By SYDNEY KENT

tions lasting until past

10 p.m. Tuesday evening, a Fort Wayne

man was found guilty

on all sixteen charges

against him related to

the sexual solicitation,

misconduct, and pro-

After jury delibera-

Entertainment Guide

will put on 2 shows

Barracudas begin season with win

Page 1a

Creative Arts Theater

BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection

Fort Wayne man found guilty of child molestation



Brian Vanauken

Charges are related to a 2021 traffic stop

Page 3

motion of trafficking of a minor. Brian Randy Vanauken, 41, was found guilty on three counts of child molesting, all Level 1 felonies, one count of promotion of sexual trafficking, a Level 3 felony; one count of sexual misconduct with a minor, a Level 4 felony; six counts of child solicitation, all Level 4 felonies; and five counts of child solicitation, all Level 5 felonies.

The charges are related to a traffic stop

from July of 2021 when Bluffton police officer Bradley Carlson pulled over a black BMW after noticing the vehicle was weaving within its lane.

Carlson spoke with the male driver, whom he discovered was not legally old enough to operate the vehicle. Vanauken was reportedly the passenger in the front seat of the car.

The victim and Vanauken were separated for questioning, where officers discovered discrepancies and concerns with several answers to questions, such as how the two met.

Vanauken was held on a charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Upon his arrest, an officer found a small container of marijuana tucked in one of his socks. Because of that, he was also charged with possession of marijuana, a Class A misdemeanor.

Vanauken's cell phone was seized and a search warrant was obtained for the phone (Continued on Page 2)



A night at Kehoe

Friday night marked the opening concert for Bluffton Parks and Recreation's free summer concert series. Opening the season was Simply Queen, a Queen cover band out of Canada. Above, the lead singer Rick Rock sings at the piano, on drums is Phil Charrette, and on bass Mitch Taylor. Concert goers had the opportunity to buy food and snacks from Sweet Creations and Yergy's, while 2 Pour Guys served adult bevrages. (Photos at top and bottom by Holly Gaskill, photos at right by







Trump stored, refused to return classified documents

By ERIC TUCKER. JILL COLVIN, ALANNA DURKIN RICHER and LINDSAY WHITEHURST

Associated Press MIAMI (AP) - Donald Trump improperly stored in his Florida estate sensitive documents on nuclear capabilities, repeatedly enlisted aides and lawyers to help him hide records demanded by investigators and cavalierly showed off a Pentagon "plan of attack" and classified map, according to a sweeping felony indictment that paints a damning portrait of the former president's treatment of national security information.

The conduct alleged in the historic indictment — the first federal case against a former president cuts to the heart of any president's responsibility to safeguard the government's most valuable secrets. Prosecutors say the documents he stowed, refused to return and in some cases showed to visitors risked jeopardizing not only relations with foreign nations but also the safety of troops and confidential sources.

"Our laws that protect national defense information are critical to the safety and security of the United States and they must be enforced," Jack Smith, the Justice Department special counsel who filed the case, said in his first public statements. "Violations of those (Continued on Page 2)

Local man recovered from pond identified

A Bluffton's man's body was recovered from a local pond Thursday evening.

By Friday afternoon, the body was identified as Shane Bailey, 53, Bluffton.

In a press release on Friday, Bluffton Police Chief Kyle Randall said the Bluffton Police Department received a report of a possible body in the 700 block of North Main Street at approximately 7:12 p.m. on Thursday. There were no immediate signs of foul

The investigation is still ongo-

The Bluffton Fire Department, Wells County EMS, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, and Wells County Coroner's Officer assisted in the report.

McCarthy eyes panel to tackle

By KEVIN FREKING **Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) House Speaker Kevin McCarthy is studying the history books and considering the appointment of a mix of lawmakers and business leaders as he lays the groundwork for a new commission to tackle the nation's growing debt.

McCarthy is fresh off his biggest political victory since becoming speaker in January. He got the White House to negotiate on a bill that suspends the debt ceiling into January 2025 while also producing a projected \$1.5 trillion in deficit savings over the coming decade. But the legislation only focused on a sliver of the federal spending that occurs each year and excluded programs such as Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid that account for the majority of government spending and are the biggest drivers of the debt.

McCarthy has embraced the idea of establishing a new fiscal commission to find additional deficit reduction. While similar commissions have notched success in the past, the most recent ones failed to muster enough support for Congress to take up their recommendations. The speaker has asked Rep. Garret Graves, R-La., to work with

(Continued on Page 2)

Local/Area

Obituaries.....3 Police Notebook . . . 3

Opinion Saturday Sub 4

Also... Sports. 1a-2a Classifieds 4a Diversions 3a



Good day to visit the pool, rain tomorrow

Today	Sunday	Monday
High 85	High 74	High 69
Low 60	Low 52	Low 52

More Weather on Page 2

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Fort Wayne man

(Continued from Page 1)

where over 900 messages were discovered detailing a variety of sexual activities between the boy and Vana-

The investigation continued until

February of 2022 when the case was opened as a new filing. A warrant was served to Vanauken on April 22, 2022. He bailed out approximately one month later after his request for a bond reduction was granted.

He was immediately taken into custody following the unanimous ruling.

Vanauken's sentencing hearing was set for 8:30 a.m. June 28. More details to follow.

sydney@news-banner.com

Classified documents

(Continued from Page 1)

laws put our country at risk.'

Trump, currently the leading contender for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination, is due to make his first court appearance Tuesday afternoon in Miami. In a rare bit of welcome news for the former president, the judge initially assigned to the case is someone he appointed and who drew criticism for rulings in his favor during a dispute last year over a special master assigned to review the seized classified documents. Meanwhile, two lawyers who worked the case for months announced Friday that they had resigned from Trump's legal

All told, Trump faces 37 felony counts — 31 pertaining to the willful retention of national defense information, the balance relating to alleged conspiracy, obstruction and false statements — that could result in a substantial prison sentence in the event of a conviction. A Trump aide who prosecutors said moved dozens of boxes at his Florida estate at his direction, and then lied to investigators about it, was charged in the same indictment with conspiracy and other crimes.

Trump responded to the indictment Friday by falsely conflating his case with a separate classified documents investigation concerning President Joe Biden. Though classified records were found in a Biden home and office, there has been no indication that the president, unlike Trump, sought to conceal them or knew they were there.

"Nobody said I wasn't allowed to look at the personal records that I brought with me from the White House. There's nothing wrong with that," Trump said in a post on his Truth Social platform.

The case adds to deepening legal jeopardy for Trump, who has already been indicted in New York and faces additional investigations in Washington and Atlanta that also could lead to criminal charges. But among the various investigations he has faced, legal experts - as well as Trump's own aides — had long seen the Mar-a-Lago probe as the most perilous threat and the one most ripe for prosecution. Campaign aides had been bracing for the fallout since Trump's attorneys were notified that he was the target of the investigation, assuming it was not a matter of if charges would be brought, but when.

The indictment arrives at a time when Trump is continuing to dominate the Republican presidential primary the former president's mood as "defiant" and he is expected to deliver a

By AAMER MADHANI

Associated Press

sia with materials to build

a drone manufacturing

plant east of Moscow as the

Kremlin looks to lock in a

steady supply of weaponry

for its ongoing invasion of

Ukraine, according to a U.S.

intelligence finding released

by the White House on Fri-

Council spokesman John

Kirby said U.S. intelli-

gence officials believe a

plant in Russia's Alabuga

special economic zone

could be operational early

next year. The White

House also released satel-

lite imagery taken in April of the industrial location,

several hundred miles

east of Moscow, where it

believes the plant "will

administration publicly

stated in December that it believed Tehran and Mos-

cow were considering stand-

ing up a drone assembly line

in Russia for the Ukraine

war. The new intelligence

suggests that the project,

in the Yelabuga region

President Joe Biden's

probably be built."

National Security

day.

WASHINGTON (AP)

Iran is providing Rus-

full-throated rebuke of the filing during a speech before Republican Party officials in Georgia Saturday afternoon and will also speak in North Carolina in the evening

Aides were notably more reserved after the indictment's unsealing as they reckoned with the gravity of the legal charges and the threat they pose to Trump beyond the potential short-term

The document's startling scope and breadth of allegations, including a reliance on surveillance video and an audio recording, will almost certainly make it harder for Republicans to rail against than an earlier New York criminal case that many legal analysts had derided as weak.

The documents case is a milestone for a Justice Department that had investigated Trump for years — as president and private citizen — but had never before charged him with a crime. The most notable investigation was an earlier special counsel probe into ties between his 2016 campaign and Russia, but prosecutors in that probe cited Justice Department policy against indicting a sitting president. Once he left office, though, he lost that protec-

The inquiry took a major step forward last November when Attorney General Merrick Garland, a soft-spoken former federal judge who has long stated that no person should be regarded as above the law, appointed Smith, a war crimes prosecutor with an aggressive, hard-charging reputation, to lead both the documents probe as well as a separate investigation into efforts to subvert the 2020 election. That investigation remains pending.

The 49-page indictment centers on hundreds of classified documents that Trump took with him from the White House to Mar-a-Lago upon leaving office in January 2021. Even as "tens of thousands of members and guests" visited Mar-a-Lago between the end of Trump's presidency and August 2022, when the FBI obtained a search warrant, documents were recklessly stored in spaces including a "ballroom, a bathroom and shower, and office space, his bedroom, and a storage

The indictment claims that, for a two-month period between January and March 15, 2021, some of Trump's boxes were stored in one of Mar-a-Lago's gilded ballrooms. A picture included in the indictment shows boxes stacked in rows on the ballroom's stage.

Prosecutors allege that Trump, who A Trump campaign official described claimed without evidence that he had declassified all the documents before leaving office, understood his duty

White House: Iran helping Russia build drone factory

program.

of Tatarstan, has moved

drones to Russia before

the start of the war but not

cials also have determined

that Iran continues to sup-

ply the Russian military

with one-way attack drones

made in Iran: The drones are

shipped via the Caspian Sea,

from Amirabad in Iran to

Makhachkala, Russia, and

then are used by Russian

received hundreds of one-

way attack drones, as well

as drone production-relat-

ed equipment, from Iran,

according to the White

defense partnership that is

harmful to Ukraine, to Iran's

neighbors, and to the inter-

national community," Kirby

said. "We are continuing to

use all the tools at our dis-

posal to expose and disrupt

these activities including by

sharing this with the public

- and we are prepared to

on Friday issued an advisory

meant to help businesses

The Biden administration

This is a full-scale

House.

do more."

As of May, Russia had

forces against Ukraine.

Iran has said it provided

Kirby said that U.S. offi-

beyond conception.

to care for classified information but shirked it anyway. It details a July 2021 meeting in Bedminster in which he boasted about having held onto a classified document prepared by the military about a potential attack on another country.

'Secret. This is secret information. Look, look at this," the indictment quotes him as saying, citing an audio recording. He also said he could have declassified the document but "Now I can't, you know, but this is still a secret," according to the indictment.

Using Trump's own words and actions, as recounted to prosecutors by lawyers, aides and other witnesses, the indictment alleges both a refusal to return the documents despite more than a year's worth of government demands but also steps that he encouraged others around him to take to conceal the

For instance, prosecutors say, after the Justice Department issued a subpoena for the records in May 2022, Trump asked his own lawyers if he could defy the request and said words to the effect of, "I don't want anybody looking through my boxes."

"Wouldn't it be better if we just told them we don't have anything here?" one of his lawyers described him as

But before his own lawyer searched the property for classified records, the indictment says, Trump directed aides to remove from the Mar-a-Lago storage room boxes of documents so that they would not be found during the search and therefore handed over to the government.

Weeks later, when Justice Department officials arrived at Mar-a-Lago to collect the records, they were handed a folder with only 38 documents and an untrue letter attesting that all documents responsive to the subpoena had been turned over. That day, even as Trump assured investigators that he was "an open book," aides loaded several of Trump's boxes onto a plane bound for Bedminster, the indictment alleges.

But suspecting that many more remained inside, the FBI obtained a search warrant and returned in August to recover more than 100 additional documents. The Justice Department says Trump held onto more than 300 classified documents, including some at the top secret level.

Walt Nauta, one of the personal aides alleged to have transported the boxes around the complex, lied to the FBI about the movement of the boxes and faces charges that he conspired to hide them, according to the indictment. His lawyer declined to comment.

feet at 9:45 p.m. Friday Wells County forecast

Weather

Saturday, June 10, 2023

(24-hour observations at 7:13 p.m. Friday)

Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.30

High: 77; **Low:** 47; **Precipitation:** None

Today: Sunny, with a high near 85. West wind 5 to 10

Tonight: A 20 percent chance of showers after 2 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 60. South wind around 5 mph. **Sunday:** A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms,

then showers and possibly a thunderstorm after 8 a.m. High near 74. South wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 90 percent. New rainfall amounts between a half and three quarters of an inch pos-Sunday Night: Showers and possibly a thunderstorm

before 11 p.m., then showers likely. Low around 52. North wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80 percent. New precipitation amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible.

Monday: A 10 percent chance of showers before 8 a.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 69.

Monday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers after 2 a.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 52.

Tuesday: A chance of showers, with thunderstorms also possible after 2 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 75. Breezy. Chance of precipitation is 50 percent.

Tuesday Night: A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms before 8 p.m., then a slight chance of showers between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 54. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 82.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 57. **Thursday:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 82.

McCarthy

(Continued from Page 1) him on the issue, which follows Graves' work as one of the lead debt ceiling negotiators in talks with the White House.

"I'm studying different angles to see what would best work, some with members. And should I bring in some people from the outside so you have some modern people in the business world that have taken companies and looked at them in a way to streamline and modernize for efficiencies?" McCarthy said. "I think that combination would work well, but right now I'm spending a lot of time on how to put that together."

Many analysts say it will take a combination of spending cuts and tax hikes to meaningfully change the country's financial trajectory. But therein lies the problem: Many Republicans won't entertain tax increases of any kind, and many Democrats won't consider benefit cuts.

McCarthy refused to accept any tax increases as part of the debt ceiling talks. And when asked if he had any such red lines for the debt commission, McCarthy said he currently is focused on getting the structure of the commission right, but added that the revenue coming into government coffers, about 19.2% of gross domestic product last year, is at the high end of the

50-vear average. Democrats are treading warily. "I'm not sure what he envisions, but I look forward to having that discussion," said Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, D-N.Y. "I have no idea what the contours of the commission would even look like, so it's hard for me to comment up or down at this point.'

The landmines confront-

ing the commission are legion. Even if McCarthy can get something through the House, the commission's clout would be diminished without Senate participation and White House buy-in. And any findings from the effort could come during a presidential election year - an unfavorable political climate for a proposal that is likely to ask for some sacrifice from the voting public.

McCarthy said one thing he could do as speaker would be to bring up recommendations from the debt commission one at a time rather than in one fell swoop.

"I could do it kind of like in a BRAC," McCarthy said, referring to the various Base Realignment and Closure rounds initiated by the Defense Department to reduce excess infrastructure. "I could bring it directly to the floor, no amendments, you vote it up or vote it down and see what passed, see what doesn't."

section so people don't get hung up on everything," he

"You can do section by

Rep. Steve Womack, R-Ark., said he likes the idea of a commission.

"We need to get as much of the politics out of it as we can and just give us the facts," Womack said. "... And the facts are that 70% of this whole federal budget is on autopilot right now.'

Womack said he isn't calling for Congress to "cut a lot of these programs, but we do have to make these programs sustainable in the future.'

On the Senate side, Sen. John Thune, the No. 2-ranking Republican, gave the commission concept his endorsement, saying "we got to start taking this stuff

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The notice from the departments of Commerce, State, Justice and Treasury said it was "critical that private industry be aware of its legal obligations" to abide by U.S. export controls and sanctions.

and other governments put

in place measures to ensure

they are not inadvertently

contributing to Iran's drone

The United States, the European Union and the United Kingdom in recent months all have issued rules designed to cut off the flow of drone components to Russia and Iran.

The Biden administration has repeatedly publicized intelligence findings that detail how Iran is assisting the Russian invasion.

The persistent drip of intelligence findings from the administration is intended to detail what U.S. officials say is a deepening defense partnership between Russia and Iran. It's also part of a broader administration effort to spotlight Moscow's prosecution of its war in Ukraine in hopes of further promoting global isolation of Russia.

The White House last

month said Russia was looking to buy additional advanced attack drones from Iran after using up most of the 400 drones it had previously purchased from Tehran.

The Biden administration last year first publicized satellite imagery and intelligence findings that it said indicated Iran sold hundreds of attack drones to Russia. For months, officials have said the United States believed Iran was considering selling hundreds of ballistic missiles to Russia, but White House officials have said they do not have evidence a deal was consummated.

The White House has noted that Iran also has weapons flowing its way

from Russia. Iran is seeking to purchase additional military equipment from Russia, including attack helicopters, radars and YAK-130 combat trainer aircraft, according to the White House. In April, Iran announced that it had finalized a deal to buy Su-35 fighter jets from Russia.





OBITUARIES

Bill B. Banter, 77

Bill B. Banter, 77, a lifelong resident of Jackson Township, passed away Thursday, June 8, 2023, at Stillwater Hospice in Fort Wayne.

Bill was born Feb. 24, 1946 in Marion, Ind., to Byron Banter and Florence Widner Taylor. He graduated from Jackson Township High School in 1964 and from Purdue in 1969 with a degree in agriculture. During

college, he was part of the Alpha-Gamma-Rho fraternity and a member of the Student Union. It would end up that his two sons, Will and Brent, would be members of the same fraternity.

Upon graduation, Bill established Banter Farms in 1970. He married Dianna Lynn Rody Banter March 6, 1971, in Jerome, Indiana. Bill and Dianna were members of the Church at McNatt.

A lifelong farmer in Wells County, Bill was heavily involved in his community. He was very proud of the men who worked for him, including those that came through the Southern Wells I.C.E. program.

He was a 50-year member of the Van Buren Masonic Lodge, He received a young farmers award from Wells County, was on the Jackson Township Advisory Board, spent 12 years on the Southern Wells Community Schools board of trustees, was a trustee of the Jones Cemetery, and a longtime member of the S.A.M. (Salamonie Active Men) club

Bill enjoyed being at the Wells County 4-H fair helping the children show cattle. He enjoyed traveling with his wife and friends to Hawaii and the Caribbean,

and always went to Purdue football games, including the Rose Bowl and Cotton Bowl as part of the "Fat Boys". Friends would joke when the group of friends, supposed to be called the "Frat Boys," was renamed the "Fat Boys" due to a typing error.

Bill was committed to his family, his friends, and his community and will be greatly missed.

Bill was preceded in death by his father, Byron Banter; his mother, Florence Taylor; and his stepfather, Ralph Taylor.

Loving survivors include his wife of 53 years, Dianna Lynn Banter of Warren; his sons, Will B. Banter of Warren and Brent A. Banter of Austin, Texas; his grandchildren, Clay (Kyla) Banter of Warren, Cole Banter of Warren, and Cash Banter of Warren; a sister, Jan (Dr. George) Babcock of Bluffton; and a brother, Robey Taylor of St. Louis, Mo.

Friends and family may gather to share and remember from 2 to 8 p.m. Monday, June 12, at the Glancy-H. Brown & Son Funeral Home, 203 N. Matilda St. in Warren. A Masonic service will be held at 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, June 13, 2023 with Pastor Bill VanHaften officiating. Burial will follow at the Jones Cemetery in rural Wells County.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Church at McNatt, 9183W-800S-90, Montpelier, IN 47359, or to the Wells County 4-H Association/Cattle Barn at 1240 4-H Park Road, Bluffton, IN 46714

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Glancy-H. Brown & Son Funeral Home in Warren, Indiana.



Destination Recreation

This week has been action-packed as we move from one event to another, finishing off the week with a fantastic performance from Simply Queen. This weekend has a lot to offer too. Roush Park will be a flurry of activity, with the leagues running all-star games, fundraisers, and food trucks. Don't forget to stop downtown between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. to shop at the Parlor City Market for delicious baked goods, gifts, and homemade

Today is also the annual Hazmat Day, where Bluffton residents can safely dispose of household items like paints, flammable liquids, tires, computers, etc. The drop-off runs from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Bluffton Middle School; details can be found at https://blufftonindiana. net/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/2023-HazMat.pdf. Sunday is our second concert of the season featuring Dan Heath and the Paradise Band at Kehoe Park at 7 p.m., sponsored by National Oil & Gas. (rain site, if needed, is Life Community

The Chick's Run 5K is next week, on Thursday, June 15, at 7 p.m. There is still time to register yourself or your group. Participants will receive a cute event shirt, complimentary wine/beer for chicks over 21, and have a chance to win lots of door prizes, awards for the largest team, best dressed, fastest chicks, and more. Discounted price for Chicks under 10 or Chicks who don't want a race shirt. Sign up today at https://raceroster.com/ events/2023/74599/chicks-run.

Picnic in the park — children aged 18 and under are invited to enjoy a free lunch every weekday from 10:30 to 12:30 p.m. at Roush Park (925 W Silver) until July 31 (No program July 3 or 4). The Bluffton Harrison Metropolitan Schools provide this program, and is open to youth from any district. No registration is

The annual FREE Foam Party will be Wednesday, June 14, 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Pickett's Run by the Splash Pad. Bring

a towel and wear your swimsuit to the Splash Pad on the corner of Washington and Bennett Street. Children will be invited into the foam by age groups starting with the smallest visitors first. Don't forget the camera.

By Brandy

Fiechter

Pee Wee Swim will be starting the week of June 19, and we still have openings if you want to get signed up. This class is for ages 4-pre-K with their adult. Early swimming fosters a growing sense of self-esteem, confidence, and independence. As a child's ability to move freely through the water increases, so does their sense of well-being. The cost is only \$6 for the M-W-F lesson from 11 to 11:45

If you see a group picking up trash along the river today, it is because we were fortunate enough to have Sargent Thompson and the National Guard volunteering again this year to clean the riverbanks. If you happen to walk by them, be sure to tell them thanks.

Speaking of volunteering, we want to thank Valero for planting fresh flowers at Veteran's Park in time for Memorial weekend and also Tom Pett for changing out the flags. We can't tell you how much it means to us to have so many caring people look after our parks and keep them beautiful.

We are excited to announce that we are accepting bids for the Interurban Trail Phase 2, NLT 3-12. The City of Bluffton intends to construct a 10' wide asphalt pedestrian trail from Monroe Street to Lancaster Park. The work includes but is not limited to clearing right of way, asphalt trail construction, driveway improvements, signal improvements, erosion control, and site restoration. The digital project bidding documents are available at www.questcdn.com. A prebid meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 20, and bids are due on June 27 by 4:30 p.m. We can't wait to get this project

Have a great week!

Majority of wages in Indiana lag behind national average

By WHITNEY DOWNARD Indiana Capital Chronicle

Private employees in all but one Indiana county make less than the national average wage and Hoosier workers earn just 83.3 cents for each dollar earned by their national counterparts, according to an analysis of employment data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Sta-

Rachel Blakeman, the director of the Community Research Institute of Purdue University Fort Wayne, analyzed the federal agency's quarterly report with a focus on annual wage data. She reported that for 91 of Indiana's 92 counties, Hoosiers made less than the \$70,343 national average.

"In short, we're a that works but we're a state that works for less," Blakeman said.

Analysis of wage data

Marion County is the only county to buck the trend this year, coming in at \$70,834. But Blakeman noted the data only considers county of employment, not county of residence, meaning that commuters in surrounding counties boost Marion County's wages.

"Historically, Indiana has underperformed on wages as it compares to the national average," Blakeman said. "This year, we only have one county that is above the average and historically we've had a handful of counties."

The statewide average was \$58,604, ranging from Marion County's high to a low of \$36,559 in Union County.

However, many counties did have faster wage growth than the national average - and several counties had faster job growth — but not enough to catch up.

We leapfrogged a little bit but the problem is that we're so far behind," Blakeman said.

The data does come with caveats, lacking demographic information and not distinguishing between parttime, full-time or seasonal employment.

"Occasionally, what we'll see is in counties where they have a lot of workers who are part time or seasonal, that you can see that their wages are lower as a result," Blakeman said. "But, generally speaking, that is not a concern."

Additionally, bec Indiana has more county government units per capita than other states, the Hoosier State's counties tend to have smaller populations.

Response from IEDC

The Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) declined an interview, but sent a statement concerning wage growth in recent years, saying the organization was "laser focused on increasing wages.'

The quasi-public organization regularly touts anticipated company expansions throughout the state, including anticipated wages though some don't pan out and don't deliver the promised high-paying jobs.

In an annual report published in January, the IEDC said it had secured more than 24,000 new jobs with an average hourly wage of \$34.71 — an IEDC record for "expected" wages.

"... Since 2021, we've made amazing strides and executed a bold vision that local partners across the state have leaned into, resulting in record-breaking wage commitments," the IEDC said. "In 2023, we're on track to secure even higher average wages for jobs that will be created between now and the next few years."

"The IEDC has conversations every day with futurefocused businesses looking to launch, locate and grow in Indiana. We currently have over \$100 billion worth of capital investment in our pipeline from target industries that provide highpaying jobs," the organization continued. "Indiana is competing against the best and securing economic wins that drive wages up, and we'll continue to focus on securing high-wage jobs for all Hoosiers."

Takeaway moving forward

But Blakeman said it isn't simply a matter of 100 more high-paying jobs to change a county's trajectory. She noted that a lifetime of low wages also means that Hoosiers will receive less in Social Security benefits when they retire.

And Indiana's low-costof-living doesn't offset the state's low wages.

"Our cost of living is below average but when we compare cost of living against wages ... we are a very expensive place to live because our wages are not competitive with our cost of living," she said.

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City:

Thursday, 2:30 p.m., Capri Meadows II. Caller requesting welfare check on man who has not been seen for one month. Subject was safe at home.

Thursday, 2:43 p.m., 1000 block of West Market, report of man checking gas meters. Officer spoke with man who was in fact check-

Joseph Catholic Church. Report of man lying in ditch not moving. Man was fine, just laying down.

Thursday, 5:57 p.m., 500 block of East Horton Street. Report of a verbal altercation, male half left to cool off.

Thursday, 6:37 p.m., corner of North Main Street and East Dustman Road. Found keys with alien lanyard.

Thursday, 6:41 p.m., 200 block of East Central Avenue. Caller requested welfare check on child. Man was unpleased and stated it was his parenting time and everything was fine. Officer requested to see child, the man refused and asked officer to leave property.

Thursday, 7:42 p.m., Pine Grove Apartments. Welfare check requested for person acting strangely. Person seemed to be fine, just arguments with family. Thursday, 11:22 p.m.,

Pine Grove Apartments. Welfare check requested for woman in car for over an hour smoking, caller believed woman to be impaired. Woman reported she was just smoking in her car instead of inside, no signs of impairment.

Friday, 7:43 a.m., Hardlot parked with 3 people Thursday, 3:57 p.m., St smoking from pipe. Nothing seen by officer. Friday, 8:26 a.m., Almco

Steel Products. Dark green bike in the back on top of a mound of dirt found.

Friday, 12:01 p.m., Main Motel. Report of man attempting to enter building. The man, believed to be the owner, was struggling to unlock front door.

County:

Thursday, 11:54 a.m., north 800N and north 300W. Farm tanker slightly on the road. Removed by farmer.

Thursday, 6:03 p.m., residence on 1100S, Keystone. Report of an individual on property attempting to remove items. No one apparently at the scene upon arrival, but the suspect admitted to being there. Suspect warned for trespassing.

Thursday, 7:08 p.m., River Terrace Estates. Alter-

cation between residents. No further action taken.

Thursday, 9:36 p.m., 706 N Main St. Camera located in the parking lot.

Friday, 6:37 a.m., north 400W and west Ind. 124. Cows running in the roadway.

Ossian: Friday, 7:33 a.m., resi-

dence on 500N. Delivery driver reported a neglected ees. Report of white car in dog. The resident appeared to be taking care of the dogs but advised one dog may have an illness contributing to its weight loss. Deputy advised the owner to update the dog's rabies shots.

FIRES

Thursday, 7:19 p.m., near 3500 West 800 South, Poneto. Report of a rekindled fire. Fire marked as a controlled

ARRESTS

James Dwayne Manns, 52, Poneto; battery resulting in serious bodily injury, a Level 5 felony, resisting law enforcement using a vehicle, a Level 6 felony, and failure to appear. No bond set.

Avery Dean Bodwell, 34, Ossian; possession of child pornography, a Level 6 felony. Bond set at \$5,000.

Dawn Carla Holley, 53, Fort Wayne; driving while suspended, a Class A misdemeanor. Booked and





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Navigating the culture wars: Who has the playbook?

I've been struggling with this — betting

Saturday's Sub

you have, too. So I found it heartening to read this sentence in a commentary on the topic: "So far, there seems to be no good playbook for navigating the new culture wars."

That was made specifically in reference to recent developments in the retail world, as Target found itself in "the bulls-eye of the culture wars," as one headline put it, followed by



Mark Miller

Kohl's, which was all preceded by the kerfuffle of Bud Light's marketing toe-dip into cultural issues. As the month of June has approached this year with its unofficial designation as "Pride Month," companies have struggled to find a proper way to serve the diversity of their customers without offending someone. That's a tough-enough assignment but apparently complicated by what I perceive to be a growing militancy on both sides of this "war."

That in itself is such an unfortunate term. We can disagree and discuss and try to find common ground. But in today's world it has to be a "war." Hence, the term "militancy" fits — meant to describe an increase of intolerance of intolerance. Or is it an increase of intolerance of tolerance? Or both.

"Target is facing growing criticism after it stopped selling certain items related to Gay Pride Month that offended some customers and social-media commentators," one news story explained in late May, "a decision that prompted others to say the retailer had caved to pressure from anti-LGBTQ voices." As a result, Target's stock is down almost 20 percent since mid-May.

Similar displays of merchandise subsequently created problems for Kohl's. That stock plunged more than 5 percent in one day after a social-media blitz called for a boycott.

Part of the puzzle is that these chains, along with Walmart, JCPenney and Gap, have sold this merchandise for years. Why is it such a problem now? From what I've read, the displays are in the adult clothing departments, not given any more prominence than other seasonal merchandise.

And if you've been under an assumption (or perhaps, a hope) that these cultural wars are only "fought" in the larger cities or on the coasts, you've not been paying attention. River City is on the front lines.

We've had a local elected official advocate for the removal of the "inclusive community" signs that welcome people to Bluffton. There was the dust-up in late 2021 when a local teacher displayed a rainbow flag in her classroom. And now the LGBTQ issue has triggered a review of what and how our local public library can display the books in its collection.

Just as in the retail stores, there has been a display informing patrons about the books the library offers regarding LGBTQ issues for several years. Not every year, I am told, but often. I understand that there had been a question raised by a patron last year — one who had heard a concern but had not seen it. The patron emailed the head librarian, whom he knows, who took a photo of the display and sent it back to the patron who expressed no further concern. That is the photo we used in our report about the controversy last week.

Did that display, which included a small poster that "June is Pride Month," "celebrate" that or just inform? Is the library "celebrating" Mental Health Month in May when it displays books that are helpful for adults and families dealing with that? Note that these displays are upstairs in the adult section, not in or near the front entrance or the

children's department.

Like many things these days, this strikes me as a solution looking for a problem. But I will quickly add that there appears to be an opportunity for potential problems that a better-defined "Information

Display Policy" could avoid, which is the policy the

The wording proposed at the board's May meeting, however, raises some questions. As I read it, it specifically addresses displays and exhibits "when not related to library materials." It does not specify any limitations on "library-related material." While that was questioned during the May 9 meeting, it will be helpful to get clarification as the board continues its discussion.

library board has put under review.

And now, this past week's developments demonstrate how complicated and confusing these wars can be. Some observations:

• To be frank, our headline Tuesday should have at least had "Rainbow bracelets" in quotations marks, indicating a term used by others, not as a factual description of the bracelets in question, which were described in the article as "rainbow-colored" and "multi-colored."

• Somehow, we have allowed rainbows — along with the term "unity" and its relatives — to be confiscated as a cultural weapon. This is not unlike the very true and simple statement, "Black Lives Matter," seized by a farleft group to use as a catch-phrase for a variety of their political causes.

Meanwhile, our youngest granddaughter loves to draw rainbows. Isn't that a good thing?

Meanwhile, I have been working this week on our annual "Who We Are" special edition, which includes an update on the nascent LifeWise program in our three public school systems. The program allows parents to opt their children into a weekly class of Christian-based curriculum. The story includes a photo of a kindergarten student and a volunteer working on a craft project of you guessed it — rainbows.

A rainbow has been the symbol of God's promise. Now we argue over them. But then, I guess that's really

• Target stores feel like they're in the bulls-eye?

WCPL head librarian Sarah McNeill and her employees feel that way in spades. That's more than understandable. From this perspective, they're doing their job and doing just fine. Hang in there. This, too, shall pass.

However, lest we think all of this is much ado about nothing, libraries across the country have become targets in the wars. Take note that the Montana state legislature has felt it necessary to "ban people dressed in drag from reading books to children at pub-

lic schools and libraries," according to The Associated Press. Ugh. I remember seeing a story last year that as part of Pride Month, one of the downtown Fort Wayne churches hosted a "family-friendly drag show." In my humble opinion, there is no such thing.

Let me be clear. I am all for inclusiveness. To not be inclusive means you are exclusive. That's not us. That is not, I fervently hope, Bluffton and Wells County. I am all for acceptance. Live and let live — I have no problem with same-sex civil unions. But there is a huge difference between that and affirmation and validation. I want to be tolerant but there are some who find that intolerant. And others who want to test my tolerance by insisting I celebrate, affirm and validate their lifestyle.

Where is the middle ground between these two warring factions? It's a struggle. There is no playbook.

miller@news-banner.com



These are three of the variety of multi-colored bracelets the library is using as incentives in this summer's children's reading program. A contingent of parents were at Monday's meeting of the county commissioners to voice their belief that the library was promoting the LGBTQ lifestyle.

Other Opinions

U.S.-China relations on the edge

The studied silence surrounding the visit to Beijing by Daniel J. Kritenbrink, U.S. assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, and Sarah Beran, White House National Security Council's senior director for China affairs, points to the sensitivity that now characterizes Sino-

The visit of the senior U.S. officials to China is the second by members of the Job Biden administration since it unilaterally canceled Secretary of State Antony Blinken's planned visit to Beijing in early February, which put the brakes on the positive momentum in bilateral interactions generated by the talks between the two countries' leaders on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Bali, Indonesia, in November.

That Beijing gave the nod for the visit of Kritenbrink and Beran shows that it remains open to dialogue with Washington. But the lower level of the two visiting U.S. officials shows that both sides know there is much groundwork to be laid if higher-level talks are not to descend into acrimonious exchanges once again.

But although the talks are at a lower level than they would have been had Blinken's visit gone ahead as planned, Kritenbrink and Beran are major contributors to policymaking in their respective fields, suggesting that both sides are still trying to manage their rapidly souring relations.

That being said, the visit of the two U.S. officials, which began on Sunday, provides a good opportunity for Washington to rebuild its credibility with Beijing. Their posts mean that they do not have to speak to the cameras, and they can listen as well as say their piece.

With the provocations of U.S. battleships and warplanes becoming increasingly frequent in the Taiwan Strait and South China Sea, no one would be too surprised if there was an incident on the doorstep of China.

It is to be hoped that the talks will be able to help avert such an undesirable scenario.

Which will not be the case if the two visitors have come all the way just to try and intimidate Beijing with coercion, threats and ultimatums. If they waste the opportunity of the hard-earned meeting in this way, it will only worsen the

If the two U.S. officials have come to Beijing with the willingness to talk in good faith, they will find their hosts willing to reciprocate. But they should always bear in mind that no meaningful exchanges can take place unless the U.S. side respects China's sovereignty and territorial integrity and core interests.

CHINA DAILY

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THE NEWS-BANNER

moral high ground on Saudi Arabia, which does about \$30 billion in trade with us each year. Every time you put gas in your car, you're essentially doing business with them. Now that the PGA has done a 180, however, McIl-

roy and other loyal players look like suckers and its execs have been exposed as hypocrites for trash-talk-



The Saudis win the golf war

Michael

Oil money, oil money.

When you have as much of it as Saudi Arabia has, it can buy a lot of things including a sacred American sports institution like the PGA.

As all of us hackers know, the PGA Tour shocked the golf world this week by announcing it will merge with the LIV Tour, the upstart Saudi-backed professional golf tour that the PGA has been in a bitter legal fight with since last year.

The details of the nearly \$3 billion deal are still unknown.

Reagan So is the impact it will have on the wallets of pro golfers and how much control it will give Saudi Arabia over the way professional golf is organized here and around the world.

The threat posed by the birth of the LIV Tour caused a lot of trouble for the PGA Tour.

By spending huge sums to lure stars like Brooks Koepka and Phil Mickelson into playing in its tournaments, LIV threatened the PGA's virtual monopoly over the pro golf industry.

The lure of LIV's money also created ill-feeling between golfers like Koepka, who took it, and stars like Rory McIlroy, who stayed with the PGA on principle and turned it down.

Meanwhile, the PGA management did everything wrong. It shamed the big names who left, held weeks of secret meetings with the Saudis and then sprang the LIV merger on the players without notice.

The PGA's argument that golfers should not take the Saudi Kingdom's money because of moral principles turned out to be hypocritical hogwash.

Saudi Arabia is what it is — a feudal, authoritarian country that behaves like one.

But it's decades too late to ask anyone to take the

ing the players who took Saudi money.

At this point the PGA-LIV merger is confusing to everyone — the media, players and golf fans like me.

All I know for sure is that I couldn't watch LIV tournaments on TV. I tried and lasted two minutes.

I and millions of other viewers want to see the best players in the world playing the best golf in the world so we can sit at home and watch it.

We want to be following the Koepkas, Spieths and McIlroys, not the nobodies and never-winners.

The PGA tells us the merger with the Saudis and their oil money will be good for the game of golf in the long run.

Realistically, it's mostly going to improve the bottom line of the PGA and fatten the pocketbooks of the top players.

It also might improve the way the PGA operates. Until now it has been in total control of pro golf and the golfers, who, for instance, had to play in a certain number of tournaments a year and were not allowed to be paid to enter one.

Now it looks like the players will get more control over their lives. If that turns out to be the case, the PGA-LIV marriage will be a great deal for the play-

The real problem with the merger right now, I think, is the bad optics. It looks like the Saudis are buying up professional golf — one of America's signature sports and our most popular global exports.

The Saudis may live in what looks like a gigantic sand trap, but they're serious about diversifying their economy by investing heavily in the sports and entertainment industries.

They've got \$600-plus billion sitting in their treasury, so they're not going to run out of cash anytime soon.

the other day — yell "Fore!" and jack up the price of

But if they do, all they have to do is what they did

Reagan@caglecartoons.com • Twitter: @reaganworld



A Joyful Noise

Happy National Ballpoint Pen Day.

celebrate it on the 11th.)

ters on June 9, 1934.

and commemorations.

ebrate, but God notices.

or not.

writes.

day.

WHAT A DAY

Argentina on this day 80 years ago, and while it didn't rev-

olutionize the written word like Gutenberg's printing press,

who watch the movies instead of reading the books ... You

know who you are), they can celebrate National Eggroll

Day. Little girls can celebrate Doll Day. My aunt Elaine

might particularly enjoy Worldwide Knit in Public Day.

Perhaps KFC managers can offer discounts in honor of

National Herbs and Spices Day. (Actually, they probably

to again celebrate Donald Duck Day, which commemorates

the creation of one of Walt Disney's most-famous charac-

Unfortunately, Americans will need to wait almost a year

Tragically, none of these occasions have secured true

Then again, the world in general often uses, at best,

More importantly, Christians don't need an official to

When they commit to fulfill God's will and bring about

Perhaps Christians won't even notice any reasons to cel-

"For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the

When Christians redeem each day through simple and

whole earth, to show himself strong on behalf of those

whose heart is loyal to Him," the author of 2 Chronicles

seemingly small moments of faith, they turn that day into

the best day possible. They turn it into a Kingdom-come

Verse 1:

I wake up each morning

With so much still to do

So many opportunities

I could pursue

But I must remember

To always stop and pray

And ask God to make it

A Kingdom-come day

Chorus:

O make it a Kingdom-come day

(Kingdom-come day)

O make it a Kingdom-come day

(Father, I pray)

Working out salvation through the Spirit and grace

To make it a Kingdom-come Day

Verse 2:

Jesus once preached

On the Kingdom of God

He said that those who do His will

Builds on the Rock

So I'll seek to live like

My Lord in every way

And redeem each moment

In my Kingdom-come day

Verse 3

So lay up your treasures

And lay down your life

In holiness and purity

Don't compromise

The faithful who follow

Their King will hear Him say,

"Well done, blessed servant"

On that Kingdom-come day

GRACE BAPTIST

1621 S. 350 E.

Stogdill Rd. Ext.

gbcbluffton.com

10 a.m. & 6 p.m. - Worship.

KEYSTONE CHURCH

10556S-200W

LANCASTER CHAPEL

UNITED METHODIST

4510 E 400N, Craigville

9 a.m. - Sunday School.

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

LIBERTY CENTER

BAPTIST

3071 W. Cherry St.

8:30 a.m. - Pastor/Dea-

con's Prayer. 9 - Sunday

School. 9:55 - Fellowship.

9:30 a.m. - Worship.

10:30 - Sunday School.

9 a.m. - Sunday School.

questionable standards and priorities for its celebrations

celebrate a day. They don't even need a holiday — dubious

His Kingdom, they can celebrate when they go to bed each

night, even if the world doesn't notice — and doesn't care.

"National" status. No president has ever signed a proclama-

tion for them. Congress has never passed a law celebrating

it certainly liberated writers from sloppy fountain pens.

Hungarian inventor Laszlo Biro patented the pen in

But for those of a less literary persuasion (those people

This page is dedicated to the building of a more spiritual and greater church-going people and is made possible by the Advertisers on this page who want as their return to see more people go to church.

by Chet

Baumgartner



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APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH - NORTH 630 E. Dustman Rd. 9:45 & 11:45 a.m. - Worship.

BETHEL

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

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMS

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

> **BLUFFTON CHURCH OF GOD**

327 W. Cherry St. 10 a.m. - Sunday School. 11 a.m. - Worship. 6 p.m. -Service.

BLUFFTON WESLEYAN CHAPEL (Independent Holiness

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

> **BOEHMER UNITED METHODIST**

3467 S 600 W, Liberty Center boehmerumc.org 9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:45 - Sunday School.

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

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



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

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

COVENANT CHAPEL

3550 S. SR 1 mycovenantchapel.org 9:15 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:15 - Worship. (Children's Church for ages

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

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

DOMESTIC CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

> **EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST** 1204 W. Cherry St.

9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:40 a.m. - Sunday School.

> **FAIRVIEW CHURCH OF GOD**

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

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST 210 W. Townley

fbc-bluffton.com 10 a.m. - Worship. 11 a.m. - Discipleship.

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF OSSIAN 1001 Dehner Dr.

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

> **FIRST CHURCH** OF CHRIST 909 W. Spring St.

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

OF THE NAZARENE 1515 Clark Ave. blufftonnazarene.org 9 a.m. - Sunday School. 9-10 a.m. - Free ESL classes. 10:15 - Worship. 6 p.m. - Service.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN 215 E. Dustman Rd.

firstpcbluffton.org 9:30 a.m. - Children/youth & Adult Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN (EVANGELICAL)

123 S. Jefferson St., Ossian www.OssianChurch.com 10 a.m. - Worship, Com-

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF BLUFFTON 301 W. Cherry St.

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST 325 W. Washington St.

9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:45 - Sunday School.

> **FORGIVEN CHURCH** 1409 S. Main St. forgivenonline.org

9 a.m. - Worship. **HARVEST TIME BIBLE**

11015S-600E, Keystone 9:10 a.m. - Prayer. 10 a.m. - Worship.

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

LIFE COMMUNITY 428 S. Oak St. lifecommunity.net 10:30 a.m. - Service (Children's programs available).

Sunday School.

10:15 - Worship.

Worship.

LIVING FAITH **MISSIONARY** 17718 Bluffton Rd., Yoder 10 a.m. - Worship. 11:30 -

LIBERTY CENTER COMMUNITY CHURCH 8:45 a.m. - Choir practice.

baumofchet@gmail.com

9 a.m. - Coffee, donuts, conversation. 9:30 - Worship w/infant nurserv & children's church. 10:45 -Sunday School.

LIVING WATER UNITED CHURCH 6486 S 700E, Bluffton 8:45-9 a.m. - Prayer. 9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10

a.m. - Worship.

MARKLE CHAPEL HILL SEVENTH DAY **ADVENTIST**

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

MARKLE CHURCH

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

MARKLE UNITED **METHODIST** 145 W. Morse St. 9 a.m. - Sunday Ser-

vice. 10 a.m. - Worship. TO REPORT CHURCH NEWS:

• E-mail to churchnews@news-banner.com • Drop information at 125 N. Johnson St. in Bluffton **MCNATT UNITED METHODIST** 9221 W 800S-90,

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

MURRAY MISSIONARY 1117 N. Washington St., Murray

murraymc.org 9:30 a.m. - Worship. 11 a.m. - Sunday School.

NEW BEGINNING

2187 W. SR 218 10 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.

NEW HOPE LUTHERAN (Missouri Synod)

8824 N. SR 1, Ossian newhopelutheran-ossian. webs.com 9 a.m. - Sunday School &

Adult Bible study. 10 a.m. -

NOTTINGHAM 1100 S. SR 1 9:30 - Sunday School.

Worship.

10:30 & 6 p.m. - Worship. **OSSIAN CHURCH** OF THE NAZARENE 302 N. Metts St. ossiannaz.org

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

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

OSSIAN UNITED

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

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

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

PONETO UNITED METHODIST 36 E. Walnut St. 9 a.m. - Worship. 10 a.m. - Fellowship. 10:15 - Sunday School.

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

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

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

SONLIGHT WESLEYAN 2350 S. SR 1

SIX MILE

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

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC 1300 N. Main St.

Saturday: 7:45 a.m. -Prayer. 8 a.m. - Mass. 8:30 - Rosary. 4 p.m. or by appointment - Confessions. 5 p.m. - Mass. Sunday: 7:30 & 10 a.m. -Mass.

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

LUTHERAN 16933 Thiele Rd. stmarkfw.org 8:45 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

ST. MARK EV.

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

ST. MARK'S

THE MEETING PLACE 115 E. Market St. 6:30 p.m. - Bible study.

9450 S 300 W, Poneto 9 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship. **TOWER LIFE CENTER** 11811 N. Wayne St., Zanesville

towerlifecenter.com

9:30 a.m. - TLC Groups.

SOUTHERN WELLS

COMMUNITY CHURCH

10:30 - Worship. **TURNPOINTE COMMUNITY CHURCH** OF THE BRETHREN

500 W. Logan, Markle turnpointechurch.com 9:30 a.m. - Fellowship. 10 a.m. - Adult & Children's Worship.

UNIONDALE UNITED METHODIST 5867 N. Main St.

www.uniondaleumc.com 9 a.m. - Worship. **UNIONTOWN**

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

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

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Friends of the Shelter will

meet Monday afternoon Friends of the Shelter will meet at 5:30 p.m. Monday, June 12, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St.

Topics on the agenda include financial matters and upcoming events.

The meeting is open to the public. For more information, call 273-1742.

Bluffton-Harrison school board will meet Monday

The board of the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, June 12, in the school district's administration building at 803 E. Harrison

Topics on the agenda include:

- Financial matters.
- CTE and Don Wood Foundation part-
- District communications report.
- Assistant superintendent report.
- Superintendent report. • Middle school roof replacement and
- improvements project.
- High school HVAC guaranteed energy savings project.
 - School safety opportunities.
- · Middle school parking lot and tennis court improvements.
- Technology/textbook rental fees for the 2023-2024 school year.
 - Personnel matters.
 - Acceptance of donations.
 - Transportation handbook for 2023-24.
 - Decisions on policies.
- Review of the science and health cur-
- Science and health curriculum.
- High school building envelope roof,
- walls, windows, canopies. • U.S. Department of Education return to
- in-person instruction plans.
 - Topics for next board meeting.

- Status quo contracts and work agree-
- 2023-24 classified handbook changes. The meeting will be livestreamed at meet.bhmsd.org

Regional Sewer District board will meet Monday

The board of the Wells County Regional Sewer District will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday, June 12, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

- Topics on the agenda include:
- Customer questions.
- Financial matters. • Superintendent's report.
- Engineer's report Updates on Phase (Liberty Center and Murray), Phase 2 (Craigville), Phase 3 (Kingsland), and Phase 4 (Tocsin).
- Attorney's report.

Bluffton Board of Works to meet Tuesday afternoon

The Bluffton Board of Public Works and Safety will meet at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 13, in the meeting room on the first floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St.

- Topics on the agenda include:
- Water adjustment requests for residences on Pine Grove Court, Elm Drive, and Hale Street.
- Contesting of a nuisance animal citation.
- Load and capacity study presentation, brought to the board by Brad Adler.
- A request for temporary parking, brought to the board by Street Commissioner Tim Simpson.

Norwell school board will meet Tuesday

The board of the Norwell Community

Schools will meet at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 14, at the school district's central office, 312 N. Jefferson St. in Ossian.

- Topics on the agenda include: Public comment on agenda items.
- Superintendent's report.

Local Roundup

- Performance Qualified School Norwell High School.
- 1003 Flexibility Waiver.
- Personnel matters three resignations and several hiring recommendations.
 - Ossian interior refresh project. • Consideration to approve 2023-24 staff
- Consideration to approve district name
- change resolution. • Recommendation to approve 2023-25
- administrative contracts. • Consideration to approve central office support staff salary agreements.
 - Review of upcoming calendar events.

Bluffton Common Council will meet Tuesday evening

The Bluffton Common Council will meet in a special session at 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 13, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St.

The only item on the agenda is a review of findings from Emergency Vehicle Response for Bluffton Fire Department apparatus.

Wells County Public Library board will meet Tuesday

The board of the Wells County Public Library will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jue 13, in the meeting room of the main library, 200 W. Washington St.

No agenda was made available to the News-Banner for this listing.

County tourism board will meet Wednesday morning

The board of the Wells County Conven-

tion and Tourism Commission will meet at 8 a.m. Wednesday, June 14, at the Wells County Commerce and Visitors Center, 211 Water St.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Financial update.
- Fee for service contract.
- Marketing grants.
- SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) analysis.

UWRBC board will meet Wednesday morning

The board of the Upper Wabash River Basin Commission will hold its regular bi-monthly meeting at 8 a.m. Wednesday, June 14, at the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

Topics on the agenda include:

• Minutes, financial reports, and claims.

- Information about a 319 Grant opportunity, brought to the board by Kristy Todd of the Indiana Department of Natural Resourc-
- Watershed plans from Randy Lehman
- Upper Wabash River autumn festival.
- Trash cleanup. • Lake and River Enhancement grant
- update Bluffton Parks and Recreation Department Rivergreenway/Wabash River functional assessment and 2023 design project functional assessment of Rock Creek in Wells County.
 - UWRBĆ webpage.
- House Bill 1639, Watershed Development Commission.
- Annual funding Rick Imel, Jay Coun-

The meeting is open to the public. Community residents who are interested in conserving our natural resources and improving the Wabash River are welcome to attend. The board is a cooperation of local gov-

ernments — Adams, Huntington, Jay, and Wells — in 2001. For more information, call UWRBC chairman Doug Sundling at 260-273-9607.

France hails 'hero' who intervened in knife attack on children

By JOHN LEICESTER **Associated Press**

LE PECQ, France (AP) - The attacker slashed at the 24-year-old Catholic pilgrim with the knife that he used to savagely stab one young child after another. But rather than run, Henri held his ground — using a weighty backpack he was carrying to swing at the assailant and fend off his blade.

French media hailed Henri as "the hero with a backpack" Friday after he was shown in a video grappling with the assailant and charging after him during the knife attack that critically wounded four children between the ages of 22 months and 3 years old, and also injured two adults.

Henri, who is on a ninemonth walking and hitchhiking tour of France's cathedrals and happened to be in the Alpine town of Annecy when the attacker rampaged Thursday though its lakeside park, also got personal words of gratitude Friday from President Emmanuel Macron. The French leader toured hospitals to meet victims and their families and thanked medical workers, police, firefighters, civilians including Henri — and others whose first aid and swift

actions helped save lives. "You experienced very hard moments, traumatizing," Macron said. "I am very proud of you."

Henri asked Macron to be invited to the reopening of Notre Dame in Paris next year, following repairs to the cathedral damaged in a fire in 2019.

"I'll take care of it personally," the French leader replied.

The president had reassuring news about the victims, expressing hope after speaking to doctors about their injuries that "normally things will continue to improve." The most critically injured children, two cousins, were stabilized and "doctors were very confident," Macron said.

A wounded British girl "is awake, she's watching television," Macron added, speaking to first responders. A wounded Dutch girl also has improved and a critically injured adult — who was both knifed and wounded by a shot that police fired as they detained the suspected attacker — is regaining consciousness, Macron said. The second injured adult was discharged from a hospital and was among dozens of people that Macron met and thanked, his left elbow

still bandaged.

"The first thing doctors told me ... is that these children were saved by the swiftness of the collective intervention," Macron said. "Thank you immeasurably for your courage."

Henri had a heavy backpack and was holding another in his hand when the attacker slashed at him. But despite the blade and the attacker's chilling aggression, Henri continued to harass him, pursuing the man inside a playground where he repeatedly stabbed a child in a stroller — and then out of the park again, carrying his backpacks all the while. Henri appeared to hurl one at the assailant at one point and then pick it up again to take another swing.

Henri said he was pow-

ered by his Catholic faith. "When you know that you're loved by God and that he saved our lives, you can act without thinking too much about your own (life) to try and save those of the children," he told French broadcaster BFMTV.

Henri's father, François, said he believed that his son's doggedness helped dissuade the attacker from stabbing more victims before police wrestled him to the ground.

"He took a lot of risks when he wasn't armed, with just his backpacks," the father told The Associated Press. "He didn't stop running after him for many minutes, to stop him from coming back and massacring the kids even more. I think he prevented carnage by scaring him off. Really very courageous."

François asked that their last name not be published, expressing concerns about their family being thrust suddenly and inadvertently into the public eye at a time of shock and outrage in France provoked by the attack's viciousness and the helplessness of its young victims.

The profile of the suspected attacker, a 31-yearold Syrian political refugee, also fueled renewed political debate about French migration policies. Critics on the right and far-right of French politics quickly dusted off arguments that migration controls are too lax.

people should act, or would act.' "In that moment, you unplug your brain and react a bit like an animal by instinct," he said.

For his part, Henri rejected the "hero" label. He said

he "tried to act as all French

"I am far from alone in having reacted," he added. "Many other people around started, like me, to run after him to try to scare him, push him away. And other people immediately went over to the children to take care of the injured."

Motives for the attack in and around a children's playground remained unexplained. The suspect, who has refugee status in Sweden, remains in custody. Psychiatrists were evaluating him, government spokesman Olivier Veran

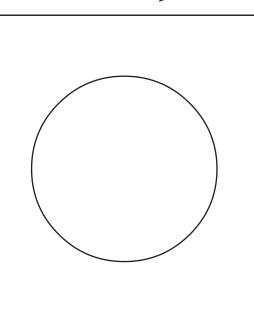
Henri's father said his son "told me that the Syrian was incoherent, saying lots of strange things in different languages, invoking his father, his mother, all the Gods."

Henri, who is documenting his pilgrimage around France on social media, said he'd been setting off to hitchhike to another abbey when the horror unfolded in front of him.

After the assailant's arrest, and having seen that first responders were treating victims, Henri said: "I had just one reflex - which was to start to pray.

The 3-year-old British girl and two French cousins — a girl and a boy, both 2 years old — were rushed to a hospital in the French Alpine city of Grenoble. That was the first stop for Macron and his wife on Friday morning.





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and at schools during school days.

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and lowered ceremoniously.

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instant, then lowered to half-staff

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• On a vehicle, the U.S. flag

staff.

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white stars in a blue field to signify a "new constellation." Francis Hopkinson, one Independence, is most often credited of the signers of the Declaration of with the original design.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2023 · The News-Banner · Page 1a

Nuggets now in full command of NBA Finals, beat Heat for 3-1 lead

By TIM REYNOLDS **AP Basketball Writer**

MIAMI (AP) — Aaron Gordon scored 27 points, Nikola Jokic added 23 and the Denver Nuggets moved one

win away from their first NBA championship by beating the Miami Heat 108-95 on Friday night to take a 3-1 lead in the title series.

 $B\,ro\,w\,n$ Bruce scored 21 off the bench for the Nuggets, who took both games in Miami to grab complete command. They'll have three

chances to win one game for a title, two of those in Denver, the first of them in what's sure to be a raucous atmosphere for Game 5 on Monday night.

Jamal Murray had 15 points and 12 assists — his fourth consecutive double-digit assist game — for Denver.

Jimmy Butler scored 25 points for Miami, which has now fallen into 3-1 holes in each of its last three finals appearances — this one joining 2014 and 2020. Bam Adebayo had 20 points and 11 rebounds for the Heat, while Kyle Lowry had 13 points.

The Heat walked off the floor in silence, fully aware of how much trouble they're in now.

The Nuggets were overwhelming favorites to start the series, for obvious reasons. Denver was the Western Conference's No. 1 seed; Miami was

> the Eastern Conference's No. 8 seed. The Nuggets had won nine of the last 10 regular-season meetings between the teams, and their run of success over the Heat has continued through four games of the finals.

Denver led by 13 going into the fourth, and Miami came out

for the final quarter with appropriate desperation. The Heat scored the first eight points, Jokic committed his fifth foul and had to go to the bench with 9:24 left — and it was down to 86-81when Butler converted a three-point play with 8:42 remaining.

But the Nuggets – who fell apart in the fourth quarter of Game 2 for their lone loss of the series – didn't fold, even with their two-time MVP still out. Murray made a 3-pointer to stop Miami's 8-0 spurt, and Jeff Green made a huge corner 3 from near the Heat bench for a 94-85 edge with 6:21 left.

Jokic checked out with Denver up 10.

He came back with the Nuggets up nine.

Miami didn't take advantage of that chance, and now finds itself on the wrong end of history. Teams that take a 3-1 lead in the NBA Finals have won 35 out of 36 previous times, and the Heat will have to buck that trend to keep Denver from winning its title.

The Nuggets even survived a scare. Jokic tweaked his right ankle when he landed on the back of Max Strus' foot midway through the opening quarter. He remained in the game after it happened, briefly retreated to the Denver locker room before the start of the second quarter and played the rest of the way with no evident issues.

TIP-INS

Nuggets: Murray played with tape protecting the bottom of his left hand, thanks to a nasty floor burn he got in Game 3. ... It was Denver's 25th win on the road this season, tying a franchise record set last season. ... Michael Porter Jr. scored 11 for the Nuggets.

Heat: It was retiring 20-year veteran Udonis Haslem's 43rd birthday and rookie Nikola Jovic's 20th birthday. Jovic was 58 days old when Haslem signed his first Heat contract. ... If it was Miami's home finale this season, then the Heat went 613-299 in its home arena during his career. ... Miami started the playoffs 6-0 at home. The Heat are 0-4 on their home floor since.

Wells County Swim begins its summer season with a win

The Wells County Swim Team began its summer season yesterday night with a win over Adams Cen-

The WCST has been running for over 40 years and features Bluffton, Norwell, Southern Wells, Bethlehem, and homeschooled boys' and girls' swimmers from ages 5-18.

This season, the team brought in 161 kids. Swimmers compete in age groups eight and under, 9/10, 11/12, 13/14, and 15 and over, with nine races throughout the year and a conference championship held at Jay County on July 15.

Practices began on May 2 for two weeks at Norwell and two weeks at Bluffton's indoor pools, and the rest of the season will be held at the Wells Community Pool.

The Barracudas (WCST) in the summer swim in the Wabash Valley Conference with Adams Central, Bellmont, Blackford, Jay County, Huntington, Marion, and South Adams and are led by Stephanie Scott, also Norwell's boys' and girls' coach.

In their first meet of the year, the Barracudas won 851-273 over the Stingrays Swim Club.

Full individual results can be found at news-ban-

High School Calendar

BASEBALL: (semi-state semi-final) Norwell vs. Andrean at Oak Hill High School, 2 p.m. (semi-state final at 8 p.m.)

Potential Blackhawks No. 1 pick Connor Bedard draws comparisons to McDavid

By JOHN WAWROW **AP Sports Writer**

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) - The NHLis going to have another Connor to contend with very shortly. For everything



Connor Bedard

two-time NHL MVP Connor McDavid has accomplished in Edmonton since being selected No. 1 in the 2015 draft, Connor Bedard is on the same trajectory in being pegged as this year's top

eligible draft prospect, Central Scouting director Dan Marr said Friday.

"He's right up there with Connor McDavid, it's just the next generation," Marr said in touting Bedard's quickness, shot and ability to read and adapt. "So Connor McDavid started that trend, and Connor Bedard is going to lead it into the next trend.'

The annual NHL pre-draft combine in Buffalo, New York, is resembling more of a coronation for the 17-yearold Bedard, who has spent the past two years putting up generational numbers with the Regina Pats of the Western Hockey League while also shining against his peers on the international

"I think you can use a lot of adjectives to describe it," Regina coach John Paddock told The Associated

Press recently in comparing Bedard's production at the same age level to McDavid and Penguins captain Sidney

"That's quite a high ceiling," said Paddock, a former NHL coach and player. "But there's no indication he's not going to do that based on what he's done to date."

The Chicago Blackhawks own the No. 1 pick, and are highly anticipated to use it on Bedard when the draft opens in Nashville, Tennessee, on June

Bedard held his latest meeting with the Blackhawks at the combine in a relationship that began at a top-prospects camp in Toronto last summer.

Bedard's arrival would coincide with the franchise in transition, with Chicago moving on from its aging core after trading 2007 No. 1 pick, Patrick Kane, and with captain Jonathan Toews' future uncertain.

"Yeah, it'd be awesome," Bedard said of the possibility of being selected by the Blackhawks. "The history of that organization, that city with sports would be unbelievable. We'll see what happens, but to be selected, that would be a huge honor."

Bedard said he's following McDavid's advice to stay in the moment and not peak too far ahead. He added, his dream to play in the NHL began no different than those of his colleagues: the moment he picked up a hockey stick growing up in North Vancouver, British Columbia.

What separates Bedard, however,



is his exceptional skating ability and a hard shot, which is even more lethal given his quick release.

With Bedard the likely top pick, the intrigue at the draft is likely to revolve around who rounds out the remainder of the top five selections.

University of Michigan's Adam Fantilli is second among North American skaters on Central Scouting's final list, followed by top American prospect, William Smith, who played for USA Hockey's developmental program. The top two European skaters are also considered in the mix with Sweden's Leo Carlsson and Russia's Matvei Michkov.

Anaheim is scheduled to pick second followed by Columbus, San Jose and Montreal.

Marr gives the edge to Bedard while also being impressed with Fantilli — just the third freshman to win the Hobey Baker Trophy awarded to college hockey's top players - in a draft class considered very deep with offensive-minded forwards.

"You're going to win with both," Marr said. "And who whoever gets these two players they're going to help define a franchise.'

What distinguishes Bedard, who doesn't turn 18 until next month, has been his consistency.

Last season, his 71 goals in just 57 games were the most in the WHL (Continued on Page 7)

PGA Tour rookie Carl Yuan leads by 1 at Canadian Open

TORONTO (AP) — Carl Yuan moved into position to turn around a forgettable rookie year on the PGA Tour, shooting a 5-under 67 in cool, rainy conditions on Friday to take a one-shot lead at the midway point of the RBC Canadian Open.

Two-time defending champion Rory McIlroy gave himself a chance heading into the weekend at Oakdale. He shot 67 and was three shots back of Yuan's two-day total of 9-under 135. "I felt like I putted pretty well (Thursday). But iron play

was better, wedges were definitely better, got it in play a little more off the tee," said McIlroy, who had never seen the course before the opening round. "So yeah, it was a better, Corey Conners, seeking to become the first Canadian to

win his national open since 1954, shot 69 and was one shot back. Joining him were Tyrrell Hatton — who shot 64 to set the course record for Oakdale's composite routing - C.T. Pan (66) and Aaron Rai (69).

"Really happy with the start," Conners said. "Fun playing in front of the Canadian fans. Just enjoying the walk out

Conners is coming off a tie for 12th in the PGA Championship at Oak Hill.

"I would say this week I've been a lot more relaxed than even I was there and I felt like I was quite relaxed at the PGA Championship," he said. "So I'm feeling good about my game and able to play with freedom and confidence. I'm just having a lot of fun.' Yuan, a 26-year-old from China who played college golf

at Washington, has made 7 of 20 cuts this season, with his best finish a tie for 21st at the Sony Open in Hawaii in January. With his playing status very much in jeopardy, Yuan is trying to block out the stress and have fun on the course. "That's my goal coming into the week. That's my No. 1

goal," Yuan said. "Not a result goal, just like being in the present, hitting shot by shot and, yeah, being out here trying to have the most fun. All of it.' Yuan said the weather reminded him of his college days

in the Pacific Northwest.



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FINALS (Best-of-7; x-if necessary) Denver 1, Miami 1 Thursday, June 1: Denver 104,

Sunday, June 4: Miami 111, Denver 108 Denver 109, Miami 94

Friday, June 9: Denver 108, Miami Monday, June 12: Miami at Denver.

8:30 p.m. x-Thursday, June 15: Denver at Miami, TBA x-Sunday, June 18: Miami at Denver. TBA

BASEBALL

American League

East Division	า			
	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	47	19	.712	
Baltimore	39	24	.619	$6\frac{1}{2}$
New York	37	28	.569	91/2
Toronto	36	29	.554	101/2
Boston	32	32	.500	14
Central Divis	sion			
	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	32	32	.500	
Cleveland	30	33	.476	1½
Chicago	29	36	.446	31/2
Detroit	26	35	.426	41/2
Kansas City	18	45	.286	131/2
West Divisio	n			
	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	40	22	.645	_
Houston	36	28	.563	5
Los Angeles	34	30	.531	7
Seattle	30	31	.492	91/2

Oakland 15 50 **Thursday's Games** Tampa Bay 4, Minnesota 2 Baltimore 6, Milwaukee 3 Chicago White Sox 6, N.Y. Yankees 5, 1st game Philadelphia 3, Detroit 2

N.Y. Yankees 3, Chicago White Sox 0. 2nd game Toronto 3, Houston 2 Cleveland 10, Boston 3 L.A. Angels 3, Chicago Cubs 1 Friday's Games Tampa Bay 8, Texas 3 Arizona 11, Detroit 6 Boston 3, N.Y. Yankees 2 Baltimore 3, Kansas City 2 Minnesota 3, Toronto 2, 10 innings Chicago White Sox 2, Miami 1 Oakland 5, Milwaukee 2 Cleveland 10, Houston 9, 14 innings Seattle at L.A. Angels, late

Seattle at L.A. Angels, late
Saturday's Games
Arizona (Nelson 2-3) at Detroit
(Boyd 3-4), 1:10 p.m.
Miami (Alcantara 2-5) at Chicago
White Sox (Kopech 3-5), 2:10 p.m.
Minnesota (Ryan 7-3) at Toronto
(TBD), 3:07 p.m.
Kansas City (Singer 4-4) at Baltimore (Irvin 0-2), 4:05 p.m.
Oakland (Blackburn 0-0) at Milwaukee (Teheran 1-2), 4:10 p.m.

kee (Teheran 1-2), 4:10 p.m. Texas (Eovaldi 8-2) at Tampa Bay

(Bradley 4-2), 4:10 p.m. Houston (France 1-1) at Cleveland (McKenzie 0-0), 6:10 p.m. Boston (Houck 3-5) at N.Y. Yankees (Germán 3-3), 7:35 p.m.

Seattle (Woo 0-1) at L.A. Angels (Sandoval 3-5), 10:07 p.m. Sunday's Games Arizona at Detroit, 11:35 a.m. Kansas City at Baltimore, 1:35 p.m. Minnesota at Toronto, 1:37 p.m. Houston at Cleveland, 1:40 p.m. Texas at Tampa Bay, 1:40 p.m. Miami at Chicago White Sox, 2:10

Oakland at Milwaukee, 2:10 p.m. Seattle at L.A. Angels, 4:07 p.m. Boston at N.Y. Yankees, 7:10 p.m.

National League

East Division	1			
	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	39	24	.619	_
Miami	35	29	.547	$4\frac{7}{2}$
Philadelphia	31	32	.492	8
New York	30	34	.469	91/2
Washington	.25	37	.403	131/2
Central Divis			D - 4	0.0
Dittalaurala	W	L	Pct	GB
Pittsburgh Milwaukee	33 34	29 30	.532 .531	_
Cincinnati	29	35	.453	-
St. Louis	27	37	.422	5 7
Chicago	26	36	.419	7
West Divisio		00	.410	,
11001 5111010	w	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	38	25	.603	-
Los Angeles	36	28	.563	21/2
San Francisc	o 32	30	.516	51/2
San Diego	29	33	.468	81/2
Colorado	26	38	.406	121/2
Thursday's (
L.A. Dodgers				
Baltimore 6, N	Milwa	ukee	3	

San Francisco 6, Colorado 4 Philadelphia 3, Detroit 2 Atlanta 13, N.Y. Mets 10, 10 innings L.A. Angels 3, Chicago Cubs 1 Arizona at Washington, ppd. Friday's Games Arizona 11, Detroit 6 Philadelphia 5, L.A. Dodgers 4 Atlanta 3, Washington 2 Chicago White Sox 2, Miami 1 St. Louis 7, Cincinnati 4 Oakland 5, Milwaukee 2 San Diego at Colorado, late N.Y. Mets at Pittsburgh, late

Chicago Cubs at San Francisco

late
Saturday's Games

Arizona (Nelson 2-3) at Detroit (Boyd 3-4), 1:10 p.m. Miami (Alcantara 2-5) at Chicago White Sox (Kopech 3-5), 2:10 p.m.

Cincinnati (Abbott 1-0) at St. Louis (Mikolas 4-2), 2:15 p.m. San Diego (Weathers 1-4) at Colorado (Freeland 4-7), 3:10 p.m. L.A. Dodgers (Miller 2-0) at Phila-

delphia (Nola 5-4), 4:05 p.m. N.Y. Mets (Senga 5-3) at Pittsburgh (Oviedo 3-4), 4:05 p.m. Oakland (Blackburn 0-0) at Milwaukee (Teheran 1-2), 4:10 p.m

Washington (Gore 3-4) at Atlanta (Shuster 2-2), 4:10 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Hendricks 0-2) at San Francisco (TBD), 7:35 p.m. Sunday's Games
Arizona at Detroit, 11:35 a.m.

L.A. Dodgers at Philadelphia, 1:35

N.Y. Mets at Pittsburgh, 1:35 p.m. Washington at Atlanta, 1:35 p.m. Miami at Chicago White Sox, 2:10

Oakland at Milwaukee, 2:10 p.m. Cincinnati at St. Louis, 2:15 p.m. San Diego at Colorado, 3:10 p.m. Chicago Cubs at San Francisco,

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

3,600

FINALS (Best-of-7; x-if necessary) Vegas 1, Florida 0 Saturday, June 3: Vegas 5, Florida 2 Monday, June 5: Vegas 7, Florida 2 Thursday, June 8: Florida 3, Vegas Saturday, June 10: Vegas at Florida,

Brennan's double in 14th inning gives Guardians win over the Astros

By BRIAN DULIK Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) Will Brennan doubled home Tyler Freeman immediately after Freeman's RBI double in the 14th inning, and the Cleveland Guardians outlasted the Houston Astros 10-9 on Friday night.

The Guardians fell behind 4-0 in the second inning and never led until Brennan's game-ending hit. Cleveland tied it at 5-5, 6-6, 7-7 and 8-8, but Houston pushed back ahead by one run each time.

The Astros made it 9-8 in the 14th when Kyle Tucker singled in automatic runner Jose Altuve for the second time in three innings. Josh Naylor also scored twice in extra innings after starting the frame on second base, including the tying run in

Xzavion Curry (3-0)

Connor Bedard

since Pavel Brendl scored 73 in 1998-

99. Bedard's 143 points were the most in the CHL since three players topped

that mark in 1995-96. And it was a season in which he enjoyed 10 games

50 goals in finishing with 51.

pitched one inning for the Guardians, who played their major league-high 30th onerun game, while Seth Martinez (1-2) worked the final 3 1/3 innings for the Astros. The 4-hour, 3-minute game was the longest of the season for either team.

Steven Kwan singled home David Fry in the 13th for Cleveland after Mauricio Dubón's run-scoring double gave the Astros an 8-7 in the

Both teams also scored in the 12th with Houston going up 7-6 on Tucker's RBI single that plated Altuve, and Cleveland extending the game when Naylor scored on a throwing error by shortstop Jeremy Peña.

Rookie Yainer Diaz gave Houston a 6-5 lead in the eighth with a sacrifice fly, but Naylor's two-out, twostrike double off the leftfield wall in the ninth scored José Ramírez against Astros closer Ryan Pressly.

Cleveland trailed 5-1 going into the bottom of the fifth, when it scored three times against Astros starter Cristian Javier. Ramírez's solo homer in the seventh knotted it at 5-all, giving him four home runs in a two-game span.

Before the game, Houston's Yordan Alvarez, who leads the majors with 55 RBIs, was placed on the 10-day IL with right oblique discomfort. The 25-year-old outfielder was hurt Thursday and returned to Houston for additional evaluation.

Peña had his second career four-hit game and José Abreu belted a three-run homer in the first off Logan Allen. It was Abreu's second blast since May 28, when he ended a 51-game homerless drought to begin his first season with Houston.

The Guardians got within 5-4 in the fifth thanks to consecutive doubles by Myles Straw, Steven Kwan and Amed Rosario.

Ramírez went 3 for 4 with two runs and three walks, one night after he hit three homers. He became the first Cleveland player with four homers and five extra-base hits over two games since Travis Hafner in 2004.

Javier, who had won five straight starts, tied his season high with four runs allowed over five innings. The right-hander struck out two, his fewest since 2021.

UP NEXT

Astros RHP J.P. France (1-1, 3.44 ERA) takes on Guardians RHP Triston McKenzie (0-0, 0.00) in the second game of the threegame set. McKenzie struck out 10 over five scoreless innings in his season debut June 4 at Minnesota.

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

WEEKLY DOW JONES AND S&P 500 -199.90 10.42 91.74 168.59 43.17 **Dow Jones industrials** Close: 33,876.78 1-week change: 114.02 (0.3%) THUR MON TUES WED



		STOCK MARK	CET IND	EXES			
15,888.39 11,946.2 1,063.15 823.6 16,222.20 13,278.5 13,385.95 10,088.8 4,325.28 3,491.5 2,738.88 2,185.9		Name	Last	Wk Chg	Wk %Chg	YTD %Chg	12-mo %Chg
34,712.28	28,660.94	Dow Jones Industrials	33,876.78	+114.02	+.34	+2.20	+7.91
15,888.39	11,946.21	Dow Jones Transportation	14,243.36	+92.88	+.66	+6.36	+6.54
1,063.15	823.64	Dow Jones Utilities	915.24	+15.20	+1.69	-5.39	-6.65
16,222.20	13,278.56	NYSE Composite	15,499.91	+154.72	+1.01	+2.08	+2.67
13,385.95	10,088.83	Nasdaq Composite	13,259.14	+18.38	+.14	+26.68	+16.92
4,325.28	3,491.58	S&P 500	4,298.86	+16.49	+.39	+11.96	+10.20
2,738.88	2,185.93	S&P MidCap	2,542.37	+36.82	+1.47	+4.61	+5.80
43,659.89	34,917.15	Wilshire 5000	43,402.27	+220.72	+.51	+13.99	+11.69
2,030.05	1,641.47	Russell 2000	1,865.71	+34.80	+1.90	+5.93	+3.63
14,529.95	11,517.23	Lipper Growth Index	14,295.28	-7.74	05	+19.15	+13.69

M

STOCK EXCHANGE HIGHLIGHTS

NYSE G	AINERS	(\$2 or	MORE)	NYSE L	OSERS	(\$2 or	MORE)	NYSE A	CTIVES (\$1 or i	MORE)
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Circor	47.75	+16.08	+50.8	PlanetLb	3.41	-1.27	-27.1	Palantir	6191662	15.02	+.50
DWavQnt n	2.26	+.73	+47.7	UtdNtrlF	20.44	-7.00	-25.5	FordM	3455520	13.74	+1.35
BlueApr rs	8.95	+2.59	+40.7	Smartsh	38.83	-9.78	-20.1	Carvana A	3274520	19.07	+3.39
Yext	12.96	+3.71	+40.1	NevroCorp	22.62	-5.65	-20.0	BkofAm	2056580	29.27	+.56
DesignBr	8.60	+1.76	+25.7	EPAM Sys	211.33	-48.32	-18.6	AT&T Inc	1825568	15.95	+.74
Ranpak	4.34	+.88	+25.4	Ouster rs	5.62	-1.07	-16.0	Carnival	1641986	13.09	+.91
OscrHI	9.20	+1.83	+24.8	CienaCorp	41.35	-6.78	-14.1	LumenTch	1520602	1.80	21
Caleres	23.83	+4.68	+24.4	IDT Cp	27.40	-4.17	-13.2	UntySftw	1484617	36.30	+5.30
AmpriusTc	9.50	+1.85	+24.2	BauschHl	7.19	-1.04	-12.6	Nu Hldg	1232220	7.49	+.52
Carvana A	19.07	+3.39	+21.6	SohoHse	5.58	78	-12.3	GinkgoBi	1192636	1.85	+.23
NASDAQ G	AINER	s (\$2 o	R MORE)	NASDAQ I	LOSER	s (\$2 on	MORE)	NASDAQ	ACTIVES	(\$1 OR	MORE)
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
AdvHum h	2.18	+1.85	+554.7	Elicio rs	15.71	-165.74	-91.3	Tesla s	8428501	244.40	+30.43
MGO Glb n	2.29	+1.15	+100.9	VistaGn rs	2.13	-1.86	-46.6	AMD	3538365	124.92	+7.06
FarmerBrs	3.05	+1.23	+67.6	NovoCure	42.76	-36.76	-46.2	Apple Inc s	3474085	180.96	+.01
HothThr rs	3.00	+1.14	+61.6	SunCar A	13.70	-9.60	-41.2	SoFiTech	3383671	8.18	+1.15
Auroralnn A	2.29	+.85	+59.0	PDS Bio	5.90	-3.52	-37.4	Amazon	3025097	123.43	82
DiverHlth	2.66	+.97	+57.4	CastleBio	14.66	-8.07	-35.5	Nvidia	2135398	387.70	-5.53
Biosheng rs	9.29	+3.26	+54.1	IN8bio	2.13	-1.02	-32.4	Intel	2117799	31.34	+.03

+.85 +52.1 TranCode +.85 +48.3 Arrival rs 2.78 -1.17 -29.6 LucidGrp -1.09 -29.1 MarathDig Arrival rs -1.38 -24.0 Alphabt A s 1645075 122.23 -2.44 +46.0 StrngDig rs 4.38 STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST Wk YTD Wk YTD

	ъ.	1 1	01	0/ 01-	0/ 01	M	ъ.	1	01	0/ 01-	0/ 01
Name	Div	Last	Chg	%Chg	y %Chg	Name	Div	Last	Chg	%Chg	%Cho
AFLAC	1.68		+2.37	+3.6	-4.1	Inv QQQ		354.50			
AT&T Inc	1.11	15.95	+.74	+4.9	-13.4	Kroger		46.17		+0.5	+3.6
AMD	1.60	124.92	+7.06		+92.9	LincNat		23.10		+2.7	
AffirmHld			+1.69	+10.8	+79.8	Lowes	4.40	209.12	69	-0.3	+5.0
Alphabt A s		122.23	-2.44	-2.0	+38.5	LucidGrp				-5.9	-9.1
Amazon		123.43	82	-0.7	+46.9	LumenTch		1.80			-65.5
AEP		83.68	+.23	+0.3	-11.9	MarathDig		9.38			+174.3
Apple Inc s	.96	180.96	+.01		+39.3	McDnlds		286.79		-1.1	+8.8
ApldMatl	1.28	136.12	+1.49	+1.1	+39.8	Microsoft	2.72	326.79		-2.6	+36.3
BP PLC	1.44	35.47	18	-0.5	+1.5	MullnAuto rs		.43	32	-42.2	-94.0
BkofAm	.88	29.27	+.56	+2.0	-11.6	NL Inds	.28	5.97	+.10	+1.7	-12.3
BrMySq	2.16	64.80	86	-1.3	-9.9	NiSource	1.00	27.09	+.33	+1.2	-1.2
CampSp	1.48	46.05	-5.42	-10.5	-18.9	Nikola		.71	+.12	+20.3	-67.4
Carnival		13.09	+.91	+7.5	+62.4	NorflkSo	5.40	216.18	+.31	+0.1	-12.3
Carvana A		19.07	+3.39	+21.6	+302.3	Nucor	2.04	145.55	+4.26	+3.0	+10.4
Caterpillar	4.44	235.03	+8.40	+3.7	-1.9	Nvidia	.16	387.70	-5.53	-1.4	+165.3
Chevron	6.04	158.86	+2.60	+1.7	-11.5	Palantir		15.02	+.50	+3.4	+134.0
Cisco	1.56	49.66	36	-0.7	+4.2	PepsiCo	5.06	182.35	-1.71	-0.9	+.9
Citigroup	2.04	48.30	+1.98	+4.3	+6.8	Pfizer	1.60	38.97	+.61	+1.6	-23.9
CocaCola	1.84	60.47	69	-1.1	-4.9	PrUltPQ		36.62	20	-0.5	+111.7
CredSuiss	1.22	.89	01	-1.0	-70.9	ProShtQQQ		11.14	+.02	+0.2	-24.3
DxSOXBr		11.48	24	-2.0	-70.9	PShtQQQ		21.79	+.05	+0.2	-59.7
DxSOXBI		22.40	+.38	+1.7	+131.6	SpdrDJIA	3.98	339.27	+1.20	+0.4	+2.4
Disney		91.93	+1.16	+1.3	+5.8	S&P500ETF	4.13	429.90	+1.98	+0.5	+12.4
Eaton	2.92	187.30	+.82	+0.4	+19.3	SoFiTech		8.18	+1.15	+16.4	+77.4
EliLilly	4.52	446.04	+3.71	+0.8	+21.9	SonoGrp		.23	+.06	+31.8	-76.9
ExxonMbl	3.64	107.39	+1.63	+1.5	-2.6	SPDR Fncl	.46			+1.1	-3.1
FardyFuIn		.33	+.09	+36.7	+13.1	StIDynam	1.70	99.22	+1.51	+1.5	+1.6
FordM	.60	13.74	+1.35	+10.9	+18.1	Tesla s		244.40	+30.43	+14.2	+98.4
FrankElec	.90	99.10	+2.60	+2.7	+24.3	T2 Biosy rs		.07	03	-30.4	-95.0
FrptMcM	.30	37.89	+.70	+1.9	3	UntySftw		36.30	+5.30	+17.1	+27.0
GenElec	.32	106.30	+.50	+0.5	+63.3	VerizonCm	2.61	35.47	+.89	+2.6	-10.0
HP Inc	1.05	29.80	75	-2.5	+10.9	WalMart	2.28	153.09	+4.27	+2.9	+8.0
HomeDp	8.36	297.35	+1.41	+0.5	-5.9	WalgBoots	1.92	31.42	+.23	+0.7	-15.9
iShR2K	1.77	185.03	+3.01	+1.7	+6.1	WBroDis A		13.84	+2.09	+17.8	+46.0
Ideanom If		.06	+.01	+27.3	-65.9	WsteMInc	2.80	162.68	-2.28	-1.4	+3.7
Intel	.50	31.34	+.03	+0.1	+18.6	WeWork		.18	00	-0.5	-87.1
IBM	6.64	135.30	+2.88	+2.2	-4.0	WellsFargo	1.20	42.13	+.89	+2.2	+2.0

Money	RATES	S
	Last	Pvs Day
Prime Rate	8.25	8.25
Discount Rate	5.75	5.75
Federal Funds Rate	5.08	5.08
Treasuries		
1-year	5.17	5.12
2-year	4.60	4.52
5-year	3.92	3.87
10-year	3.74	3.72
30-year	3.88	3.89

	CURF	RENCIES	
ıy		Last	Pvs Day
5 5 8	Australia	1.4841	1.4895
5	Britain	1.2576	1.2556
8_	Canada	1.3352	1.3359
_	Euro	.9303	.9277
2	Japan	139.41	138.95
2	Mexico	17.2701	17.3943
<u>/</u>	SwitzerInd	.9031	.8992
2 7 2 9	British pound expres others show dollar in		

	IVIO	IUAL	I OND	<u> </u>			
	T	otal Asse	ets	To	tal Returr	n/Rank	Po
Name	Obj	(\$MIns)	NAV	4-wk	12-mo	5-year	Loa
American Funds AmrcnBalA m	MA	92,250	30.08	+1.8	+2.2/C	+6.2/B	5.7
American Funds CptlIncBldrA m	ΙH	59,267	63.96	-0.4	+1.0/C	+4.7/A	5.7
American Funds EuroPacGrA m	FG	19,669	54.19	-0.5	+6.0/D	+2.9/C	5.7
American Funds FdmtlInvsA m	LB	58,043	66.41	+3.6	+8.1/B	+8.3/D	5.7
American Funds GrfAmrcA m	LG	107,198	58.51	+5.9	+9.2/D	+8.8/D	5.7
American Funds IncAmrcA m	AL	73,171	22.72	0.0	-0.1/E	+5.6/C	5.7
American Funds InvCAmrcA m	LB	69,414	46.05	+4.3	+9.8/A	+8.9/D	5.7
American Funds NwPrspctvA m	WG	51,416	53.80	+2.5	+8.6/C	+8.7/B	5.7
American Funds WAMtlnvsA m	LB	70,997	54.42	+3.4	+5.1/D	+9.4/C	5.7
Davis NYVentureA m	LB	4,070	25.19	+6.6	+10.3/A	+5.1/E	4.7
Dodge & Cox Stkl	LV	59,377	222.00	+3.7	+2.6/B	+9.0/A	N
Fidelity 500ldxlnsPrm	LB	392,028	149.63	+4.6	+8.8/B	+11.0/A	N
Fidelity Contrafund	LG	93,695	14.40	+5.7	+12.7/B	+10.3/C	N
Fidelity TtlMktldxInsPrm	LB	70,417	118.82	+4.8	+7.9/C	+10.0/B	N
Fidelity USBdldxInsPrm	CI	59,630	10.27	-0.8	-1.5/B	+0.8/B	N
Fidelity Advisor EquityGrowthA m	ı LG	1,568	15.06	+7.0	+11.3/C	+13.2/A	5.7
Fidelity Advisor GrowthOppsA m	LG	2,985	111.26	+9.9	+9.7/C	+14.9/A	5.7
George Putnam BalA m	MA	1,181	21.07	+2.9	+5.7/A	+7.3/A	5.7
INVESCO MnStrA m	LB	7,801	49.37	+5.3	+10.1/A	+9.5/C	5.5
PIMCO Inclnstl	MU	72,145	10.41	+0.1	+2.4	+2.6	N
Putnam DiversIncA m	NT	592	5.49	-0.6	-1.5/D	-0.6/E	4.0
Putnam SustLeadersA m	LG	4,704	98.26	+3.1	+8.8/D	+10.7/B	5.7
Putnam TEIncA m	ML	564	7.66	-0.6	+1.2/B	+1.4/B	4.0
Schwab SP500ldx	LB	67,306	66.29	+4.0	+6.1	+11.0	N
Thornburg IntermMnA m	MI	277	13.07	-0.6	+1.2/C	+1.3/D	2.0
Thornburg LtdTrmUSGvtA m	GS	49	11.80	-0.6	-1.1/D	+0.1/E	2.2
Vanguard 500ldxAdmrl	LB	399,198	397.85	+4.6	+8.8/B	+11.0/A	N
Vanguard InTrTEAdmrl	MI	67,050	13.45	-0.7	+1.9/A	+1.9/A	N
Vanguard TrgtRtr2025Fd	TG	73,721	17.84	+1.2	+3.3/A	+4.7/B	N
Vanguard TrgtRtr2030Fd	TH	81,075	33.80	+1.5	+4.0/A	+5.1/B	N
Vanguard TrgtRtr2035Fd	ΤI	80,998	20.97	+1.8	+4.6/A	+5.6/C	N
Vanguard TrgtRtr2040Fd	TJ	70,674	37.05	+2.0	+5.2/B	+6.0/C	N
Vanguard TrgtRtr2045Fd	TK	66,704	25.01	+2.3	+5.7/B	+6.5/B	N
Vanguard TtBMldxAdmrl	CI	97,499	9.56	-0.9	-1.4/B	+0.8/B	N
Vanguard TtlnSldxAdmrl	FB	67,552	30.18	-0.1	+4.9/D	+2.8/C	N
Vanguard TtlnSldxInv	FB	165,606	18.04	-0.2	+4.8/D	+2.7/C	N

MUTUAL FUNDS

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

LB 297,092 104.09

MA 90,338 69.89

+4.8

+1.4

+8.0/C +10.1/B

+4.6/A

Vanguard TtlSMldxAdmrl

Vanguard WingtnAdmrl

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

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

with five or more points, and just five career tournament list. Bedard has honed his talent by games in which he failed to register a spending countless hours practic-In 2020-21, Bedard became just the ing shots in his backyard, which he referred to as his "Happy Place." He third WHL 16-year-old to reach 100 points, and was the youngest to score

was so dedicated to work on his shot that he preferred practicing than join-

He's also made a splash on the inter-

national stage. Bedard led Canada with

nine goals and 23 points at the world

juniors last winter, and his combined

production of 17 goals and 36 points

in just 16 games ranks fourth on the

Noted for being soft-spoken, Bedard said he's not yet allowed himself to envision being drafted or making his NHL debut yet.

ing his family for a vacation to Dis-

neyland, and eventually vacationed in Hawaii but only after he was allowed

to bring his inline skates and sticks to

"It's hard kind of think of that. But

of course, I'll work as hard as I can to try to achieve that goal," he said. "And hopefully I do."

Panthers are finding overtime to be the right time in Stanley Cup playoffs

By TIM REYNOLDS **AP Sports Writer**

SUNRISE, \overline{F} la. $\overline{(AP)}$ — When the Florida Panthers are headed to overtime in the playoffs, the routine basically goes like this: The horn sounds to end the third period, the team retreats to the locker room for intermission, and the discussion starts.

There's only one topic.

"Chirpin' who gets to score the goal," Panthers coach Paul Maurice said.

Turns out, the Panthers don't really care who scores it - as long as they score it. And in these playoffs, no team has been anywhere near as good as the Panthers have in extra time. They're 7-0 in overtime in this postseason, the most recent of those wins coming Thursday when they rallied to beat the Vegas Golden Knights 3-2 in Game 3

of the Stanley Cup Final. "Overtime wins are more fun," Maurice said. "They are, right? We've had a whole bunch of them. And we haven't over-celebrated but they are more fun, right? You win a game in regulation, half your team kind of walks off the bench, and they skate and they tap pads and it's fun. It's a good thing. ... But we allow ourselves to celebrate the overtime wins."

Vegas still leads the series 2-1. Game 4 is Saturday night on the Panthers' home ice.

No team over the last seven seasons has more playoff OT wins than Florida, which is 10-0 in its last 10 postseason games that have gone past the 60-minute mark — and the Panthers

weren't even in the playoffs for three of those years. They have more playoff overtime wins this year than any two other teams in the NHL combined, and Sergei Bobrovsky has stopped all 56 shots that he's faced after regulation this spring.

Carter Verhaeghe got the gamewinner on Thursday night 4:27 into overtime. It was his second OT gamewinner of these playoffs, and he became the first player in NHL history to have at least two OT goals in back-to-back postseasons. He had two last year for the Panthers.

'Whenever we get to overtime, just give the puck to Carter Verhaeghe and then usually good things happen," Florida's Nick Cousins said. "Yeah, I don't know what it is. It seems like every time we get to overtime, we always have somebody step up. With our group, it's definitely pretty spe-

It's not just Verhaeghe. Matthew Tkachuk has three OT gamewinners for Florida this year, tying the NHL record held by three other players. He and Verhaeghe are the first teammates with multiple OT gamewinners in the same year since Montreal had three players - John Leclair, Guy Carbonneau and Kirk Muller — do it in 1993, the last time the Canadiens won the

Cousins and Sam Reinhart have the other OT gamewinners for Florida this spring.

"We've got guys that can score." We've got guys that are comfortable in a situation where they can be asked to bury one," Florida veteran Eric Staal said. "We've got guys that have some gamebreaking ability and when you have that in your lineup, it takes one quick look. Obviously, we saw that last night but we saw it over the whole course of the playoffs. There are guys in our room that are built for moments like that and hopefully there's some more ahead here as we continue on.'

This isn't a new thing for Florida, either. Some call the Panthers the Comeback Cats, some say the Cardiac Cats, and both are appropriate. They needed rallies late in the regular season when making their push just to get into the playoffs, then had a flair for drama over and over again in Round 1 against overwhelmingly favored Boston, Round 2 against Toronto and Round 3 against Carolina.

Including playoffs, Florida has 91 comeback wins over the last four seasons — tying Tampa Bay for the most in the NHL over that span.

None of the first 90 meant as much as the one Thursday did. For the first time, the Panthers have won a game in the Cup final. They'll need a comeback story to finish the job and win the Cup, but the Panthers are convinced they have the pedigree to

do just that.
"We just believe," Panthers captain Aleksander Barkov said. "We're getting into overtime because I think we're playing the right way, and we just continue to do that, continue to work hard and we're going to get chances at some point."

Assumptions disrupting friendship

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Dear Annie: I have known one of my friends, "Pam," for more than 50 years, and at times she has been a very good friend. She and her husband introduced me to my now-ex-husband and were both in my wedding party.

Last year, I had a disagreement with a mutual friend, "Sharon." Quite frankly, I thought Sharon was in the wrong, but I decided her friendship was more important than who was right and who was wrong. I apologized to Sharon and took the blame.

When we all had our 50th high school reunion recently, Pam hung out with Sharon and only briefly said hello to me, though her husband came over to talk to me.

More recently, she sent me an email saying that my ex-husband had come to visit her husband and her. She said that he looked badly, and he told her that my children have not been there for him, which is not the truth. She told me I should speak with my adult children and tell them to visit him more.

I feel that in both instances — with Sharon and my ex-husband — Pam judged me without hearing my side of the story. I would never dream of telling her that her two kids were not assisting her or her husband without knowing more. How should I handle this? -Friends Like These

Dear Friends Like These: It is inevitable that people will make assumptions and judgments about one another's personal business. It's petty, foolish - and utterly human. Trust yourself and your decisions and put no stock in others' uninformed opinions of your life. You can't manage everyone's perception of you, and you'll go crazy trying.

That said, you can and should tell a friend when she's been hurtful. Share with Pam what you shared with me: You would never presume to tell her how she should manage her personal affairs, and you hope she will put herself in your shoes and see how her comments could come across as judgmental.

Dear Annie: I've been told that young people should use a credit card more often so that they can build a good credit history. I'm 24. I'd like to get a credit card that I can use for small recurring

expenses. But I Dear don't really know Annie anything about banking, let alone by Annie Lane which of the doz-



like interest rate to take into account. Can you provide some clarity on credit cards for beginners? I've heard horror stories about credit misuse. But more importantly, there are just so many similar options! No one taught me how to do this. — Credit Confused

Dear Credit Confused: You don't sound so confused, only (wisely) trepidatious. You've got the right idea about using a credit card for small recurring expenses, such as utility bills. If you fly a lot, choosing one of the airline cards could be a good option, as you'll often automatically get perks such as free checked bags. This is better than usagedependent perks (e.g., spending \$2,000 in the first three months of opening an account), which can end up encouraging you to spend more than you can afford. I'd also recommend looking at not just the introductory interest rate (which is often 0 percent) but the rate after the introductory period is over. However, no advice I could offer can take the place of advice from a good financial adviser. Financial advisers aren't just for the wealthy. Accredited Financial Counselors work with low- and middle-income clients. You can visit their website (https://www.afcpe.org) to learn more and find an accredited counselor.

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

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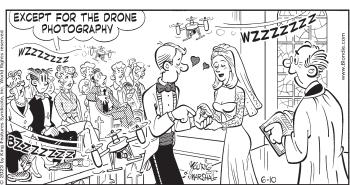
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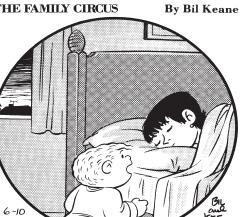
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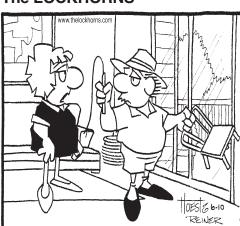


THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I think the outside's almost ready to be morning.

The LOCKHORNS



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My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham

Q: This world is falling apart at the seams. There doesn't appear to be any way to stop the avalanche that is destroying society. Shouldn't we come up with a new moral order that can stop some of the insanity that we're being forced to accept? - M.O.

A: We do not need a new moral order; the world desperately needs the tried and tested moral order that God wrote on the tablet. New morality is nothing more than the old immorality brought up to date. We've changed our moral code to fit our behavior instead of changing our

Christ can give people the power to overcome every sin

God's moral code. We have glamorized vice and minimized virtue. We have played down

gentleness, manners, and morals, while we have played up rudeness, savagery, and the philosophy of "might is right." When immorality and murder become the norm, the result is chaos. The ideal of purity is scorned, immorality is laughed at, and people scoff that God is old fashioned. These things are glamorized today.

What is the answer? The Ten Commandments are valid today. They reflect the moral character of God, and they also provide the foundation of right living with others. The Bible teaches that God kind can undergo a radical spiritual and moral change that is brought about by God Himself. Christ can give people the power to overcome every sin. He can break the chain of sin in people's lives. How? Repent, confess, commit, surrender to Him, and find salvation in the Savior who forgives sinners, giving them new and abundant

'Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence" (2 Peter 1:5, NLT).

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

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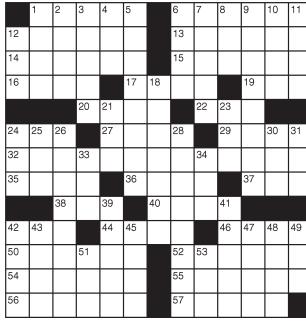
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13th Part 3

Yesterday's answer 6-10



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

King Classic Sudoku

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MOVING SALE, 312 W. Wabash, June 9 and 10, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Cabinets, chairs, DVDs, Legos, toys, men's clothes, pans, craft materials, aguarium and much more.

5135 S. 500 E. (COUNTY ROAD) GARAGE SALE Brand name clothing: teen boys/ girls, women & shoes/sandals, formal dresses, home decor, work out bench and much more! May. 12 9:00 AM-3:00 PM, May. 13 9:00 AM-3:00 PM Rain or Shine

HELOISE HINT: If you have been doing lots of crafts but have lost interest. You can put all the unused craft supplies in your garage sale — like fabrics, yarn, thread, scrapbooking materials and craft kits — and offer them at lower prices. Fax Heloise @ 210-HELOISE (435-

Receive a free garage sale kit when placing a three day, line classified ad in the **Bluffton News-Banner.**

SUDOKU ANSWER									
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Help Wanted

THE TOWN OF Ossian is taking application for a General Maintenance Worker. Employ-ee is to perform a variety of custodial and maintenance duties in order to maintain and repair Town facilities, equipment, property, streets, parks, water & sewer utilities. Employee reports to the Town Manager. Please pick up application: Ossian Town Hall, 507 N Jefferson, Ossian, IN 46777, 7 am to 3:30 pm.

REAL ESTATE

Open Houses



7418 E US Highway 224, Craigville, IN. (Wells County), Sunday, June 11th, 1p-3p. Exceptional 2,876 sq. ft. country home on 2 acres, large great room w/large windows & fireplace, custom cabinets, granite counter tops, Soaker tub, large master bedroom, basement kitchen, whole house generator, large patio. Immaculate farm home don't miss it. Kent Lesh, 260-820-3982, Coldwell Banker Real Estate Group.

Home For Sale

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

VEHICLES

Autos/Trucks

INDIANA AUTO AUCTION, INC. Huge Repo Sale June 15, 2023. Over 100 repossessed units for sale. Cash only. \$500 deposit per person required. Register 8 am-9:30 am. No public entry after 9:30 am. All vehicles sold AS IS! 4425 W. Washington Center Road, Fort Wayne. (A)

Lottery Numbers

Friday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY Cash 5 — 15-16-18-33-

Cash4Life — 19-25-47-48-56, Cash Ball: 02

Quick Draw Midday — 04-06-17-18-22-23-24-31-32-35-37-41-42-44-47-50-

55-56-62-69, BE: 23 **Daily Three-Midday** 05-01-08, SB: 05

Daily Three-Evening -01-00-02, SB: 05

Daily Four-Midday — 05-09-07-04, SB: 05

Daily Four-Evening — 08-05-06-06, SB: 05

Quick Draw Evening 03-08-10-13-14-24-25-26-29-50-52-53-55-57-59-72-73-75-77-78, BE: 03

Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$19.8 million

MEGA MILLIONS 03-19-53-60-68, Mega Ball: 13, Megaplier: 3X **POWERBALL**

Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$308 million

Public

JUNE 18-JUNE 25 - (ONLINE ONLY AUCTION) - Various con-

signors, seller. Outstanding line of machinist tooling, lathes, 1st Edition Machinery's Hand Book, 5-ton presses, metal cutting

saw, vintage and handmade fishing lures, collection of vintage rod & reels, vintage toys, wooden boat, canoe, 1950's Massey

Harris 44 gas tractor, lawn roller, heavy duty engine hoist,

antiques, collectibles, glassware, modern furniture. Preview:

June 15 and June 22 from 3-6 p.m. 102 S. Jefferson St. Ossian, IN. Sale manager, Patrick Carter, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-

324-3006, www.steffengrp.com.

JUNE 19-JUNE 23 - (Online Only Auction) - Golfo Di Napoli
Realty, LLC, seller's. 7916 South Warren Road, Warren, IN.

"State of the Art Organic Cheese Manufacturing Facility." Tract

1: Modern 31,000 SF manufacturing building with retail area on

40+/- acres. Tract 2: Complete line of Italian cheese processing equipment. Tract 3: Combination of Tract 1 and 2. Brandon Steffen, sale manager, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, (260) 824-3006. BIDDING NOW OPEN AND STARTS CLOSING JUNE 25

STARTING AT 4 PM EST - Multiple Consigners, owner. Online only consignment auction! 1,000+ lots! Featuring furniture, household items, glassware, collectibles, antiques, TV's, silver

coins, tools, guns, Amazon return items, (18) 20.00 gold pieces

& much more! Auction Preview: June 22, 3-5 p.m., 815 Adams Street, Decatur, IN. Pick Up times: June 26, 1-6 p.m. & June 27, 9 a.m.-noon. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, 260-724-7402,

BIDDING NOW OPEN & STARTS CLOSING JULY 11 - 6 p.m.

EST - Brittany & Ryan Kemp, owners. 327 W. Wabash, Bluff-

ton. Online only real estate auction! 1,744+/- sq. feet, 3 bed, 2 full

bath, slab, 16'x17' detached garage, 15 acre lot, Zoned: Residential, M.S.D. Bluffton-Harrison Schools, Harrison Township, Section 4, Wells County, Indiana. Open house: June 20, 5-6 p.m. Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC, 260-724-7402, Kjauction.

BIDDING NOW OPEN & STARTS CLOSING JULY 11 - 7 p.m. EST - Randy McKean, owner. Online only real estate auction! 604+/- sq. feet, 1 bed, 1 bath, slab, 20'x22' detached garage, .15

acre lot, Zoned: Residential, North Adams Community Schools,

Root Township, Section 34, Adams County, Indiana. Perfect investment property! Open house by appointment only, 827 Dierkes Street, Decatur. Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC, 260-

724-7402, Kjauction.com.



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Sporting Goods

TOURNAMENT GUIDE SE-**RIES**, spinning rod, graphite, 78", \$15, 273-3950.

Sporting Goods

BOY'S, 20 INCH, 6-speed bike, \$20, 260-827-8878.

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