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FRIDAY, JULY 21, 2023 BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection \$1.00



Kayla Kiefer, foreground, is the winner of the 2023 Kane Krinn Award, which was presented to her during the 4-H livestock auction Thursday evening. Behind her are members of the Krinn family — Shelly, RieAnn, Matt, and Keane. (Photo by Dave Schultz)

Willing to help Kayla Kiefer chosen as 2023 Kane Krinn Award winner

By DAVE SCHULTZ
Kayla Kiefer made an impression on Matt Krinn last year when she assisted other 4-H members get their pigs pushed through the scale.
“She was just willing to help in any way, shape, and form,” he said.
So it was that Kiefer, a nine-year member of 4-H, was the choice of the Krinn family for the 2023 Kane Krinn Award. The award honors a 4-H member who, as Matt Krinn describes it, “just jumps in and does whatever you ask them to do and helps out everybody and anybody — no matter what.”
The award honors the memory of Matt and Shelly’s son and Keane and RieAnn’s brother,

who died in a tragic gun accident in 2008. The award handed to Kiefer Thursday night marked the 16th time it was presented to a deserving member of the Wells County 4-H program.
As Shelly puts it, a 4-H member who exemplifies what the program’s name stands for — head, heart, hands, and health.
Kiefer appreciated receiving the honor.
“It feels great to have my happy spirit in the 4-H barn, in leadership, be awarded like this,” she said.
The award was presented as it has been in the past — during the livestock auction before the swine auction begins.
daves@news-banner.com

Wells County 4-H Fair ends with annual auction

By HOLLY GASKILL
Over \$175,000 was brought in during the 4-H fair’s annual auction.
The auction contained 238 lots, 22 of which were during the premiere auction and 216 of which were during the livestock auction. Preliminary totals also showed \$175,990.50 in sales and an additional \$12,950 in donations to the 4-H foundation.
The biggest individual winner of the night was Kole Kiefer, who sold his champion turkey for \$4,450. The turkey was bought together by Alliance Energy Services, Bailey’s Repair, Berquist Inc. Brickley Excavating, Crestwood Services, Dr. Harry Brickley Farm Foundation, Farmers and Merchants State Bank, Felger Electric, First Bank of Berne, Franger Gas Co. Inc., Kelley Automotive Group, National ECO Energy, National Oil and Gas Inc., Selking International, Ben Burman, TTG Equipment and Yoder Grant.
Category champions and reserve champions sold at the auction, and the purchasers were as follows:
Premiere Auction
• Samantha Evans, grand champion alfalfa, \$950: BR Fuel Services, Dettmer Enterprises, Dr. Harry Brickley Farm Foundation, Farmers and Merchants State Bank, Halderman Real Estate and Farm Management, Helena Chemical of Craigville, Kody Kummer, National Oil and Gas Inc. and TTG Equipment.
• Clark Evans, reserve grand champion alfalfa, \$1,000: BR Fuel Services, Dettmer Enterprises, Dr. Harry Brickley Farm Foundation, Farmers and Merchants State Bank, Halderman Real Estate and Farm Management, Helena Chemical of Craigville, National Oil and Gas Inc. and TTG Equipment.
• Bryce Kilander, grand champion BBQ, \$300: Dr. Harry Brickley Farm Foundation, Halderman Real Estate and Farm Manage-

ment and Mounsey Family Farms LLC.
• Emma Fey, reserve grand champion BBQ, \$550: Huffman Real Estate Group, and Monte Fisher and Markley Ag Services
• Ella Wheeler, grand champion beekeeping, \$350: Dr. Harry Brickley Farm Foundation, Halderman Real Estate and Farm Management, and Mounsey Family Farms LLC
• Isaac Wheeler, reserve grand champion beekeeping, \$375: Doug Ingle
• RieAnn Krinn, grand champion cake decorating, \$1,000: Dr. Harry Brickley Farm Foundation, First Bank of Berne, Halderman Real Estate and Farm Management, NBBJ Fence LLC and TTG Equipment
• Paizley Price, reserve grand champion cake decorating, \$375: Jessica Ault
• Mason Baker, grand champion corn, \$1,350: Baker Farms GP, BR Fuel Services, Farmers and Merchants State Bank, Helena Chemical of Craigville, Johnson Seed Sales, National Oil and Gas Inc., and TTG Equipment
• Benjamin Captain, reserve grand champion corn, \$1,400: Charles Captain family
• Makenzie Fuess, grand champion floriculture, \$250: Rob and Jenni Hoover family
• Mason Wells, reserve grand champion floriculture, \$225: Charles Captain Family
• Elsa Franks, grand champion prepared foods, \$300: Yoder Grain
• Cambri Leas, reserve grand champion prepared foods, \$375: S & S Family Farms
• Eden Stoppenhagen, grand champion preserved foods, \$525: Farmers and Merchants State Bank and Steffen Oil
• Joshua Bricker, reserve grand champion preserved foods, \$325: Berne Antique Mall and Leas Concrete Construction
• Elijah Engle, grand champion garden, \$425: Doug Ingle
• Traesyn Dixon, reserve grand champion garden, \$300: TTG Equipment
• Dane Schlagenhauf, reserve grand champion soybeans, \$1,800: Johnson Seed



Wade and Royal Frauhiger lead Royal’s dairy feeder steer into the 4-H auction ring. The steer sold for \$950. (Photo by Holly Gaskill)

Sales and Shaw Ag and Earthworks LLC
• Kammy Miller, grand champion strawberries, \$300: TTG Equipment
• Lane McClure, reserve grand champion strawberries, \$325: Wells County Farm Bureau
• Carly Pease, grand champion wheat, \$300: Prible Ag Products and Steffen Oil
• Eden Stoppenhagen, reserve grand champion wheat, \$700: Bailey’s Repair, Dr. Harry Brickley Farm Foundation, Halder-

man Real Estate and Farm Management, and Yoder Grain
Livestock Auction
• Lane McClure, grant champion meat pen, \$375: Ag Best, L.A. Brown and Leas Concrete Construction
• Emma Fey, grand champion roaster, \$1,200: Baker Farms GP, Charlie and Christine Jones, Huffman Real Estate Group, Jessica Ault, Krinn Famrs Inc., Leas Concrete
(Continued on Page 2)

Pfizer plant damage likely to create drug shortages for hospitals

By TOM MURPHY
AP Health Writer
The fallout from a Pfizer factory being damaged by a tornado could put even more pressure on already-strained drug supplies at U.S. hospitals, experts say.
Wednesday’s tornado touched down near Rocky Mount, North Carolina, and ripped up the roof of a Pfizer factory that makes nearly 25% of Pfizer’s sterile injectable medicines used in U.S. hospitals, according to the drugmaker.

Pfizer said all employees were safely evacuated and accounted for, and no serious injuries were reported. The drugmaker is still assessing damage.
Here’s a closer look at the possible effects.
What are sterile injectables?
The North Carolina plant produces drugs that are injected or through an IV.
The plant makes drugs for anesthesia, medicines that treat infections and drugs needed for surger-

ies. The latter are used in surgeries or intensive care units for patients who are placed on ventilators, said Mike Ganio, who studies drug shortages at the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists.
The Pfizer site does not make or store the company’s COVID-19 vaccine or treatments Comirnaty and Paxlovid.
How big is the site?
Pfizer bought the eastern North Carolina factory in 2015 as part of its acquisition of the drugmaker

Hospira.
There is more than 1.4 million square feet of manufacturing space, or the equivalent of more than 24 football fields, and 22 packaging lines.
Pfizer says well over 2,000 people work there.
How will this affect hospital drug supplies?
It will likely lead to some long-term shortages while Pfizer shifts production to other locations or rebuilds, said Erin Fox, senior

pharmacy director at University of Utah Health.
“If Pfizer falls out, it makes it that much harder for other companies to make up the difference,” Fox said.
The specifics of which drugs might be involved in a shortage and how long that shortage will go aren’t clear.
“Anyone who is aware of this event is basically holding their collective breath at this point, hoping
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Outside

Partly sunny today,
chance of rain tomorrow

Today	Saturday	Sunday
High 79	High 81	High 81
Low 58	Low 60	Low 62

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July 21, 2023

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4-H auction

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Construction, Monte Fisher and Markley Ag Services

- Bricen Alig, grand champion steer, \$325: Brickley Excavating
- Drake Hicks, reserve grand champion roaster, \$350: Bunge
- Kaylee Davis, champion Angus steer and reserve champion home-grown steer, \$800: BR Fuel Services, Dr. Harry Brickley Farm Foundation, Halderman Real Estate and Farm Management, Leas Farms, Les Gerber Insurance, Meyer Building LLC, Monte Fisher and Markley Ag Services, Montpelier Ag, PK Agribusiness Services LLC and Yoder Grain.

- Kenzie Paxson, reserve champion market heifer, \$500: Black Creek Contracting, Montpelier Ag, Oakwood Mutual Insurance Co. and Ulmer Livestock Trucking
- Joshua Bricker, champion white-face commercial market lamb, \$600: Rick Fiechter Farms
- Juddson Bauermeister, reserve champion blackface commercial market lamb and champion beginner showman, \$300: Black Creek Contracting, Frauhiger Livestock, Gerald McNary, Leas Farms and Midwest Bonanza LLC

- Celsey Clark, reserve champion Shropshire market lamb, \$1,100: Apache Propane, Bluffton Animal Clinic, Brickley Excavating, First Farmers Bank and Trust, Kalmbach Swine Management, Midwest Bonanza LLC, NBBJ Fence LLC, Reed Farms, Rich and Connie Clark, and TTG Equipment

- Hunter Wenger, champion dairy feeder, \$850: Ag Best, Apache Propane, Bluffton Animal Clinic, Brickley Excavating, First Bank of Berne, First Merchants Bank, Helena Chemical of Craigville, Kris Frauhiger, Prible Ag Products and TTG Equipment

- Jenson Nusbaumer, reserve grand champion dairy feeder, \$1,000: Ag Best, Black Creek Contracting, Leas Concrete Construction, S & S Family Farms and Wells County Farm Bureau

- Royal Frauhiger, champion light to medium weight, \$950: Chandler and Rachel Gerbe, Kris Frauhiger, Meyer Building LLC, Rick Fiechter Farms, Shelton Financial Group and Steffen Oil
- Hallie Mounsey, reserve champion

heavyweight, \$900: Black Creek Contracting, BR Fuel Services, First Merchants Bank, Leas Concrete Construction, PK Agribusiness Services LLC and Rick Fiechter Farms

- Collena Reeves, reserve champion light to medium weight, \$650: Black Creek Contracting, Frauhiger Livestock and Leas Contract Construction

- Hailey Duncan, reserve champion medium to heavy weight, \$600: Black Creek Contracting, Leas Concrete Construction, Montpelier Ag, Rick Fiechter Farms, Wells Co. Farm Bureau Young Farmers

- Rachel Bauermeister, grand champion roaster and grand champion meat pen, \$1,000: Bailey's Repair, Dr. Harry Brickley Farm Foundation, Farmers and Merchants State Bank, Halderman Real Estate and Farm Management, Krinn Farms Inc., Les Gerber Insurance and Shelton Financial Group

- Nathan Bauermeister, reserve champion broiler, \$300: Bunge, Dettmer Enterprises, Echo Community, Maplecreek Pork and Oakwood Mutual Insurance Co.

- Makenzie Fuess, champion roaster, reserve champion roaster, and reserve grand champion meat pen, \$300: Bunge, Echo Community and Maplecreek Pork

- Kole Kiefer, champion turkey, \$4,450: Alliance Energy Services, Bailey's Repair, Berquist Inc. Brickley Excavating, Crestwood Services, Dr. Harry Brickley Farm Foundation, Farmers and Merchants State Bank, Felger Electric, First Bank of Berne, Franger Gas Co. Inc., Kelley Automotive Group, National ECO Energy, National Oil and Gas Inc., Selking International, Ben Burman, TTG Equipment and Yoder Grant

- Baylee Sliger, champion crossbred barrow and grand champion barrow, \$1,300: Apache Propane, Bluffton Animal Clinic, Dash-90 Wines and Sills Farms.

- Skyla Tomasek, champion Hereford barrow, \$350: Chandler and Rachel Gerber, Halderman Real Estate and Farm Management, Johnson Petroleum and Shelton Financial Group

- Paxton Miller, reserve champion Hereford barrow, \$300: NBBJ Fence LLC and Reed Farms
- Gracie Hulvey, reserve champion

spot barrow, \$1,250: Baker Farms Gp, BKM Real Estate and Krueckeberg Auction Company, Bumgarner Trucking LLC, First Merchants Bank, Helena Chemical of Craigville, Power-Up Electric, Reed Farms, TTG Equipment, Ulmer Livestock Trucking and Wells County Farm Bureau Inc.

- Fletcher Wenger, reserve champion Yorkshire barrow, \$950: Apache Propane, Brickley Excavating, Dr. Harry Brickley Farm Foundation, First Bank of Berne, Helena Chemical of Craigville, Prible Ag Products, Steffen Oil and TTG Equipment

- Alexis Sunderman, reserve champion Berkshire Barrow, \$300: Heartland REMC, Hoosier Real Estate and Ben Burman

- Colten Strunk, reserve champion Hampshire barrow, \$350: Commissioner Mike Vanover, Dettmer Enterprises, Helena Agri Enterprises of Markle, Leas Concrete Construction, Oakwood Mutual Insurance Co., Sen. Travis Holdman, Shelton Financial Group and Vic Reinhard

- Tucker Jenkins, reserve champion Poland barrow, \$400, Lehman Feed Mill

4-H Foundation

- Two pies made by Helen Witte, \$1,000 each: Dr. Harry Brickley Farm Foundation and Steffen Group

- 20 commemorative coins, \$500 each: Schriver Heritage Farms and Dr. Harry Brickley Farm Foundation

- Charcuterie serving board, \$350: Mike and Shelley Mossburg

- Backpack donations, totaling \$8,250: Ag Best, Apache Propane, Bailey's Repair, Baker Farms GP, Chelsea Klefeker, Coldwell Banker Holloway, Commodity Blenders LLC, Dr. Harry Brickley Farm Foundation, Equipment Warehouse, First Bank of Berne, Heartland REMC, Krinn Farms Inc., Leas Farms, Les Gerber Insurance, Mike and Shelley Mossburg, Mounsey Family Farms LLC, Olivia Binegar, Shaw Ag and Earthworks LLC, Shaw Real Estate and Auction Inc., Shelton Financial Group, Stoller Family, Stylus Technologies, Sue Girod, Tech Services, Tim Engle Farms, TTG Equipment, Ulmer Livestock Trucking and Wells Co. Farm Bureau Young Farmers

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Weather

Friday, July 21, 2023

(24-hour observations at 8:27 p.m. Thursday)

High: 85; **Low:** 60; **Precipitation:** 0.01 inches of rain
Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.31 feet at 7:45 p.m. Thursday

Wells County forecast

Today: Partly sunny, with a high near 79. Northwest wind around 10 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 58. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2 p.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 81. Northwest wind around 5 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 60. Northwest wind around 5 mph becoming southwest after midnight.

Sunday: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 81.

Sunday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 62.

Monday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 2 p.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 84.

Monday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly before 8 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 64.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 87.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 68.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 90.

Wednesday Night: A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 71.

Thursday: A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 91.

Homes become 'air fryers' in Phoenix heat, people ration AC

By ISABELLA O'MALLEY
Associated Press

Temperatures have peaked at or above 110 degrees Fahrenheit the entire month of July in Phoenix. Air conditioning, which made modern Phoenix even possible, is a lifeline.

When a cloudless sky combines with outdoor temperatures over 100 F, your house turns into an "air fryer" or "broiler," as the roof absorbs powerful heat and radiates it downward, said Jonathan Bean, co-director of the Institute for Energy Solutions at the University of Arizona. Bean knows this not only from his research, he also experienced it firsthand this weekend when his air conditioner broke.

"This level of heat that we are having in Phoenix right now is enormously dangerous, particularly for people who either don't have air conditioning or cannot afford to operate their air conditioner," said Evan Mallen, a senior analyst for Georgia Institute of Technology's Urban Climate Lab.

Yet some are cutting back on AC, trying to bear the heat, afraid of the high electricity bills that will soon arrive.

Camille Rabany, 29, has developed her own system to keep herself and her 10-month-old Saint Bernard Rigley cool during the Arizona heat wave. Through trial and error, Rabany found that 83 F is a temperature she is willing to tolerate to keep her utility bill down.

By tracking the on-peak and off-peak schedule of her utility, Arizona Public Service, with the help of her NEST smart thermostat, Rabany keeps her home that hot from 4 to 7 p.m., the most expensive hours. She keeps fans running and has a

cooling bed for Rigley, and they both try to get by until the utility's official peak hours pass.

"Those are the hours that I have it at the hottest I'm willing to have it because I have a dog," she said. Last month, Rabany said her utility bill was around \$150.

Emily Schmidt's home cooling strategy in Tempe, Ariz. also centers around her dog. Air conditioning is "constantly a topic of conversation," with her partner, too, she said.

"Sometimes I wish I could have it cooler, but we have to balance saving money and making sure the house isn't too hot for our pets."

With the unrelenting heat of the recent weeks, "I'm honestly afraid what the electric bill will be, which makes it really hard to budget with rent and other utilities."

Katie Martin, administrator of home improvements and community services at the Foundation for Senior Living, said she sees the pet issue, too. Older people on limited incomes are making dangerous tradeoffs and often won't come to cooling centers when they don't allow pets.

"In recent years we are finding that most of the seniors we serve are keeping their thermostat at 80 F to save money," she said.

Many also lack a support network of family or friends they can turn to in case of air conditioner breakdowns.

Breakdowns can be dangerous. Models from Georgia Tech show that indoors can be even hotter than outdoors, something people in poorly-insulated homes around the world are well acquainted with. "A single family, one-story detached home with a large, flat roof heats up by over 40 degrees in a matter of hours if they don't have air conditioning," Mallen said.

Pfizer plant damage

(Continued from Page 1)

for the best and waiting for news," Ganio said.

He noted that drugmakers tend to ship finished products quickly from manufacturing sites, which may limit how much inventory was damaged by the twister.

How can hospitals handle shortages?

They have several tools to soften the impact for patients.

Some hospitals have started increasing inventories of stored drugs instead of relying on regular deliveries from a wholesaler. Ganio said that it's particularly true of drugs that hospital executives know will be hard to

get.

Hospitals also may switch to different forms of a drug by giving a patient an antibiotic pill instead of an IV if that person can handle it. If a larger vial size of a drug is more readily available, they may order that and then fill several syringes with smaller doses ready for use.

Aren't hospitals already dealing with drug shortages?

Yes, it's been happening for years. But recently, hospitals have been dealing with shortages for things like chemotherapy drugs, pain medications and local anesthetics.

The impact of drug shortages isn't limited to hospitals. The also affect more routine care delivered through drugstores and doctor's offices.

Overall, there were 309 active drug shortages in the U.S. at the end of June, according to the University of Utah Drug Information Service. That's up from 295 at the end of last year and the highest total recorded since 2014.

What will Pfizer do?

The company hasn't said what happens next. Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla said Thursday on Twitter that the company was "working urgently to determine the

best way to get back online as quickly as possible, while ensuring the safety of our people."

Drugmakers can shift manufacturing to other locations. But that can be complicated because they must reroute raw materials — usually made elsewhere — to other locations and may have to train workers to make a product.

Pfizer also may have to figure out whether to cut production of another product to squeeze in more manufacturing at the new site.

"It's not always as easy as just flipping a switch to increase production," Ganio said.

Sea otter harassing surfers eludes capture

By HAVEN DALEY and OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ
Associated Press

SANTA CRUZ, Calif. (AP) — A sea otter launched into the national spotlight after images of her aggressively wrestling surfboards away from surfers off the coast of Santa Cruz, California circulated on social media is building a fan club as she continues to evade capture.

A team of wildlife experts with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the nearby Monterey Bay Aquarium have been trying to capture the 5-year-old animal, known as otter 841, since last week because they say she poses a public safety risk.

They say they want to examine her and relocate her at a zoo or aquarium — as yet to no avail.

She now has a growing fan club, with people showing up every day to get a glimpse of her spending time sunbathing on the rocky shore, diving in the water and chomping down on crabs.

Jessica Fujii, Sea Otter Program Manager at the Monterey Bay Aquarium, said the team has faced some challenges in its pursuit, including bad weather.

"The main issue is more just her ability to evade. Because this has been an ongoing effort, she is wary of those nets," Fujii said.

Federal and state wildlife officials did not return

messages from The Associated Press seeking comment Thursday on their effort to catch otter 841.

The mischievous mammal was made famous by a professional photographer who posted photos and videos on social media that show her aggressively approaching surfers and getting on top of surfboards — on at least one occasion biting and tearing chunks off a board.

"They can't throw a net over her in the water. They can't tranquilize her because of fear of her drowning. So they really need to get hands on her," said the Santa Cruz photographer, Mark Woodward.

The team trying to capture her has used a baited surfboard. She's gotten on it multiple times in the past few days, according to Woodward. But as soon as a wildlife official towing the surfboard carrying her gets near the team's boat, she dives off, he said.

The otter's aggressive behavior is highly unusual, and the reason is unknown, federal wildlife officials said.

"Aggressive behavior in female southern sea otters may be associated with hormonal surges or due to being fed by humans," the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said in a statement last week.

Otter 841 was born in captivity and released into the wild in June 2020. She is tagged with her number and

has a radio transmitter that officials have been monitoring to keep tabs on her.

They said it is not the first time the otter has been aggressive toward humans. She was observed approaching people in late 2021. In May 2022, she was spotted with a pup in the Santa Cruz area, and four months later exhibited similar aggressive behavior.

Meanwhile, her fans want her to be left alone.

"Just leave 'em alone. Just let 'em have fun. Hasn't bitten anybody. Roughs up the board. It's like a dog with a chew, you know?" said Jackie Rundell, a Santa Cruz resident who on

Wednesday visited the bay.

Southern sea otters, whose population dwindled to about 50 in 1938, are managed by the Fish and Wildlife Service. They are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act and are protected under the Marine Mammal Act and California state law.

Now with a population of about 3,000, sea otters play a fundamental role in maintaining healthy coastal ecosystems by preying on sea urchins that can multiply and eat their way through the kelp forests both marine creatures share, wildlife officials said.

GLAD TIDINGS CHURCH BLUFFTON

LAUNCH PARTY

Come join us for free hot dogs, ice-cream sundaes, giveaways, fun activities, and learn about the launch of our new church!

Sunday, July 23
5:30-7:00 PM
Wells Co. 4-H Community Center

For questions or to RSVP, call Pastor Dan at 260.307.2221 | gtnetwork.org

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OBITUARIES

Betty Jean Murphy Rathbun, 90



Betty Jean Murphy Rathbun, 90, formerly of Canton, Mo., passed away Wednesday morning, July 12, 2023, at home in Bluffton, where she had resided for the past 5 1/2 years.

Betty was born April 18, 1933 in Springfield, Mo., to Kenneth L. and Thelma L. (Kauffman) Murphy. She was united in marriage to Paul V. Rathbun on May 27, 1951 at Marshfield Christian Church in Marshfield, MO. She attended Drury College and graduated from Texas Christian University with a B.A. in Education and a minor in religion. She earned her master's degree in education from Northeast Missouri State University. She taught remedial reading, fourth grade, kindergarten, special education, learning disabilities, and adult basic education. She taught in Fort Worth, Texas, and in Paris, Hannibal, Trenton, and Canton, Mo.

Betty loved working with her fellow teachers and students. She poured her heart into making learning meaningful and relevant for each child. She was known for her caring, happy nature and sense of humor. She believed in being a good steward and was instrumental in leading the school's Earth Day activities, such as using the proceeds from a recycling cans contest to help save the rainforest. She was instrumental in getting the community recycling started, all of which earned her the nickname "Mother Earth". She was a supportive partner to her husband, Paul, in all their pastorates in Fort Worth, Texas and Springfield, Paris, Hannibal, Trenton, Canton, and Revere, Mo. She enjoyed music — classical, big band, gospel music in the rural churches, and musicals, as well as reading, gardening, camping, traveling, and attending concerts and events at Culver-Stockton College. From 1977 to 1998, if her husband, Paul, was working on the tugboat and unable to fill the part-time pulpit at Peaksville Christian Church in Revere, Mo., she would brush up on one of his "best" sermons, wash the car on Saturday, and bravely preach, every other Sunday morning. She

had memberships at various times in several organizations, including Christian Women's Fellowship, Kahoka Chapter 40 Order of the Eastern Star, P.E.O., and volunteered in the church and community. One project was assisting her husband, Paul, with designing camping pads at the riverfront, and then maintaining the bulletin boards with updated information.

Survivors include her daughter, Christie (Mac) McAvoy of Bluffton; two granddaughters, Erin McAvoy of Bluffton and Kelly McAvoy of Greensburg, Ind.; one grandson, Sean McAvoy of Fort Wayne; and one cousin, Mary Belle (Bill) Landreth of Freeport, Fla.

Aside from her parents, Betty was preceded in death by her husband, Paul Rathbun; son, Mark Eugene Rathbun; a double cousin, Reba Hubbard; as well as other extended family members.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, July 22, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. at the Canton Christian Church with Pastor Shawn McAfee and Pastor Mandy Gosik officiating. Burial will be in Forest Grove Cemetery, Canton, MO. Visitation will be held Saturday from noon until time of services with an Eastern Star service at 11:45 a.m. in the church.

In lieu of floral tributes and gifts, memorial contributions may be made to Canton Christian Church Building Fund, Peaksville Christian Church, First Reformed Church — Bluffton, Ind., or Culver-Stockton College student scholarship fund.

Music will be Congregational Hymns accompanied by Don Altgilbers.

Pallbearers will be Virgil Welker, Scott Giltner, Jesse Uhlmeier, Willie Davis, Jim Crenshaw and Shannon Morlang.

Honorary Pallbearers will be Susie Welker, Deb Crenshaw, Anne Davis, Janet Ricketts, Carla Tobin, Stephanie Rieffer and Kristen Yargus.

Goodwin — Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton has been entrusted with local arrangements.

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City: Wednesday, 5:06 p.m., Bluffton Wastewater. Man from DNR setting a moth trap unable to get out due to gate closing behind him. Man was released.

Wednesday, 7:29 p.m., East Jackson and North Main streets. Caller reported minor on an ATV. Officers were unable to locate.

Wednesday, 8:25 p.m., Wells County 4-H Park. Report of a juvenile falling off of a horse.

Wednesday, 9:18 p.m., West Market and North Morgan streets. Report of person in truck impersonating an officer in truck with flashing lights saying "Put your hands up" to someone. Officers located subject who advised he was joking with a friend with the megaphone and siren, but did not use flashing lights.

Thursday, 5:21 a.m., 800 block of Willowbrook Trail. Fire alarm went off, officers did not see any smoke

or flames. Officer stood by with family. Thursday, 5:36 a.m., 1000 block of West Central Avenue. Report of mother giving birth at home and bleeding heavily. Baby and mom are well.

Thursday, 6:11 a.m., 1300 block of West Cherry Street. Caller requested officer deliver message regarding transportation.

County: Wednesday, 3:35 p.m., Ind. 224 and North 200 West, Uniondale. Citation issued for speeding.

Wednesday, 10:33 p.m., 2700 block of South Hoosier Hwy, Bluffton. Citation for contempt posted on door of residence.

Wednesday, 11:46 p.m., North 600 East and 1000 North, Ossian. Driver in broke down car on west side of road, unable to contact parents. Officer transported driver to parents house.

Thursday, 5:19 a.m., North 450 East and Ind. 224, Ossian. Report of a possible

broken down vehicle. Subjects were parked on relatives property and talking.

Thursday, 7:45 a.m., South Meridian Road and West 100 South. Caller reported driver throwing rocks onto his vehicle, possible damage.

ACCIDENTS

City: Wednesday, 5:26 p.m., 900 block of North Main Street. Patricia Holloway was turning right in her Dodge Grand Caravan in an attempt to pull into a parking spot. Holloway collided with the rear passenger side of a parked and unattended Pontiac Trans Sport. Damages not exceeding \$5,000.

ARRESTS

Marty Alan Myers, 26, Bluffton. Controlled substance — possession of marijuana/hash oil/hashish/salvia, a class B misdemeanor, and controlled substance — possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. Bond set at \$6,500.

Indiana police recover 2 DNA profiles from human remains found at Fox Hollow Farm

WESTFIELD, Ind. (AP) — Indiana authorities have recovered two complete human DNA profiles from bones and bone fragments found on property once owned by a long-deceased businessman suspected in a string of killings in the 1980s and 1990s.

Hamilton County Coroner Jeff Jellison said Indiana State Police's laboratory was able to produce the two DNA profiles this week from among a batch of bones and fragments submitted to the state agency as part of a renewed effort to identify more of the human remains found on Herbert Baumeister's property.

Baumeister was 49 when fatally shot himself in Canada in July 1996 as investigators sought to question him about the remains discovered at Fox Hollow Farm, his 18-acre estate in Westfield, a Hamilton County city that's a few miles north of Indianapolis.

Last year, Jellison asked relatives of young men who vanished between the mid-1980s and the mid-1990s to submit DNA samples to his office as part of a renewed effort to identify more of the roughly 10,000 charred bones and fragments found at Baumeister's property.

He said he's hoping the two newly developed DNA profiles can provide closure to families of men who went missing decades ago.

"Really, those working with us from the Indiana State Police are the offensive lineman of this investigation," Jellison told WXIN-TV. "Any identification we may get will be a result of their hard work."

Investigators believed Baumeister, a married father of three who frequented gay bars, lured men to his home and killed them. By 1999, authorities had linked him to

the disappearance of at least 16 men since 1980, including several whose bodies were found dumped in shallow streams in rural central Indiana and western Ohio.

When Jellison announced the renewed identification effort in November, he said investigators believed the 10,000 charred bones and fragments found at Baumeister's property could represent the remains of at least 25 people. Eleven human DNA samples were extracted from those bones during the original investigation in the 1990s.

Eight of those people, all young men, were identified and matched to DNA samples, but three remaining DNA profiles are of unknown individuals, Jellison said last year.

State police investigators will now work to compare the two new DNA profiles to samples submitted by relatives of long-missing men,

and also check whether they match those of the eight men whose remains were previously identified.

"They're now doing the comparison samples and fast-tracking that process now that we have modern DNA," Jellison told WTHR-TV.

If no matches with those samples are found, he said state police's effort will expand nationwide by using national DNA databases. If that fails, Jellison said his office may partner with a private DNA testing company to conduct "forensic genetic genealogy" testing.

In the meantime, Jellison said state police are working to extract more DNA profiles from the remains found at Baumeister's property.

"That's the story I want to tell, is who these people are. That's my job is to tell who they are and to speak for them," Jellison said.

\$50M multi-use swine barn opens at Indiana State Fairgrounds

By NIKI KELLY
Indiana Capital Chronicle

State and agriculture officials gathered Thursday to officially open the long-awaited renovation of the century-old swine barn.

Now called the Indiana Farm Bureau Fall Creek Pavilion, the barn and public safety center at the Indiana State Fairgrounds underwent a \$50 million dollar renovation through the last 18-months and will host its first event at the 2023 Indiana State Fair.

Gov. Eric Holcomb called the facility world-class and said while 4-H competitions are the heart of the building, it goes far beyond that.

For instance, the building was designed to host indoor track and field events. A portable 200-meter, banked track will be installed annually to host local, regional, national and international events. The new building is already slated to host the 2025 NCAA Division II Indoor Track & Field Championships.

"This was a bold vision but it keeps the foundation of who we are and what we are about," said Cindy Hoye, executive director of the Indiana State Fair Commission.

Livestock will no longer have to swelter in the heat in the building, which originally opened in 1923. The new pavilion is a 196,000 square foot facility with 118,000 square feet of show floor, a 14,000 square foot north lobby, 80,000 square feet of clear-span space in the center of the building, with 25-foot ceiling height and complete restoration of the historic 1923 north façade.

Other events that could come to the facility include cheerleading competitions, concerts and more.

Over the years, Democrats balked at the \$50 million cash price tag for a swine barn — often pointing out other state needs the money could go for. But Holcomb had no such qualms.

"This is one of the few buildings that Hoosiers from all 92 counties will be walking through this door on an annual basis, year in and year out and so it was money well invested. We're not just celebrating the fact that we cut a ribbon today but celebrating the fact that our students are going to be able to learn and grow and develop here and a lot of memories will be made along the way," he said.

"I think we got our money's worth out of the first 100 years and now we have ... the best world-class, multi-use, year-round facility in the United States."

The new facility has won the bid to host the nation's largest swine show, The Exposition, produced by the National Swine Registry in 2024 and 2025.

The public can see the new pavilion during the 2023 Indiana State Fair, which returns for 18 days beginning July 28 through August 20.

Concert Friday, market Saturday at Parlor City Plaza

A concert by singer Jennie DeVoe Friday night kicks off the weekend's events on the Parlor City Plaza.

DeVoe's concert will be from 7 to 10 p.m. Friday. Food will be on sale from Uncle Matt's BBQ Shack starting at 6 p.m. The Hideaway will also have drinks, with ID required. There will be no outside alcohol or smoking allowed at the concert.

The Parlor City Market will be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the plaza.

Vendors include Two Sixty Home Goods, Pressed In, Neuenchanted Expressions, Starts N Stems, Brooke's Bow Boutique, RL Woodworks, Nancy's Crafts, Freds Family Produce, Redneck Oasis (Johnson Homestead Produce), Simply Clean Microgreens, and Kookie Now By Shay.

The Parlor City Market's community partner is Indiana Farm Bureau bringing its "I love Strawberries" program for kids to stop in during market hours.

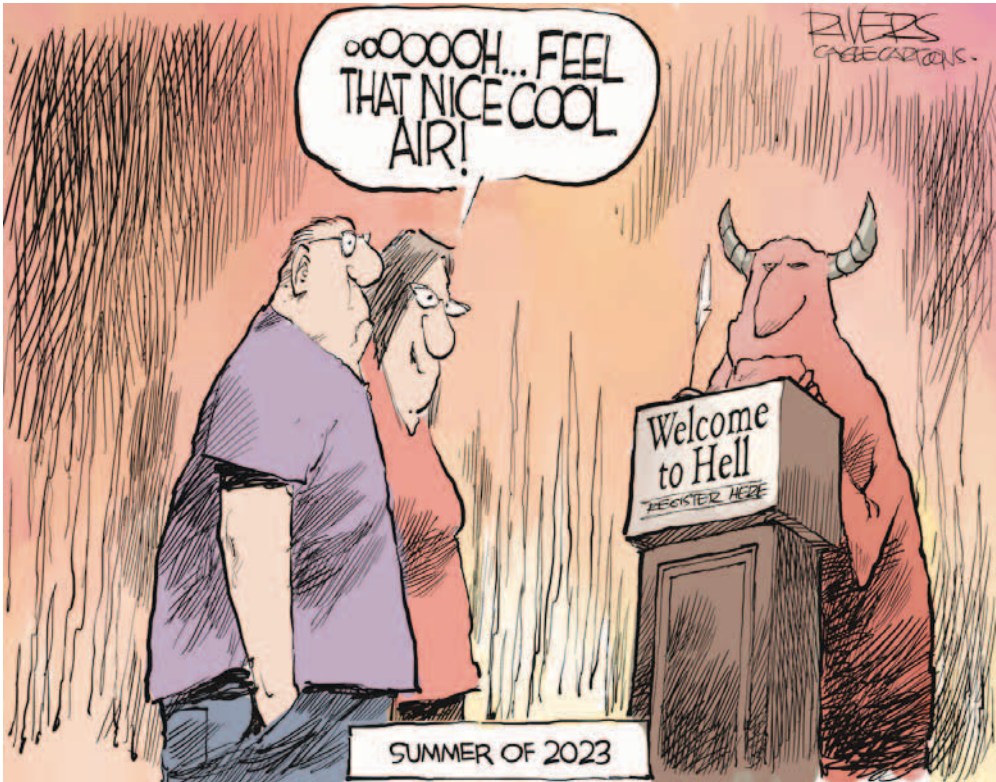
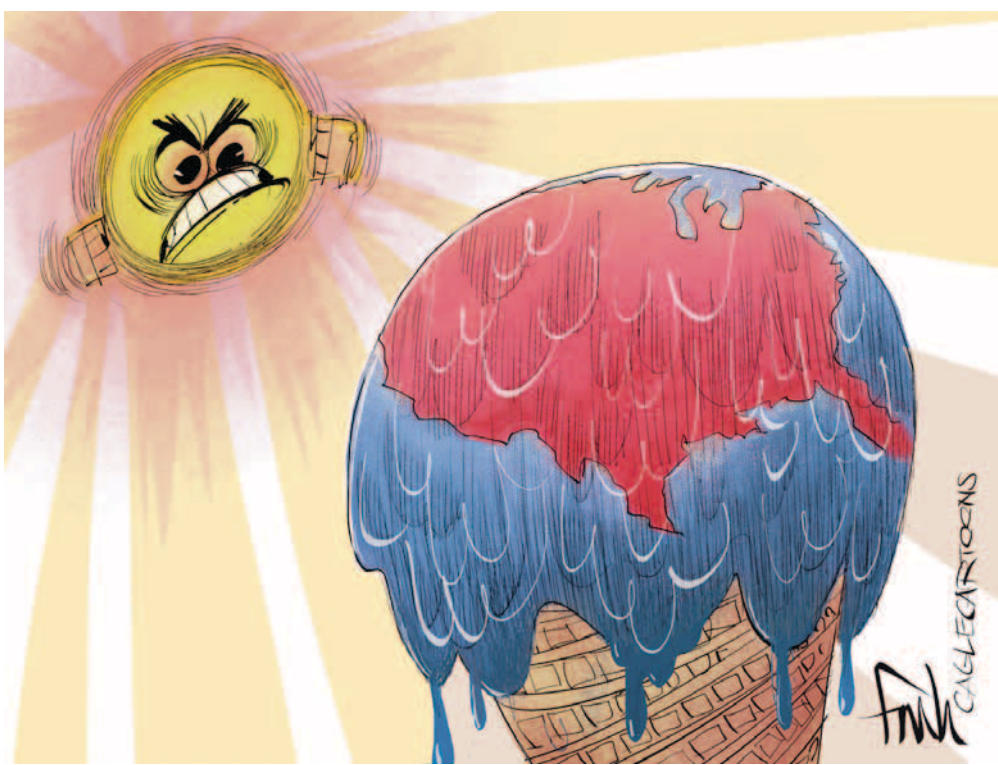
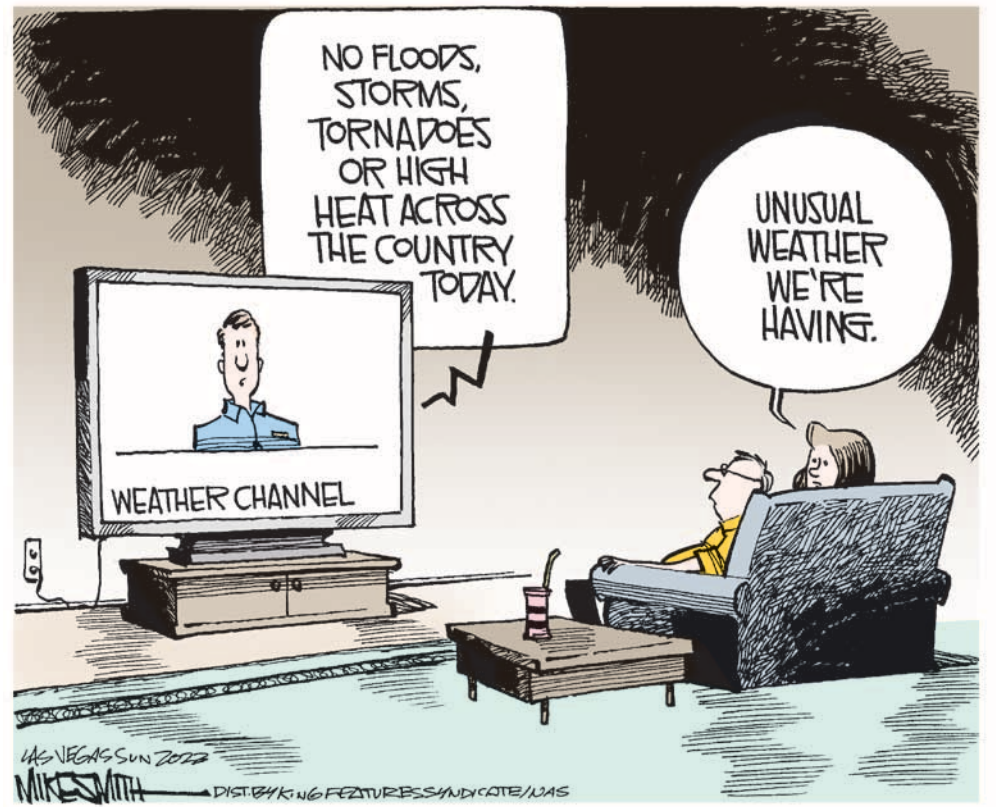
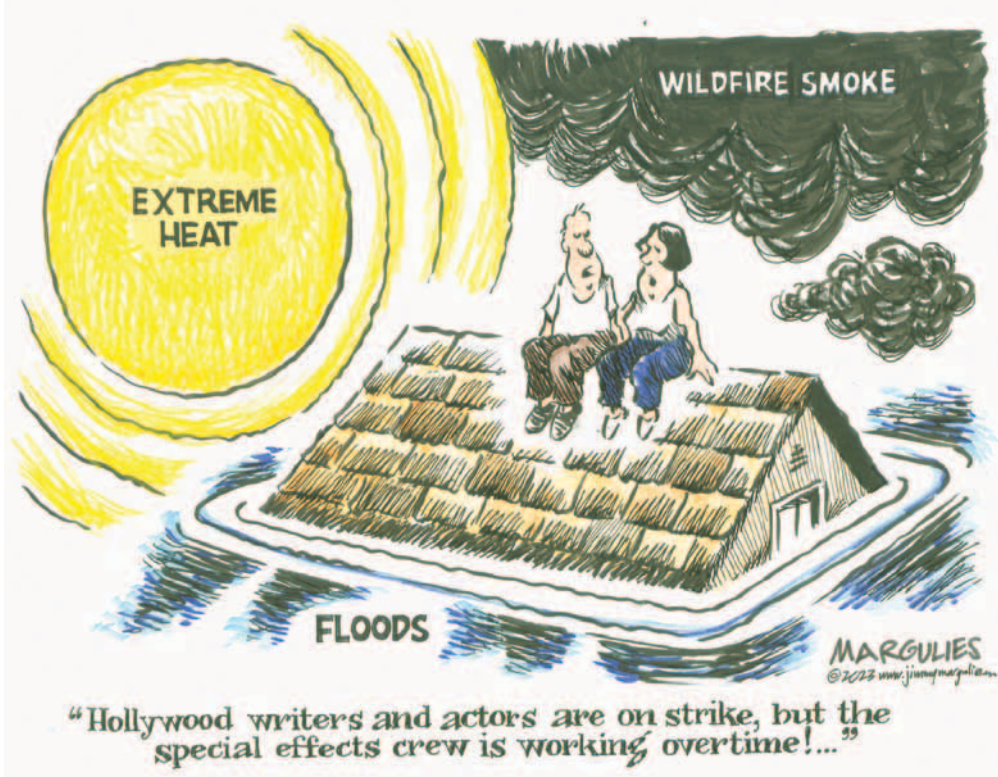
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DID YOU KNOW? ANOINTING OF THE SICK Is anyone among you sick? He should call the presbyters of the church, and they should pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord, and the prayer of faith will save the sick person, and the Lord will raise him up. ~ James 5:14-15 ~ In the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, through the ministry of the priest, it is Jesus Christ who touches the sick to heal them from sin and, sometimes, even from their physical ailments. It is administered to bring spiritual and even physical strength during an illness, especially near the time of death. This Sacrament was instituted by Jesus Christ. It is alluded to in the Gospel of St. Mark and is directly recommended to the faithful in the Epistle of St. James the Apostle (cf. Mark 6:13; James 5:14-15). The early Church Fathers recognized the role that this Sacrament played in the life of the Church. When the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is given, the hoped-for effect is that, if it be God's will, the person be physically healed of illness. But even if there is no physical healing, the primary effect of the Sacrament is a spiritual healing by which the sick person receives the Holy Spirit's gift of peace and courage to deal with the difficulties that accompany serious illness or the frailty of old age. The graces of this Sacrament flow forth from the atoning death of Jesus Christ, for it was said that "this was to fulfill what was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, 'He took our infirmities and bore for us our diseases'" (Matthew 8:17). Ask a ? at www.StJosephChurchBluffton.org/ask

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The Week That Was - a look at this summer's weather through cartoonists' eyes...



Other Opinions

The House and continued support for aid to Ukraine

The House passed the annual defense policy bill July 7, and what a shock it must have been for the press corps. The Beltway media spent the week informing readers that conservative social policies doomed the bill and that GOP isolationists might block support for Ukraine.

They need better sources. Neither happened, and Republican amendments to abandon Ukraine in particular were routed on the floor. The GOP's abandon-Ukraine caucus is loud and damaging to the party, but most Americans appreciate the stakes for the U.S. in backing Kyiv.

The House bill authorizes \$300 million in security assistance for Ukraine, which Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene aimed to strip in an amendment. Her measure failed 341-89. Rep. Matt Gaetz tried to block all further military aid for Kyiv, which lost 358-70. A majority of Republicans joined Democrats in opposing both.

The measures would have damaged U.S. interests and been a disaster for the public's view of Republicans as the party of a strong national defense. Since when are Republicans against helping people who want to fight for their freedom against Russia or China?

Not one to miss an opportunity to adopt a losing cause, Donald Trump belly-flopped in on Friday with a statement that when he wins the Presidency he'll end the war in "24 hours," details never to follow. "This conflict must end. Not one American mother or father wants to send their child to die in Eastern Europe. We must have PEACE."

Not a single American soldier has died in Ukraine, which is part of the point in supporting that country with weapons. Check Russia there so that U.S. troops don't have to fight Vladimir Putin's tanks in Vilnius or Warsaw.

Mr. Trump lamented dwindling U.S. weapons stocks, a real problem that he could have done more to prevent while President. But the U.S. is replacing donated equipment with better kit, and new contracts are a start on reviving the defense industrial base.

The Trump-Gaetz view commands even less support in the Senate. That's all the more encouraging given that Mr. Biden has barely made the case for supporting Ukraine to the public. But Congressional patience isn't infinite, and Mr. Biden ought to use Congress's show of political support to accelerate the delivery of weapons, especially the long-range missiles the President has been hesitating over.

The GOP isolationists rail against "forever wars," but the real recipe for extended war is giving Ukraine only enough weapons to fight to a draw rather than to drive Russia out. That's been President Biden's strategy. Former Vice President Mike Pence had it right in our pages this week: The fastest route to peace is a Ukrainian victory.

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Job creation numbers are deceptive

Business news is filled with new job creation numbers. Every new business with more than a few employees will get coverage in local papers, and larger firms will make statewide news. Typically, reporters will write about the industry growth patterns, why the firm says it chose its new location and often a quote from a local elected leader or economic development official. If it is a really big announcement or unusual industry, the thoughts of an economist might even make the news.

Hoosier Opinions

These are important and popular news stories. It is natural that we would want to hear about the businesses coming to our state. Some of it is just passing interest; for others these new firms might represent new customers, competitors or potential members of a trade association or Chamber of Commerce.

Some new firms will have worked with economic development officials. So, a local economic developer or the state's Indiana Economic Development Corporation might be involved with the new relocation. Sometimes these organizations provide technical services, like finding the right regulatory agencies or helping with a new site. Other times they help usher through state and local tax incentives.

At the end of the year, each of these economic development groups will add up all the companies they've worked with, count the jobs these firms say they are creating and tally up the investment in businesses and property these firms have made. They'll write annual reports of these data and post them on their websites.

Political leaders from governor to town council will use these jobs numbers to claim success at job creation. All of this presets the question: What do these job creation numbers tell us? The short answer is mostly not a darned thing. A few examples make that clear.

In the last full year for which we have data, 2021, the IEDC claimed a record 31,710 jobs created in the state. That represents a great deal of work from a small number of employees, who deal with more than one new business every day throughout the year. It was also their record year to that date, but there's a catch.

That number represents only about 1.3 percent of the jobs created in Indiana in 2021. As it turns out, the U.S. Department of Labor and the Census do a good job counting job flows. In each year examined, the amount of new workers in each quarter alone runs around 600,000 jobs. At the same time, the state lost about 575,000 jobs in each quarter.

So, in 2022, the state actually had 101,299 new jobs created. That isn't the number from IEDC, it is the difference between the jobs created and the jobs destroyed that year. Of course, a good share of those jobs lost were from turnover. Some industries turn over one-third of their workers each quarter.

If we eliminate all the individual turnover, and focus only on business expansions and contractions, along with openings and closings, we get somewhere between 500,000 and 600,000 new jobs created each year. In a good year, we have more jobs created than destroyed. In a bad year, we have more jobs destroyed than created. But, in a great year, state and local economic developers will actually work with 4 percent or 5 percent of all the new jobs created in the state.

One way to dispel any notion about the usefulness of these data is to compare two recent years. Year 2021 was the best year for job creation in Indiana since we've been keeping records, with over 100,000 jobs created. That year, IEDC reported that they

aided employers who promised 31,710 of those jobs. In contrast, 2020 was the worst job creation year in Indiana history. We lost more than 130,000 jobs that year, yet the IEDC claimed 31,300 new jobs created that year.



Michael Hicks

So, the difference in the number of jobs claimed by IEDC in the best year and worst year on file was 410 jobs, or 0.16 percent of the actual difference in job creation between those two years.

The one certain lesson for this is that the job creation numbers reported by IEDC tell us absolutely nothing about the state's economy.

In fact, the job creation numbers from economic development groups are worse than no information at all. One could've learned more about the difference in economic conditions between 2020 and 2021 from a random hermit or second grader than you could derive from the economic development data.

One way to think about this is that the Indiana economy is a huge bathtub, with thousands of spigots and thousands of drains. The job creation data from economic developers is simply one of the spigots spilling jobs into the state. The real measure of the growth of the economy is if the water level in the bathtub is rising or falling.

To be clear, the misunderstanding about these numbers is not the fault of IEDC. They are ruthlessly honest about these numbers, which are promised jobs at some future date. Their annual reports are very clear about what these data are and are not. Moreover, in recent years, they have begun to focus on reporting investment dollars rather than job creation. This has its own limitations, but is at least different than counting promised jobs.

The problem with these data is not that they are nuanced or that they require a deeper understanding of the data. That is true with all data. We would be better off if reporting about end of year job creation numbers included more insight and explanation, but local media are increasingly scarce. Moreover, readers seem more interested in sensational stories, not workmanlike efforts to explain complex ideas.

As a consequence of little scrutiny, elected leaders use these numbers to explain economic conditions. Whether it is a 'state of the city' or a 'state of the state' address, these job creation numbers are rolled out by elected leaders of both parties. Perhaps this is an intent to deceive voters. It is surely misleading. A more likely explanation is that they and their staffs don't understand the data either.

Still, I don't hold political leaders responsible for this misuse of data. Sure, better, more transparent leadership would help keep this problem in check. In writing this column, I reread many of Governor Daniels' speeches and found no examples of him using these data. I suspect he did at some point, but it is fruitless to criticize an elected official telling voters what they want to hear.

The conclusion here is that the real problem is not IEDC or elected officials. The problem is us, the voters. We seem to have lost the power of simple discernment on matters relating to the economy. We hear elected officials spouting meaningless data about the economy, and we ask no questions. So, no matter how good or bad the economy, there's no pressure to alter state or local policy. If we are going to have real change, we are going to have to be better citizens.

Michael Hicks is the George and Frances Ball Distinguished Professor of Economics and the director of the Center for Business and Economic Research at Ball State University.

Maddened by mom

Dear Annie: My mom has had several strokes and is now living with us. She has problems seeing out of one eye. No one else will step up to take care of her. Our arrangement was that she pays for extra things she wants — nails, haircuts, new clothes. And, oh, yeah, did I mention she smokes like crazy? Which her doctor has told her repeatedly to stop, as have we. They aren't allowed in the house, so she sits on our front porch and it smells like a cigarette factory. She refuses to do anything around the house. Her bedroom and bathroom are a mess until I clean them on the weekend.

My husband is mad that we ended up having to pay for everything. He's also mad at the way she treats me. Like, if she wants something, she insists I should get it for her — haircuts, shampoo, the cocoa she drinks. All she does is lay the guilt trip on me. We are now trying to make her understand how and why we feel used. I don't know what I will do. This has been an ongoing thing. I know she is my mother, but I feel taken advantage of. Am I being petty? — Freeloading Mom

Dear Freeloading Mom: You need to have a conversation with your mother and set some clear, definitive rules if she is going to live in your house. No "cigarette factory" smoking areas and keeping a clean living area should be the absolute basics. If she does not agree to your house rules, you can help her to find a different living situation with the care she needs.

Dear Annie: I think that "Unhappy Wife, Unhappy Life" buried the lede, so to speak, in her letter about her desire to divorce, once again, the ex-husband whom she'd remarried after a 20-year separation. Only at the very end of her letter did she state that she was hesitant to leave him because he might turn violent, AS HE HAD

THE FIRST TIME THEY'D DIVORCED.

Yikes! I felt certain that you'd feature that fear as a primary reason why she should get out of the marriage. Instead, your primary response was that she should try to get her husband into marriage counseling. Only at the end of your response did you advise "Unhappy Wife" to call the National Domestic Violence Hotline if she felt threatened. I think that lede got buried as well.

If she feels he might turn violent, that suggests to me that she probably had at least a strong hint of that possible response, perhaps based on current behavior, as well as a history of violence. My advice would have been to run, don't walk, out the door. — Word of Caution

Dear Word of Caution: Thank you for your response. You are right that while "Unhappy Wife's" letter focused at first on her husband's bad attitude and the mediocrity of their marriage, the reference to violence should certainly be treated with great weight. Whether it be for one red flag or another, I hope "Unhappy Wife" is able to safely remove herself from a dynamic that, at its best, no longer serves her, and at its worst, puts her in danger.

"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 dearnnie@creators.com

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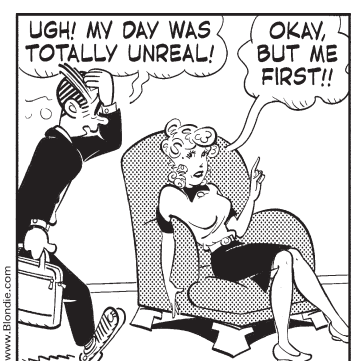
Dear Annie by Annie Lane



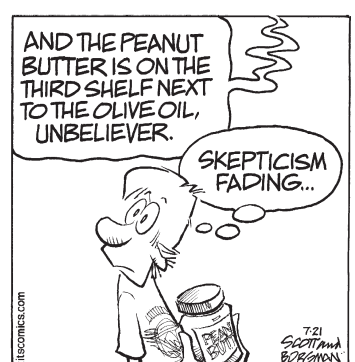
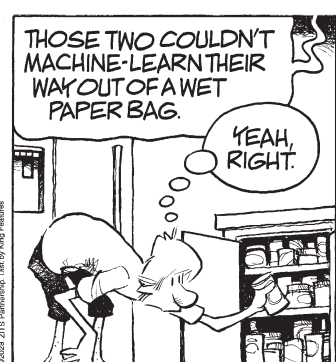
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My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



Emotional and spiritual reactions to growing older

Q: My father suffered dementia and my mother is going through the stages of Alzheimer's. I fear this will be my lot. My doctor only offers antidepressants. Is there a spiritual anecdote? — F.D.

A: Alzheimer's is a cruel disease. Watching helplessly as a loved one's memory relentlessly fades must surely be one of life's hardest burdens, and those who endure it deserve others' compassion and prayers.

While the effects of old age are obvious, aging often impacts us in ways that are less obvious. These are the emotional and spiritual reactions to growing older that can easily overwhelm us if

we aren't on the alert for perils that come. One such peril is fear. When we are facing old age, it's natural to wonder what the future holds. We become so absorbed by it, we think of nothing else. Instead of a passing worry, we're gripped by unrelenting fear.

Stories are endless of parents and grandparents who suffer from the effects of dementia. But one story stands out. A daughter who cared for her father for many months grieved every day realizing that he did not seem to know her, had not called her by name. But just before he died, she took his hand and began reciting the Lord's Prayer. He spoke every word with her with clarity.

When one of God's

servants in the Old Testament was tested, a friend said to him,

"In the past you have encouraged many people; you have strengthened those who were weak. Your words have supported those who were falling. ... But now when trouble strikes ... you are terrified when it touches you. Doesn't your reverence for God give you confidence?" (Job 4:3-6 NLT).

Man has always been beset by worry. Bring them to Jesus by faith. He will bring comfort to your soul and peace to your mind.

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

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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

The LOCKHORNS

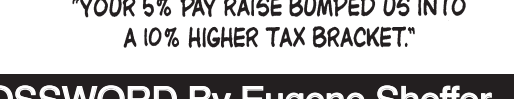
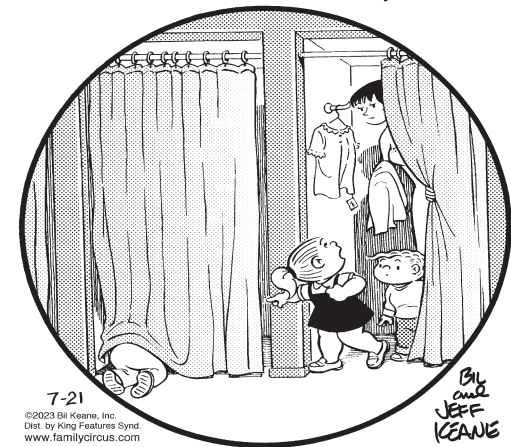


Table with columns for time slots (7:21, 8 AM, 9 AM, 10 AM, 11 AM, 12 AM, 12:30) and rows for various TV channels (WINM, CBS, Antenna, ABC, NBC, MNT, CW, PBS, FOX, WFFT, CABLE CHANNELS, LIFE, FX, TVLAND, E!, PARMY, ESPN, ESPN2, FSMW, USA, DISC, TLC, HIST, A&E, HALL, SYFY, TBS, TNT, AMC, COM, WGN, FOOD, BRAVO, NICK, FREEFORM, HBO, MAX, SHOW, TMC) listing programs and their descriptions.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words. Includes 'ACROSS' and 'DOWN' sections with numbered clues and a 'Solution time: 25 mins.' note.

Grid for the crossword puzzle solution, showing filled and empty cells.

Cardinals take Game 1 over Cubs in win at Wrigley

By **SCOTT HELD**
Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Jordan Walker and Paul DeJong each hit a two-run homer, and the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Chicago Cubs 7-2 on Thursday night for their sixth straight victory.

Nolan Arenado drove in two runs and Steven Matz pitched five effective innings as St. Louis won for the ninth time in 11 games overall. Paul Goldschmidt



had two hits and scored two runs. Marcus Stroman (10-7) pitched just 3 2/3 innings in possibly his final home start for the Cubs. The right-hander was charged with five runs — four earned — and seven hits. He struck out four and walked four. Chicago (45-51) dropped to 7-9 in July, and Stroman could be one of the top pitchers on the market ahead of the Aug. 1 trade deadline. He is slated to face the crosstown White Sox on Wednesday.

Matz (1-7) allowed one run and three hits in his first win since Sept. 17 against Cincinnati. St. Louis jumped in front on Willson Contreras' RBI double in the first against his former team. The Cardinals added four more in the fourth. Walker hit his ninth homer after a Tyler O'Neill double. Arenado added a two-run double. DeJong made it 7-1 when he connected in the fifth against Michael Rucker. DeJong's 13th homer went into the basket in right-center. Yan Gomes had three hits for

Chicago, including two triples. The veteran catcher entered with eight career triples in 12 seasons in the majors.

ROUGH NIGHT
Cubs third baseman Patrick Wisdom had a tough night. He kept the first inning going after misplaying a grounder, and then picked up a second error when he overthrew second an inning later. He couldn't get the ball out of his glove after fielding a fourth-inning grounder, but the play was ruled an infield single.

There also was a scary moment at the plate in the seventh, when Kyle Leahy's pitch appeared to

strike Wisdom square in the ear flap of his helmet. He got up and went to first after he was visited by a trainer.

TRAINER'S ROOM
Cardinals' O'Neill (lower back strain) started in left after he was activated from the 60-day injured list. RHP Ryan Tepera was designated for assignment to open a roster spot. Tepera appeared in two games after signing as a free agent Monday.

UP NEXT
The four-game series resumes Friday afternoon when St. Louis RHP Jack Flaherty (7-5, 4.29 ERA) faces LHP Justin Steele (9-3, 2.96 ERA).

Lorenzen's 7 innings of 3-hit ball leads Tigers' series win over Royals

By **DAVE SKRETTA**
AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Michael Lorenzen knew there was no chance that Tigers manager A.J. Hinch was sending him out for the eighth inning Thursday, despite holding the lowly Royals to three hits in a seemingly effortless start.

Lorenzen tried to hide in the dugout anyway. Lorenzen (5-6) stranded runners at the corners in the second and another at third in the fourth inning but otherwise went unchallenged while running his scoreless streak to 23 2/3 innings dating to June 30 at Colorado. The All-Star right-hander, who has made his disdain for day games well known, struck out three and walked one on a bright, sunny afternoon. Tyler Holton worked a perfect eighth before Jason

Foley handled the ninth for his fourth save. Spencer Torkelson, Andy Ibanez and Eric Haase drove in runs for Detroit, which took three of four from the Royals to improve to 7-3 against them this season. The teams still have three more to play at Comerica Park in September.

"Obviously coming out of the break, you never know quite how the guys are going to get back up and running," Hinch said, "and we came out aggressively in Seattle. ... I think our guys in there understand that every day is really important coming out of the break."

The Tigers scored twice off Zack Greinke (1-10) in the second before adding another run in the fifth, after the veteran right-hander had been removed from the game. Greinke allowed four hits in four innings in his

first start since July 4, when the 39-year-old was diagnosed with shoulder tendinitis and landed on the injured list.

Greinke had been good the first time through a lineup this season, but he struggled against the bottom half on Thursday.

The trouble began in the second with Nick Maton's two-out single. Akil Baddoo followed with a walk and Ibanez gave Detroit the lead with a base hit. Haase followed with his run-scoring single to extend the Tigers' lead to 2-0.

Greinke got through the next two innings before Austin Cox replaced him.

Zach McKinstry's triple in the fifth led to another run when Torkelson lifted a sacrifice fly to left field.

Meanwhile, the Royals kept squandering their few scoring opportunities.

Abbott combines with Law on 2-hitter, Reds beat Giants

CINCINNATI (AP) — Andrew Abbott and Derek Law combined on two-hitter, Luke Maile homered and the Cincinnati Reds beat San Francisco Giants 5-1 on Thursday for a four-game split.

Abbott (5-2), a 24-year-old rookie left-hander making his ninth big league start, allowed one hit in a career-high eight innings, getting help by another record throw from rookie shortstop Elly De La Cruz. Abbott retired his first eight batters before walking Brett Wisely, then walked Wilmer Flores starting the fourth.

"I actually came up to Luke after that last inning and said I didn't have my best stuff at all today but at the end of the day, you have to go out and compete," Abbott said of his catcher.

"I made some good adjustments in the middle of the game. I was just focusing on direction, so I stopped those wide misses. I made a good enough adjustment just to get in the zone."

Luis Matos hit a double that went to the left-field wall on two hops for the only hit against Abbott. Left fielder Will Benson threw to De La Cruz, whose one-hop relay was up the first-base line. Maile grabbed the ball, and the catcher lunged toward the plate and tagged the sliding Flores in the batter's box.

"You knew they were going to send him as soon as the ball left the bat," Maile said. "It is like we do in spring training. We know he's coming home. It's going to be close."

De La Cruz's throw was measured at 99.8 mph, the fastest in the major leagues on an infielder's assist since Statcast started tracking in 2015. The previous high was a 97.9 mph throw by De La Cruz on July 16.

Abbott retired his next 12 batters. "It impresses all of us. I don't think it impresses himself," Reds manager David Bell said. "I think ever since the first day he came here, he knew what he was capable of. He expects it of himself. He respects the league. He respects the difficulty of what he has to do, but at the same time he pitches with great confidence."

Flores hit a ninth-inning homer off Derek Law.

Cincinnati got consecutive victories for the first time since a five-game winning streak from July 2-6. The Giants lost their second straight after a seven-game winning streak.

Maile had three hits. Jake Fraley, Jonathan India and Will Benson each added two hits for the Reds (52-46), who are 2 1/2 games behind first-place Milwaukee in the NL Central.

The Giants (54-43) remain tied with Arizona for second in the NL West, two games behind the Dodgers.

All-Star right-hander Alex Cobb gave up five runs, a season-high nine hits and four walks in 4 1/3 innings of what he called a "clunker."

Maile hit a two-run homer in the third on a slider, Christian Encarnacion-Strand had an RBI single in the fourth and scored on Benson's double, and India had a run-scoring single in the fifth.

Cink opens with 68 & thinks he can win British Open at age 50

By **DOUG FERGUSON**
AP Golf Writer

HOYLAKE, England (AP) — Stewart Cink wouldn't seem to have a lot going for him at this British Open, least of all the fact he turned 50 two months ago and is eligible for the PGA Tour Champions.

Throw in the fact his flight from Atlanta was delayed by one day and he didn't see Royal Liverpool until Tuesday after a long flight. Or the fact he only has two top 10s in his 23 previous times playing the British Open.

One of those, of course, was a victory at Turnberry in 2009. That has not been forgotten by Cink, who played bogey-free Thursday for a 3-under 68 that left him two shots behind Tommy Fleetwood and South African amateur Christo Lamprecht.

"Experience matters here probably as much as anywhere else," Cink said.

Golf has been trending younger than ever, especially in the majors. Eight of the last nine winners were in their 20s, the exception being Brooks Koepka — all of 33 — winning the PGA Championship this year at Oak Hill.

Cink doesn't see it that way, even though he has dabbled on the 50-and-over PGA Tour Champions — he played a senior major last week in Ohio — and might spend more time there next year. It was only two years ago that he won the RBC Heritage at Hilton Head.

"I'm not that different of a golfer than I was then," he said. "I have no doubts I can win this. It's going to take a lot. It's going to take some really, really exceptional play on my behalf. But it's in there."

The oldest British Open champion was Old Tom Morris, who was 46 when he won in 1867. Cink was quick to refer to Phil Mickelson winning the PGA Championship at Kiawah Island two years ago when he was 50.

"I think that was probably a more difficult course than this," Cink said. "Watching him win that, it didn't really surprise anybody. He's been so good for so long."

And there was the matter of his lone major, not so much that he won, but whom he beat in a playoff — Tom Watson, who was 59 at Turnberry.

"I'm still way younger than he was then," Cink said.

Still, it will take a lot of work, and he knows that. Ahead of him Thursday was Christo Lamprecht, the 22-year-old amateur from South Africa who looks like a giant and hits like one. Cink knows him from occasionally seeing him at Georgia Tech's practice facility.

Thursday was a day for scoring, and Cink did his part by avoiding the troublesome bunkers at Royal Liverpool except for one, and that time the ball was in the middle and left him a reasonable shot to get out.

News-Banner Scoreboard

BASEBALL

American League

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	59	37	.615	
Tampa Bay	60	40	.600	1
Toronto	54	43	.557	5 1/2
Boston	51	46	.526	8 1/2
New York	50	47	.515	9 1/2

Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Minnesota	50	48	.510	
Cleveland	47	49	.490	2
Detroit	44	52	.458	5
Chicago	41	57	.418	9
Kansas City	28	70	.286	22

West Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Texas	58	39	.598	
Houston	53	43	.552	4 1/2
Los Angeles	49	48	.505	9
Seattle	48	48	.500	9 1/2
Oakland	27	71	.276	31 1/2

Wednesday's Games

Pittsburgh 7, Cleveland 5
Baltimore 8, L.A. Dodgers 5
Texas 5, Tampa Bay 1
Houston 4, Colorado 1
Oakland 6, Boston 5
N.Y. Mets 5, Chicago White Sox 1
San Diego 2, Toronto 0
L.A. Angels 7, N.Y. Yankees 3
Detroit 3, Kansas City 2
Minnesota 6, Seattle 3

Thursday's Games

Chicago White Sox 6, N.Y. Mets 2
Toronto 4, San Diego 0
Detroit 3, Kansas City 0
Seattle 5, Minnesota 0
Baltimore 4, Tampa Bay 3, 10 innings
Houston at Oakland, late

Friday's Games

Baltimore (Bradish 6-4) at Tampa Bay (Eflin 10-5), 6:40 p.m.
San Diego (Lugo 3-4) at Detroit (Olson 1-3), 6:40 p.m.
Kansas City (Marsh 0-3) at N.Y. Yankees (Schmidt 5-6), 7:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Senga 7-5) at Boston (Crawford 4-4), 7:10 p.m.
Philadelphia (Suarez 2-4) at Cleveland (Williams 1-2), 7:10 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Gonsolin 5-3) at Texas (Heaney 6-6), 8:05 p.m.

National League

Chicago White Sox (Lynn 6-8) at Minnesota (Ryan 8-6), 8:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Oviedo 3-10) at L.A. Angels (Ohtani 7-5), 9:38 p.m.
Houston (Valdez 7-6) at Oakland (Sears 1-6), 9:40 p.m.
Toronto (Kikuchi 7-3) at Seattle (Miller 6-3), 10:10 p.m.

Saturday's Games

Kansas City at N.Y. Yankees, 1:05 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers at Texas, 4:05 p.m.
Baltimore at Tampa Bay, 4:10 p.m.
N.Y. Mets at Boston, 4:10 p.m.
Toronto at Seattle, 4:10 p.m.
San Diego at Detroit, 6:10 p.m.
Philadelphia at Cleveland, 7:10 p.m.
Chicago White Sox at Minnesota, 7:15 p.m.
Houston at Oakland, 9:07 p.m.
Pittsburgh at L.A. Angels, 9:07 p.m.

National League (cont.)

Atlanta 7, Arizona 5	Cincinnati 5, San Francisco 1
Milwaukee 4, Philadelphia 0	Chicago White Sox 6, N.Y. Mets 2
Toronto 4, San Diego 0	St. Louis 7, Chicago Cubs 2

Friday's Games

St. Louis (Flaherty 7-5) at Chicago Cubs (Steele 9-3), 2:20 p.m.
Colorado (Lambert 1-1) at Miami (Garrett 5-2), 6:40 p.m.
San Diego (Lugo 3-4) at Detroit (Olson 1-3), 6:40 p.m.
San Francisco (Wood 4-3) at Washington (Irvin 2-5), 7:05 p.m.
Arizona (Henry 5-2) at Cincinnati (Lively 4-5), 7:10 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Senga 7-5) at Boston (Crawford 4-4), 7:10 p.m.
Philadelphia (Suarez 2-4) at Cleveland (Williams 1-2), 7:10 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Gonsolin 5-3) at Texas (Heaney 6-6), 8:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Soroka 1-1) at Milwaukee (Peralta 6-7), 8:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Oviedo 3-10) at L.A. Angels (Ohtani 7-5), 9:38 p.m.

Saturday's Games

Colorado at Miami, 1:10 p.m.
St. Louis at Chicago Cubs, 2:20 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers at Texas, 4:05 p.m.
Arizona at Cincinnati, 4:10 p.m.
N.Y. Mets at Boston, 4:10 p.m.
San Diego at Detroit, 6:10 p.m.
San Francisco at Washington, 7:05 p.m.
Philadelphia at Cleveland, 7:10 p.m.
Atlanta at Milwaukee, 7:15 p.m.
Pittsburgh at L.A. Angels, 9:07 p.m.

Thursday's Games

Los Angeles 55, 40, .579
Arizona 54, 43, .557
San Francisco 54, 43, .557
San Diego 46, 51, .474
Colorado 37, 59, .385

BASKETBALL

WNBA

Wednesday's Games
Indiana 82, Washington 76
Dallas 98, New York 88

Thursday's Games

Connecticut 82, Atlanta 71
Minnesota 73, Los Angeles 70
Chicago at Phoenix, late
Las Vegas at Seattle, late

Friday's Games

Chicago Cubs 8, Washington 3
New York at Washington, 7 p.m.



IndyCar introducing a safer nut to keep wheels attached

By **DAVE SKRETTA**
AP Sports Writer

IndyCar will implement a new, stronger piece of hardware designed to keep rear wheels attached to the car during a wreck after a tire flew off Kyle Kirkwood's car and narrowly missed a packed grandstand during the Indianapolis 500.

The series said Wednesday that chassis manufacturer Dallara had designed a retaining nut that is more than 60% stronger than the previous design. The updated retaining nut will be mandatory beginning with this weekend's races at Iowa Speedway.

"Their thorough review process of the incident between the No. 6 and No. 27 (cars) at Indianapolis Motor Speedway began immediately and included an extensive recreation at their headquarters in Italy," IndyCar President Jay Frye said. "IndyCar takes safety very seriously. This update is an important step in making sure an incident like this does not happen again."

IndyCars are designed to come apart upon impact, which helps to dissipate the energy and protect the driver. But they also have tethers that are supposed to keep wheels attached in the event of a wreck, a response to several incidents over the years in which wheels had come off cars and injured — and even killed — spectators on the other side of the catch fence.

During the Indy 500 in May, Kirkwood was trailing Felix Rosenqvist when the latter hit the wall in Turns 1 and 2 in the closing laps of the race. Kirkwood's car launched off the rear of Rosenqvist's car and into the fencing, and his rear wheel went flying over the fence and the corner of the grandstand before landing on a fan's car in the parking lot.

Roger Penske, who owns both the series and the speedway, promised afterward a thorough review of the wreck.

"It is Dallara's mission, along with IndyCar and all of the racing series we work with, to maintain and continuously improve safety based upon the highest standards," Dallara chief executive Stefano dePonti said. "After completing a detailed analysis of the accident during this year's Indy 500, together with IndyCar we have reached the conclusion the outcome was the consequence of an unusual and never-experienced set of circumstances."

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

Difficulty: ★★★★★ 7/21

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Lottery Numbers

Thursday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY
Cash 5 — 11-17-21-23-42
Cash4Life — 01-04-05-06-39, Cash Ball: 04
Quick Draw Midday — 01-02-09-11-15-16-25-26-31-33-38-41-47-49-59-62-66-69-71-76, BE: 02
Daily Three-Midday — 05-00-00, SB:01
Daily Three-Evening — 06-01-06, SB: 01
Daily Four-Midday — 03-01-03-08, SB: 01
Daily Four-Evening — 07-04-05-02, SB: 01
Quick Draw Evening — 02-10-16-23-24-38-47-49-50-54-56-57-58-59-61-65-66-70-72-74, BE: 50
Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$23.8 million
MEGA MILLIONS
Estimated jackpot (for Friday): \$720 million
POWERBALL
Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$20 million

Public Notices

Notice of Intent
The Bluffton – Harrison MSD is submitting a Notice of Intent to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management of our intent to comply with the requirements of 327 IAC 15-5 to discharge storm water from construction activities associated with the Our Town Safety Village Project for the Bluffton Harrison Elementary School located south of the intersection of E Spring St. and Echo Ln., in Wells County, Indiana. Runoff from the project site will discharge to the Wabash River – Johns Creek watershed. Questions or comments regarding this project should be directed to Andrew Bearman of Commonwealth Engineers, Inc. at 9604 Coldwater Rd., Suite 203, Fort Wayne, IN 46825.

SERVICES

LEARNING TREE ACADEMY PRESCHOOL in Ossian United Methodist Church 201 W Mill Street Ossian, Indiana. We have over 20 years experience and are offering both 3 day & 5 day preschool classes from 9a to 12p, M-F. Classes are filling up fast so don't delay. You can stop by the church office M-Th 8a to 1p to pick up registration paperwork or call/email Tracie Pepper at 260-622-0194 or learningtree123@yahoo.com

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THE CITY OF Bluffton has an opening for 911 Emergency Services Dispatcher. Applicants must show proof of a high school diploma/GED and may be asked to work flexible shifts. Applications and a job description may be obtained in the Clerk Treasurer's Office, 128 E. Market St. between 8 am and 4:30 pm Mon-Fri or at www.blufftonindiana.net. The 911 Director will contact you with information about the next test.

This Week's Garage Sales



YARD SALE FRIDAY 8am-4pm, Saturday 22nd 8am-3pm. 4100 E 100 N, Bluffton. Baby boy clothes up to 12 mo., girl's clothes up to 18 mo., Women's clothes, junior to large sizes. Tools, books, oil lamps & more

WE DOWNSIZED SALE!
2347 Red Oak Ct. (in the Woodlands), Thursday, July 20, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday, July 21, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday, July 22, 9 a.m. to noon. Wall, home and Christmas decor, TVs, barn ladder, air fryer, juicer, lamps, Correlle, adult and kids clothing, and more! Our garage is full! Everything must go!

1314 RIDGWOOD LANE Women's clothes XS-XL, Men's Large, boys & girls clothes 8-12. Kids & adult shoes, books, King bedspread, household items and decor, misc. Thursday, July 20 4-7, July 21 9-3, Sat July 22 9-1

GARAGE SALE 315 Bittersweet Ln. Ossian - Friday, July 21 9am-6pm; Saturday, July 22 9am-2pm. Peg Perego John Deer Gator, F150 truck tires w/rims, Samsonite luggage, Acer TV, toys, blender, smoke detectors, dulcimers, lamps, chairs, tools, adult & children's clothes, and so much more.

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or email: careers@swissvillage.org
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Public Sale Calendar

JULY 16-23 - (Online Only Auction) - Isch, seller. Complete Liquidation. Vehicles, trailers, mower, tools, furniture, household. Preview: July 19 from 4-6 p.m., 5505 E 200 N, Craigville, IN. Sale manager, Isaac Stoller, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-413-3515, www.steffenfengrp.com.
FOR SALE 40± total acre turn-key family farm, Whitley County, IN, southwest of South Whitley. Property consists of level tillable, pasture with shade trees, land. Approx. 2,500± sq. ft., 2-story home with full basement. Recently built, 325 head baby calf barn, very nice set-up. Two-story barn for horses and hay storage, multi-purpose barn. Property also includes shop/meeting room, orchard and large gardens. Move in ready! Call 800-451-2709 for showing! Sale manager: Ritter Cox, 260-609-3306, *Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc.*, SchraderAuction.com/listings.

JULY 25 - 6 p.m. EST - Ark Electric Inc., owner. 3979 W 200 N, Decatur, IN. Real estate auction! Auction live onsite! 8,322 sq. feet building, 408 sq. feet office, kitchen & bath area, 2,030 sq. feet heated shop area w/concrete floors, 14'x20' overhead door, 5,884 sq. feet cooled storage w/partial concrete floors, (1) 12'x10', (2) 14'x12' & (1) 14'x20' overhead doors, pond, 1,000 gallon LP tank sitting on 3.985 acres. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, Kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.
JULY 29 - 9 a.m. EST - Ark Electric Inc., owner. 3979 W 200 N, Decatur, IN. ARK Electric Business Liquidation! Cat 4160 backhoe, 1988 Chevrolet C70 dump truck, 1991 Ford F700 bucket truck, 1993 Chevy G30 boxtruck, 2016 Chevrolet Express 2500 cargo van, 2004 Chevrolet Express 3500 cargo

van, equipment, enclosed bumper pull trailers, JLG & Skyjack scissor lifts, Dewalt power & hand tools, new & used surplus electrical & plumbing inventory & more! Online bidding available! *Krueckeberg auction & realty LLC*, 260-724-7402, Kjauction.com.
BIDDING STARTS CLOSING AUG. 6 STARTING AT 4 P.M. EST - Timothy Kraus Estate, Theresa A. Roe-Kraus, owner. 16709 Aboite Road Roanoke. Online only! 2007 Lincoln Mark LT pickup, Kioti CS2510 utility tractor w/loader & belly mower, Simplicity 48" zero turn mower, snowblower, step & extension ladders, 6'x12' utility trailer, power & hand tools, yard & garden tools, shotgun, household, collectibles, antiques, furniture, more! Preview: Aug. 3, 5-6 p.m. Pick up: Aug. 7, 2-6 p.m., Aug. 9-11 a.m. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, Kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.
AUGUST 11 - 8 a.m. EST -

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As a resident of the Wells County community for decades, Attorney, Gerret J. Swearingin, has devoted his legal practice to assisting clients in preserving the family assets from the high cost of Nursing Home and In-Home Healthcare.

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

Supreme Court justices could face stronger ethics standards

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court would have to abide by stronger ethics standards under legislation approved on Thursday by the Senate Judiciary Committee, a response to recent revelations about donor-funded trips by justices. The bill faced united opposition from Republicans, who said it could “destroy” the court.

The panel voted along party lines to set ethics rules for the court and a process to enforce them, including new standards for transparency around recusals, gifts and potential conflicts of interest. Democrats first pushed the legislation after reports earlier this year that Justice Clarence Thomas participated in luxury vacations and a real estate deal

with a top GOP donor — and after Chief Justice John Roberts declined to testify before the committee about the ethics of the court.

Since then, news reports also revealed that Justice Samuel Alito had taken a luxury vacation with a GOP donor. And The Associated Press reported last week that Justice Sonia Sotomayor, aided by her staff, has advanced sales of her books through college visits over the past decade.

The ethics legislation has little chance of passing the Senate — it would need at least nine GOP votes, and Republicans have strongly opposed it — or the Republican-controlled House of Representatives. But Democrats say the spate of revelations means that enforceable

standards on the court are necessary.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Dick Durbin said the legislation would be a “crucial first step” in restoring confidence in the court. He said that if any of the senators sitting in the room had engaged in similar activities, they would be in violation of ethics rules.

“The same is not true of the justices across the street,” Durbin said.

The legislation comes after years of increasing tension, and increasing partisanship, on the committee over the judiciary. Then-President Donald Trump nominated three conservative justices to the Supreme Court, all of whom were confirmed when Republicans were in the Senate

majority and with considerable opposition from Democrats. The court has as a result shifted sharply to the right, overturning the nationwide right to an abortion and other liberal priorities.

Republicans charged that the legislation is more about Democratic opposition to the court’s decisions than its ethics.

“It’s about harassing and intimidating the Supreme Court,” said Iowa Sen. Chuck Grassley, a senior GOP member of the panel.

South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham, the top Republican on the Judiciary panel, said Democrats are trying to “destroy” the court as it exists by tightening the rules around recusals and disqualifying conservatives from some decisions. Con-

gress should stay out of the court’s business and mind the separation of powers, Graham said.

The legislation would mandate a new Supreme Court “code of conduct” with a process for adjudicating the policy modeled on lower courts that do have ethics codes. It would require that justices provide more information about potential conflicts of interest, allow impartial panels of judges to review justices’ decisions not to recuse and require public, written explanations about their decisions not to recuse. It would also seek to improve transparency around gifts received by justices and set up a process to investigate and enforce violations around required disclosures.

Republicans on the committee offered a series of amendments to the bill, some of which were focused on boosting security for judges after a man was found with a gun, knife and pepper spray near the home of Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh last year. The panel rejected most of the amendments as majority Democrats said that Republicans were trying to distract from the ethics reforms.

Durbin pushed back on the notion that the legislation is about politics, noting he started pushing for Supreme Court ethics reforms more than a decade ago, when the court was more liberal. “The reforms we are proposing would apply in equal force to all justices,” Durbin said.

Police seized laptops, memoir from home of witness to Tupac’s 1996 killing

LAS VEGAS (AP) — A home that Las Vegas police raided this week in connection with the 1996 drive-by shooting of Tupac Shakur is tied to one of the only surviving witnesses to the crime, a man long known to investigators whose nephew was seen as a suspect shortly after the rapper’s killing.

Detectives sought items “concerning the murder of Tupac Shakur” from Duane “Keffe D” Davis, according to warrant documents obtained Thursday by The Associated Press.

Davis, now 60, is a self-described “gangster” and uncle of Orlando “Baby Lane” Anderson, one of Shakur’s known rivals. Anderson denied involvement in Shakur’s killing, and died two years later in a shooting in Compton, California.

Police reported collecting multiple computers, a cell phone and hard drive, “documentary documents,” a Vibe magazine that featured

Shakur, “purported marijuana,” several .40-caliber bullets, two “tubs containing photographs” and a copy of Davis’ 2019 tell-all memoir, “Compton Street Legend.”

The Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department confirmed it served a search warrant Monday in the neighboring city of Henderson. The department hasn’t said whether investigators expect to make a first-ever arrest in the slaying of the rapper nearly 27 years ago.

Residents of the neighborhood in foothills about 20 miles southeast of the Las Vegas Strip said they saw officers detain two people outside the home Monday night while investigators searched the property.

“There were cruisers and SWAT vehicles. They had lights shining on the house,” said Don Sansouci, who watched from the sidewalk as a man and a woman stepped out of a house to bullhorn commands, placed their hands behind their heads and

slowly walked backwards toward officers amid a swirl of blue and red police lights.

The case is being presented to a grand jury in Las Vegas, according to a person with direct knowledge of the investigation who was not authorized to speak publicly. The timing and results of those proceedings was unclear, and the person did not identify the two people whom police encountered at the house.

It was not immediately known if Davis has a lawyer who can comment on his behalf. Messages left for Davis and his wife, Paula Clemons, weren’t returned. Records show the two were married in Clark County, Nevada, in 2005.

News of the search breathed new life into Shakur’s long-unsolved killing, which has been surrounded by conspiracy theories. There has never been any arrest and attention on the case has endured for decades.

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