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TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2023 BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection \$1.00

Suspected intruder shot and killed at residence

By DAVE SCHULTZ
A Bluffton man was shot and killed Sunday night, apparently as the result of a breaking and entering attempt that took a deadly turn.
A call came in to the Bluffton dispatch center at 11:14 p.m. Sunday reporting an injury in the 3400 block of Ind. 124 East. When officers arrived, they found Tavis Beavans, 38, dead.
Detectives from the Bluffton Police Department, the Wells County Sheriff's Department, and the Indiana State Police began their investigation after arriving. According to a statement from the BPD, "(the) initial investigation has determined that Tavis Beavans brought a handgun and entered the residence uninvited. A physical altercation with persons inside the residence ensued. As a result of the struggle, Tavis

Beavans suffered a gunshot wound to the upper chest."
According to a report from Deputy Desmond Carter of the WCSD, 30-year-old Zachary David Miller was sitting in the yard. Another deputy, Kurtis Brooksher, said when he arrived on the scene Officer Brad Carlson of the Bluffton Police Department was holding Miller at gunpoint.
Randall said that the office of Wells County Hilarie Gaskill was also assisting in the investigation.
A woman was reported to be in the mobile home with two children.
Randall said that once the investigation is completed, the information will be reviewed by Wells County Prosecutor Colin Andrews to decide if any charges are warranted.
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Lights from emergency vehicles illuminate the scene on Ind. 124 East Sunday night. (Photo by Dave Schultz)



Field of dreams
3rd grade students, teachers, and chaperones from Lancaster Elementary School in front of the scoreboard at the World Baseball Academy for their field trip on Monday. (Photo by Sydney Kent)

Commissioners OK \$25K to support early learning opportunities

By HOLLY GASKILL
The Wells County Commissioners have unanimously agreed to financially support the launch of an endeavor to support early learning opportunities.
Imagine Early, a new local organization, will receive \$25,000 annually from the county in its first three years. The organization is being launched by the Adams-Wells Early Childhood Coalition, a group seeking to address childcare needs in Adams and Wells counties.
The coalition is comprised of professionals from either county. Chad Kline, Wells County Economic Development executive director, and Jessica Bricker, Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District communications specialist, spoke on behalf of the organization during the commissioners' meeting Monday.
The group hopes to hire a full-

time director for Imagine Early to lead its efforts in addressing local concerns regarding quality childcare access. Kline stated the partnership between Adams and Wells counties was natural, as both counties face similar challenges.
According to data provided by the coalition, 3,059 children need childcare in the counties, but only 1,277 childcare spots are currently available. There are 17 total licensed providers — six of which have been identified as high-quality programs.
Additionally, childcare in Wells County costs \$126.57 weekly on average. Comparatively, childcare in Adams County costs \$140.57 weekly.
"The ultimate goal for Imagine Early is not only to better prepare children for preschool and kindergarten but to alleviate strains on the workforce," the group said
(Continued on Page 2)

Recent report indicates cause of deadly Wabash River crash

By HOLLY GASKILL
An official report has indicated speeding as the primary cause of the recent deadly crash in the Wabash River.
The report, released Monday, stated the 1999 Ford Ranger appears to have been traveling eastbound on River Road in rainy conditions before it lost control and left the roadway. The vehicle then hit a culvert and several fence posts before returning to the road, possibly traveling sideways, and went into the river near the White Bridge. A "swirl" in the river appeared to be the size of a small pickup truck.
Driver Branden Beer, 19, Geneva, had been last seen at Hardee's in Bluffton on April 30. He was reported missing in Adams County on May 3. The same day, the Wells

County Sheriff's Office received notice of a possible vehicle in the river. The crash report states the driver's mother had found tire tracks appearing to have gone off-road and into the river west of CR 450E.
Indiana Conservation Officers ultimately recovered the vehicle, which had settled into a deep indentation with a fast-moving river current running through it.
The crash report states the vehicle appeared to have rolled at least once and retained heavy damage to the roof. The windshield was shattered, and the driver's side window was completely missing.
Searchers could not find Beer in a search of the surrounding areas on May 3 and 4. The report says it appeared Beer did not have his seat belt on at the time of the

crash.
The vehicle itself contained Walmart bags and products, Hardee's food wrappers, multiple cans of air duster, and Beer's personal effects, including his wallet and phone. Detective Quinton Greer stated in the report he had known Beer to have a drug problem from previous interactions.
ICO discovered Beer's body eight days later near Rose Road and CR 100E, approximately six miles down river from the crash site. No other physical evidence was located.
The Northeast Indiana Forensic Center positively identified the body on May 15. The autopsy showed no major injuries or signs of trauma; toxicology results are pending.
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BHMSD board takes steps towards safety referendum

By DAVE SCHULTZ
The Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District's board Monday night agreed to send a resolution to the Wells County auditor's office concerning the impact of a school safety resolution on property tax rates.
The proposed additional rate is 0.075. Ice Miller, the school district's bond counsel, said that was the amount "to provide financial solvency," Yates said in remarks

prepared for the board meeting.
The board members — Angie Sheets, Trent White, Bruce Holland, Mike Murray, and Julie Thompson — followed Yates' recommendation, authorizing him to send the proposed tax rate to the office of county auditor Lisa McCormick.
The district is making preparatory steps toward putting the referendum on the November ballot
(Continued on Page 2)

TSA tests facial recognition at more airports, raises privacy concerns

By REBECCA SANTANA and RICK GENTILO
Associated Press
BALTIMORE (AP) — A passenger walks up to an airport security checkpoint, slips an ID card into a slot and looks into a camera atop a small screen. The screen flashes "Photo Complete" and the person walks through — all with-

out having to hand over their identification to the TSA officer sitting behind the screen.
It's all part of a pilot project by the Transportation Security Administration to assess the use of facial recognition technology at a number of airports across the country.
"What we are trying to do with this is aid the officers to actually

determine that you are who you say you are," said Jason Lim, identity management capabilities manager, during a demonstration of the technology to reporters at Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport.
The effort comes at a time when the use of various forms of technology to enhance security and stream-

line procedures is only increasing. TSA says the pilot is voluntary and accurate, but critics have raised concerns about questions of bias in facial recognition technology and possible repercussions for passengers who want to opt out.
The technology is currently in 16 airports. In addition to Baltimore, it's being used at Reagan National

near Washington, D.C., airports in Atlanta, Boston, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Miami, Orlando, Phoenix, Salt Lake City, San Jose, and Gulfport-Biloxi and Jackson in Mississippi. However, it's not at every TSA checkpoint so not every traveler going through those airports would necessarily
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Outside

Chance of sprinkles today, light morning breeze

Today	Wed.	Thursday
High 72	High 67	High 70
Low 48	Low 40	Low 48

More Weather on Page 2

Online

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Vol. 94 No. 166
TUESDAY
May 16, 2023

Agri Business

News that affects local farm families and their businesses
in today's News-Banner

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Early learning

(Continued from Page 1)

in a press release Monday. "Feedback from local families and employers indicates it can be difficult to find quality and affordable child-care providers for young children, at times preventing employees from working.

Adams Wells Manufacturing Alliance has recently agreed to serve as the fiscal sponsor for Imagine Early. Meanwhile, funds from

Wells County will match funding received from other organizations. The group will ask for the same support from the Adams County Commissioners during their meeting on May 16.

Considering the county's financial support, Commissioner Jeff Stringer asked that the group regularly report on their progress.

Other members from

Wells County include BHMSD assistant superintendent Julie Meitzler Southern Wells Elementary School Principal Cari Whicker, and Cindy Burchell, children's librarian for the Wells County Public Library. Pamela Beckford, previous director of the United Way of Wells County, also served on the coalition until her retirement.

Adams County members are Economic Development Director Colton Bickel, King's Kingdom Director Erin Cress, Adams County Community Foundation Executive Director Coni Mayer, Adams Central Community Schools Director of Curriculum and Instruction Karyn Tomkinson, and Terri Hoag of Purdue University-Fort Wayne.

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BHMSD board

(Continued from Page 1)

this year. Yates said after the meeting that the deadline is Aug 1 to have the resolution ready to go if it is to appear on the November ballot.

The school board members have not taken a final up-or-down vote on the referendum.

The referendum would allow the district to have a school resource officer in each of its three schools and also add a mental health professional to the staff.

If the referendum is approved at the suggested rate, the district could gain \$400,000 a year for the school safety plan.

Also on Monday night, the district was recognized for its support of Riley Hospital for Children. Susan Miles from Riley was present at the board meeting and said that the district's students "are leading with servant's

hearts."

Miles noted that the two schools in the district that have raised funds this year, Bluffton High School and Bluffton-Harrison Middle School, have gone above the hospital's goal of \$1 per student. That's something that Bluffton High School has done since the start of the current Riley fundraising structure in 2007, Miles said.

Bluffton-Harrison Elementary School has yet to hold a Riley fundraiser.

In other business Monday:

- Schlaura Linderwell, principal of the elementary school, discussed a Preschool Farm Experience Classroom program. Construction is planned for this summer and the program could begin next school year.

- Julie Meitzler, the district's assistant superintendent, said that the schools have completed iLearn testing. She also

noted the district will be working with the Bluffton Parks Department for a weekday food program this summer.

- School districts will not collect fees for curriculum items next year as the Indiana General Assembly is funding those items. Yates said the district expects to receive approximately \$150 per student. Families had been billed \$140 for grades K-4 and \$185 for grades 5-12.

- The board approved Yates' recommendation to go with a bid from Brooks Construction for resurfacing the school's tennis courts and some parking areas. The cost will be \$996,662. The work will not be completed until after the school year starts meaning the BHS boys' tennis team will have to play mostly away games and practice at community facilities next season.

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Facial recognition

(Continued from Page 1)

experience it.

Travelers put their driver's license into a slot that reads the card or place their passport photo against a card reader. Then they look at a camera on a screen about the size of an iPad, which captures their image and compares it to their ID. The technology is both checking to make sure the people at the airport match the ID they present and that the identification is in fact real. A TSA officer is still there and signs off on the screening.

A small sign alerts travelers that their photo will be taken as part of the pilot and that they can opt out if they'd like. It also includes a QR code for them to get more information.

Since it's come out the pilot has come under scrutiny by some elected officials and privacy advocates. In a February letter to TSA, five senators — four Democrats and an Independent who is part of the Democratic caucus — demanded the agency stop the program, saying: "Increasing biometric surveillance of Americans by the government represents a risk to civil liberties and privacy rights."

As various forms of technology

that use biometric information like face IDs, retina scans or fingerprint matches have become more pervasive in both the private sector and the federal government, it's raised concerns among privacy advocates about how this data is collected, who has access to it and what happens if it gets hacked.

Meg Foster, a justice fellow at Georgetown University's Center on Privacy and Technology, said there are concerns about bias within the algorithms of various facial recognition technologies. Some have a harder time recognizing faces of minorities, for example. And there's the concern of outside hackers figuring out ways to hack into government systems for nefarious aims.

With regard to the TSA pilot, Foster said she has concerns that while the agency says it's not currently storing the biometric data it collects, what if that changes in the future? And while people are allowed to opt out, she said it's not fair to put the onus on harried passengers who might be worried about missing their flight if they do.

Jeramie Scott, with the Electronic

Privacy Information Center, said that while it's voluntary now it might not be for long. He noted that David Pekoske, who heads TSA, said during a talk in April that eventually the use of biometrics would be required because they're more effective and efficient, although he gave no timeline.

Scott said he'd prefer TSA not use the technology at all. At the least, he'd like to see an outside audit to verify that the technology isn't disproportionately affecting certain groups and that the images are deleted immediately.

TSA says the goal of the pilot is to improve the accuracy of the identity verification without slowing down the speed at which passengers pass through the checkpoints — a key issue for an agency that sees 2.4 million passengers daily. The agency said early results are positive and have shown no discernible difference in the algorithm's ability to recognize passengers based on things like age, gender, race and ethnicity.

Lim said the images aren't being compiled into a database, and that photos and IDs are deleted. Since this is an assessment, in limited circumstances some data is collected and shared with the Department of Homeland Security.

U.S., World News Roundup

Georgia prosecutor fights attempt to remove her from election probe

ATLANTA (AP) — The Georgia prosecutor who's investigating whether Donald Trump and his allies broke any laws as they tried to overturn his 2020 election loss in the state fought back Monday against the former president's attempt to remove her from the case and exclude certain evidence.

Trump's Georgia legal team in March asked the court to toss out the report of a special grand jury that had been seated in the case and to prevent prosecutors from using any evidence or testimony stemming from the panel's investigation. They also asked that Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis and her office be barred from continuing to investigate or prosecute the case.

Willis responded in a filing Monday that the Trump's motion is "procedurally flawed" and advances "arguments that lack merit."

For more than two years now, Willis has been investigating the actions Trump and others took in the wake of the 2020 election. She took the unusual step last year of asking for a special grand jury to aid the investigation, saying the panel's subpoena power would allow her team to compel the testimony of people who might not otherwise cooperate.

The special grand jury, which did not have the power to issue indictments, was seated last May and dissolved in January after hearing from 75 witnesses and submitting a report

with recommendations for Willis. Though most of that report remains under wraps for now according to a judge's order, the panel's foreperson has said without naming names that the special grand jury recommended charging multiple people.

Man in custody after baseball bat attack at congressman's office

FAIRFAX, Va. (AP) — A man with a metal baseball bat walked into the northern Virginia office of U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly on Monday, asked for him, then struck two of his workers with the bat, including an intern in her first day on the job, police and the congressman said.

The attack marked the latest in an uptick in violence aimed at lawmakers or those close to them.

Fairfax City Police said officers arrived minutes afterward and detained the man. The two staff members were treated for injuries that were not life-threatening.

The veteran Democratic congressman, who wasn't in the office at the time, said in an interview that the suspect was known to police in Fairfax County, adding, "he's never made threats to us so it was unprovoked, unexpected and inexplicable."

"I have no reason to believe that his motivation was politically motivated, but it is possible that the sort of toxic political environment we all live in, you know, set him off, and I would just

hope all of us would take a little more time to be careful about what we say and how we say it," he said.

Number of migrants fell at U.S. southern border after immigration changes

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of migrants encountered at the southern border fell 50 percent during the last three days compared with the days leading up to the end of a key pandemic-era regulation, U.S. officials said Monday.

But a high number of migrants are still in U.S. custody, although the number has fallen "significantly" since last week, said Blas Nunez-Neto, assistant secretary for border and immigration policy at the Department of Homeland Security.

The ability of U.S. Border Patrol to hold migrants has been a key concern as more migrants came to the border in the days leading up to the end of immigration restrictions linked to the pandemic, referred to as Title 42. The administration is facing a lawsuit aimed at curtailing its ability to release migrants from custody even when facilities are over capacity.

At one point last week, more than 27,000 migrants were in custody along the border, a number that may top 45,000 by the end of May if the powers to more quickly release migrants from custody when facilities are over capacity are curtailed, said Matthew Hudak, deputy Border Patrol chief.

Weather

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

(24-hour observations at 9:15 p.m. Monday)

High: 71; Low: 51; Precipitation: None

Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 2.14 feet at 8:45 p.m. Monday

Wells County forecast

Today: A chance of sprinkles before 2 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 72. Light west wind increasing to 5 to 10 mph in the morning.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 48. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming northeast after midnight.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 67. Northeast wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Wednesday Night: Clear, with a low around 40. East wind around 10 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 70.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 48.

Friday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2 p.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 78.

Friday Night: A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 57. Chance of precipitation is 50 percent.

Saturday: A 50 percent chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 72.

3 killed by New Mexico gunman who shot and wounded 2 officers

By SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN, KEN RITTER and MORGAN LEE

Associated Press

FARMINGTON, N.M.

(AP) — Three people were killed and two police officers were among at least seven people injured Monday when an 18-year-old opened fire in a northwestern New Mexico community before law enforcement fatally shot the suspect, authorities said.

The shootings occurred around 11 a.m. in Farmington, a city of about 50,000 people near the Utah state line that is a supply line and bedroom community to the region's oil and natural gas industry.

Officers responding to several calls about a shooting found "a chaotic scene" where a man was firing at people on a residential street, Farmington Police Deputy Chief Baric Crum said during a news conference.

Police confronted the suspect before fatally shooting him. They found three people dead.

Crum did not identify the suspect and said he didn't know the ages of any of the victims. Police were trying to determine why he was in the neighborhood.

San Juan Regional Medical Center received seven injured people, including a Farmington police officer and a State Police officer. Roberta Rogers, a hospital spokesperson, would not comment on their status.

The two officers were in stable condition, according to Crum.

Mayor Nate Duckett said in a statement that both had been shot but their injuries were not life-threatening.

"Today, our community experienced a horrific tragedy that claimed the lives of three innocent citizens and injured several others," Duckett said, adding that the shooting "has left us reeling in anguish and disbelief."

Farmington police have not responded to repeated requests for further details about the injured.

"There are no other known threats at this time," police said, adding that city, San Juan County and State Police

officers were involved.

Joseph Robledo, a 32-year-old tree trimmer, said he rushed home after learning that his wife and 1-year-old daughter had sought shelter in the laundry room when gunshots rang out. A bullet went through his daughter's window and room, without hitting anyone.

Robledo jumped a fence to get in through the back door. Out front he found an older woman in the street who had been wounded while driving by. She appeared to have fallen out of her car, which kept rolling without her, he said.

"I went out to see because the lady was just lying in the road, and to figure just what the heck was going on," Robledo said. He and others began to administer first aid.

Neighbors directed an arriving police officer toward the suspect.

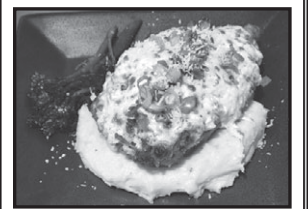
Investigators will now have to look at a crime scene that spans several blocks, according to Crum. Police are asking for anyone with information to come forward.

"What we now need from our community is anybody that has any additional information, whether that be eyewitness information or video information or whatever it may be, if you feel it's pertinent," Crum said.

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OBITUARIES

Justin Bryan Stanley, 38

Justin Bryan Stanley, 38, of Bluffton, passed away early Thursday morning, May 11, 2023, at his residence in Bluffton.

Justin was born on April 24, 1985, to Brian and Susan Stanley at the Upper Heyford Air Force Base in England.

He graduated from Lake Mary Preparatory School in Lake Mary, Fla., where he was a talented athlete and played on the basketball team.

Survivors include his mother, Susan Stanley of Bluffton; a sister, Danielle Stanley of Fort Wayne; and a niece, Sophie Givens, whom he was so proud of. He is also survived by his uncle Anthony Cardone and aunt Lisa Cardone, both of St. Cloud, Fla.; his grandmother, Beverly Stanley of Bluffton; and an aunt, Christine Thacker, and uncle, Randy Thacker, both of Bluffton.

He was preceded in death by his father, Brian.

A Celebration of Life Gathering will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at the home of his mother, Susan Stanley, at 1009 Sherwood Drive in Bluffton.

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



Viola McCoin, 85

Viola "Vi" McCoin, 86, of Montpelier, died Friday, May 12, 2023, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was born on Sept. 17, 1936, in Lebanon, Mo., to Claude Berry and Lola Tate Rmenes. She married Leo J. McCoin Feb. 20, 1954, in Hartford City. Her husband preceded her in death July 5, 2010.

Vi was preceded in death by her parents and her husband; a son, Ed McCoin; her sisters, Lona Randolph and Wanita Knight; and a half brother, Richard Berry.

Survivors include her children, Tony (Lori) McCoin of Montpelier, Tim (Jean) McCoin of Hartford City, Evelyn McCoin of Montpelier, and Tammy (Troy) Foster of Rus-siaville, Ind.; 21 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren; her siblings, Clyde Berry of Centralia, Wash., Ray Berry of Lebanon, Mich., and Kay Berry of Wells County; a half brother, Chester Berry of Jay County; and a half sister, Jane Ann Berry of Jay County.

Calling will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, May 18, at the Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St. in Montpelier. There will be additional calling from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Friday, May 19. Services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday at the funeral home. Burial will follow at the Brookside Memorial Park.

Online condolences: www.glancyfuneralhomes.com

Tavis J. Beavans, 38

Tavis J. Beavans, 38, died Sunday evening, May 14, 2023, in Bluffton.

Funeral arrangements are pending with Goodwin - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel 3220 East SR 124, Bluffton.

Indianapolis officer pleads guilty to federal charge

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — An Indianapolis police officer accused of kicking a handcuffed man in the face during a 2021 arrest pleaded guilty Monday to a federal charge.

Sgt. Eric Huxley pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court to one count of deprivation of rights under color of law. The charge carries a maximum sentence of 10 years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine and three years of supervised release after prison. The Indianapolis Star reported.

A sentencing date has not yet been scheduled for Huxley, who was suspended from the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department after the September 2021 confrontation. He was indicted by a federal grand jury in October 2022 for alleged use of excessive force during his arrest of Jermaine Vaughn.

Body camera footage police released of Vaughn's arrest shows an officer forcing Vaughn to the ground at downtown Indianapolis' Monument Circle. Seconds later, the video shows Huxley thrusting his foot down onto Vaughn's face as he is in handcuffs.

Vaughn, whose lawyer said he was homeless at the time, was arrested on suspicion of disorderly conduct and later charged with two misdemeanors of disorderly conduct and resisting law enforcement, but both of those charges were dismissed.

Vaughn sued the city of Indianapolis, its police department and Huxley in February, alleging Huxley

"used excessive and unlawful force when he viciously attacked and kicked" him in the face while handcuffed. Vaughn says in his lawsuit that he suffered "extensive physical injuries."

Huxley's attorney, John Kautzman, told reporters Monday outside the federal courthouse in Indianapolis that his client has always been "remorseful" about his actions that day, which influenced his decision to enter into a plea agreement. He said Huxley knows what he did was "thoughtless" at the time.

Huxley's plea agreement states that he "knew that there was no legitimate law enforcement reason to use hard strikes, including foot strikes, against the head or face of a person who is handcuffed, under effective control by other officers, and physically unable to harm others."

Police Chief Randal Taylor has recommended Huxley's termination to the department's Civilian Police Merit Board, which will review that recommendation when Huxley's criminal cases conclude.

Huxley also faces state charges in the confrontation with Vaughn. He was charged in Marion County with battery and official misconduct.

INCIDENTS

City:

Sunday, 6:09 p.m., Sun N Suds. caller reported verbal altercation. Parties were separated.

Monday, 7:32 a.m., Walgreens, caller reported runaway juvenile. Child was located at Low Bob's and transported to school.

Monday, 9:10 a.m., corner of Spring and Clark streets, lost wallet was found. Owner identified.

Monday, 10:48 a.m., Bluffton Police Department, harassment complaint filed by juvenile.

Monday, 11:49 a.m., corner of Market and Union streets, welfare check requested. Unable to locate requested party.

Monday, 12:18 p.m., corner of east Horton and Bennett streets, welfare check requested for callers children.

County:

Friday, 2:31 p.m., residence on 400W, Roanoke. Deceased person was found slumped in a chair at a desk in their residence. Family members advised the individual had been sick and they had not had contact in two days. The individual apparently passed away from natural causes.

Friday, 4:55 p.m., North Meridian Road and Northwest Ind. 116. Keys found at this location. Returned to owner.

Friday, 6:18 p.m., 400E Spring Street, Bluffton. Injured horse belonging to a buggy. Horse put down and towed by Pemberton's.

Saturday, 3:06 a.m., East U.S. 224 and North 100E, Uniondale. Individual advised he had approached a woman loading scrap metal and copper into her vehicle from J&A Innovations. The woman stated she was from Muncie. The man said he noticed the woman's vehicle had no plates. Later, the business owner stated he had not given anyone permission to do this and would like the woman to be charged for stealing.

A short while later, a Jay County Sheriff's Office identified a vehicle bearing the same identifying bumper stickers after the vehicle almost collided with his patrol car. The driver matched the description of the woman given to police. The deputy also located meth in the woman's purse. The business owner advised at this time that he just wanted her warned for trespassing.

Cook Medical to cut 500 jobs globally to refocus efforts

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (AP) — Cook Medical will cut 500 jobs under a plan to refocus efforts on product innovation, the Indiana-based maker of medical devices said Monday.

The cuts affecting about 4 percent of its global workforce will include about 223 workers in the U.S., including about 123 in Indiana.

Cook Medical said the layoffs will affect sales representatives and other workers dealing with customers. No hourly workers in manufacturing or distribution will be laid off, the Bloomington-based company said.

Cook announced the layoffs to all of its more 10,000 employees in an email from company president Pete Yonkman on Monday afternoon.

Employees who are laid off will receive severance

Police Notebook

Saturday, 12:23 p.m., North Ind. 1 and East U.S. 224. Vehicle out gas. Driver advised his wife was bringing fuel.

Saturday, 1:12 p.m., residence on South Meridian Road, Poneto. Assisted with property retrieval.

Saturday, 1:29 p.m., South 50W and West 900S. Property damage incident. Vehicle appeared to have rolled over. Pemberton's towed the vehicle.

Saturday, 1:36 p.m., North 700E and East 200N. Caller reported a dog and pony running in the yard and street. Attempted to make contact with the owner and no one answered the door.

Saturday, 2:15 p.m., southwest Center Street, Vera Cruz. Caller reported two suspicious individuals were using metal detectors in the park.

Saturday, 6:38 p.m., residence on East Elm Grove Road, Bluffton. Grass clippings in the roadway causing cars to slip. Asked the property owner to clean up the clippings in accordance with city ordinances.

Saturday, 11:13 p.m., 4736W 400S, Liberty Center. Structure fire. In providing assistance with the fire, a woman on scene was crying hysterically and not listening to commands. The woman was placed in handcuffs, carried away from the property, and transported for medical evaluation. Later, the woman requested a fire evaluation due to the circumstances of the fire and recent break-up. The investigation indicated the fire had started from an extension cord, which was either faulty or overloaded the circuit.

Sunday, 12:42 a.m., residence on West Washington Street, Bluffton. A group of juveniles had reportedly broken into this residence and fled on foot. House was cleared. Unable to locate the juveniles.

Sunday, 6:12 a.m., residence on North Main Street, Uniondale. Man requested a woman be removed from this residence. The woman appeared to be intoxicated and damaged two doors and wounded the male. Full report to follow.

Sunday, 9:07 p.m., residence on East 900S, Keystone. Toddler fell in the pool and the caller was unsure how long the child had been in there. CPR had been started prior to EMS response. EMS transported the toddler to Bluffton Regional Medical Center.

Ossian:

Sunday, 11:53 p.m., Silo Farms. Physical domestic altercation between a man and a woman. The woman did not want to press charges because the parties share children. The man stated the woman abused drugs and had been sending threatening text messages. Deputies documented the text messages. Neither party wanted to leave, but agreed to separate within the dwelling. Both parties were warned for disorderly conduct.

Monday, 12:49 a.m., Ossian Deli. Clerk reported a male had been lingering at the location and making suggestive comments that made her uncomfortable. The man advised he was fixing his vehicle, and decided to head home after speaking with the deputy.

ACCIDENTS

County:

Friday, 3:04 p.m., Ind. 124 at the intersection of CR 450E, Bluffton. Emilee R. Joan, 20, Bluffton, was backing a 2009 Hyundai Santa Fe SUV out of a driveway and failed to see a 2014 Chevrolet Cruze driven by Teresa C. McKinley, 23, Decatur, traveling eastbound on Ind. 124. Both vehicles were towed by Pemberton's. Damage exceeded \$10,000.

Friday, 4:07 p.m., Ind. 124 at the intersection of CR 300W, Liberty Center. Bailly J. Younger, 27, Portland, was driving a 2016 Chevrolet Equinox SUV southbound on 300W and failed to yield the right of way to a 2022 Chevrolet Blazer SUV driven by Kimberly L. Bittner, 60, Bluffton. The collided vehicles continued into a 2011 Buick LaCrosse driven by Marilyn C. Maddox, 80, Keystone, and all three vehicles ultimately came to rest in the intersection. All drivers were treated and released by EMS with no reported injuries. Younger and Bittner's vehicles were towed by Pemberton's. Damage exceeded

\$25,000.

Monday, 11:05 a.m., Marzane Road at the intersection of CR 1100N, Zanesville. Jeffrey N. Garretson, 63, Westfield, was driving a 2015 Honda Civic and failed to see any vehicles approaching the intersection, colliding with a 2014 Jeep Cherokee driven by Makenna E. Henry-Cogar, 23, Markle. The collision caused Henry-Cogar's vehicle to spin around and continue off the roadway, coming to rest in the ditch in the northeast corner of the intersection. Henry-Cogar sustained contusions and bruises to the left arm and complained of head pain and was evaluated by medics at the scene. Both vehicles were towed by Freeman's. Damage exceeded \$5,000.

FIRES

Monday, 8:41 a.m., Peyton's Northern Distribution Center, crew hit fire hydrant in parking lot. No smoke or fire.

ARRESTS

Jeffrey Lynn Holloway, 66, Huntington; operating a vehicle with a PTR of 0.15 or higher, a Class A misdemeanor, and operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangerment, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond set at \$1,500. Bonded.

John Michael Laisure, 63, Ossian; intimidation, a Level 6 felony. Bond set at \$6,000.

Nathan Thomas Nusbaum, 44, Bluffton; possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. Bond set at \$5,000.

Michael R. Young
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Is there such a thing as too much sports?

Indiana has always been a state fueled by sports — from its place in auto racing history to its basketball worship. And this week is another example of how these games, from youth sports to the professional ranks, are big business.

But is it too much? Communities are now squaring off with each other, often with tax dollars driving the moves.

Last week, Pacers Sports & Entertainment announced it would be moving its developmental league team — the Fort Wayne Mad Ants — to Noblesville. City officials have pledged to build a \$36 million arena with 3,400 seats. The Pacers will contribute \$5 million.

Last year the Indy Fuel, an affiliate of the NHL's Chicago Blackhawks, announced it is moving to Fishers. In 2024, the team will begin playing in an 8,500 seat arena there. It is part of a \$550 million expansion of the Fishers District. The Fuel will be the main tenant of the events center that can also host theater and other entertainment.

The team has played at the coliseum at the Indiana State Fairgrounds since its first season in 2014. The state sank \$63 million into renovations for the arena at that point in time.

But that is just the tip of the iceberg.

Lebanon is building a \$115 million sports complex called Hickory Junction. It is 270,000 square feet and will host youth sports from volleyball and football to lacrosse and baseball. It's less than a mile from my house, and its steel beams are going up quickly.

South Bend just expanded its professional sports and convention development area to gain \$3 million more in annual tax revenue. Under a newly signed law, the first \$2.5 million collected must be spent on capital improvements at Four Winds Field where the South Bend Cubs play.

Also in the state budget is \$89 million in state tax dollars for a new amateur sports facility on the IUPUI campus. The space could host events, and could serve as practice facilities for larger competitions. The pre-pandemic study that identified the need for such a place recommended a capacity of several thousand seats.

It is being sought by the Indiana Sports Corp., among others, who are convinced it would keep Indiana in the higher tier of sports hosting.

After all, the state has become a bit of a sports tourism mecca. Think Super Bowl, NBA All-Star game, college football championship, Final Fours, swimming and diving Olympic trials.

But there is always a point of diminishing returns.

Westfield's massive Grand Park campus serves as a cautionary tale, leading me to wonder if all this is too much at once.

The city spent almost \$68 million building the Grand Park Sports Campus. It has 31 soccer fields, 26 baseball diamonds, two administration buildings and seven concession stands. A 378,000-square-foot multi-use event center opened in 2016. The campus focuses on youth sports but has also hosted the Indianapolis Colts training camp.

Last year the city of Westfield tried to sell the park, estimating its worth at more than \$200 million. But the average of the two appraisals put it at \$85 million. Officials there have now decided to keep the park but find a new operator.

And that new operator will apparently have a lot more competition.

Niki Kelly is the editor of the Indiana Capital Chronicle, a non-profit newsroom. nkelly@indianacapitalchronicle.com



Niki Kelly

Hoosier Opinions

EVERYONE LOOKS BETTER AT CLOSING TIME...



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For Republicans, Trump's town hall was a dumpster fire

If you are a Republican primary voter, ask yourself a simple question: Was Donald Trump's performance in his CNN town hall last Wednesday night the ground on which you want to fight the 2024 election?

For most of the hour-long session, the former president barely mentioned President Biden. Instead, he spent his time denying the results of the "rigged" 2020 election; railing against "stupid people" who refuse to acknowledge his victory; promising to pardon "many" of those convicted of committing crimes on Jan. 6, 2021; calling the Capitol Police officer who shot a rioter while protecting members of Congress a "thug"; claiming that Mike Pence was not in any danger from the rioters and had the power as vice president to overturn the election results; defending his "perfect" phone call asking Georgia's Republican secretary of state, Brad Raffensperger, to "find 11,780 votes"; defending his Truth Social post calling for "termination" of the Constitution; justifying his own mishandling of classified information while claiming that Biden stored classified documents in D.C.'s Chinatown, "where they don't even speak English"; rehashing and justifying his "Access Hollywood" comments; and calling CNN moderator Kaitlan Collins a "nasty person."

With Title 42 migrant restrictions ending the next day, one would think Trump might have opened with an attack on Biden's disastrous border policies. But no, he was more than happy to spend the first half of the night talking about himself and his grievances. Granted, this is what Collins asked him about. But Trump could have said: *I know you want to talk about the 2020 election and Jan. 6, but I'm here to talk about the 2024 election and the disasters Joe Biden has unleashed on our country.*

He didn't. And don't think for a moment that Trump mistakenly took the bait. No, he wanted to focus on Jan. 6. He even brought props, pulling a sheet of paper out of his jacket pocket with his Jan. 6 tweets so he could read them aloud. He had prepared this as his opening.

A New Hampshire voter asked him, "Will you suspend polarizing talk of election fraud during your run for president?" He said yes, but then went on to spend most of his time talking about it anyway.

When he did venture into public policy, it was to say that he would restore family separations at the southern border ("When you say to a family that if you come, we're going to break you up, they don't come") and to urge Republicans to "do a default" on

the national debt ("You might as well do it now because . . . you're going to default eventually anyway") — a catastrophic move that would give Biden the pretext to shift blame for his ruinous economic policies onto Republicans.

The whole thing was a three-alarm dumpster fire for the GOP.

Trump's performance must have elated his hardcore supporters. But they are not going to decide the 2024 election. The next president will almost certainly be chosen by a few hundred thousand swing voters in a handful of purple states.

Biden wants to deflect attention from his presidency and make the 2024 election a referendum on Trump — and so, apparently, does Trump.

Imagine that you are one of those swing voters, who liked Trump's policies but did not approve of his behavior in office, and this was your first sustained exposure to him since the 2020 election. Did this performance persuade you to return him to the Oval Office? Or were his rants and barrage of insults like fingernails on a chalkboard, reminding you of the behavior you detested but not so much the policies you liked?

This town hall should be a wake-up call for the GOP. Trump has not learned a thing from his 2020 defeat. He has not developed the message discipline he lacked as president. He has not figured out that the path to another term is not simply energizing his base with red meat, but expanding his base by convincing persuadable swing voters to support him. There was zero effort Wednesday night to win over anyone who is not already with him. Biden wants to deflect attention from his presidency and make the 2024 election a referendum on Trump — and so, apparently, does Trump.

But is that what Republican primary voters want? According to a new CBS News-YouGov poll, the GOP electorate is divided into three camps: 24 percent say they will consider only Trump, 27 percent are not considering Trump at all, and a 49 percent plurality say they are deciding between Trump and other candidates. That 49 percent holds the fate of the country in its hands. Those voters need to take a good, hard look at Trump's performance and decide whether this is really the man and the message they want to lead the Republican Party into battle in 2024.

Because if this town hall is a preview of the campaign to come, get ready for four more years of Joe Biden.

Marc A. Thiessen is on Twitter, @marcthiessen.



Marc Thiessen

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, May 16, the 136th day of 2023. There are 229 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On May 16, 1943, the nearly month-long Warsaw Ghetto Uprising came to an end as German forces crushed the Jewish resistance and blew up the Great Synagogue.

On this date:

In 1770, Marie Antoinette, age 14, married the future King Louis XVI of France, who was 15.

In 1866, Congress authorized minting of the first five-cent piece, also known as the "Shield nickel."

In 1929, the first Academy Awards were presented. "Wings" won "best production," while Emil Jannings and Janet Gaynor were named best actor and best actress.

In 1939, the federal government began its first food

stamp program in Rochester, New York.

In 1957, federal agent Eliot Ness, who organized "The Untouchables" team that took on gangster Al Capone, died in Coudersport, Pennsylvania, at age 54.

In 1960, the first working laser was demonstrated at Hughes Research Laboratories in Malibu, California, by physicist Theodore Maiman.

In 1966, China launched the Cultural Revolution, a radical as well as deadly reform movement aimed at purging the country of "counter-revolutionaries."

In 1975, Japanese climber Junko Tabei became the first woman to reach the summit of Mount Everest.

In 1990, death claimed entertainer Sammy Davis Jr. in Los Angeles at age 64 and "Muppets" creator Jim Henson in New York at age 53.

Trump and the old razzle dazzle

"The reason I talk to myself is because I'm the only one whose answers I accept." — George Carlin

Former president Donald Trump's appearance at a CNN Republican Town Hall in New Hampshire stretched the truth beyond any standard by which that virtue can be measured.

Trump told more lies in one hour than many politicians tell in their entire careers. There are too many to list in a short column, but here are a few of the lowlights.

Trump said he would end the war between Russia and Ukraine in "24 hours" if he again becomes president, but didn't say how.

He said he finished the border wall and then contradicted himself. He called CNN host Kaitlan Collins "a nasty person" and then at the end told her she did a "good job."

Trump continues to promote the fiction that the 2020 election was "stolen" from him. Collins rebutted him each time, but it didn't seem to matter to the mostly white and largely older Republican crowd. The few who had a chance asked mostly softball questions.

Trump "swore on my children, which I've never done before" that he never knew E. Jean Carroll, the woman who just won a defamation and sexual battery civil suit against him and was awarded \$5 million. He said he may have met her once along with her husband, who he noted is Black and a "nice guy." He denied having any physical contact with her.

Asked by Collins if he would accept the results of the 2024 election should he lose, Trump said it depends on whether the election is "fair," meaning he gets to decide that and also whether to extend the fiction from 2020 for years to come. That sounds like the coin flip "heads I win, tails you lose."

Trump also said if he again wins the presidency he would be "inclined" to pardon most of those who broke into the Capitol on January 6. He also claimed to have offered National Guard troops to D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser and Speaker Nancy Pelosi, but said they rejected his offer. Trump's own acting secretary of defense, Chris Miller, said in a deposition that the president never gave



Cal Thomas

him a formal order to have 10,000 troops ready for deployment.

Responding to Trump's CNN appearance on Hugh Hewitt's radio program, former Governor Chris Christie (R-NJ) said: "I think he's a coward, and I think he's a puppet of Putin. . . . He wouldn't say last night that Ukraine should win the war. . . . It was . . . the most stunning moment of the debate. If you won't say that you think Ukraine should win the war, I don't know where you stand with Putin. And to say that he could settle it in 24 hours is the same kind of bravado that we heard eight years ago when he said that he would build the wall across the entire border of Mexico and the United States and Mexico

would pay for it. And we have a wall that's about a fifth of what we need after his presidency, and Mexico hasn't paid their first peso to us, yet."

Trump tried to explain without success his comments about women and when one is a "star" he can pretty much have his way with them. It was another embarrassing, even pathetic, moment.

One of my favorite modern musicals is "Chicago." In the film version, Richard Gere, who plays an attorney for women arrested for murdering their husbands or boyfriends, sings a song called "Razzle Dazzle." Some of the lyrics seem to fit Donald Trump.

"It's all show business, kid
These trials, the whole world, show business
But, kid, you're workin' with a star, the biggest
Give 'em the old razzle dazzle
Razzle dazzle 'em
Give 'em a act with lots of flash in it
And the reaction will be passionate
Give 'em the old hocus pocus
Bead and feather 'em
How can they see with sequins in their eyes?
What if your hinges all are rusting?
What if, in fact, you're just disgusting?
...razzle dazzle 'em, and they'll make you a star!"
What if, indeed?

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Must you move in a hurry?

3 steps to downsize when you have to get out of town fast

By LIZ WESTON of NerdWallet

Ideally, you'd spend months or even years carefully purging excess belongings — but life may have other plans. Maybe you or someone you love has a health crisis and needs to move into assisted living. Or someone has died and their home has to be cleared before next month's rent is due. Maybe you're just moving soon and want to significantly lighten your load.

If you need to downsize in a hurry, here's how to go about it while minimizing stress — and avoiding sending something valuable to the dump.

1. GATHER PAPERWORK, PHOTOS, PRESCRIPTIONS, PERISHABLES

Dealing with paperwork and photos takes time you may not have, says professional organizer Katherine Lawrence of Ashland, Va.. Consider boxing unsorted documents and photos for temporary storage in a climate-controlled area, Lawrence suggests.

Make a plan to sort through the boxes later, since you don't want to store old bills and blurry photos indefinitely any more than you want to risk throwing away something important if you rush.

Next, deal with the stuff that can't be sold or donated, Lawrence recommends. That includes unneeded medications — a pharmacy can offer suggestions about proper disposal — and perishable food that won't be eaten in time. Nonperishable, unopened food items typically can be donated to a local food bank.

2. IDENTIFY THE 'KEEPERS'

"Keepers" are possessions that have a definite home. If someone is moving, that includes stuff that will be going with them. If you're clearing out after a death, keepers may include items destined for heirs.

Those officially charged with settling someone's estate, such as an executor or successor trustee, may be required to hire appraisers to value possessions before anything is distributed. An estate planning attorney or real estate agent may offer referrals, or you can check



with the Appraisers Association of America, the American Society of Appraisers or the International Society of Appraisers.



Liz Weston

If you have potentially valuable stuff — such as antiques, jewelry, artwork or collections — a personal property appraiser could help you figure out what may be worth the extra effort of selling, says Julie Hall, an estate expert in Charlotte, North Carolina,

who specializes in personal appraisals and estate liquidations. The appraiser might also suggest appropriate venues, such as an auction house or consignment store, Hall says.

However, hiring an appraiser can cost hundreds or thousands of dollars, which may not always be practical. You also can get a rough idea of many items' potential worth by checking eBay and using the "sold items" filter.

Once you've identified all the keepers, Lawrence recommends tagging them with painter's tape, which is safe for most surfaces. If items are going to different people or locations, she suggests buying different colored rolls and assigning a color to each person or destination.

Next, make arrangements to get each item to its new home. That could involve hiring movers, renting storage, shipping items or setting a date and time for recipients to pick up their treasures. Avoid holding items indefinitely for others: The point is to declutter, not provide free storage for procrastinators, says Mary Kay Buysse, executive director of the National Association of Specialty & Senior Move Managers, an organization that helps people downsize and relocate.

3. DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH THE REMAINING STUFF

If you have several rooms of furniture and household items left over, consider an estate sale. These are most commonly held in someone's home after their death, but they also can help those who need to dramatically downsize, Hall says.

Estate sales are often organized by professionals who advertise the sale, price the items, handle transactions and provide security. Estate sales agents may agree to donate or dispose of whatever doesn't sell. In return for some or all of these services, estate sales agents typically get 30% or more of the sale proceeds. Estate planning attorneys and real estate agents may offer referrals to reputable estate sales agents, or you can check with the American Society of Estate Liquidators, a referral organization owned by Hall.

A yard or garage sale can be a do-it-yourself alternative. You also can list items for sale on Craigslist, Facebook Marketplace or Nextdoor if you have time to photograph each object, write a description and deal with inquiries from potential buyers.

Giving stuff away is another option, but this can be harder than you expect, Lawrence says. Charities are often selective about what they'll accept, so check their websites or call first to avoid an unnecessary trip.

Some charities will send a truck to pick up approved donations, which could be a time-saver. Another option is giving stuff away using Freecycle.org, a Buy Nothing group or a "free stuff" listing on Craigslist.

You may still wind up renting a dumpster, making trips to the landfill or hiring a junk removal company. The waste can feel painful but may help you be a more conscious consumer in the future.

"I always tell my clients it's actually harder to get rid of something than it is to acquire it," Lawrence says.

This column was provided to The Associated Press by the personal finance website NerdWallet. Liz Weston is a columnist at NerdWallet, a certified financial planner and author of "Your Credit Score." Email: lweston@nerdwallet.com. Twitter: @lizweston.

RELATED LINK
NerdWallet: How to organize important documents simply and safely <https://bit.ly/nerdwallet-organize-important-documents>

Area Things to See and Do

ALL FOR ONE PRODUCTIONS, FORT WAYNE
www.allforonefw.org
ALLEN COUNTY WAR MEMORIAL COLISEUM
Kenny Chesney, May 18; Gun and Knife Show, May 20-21; Vera Bradley Sale, June 14-18. www.memorialcoliseum.com
ARENA DINNER THEATER, FORT WAYNE
www.arenadinnertheatre.org
CLYDE THEATER, FORT WAYNE
Al Stewart, May 21; Andrew McMahon, May 23; Sleeping With Sirens, May 27; Bad Omens, May 28; The Four Horsemen — The Ultimate Salute to Metallica, June 3; The Bored Teachers Comedy Tour, June 9; Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, June 10; Dave Mason, June 17. ClydeTheatre.com or at 1-800-514-3849.
EMBASSY THEATER, FORT WAYNE
Buddy Nolan Memorial Concert with organist Dave Wickerham, May 20; "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" with organist Clark Wilson, June 11; Kansas 50th anniversary tour: "Another Fork in the Road," June 16. <http://fwembassytheatre.org>
FIRE AND LIGHT PRODUCTIONS
"Brigadoon," rescheduled for May 19 at 7 p.m. and May 20 at 3 and 7 p.m., University of Saint Francis Performing Arts Center. Tickets at fireandlightproductions.com.
1ST PRESBYTERIAN THEATRE, FORT WAYNE
"Clybourne Park," May 19, 20, and 21. firstpresfortwayne.org/theater/
BOTANICAL CONSERVATORY
Color in Motion (butterflies), through June 25. www.botanicalconservatory.org
FORT WAYNE CIVIC THEATER
No shows until July. Arts United Center box office 260-424-5220; info at www.fwcivic.org.
FORT WAYNE MUSEUM OF ART
Open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (until 8 p.m. on Thursdays, noon to

5 p.m. Sunday. www.fwmoa.org
FURTH CENTER, ANGLA
Michael W. Smith, May 26. trine.edu/furth
HONEWELL CENTER & EAGLES THEATRE, WABASH
Honeywell Center: Westbound Situation, May 18; Travis Tritt, May 23. <https://www.boxofficeticketsales.com/honeywell-center>
NISWONGER PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, VAN WERT, OHIO
Chapel Hart, June 25. NPACVW.org
PURDUE-FORT WAYNE THEATER
Productions at Williams Theatre on the Purdue-FW campus. www.pfw.edu/visual-performing-arts.
SCIENCE CENTRAL, FORT WAYNE
1950 N. Clinton St. in Fort Wayne. Hours 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Info at 260-424-2400 or at www.sciencecentral.org
SWEETWATER SOUND, FORT WAYNE
Performance Center
Blackberry Smoke, June 17; Candlebox, June 18. Tickets: 800-514-3849 or eTix
WAGON WHEEL, WARSAW
Professional Theatre — "The Little Mermaid," June 1-10; "Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville," June 15-24. Conservatory — "Godspell," July 22. Symphony of the Lakes — "Salute to America," July 1; Tickets 866-923-2618 or wagonwheelcenter.org
ABCINEMA, DECATUR
130 W. Monroe St., Decatur. Information: www.abcinemainc.com or 260-724-SHOW
BAKER STREET CENTER, FORT WAYNE
"Fleetwood Gold: The Fleetwood Mac Experience," May 20; Selwyn Birchwood, June 16. www.bakerstreetcenter.com

Dining outside ... with the dog

By DEE-ANN DURBIN AP Business Writer

Just in time for the summer dining season, the U.S. government has given its blessing to restaurants that want to allow pet dogs in their outdoor spaces.

But even though nearly half of states already allow canine dining outdoors, the issue is far from settled, with many diners and restaurants pushing back against the increasing presence of pooches.

Restaurants have been required to allow service dogs for decades. But it wasn't until the mid-2000s that a handful of states — including Florida and Illinois — began passing laws allowing dogs in outdoor dining spaces, according to the Animal Legal and Historical Center at Michigan State University. Twenty-three states now have such laws or regulations.

But the legal landscape is confusing. Michigan law doesn't allow dogs in outdoor dining spaces, for example, but lets restaurants apply for a variance from their county

health department. So in 2020, the Conference for Food Protection — a group of food industry and health experts that advises the government — asked the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to issue guidance for states. It cited a 2012 risk assessment in Australia and New Zealand that found that the health risk to human diners from dogs was very low.

The FDA's updated food code, issued late last year, says restaurants can have dogs in outdoor areas if they get approval from a local regulator. Restaurants should have signs saying dogs are welcome and should develop plans to handle dogs and their waste. They should ensure dogs remain properly restrained and provide separate food bowls so dogs don't use plates or utensils meant for humans.

The new guidance comes as U.S. pet ownership is rising. Nearly 87 million U.S. households now have a pet, up from 85 million in 2019, according to the American Pet Products Association.

Tri Kappa holds state convention

The 65th state convention of Tri Kappa was recently held at the French Lick Resort and representing

Bluffton's Beta Phi chapter at the event was Linda Reiff.

Council President Janet Perry presided with members of the Paoli chapter acting as hosts. Several business sessions were held during the three-day meeting. Displays by state committees and officers demonstrated Tri Kappa's work throughout the state. The Fine Arts winners from Province Conventions and Officer Training were on display.

Tri Kappa's Philanthropy Committee continues to support Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University Health, including the Riley Children's Foundation and Riley Cheer Guild as well as HANDS in Autism, Camp Riley and Ronald McDonald House Charities of Indiana.

The Scholarship Committee reported that chapters awarded over \$1,100,000 to students in their communities over the last two years. Additionally, nearly \$50,000 was awarded in province and state scholarships. More than 80 chapters donated to the Scholarship Fund.

The Mental Health Committee donated more than \$16,000 to organizations to promote mental health needs of children and adults. Donations were made to the following organizations: American Foundation of Suicide Prevention of Indiana, Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Junior Mental Health Association, Mental

Health America of Indiana. Prevent Child Abuse Indiana, National Alliance on Mental Health and Special Olympics.

The Memorial Fund donated more than \$16,000 to 34 Indiana college and universities to help students with unexpected financial and personal hardships.

The Fine Art Committee has been actively involved in the Hoosier Salon since it was organized in 1926. The Tri Kappa art collection, valued at over \$550,000, is on display at the Logan library at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute, and two acquisitions were added to the collection this year. The committee also presents art and music scholarships every spring.

The Gifted and Talented Committee has donated to several programs including the Indiana Bar "We the People" enrichment program, the Indiana Academy of Science, Math & Humanities, Indianapolis Indians STEM program, Purdue University's Gifted & Talented Educational program and Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

Tri Kappa is a statewide philanthropic organization known for its work in charity, culture and education. It has nearly 7,000 members in 227 Active and Associate chapters throughout the state of Indiana.

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Southern Wells starting pitcher Kedrik Sonnigsen (right) attempts to tag out Jets runner Keegan Bluhm (left) in a game at Adams Central. Bluhm was safe, helping his team defeat the Raiders 11-1. (Photo by Ryan Walker)

Errors hurt Raiders in loss to Jets

By RYAN WALKER
MONROE — Errors piled up for Southern Wells as the Raiders fell to Adams Central 11-1 on Monday.
 The game ended in the sixth inning by mercy rule, as Jets (13-7) shortstop Keegan Bluhm drove home a pair of runs that reached base due to a throwing error. The mistake was the Raiders' (4-17) seventh of the game, and only six of the 11 runs were earned off of the pitchers.
 "We have the same issue every time, and it's errors," first-year head coach Evan Huffman said after the game. "It's executing. That's all we need to do. We execute fine in practice, and then when we get into games, it just seems like we get complacent, especially when we get down we get complacent and we're OK with letting them hit the ball, and us keep making errors. It's got to change."
 Southern Wells did apply pressure early with Case Boxell's RBI fielder's choice to take a 1-0 lead at the end of two innings. But the story of those innings wasn't that the Raiders had the one-run lead. It was the missed opportunities.
 Bryar Gearheart in the first was stranded at third base after a runner

was caught attempting to steal second but didn't slide and was called out. In the second, the bases were left loaded with only one run to show for it.
 Despite the two teams being a part of the same conference, this game only counted for their regular season records. The Jets got the best of the Raiders 8-5 earlier in the season when it counted for ACAC play. This time around, Huffman was disappointed his team couldn't jump out to a bigger lead early on to even the season series.
 "We had moments where we had runners in scoring position, and we needed that line drive, Huffman said. "We needed those two runs to score in and maybe get their (Adams Central) backs against the wall a little bit, but for them having the confidence after beating us after the first round, I don't think they ever thought they were out of that game and we needed to crank that pressure up to 10 and stomp out a lead."
 Adams Central got the bats going in the third inning after struggling to take advantage of three errors and multiple runners in scoring position. Cade Van De Weg tripled and later scored on a passed ball. Trevor Currie scattered a weak ground ball to first that he beat out to score another. Then, Hayden

Bluhm grounded out on a fielder's choice to first base that could have been an out at home, taking the 3-1 lead.
 The Bluhms both scored on a wild pitch that extended the lead further, followed by Currie's double that put the game out of reach 9-1. Keegan Bluhm hit the official walk-off double to end the game.
 Pitching-wise, Raiders starter Kedrik Sonnigsen allowed three earned runs out of six, walking just two batters and giving up seven hits. The senior was efficient for the first few innings, fighting through extra pitches due to errors to keep his team in the game.
 Huffman thought that he and Jenson Nusbaumer, who threw 2/3 of an inning, threw well and "played as if they were seniors." The two combined for just one strikeout as the Jets kept the ball in play and took advantage of what the defense was giving.
 "That was the key: errors early in the game. That set the tone for us early to continue to do it."
 The team will play at home against Bluffton for another non-ACAC matchup starting at 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 16.

sports@news-banner.com

High School Calendar

TUESDAY, MAY 16
BASEBALL: Columbia City at Norwell, 6:30 p.m.; Bluffton at Southern Wells, 5 p.m.
BOYS GOLF: Norwell at Belmont, 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.
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 DeKalb, 5:30 p.m.
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.
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.
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.
MONDAY, MAY 22
SOFTBALL: (sectional) Norwell vs. TBD at Belmont, 5 p.m.
TUESDAY, MAY 23
BOYS GOLF: South Adams at Norwell, 4:30 p.m.; Huntington North at Bluffton, 4:30 p.m.; Northfield at Southern Wells, 4:30 p.m.
TRACK & FIELD (GIRLS): (regional) Norwell at Carroll High School, 5:30 p.m.

Cubs' Cody Bellinger crashes into wall vs. Astros, leaves game

HOUSTON (AP) — Chicago Cubs center fielder Cody Bellinger left Monday night's game against the Houston Astros with an apparent injury after making an acrobatic catch in the seventh inning.
 Bellinger robbed Kyle Tucker of extra bases when he leaped and crashed into the padded wall just in front of the Houston bullpen in right-center for the third out in the seventh. The 2019 National League MVP appeared to turn his left ankle when he landed after making the grab and crumpled to the ground.
 Right fielder Seiya Suzuki immediately motioned for help and a trainer came to check on Bellinger. After a couple of minutes, he slowly got to his feet and walked gingerly off the field.
 Bellinger was replaced by Miles Mastrobuoni.

A's reach agreement for potential stadium site on Las Vegas Strip

By MARK ANDERSON
AP Sports Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The Oakland Athletics have reached an agreement with Bally's and Gaming & Leisure Properties to build a potential stadium on the Tropicana hotel site along the Las Vegas Strip.
 Bally's Corp. made the announcement Monday for a 30,000-seat stadium on the 35-acre site. The project is expected to cost about \$1.5 billion, and the A's are asking for nearly \$400 million in public support from the Nevada Legislature, which could vote on a proposal this week.
 The A's previously previously signed an agreement to build a stadium also on Tropicana Avenue but on the other side of Interstate 15 that runs alongside the Strip. They were expected to ask the Legislature for \$500 million in public funds for the 49-acre site that would have included much more than a stadium.
 The new agreement is a scaled-down proposal but the location is in closer walking distance for fans who are staying in hotels on the south end of the Strip. "We are excited about the potential to bring Major League Baseball to this iconic location," A's President Dave Kaval said in a statement. "We are thrilled to work alongside Bally's and GLPI, and look forward to finalizing plans to bring the Athletics to Southern Nevada."
 Kaval has said he hopes to break ground on a new ballpark next year and open the venue in time for the 2027 season. The A's have a lease at Oakland Coliseum through 2024, and they could play the 2025 and '26 seasons at Las Vegas Ballpark, home to their Triple-A affiliate Aviators.
 The Tropicana opened in 1957 and in its heyday drew such A-listers as Sammy Davis Jr. Now the Trop is overshadowed by nearby megaresorts such as the MGM Grand, New York-New York and Mandalay Bay, and soon it likely will meet the fate of so many other historic Las Vegas hotels that are no longer around.
 "We are honored to have been selected to partner with the Oakland Athletics on this monumental step in helping to bring Major League Baseball to the great city of Las Vegas, and to be a part of the once-in-a-generation opportunity of having a professional baseball team located within a short walk of the Las Vegas Strip," Bally's President George Papanier said in a statement. "The Tropicana has been a landmark of Las Vegas for generations, and this development will enhance this iconic site for generations to come."
 The A's had been looking for a new home for years to replace the outdated and run-down Oakland Coliseum, where the team has played since arriving from Kansas City for the 1968 season. It is averaging less than 9,500 fans at home this season, by far the lowest among the 30 teams.
 The team had been in negotiations with the city of Oakland to build a stadium on the waterfront but switched the focus entirely to Las Vegas last month. The A's exclusive negotiating rights deal with the Port of Oakland for the Howard Terminal site expired last Friday, allowing the port to negotiate with other parties interested in using the downtown site.
 On Friday, the A's also reached a deal with the Culinary Union, a politically powerful Nevada union that represents more than 60,000 workers mostly in the Las Vegas area, which guarantees that A's workers have the right to organize and negotiate union contracts.
 "We hope there will be a path forward for all stakeholders so the Las Vegas A's can join the Las Vegas Golden Knights and the Las Vegas Raiders to continue this transformation as Las Vegas, the entertainment capital of the world, also becomes the sporting capital of the world," Culinary Union secretary-treasurer Ted Pappageorge said in a statement.

Sports Roundup

Chargers plate two in the final inning to defeat Knights in baseball

The Norwell baseball team dropped a heartbreaker on the road to Carroll 2-1 on Monday.
 The Knights (16-7) were leading 1-0 going into the final inning against the No. 6 team in Class 4A, but the Chargers brought one a run on a single by Camden Herschberger and a sac-fly to win it by Daniel Kirk.
 Brody Bolyn had the lone RBI on a fielder's choice. Drew Graft had two of the team's four hits.
 Graham Gaier got the loss, throwing six 2/3 innings, allowing two unearned runs, five hits, a walk, and struck out four.
 Norwell will host Columbia City at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 16.

Tigers take down Braves in baseball

Bluffton's baseball team made the road trip to Fort Wayne and defeated Blackhawk Christian 3-2 Monday.
 The Tigers improved their record to 14-5.
 Both teams had four hits and four errors. Andrew Onuegbu, Braxton Betancourt, Drew Pressler, and Lukas Gehrett had singles. Kayden King and Austin Lewis drove in the runs.
 Betancourt got the win, throwing four innings, allowing two hits and no runs, striking out eight, and allowing just one walk. AJ Streveler threw three innings in relief and allowed two unearned runs, and struck out two.
 Bluffton will play Southern Wells on the road at 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 16.

Knights shut out Eagles in NE8 softball

The Norwell softball team defeated Columbia City on the road in a 3-0 Monday.
 The Knights 12-8-1 (3-3-1 NE8) tallied five hits in the game, two coming from leadoff hitter Delaney Connett. Leah Werling, Reese Frauhiger, and Kaydance Clark drove in runs on doubles.
 Starting pitcher Sami Lemler went the distance with a complete game shutout, throwing seven innings, allow-

ing four hits, and struck out three with no walks.
 Norwell will remain in NE8 action when the team travels to DeKalb at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 16.

Tigers win both boys & girls MS ACAC track

The Bluffton boys' and girls' middle school track teams swept the ACAC championship on Friday night.
 The event was held at Bluffton High School, where the Tigers were topped the seven schools in the conference.
 The boys' team won with a team score of 134. Woodlan finished second with 122, South Adams third with 113, Jay County fourth 76, Adams Central fifth 36, Southern Wells sixth 29, and Heritage seventh with 27.
 The girls won with a score of 154, followed by Jay County second with 89, South Adams third 81, Woodlan fourth 79, Southern Wells fifth 53, Heritage sixth 46, and Adams Central seventh with 34.

Top performances for the boys were:

- Parker Barnes second in the 110m hurdles with a time of 17.27 and second in the 200m hurdles with a time of 29.58.
- Eli Kerner first in the 400m with a time of 1:00.45 and Chase Kistler second with a time of 1:01.18.
- Aidan Graves second in the 800m with a time of 2:21.80.
- Conner Landis third in the discus with a throw of 100-7 and first in the shot put with a throw of 35-4.
- Dawson Lee second in the long jump with a jump of 17-3.
- Jonah Geisel third in the high jump with a jump of 5-1.
- Claghorn, White, Ryan Schlagenhauf, and Graves first in the 4x800m relay with a time of 8:55.69.
- Barnes Schlagenhauf, Lee, and Kerner second in the 4x100m relay with a time of 50.51.
- Graves, Schlagenhauf, Chase Kistler, and Kerner first in the 4x400m relay with a time of 4:10.63.

Top performers for the girls were:

- Briell Coratti third in the 100m with a time of 14.68.
- Cora Kunkel first in the 1600m with a time of 5:59.03.
- Addison Yates second in the 400m

with a time of 1:06.97, and Madelyn Funk third with a time of 1:09.29.

- Grace Fry second in the 800m with a time of 2:44.41.
- Averie Patton first in the 200m with a time of 29.55.
- Bridget Steffen first in the high jump with a jump of 4-4.
- Rori Drayer first in the shot put with a throw of 29-2.
- Alexandria Koby first in the discus with a throw of 82-5.50, and Drayer third with a throw of 70-4.
- Madelyn Funk first in the long jump with a jump of 14-5.25, and Yates second with a jump of 12-11.75.
- Kunkel, Ramseyer, Sonnigsen, and Fry first in the 4x800m relay with a time of 11:10.24.
- Patton, Kamryn Ault, Coratti, and Funk first in the 4x100m relay with a time of 56.53.
- Kunkel, Fry, Funk, and Yates first in the 4x400m relay with a time of 4:55.11.

Panthers top Raiders in softball

Southern Wells fell at home in softball against Lakewood Park 17-8 Friday.
 The loss brings the Raiders record to 5-18.
 Of the eight hits, Kyah Thomas, Raigen Tarr, and Jady Yencer led the team with two hits each. Maddy Sutton and Kenzie Paxson hit triples and drove in two runs. Yencer drove in two runs as well and stole two bases.
 Thomas got the loss, throwing two 2/3 innings and allowed 13 runs (two earned) and struck out three. Emma Parks threw three 1/3 innings of scoreless frames.
 Southern Wells will be at Wapahani at 5 p.m. Thursday, May 18.

Tigers fall in softball to Warriors

The Bluffton softball team fell at home against Wes-Del 15-2 Monday.
 The Tigers only had three hits in the game, one each by Cayah King, Konley Ault, and Isabella Stout. Ault had a double in the game and drove in the two runs for Bluffton, while Stout had a double of her own.
 Bluffton will be at New Haven starting at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 16.

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News-Banner Scoreboard

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

CONFERENCE FINALS
(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)
Eastern Conference
Boston vs. Miami
Wednesday, May 17: Miami at Boston, 8:30 p.m.
Friday, May 19: Miami at Boston, 8:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 21: Boston at Miami, 8:30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 23: Boston at Miami, 8:30 p.m.
x-Thursday, May 25: Miami at Boston, TBA
x-Saturday, May 27: Boston at Miami, TBA
x-Monday, May 29: Miami at Boston, TBA

Western Conference
Denver vs. L.A. Lakers
Tuesday, May 16: L.A. Lakers at Denver, 8:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 18: L.A. Lakers at Denver, 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 20: Denver at L.A. Lakers, 8:30 p.m.
x-Wednesday, May 24: L.A. Lakers at Denver, TBA
x-Friday, May 26: Denver at L.A. Lakers, TBA
x-Sunday, May 28: L.A. Lakers at Denver, TBA

American League

East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Tampa Bay	31	11	.738	
Baltimore	26	15	.634	4½
Toronto	24	17	.585	6½
New York	24	19	.558	7½
Boston	22	20	.524	9
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Minnesota	23	18	.561	
Cleveland	19	21	.475	3½
Detroit	18	21	.462	4
Chicago	14	28	.333	9½
Kansas City	12	30	.286	11½
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Texas	25	16	.610	
Houston	21	19	.525	3½
Los Angeles	22	20	.524	3½
Seattle	21	20	.512	4
Oakland	9	33	.214	16½

Sunday's Games
Cleveland 4, L.A. Angels 3
Pittsburgh 4, Baltimore 0
Tampa Bay 8, N.Y. Yankees 7
Detroit 5, Seattle 3
Toronto 6, Atlanta 5
Houston 4, Chicago White Sox 3
Milwaukee 9, Kansas City 6
Minnesota 16, Chicago Cubs 3
Texas 11, Oakland 3
St. Louis 9, Boston 1

Monday's Games
L.A. Angels 9, Baltimore 5
N.Y. Yankees 7, Toronto 4
Seattle 10, Boston 1
Atlanta 12, Texas 0
Chicago Cubs at Houston, 8:10 p.m.
Arizona at Oakland, 9:40 p.m.
Kansas City at San Diego, 9:40 p.m.
Minnesota at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.

Pittsburgh 4, Baltimore 0
Miami 3, Cincinnati 1
Toronto 6, Atlanta 5
Milwaukee 9, Kansas City 6
Minnesota 16, Chicago Cubs 3
Colorado 4, Philadelphia 0
L.A. Dodgers 4, San Diego 0
Arizona 2, San Francisco 1
N.Y. Mets 8, Washington 2, 2nd game
St. Louis 9, Boston 1

Monday's Games
Washington 10, N.Y. Mets 3
St. Louis 18, Milwaukee 1
Atlanta 12, Texas 0
Chicago Cubs at Houston, 8:10 p.m.
Cincinnati at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.
Arizona at Oakland, 9:40 p.m.
Kansas City at San Diego, 9:40 p.m.
Philadelphia at San Francisco, 9:45 p.m.
Minnesota at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.

Tuesday's Games
Pittsburgh (Ortiz 0-1) at Detroit (Lorenzen 1-2), 6:40 p.m.
Washington (Gray 3-5) at Miami (Luzardo 3-2), 6:40 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Beeks 1-2) at N.Y. Mets (Verlander 1-1), 7:10 p.m.
Milwaukee (Miley 3-2) at St. Louis (Montgomery 2-5), 7:45 p.m.
Atlanta (TBD) at Texas (Dunning 3-0), 8:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Steele 6-0) at Houston (Javier 3-1), 8:10 p.m.
Cincinnati (TBD) at Colorado (Anderson 0-0), 8:40 p.m.
Arizona (Henry 1-1) at Oakland (Muller 1-3), 9:40 p.m.
Kansas City (Singer 2-4) at San Diego (Lugo 3-2), 9:40 p.m.
Philadelphia (Wheeler 3-2) at San Francisco (Cobb 3-1), 9:45 p.m.
Minnesota (Ober 2-0) at L.A. Dodgers (Kershaw 6-2), 10:10 p.m.

Wednesday's Games
Pittsburgh at Detroit, 1:10 p.m.
Cincinnati at Colorado, 3:10 p.m.
Minnesota at L.A. Dodgers, 3:10 p.m.
Arizona at Oakland, 3:37 p.m.
Philadelphia at San Francisco, 3:45 p.m.
Kansas City at San Diego, 4:10 p.m.
Washington at Miami, 6:40 p.m.
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
Milwaukee at St. Louis, 7:45 p.m.
Atlanta at Texas, 8:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs at Houston, 8:10 p.m.

Burdi from Iowa. Optioned RHP Hayden Wesneski to Iowa. Transferred RHP Adrian Sampson from the 15-day IL to the 60-day IL.

CINCINNATI REDS — Selected the contract of INF Matt McLain from Louisville (IL). Placed LHP Brandon Williamson on the taxi squad. Placed OF T.J. Friedl on the 10-day IL, retroactive to May 12. Transferred 1B Joey Votto from the 15-day IL to the 60-day IL.

COLORADO ROCKIES — Selected the contract of LHP Fernando Abad from Albuquerque (PCL). Recalled INF/OF Michael Toglia from Albuquerque. Placed C.J. Cron on the 10-day IL. Placed RHP Nick Mears on the 15-day IL, retroactive to May 12. **MILWAUKEE BREWERS** — Placed 1B Luke Voit on the 10-day IL. Agreed to terms with 1B Darin Ruf. Transferred RHP Brandon Woodruff from the 15-day IL to the 60-day IL. Optioned RHP Colin Rea to Nashville (IL). Recalled RHP Trevor Megill from Nashville.

NEW YORK METS — Optioned LHP Zach Muckenhirn to Syracuse (IL). **SAN DIEGO PADRES** — Selected the contract of RHP Drew Carlton from El Paso (PCL). Optioned LHP Ryan Weathers to El Paso. Placed LHP Drew Pomeranz on the 60-day IL.

SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS — Reinstated OF Mike Yastrzemski from the 10-day IL. Placed OF Joe Pederson on the 10-day IL, retroactive to May 13.

WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Reinstated OF Corey Dickerson from the 10-day IL. Optioned INF/OF Jake Alu and RHP Cory Abbott to Rochester (IL).

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

SECOND ROUND
(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Florida 4, Toronto 1
Tuesday, May 2: Florida 4, Toronto 2
Thursday, May 4: Florida 3, Toronto 2
Sunday, May 7: Florida 3, Toronto 2, OT
Wednesday, May 10: Toronto 2, Florida 1
Friday, May 12: Florida 3, Toronto 2, OT
Carolina 4, New Jersey 1
Wednesday, May 3: Carolina 5, New Jersey 1
Friday, May 5: Carolina 6, New Jersey 1
Sunday, May 7: New Jersey 8, Carolina 4
Tuesday, May 9: Carolina 6, New Jersey 1
Thursday, May 11: Carolina 3, New Jersey 2, OT

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Vegas 4, Edmonton 2
Wednesday, May 3: Vegas 6, Edmonton 4
Saturday, May 6: Edmonton 5, Vegas 1
Monday, May 8: Vegas 5, Edmonton 1
Wednesday, May 10: Edmonton 4, Vegas 1
Friday, May 12: Vegas 4, Edmonton 3
Sunday, May 14: Vegas 5, Edmonton 2
Dallas 4, Seattle 3
Tuesday, May 2: Seattle 5, Dallas 4, OT
Thursday, May 4: Dallas 4, Seattle 2
Sunday, May 7: Seattle 7, Dallas 2
Tuesday, May 9: Dallas 6, Seattle 3
Thursday, May 11: Dallas 5, Seattle 2
Saturday, May 13: Seattle 6, Dallas 3
Monday, May 15: Dallas 2, Seattle 1

CONFERENCE FINALS
(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Carolina vs. Florida
Thursday, May 18: Florida at Carolina, 8 p.m.
Florida at Carolina, TBA
Carolina at Florida, TBA
Carolina at Florida, TBA
x-Florida at Carolina, TBA
x-Carolina at Florida, TBA
x-Florida at Carolina, TBA

National League

East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Atlanta	26	15	.634	
Philadelphia	20	20	.500	5½
Miami	20	21	.488	6
New York	20	22	.476	6½
Washington	18	23	.439	8
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Milwaukee	23	18	.561	
Pittsburgh	22	19	.537	½
Chicago	19	21	.475	3½
Cincinnati	18	22	.450	4½
St. Louis	17	25	.405	6½
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Los Angeles	26	15	.634	
Arizona	23	18	.561	½
San Diego	19	22	.463	7
San Francisco	17	23	.425	8½
Colorado	17	24	.415	9

Sunday's Games
Washington 3, N.Y. Mets 2, 1st game

TRANSACTIONS

Monday's Transactions
BASEBALL
Major League Baseball
American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLAS — Recalled RHP Logan Gillespie from Norfolk (IL). Optioned OF Kyle Stowers to Norfolk.
BOSTON RED SOX — Reinstated LHP Joely Rodriguez from the 15-day IL. Designated RHP Ryan Brasier for assignment.
HOUSTON ASTROS — Signed C Garrett Wolforth to a minor league contract.
LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Reinstated C Chad Wallach from the 7-day IL. Placed 3B Anthony Rendon on the 10-day IL, retroactive to May 14. Recalled SS Livan Soto from Rocket City (SL). Optioned C Chris Okey to Salt Lake (PCL).
OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Reinstated RHP Adrian Martinez from the 15-day IL. Optioned RHP Zach Neal to Las Vegas (PCL). Sent RHP Spencer Patton outright to Las Vegas.
TAMPA BAY RAYS — Reinstated RHP Pete Fairbanks from the 15-day IL. Optioned RHP Chris Muller to Durham (IL).
TEXAS RANGERS — Selected the contract of LHP Cody Bradford from Round Rock (PCL). Optioned RHP Yerry Rodriguez to Round Rock.
National League
ATLANTA BRAVES — Claimed RHP Derek Rodriguez off waivers from Minnesota. Transferred RHP Kyle Wright from the 15-day IL to the 60-day IL.
CHICAGO CUBS — Recalled RHP Jeremiah Estrada from Iowa (IL). Placed RHP Brad Boxberger on the 15-day IL, retroactive to May 14. Selected the contract of RHP Nick

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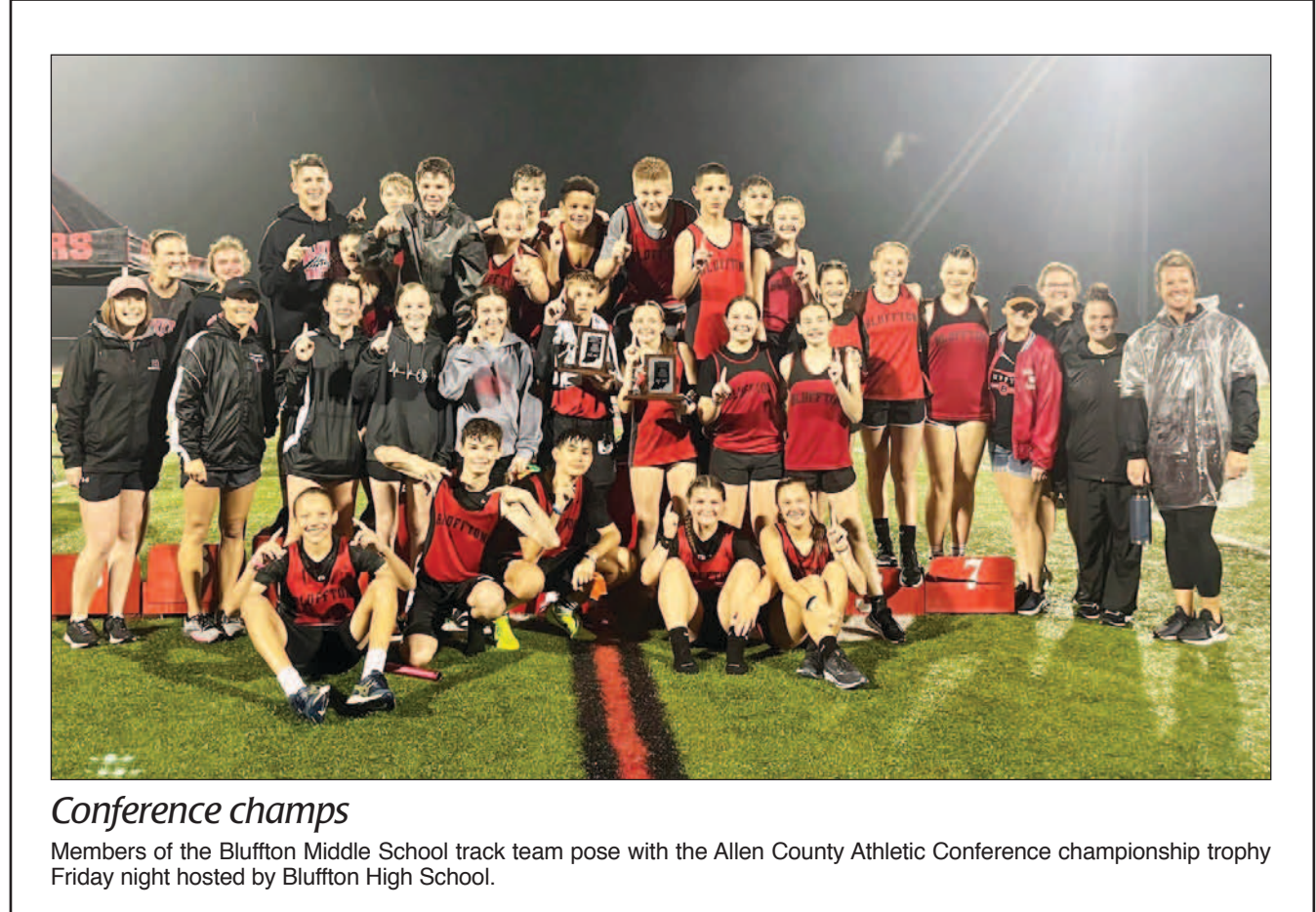
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Conference champs
Members of the Bluffton Middle School track team pose with the Allen County Athletic Conference championship trophy Friday night hosted by Bluffton High School.



Runner's up
Members of the 12U Indiana Lady Bandit's softball team pose with their second-place medals at the On Turf Mother's Day tournament on Sunday. (Photo provided)

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Biden plan to sell land leases for conservation gets pushback

By **MATTHEW BROWN**
Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — Biden administration officials on Monday sought to dispel worries they want to exclude oil drilling, livestock grazing and other activities from vast government-owned lands, as they faced pushback from Republicans and ranchers and over a contentious proposal to put conservation on equal footing with industry.

The proposal would allow conservationists and others to lease federally owned land to restore it, much the same way oil companies buy leases to drill and ranchers pay to graze cattle. Leases also could be bought on behalf of companies such as oil drillers who want to offset damage to public land by restoring acreage elsewhere.

But more than a century after the U.S. started selling grazing permits and oil and gas leases, the proposal is stirring debate over the best use of public land, primarily in the West. Opponents including Republican lawmakers and agriculture industry representatives are blasting it as a backdoor way to exclude mining, energy development and agriculture.

Tracy Stone-Manning, director of the Bureau of Land Management, told The Associated the proposed changes address rising pressure from climate change and development. She said it would make conservation an “equal” to grazing, drilling and other uses while not interfering with them.

The bureau has a history of industry-friendly policies for the 380,000 square miles it oversees, an area more

than twice the size of California. It also regulates publicly owned underground minerals, including oil, coal and lithium for renewable energy across more than 1 million square miles.

Those holdings put the agency at the center of arguments over how much development should be allowed.

Senior bureau officials on Monday night hosted the first virtual public meeting about the conservation proposal. There was no opportunity for public comment, and questions for officials were screened by the agency. But officials acknowledged receiving numerous queries about grazing and drilling potentially being excluded.

Brian St. George, acting assistant director for the bureau, said the conserva-

tion leases would not “lock up land in perpetuity.”

“It would have a term, and when that restoration goal is met, the term would lapse,” he said.

U.S. Sen. John Barrasso, a Wyoming Republican who tried to block Stone-Manning’s 2021 Senate confirmation, says the proposed rule is illegal.

Earlier this month he berated Interior Secretary Deb Haaland over it during an Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing, saying she was “giving radicals a new tool to shut out the public.”

“The secretary wants to make non-use a use,” said Barrasso, the ranking Republican on the committee. “She is ... turning federal law on its head.”

Stone-Manning told the AP that critics were mis-

reading the rule, and that conservation leases would not usurp existing ones. If grazing is now permitted on a parcel, it could continue. And people could still hunt on the leased property or use it for recreation, she said.

“It makes conservation an equal among the multiple uses that we manage for,” Stone-Manning said. “There are rules around how we do solar development. There are rules around how we do oil and gas. There have not been rules around how we deliver on the portions of (federal law) that say, ‘Manage for fish and wildlife habitat, manage for clean water.’”

Democratic U.S. Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto of Nevada — where the federal land bureau controls about two thirds of the land — urged the administration to work with ranchers and

farmers before finalizing the proposal, which the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association said would “upend” land management in the West.

While the bureau previously issued leases for conservation in limited cases, it has never had a dedicated program for it.

Former President Donald Trump tried to ramp up fossil fuel development on bureau lands, but President Joe Biden suspended new oil and gas leasing when he entered office. Biden later revived the deals to win West Virginia Democratic Sen. Joe Manchin’s support for last year’s climate law.

Biden remains under intense pressure from Manchin and many Republicans to allow more drilling. Such companies currently hold leases across some 37,500 square miles of bureau land.

Native Americans seek accountability for remains identified at Dartmouth

By **MICHAEL CASEY**
Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — As a citizen of the Quapaw Nation, Ahnili Johnson-Jennings has always seen Dartmouth College as the university for Native American students.

Her father graduated from the school, founded in 1769 to educate Native Americans, and she had come to rely on its network of students, professors and administrators. But news that the Ivy League school in New Hampshire identified partial skeletal remains of 15 Native Americans in one of its collections has Johnson-Jennings and others reassessing that relationship.

“It’s hard to reconcile. It’s hard to see the college in this old way where they were taking Native remains and using them for their own benefit,” said Johnson-Jennings, a senior and co-president of Native Americans at Dartmouth.

The remains were used to teach a class as recently as last year, until an audit concluded they had been wrongly catalogued as not Native. Native American students were briefed on the discovery in March.

“It was very upsetting to hear, especially when you’ve just felt so supported by a school and they’ve had that secret that maybe no one knew about, but still, to some sense, was a secret,” Johnson-Jennings said.

Dartmouth is among a growing list of universities,

DeSantis curtails diversity, inclusion programs in state colleges

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis on Monday signed a bill that blocks public colleges from using federal or state funding on diversity programs, addressing a concern of conservatives ahead of the Republican governor’s expected presidential candidacy.

The law, which DeSantis proposed earlier this year, comes as Republicans across the country target programs on diversity, equity and inclusion in higher education.

The signing builds on the governor’s larger push to shape Florida’s education system through regulating how schools deal with subjects such as race and gender, with DeSantis arguing that he is challenging inappropriate liberal ideology in the classroom.

DeSantis, who is expected to announce his presidential run in the coming weeks, has focused heavily on divisive cultural issues as he moves to win over the conservative voters who typically decide Republican primary elections.

Diversity, equity and inclusion offices in higher education often spearhead services tailored to students of various races, genders, sexual orientations, cultures and abilities. Some college administrators also consider so-called DEI factors when admitting students, providing scholarships or deciding which faculty to hire and promote.

museums and other institutions wrestling with how best to handle Native American remains and artifacts in their collections, and with what these discoveries say about their past policies regarding Native communities.

Until the 20th century, archeologists, anthropologists, collectors and curiosity seekers took Native remains and sacred objects during expeditions on tribal lands. Some remains, including Native skulls, were sought after in the name of science. Bodies were collected by government agencies after battles with tribes. Museums wanted them to enhance their collections, and academic institutions relied on Native bones as teaching tools.

“One-hundred years ago, it was OK for a professor, for an alumni to go into the lands of a Native community and dig up their ancestors,” said professor Jeremy DeSilva, a paleoanthropologist and chairman of Dartmouth’s anthropology department.

“It’s amazing that folks didn’t recognize how harmful that was,” he continued.

For Native tribes, the loss of the remains and cultural items still inflicts significant pain. The remains, most believe, are imbued with the spirit of the ancestor to whom they belong and are connected to living citizens of those tribes.

Tribes could go to court or negotiate with an institution for remains to be repa-

triated. But it wasn’t until the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, or NAGPRA, in 1990 that a process was created for their return. It requires federally funded institutions, including universities, to return remains and funerary items to rightful communities.

More than three decades later, some 884,000 Native American artifacts — including nearly 102,000 human remains — are still held by colleges, museums and other institutions, according to data maintained by the National Park Service.

Critics complain that many institutions move too slowly, invoking an exception in NAGPRA for

remains they label as culturally unidentifiable. That puts the burden on tribes to prove the remains are their ancestors, an expense many can’t afford.

Dartmouth has repatriated skeletal remains of 10 Native Americans along with 36 burial objects since

1995. The NAGPRA database says the 15 sets of skeletal remains and 46 “associated funerary objects” were taken from counties in Alaska, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, California and Florida. It lists the geographic origin of two sets of remains as unknown.

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All About Health

Keep your mind agile, your gait steady; reverse Type 2 diabetes

QI’m 58, and I feel as though I can’t juggle as much as I used to. My daughter even joked the other day that she wondered if I could chew gum and cross the street at the same time! What’s going on?

-- Lawrence D., Dallas

AThe ability to do dual tasks, such as walking and talking or walking and problem solving, is a function of cognition and the brain processes that support it. But for many people, the ability to have a smoothly functioning “dual-task gait” begins to decline around age 55. One of the results is that trying to do two things, such as walking and talking, can compromise balance and increase the risk of falls. Loss of a coordinated “walk-and-talk” can also be a sign of developing cognitive impairment.

In a new study published in The Lancet-Healthy Aging, researchers asked healthy folks aged 40 to 64 to walk and perform a mental arithmetic task at the same time. They observed that there were signs of changes in participants’ gait around the mid-50s. What’s going on? The researchers say that having to do two tasks at once stresses the brain’s motor control system and a person’s gait becomes unsteady.

This is not inevitable. Doing speed of processing games such as Double Decision and Freeze Frame -- starting at any age, even when much younger -- can keep the brain’s ability to multitask in good shape. One study

found that doing such games for just 18 hours over 10 years decreased the risk for dementia by 45%. Another showed that when 73 to 83-year-olds did speed of processing exercises for five weeks, they reduced their cognitive deficits by 33%! And a study out of Massachusetts General Hospital found that as many people age, they lose 5% of their IQ yearly -- but 25% of people who regularly did speed of processing games and got physical activity didn’t experience that loss. So enjoy the games -- they are fun. You’ll see results.

QI’ve been diagnosed with prediabetes, and I want to make sure that I reverse it so I don’t have to contend with the health problems diabetes creates. What are the best steps to take? -- Lajune R., Lexington, Kentucky

AI’m so glad that you asked that question, because it’s very important to understand that simply reversing prediabetes by getting your glucose numbers back in a normal range with medication is not enough to protect your health and longevity.

A new study in JAMA Network Open looked at the outcomes of reversing prediabetes for almost 46,000 folks with the condition and found that people who were able to achieve normal glucose levels over three years didn’t achieve a lower risk of death than folks who had persistent prediabetes, EXCEPT ... people who returned their glucose levels to normal

and were physically active, they increased their longevity significantly.

Prediabetes has serious health complications, including increased risk for heart disease and stroke. And diabetes increases those risks. At age 50, life expectancy is six years shorter for people with Type 2 diabetes than for people without it.

Approximately 25% of folks with prediabetes will develop diabetes in three to five years, and as many as 70% of those with prediabetes will progress to diabetes at some point. But you have a chance to stop that progression. It takes work, but the rewards are great. So, here’s your plan: get active, eat better, reduce stress, improve sleep and stay connected socially.

-- Aim for 30-90 minutes of activity including moderate and (briefly) intense aerobics five to seven days a week and strength training twice weekly.

-- Go for a plant-based diet, free of highly processed foods, added sugars, red and processed meats, and enjoy healthy fats like extra virgin olive oil and fish like salmon and trout.

-- Practice stress-reducing exercises like meditation and yoga; get seven to eight hours of sleep nightly.

-- Create a posse of supportive friends and family.

-- Stay engaged and caring in your community.

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

Breaking down the SCOTUS opinion upholding Prop 12

By AMANDA ZALUCKY,
The Farmer's Daughter
USA, AGDAILY

Late last week, the Supreme Court of the United States released its opinion in the National Pork Producers Council v. Ross case based on California's Prop 12. It's one of the biggest agriculture-related cases in quite some time. Given the high court's recent appointments, it was hard to anticipate how the court would rule on this case. Unfortunately, though maybe not surprisingly (am I too cynical now?), farmers didn't win this round.

So what happened and how do we move forward? Luckily, dear reader, I read the entire 58-page opinion so I can help you make sense of it all.

Background

California voters approved Prop 12 in 2018. The law mandates certain housing requirements for veal, calves, breeding pigs, and egg-laying hens. In short, the law requires that farmers keep these animals in minimum-size housing, regardless of current practices or other considerations for good animal husbandry. If these products are sold in the state, then the farmers raising them have to comply — no matter where their farm is located.

The National Pork Producers Council and the American Farm Bureau

Federation thought this law ran counter to the Dormant Commerce Clause. More specifically, one state can't pass laws that burden producers across the entire country. Rather it can only impose regulatory burdens on its own citizens. This legal theory is a pretty old one, but not one that's often invoked.

The two major ag organizations felt there was a decent shot they might be able to win this one, and so they decided to sue California. The case finally made its way to SCOTUS.

The opinion

The first thing that sticks out to me is that the high court's justices were all over the place. The opinion was broken into a number of parts, with the various judges teaming up to join, concur, or consent to each one. And contrary to what our mainstream media and politicians want you to think, there was no conservative side or liberal side; everyone was just jumbled up.

The other thing that's immediately apparent is that Justice Neil Gorsuch, who drafted the court's opinion, closes its introduction by stating, "[w]hile the Constitution addresses many weighty issues, the type of pork chops California merchants may sell is not on that list." He also seemed to criticize NPPC and AFBF by suggesting the lawsuit

was really about their "preferred way of doing business."

The court's opinion hinges on an analysis of whether the state law in question "discriminates" against out-of-state businesses. If so, then the law violates the Dormant Commerce Clause. If not, then it doesn't matter and the inquiry is ended. For example, if California's law placed a tax on any pork produced out of the state, then it's unfairly discriminating against those producers.

It's a very narrow reading of the Dormant Commerce Clause. Gorsuch seems quite eager to clarify that any other interpretation of the Dormant Commerce Clause's applicability just isn't feasible. He insists that the legal precedent always comes back to the question of discrimination, even when the cases say something different. And if NPPC and AFBF thought otherwise? Well, he argues, that's just because they're trying to read former SCOTUS opinions too closely.

This is, arguably, the most frustrating part about SCOTUS. Sometimes the justices' opinions swear they're adhering to legal precedent and it's clear either they aren't, or they're twisting old cases in such a way to fit they're current position. I guess that's



Pigs raised at an organic farm in Hudson, New York. (Image courtesy of Preston Keres, USDA)

the practice of law, but the cockiness I read in this opinion is frustrating. That's how we get gems like this:

While this Court has left the "courtroom door open" to challenges premised on "even nondiscriminatory burdens," Davis, 553 U. S., at 353, and while "a small number of our cases have invalidated state laws . . . that appear to have been genuinely nondiscriminatory," Tracy, 519 U. S., at 298, n. 12.2 petitioners' claim falls well outside Pike's heartland. That is not an auspicious start.

In other words, there are some cases out there that support your position,

but we're not going in that direction.

Now I don't say that to suggest the opinion isn't well reasoned, doesn't have sound arguments, or it's disingenuous. I'm certainly not a constitutional scholar (I doubt my two semesters of constitutional law qualify), and I won't pretend to be. But remember that SCOTUS affirmed the lower court's decision. So it wasn't entirely necessary for it to weigh in; the justices wanted to get involved. In other words, they don't get involved because the legal precedent is so obvious and clear cut.

Where does this leave us?

It's clear that the Dormant Commerce Clause is, at least for now, dead. The only application is state laws that very clearly discriminate against out-of-state businesses. Any state can pass any law that imposes extra burdens on similar businesses in other states. And if you're a state like California, which commands a large market share, that gives you a lot of power to influence producers across the country.

This isn't what I expected when the court agreed to hear the case. But here we are. It means that going forward, we have to fight this battle on a different turf.

Research: Insight into how grazing strategy impacts cattle

By HEIDI CRNKOVIC, AGDAILY

Rotational or continuous grazing? Which system allows for more sustainable and profitable free-range livestock production?

Ranchers often rotate cattle seasonally among different pastures on their operations but may allow cattle to graze season-long in a single pasture. Implementing a more intensive rotational system within the growing season — dividing the pasture into smaller areas, or paddocks, and shifting a herd of animals throughout the season — has been suggested to offer a greater chance for more sustainable grazing management. However, few experimental studies have tested these ideas in extensive grazing systems.

A team of researchers at the USDA's Agricultural Research Service is completing a 10-year study on how grazing practices in these two systems affect cattle foraging behavior, diet quality, and yearly weight gain in semi-arid, extensive rangelands.

The team started by exploring the efficiency of using cattle global positioning system tracking collars and activity sensors to monitor the animals' grazing activities.

"The primary objective of the study was using the sensors to measure the steers' foraging behavior and relate this to how they are gaining weight," said David Augustine, a research ecologist with the ARS Rangeland Resources & Systems Research in Colorado.

The collars collected precise data based on the animals' feeding habits per day, such as how much time was spent grazing every day, how many steps were taken (grazing speed), the shape of the foraging pathways, and how long each animal lowered their head as a sign of eating (representing the length of meals).

Even though the accuracy of the application is still being refined, results showed that the technology could inform livestock managers about animal distribution and foraging behaviors of free-ranging cattle in extensive rangelands. Monitoring foraging behavior contin-

ously, in turn, allows managers to make more timely decisions on how, when, and where to move cattle within their operation or to sell cattle at optimal times.

The researchers then applied the same technology in a range-scale experiment where steers were either divided into smaller herds in the paddocks of a non-rotational (season-long) grazing system or managed as a single large herd in a multi-paddock rotational system (using a collaborative and adaptive rangeland management approach). The first five years of data showed that the rotationally managed cattle gained, on average, 14 percent less weight than cattle in the season-long management system.

"Cattle did not have as much freedom to roam and be more selective on what to eat, so they ended up eating what was available in front of them, which was lower quality forages with less protein, and they gained less weight as a result. These behaviors were directly correlated to the average of 14 percent reduction in steer weight gain in the multi-paddock rotating system compared to the non-rotational continuous system," explained Augustine.

The study showed herds in the multi-paddock rotating system feeding in more linear pathways instead of moving around looking for greener grass and selecting bites of more digestible vegetation. They also fed slower, spent more time on the same patch of grass, and didn't turn their heads around much while feeding, compared with steers in the continuous grazing system. These behaviors of less selective foraging resulted in a lower diet quality, reducing weight gain during the growing season.

Results, published in Agriculture, Ecosystems, and Environment, show that large herds grazing in small, homogenous paddocks have little opportunity to move around in ways that let them feed on a high-quality diet.

The collaborative experiment was conducted at the Central Plains Experimental Range, an ARS Long-term agroecosystem research network site in Colorado.

AFBF increases pressure, calling for milk marketing hearing

By AGDAILY

The American Farm Bureau Federation continues pushing the U.S. Department of Agriculture to accept the petition of the National Milk Producers Federation for what many producers call a long-overdue comprehensive Federal Milk Marketing Order hearing. AFBF says that the hearing will ensure that consumers can access fresh milk and dairy products while protecting dairy farmers from potentially harmful market conditions.

In a letter sent to the USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, which oversees the FMMO program, AFBF President Zippy

Duvall not only calls on the USDA to hold a hearing on FMMO reform but also asks the department to go further than a recent NMPF petition by asking for mandatory, audited surveys of dairy processors to be used when determining the make allowances factored into dairy pricing. The letter indicates the USDA's authority to conduct a mandatory audit under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act.

"You and I both understand the ongoing financial hardships faced by U.S. dairy farm families and the fact that modernization of outdated elements of the FMMO system is long overdue to maintain confidence

and trust by its participants," reads the letter.

AFBF holds that this change and the need for additional reforms were part of a farmer consensus formed at the AFBF-hosted FMMO Forum held in Kansas City, Missouri, last October.

"We appreciate Secretary Vilsack's call for the industry to align around recommendations, and in direct response, we gathered hundreds of dairy farmers from every corner of the country who were joined by cooperative leaders, processors, the USDA, and other active industry participants to discuss milk pricing issues productively and respectfully," Duvall wrote in the letter.

BASF Safety Scouts farm safety program launches in the U.S.

By AGDAILY

BASF has launched the BASF Safety Scouts program for U.S. farm families.

The BASF Safety Scouts program supports children in learning about the value and importance of farm safety by providing safety kits to families free of charge. The kits contain a high-visibility safety vest, educational activities, and more, and encourage participants to take on the role of their farm's safety ambassador — an interactive and fun way to engage in learning about farm safety.

The BASF Safety Scouts program offers two kits. The Safety "Scout" kit is designed for children 6 years of age and younger while the Safety "Captain" kit activities are geared for children 7 and older and promote additional safety tasks, including working with an adult to choose a designated "Safety Spot" muster point on the farm.

This spring, the BASF Safety Scouts program will provide 2,000 kits to farm families throughout the U.S. free of charge, while supplies last.

"BASF is committed to advocating for and prioritizing farm safety year-round," says Andrea McConnell, Manager of Customer Solutions at BASF Canada Agricultural Solutions. "For our grower customers, retail and industry partners, there is nothing more important than the safety of the people who work on their farms and

agricultural operations."

"Farmers go to work every day doing the biggest job on earth. We take great pride in supporting the next generation of farmers

through the BASF Safety Scouts program designed to support farms to be safer and healthier places for all to live, work and play," McConnell adds.

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Husband keeps convincing me of his lies

Dear Annie: I will have been married for 22 years this September, and we have been together for 26 years. But I recently discovered that for the past three years, my husband was talking to another woman in secret. I found evidence in texting voicemails and even a recording showing that they were at a casino once. I mean, if I would have taken all that to court, a judge would honestly tell me he's cheating on you, but my husband convinced me otherwise. He swore up and down there was nothing between them; he swore up and down that nothing sexual happened between them, and he told me that at that time he was attracted to her for a while but nothing happened between them.

He's a great guy because he always puts me and my kids first in life, but we also have a sex problem. He hasn't slept with me for years. I mean, nothing. After all we went through, I heard two more voice messages, and there was a selfie picture of her on his phone, and of course he had an excuse for both.

In addition to those things, there were other signs that he was not acting like himself. So I put GPS in his car to track his car rides. One night he told me he was meeting with his friends, but the GPS showed that he went over to her house. Once again, he swears up and down that he did not see her. He met at her house with a male friend.

How am I supposed to believe that? He has been going there for at least 10 to 20 minutes every night, and this is after he promised me he would never go there or even down that street. It's always lie after lie. I don't trust him anymore.

He keeps telling me he loves me and I'm the only one for him and he can't be without me. But when we are together, and he touches me, I can't help but wonder if he has done the same thing with her.

The worst part of the problem is that I still love him. I can't live without him. What do I do? — Lost Girl

Dear Lost Girl: There is nothing lost about you; in fact, you just found yourself in a very hurtful relationship. What your husband is doing to you is not fair. He is being a coward by not fessing up to you that he is cheating. If you truly believe that — and it sure sounds like it — then I encourage both of you to seek marriage counseling immediately. If he refuses and does not want to, then you go for yourself.

Once trust is gone, it takes both partners coming clean with each other honestly and wanting to work on their relationship. Tracking his location is a form of not trusting him, but it sounds like you had good reasons.

"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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Dear Annie by Annie Lane



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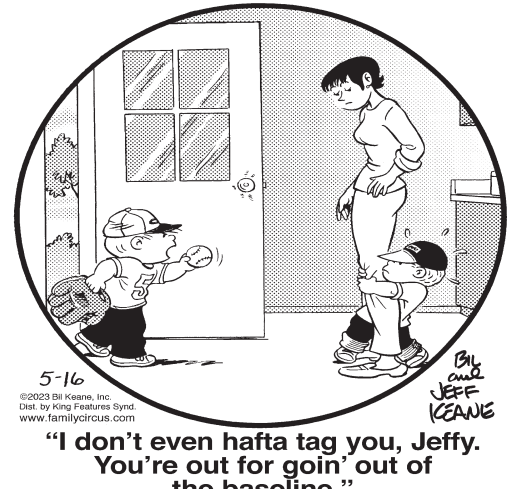
CRANKSHAFT



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

The LOCKHORNS



My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



Just says much about material things

Q: My circle of friends is diverse; some wealthy, others brilliant, and a few of us are average but content — we enjoy volunteering to ministry outreaches. Those considered "successful" say I haven't reached my potential because I don't have a big home, a fancy car, or an ideal job. Is money God's outward blessing on a person's life? — A.J.

A: If people get their attitudes right toward money, it will help straighten out almost every other area of life. This is why Jesus spoke about money and said, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (Mark 12:17).

Though His Gospel is spiritual, Jesus had much to say about material things, because there's always a relationship between the two. Grace and gold are inseparably bound up together. As long as God's kingdom is upon Earth, money is closely tied to our spiritual lives, but it should never be above the things of God. This is why the Bible says, "The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil" (1 Timothy 6:10).

The chief motive of the selfish person is "to get." The chief motive of the dedicated Christian should be "to give." The Prodigal Son set off a series of negative events marked for failure when he said to his father, "Give me the portion of goods that falls to me" (Luke 15:12). But Jesus

said, "Give, and it shall be given." It's a promise, and we know that Jesus never breaks His promises. His blessings come in many ways, not necessarily in financial terms. Christian joy is completely independent of health, money, or surroundings.

The Lord also says, "Give, and it will be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over" (Luke 6:38). This leads to living an abundant life that is promised to God's people.

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

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Table with columns for time slots (5 PM to 12:30 AM) and rows for various TV channels (WJMN, FOX, NBC, etc.) listing programs.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words, and a solution time of 22 mins.

Grid for the crossword puzzle solution, with numbers 1 through 46 indicating starting positions.

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SUDOKU

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

King Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty: ★★

5/16

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FRENCH BULLDOG PUPPIES 3females,3 males.Colors - blue Merle,black brindle, blue brindle and blue.Facebook-Perfect French bulldogs 260-307-3490 angela46992@yahoo.com <https://m.facebook.com/groups/281436650673060/?ref=share&mibextid=S66gvF>

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NOTICE

Notices

HAVING AN UPCOMING event? A 20 word, line classified for six days is only \$24.50. Add a border for an additional \$1 or a graphic for an additional \$5. Contact the Bluffton News-Banner, 125 N. Johnson St., 260-824-0224, or submit online at www.news-banner.com and click on classifieds.

REAL ESTATE

Home For Sale

5 BEDROOM, 2 bath, Poneto home, 2+ acres, several out-buildings, many updates, Southern Wells School District, \$325,000, 260-273-1607.

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted

THE CITY OF Bluffton Street Department has an opening for a Laborer. The minimum educational requirement is a high school diploma or equivalent. Applications and a job description may be obtained in the Clerk Treasurer's Office, 128 East Market Street, Bluffton, IN from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday or on the City website, www.blufftonindiana.net

Help Wanted



LENGERICH MEATS IS looking for a motivated and reliable individual with great attention to detail to join our team. The position is for general labor starting at \$15.00/hr. Send your resume to Lengerich@frontier.com or stop in and fill out an application.

THE CITY OF Bluffton is accepting applications for a paid internship at the Animal Shelter. Applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent. The City of Bluffton utilizes E-Verify and follows EEOC guidelines. Applications may be obtained from the Clerk Treasurer's Office, 128 E. Market St, Bluffton, IN Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or online www.blufftonindiana.net. Deadline for applications is May 19, 2023.

HELOISE HINT: As the workplace continues to change and adapt. Be open to more flexible schedules and more responsibilities that can land you the new job you want. Email HELOISE@Heloise.com.

Lottery Numbers

Monday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY
Cash 5 — 02-04-05-16-39

Cash4Life — 01-06-20-46-54, Cash Ball: 04

Quick Draw Midday — 02-07-09-10-18-21-26-29-32-39-43-47-50-51-55-56-58-75-77-78, BE: 02

Daily Three-Midday — 07-09-02, SB: 08

Daily Three-Evening — 00-02-09, SB: 01

Daily Four-Midday — 01-02-09-03, BE: 08

Daily Four-Evening — 04-09-02-05, SB: 01

Quick Draw Evening — 03-06-09-11-12-14-19-21-24-30-31-32-45-46-65-67-68-71-76-79, BE: 31

Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$17.2 million

MEGA MILLIONS Estimated jackpot (for Tuesday): \$113 million

POWERBALL Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$135 million

Place a three day garage sale line classified ad and receive a free garage sale kit!

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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.**, 260-724-3499, heartlandauctionrealty.com.

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! Pick up May 22, 3-6 p.m., 139 Riverside Ct., Decatur. **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 advertising, 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, TheSteffenGroup.com, www.steffengrp.com.

MAY 27-JUNE 3 - (Online Only Auction) - Schwartz, seller. Great collection of vintage car parts, Ford tractor, dump trailer, Bobcat backhoe & tracts, 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.](http://TheSteffenGroup.com), 260-824-3006.

JUNE 6 - 7 p.m. EST - Estate of Ida Hilty, Phillip 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.

This Week's Garage Sales
Clip & Save

MULTI FAMILY GARAGE sale, Thurs. & Fri. 8-? Sat. 8-noon, 1158 N 450 E, Bluffton. 30 designer purses & billfolds, Vera Bradley luggage, bags & more, household items, shoes, outdoor items, desk, up to size 5 boys clothes, up to size 12 girls clothes, adult clothes & Harley Davidson.

WOODLANDS, 2430 SUMMERWOOD Ct., Wednesday and Thursday 9-3, Friday, 9-noon. Tools, clothing, household items, power equipment, etc.

HELOISE HINT: Going to offer larger items in your garage sale? If that includes couches or chairs, you can use them to display other smaller items like pillows, quilts, teddy bears and throws. Write to Heloise, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001.

SUDOKU ANSWER

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

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