo info at the historical museum

Visitors to the Wells County Historical Museum at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 21, will have the opportunity to see old-time black and white photos of Bluffton as well as learn how to share photos from their phones to their computers. The program presenters will be Ben Jones, at left, and Paul Griner. (Photo provided)

Embassy will host organ concerts

On Saturday, May 20, at 7:30 p.m., the Fort Wayne Embassy Theatre will present organist Dave Whickersham in the Buddy Nolan Memorial Concert at the theater's Grande Page organ.

Tickets available through Ticketmaster are \$10 and are free to those ages 12 and younger and over 65.

Other Sunday scheduled organ concerts to accompany silent films starting a 3 p.m. are:

June 11: Clark Wilson, organist for "Hunchback of Notre Dame"

June 24: Cletus Goens organist for "Our Hospitality" and "One Week"

July 16: Clark Wilson organist for "Ten Commandments"

Aug. 6: Clark Wilson organist for "Why Worry" and "Bumping Into Broadway"

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Top sellers

The pre-kindergarten students on the front row — Kaden Koiner, 11 boxes; Drayse Eley, 12 boxes; and Sophia Hoover, 13 boxes — were the top sellers in New Life Christian School's recent World's Finest Chocolate candy sale. They are shown with staff members, from left to right, Pre-K teacher Kris Uptgraft, director Linda Glenn, and Pre-K teacher Carole Neuen-schwander. (Photo provided)

Zanesville News

by Melba Edwards

As I write this column, the day is beautiful as the sun is shining and the wind is mild. It is a good day to be outside doing something. So why am I in here typing?

Looking ahead there is still a lot of work to do to get ready for our July 29 celebration of the Town of Zanesville. If you would like to help in any way please call me and I will assign you to a spot.

Men get your beard ready for a contest. You have plenty of time to grow one that will be judged.

Everyone work on a costume to wear for the day that is dated 1848, 175 years ago.

If you are church members, club members, or family members please start thinking of a parade entry. We may have prizes as we have not started on the parade yet. Tara is the contact person for this and I will also take calls. If you want to help Tara please call her at 1-260-760-6070.

Remember that the Zanesville Town Council meeting is Tuesday, May 16, at the town municipal building on Wayne Street. The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. and all are welcome to attend.

Don't forget to bring family, friends and neighbors to the "Elvis" fundraiser May 21 at Lighted Gardens on State Road 1 just north of Ossian. The doors open at around 2:30 p.m. (maybe a little before) and Elvis will perform from 3 to 5 p.m. You will not want to miss this. We will save some room for dancing if you like.

The Zanesville Lions annual 5K Fun Run and Walk will be held on Saturday, May 27, Memorial Day weekend at 8 a.m. Registration is taken in advance by calling 638-4327 until Friday before the run or at the run from 6:45 a.m. The location to begin is at the northeast corner of the Tower Life Center gymnasium on the parking lot.

Welcome to a new business in town. Matthew and Cameo Kinsey, who reside just north of Zanesville, have opened their business "Just Add Chips" just across the street from the County Line Pizza and Pub. This is in the large brick building that is right on the 4-way stop corner and was the Zanesville Antiques. They have their own entry door and inside there are two booths that seat four people if you like to dine inside. They make their own salsa and their own chips. I bought some of both so I could tell you how good they are and they are good!

They have two types of chips and many, many flavors of salsa. Among the flavors are plain, peach, cilantro, strawberry mango, fruit, pickle salsa, and pineapple to name a few. They also have soft drinks, bottled water and candy.

All forms of payment are accepted. Their phone number is 1-260-705-4910 and you can find them on their Facebook page. They invite you to stop in for the "Best Tasting Salsa in Town." As of now their open times are Monday through Friday from noon to 5 p.m. Stop in and say hello!

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Tatum sets Game 7 record, Celtics beat 76ers

By JIMMY GOLEN
AP Sports Writer
BOSTON (AP) — Jayson Tatum gave Boston a long-overdue fast start and followed it up with a finish the NBA had never seen before. After struggling in back-to-back games, Tatum erupted for 51 points — the most in a Game 7 in history — and the Celtics beat the Philadelphia 76ers 112-88 on Sunday to advance to the Eastern Conference finals for the second straight year. One game after missing 14 of his first 15 shots only to awaken in the fourth quarter in time to save

their season, Tatum scored 25 in the back-and-forth first half and 17 more in Boston's 33-10 third quarter that turned a three-point lead into a runaway. The Celtics, who lost to the Golden State Warriors in the NBA Finals last year, will face the Miami Heat in the East finals for the second straight season. Game 1 is on Wednesday in Boston. "I was relieved just to get another chance. Our season could have been over after Game 6," said Tatum, who broke the Game 7 record of 50 points Stephen Curry set two weeks ago. "It definitely was on my mind that I

had played as bad as it could get, for 43 minutes. "We had a saying: 'It's only up from here.'" Tatum added 13 rebounds and Jaylen Brown scored 25 points for Boston, which rallied from a 3-2 deficit in the series to keep alive their hopes for an unprecedented 18th NBA championship. "You always come into a series with the expectation of how it's supposed to go," said Celtics coach Joe Mazzulla, who is in his first year as an NBA head coach after being promoted on the eve of training camp after Ime Udoka was suspended. "That's not how the playoffs are." Tatum was subbed out of the game with three minutes left to a standing ovation from the crowd, which soon broke out in a "Beat the Heat!" chant. Miami beat Bos-

ton in six games in the 2020 East finals and the Celtics took a seven-game matchup last season. "It's the best time of the year," Tatum said. "As a competitor, I love the opportunity." Newly crowned NBA MVP Joel Embiid scored 15 points on 5-for-18 shooting, and Tobias Harris scored 19 for Philadelphia. The Sixers lost in the conference semifinals for the third straight year, and the fifth time in six seasons; they have not gotten any farther since reaching the NBA Finals in 2001 despite "The Process" — tanking their way to four top-three draft picks in a row, including Embiid. "I thought we had the right group. I really did," said Sixers coach Doc Rivers, who was on the Boston bench when the Celtics won it all in 2008. "We played great all year and this loss absolutely dimin-

ishes what we did this year in some way. ... I think this team is headed right. I thought we took another step this season. And then tonight I think we took a step backward. But that's OK. That happens, too." Tatum started 0 for 6 in a Game 5 loss and missed 14 of his first 15 shots overall from the floor in Game 6 before making four 3-pointers in the final 4:14 to force the decisive seventh game. He picked up where he left off, scoring Boston's first basket and 11 points in the first quarter, 14 more in the second and outscoring the Sixers on his own, 17-10, in the third. The 33-10 edge in the third was the most lopsided quarter in a Game 7 since at least 1997. "JT just got it going and get out of that man's way," Brown said. "He got it rolling, and there's nothing they could do to stop him."



Cardinals complete 3-game sweep with rout of Red Sox

By KEN POWTAK
Associated Press
BOSTON (AP) — Nolan Arenado and Andrew Knizner each hit a two-run homer, and the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Boston Red Sox 9-1 on Sunday night to complete a three-game sweep. Paul DeJong added a solo shot and Arenado drove in four runs for the Cardinals, who won for the sixth time in seven games since an eight-game losing streak. Their previous two wins came on ninth-inning rallies against closer Kenley Jansen at Fenway Park. Lars Nootbaar had three hits and scored three times for St. Louis, and Paul Goldschmidt added two hits and an RBI. Miles Mikolas (2-1) pitched six innings of one-run ball, allowing four hits with two walks. Rafael Devers had an RBI single for Boston, which lost for the fifth time in six games. It was the first series sweep this season for St. Louis (16-25), which owns the NL's worst record. Arenado homered over the Green Monster once in each game of the series. Red Sox starter Corey Kluber (2-5) gave up five runs on seven hits — two homers — with three walks and five strikeouts. DeJong's shot into the center-field



seats broke a 1-all tie in the second. Knizner's drive came in the fourth, also going out to center. Boston's Emmanuel Valdez had a two-run homer overturned by review in the seventh on a drive that replays showed hooked foul just short of Pesky's Pole. Génesis Cabrera escaped a bases-loaded jam in the seventh, getting Masataka Yoshida to fly out to end the inning. **DAD KNOWS** Standing on the field about two hours before the game, Red Sox pitcher Chris Sale asked how the Boston Celtics were doing in Game 7 of their NBA playoff series against Philadelphia. When informed All-Star forward Jayson Tatum had 25 points at halftime, the lefty said: "He's my oldest son's favorite athlete. He says it's me, but I think that's just to make me feel good. He has two of his jerseys and only one of mine." **UP NEXT** Cardinals: RHP Jack Flaherty (2-4, 6.18 ERA) is scheduled to start the opener of a three-game series against the Milwaukee Brewers at home, facing RHP Freddy Peralta (4-2, 3.32). Red Sox: RHP Tanner Houck (3-2, 5.26) starts the opener of a three-game series Monday at Fenway Park against Seattle RHP George Kirby (4-2, 2.62).

Cardinals' Contreras to return to catching duties on Monday

By KEN POWTAK
Associated Press
BOSTON (AP) — Willson Contreras' demotion from catching didn't last very long. St. Louis manager Oliver Marmol said before Saturday's game against Boston that the 31-year-old Contreras will be back behind the plate on Monday night when the Cardinals open a homestand against the Milwaukee Brewers. "We felt really good about the progress that we've made and it lines up really well for him to catch Monday," Marmol said. Looking to replace Yadier Molina at catcher, St. Louis signed the three-time All-Star to an \$87.5 million, five-year contract in December, its biggest move of the offseason. "We talked about it last night and I told him that I'm ready to catch," Contreras said after Saturday's 4-3 comeback victory over the Red Sox. "I'm not going to be just a DH because it's really hard just to be a DH when I can be behind the plate," he said. "I was just ready to catch." Contreras said Marmol came to him and asked if he was ready. "I don't know if I was acting different, he read something in my body and

went right to the point and said: 'Are you ready to catch?' and I said yes," Contreras said. But Marmol announced last week-end that Contreras would be taking a break from catching for a while — a move that raised questions about the fit of the free agent acquisition in the first place. The departure of Molina, a nine-time Gold Glove winner who retired after his 19th season with the Cardinals, looms over the team's losing record. Contreras will be catching right-hander Jack Flaherty on Monday. The last time he started behind the plate was on May 4 for Flaherty, who was tagged for 10 runs in 2 1/3 innings. Contreras came in as a defensive replacement the next day. "This is what they wanted," Marmol said. Now, they'll be together again — and Contreras will have a chance to fulfill what St. Louis envisioned during the offseason. Contreras has been the designated hitter during his time away from behind the plate. He is batting .263 with three homers and 18 RBIs entering the middle game of the three-game series in Boston.

High School Calendar

<p>MONDAY, MAY 15 BASEBALL: Bluffton at Blackhawk, 5:30 p.m.; Norwell at Carroll, 6 p.m.; Southern Wells at Adams Central, 5:30 p.m. BOYS GOLF: South Adams at Bluffton, 4:30 p.m. SOFTBALL: Norwell at Columbia City, 5:30 p.m.; Wes-Del at Bluffton, 5:30 p.m.; Lakewood Park at Southern Wells, 5 p.m. UNIFIED TRACK & FIELD: Norwell at Columbia City, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>TUESDAY, MAY 16 BASEBALL: Columbia City at Norwell, 6:30 p.m.; Bluffton at Southern Wells, 5 p.m. BOYS GOLF: Norwell at Bellmont, 4 p.m. GIRLS TENNIS: (sectional) Bluffton, Norwell at Norwell, 4:30 p.m. (pairings will be released Monday, May 15). SOFTBALL: Bluffton at New Haven, 5:30 p.m.; Norwell at DeKalb, 5:30 p.m. TRACK & FIELD (GIRLS): (sectional) Norwell, Bluffton, Southern Wells at Marion High School, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, MAY 17 BASEBALL: Northrop at Norwell, 6:30 p.m. GIRLS TENNIS: (sectional) Bluffton, Norwell at Norwell, 4:30 p.m. SOFTBALL: Norwell at Woodlan, 5:30 p.m.; Bluffton at Fremont, 5:30 p.m. UNIFIED TRACK & FIELD: Norwell at</p>	<p>DeKalb, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>THURSDAY, MAY 18 BASEBALL: Norwell at Bluffton, 5 p.m. BOYS GOLF: Eastbrook at Bluffton, 4:30 p.m.; Southern Wells at Madison-Grant, 4:30 p.m. GIRLS TENNIS: (sectional) TBD at Norwell, 4:30 p.m. SOFTBALL: Norwell at North Side, 5:30 p.m.; Bluffton at Winchester, 5:30 p.m.; Southern Wells at Wapahani, 5 p.m. TRACK & FIELD (BOYS): Norwell, Bluffton, Southern Wells at Marion High School, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>FRIDAY, MAY 19 BASEBALL: Southern Wells at Anderson Prep, 5:30 p.m. SOFTBALL: Southwood at Bluffton, 5 p.m.; Wayne at Southern Wells, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>SATURDAY, MAY 20 BASEBALL: Southwood at Bluffton, 10 a.m. BOYS GOLF: Norwell NE8 Meet at East Noble Cobblestone Golf Course, 9 a.m.; Bluffton, Southern Wells ACAC Meet at Celina Linx Golf Course, 9 a.m. SOFTBALL: Whitko at Norwell, 10 a.m. UNIFIED TRACK & FIELD: (sectional) Norwell at North Side, 12 p.m.</p> <p>MONDAY, MAY 22 SOFTBALL: (sectional) Norwell vs. TBD at Belmont, 5 p.m.</p>
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James, Davis lead Lakers back to conference finals

By GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer
LOS ANGELES (AP) — After every twist and turn in the soap opera saga of LeBron James' four seasons alongside Anthony Davis with the Los Angeles Lakers, one truth remains perfectly clear. This is a championship-caliber partnership when James and Davis are both healthy. One or both superstars have been injured for long stretches of the three seasons since their 2020 bubble championship, and the Lakers' road back to contention has been incredibly rocky because of it. The entire roster around them has been completely changed since that ring, but James and Davis are still here, still fighting. Now they're both healthy at the same time again, and the rest of the NBA has been reminded what happens when this dynamic duo can fly at full strength. James and Davis were at their best while the Lakers eliminated the defending champion Golden State Warriors in six games, capping a masterful effort with a 122-101 victory Friday night. When asked why the seventh-seeded Lakers find themselves four games from the NBA Finals just three months after they were six games below .500 and in 13th place in the Western Conference, James praised the front office for overhauling the roster around the trade deadline with the

arrivals of D'Angelo Russell, Rui Hachimura and Jared Vanderbilt. But James quickly added a second reason: "Also, staying healthy. We weren't as healthy as we would like to be, but we still played good basketball after the break to put us in the position." LeBron and AD have won six of their seven playoff series together, losing only when Davis was hurt in the first round against Phoenix in 2021. The Lakers are 95-49 when James and Davis are playing together, and this postseason has been an archetypal example of what they can do. They're coming off a tremendously disappointing 2021-22 season in which they missed the playoffs while going 33-49, leading to Frank Vogel's firing and Darvin Ham's arrival. Davis' injury problems limited him to 40 games, while James played in only 56. But these Lakers are almost nothing like those Lakers: Other than James and Davis, only Austin Reaves and backup big man Wenyan Gabriel remain from last year's roster. "When you have guys like Bron and AD who have won championships, you always feel like you have a chance, especially with the roster that we have, the

talent that we have," said Reaves, the undrafted free agent who seized a starting role down the stretch. James had 30 points, nine rebounds and nine assists in Game 6, repeatedly making stunning plays that answered anybody who thinks the top scorer in NBA history has lost anything at 38. Davis was no less impressive with 17 points, 20 rebounds and the looming, athletic defensive presence that changes every opponent's game plan. Both stars are in remarkably good health as they head into the conference finals against the Denver Nuggets on Tuesday night. Davis came back solidly at home Friday night after missing the end of Game 5 at Golden State following a blow to the head, and he'll be ready to take on Nikola Jokic. The Lakers had to fight just to get into the postseason, only getting into a play-in spot for good with 2 1/2 weeks left in the regular season. But Los Angeles is 27-12 since the trade deadline, with no back-to-back losses since March 17. Ham never hesitates to credit his superstars for the Lakers' success, even while he does impressive work in molding the team around them.

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NEWS-BANNER'S READERS' CHOICE

Across from BRMC on Main

Loss of daughter makes me uncomfortable around babies

Dear Annie: Eleven years ago, I lost my 19-year-old daughter suddenly. Up until that point, I loved cuddling with babies. I loved everything about them, including their smell, their soft skin, their innocent eyes, etc. If a friend or family member had a baby, I wanted to hold the sweet thing and cuddle.

Since my daughter passed away, however, I no longer am comfortable with babies. I feel very nervous and anxious around them.

Recently, a woman I knew just briefly had a sweet little baby girl. When she introduced her new baby to me, she asked me if I wanted to hold her and she pushed the baby in my direction. I politely said, "No, thank you," but she was persistent. Then the people in the group we were with were acting like I was being rude by not wanting to hold the baby.

I want people to know, first, that their baby is not a toy for others to play with. Second, not everyone wants or feels comfortable with a baby, for personal reasons. This is nothing against them or the baby necessarily.

A baby is a trigger to many people who have lost one. — Loves Babies from a Distance

Dear Loves Babies from a Distance: Thank you very much for your letter. It really highlights the theme of not judging someone's actions when you don't know their full story. When the woman thrust her baby on you, she didn't respect your wishes and was not being very compassionate. At the same time, she might have been exhausted and just needed someone to hold her baby (but still not your job).

I am so very sorry for the loss of your daughter. There is life before and life after you endure a tragedy of such magnitude. If a baby is a trigger for you, you have every right to not want

to hold a baby. Thank you for sharing your letter, and I pray that you have a wonderful grief support system in place.

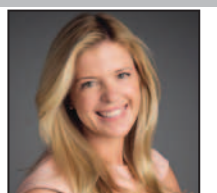
Dear Annie: You answered a letter from "Friends in Retirement," a lady whose husband is now retired and blind. You suggested he open his own bakeshop or work at one. May I offer other suggestions, since he needs someone to talk WITH not just TO? There is an organization called National Federation of the Blind and another called Council of the Blind. Both of these organizations have chapters in every state and possibly Canada. They could look in the government pages of a phone book or look up blind organizations on their phone. There may be a school for the blind in the near vicinity who could offer assistance. In our area there is even a local blind group. These organizations offer meetings, activities, assistance with blindness skills and friendship. Many of the members are retired. Good luck. My husband has been blind his entire life, so it is something we are used to. — Social Worker

Dear Social Worker: Thank you for your suggestions.

"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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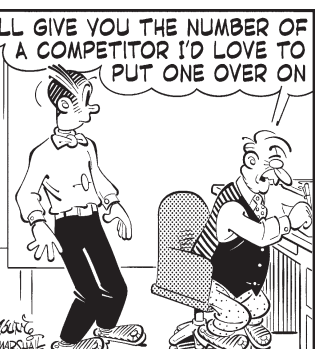
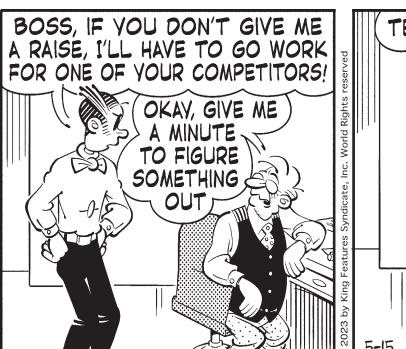
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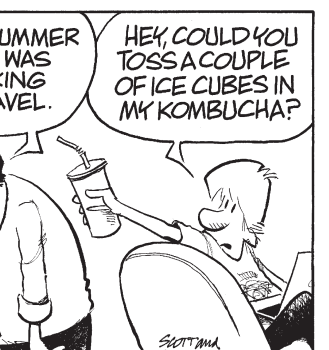
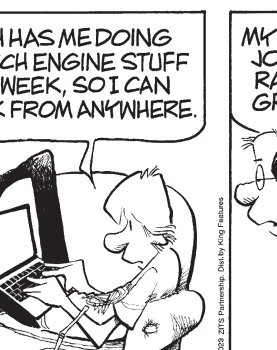
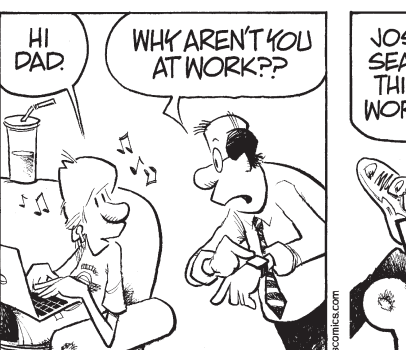
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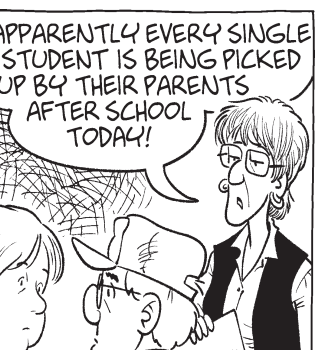
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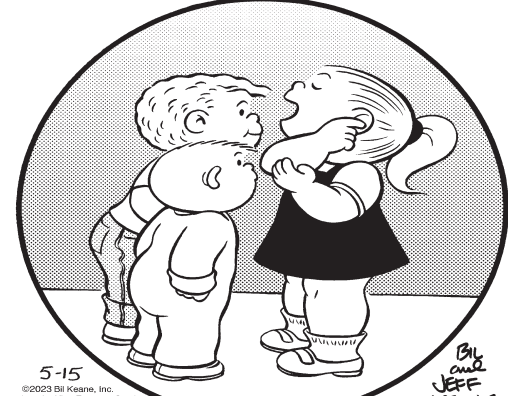
CRANKSHAFT



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

The LOCKHORNS



"Know why I smell so good? I put a dab of peanut butter behind each ear."

"NO, I DON'T THINK HE WAS BEING COMPLIMENTARY WHEN HE SAID WE WERE MADE FOR EACH OTHER."

My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



Christ is tolerant

Q: Is it true that Jesus Christ is intolerant (or narrow), as some Christians claim? — I.J.

A: In loving, compassionate intolerance Jesus says, "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and narrow is the way that leads to destruction... [and] narrow is the gate... which leads to life, and there are few who find it" (Matthew 7:13-14).

Intolerance seems to many a divisive word. But consider the intolerance of a pilot who maneuvers his plane through the storm, realizing that a single error, just one flash of broad-mindedness, might bring disaster to all the passengers on the plane.

On a flight from Korea to Japan, a plane ran through a rough snowstorm. Upon arrival over the airport in Tokyo, visibility was almost zero. The pilot had to make an instrument landing. The pilot was in a sweat as he was brought in by ground control. A watchful man in the tower at the airport talked him in. No passenger would have wanted the pilot and crew to be broad-minded. Lives depended on the narrowness of the mission.

Christians understand this narrowness when it comes to the landing at the great heavenly airport. We can only enter the narrow way.

Christ was so intolerant of man's lost estate that He left His lofty throne in Heaven and took on Himself the form

of man, suffered at the hands of evil men, and died a shameful death on a cruel cross to purchase our redemption. So serious was man's plight that the Lord could not look upon it lightly. He could not be broad-minded about a world held captive by its lusts, its appetites, and its sins. Having paid such a price, He could not be intolerant about man's indifference toward Him and the salvation He offered.

Only the way of the cross leads home. "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life" (John 3:36).

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

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Table with columns for date, time, and program details for various channels including WINN, CBS, ABC, NBC, PBS, FOX, and others.

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words. Includes a solution time of 21 mins and Saturday's answer for 5-15.

Small grid or table with numbers 1-57, likely a continuation of the crossword puzzle or a separate grid.

Victims of racist Buffalo supermarket mass shooting remembered

By CAROLYN THOMPSON
Associated Press

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — Standing in the same parking lot where he was shot in the neck a year ago in a racist attack at a Buffalo supermarket, Zaire Goodman said he was grateful to see the community come together in remembrance Sunday.

His family and others affected by the mass shooting gathered with top state and local officials, first responders and religious leaders to remember the 10 people who were killed and three, including Goodman, who were wounded at Tops Friendly Market, which closed Sunday for the one-year anniversary of the shootings.

Goodman, 21, who worked at the store and was shot while collecting carts outside, has been back to the market many times since, even visiting while it was being remodeled in the weeks after the massacre as some questioned whether it should ever reopen.

“I just wanted to show people that it’s alright. We don’t need to close the store indefinitely,” he said. “We know the store is still important to people in this area.”

Mayor Byron Brown read the 13 victims’ names before a moment of silence. A first responder then chimed a bell 13 times. Brown, Gov. Kathy Hochul and U.S. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer were among those who gave speeches.

“It’s a beautiful day. It’s Mother’s Day,” Hochul said.

“And the cruel irony behind the fact is a day we celebrate a life that comes into this world, making someone a mother, is also a day we’re here to think about those who are no longer with us. It’s hard. It’s been a really hard year.”

Earlier in the week, panelists discussed ways to combat racism and social media radicalization and residents were invited to reflect at an outdoor community gathering.

After Sunday’s ceremony, Goodman recalled how after being wounded he ran across the street in search of safety, calling his mother along the way.

“Hey, you need to get here,” he told her.

Since then, Goodman’s mother, Zeneta Everhart, and other relatives of the

victims have spoken before Congress about white supremacy and gun reform and organized events to address food insecurity that worsened when the market, the neighborhood’s only grocery store, was inaccessible for two months.

President Joe Biden honored the lives of those killed in Buffalo in an op-ed published Sunday in USA Today. He called on Congress and state legislative leaders to act by banning assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, requiring background checks for all gun sales, and repealing gun manufacturers’ immunity from liability. His administration passed a landmark gun measure in June following a series of mass shootings.

New York state law

already bans possessing magazines that hold more than 10 rounds of ammunition.

Gun control organizations and advocates including Moms Demand Action and Students Demand Action held nearly 200 events across the country over the weekend, calling on Congress to reinstate a bipartisan assault weapons ban.

In Buffalo, Wayne Jones, whose mother Celestine Chaney, 65, died in the attack, urged the city and its institutions to keep on investing in the area and its residents even after the anniversary events are over.

That’s why he is willing, he said, “to keep opening up this wound that I have” and talk about it.

After the remembrance ceremony, adults visited

tents offering information about mental health and other forms of community support.

Rosemary Glover of Buffalo remembered the pain she felt when she recognized two of the shooting victims’ names: Katherine Massey, a community advocate; and Pearl Young, who belonged to the same church ministry as Glover. She came Sunday to honor them and the community.

“We have to continue to support one another,” she said. “That’s the only way we’re going to heal.”

The son of 63-year-old shooting victim Geraldine Talley on Sunday released a book that he said describes what he went through after losing his mother. He titled it: “5/14: The Day the Devil Came to Buffalo.”

Kenya cult death toll hits 200, more than 600 reported missing

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — The death toll linked to a doomsday cult in Kenya hit 201 Saturday after police exhumed 22 more bodies, most of them bearing signs of starvation, according to the coast regional commissioner.

The bodies are believed to be those of followers of a pastor based in coastal Kenya, Paul Mackenzie. He’s alleged to have ordered congregants to starve to death in order to meet Jesus.

More than 600 people are still missing.

Mackenzie, who was arrested last month, remains in custody. Police plan to charge him with terrorism-related offenses.

Hundreds of bodies have been dug up from dozens of mass graves spread across his 800-acre property, located in the coastal county of Kilifi.

Mackenzie insists that he closed his church in 2019 and moved to his property in a forested area to farm.

Autopsies conducted on

more than 100 bodies last week showed the victims died of starvation, strangulation, suffocation and injuries sustained from blunt objects.

Local media outlets have been reporting cases of missing internal body organs, quoting investigators in the case.

Mackenzie, his wife and 16 other suspects will appear in court at the end of the month.

Coast regional commissioner Rhoda Onyancha on Saturday said the total number of those arrested stood at

26, with 610 people reported as missing by their families.

It is unclear how many survivors have been rescued so far from the search and rescue operations on Mackenzie’s vast property. Some of them were too weak to walk when they were found.

Cults are common in Kenya, which has a religious society.

Police across the country have been questioning other religious leaders whose teachings are believed to be misleading and contrary to basic human rights.

Public Sale Calendar

MAY 16 - 6 p.m. EST - John M Widman, owner. 6027 Wayne Trace, Fort Wayne. Real estate auction held live onsite! Tract 1: 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 1,085 sq. feet home, partial basement, 18’x20’ detached garage, 24’x34’ bank barn, sitting on 3+/- acres. Tract 2: 20’x24’ detached garage sitting on 2+/- acres. Tract 3: Combination of Tracts 1 & 2. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.

BIDDING ENDS MAY 17 - Soft close begins at 6 p.m. Online lure & more auction. Pick up May 18, 4-6 p.m., 130 W. Market St., Bluffton. *Heartland Auction & Realty, Inc.*, heartlandauctionrealty.com, 260-724-3499.

MAY 17 - 6:30 p.m. Auction location: Markle Volunteer Fire Dept., 150 W. Sparks St., Markle. Farm location: Take SR 3 two miles south of Markle to 200 S., then go west to 300 E., then north! 126 acres offered in 3 tracts, Rock Creek Twp., Huntington Co., high quality cropland & woods. *Metzger Property Services, LLC*, MetzgerAuction.com.

BIDDING STARTS CLOSING MAY 21 AT 6 P.M. EST - Joy A. Bauman estate owner. Online only! Real estate 6 p.m. 1,112 SF, 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home, 2-car attached garage, .38 acre cul-de-sac lot, North Adams Community Schools. Personal property 6:30 p.m. Lifetime collection of Joy Bauman! Large collection 100’s of pieces of Carnival, Fenton, Opalescent glassware, appliances, household & more! Preview May 15, 5-6 p.m., 139 Riverside Ct., Decatur. Pick up May 22, 3-6 p.m. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.

BIDDING ENDS MAY 21 - (Online Only Auction) - Multiple consignors, seller. Outstanding antiques and collectables including rare neon Coke Cola clock, Coca Cola advertis-

ing, antique and vintage furniture, vintage toys, Longaberger basket collection, glassware, military items, collectibles. Preview: May 16 and 18 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 102 S. Jefferson St., Ossian (Steffen Group Auction Gallery). *The Steffen Group Inc.*, www.steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

MAY 21-MAY 28 - (Online Only Auction) - Life estate of Dorothea Teagle, seller. Clean modern furniture, electric fireplace, Samsung flat screen TV, 1973 Gibson guitar, glassware, Craftsman riding lawn mower, tools, modern appliances, household, Trek tandem bicycle, much more. Preview: May 18 and 25 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 401 N. Meadow Lane, Hartford City, IN. Pat Carter, sale manager, 260-273-8294, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, <http://www.steffengrp.com>.

MAY 27-JUNE 3 - (Online Only Auction) - Schwartz, seller. Great collection of vintage car parts, Ford tractor, dump trailer, Bobcat backhoe & tractors, tools, mower parts, collectibles, construction equipment, much more. Preview: May 31 from 4 p.m.-7 p.m., 1055 US Hwy. 27, Berne. Sale manager, Isaac Stoller, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-824-3006.

JUNE 6 - 7 p.m. EST - Estate of Ida Hilty, Philip Hilty, owner. 2499 S US Hwy. 27, Berne. Real estate auction! Modern Amish home with electricity, 3,056 sq. feet building, 1,200 sq. retail shop space w/bath, 1,800 sq. feet living area, 2 bedroom, 1 bath living space, 2+/- acres, 6” walls, beautiful hickory kitchen, built in 2019. Items selling following real estate: 10’x16’ shed, propane heater, road sign, stove, refrigerator. Open house May 22, 5-6 p.m. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.

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