



# The News - Banner

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## Preserving history

### Volunteers work to continue Ossian cemetery preservation

By SYDNEY KENT

A small cemetery in Ossian continues the pursuit of preserving history despite a century of neglect.

Abandoned and dilapidated, the old Ossian Cemetery has not been the final resting place for any souls since 1916. In fact, the property was barely recognizable as a cemetery.

That changed in February of last year when Larry and Dave Heckber approached the Jefferson Township Advisory Board with two goals — clean up the cemetery and locate their great-grandmother's grave.

During this meeting, Heckber acknowledged the project could take 3-4 years and would require significant volunteer involvement. Jerri Lehman, a rural Ossian resident who partnered with Heckber and many others for the project, recommended making the site a historical landmark. Their initial

two goals, along with Lehman's recommendation, have been accomplished.

Their work continues.

Last week, volunteers were determined to leave no stone unturned as they laid the foundation for what will one day hold three monuments in the cemetery. The foundation consists of the broken or unclaimed pieces of tombstones and foot stones located during the restoration process.

Of the three, the center monument will display the name of the cemetery. It will also acknowledge it as a historical landmark. The second monument will display the names of the 14 Civil War veterans buried on the property. The third and final monument will display information about those buried there, as well as those recorded to be buried there whose graves were not located.

"I still believe those names should be honored," Heckber said in reference to the



Larry Heckber (left) and Dave Heckber stand at the center of the newly laid foundation at the Old Ossian Cemetery. The exact place the Heckber's are standing will one day contain the center monument identifying the cemetery as a historical landmark. (Photo by Sydney Kent)

unfound graves of people believed to be buried at the cemetery. "It would be a disservice to them not to include them. Families can still come and visit them here."

Heckber is working to locate as many birth records as possible. (Continued on Page 2)



### Late night crash

Intersection of Main and Wabash streets, shortly before 930 p.m. Sedan and pick-up truck. Possible minor injuries. Traffic was directed through the intersection by Bluffton police officers. Photo looking southwest; the Garage youth center is in the background. Police report was not immediately available. (Photo by Dave Schultz)

## Biden celebrates unions at Labor Day appearance

By FATIMA HUSSEIN Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — President Joe Biden, who often says he's the most pro-union president in history, touted the importance of organized labor and applauded American workers in building the economy during a Labor Day appearance in Philadelphia on Monday.

The Democratic president spoke about how the economy is recovering from the crippling coronavirus pandemic and about what his administration has done to pay for infrastructure improvements, and cited the importance of unions in building the middle class.

As the pace of the Republican primary season escalates, Biden is trying to reclaim ground among working class voters that abandoned Democrats and moved their allegiance to former President Donald Trump and others over cultural issues. And on Monday in Philadelphia he gave a preview of that argument, repeatedly referring to Trump as "the last guy" and likening Trump's job creation record to that of President Herbert Hoover, who presided over the country as it spiraled into the Great Depression and was soundly defeated by Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Speaking of Trump — who is the leading Republican candidate in the polls so far — Biden said: "He left office with fewer jobs in America than when he got elected into office."

Biden spoke to a crowd of union members from a diversity of industries — from steel workers to stage hands — and focused on the impact that his administration's policies have had on working people.

"This Labor Day we're celebrating jobs, good-paying jobs, jobs you can raise a family on, union jobs," Biden told the crowd. Instead of standing at the podium, the president held the microphone in his hand and walked around the stage behind signs that read "UNION STRONG."

Labor Day, a holiday honoring workers, comes this year against the backdrop of increasingly emboldened U.S. unions of all kinds and a potential strike by 146,000 United Auto Workers union members.

The president was asked about whether there might be a strike and said he didn't think it would happen. That drew a quick reaction from the UAW's President Shawn Fain, who said he was "shocked" by the president's words and saying that the president "must know something we don't know."

(Continued on Page 2)

## Putin says he won't renew grain deal

By The Associated Press

Russian President Vladimir Putin said Monday that a landmark deal allowing Ukraine to export grain safely through the Black Sea amid the war won't be restored until the West meets Moscow's demands on its own agricultural exports.

Ukraine and its Western allies have dismissed the Kremlin's demands as a ploy to advance its own interests.

Still, Putin's remarks dashed hopes that his talks with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan could revive an

agreement seen as vital for global food supplies, especially in Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

Russia refused to extend the deal in July, complaining that a parallel agreement promising to remove obstacles to Russian exports of food and fertilizer hadn't been honored. It said restrictions on shipping and insurance hampered its agricultural trade, though it has shipped record amounts of wheat since last year.

Putin reiterated those complaints Monday, while also telling reporters

that if those commitments were honored, Russia could return to the deal "within days."

Erdogan also expressed hope that a breakthrough could come soon. He said Turkey and the U.N. — which both brokered the original deal — have put together a new package of proposals to unblock the issue.

"We believe that we will reach a solution that will meet the expectations in a short time," Erdogan said at the news conference held with Putin in the

(Continued on Page 2)

## Fatal police shooting of pregnant Ohio woman raises concerns

By CLAUDIA LAUER The Associated Press

Body camera video of the fatal police shooting of Ta'Kiya Young, a 21-year-old pregnant mother in a suburb of Columbus, Ohio, has raised questions about how an allegation of shoplifting led to a bullet being fired through her windshield.

It was unclear Saturday whether the Blendon Township Police

Department has adopted a use-of-force continuum policy, which would outline measures that must be exhausted before lethal force can be used.

The video of the Aug. 24 shooting, released Friday, shows Young in her car in a parking space as a police officer orders her to exit the vehicle. A second officer is seen drawing his firearm and stepping in front of the car, despite a depart-

ment policy advising officers to get out of the way of an approaching vehicle instead of firing their weapon.

"Are you going to shoot me?" Young asks, seconds before she turns the steering wheel to the right and the car moves toward the second officer. The officer fires through the windshield and Young's sedan drifts into the grocery store's brick wall.

Lawyers for Young's family say the video is devastating and have called for the officer who shot her to be fired and criminally charged. Blendon police officials have refused to name either of the officers involved.

Here is a look at law enforcement policies on moving vehicles:

### What about firing at moving cars?

The New York City Police

Department was among the first to bar officers from firing at or from moving vehicles after a 1972 shooting that killed a 10-year-old passenger in a stolen car led to protests.

Researchers in the late 1970s and early 1980s found the policy, along with a handful of other use-of-force restrictions, led to a decline in bystanders being shot

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**Outside**

Chance of showers and thunderstorms today

Today	Wed.	Thursday
High 88	High 85	High 76
Low 70	Low 70	Low 60

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# Preserving history

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and death dates as possible before ordering the monuments. He also intends to have a flag raising ceremony on Memorial Day next year. The Captain Williams Wells Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution donated the funds for the flag earlier this year. Heckber said the project would not be possible without the support from the community.

Support has come in the form of monetary donations, countless hours of hard labor, donations of time and materials, and even a volunteer day from the Boy Scouts of America. The Heckber family is largely responsible for coordinating these efforts and contributing their time and talents.

"Every time we needed something, something came forth," Heckber said. "I hope this inspires other trustees as well. By Indiana code, it is the trustees responsibility to repair the tombstones and maintain these properties."

Heckber explained that a unique piece of Ossian history, not connected to the cemetery, will find a new home in front of the



This cement sign, once located by a drinking fountain at the former Ossian bank, will be placed in front of the flag pole at the old Ossian cemetery. The sign reads: "In memory of our fallen comrades, 1917-1918, World War. Earl M. Scherrer Post 135 erected in 1930." (Photo by Sydney Kent)

flag. A concrete sign from World War I, which was once installed near a drinking fountain at the former Ossian bank, will be placed in front of the flag pole.

The pole will reside just outside of the foundation. Heckber hopes to have a public event next year as they raise the flag and mark

the project complete.

The tombstones that were restored have continued to whiten over the last several months, which allows for names and inscriptions to be more easily legible. A beautiful repurposed wrought-iron fence now surrounds a collection of graves identified as the Davis family,

located adjacent to the foundation.

The News Banner will continue to follow this project for final updates. Anyone with a family member or friend in the graveyard with more information about them is encouraged to contact the email below.

[sydney@news-banner.com](mailto:sydney@news-banner.com)

# Weather

Tuesday, September 5, 2023  
(24-hour observations at 8:11 p.m. Monday)  
High: 87; Low: 65; Precipitation: None  
Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.16 feet at 9:45 p.m. Monday

## Wells County forecast

**Today:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 2 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 88. South wind 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

**Tonight:** Scattered showers and thunderstorms before 11 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 70. South wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

**Wednesday:** A chance of showers and thunderstorms, then showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm after 2 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 85. Southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent.

**Wednesday Night:** Showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm before 8 p.m., then a chance of showers and thunderstorms between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 63. Southwest wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent.

**Thursday:** A slight chance of showers between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m., then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 76. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

**Thursday Night:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 8 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 60.

**Friday:** A 20 percent chance of showers after 2 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 71.

**Friday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 56.

**Saturday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 75.

**Saturday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 53.

**Sunday:** Sunny, with a high near 75.

**Sunday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 52.

# Biden Labor Day appearance

(Continued from Page 1)  
"I think we've got a long way to go," Fain said. "All three are required to have an agreement done by Sept. 14. That's the deadline for all three. And if they don't there will be action."

The union is pushing for pay raises, a shorter work week and restoration of traditional pensions. Fain said General Motors and Stellantis have yet to put forth a response to the union's economic proposals, while Ford's economic offer was far short of union demands. The union has filed unfair labor practice charges against GM and Stellantis for being slow to bargain, charges the companies have denied. Fain said the union's intent is not to strike but to get a fair agreement.

Labor Day also comes as the U.S. has added jobs and more people have begun looking for work — the most since January. That is news Biden is eager to highlight as he seeks reelection in 2024.

Biden still needs to persuade voters that his policies are having a positive impact on their lives. Only 36 percent of U.S. adults approve of Biden's handling of the economy, slightly lower than the 42 percent who approve of his overall performance, according to an August poll from The Associated

Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

Biden was making his Labor Day speech days after news that America's employers added 187,000 jobs in August, evidence of a slowing but still-resilient labor market despite the high interest rates the Federal Reserve has imposed.

Friday's report from the Labor Department also showed that the unemployment rate rose from 3.5 percent to 3.8 percent, the highest level since February 2022 though still low by historical standards. But the rate rose for an encouraging reason: 736,000 people began looking for work last month, the most since January, and not all of them found jobs right away. Only people who are actively looking for a job are counted as unemployed.

The president frequently talked about the importance of middle-class workers in the economy, saying that when the middle class does well, "everyone does well."

At the Tri-State Labor Day event in Philadelphia, hundreds of union workers donning their local T-shirts waited on a warm and muggy morning to see the president speak.

Lenny Nutter, a Philadelphia resident wearing a yellow Laborers Inter-

national Union shirt, said he attended the event to support Biden, adding that unions have been more active than they used to be, due in part to the president's policies.

"Unions are adding members, and a lot more work has been given to union workers," Nutter said.

Biden has used executive actions to promote worker organizing, has personally cheered unionization efforts at corporate giants like Amazon and has authorized federal funding to aid union members' pensions. Just last week, the Biden administration proposed a new rule that would make 3.6 million more U.S. workers eligible for overtime pay, the most generous such increase in decades.

"Now you're going to get paid overtime," the president told the crowd.

Biden also has traveled the country, trumpeting how union labor is building bridges and improving train tunnels as part of the bipartisan \$1.1 trillion public works package Congress passed in 2021.

The 36th annual Tri-State Labor Day Parade and Family Celebration is hosted by the Philadelphia AFL-CIO, whose website says it comprises more than 100 local labor unions representing more than 150,000 workers.

# Grain deal renewal

(Continued from Page 1)  
Russian resort of Sochi.

Earlier, German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock lashed out, saying Putin's "game with the grain agreement is cynical."

"It's only because of Putin that the freighters don't have free passage again," she told reporters in Berlin.

A lot is riding on the negotiation. Ukraine and Russia are major suppliers of wheat, barley, sunflower oil and other goods that developing nations rely on.

Data from the Joint Coordination Center in Istanbul, which organized shipments under the deal, show that 57% of the grain from Ukraine went to developing nations, with the top destination being China.

Grain prices shot up after Russia pulled out of the deal but have since fallen back, indicating that there isn't a big crunch in the market for the moment.

But failure to revive the agreement will have "drastic impacts" in countries such as Somalia and Egypt that rely heavily on Black Sea grain, according to Galip Dalay, an associate fellow at the Chatham House think tank in London.

Putin is looking for some relief from sanctions and at the same time is engaged in

a "war of narratives," Dalay said, because the Russian leader "doesn't want to come across as the bad guy in the eyes of the global south as a result of this food insecurity."

Ukraine and its allies have often noted that Russia's move left many developing nations in the lurch, since so many were recipients of the grain.

Perhaps in an effort to address that accusation, Putin said Monday that Russia was close to finalizing an agreement to provide free grain to six African countries. Last month, he promised shipments to Burkina Faso, Zimbabwe, Mali, Somalia, Eritrea and Central African Republic.

The Russian leader added that the country will ship 1.1 million tons of cheap grain to Turkey for processing and delivery to poor countries.

In addition to pulling out of the grain deal, Russia has repeatedly attacked the Odesa region, where Ukraine's main Black Sea port is. Hours before the Sochi meeting, the Kremlin's forces launched a second barrage in two days on the area. The Ukrainian air force said it intercepted 23 of 32 drones that targeted the Odesa and Dnipropetrovsk regions. It did not specify damage caused by those that got through.

Russia may be hoping

it can use its power over Ukraine's Black Sea exports as a bargaining chip to reduce Western economic sanctions.

Some companies have been wary of doing business with Russia because of those sanctions, even though Western allies have made assurances that food and fertilizer are exempt. Still, Moscow remains unsatisfied.

Ukraine's Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba on Monday urged Moscow to return to the deal, insisting "there were no legal and political grounds for Russia to withdraw from the agreement."

Monday's talks took place against a backdrop of Ukraine's recent counteroffensive against the Kremlin's invasion forces.

In the latest development, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Sunday that Defense Minister Oleksii Reznikov would be replaced this week. The job

requires "new approaches," Zelenskyy said, without elaborating. Reznikov on Monday published a photo of his resignation letter.

Putin and Erdogan — authoritarian leaders who have both been in power for more than two decades — are said to have a close rapport, fostered in the wake of a failed coup against Erdogan in 2016 when Putin was the first major leader to offer his support.

The Turkish president has maintained those during the 18-month war in Ukraine. Turkey hasn't joined Western sanctions against Russia following its invasion, emerging as a main trading partner and logistical hub for Russia's overseas trade.

# Ohio shooting

(Continued from Page 1)  
and suspects dying in police shootings.

Other law enforcement agencies have over the decades followed NYPD's lead, and industry organizations such as the Police Executive Research Forum and the International Association of Chiefs of Police have recommended the restrictions, saying shooting in such circumstances creates an unacceptable risk to bystanders from stray gunfire or the driver losing control of the vehicle if shot.

The Blendon Township department's policy states: "An officer should only discharge a firearm at a moving vehicle or its occupants when the officer reasonably believes there are no other reasonable means available to avert the imminent threat of the vehicle, or if deadly force other than the vehicle is directed at the officer or others."

But as of June only 32 police departments in the 100 largest U.S. cities had some form of restriction on firing at moving vehicles, according to Campaign Zero, an advocacy group of academics, activists and others seeking to end police brutality.

**How are such policies interpreted and enforced?**

John P. Gross of the University of Wisconsin Law School, who has written about the challenges of ending police shooting at moving vehicles, said individual department policies sometimes include exceptions if a suspect is firing a weapon or if the car is being used as a weapon against an officer, though many restrictions specifically say other weapons must be present.

Prosecutors and internal police investigators often focus on the moment of use

of force, but a broader view is necessary, he said. For example if an officer already has a license plate number, that may be a reason not to use force to stop a vehicle, since "most of us are findable."

"If you are pursuing someone accused of a homicide and who has shot at officers in the past, that's a different situation than somebody who might have shoplifted \$50 worth of items," Gross said. "That context should be part of this."

Departments often don't enforce the policies with meaningful discipline in part because of the strength of police unions, Gross said. In Blendon Township, union officials have said Young's car became a weapon the moment it began moving.

**Should officers purposely move in front of vehicles?**

Many department policies advise officers to move out of the way. But in the Ohio video, an officer is seen drawing his firearm and putting himself in the path of Young's parked car, which Gross called "bad tactics."

"And oftentimes bad tactics translates to needing to use more force than was necessary," Gross said. "The officer shouldn't put himself in front of the car. He can't stop the car with his body."

Edward Obayashi, a national use-of-force expert and attorney who specializes in vehicle-related police shootings, agreed and said the officer went against his training.

"The best practice in these matters nationwide is that you do not put yourself in a position of danger," Obayashi said. "There was no urgent need for him to position himself the way he did."

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**OBITUARIES**

**Betty L. Meeks, 86**

Betty L. Meeks, 86, of Bluffton, passed away peacefully Sunday morning, Sept. 3, 2023, at Stillwater Hospice in Fort Wayne.

Betty was born in Wells County, Indiana to Marion Meeks and Edna (Gilbert) Meeks.

She graduated from Lancaster Central High School with the class of 1954.

She is survived by her brother Wayne Meeks (wife Jeanne) of Bluffton; and several nieces and nephews.

Betty is preceded in death by her parents; sisters, Evelyn Kolbe and Ruth Neuman; along with brothers, Robert Meeks, William "Bill" Meeks, John Meeks, Kenneth Meeks, and Wendell Meeks.

As Betty requested, there will be no formal service and burial will take place at St. Paul Cemetery in Bluffton.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.

**Susan M. Brock, 72**

Susan M. Brock, 72, of Fort Wayne, died at Stillwater Hospice in Fort Wayne, early Monday morning, Sept. 4, 2023.

Susan was born April 15, 1951, in Fort Wayne to George and Rosellen Lillian Hatch. She married Kenneth Brock, in 1970.

Susan was preceded in death by her parents and husband Kenneth Brock.

Survivors include her daughter, Shelly Walter; sisters, Mary (Rick) Walling, Ruth Bongioanni, and BillieAnn Lawson; and brothers, Richard Sprinkle, Greg Sprinkle, John Hatch, George Hatch Jr., and Michael Hatch.

A private burial will be held Wednesday, Sept., 6, 2023, at Sparks Cemetery in rural Wells County.

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

**Buttigieg touts new Hoosier jobs during union facility visit**

**By LESLIE BONILLA MUÑIZ**  
*Indiana Capital Chronicle*

U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg touted Indiana's new billions in federal infrastructure dollars — and the thousands of jobs created — during a visit to a union apprenticeship facility in Indianapolis on Thursday.

The trip came just ahead of Labor Day, which recognizes the American labor movement.

As of July, the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law has sent \$4.6 billion to Indiana for over 210 projects, according to President Joe Biden's administration.

Sheet Metal Workers Local 20 has "ramped up" its apprenticeship programs to meet demand, Business Manager Trent Todd said. Buttigieg said such efforts lead to "good union careers."

"Everybody here knows that one good career — one good union career — can change the trajectory of a family. It means homeownership becomes possible, means new educational opportunities become possible, for the next generation," Buttigieg said.

"So if that's true of one job, then we know 1 million good jobs and more can change the trajectory of entire generations," he continued. "And that's what we're in the middle of right now."

Buttigieg, a former mayor of South Bend, visited the facility as part of a two-day tour of Indiana.

Sheet metal workers make, install and maintain heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems — better known as HVAC — as well as roofs, gutters and more. This union is part of the The International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers.

Buttigieg was joined by U.S. Rep. André Carson, a Democrat representing Indiana's Seventh Congressional District, and Liz Shuler, president of AFL-CIO — the largest labor federation in the country.

"We're investing in you: the American workers who make our country great," Carson said, praising the SMART apprenticeship programs for "opening doors to new talent" that he said couldn't be replaced by artificial intelligence.

Shuler emphasized union jobs as a way for Americans to "reclaim their power" over their futures.

The hunt for more people to fill needed jobs is a far cry from the economic devastation of 2008, Buttigieg said.

"What we're doing right now — what we're stimulating the private sector to do and what we are funding in the public sector — will test the productive capacity of this country," Buttigieg said. "(That's) from the raw materials themselves to, most of all, the skills and the readiness of the workforce that are going to shape those materials into the factories and the roads and the bridges and airports that we're going to be counting on for the rest of our lives."

**ACLU sues over new state license law**

*Alleges law makes licenses, ID cards available only to Ukrainian immigrants*

**By CASEY SMITH**  
*Indiana Capital Chronicle*

A federal lawsuit filed last week claims a new Indiana law unfairly prevents most immigrants from accessing state driver's licenses or identification cards, as well as registering and titling vehicles.

The legal challenge was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Indiana and the National Immigration Law Center on behalf of five Haitian immigrants who want to obtain an Indiana driver's license or identification card.

In contention is a state law passed during Indiana's 2023 legislative session that creates a pathway for individuals on humanitarian parole to obtain Indiana driver's licenses or identification cards — but only if they are from Ukraine.

The lawsuit claims that by allowing individuals from only that country to obtain an I.D. — but not

permitting the same opportunity to Haitian refugees — House Enrolled Act 1050 represents national-origin discrimination and is unconstitutional.

Specifically, the lawsuit claims the new law violates the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, as well as Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

"Our clients are being denied access to state-issued IDs solely because they are Haitians and not Ukrainians," said Gavin M. Rose, a senior attorney with the ACLU of Indiana. "Non-Ukrainians on humanitarian parole are left struggling to get to work, to keep medical appointments, to take children to school, and more, all because they cannot drive."

The ACLU holds that the federal government can temporarily admit a non-citizen to the United States "for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit," under "humanitarian parole." In recent years the federal government has

authorized the entry of non-citizens from Afghanistan, Ukraine, Venezuela, Cuba, Haiti, and Nicaragua due to humanitarian crises in those countries.

People on humanitarian parole from other countries could also benefit from being allowed to drive or obtain state-issued identification, according to the nonprofit.

Court documents indicate that the plaintiffs in the case are authorized to work in the United States and all hold steady jobs, but they have to rely on others for rides to work. According to the complaint, the ability to drive is of "fundamental importance in American society, particularly in cities and towns in Indiana where services are frequently dispersed and where public transportation is not ubiquitous."

"The federal government regulates immigration — not the states," said Chirayu Gosrani, an attorney with the National Immigration Law Center, said in a statement. "The State of Indiana cannot create immigration classifications that conflict with federal law, and here

they have done just that in an effort to unconstitutionally discriminate against people with humanitarian protections who are overwhelmingly immigrants of color."

State lawmakers have spent more than a year contemplating legislation to expand driving privileges to immigrants without documentation.

One bipartisan measure that specifically sought to offer "driving privilege" cards to all immigrants without documentation died in the 2023 session. But Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb later signed a separate omnibus bill in May that included a provision to make the cards an option for Ukrainian refugees.

The plaintiffs are now asking a judge to issue an injunction, allowing anyone on humanitarian parole from countries other than Ukraine to obtain driver's licenses and identification cards, and to register and title vehicles, just as those from Ukraine can do. Ultimately, the lawsuit seeks to strike down the law in whole on the basis that it's unconstitutional and discriminatory.

**Hoosier Medicaid breach exposes information**

**By LESLIE BONILLA MUÑIZ**  
*Indiana Capital Chronicle*

The personal health information of more than 200,000 Hoosiers on Medicaid may have been exposed in a global software breach in late May, the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration announced Friday.

That includes the names, addresses, Social Security numbers, dates of birth, gender, medical conditions, diagnoses, medications, allergies, health conditions,

member IDs and plan names of 212,193 Medicaid recipients utilizing Indiana's services.

Those affected are part of a managed care plan provided by Ohio-based CareSource.

A file transfer software the company was using, called MOVEit, was breached briefly in late May.

CareSource "immediately remediated the breach" and notified FSSA, according to the agency. And the company is contacting those affected with informa-

tion and credit monitoring options.

It's part of the same MOVEit hack that, in August, the agency said exposed the names, addresses, case numbers and Medicaid numbers of more than 744,000 Hoosiers on Medicaid. Just four people's social security numbers were accessed, however.

In that case, the software was being used by Indiana's health coverage programs enrollment broker, Maximus Health Services.

The breach has impacted

an estimated 1,000 organizations and 60 million people worldwide, according to TechCrunch.

**Financial Focus**

**What does it cost not to have life insurance?**

It's probably not on your calendar, but September is Life Insurance Awareness Month. Are you aware of the benefits of owning life insurance?

First, consider the risks of not having it. If something were to happen to you, could your family remain in their home? Could your children continue their plans for higher education? Who would pay any outstanding debts you have?

A sufficient life insurance death benefit could meet all those needs. Yet, many people put off buying insurance because they don't know how much they need or what type to buy.

To determine the proper amount of coverage, you'll need to consider a variety of factors: your income, your spouse's income, the size of your mortgage and so on.

As for the right policy, you can essentially choose between two types: term and permanent. Term insurance, which is typically less expensive, provides coverage for a certain number of years and only offers a death benefit. Permanent insurance can last a lifetime and offers the opportunity to build cash value but is generally more expensive.

Take the time to learn more about insurance and how it can help protect your family. And the sooner you start, the better.

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**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING  
This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

**Gen. Anthony Wayne's legacy is getting a second look at Ohio's Wayne National Forest renaming**

NELSONVILLE, Ohio (AP) — Some 40 Native American tribes have ancestral ties to Wayne National Forest, a quarter-million acres spread across portions of Appalachian southeastern Ohio. Their citizens have never stopped helping the U.S. Forest Service manage this expanse of forested hills, hollows, streams and lakes — even as the name recalls a violent past.

Now, a vigorous debate is underway over a Forest Service proposal to replace the name of Gen. Anthony Wayne, a founding father who Americans of an earlier era celebrated as an "Indian fighter," with something more neutral: Buckeye National Forest, after the state tree.

Forest Manager Lee Stewart said tribes had been asking for a name change for decades, but their request was formalized last year as part of a sweeping review of derogatory place names undertaken by the Biden

administration.

Since 2021, the names of about 650 places and geographic features across the country have been renamed, with involvement by the same federal board that in earlier eras helped get rid of the N-word and a pejorative word for Japanese.

"In thinking of the offensive nature (of the name) to tribes, it's the opportunity to begin to heal, to begin to connect our forest deeper than just around a name," Stewart said. "Ohio has thousands of years of history. The history here is very, very deep — pre-history to historic times, where Wayne occupies his space, to the history once we became a state. So Buckeye, we feel, reflects that."

The public comment period ends Monday, with U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack to receive the feedback and make a final decision. It would be the first national forest renaming since 2007.

Proponents see the name change as an act of respect for Indigenous people whose ancestors lived on the land and whose citizens continue to offer their skill and expertise to stewardship of the land, some through treaties with the U.S. government.

The forest's 381 square miles are used for timber and other natural resources, in addition to featuring campgrounds, a horseback riding network and off-highway vehicle trails.

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## Can you cut \$8 billion from the state budget? I tried.

It's a catchy phrase, "axe the tax," and the idea of eliminating the state income tax is a simple thing for voters to understand. But that annual \$8 billion in tax revenue provides services that can't be swept under the rug for cuts to be named later.

Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, a Republican gubernatorial candidate pushing the proposal, has said the how is not as important as the why and what. As someone who has read the state budget over the years, I have to respectfully disagree.

So I thought I would show you what exactly you would have to cut to cover the \$8 billion in revenue that would go away. The current biennial budget spends \$44 billion, or about \$22 billion a year.

First, Crouch says the elimination of the tax will result in increased investment in the state and therefore more tax revenue from corporate, sales and other taxes. But there are no estimates or analysis showing if that happened in other states that went through a similar transition.

And second, she and others also say there are efficiencies that can be found in state government. This is likely true, to the tune of millions. But billions? Absolutely not.

After all, Republicans have controlled the governor's office since 2005 and had supermajorities in the General Assembly for at least a decade.

If there are billions in wasteful spending in the state budget, that doesn't say much for GOP fiscal stewardship.

But I'll be charitable. I will start off by positing that efficiencies and new investment will cover \$1 billion of the lost revenue.

Now where do we find the next \$7 billion?

Education covers half of the state budget so you have to start there. Abolishing the controversial state-paid voucher system would save about \$500 million.

I'm not an accountant so I'm going to keep cuts nice and simple: 10%. And a 10% cut in tuition support to public schools would save \$880 million. Of course, without that money, there would likely be hundreds of teacher layoffs, larger class sizes and fewer art and music classes.

Our total is now \$2.38 billion.

Next up, we gut economic development funding. First, the quality-of-place program READI that has funneled hundreds of millions to local communities. That is \$250 million next year. Plus, the \$500 million "deal-closing fund." We can also get rid of the 21st Century Research and Development Fund and the workforce cabinet, for savings of about \$45 million.

The running total is now \$3.175 billion.

No one likes road construction, so let's do less of it. A 10% cut would save \$220 million.

Now, we are at \$3.395 billion.

Medicaid — or health care for the poor and disabled — is the fastest growing segment of the budget. It's a mix of state and federal funding. A 10% cut in state dollars would save \$330 million. But it would come with more Hoosiers going to hospitals as a last resort, ultimately meaning we all pick up the bill — with higher costs.

Our total is now \$3.725 billion.

Next up, we stop paying for new buildings on college campuses. In the new budget, that is about \$600 million.

We are up to \$4.325 billion.

We could cut 10% of the Indiana Department of Correction budget, netting us roughly \$100 million.

And the Indiana Attorney General's Office isn't required by the Constitution, so abolishing it would save about \$30 million.

So now we are at \$4.45 billion.

Canceling other state building projects — from new prisons, to state park inns and an archives building — would save \$1.25 billion.

That brings us up to \$5.7 billion.

I give up, but I think you get the idea. It is much harder than it sounds in a campaign clip.

Do we reduce how much funding goes to protecting abused and neglected children? Do we slash health funding? Eliminate the Department of Environmental Management? Who needs the Department of Natural Resources, anyway?

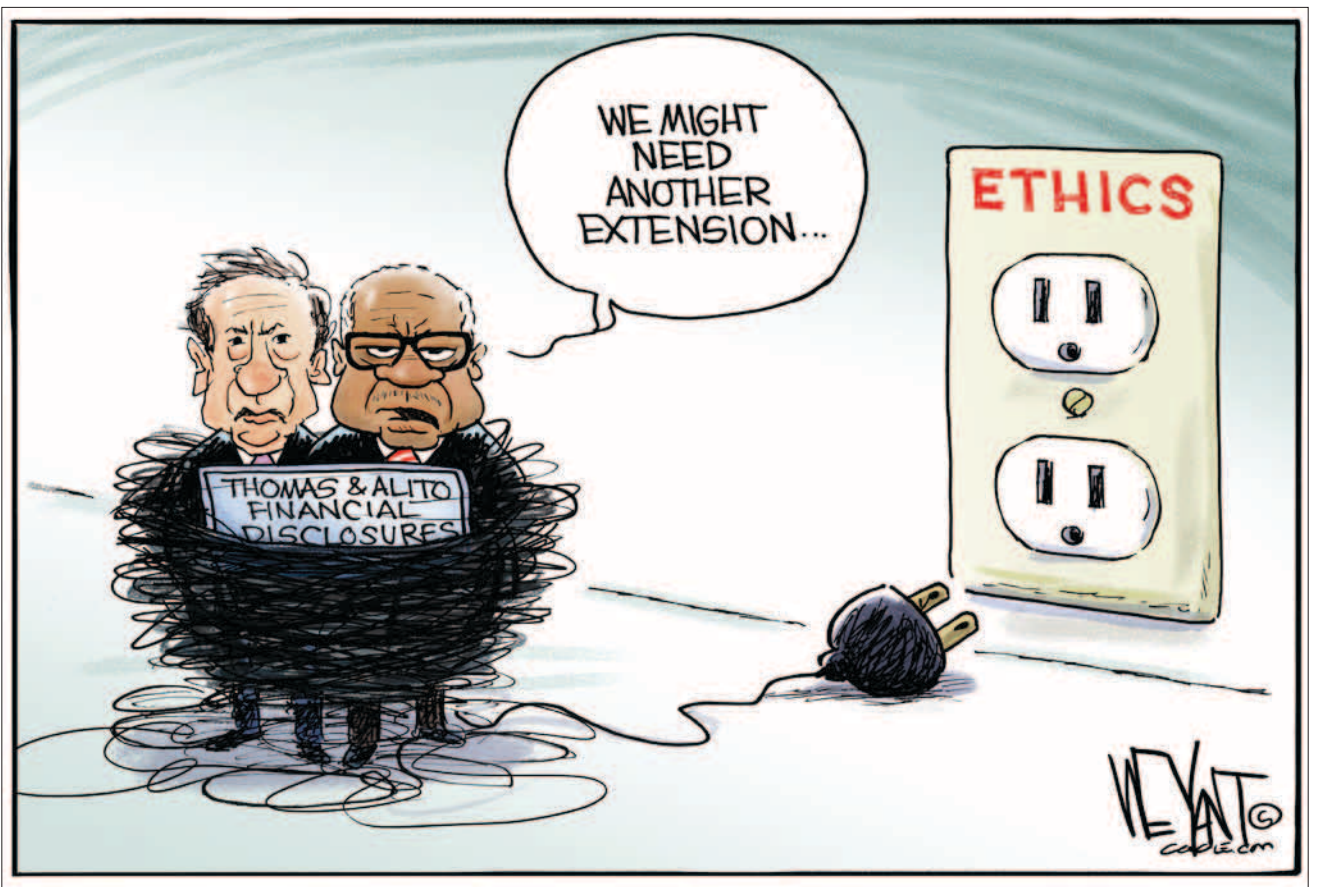
I'm being tongue-in-cheek, but the matter is serious. And these are questions that should be dealt with now, not sometime later after the damage of eliminating a tax is done.

Niki Kelly is the editor of the Indiana Capital Chronicle, a non-profit newsroom. [nkelly@indianacapitalchronicle.com](mailto:nkelly@indianacapitalchronicle.com)



Niki Kelly

## Hoosier Opinions



## GOP Chairman Hupfer's historic tenure at the helm comes to an end

FRENCH LICK, Ind. — Kyle Hupfer has been, arguably, the most successful major party chairman in Indiana history. His Democrat counterpart, Mike Schmuhl, is attempting to get his party back in the game.

When it comes to straight tenure, the late Indiana Republican Chairman Gordon Durnil had the helm for eight years under Gov. Robert D. Orr. The Indiana congressional delegation was held by the Democrats during four of those years. Compare that to out-going Indiana Republican Chairman Hupfer, who left office on Thursday after the GOP Central Committee elected Anne Hathaway as the first female at the helm.

During Hupfer's tenure, Hoosier Republicans never lost a constitutional Statehouse office. There were four consecutive General Assembly supermajorities (and six overall), while under Durnil the GOP House majority topped out at 63 seats twice. And in his final election as chair, Democrat Evan Bayh was elected governor and the Indiana House split 50/50.

During Hupfer's reign, the GOP held the Indiana House congressional delegation 7-2; and in 2018, Republican Mike Braun upset Democratic U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly. Gov. Eric Holcomb was reelected with 56.5% of the vote and a record 1,706,727 votes (that compares to Bayh's 62% reelection victory in 1992 with 1,382,151 votes). Under Durnil, Orr was reelected with 52% and Lt. Gov. John Mutz was defeated by Bayh in 1988.

Under Hupfer, Hoosier Republicans hold more than 90% of county offices and won a record 70 mayoral races in 2019. Hupfer raised \$34.75 million for the Eric Holcomb For Indiana campaign as treasurer and \$21.8 million for the Indiana GOP.

"Kyle Hupfer's tenure as chairman of the Indiana Republican Party has proudly been one for the record books," Holcomb said last week. "When he assumed the role in 2017, many believed the Indiana Republican Party had reached its apex. Instead, Kyle pulled together and led a team that was able to defy the annual odds."

What does Hupfer attribute to this historic success? It was creating unified campaigns under the state GOP umbrella. "The first impactful thing we did was really locking hands with a governor, which had never been done before," Hupfer told me. "We expanded that in '18 knowing that we had an incumbent U.S. senator on the Democratic side we were going to try and beat. We recreated how the state party operated on a statewide basis in those general elections. We started early and got buy-ins from the statewide, from the congressionals; buy-in from the federal side of things and then ran one campaign. All the grassroots folks were state party employees. We did GOTV, we were recruiting, making calls, knocking on doors, distributing signs, pushing absentees, mail; we were doing all of those nuts and bolts GOTV and we won."

With the unified campaigns, he was able to share resources. "We've had really, really good data so when we're running these cohesive, one statewide plan, that

data gets to everyone," Hupfer said. "If it's not in their hands it's impacting them by the way we're using it and so we're deep into polling, deep into modeling."

Where does this leave Hoosier Democrats, who are at a low, low ebb?

Schmuhl, who took the helm in 2021 after managing Pete Buttigieg's \$100 million 2020 presidential campaign, has started by raising money. "You've got to raise a lot of money to be successful in politics and with campaigns," he said.

"We had an operating budget of about \$1 million a year and we've doubled that. That's allowed us to hire more people, hire more organizers around the state, make some investments in technology for different tools to reach more voters."

This year, Schmuhl hopes to increase the party's 47 mayors, believing Democrats have a good chance of holding on to Indianapolis and Fort Wayne by reelecting Joe Hogsett and Tom Henry, while targeting Michigan City, Terre Haute, Lawrence, Evansville, Muncie and Carmel. "Those communities are where we have great candidates who are putting together great bids to become leaders of their communities," Schmuhl said.

He expects Jennifer McCormick, a former Republican who served as the superintendent of public instruction, to win the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in 2024, riding such issues as abortion access, school security and the GOP's overreach on matters like banning library books. "Jennifer is making the rounds, and she's doing everything you need to do to be a serious candidate," Schmuhl said. "She's meeting people at the grassroots level, she's working on raising more money. I think she has a strong message."

Democrats are recruiting candidates for the General Assembly in 2024. Schmuhl believes the current environment will lead to a revived party.

"Which record is longer? President Biden's legislative record or Trump's felony count?" Schmuhl asked. "When you look at what Joe Biden has been able to accomplish with the slimmest of majorities during his first two years — the American Rescue Plan; the Inflation Reduction Act; the Sacred Communities Act, which addresses gun violence; the Bipartisan Infrastructure deal; the CHIPs Act — these are monumental pieces of legislation."

"The other side, Donald Trump, all they want to do is talk 24/7 about the politics of division," he said. "They don't have a 21st century plan for the future. Their agenda is division, culture wars, pitting people against one another, making our dialogue fractured and limited access to the ballot box. That's their path to success. That's wrong."

The columnist publishes at [www.howeypolitics.com](http://www.howeypolitics.com). Find him on Twitter @hwypol.



Brian Howey

## Politicking

## Yes, President Harris is a legitimate issue

Kamala Harris is one of the most prominent people in the United States, with the potential that at any moment she could inherit some of the most fearsome powers on Earth, but no one is supposed to notice.

Republicans are deemed unhealthy fixated on Harris for saying that a vote for the increasingly rickety President Joe Biden is a vote to make Kamala Harris president.

"Why are Republicans so obsessed with Harris?" asked a Boston Globe columnist.

Jemele Hill, the former ESPN journalist currently with The Atlantic, rapped Nikki Haley in lurid terms for warning of a President Harris: "So part of the reason racism is such a terrible sickness in this country is because politicians like this know they can rally a certain base with the fear of OH MY GOD A BLACK WOMAN MIGHT BE PRESIDENT IF YOU DON'T VOTE FOR ME."

Hill then connected Haley's sentiment with racist violence. Q.E.D.

It is simply a fact that, should Joe Biden win a second term, Kamala Harris has the greatest chance to become president of any sitting vice president since Harry Truman.

The Missourian, who was targeted by Republicans in the 1944 campaign, ascended to the presidency months into Franklin Roosevelt's fourth term.

There is no reason, thank good-



Rich Lowry

ness, to believe that Biden's health is as poor as FDR's near the end. Between his bouts of rambling near-incoherence, rickety gait, and cadaver-like beach physique, though, Biden is not convincing anyone he has a youthful vigor that belies his years.

At a time of deep political division, Biden unites Americans in a common view of his complete unsuitability for a second term. An Associated Press/NORC poll found that 77% of voters think he's too old to serve again, including 69% percent of Democrats. They are being driven to this conclusion by the unadorned evidence of Biden's disturbingly uneven performance.

Of course, this is why Kamala Harris looms so large. Joe Biden thinks, should something happen to him, Harris should be his successor. He has put her in this position as a conscious choice, one of the most important decisions a candidate for president can make. Why shouldn't this judgment, and her potential role, be fodder for debate?

It's not as though Harris is a bystander. As a New York Times headline had it a couple of weeks ago, "Kamala Harris Takes on a Forceful New Role in the 2024 Campaign."

Anyone who thinks Harris is getting unprecedentedly hostile treatment because she's a history-making minority woman has clearly never heard of Dan Quayle or Dick Cheney,

punching-bag weeps who were very unhistoric white males. Quayle was relentlessly and unfairly pilloried during George H.W. Bush's presidency, while Cheney was made out to be the evil genius of the George W. Bush administration.

It's no wonder that Harris, an off-puttingly poor political performer who is a stereotypical identity-politics-obsessed California progressive, should be a political target. She has managed to be both undistinguished on the one hand and widely disliked on the other. In late June, an NBC News poll had her positive rating at 32 and negative rating at 49, clocking in at the lowest ratings for a vice president in the history of the poll.

Usually, someone has her kind of rock-bottom numbers after being associated with a deeply unpopular new initiative or a major scandal. But the only baggage Vice President Harris has is her own political persona.

Her unpopularity itself would, in the ordinary course of things, make her a focus of the opposition. That she's Number Two to an already-unsteady president who wants people believe he will serve out his second term until age 86 is even more grist for the mill.

Democrats seek to build a defensive ring around the vice president based on accusations of racism and sexism. It won't work. Everyone knows President Harris is a real possibility, and the fact that she's next in line will be an inevitable part of the 2024 debate.

Rich Lowry is on Twitter @RichLowry

## Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Sept. 5, the 248th day of 2023. There are 117 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Sept. 5, 1774, the first Continental Congress assembled in Philadelphia.

On this date:

In 1698, Russia's Peter the Great imposed a tax on beards.

In 1864, voters in Louisiana approved a new state constitution abolishing slavery.

In 1939, four days after war had broken out in Europe, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued a pro-

clamation declaring U.S. neutrality in the conflict.

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy signed legislation making aircraft hijackings a federal crime.

In 1975, President Gerald R. Ford escaped an attempt on his life by Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, a disciple of Charles Manson, in Sacramento, California.

In 1986, four hijackers who had seized a Pan Am jumbo jet on the ground in Karachi, Pakistan, opened fire when the lights inside the plane failed; a total of 20 people were killed before Pakistani commandos stormed the jetliner.

## The News-Banner

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# Events at the Creative Arts Council of Wells County

428 S. Oak St. in Bluffton  
260-824-5222

www.wellscocreativearts.com  
creativeartscouncil@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/wellsco-creativearts

Instagram: @creativeartscouncil

Creative Arts office hours — Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The office is closed on Fridays.

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

## FALL DANCE CLASSES

Fall Registration for Creative Arts Dance Academy is open until September 15th! If you would like to receive a fall dance packet or have specific questions, please call (260) 824-5222

Fall dance classes have already started, but it's not too late to hop in.

Information regarding our dance schedule, tuition, and performance opportunities can be found on our website at: <https://www.wellscocreativearts.com/ed-about>

## SHAKESPEARE ON THE PLAZA

The Parlor City Shakespeare Company will present "Love's Labour's Lost" Sept. 8, 9, and 10 on the Parlor City Plaza. Admission is free.

This show is produced in partnership with Bluffton NOW! and the Creative Arts Council of Wells County.

## FINE ART'S DAY ON PARLOR CITY PLAZA

Saturday, September 9th - 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Wells County Creative Arts Council is bringing PARLOR CITY FINE ARTS DAY to the Parlor City Market. Live performances include:

- CAC Voice Students at 9:30 a.m.
- Creative Arts Dance Co at 9:45 a.m.
- Studio88 Piano at 10:30 a.m.
- Parlor City Shakespeare at 11:15 a.m.

There will be a Pottery Demonstration from JHPotteryWorks and kids activities such as chalk art (for fun not competition) and printmaking.

Local Art and handmade vendors will be present.

## 'SNOW WHITE'

Creative Arts Dance Company will be performing their Fall repertoire, "Snow White".

Three performances are scheduled, Sept. 9 at 9:45 a.m. on the Parlor City Plaza, Sept. 16 at 10:30 a.m. at the Wells County Public Library and Sept. 22 at 5 p.m. on the Parlor City Plaza.

## GUITAR LESSONS

Are you interested in learning Acoustic/Electric guitar? Mike Needler has 30 minute private lessons on beginners to advanced students in acoustic or electric guitar. For more information on lesson times available

call (260) 824-5222.

## CREATIVE ARTS THEATER 'The Legend of Sleepy Hollow'

The Creative Arts Theater will present "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" Oct. 27 and 28 in the auditorium at 428 S. Oak St.

Three performances are scheduled, at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 27, at 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 28 and 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 28. Tickets are \$15 per adult and \$10 for 12 and under. They can be purchased online at <https://www.wellscocreativearts.com/other-yearly-productions>

## AUDITIONS FOR 'WHITE CHRISTMAS'

Auditions for "White Christmas" will be held at 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 6, and at 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 7, at Creative Arts, 428 S Oak St. in Bluffton. Pre-register your audition spot at: <https://www.wellscocreativearts.com/holiday-production>.

Please plan to be there on your registered audition spot (or top of each hour) and be prepared to read and to sing. Enter door 10 and follow the signs. Ages 12 and up are welcomed.

Performance dates are Dec. 7-9.

## ONGOING ACTIVITIES

**Creative Crew:** Tuesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Life Community Church. All forms of creativity are welcome — painting, drawing, needlework, and



more. Spend the morning working on your craft and socialize with other artists. Enter Door 1 or Door 10. The Creative Crew meets in the café.

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

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

# Area Things to See and Do

## ALLEN COUNTY WAR MEMORIAL COLISEUM

Jim Gaffigan "Barely Alive" fall tour, Sept. 9; Johnny Appleseed Festival, Sept. 16-17; Fort Wayne Rubber Stamp and Scrapbook Getaway, Oct. 6-7; Fall Bridal Spectacular, Oct. 8; Gun and Knife Show, Oct. 14-15; Brickworld Fort Wayne, Oct. 14-15; Cole Swindell, Oct. 19. [www.memorialcoliseum.com](http://www.memorialcoliseum.com)

## ARENA DINNER THEATER, FORT WAYNE

"Murder on the Orient Express," Oct. 27-Nov. 11; "One Christmas Eve at Evergreen Mall," Dec. 1-17; "LMNOP," Jan. 19-28; "Funny Money," March 1-16; "A Delightful Quarantine," April 19-May 4; "The Drowsy Chaperone," June 14-29. [www.arenadinnertheatre.org](http://www.arenadinnertheatre.org)

## CLYDE THEATRE, FORT WAYNE

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Sept. 22; Brian Culbertson, Sept. 30; Righteous Brothers, Oct. 7; Pat Metheny, Oct. 8; Static X and Sevendust, Oct. 18; Larry Fleet, Oct. 20; Kings Kaleidoscope, Oct. 22; Mania — the ABBA tribute, Oct. 24; Rod Tuffcurls and the Bench Press, Oct. 27; Marshall Tucker Band, Nov. 11; Brit Floyd, Nov. 12; Brian Regan (comedy), Dec. 7; Foy Vance, Jan. 28. [ClydeTheatre.com](http://ClydeTheatre.com) or at 1-800-514-3849.

## EMBASSY THEATER, FORT WAYNE

James Sanders and Con-junto, Sept. 9; Michael Glibicki and Dirk Miller, Sept 21; Kevin James: "The

Irregardless Tour," Sept 29; Encanto: The Sing-Along Film Concert," Sept. 30; An Evening With Ashanti, Oct 13; Music Lovers Lounge, Oct. 13; "Harry Chapin at 80," Oct. 18; "The Price Is Right Live — On Stage," Oct. 19; Joe Bonamassa, Nov. 17; "The Hip Hop Nutcracker (Touring)," Dec. 5; Straight No Chaser: "Sleighin It Tour," Dec. 20; "Napoleon Dynamite Live!," Jan. 18. <http://fwembassytheatre.org/events>

## FIRE AND LIGHT PRODUCTIONS

"And Then There Were None," Nov. 9-11, PPG Arts Lab, 300 E. Main St., Fort Wayne; "Elf Jr.," Dec. 14-16, Arts United Center, 303 E. Main St., Fort Wayne; "The Sound of Music," Jan. 18-20, Arts United Center, 303 E. Main St., Fort Wayne; "Finding Nemo Jr., April 11-13, Arts United enter, 303 E. Main St., Fort Wayne. Tickets at [fireandlightproductions.com](http://fireandlightproductions.com).

## BOTANICAL CONSERVATORY

"An Herbar Garden Exhibit," through Nov. 12. [www.botanicalconservatory.org](http://www.botanicalconservatory.org)

## FOELLINGER OUTDOOR THEATER, FORT WAYNE

An Evening with CAKE, Sept. 11; Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back with Fort Wayne Philharmonic, Sept. 16. Info: (260) 427-6715 or [FortWayneParks.org](http://FortWayneParks.org)

## FORT WAYNE CIVIC THEATER

"Shrek: The Musical," Nov. 4-19; "The Color Purple," Feb. 9-18, 2024; "Six Degrees of Separation," March 15-24; "Jer-

sey Boys," May 4-19.. Arts United Center box office 260-424-5220; info at [www.fwcivic.org](http://www.fwcivic.org).

## FORT WAYNE MUSEUM OF ART

Open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (until 8 p.m. on Thursdays, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. [www.fwmoa.org](http://www.fwmoa.org)

## FURTH CENTER, ANGOLA

Get the Lead Out: Oct. 14; Mickey Dolenz: Oct. 27; [trine.edu/furth](http://trine.edu/furth)

## HONEYWELL CENTER & EAGLES THEATRE, WABASH

**Honeywell Center:** "A Tribute to Chicago," Sept. 8; "The Australian Pink Floyd Show," Sept. 13; "Whose Live Anyway?" Sept. 14; Mark Lowry, Sept. 15; Lyle Lovette: Oct. 26; Clint Black: Oct. 28; Haunted Illusions, Oct. 29; Bored Teachers Comedy Tour, Nov. 17; Prairie Home Holiday, Nov. 29; Cirque Dreams Holiday: Dec. 5; Four Horsemen: Dec. 7; American Girl Live Concert, Dec. 15; Thunderstruck, Jan. 20; Dinosaur World Live: Jan. 26; Little River Band, Feb. 2; 360 Allstars, Feb. 3;

**Eagles Theatre:** Chelcie Lynn: Oct. 5; Judy Garland impersonator, Oct. 10; Joanne Shaw Taylor: Oct. 12; Martin Barre, Oct. 19; Nelson: Jan. 18; Sons of Mistro, Feb. 8; Michael Palascak: Feb. 14; <https://www.boxofficeticketsales.com/honeywell-center>

## SWEETWATER SOUND, FORT WAYNE

**Performance Center**  
Never Break the Chain (Fleetwood Mac tribute), Sept. 23; Pink Droyd (Pink

Floyd tribute band), Sept. 30. Tickets: 800-514-3849 or eTix

## WAGON WHEEL, WARSAW

"Symphony of the Lakes String Quartet," Sept. 23. Tickets 866-923-2618 or [wagonwheelcenter.org](http://wagonwheelcenter.org)

## ABCINEMA, DECATUR

130 W. Monroe St., Decatur. Information: [www.abcinema.com](http://www.abcinema.com) or 260-724-SHOW

## BAKER STREET CENTER, FORT WAYNE

"Brass Metropolis," a tribute to Chicago, Sept. 16; Addison Agan with Max Lockwood, Sept. 29; The Arcadian Wild, Oct. 21. [www.bakerstreetcentre.com](http://www.bakerstreetcentre.com)

## PIERE'S ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE—FW

Everclear: Sept. 9; Etix.com

## LERNER THEATRE, ELKHART

Kimball Organ concert/ Celia Weiss: Oct. 18, Dec. 20; Carpenter TRIBUTE/Debbie Taylor: Dec. 7; The-Lerner.com

## Grace and Mercy will host 'Desserts 'N' Dreams open house Thursday

Grace and Mercy Transitional Housing, 1001 Clark Ave., will host a "Desserts 'N' Dreams" open house from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7.

Community Care of Northeast Indiana, the umbrella organization for Grace and Mercy, has added two new resident rooms and an outdoor space and walkway to the facility. The open house is free and open to the public.

Grace and Mercy now has 11 resident rooms, a playroom, and arts and crafts space, living and dining rooms, a prayer room, a supply room, kitchen and pantry, and a two-bedroom apartment for the house manager. Staff offices and storage spaces are also included.

Tours will begin at the facility every 10 minutes. For more information, call 353-1006.

## Rockcreek alumni will gather in Markle Saturday

The 2023 reunion for the Rockcreek alumni of Wells County will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, at the Markle Church of Christ.

The cost is \$15, payable at check-in.

## Fall art at FW's Orchard Gallery

During the month of September The Orchard Gallery of Fine Art will feature the acrylic paintings of Kathy Funderburg and the Nuno Felted Wearable Art by Patti Barker.

Hours will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, closed Labor Day. The artist run site is located at 6312-A Covington Rd. in Fort Wayne with more information at [www.theorchardgallery.com](http://www.theorchardgallery.com).

# Zanesville News

by Melba Edwards

It is a very pleasant day today, for the end of August, as I write my column.

Most events are over here for now.

The Zanesville Church of God/Lions Club Community picnic was a great success. The weather was very nice for being outside. Everyone enjoyed the free food and the concert. Especially the kids loved the games and the blow up slide that got them really wet. There were probably close to 100-125 people present during the afternoon event. Thanks to all of you who helped in any way to make this second annual Community Picnic at the Park possible. I assume that it will be held again next year on the last Saturday of August so mark your calendars now so you can come!

Community picnics were held many times in this town. Bob Fetteroff made sure that I was given the large, very long, plank tables that sat on wooden horses that held the food for the last of one of these picnics. They both make tables in my basement for holding lots of stuff! Some picnics were held on the east side of town in Lennington's woods very close to where Specialized Hydraulics is

now. Some were held downtown on the west side of County Line Pizza. Others were held just south of town about one mile out where a church sat. Many pictures are available of these long time picnics.

I can tell you though that there were no hot dogs or chips in a bag or bottled water, as at those you had fried chicken, noodles and mashed potatoes. Everyone would bring lots of wonderful things they grew in their gardens and the women always out did themselves with delicious desserts of all kinds. (Not that we did not enjoy the food served to us at the ballpark. Times have certainly changed.)

My time is very limited as my calendar is crammed full for September but I will share with you some things.

Coming up:

Lions Club meeting Monday, Sept. 11, at 6:30 p.m. with a dinner and program to be announced.

September 14, 15, 16 is Ossian Days.

September 19 is the Zanesville Town Council meeting at 6:30 and opening night at the Bluffton Street Fair.

September 23-24 is Pioneer Days in Huntington. Come and see Robin and

I at our booths inside. We have not been there for a few years.

On top of all these dates we like to spend a day at Auburn over this weekend and we have a baby shower, and a wedding!

I want to let you know that we have lots of new books at the Free Library. If you can't find what you want please call me and I will let you come inside for more books. We are wanting to have a book sale soon of special books.

I was just watching a western movie on Grit the other night and the title was "Conagher." The movie was based on a book and the author was Lewis L'Mour. Many of his books will be available at the book sale. If you are interested, the Lions have maybe over 20 of his leather bound books that we will sell at a reasonable price. These should be of interest to men and boys.

Since I am always short on time I decided to write an article for an upcoming Women of Wells Magazine that will be published in October 2023. They will be accepting input for this publication from you also. Check this out at [www.newsbanner.com](http://www.newsbanner.com).

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# High School Calendar

**TUESDAY, SEPT 5**  
**BOYS TENNIS:** Norwell at DeKalb, 5 p.m.; Bluffton at Wabash, 5 p.m.  
**GIRLS GOLF:** Norwell at Columbia City, 5 p.m.; Blackhawk at Bluffton, 4:30 p.m.  
**GIRLS SOCCER:** Wayne at Norwell, 7 p.m.  
**VOLLEYBALL:** Norwell at Bishop Dwenger, 7:30 p.m.; Bluffton at Jay County, 6 p.m.; South Adams at Southern Wells, 7:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT 6**  
**BOYS SOCCER:** New Haven at Norwell, 7 p.m.  
**BOYS TENNIS:** Norwell at DeKalb, 5 p.m.; Bluffton at Carroll, 5:30 p.m.  
**GIRLS GOLF:** Norwell at Leo, 5 p.m.; Bluffton at Eastbrook, 5 p.m.  
**GIRLS SOCCER:** Norwell at New Haven, 6 p.m.  
**VOLLEYBALL:** Northfield at Norwell, 7:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, SEPT 7**  
**BOYS SOCCER:** Bishop Luers at Norwell, 7 p.m.  
**BOYS TENNIS:** Belmont at Norwell, 4:30 p.m.  
**GIRLS GOLF:** Bluffton at Norwell, 4:30 p.m.; Canterbury at Southern Wells, 4:30 p.m.  
**VOLLEYBALL:** Blackford at Norwell, 7:30 p.m.; Bluffton at South Adams, 6 p.m.

**FRIDAY, SEPT 8**  
**FOOTBALL:** Belmont at Norwell, 7 p.m.; Bluffton at Woodlan, 7 p.m.; Wes-Del at Southern Wells, 7 p.m.

**SATURDAY, SEPT 9**  
**BOYS SOCCER:** Leo at Norwell, 11 a.m.  
**BOYS TENNIS:** Bluffton at Madison-Grant Invitational, 9 a.m.  
**CROSS COUNTRY (CO-ED):** Norwell, Bluffton, Southern Wells at Wildcat Class Invitational at Indiana Wesleyan University, 9 a.m.  
**GIRLS GOLF:** NE8 Meet at Cross Creek CC 10 a.m.; Bluffton, Southern Wells ACAC at Celina Linx, 9 a.m.  
**GIRLS SOCCER:** Norwell at Leo, 11 a.m.

**MONDAY, Sept 11**  
**BOYS SOCCER:** Norwell at East Noble, 7 p.m.  
**BOYS TENNIS:** Bluffton at Norwell, 4:30 p.m.  
**VOLLEYBALL:** Norwell at Eastbrook, 7:30 p.m.; Bishop Luers at Bluffton, 6 p.m.

**TUESDAY, SEPT 12**  
**BOYS TENNIS:** Norwell at New Haven, 5 p.m.  
**GIRLS GOLF:** Norwell at Canterbury, 4:30 p.m.; Southern Wells at Jay County, 4:30 p.m.  
**GIRLS SOCCER:** Eastbrook at Norwell, 7 p.m.  
**VOLLEYBALL:** Norwell at Marion, 7:30 p.m.; Bluffton at Woodlan, 6 p.m.; Heritage at Southern Wells, 7 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT 13**  
**BOYS TENNIS:** Bluffton at Bishop Luers, 5 p.m.



## Running away with a win

The Norwell girls' soccer team went into the Labor Day weekend with a 10-0 win Saturday morning over Fort Wayne North Side at Kreager Park in Fort Wayne. Above, Makenzie Fuess (left) hustles away from the Legends' defense. Bottom left, Madison Mashuda keeps the ball away from a Legends defender. Bottom right, Ridley Sheets (left) gives a double high-five after scoring the game's first goal to Morgan Batdorff. Batdorff and Grace Mann each scored three goals for the Knights. Aubrey Meyer, Makenzie Fuess, Issie Isch and Lillian Norris each added a goal for Norwell. (Photos by Ryan Walker)

# Sports Roundup

## Knight girls win Marion XC Invitational, boys fifth

The Norwell boys' and girls' cross-country teams competed at the Marion Invitational on Saturday.

The girls ended up winning the invite in the purple 5K run with a team score of 72, while the boys placed fifth in the purple 5K run with a score of 138.

### Individual results

#### Girls

Ashley Waldman placed seventh with a time of 20:53.4), Elizabeth Norris 11th (21:09.9), Brooklyn Meyer 17th (21:32.0), Haleigh Reinhard 18th (21:32.2), Addison Meyer 22nd (21:49.7), Alana Cady 36th (22:28.8), Teagan Lesley 46th (23:07.5), Eden Nash 56th (23:37.4), Hylee Hannie 65th (24:03.4), Mariah Kline 80th (24:56.3), Lyanna Kelley 80th (25:29.0), Marina Andrade 94th (25:44.7).

#### Boys

Gage Reinhard 16th (17:35.1), Gavin Threewits 25th (17:59.3), Elijah Jacob 28th (18:09.5), Luke Johnson 34th (18:25.2), Lukas Mashuda 35th (18:26.4), Parker McCartney 88th (20:38.4).

### Team results

#### Girls

Norwell came in first with a team score of 72, Pendelton Heights second (78), Bishop Dwenger third (82), Marion fourth (134), New Palestine fifth (151), New Castle sixth (157), Richmond seventh (159), Concord eighth (161), Snider ninth (190), Belmont 10th (234), and DeKalb 11th (250).

#### Boys

Marion came in first with a team score of 64, Concord second (74), DeKalb third (116), Bishop Dwenger fourth (133), Norwell fifth (138), New Palestine sixth (163), Delta seventh (166), Snider eighth (178), Muncie Central ninth (184), Belmont 10th (198), New Castle 11th (305), Mississinewa 12th (320), and Wayne 13th (353).

Norwell will be at the Wildcat Invitational at Indiana Wesleyan University at 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 9.

## Tiger boys place 7th, girls 18th at Manchester XC Invitational

The Bluffton boys' and girls' cross-country teams competed at Huntington University for the Manchester Invitational.

The boys' team placed 7th of 22 teams, while the girls placed 18th of 18.

### Individual Tigers' results

#### Boys

Levi Johns finished 19th with a time of 17:14.6, Tyler Godwin 20th (17:18.5), Jude Baumgartner 31st (17:45.2), Ayden Teeple 71st (18:58.4), Aidan Graves 83rd (19:13.8), Griffin Linderwell 102nd (19:47.7), Jackson Rocwell 109th (20:00.0), and Brett Kuhlenbeck 118th (20:28.6).

#### Girls

Dakota Lee finished 99th with a time of 25:00.1, Kierstynn Reed 113th (25:52.2), Reagan Harris 121st (26:22.4), Lucia Corkwell 127th (26:50.5), Amarah Robles 140th (28:38.7), Alydia Bertsch 143rd (29:25.5), Sophia Mayne 154th (33:12.6).

#### Junior Varsity boys

Ryan Schlagenhour finished 39th with a time of 20:17.0, Manning Nashh 52nd (20:57.1), Maksym Laishevkin (21:59.6), Owen Lesh 89th (23:19.6), Jonah Cole 91st (23:28.4), Clayton Brubaker (100th 24:51.7), and Dalton Rodgers 110th (29:13.2).

Bluffton will be at the Wildcat Invitational at Indiana Wesleyan University starting at 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 9th.

### Team results

#### Boys

Penn came in first with a team score of 54, Wabash second (80), Columbia city third (112), Culver Academies fourth (132), South Bend Adams fifth (143), Wawasee sixth (192), Bluffton seventh (208), East Noble eighth (228), Garrett ninth (232), Northrop 10th (261), Lakewood Park Christian 11th (293), Manchester 12th (307), Huntington North 13th (386), Eastside 14th (451), South Side 15th (452), Mishawaka Marian 16th (465), Peru 17th (480), North Side 18th (531), Tippecanoe Valley 19th (544), South Bend Career Academy 20th (549), North Miami 21st (599), and Fremont 22nd (647).

#### Girls

East Noble came in first with a team score of 62, Huntington North second (109), Northrop third (129), Columbia City (133), Valparaiso fifth (141), South Bend Adams sixth (181), Culver Academies seventh (208), Penn eighth (228), Fairfield ninth (249), Manchester 10th (253), South Side 11th (263), Wawasee 12th (308), Garrett 13th (262), Tippecanoe Valley 14th (366), Mishawaka Marian 15th (378), North Side 16th (381), Wabash 17th (401), and Bluffton 18th (518).

## Southern Wells boys place 8th, girls INC finish at Marion Invitational

The Southern Wells boys' and girls' cross-country teams competed at the Marion Invitational on Saturday.

(Continued on Page 7)

# Colts roster & schedule for 2023

The Indianapolis Colts nearly made the playoffs in 2021 before crashing down to a 4-12 record and seeking a new quarterback. This was just one year removed off of running back Jonathan Taylor's monster season with 1,811 yards rushing and 18 touchdowns. Now, the running back is on the physically unable to perform (PUP list), and future is uncertain for him, and rookie Anthony Richardson looks to lead the team as the fourth overall selection in the 2023 NFL Draft.

With that being said, here is the Colts official 53-man roster announced on Tuesday and their full 17-week schedule.

### 53 man roster

**Quarterback (3)**  
 Anthony Richardson, Gardner Minshew and Sam Ehlinger  
**Running Back (3)**  
 Zack Moss, Evan Hull Deon Jackson  
**Wide Receiver (4)**  
 Michael Pittman Jr., Alec Pierce, Josh Downs, and Isaiah McKenzie  
**Tight End (5)**

Mo Alie-Cox, Kylan Granson, Jelani Woods, Will Mallory and Drew Ogeltree

### Offensive Line (9)

Bernhard Raimann, Quenton Nelson, Ryan Kelly, Will Fries, Braden Smith, Blake Freeland, Wesley French, Carter O'Donnell and Arlington Hambricht

### Defensive Line (10)

DeForest Buckner, Grover Stewart, Kwity Paye, Dayo Odeyingbo, Samson Ebukam,

Adetomiwa Adeawore, Tyquan Lewis, Eric Johnson II, McTelvin Agim and Taven Bryan

### Linebacker (6)

Shaquille Leonard, Zaire Franklin, E.J. Speed, Grant Stuard, Cameron McGrone and Segun Olubi

### Saftey (4)

Rodney Thomas II, Julian Blackmon, Nick Cross and Trevor Denbow

### Cornerback (6)

Darrell Baker Jr., Dallas Flowers, Kenny Moore II, Julius Brents, Jaylon Jones and Tony Brown

### Special Teams (3)

Kicker Matt Gay, Punter Rigoberto

Sanchez and long snapper Luke Rhodes

### Schedule

Week 1: Jacksonville 1 p.m. Sunday, Sept 10, FOX

Week 2: at Houston 1 p.m. Sunday, Sept 17 FOX

Week 3: at Baltimore 1 p.m. Sunday, Sept 24 CBS

Week 4: Los Angeles (Rams) 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct 1 FOX

Week 5: 1 p.m. Tennessee Sunday, Oct 8 CBS

Week 6: at Jacksonville 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct 15 CBS

Week 7: Cleveland 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct 22 CBS

Week 8: New Orleans 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct 29 FOX

Week 9: at Carolina 4:05 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 5 CBS

Week 10: New England at London 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 12 NFL NET

Week 11: Bye

Week 12: Tampa Bay 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 26 CBS

Week 13: at Tennessee 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3 CBS

Week 14: at Cincinnati 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10 CBS

Week 15: Pittsburgh TBD Sunday, Dec. 17

Week 16: at Atlanta 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 24 FOX

Week 17: Las Vegas 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 31 CBS

Week 18: Houston TBD Sunday, Jan 7

# Cubs' Steele dominates Giants in win

By MATT CARLSON  
 Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Justin Steele tossed dominant two-hit ball through eight innings to move into a tie for the major league lead in wins, leading the Chicago Cubs past the San Francisco Giants 5-0 on Monday.

Steele improved to 16-3, matching the victory total of Atlanta's Spencer Strider, as he won his seventh straight decision. Chicago's All-Star left-hander overwhelmed the sliding Giants on a scorching afternoon at Wrigley Field, striking out a career-high 12 and walking two as the Cubs strengthened their grip on the second NL wild card spot.

"Attacking the strike zone, nice job and very efficient," Chicago manager David Ross said. "That guy on the bump is really talented."

Steele set the tone by pumping fastballs early with excellent command. Giants hitters made solid contact only a few times as the lefty threw 73 of 107 pitches for strikes.

"Then the secondary stuff is really nice," Ross said "You go that deep in the game, you're bound to, with his stuff, get some extra punch-outs there."

Steele warmed up quickly on a 90-degree day. He had a hunch it might be a good one.

"It's always fun when you know

you have your stuff and you kind of know where your four-seam (fastball) is going, your slider, you're able to go in and out, up-down."

Seiya Suzuki hit a 432-foot solo shot off Giants starter Logan Webb in the second, then drove in Chicago's second run with a line double to the right-center wall in the seventh.

Suzuki has rebounded from a mid-season slump, upping his batting average to .267 and homer total to 15.

"I feel really good right now, and I think I just want to make sure I continue this until the very end," the Japanese outfielder said through a translator.

(Continued on Page 7)

# News-Banner Scoreboard

## FOOTBALL

### College

**Major Scores Monday, Sept. 4**  
Duke 28, Clemson 7.

**Major Scores Sunday, Sept 3**

**EAST**  
Rutgers 24, Northwestern 7

**FAR WEST**  
Oregon St. 42, San Jose St. 17

**Major Scores Saturday, Sept 2**

**EAST**  
Maryland 38, Towson 6

Penn St. 38, West Virginia 15

Pittsburgh 45, Wofford 7

Syracuse 65, Colgate 0

**SOUTH**  
Alabama 56, Middle Tennessee 7

Auburn 59, Umass 14

Kentucky 44, Ball St. 14

Mississippi 73, Mercer 7

Mississippi St. 48, SE Louisiana 7

North Carolina 31, South Carolina 17

Tarleton St. 52, McNeese St. 34

Tennessee 49, Virginia 13

Tulane 37, South Alabama 17

Vanderbilt 47, Alabama A&M 13

Virginia Tech 36, Old Dominion 17

W. Kentucky 41, South Florida 24

**MIDWEST**  
Cincinnati 66, E. Kentucky 13

Fresno St. 39, Purdue 35

Illinois 30, Toledo 28

Illinois St. 41, Dayton 0

Iowa 24, Utah St. 14

Iowa St. 30, N. Iowa 9

Kansas St. 45, SE Missouri 0

Michigan 30, East Carolina 3

Notre Dame 56, Tennessee St. 3

Ohio 27, LIU Brooklyn 10

Ohio St. 23, Indiana 3

Wisconsin 38, Buffalo 17

**SOUTHWEST**  
Arkansas 56, W. Carolina 13

Colorado 45, TCU 42

Houston 17, UTSA 14

Oklahoma 73, Arkansas St. 0

Oklahoma St. 27, Cent. Arkansas

13 SMU 38, Louisiana Tech 14

Texas 37, Rice 10

Texas A&M 52, New Mexico 10

Texas State 42, Baylor 31

**FAR WEST**

Arizona 38, N. Arizona 3  
Oregon 81, Portland St. 7  
Southern Cal 66, Nevada 14  
UCLA 27, Coastal Carolina 13  
Washington 56, Boise St. 19  
Washington St. 50, Colorado St. 24  
Wyoming 35, Texas Tech 33

## BASEBALL

### American League

East Division			
	W	L	Pct
Baltimore	85	51	.625
Tampa Bay	83	55	.601
Toronto	76	62	.551
Boston	72	66	.522
New York	68	69	.496

Central Division			
	W	L	Pct
Minnesota	72	66	.522
Cleveland	66	72	.478
Detroit	63	74	.460
Chicago	53	85	.384
Kansas City	43	96	.309

West Division			
	W	L	Pct
Seattle	77	60	.562
Houston	78	61	.561
Texas	76	61	.555
Los Angeles	64	73	.467
Oakland	42	96	.304

Sunday's Games			
N.Y. Mets 6, Seattle 3			
Detroit 3, Chicago White Sox 2			
Boston 7, Kansas City 3			
Texas 6, Minnesota 5			
Toronto 7, Colorado 5			
Baltimore 8, Arizona 5			
Oakland 10, L.A. Angels 6			
Tampa Bay 6, Cleveland 2			
N.Y. Yankees 6, Houston 1			

Monday's Games			
Kansas City 12, Chicago White Sox 1			
Boston 7, Tampa Bay 3			
Cincinnati 6, Seattle 3			
Toronto 6, Oakland 5, 10 innings			
Houston 13, Texas 6			
Minnesota 20, Cleveland 6			
Baltimore at L.A. Angels, 9:38 p.m.			

Tuesday's Games			
Minnesota (Gray 7-6) at Cleveland			

(Bibee 10-3), 6:10 p.m.  
Boston (Crawford 6-7) at Tampa Bay (Eflin 13-8), 6:40 p.m.  
Seattle (Miller 8-4) at Cincinnati (Phillips 0-0), 6:40 p.m.  
Detroit (Faedo 2-5) at N.Y. Yankees (Cole 12-4), 7:05 p.m.  
Chicago White Sox (Cease 6-7) at Kansas City (Singer 8-10), 7:40 p.m.  
Houston (Valdez 10-9) at Texas (Eovaldi 11-3), 8:05 p.m.  
Baltimore (Kremer 12-5) at L.A. Angels (Detmers 3-10), 9:38 p.m.  
Toronto (Bassitt 13-7) at Oakland (Waldichuk 2-7), 9:40 p.m.

**Wednesday's Games**  
Minnesota at Cleveland, 1:10 p.m.  
Toronto at Oakland, 3:37 p.m.  
Boston at Tampa Bay, 6:40 p.m.  
Seattle at Cincinnati, 6:40 p.m.  
Detroit at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.  
Chicago White Sox at Kansas City, 7:40 p.m.  
Houston at Texas, 8:05 p.m.  
Baltimore at L.A. Angels, 9:38 p.m.

**National League**

East Division			
	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	90	46	.662
Philadelphia	76	61	.555
Miami	70	67	.511
New York	63	74	.460
Washington	62	76	.449

Central Division			
	W	L	Pct
Milwaukee	76	61	.555
Chicago	74	64	.536
Cincinnati	72	68	.514
Pittsburgh	64	74	.464
St. Louis	59	78	.431

West Division			
	W	L	Pct
Los Angeles	84	52	.618
Arizona	71	67	.514
San Francisco	70	68	.507
San Diego	65	74	.468
Colorado	50	87	.365

Sunday's Games			
Chicago Cubs 15, Cincinnati 7			
Philadelphia 4, Milwaukee 2			
Miami 6, Washington 4			
N.Y. Mets 6, Seattle 3			
St. Louis 6, Pittsburgh 4			

Toronto 7, Colorado 5  
L.A. Dodgers 3, Atlanta 1  
San Diego 4, San Francisco 0  
Baltimore 8, Arizona 5

**Monday's Games**  
Chicago Cubs 5, San Francisco 0  
Arizona 4, Colorado 2  
Cincinnati 6, Seattle 3  
Pittsburgh 4, Milwaukee 2  
Philadelphia 9, San Diego 7

**Tuesday's Games**  
Milwaukee (Woodruff 3-1) at Pittsburgh (Jackson 1-1), 6:35 p.m.  
L.A. Dodgers (Kershaw 12-4) at Miami (Luzardo 9-8), 6:40 p.m.  
Seattle (Miller 8-4) at Cincinnati (Phillips 0-0), 6:40 p.m.  
N.Y. Mets (Quintana 1-5) at Washington (Corbin 9-12), 7:05 p.m.  
St. Louis (Mikolas 6-10) at Atlanta (TBD), 7:20 p.m.  
San Francisco (Walker 4-2) at Chicago Cubs (Hendricks 5-7), 7:40 p.m.  
Colorado (Freeland 5-14) at Arizona (Pfaadt 1-7), 9:40 p.m.  
Philadelphia (Lorenzen 8-8) at San Diego (Avila 0-2), 9:40 p.m.

**Wednesday's Games**  
Milwaukee at Pittsburgh, 12:35 p.m.  
San Francisco at Chicago Cubs, 2:20 p.m.  
Colorado at Arizona, 3:40 p.m.  
Philadelphia at San Diego, 4:10 p.m.  
L.A. Dodgers at Miami, 6:40 p.m.  
Seattle at Cincinnati, 6:40 p.m.  
N.Y. Mets at Washington, 7:05 p.m.  
St. Louis at Atlanta, 7:20 p.m.

**Midwest League**

**Saturday's Games**  
Fort Wayne 6, South Bend 2  
Lansing 11, West Michigan 10, 11 innings

**Sunday's Games**  
Lansing 19, West Michigan 9  
Fort Wayne 2, South Bend 0

**Monday's Games**  
No games scheduled

**Tuesday's Games**  
Great Lakes at West Michigan, 6:35 p.m.  
Fort Wayne at Dayton, 7:05 p.m.

# Larson claims NASCAR's opening playoff race and gets 1st career win at Darlington

By PETE IACOBELLI

AP Sports Writer

DARLINGTON, S.C. (AP) — Kyle Larson had led plenty of laps around Darlington through the years, just not the last one. He finally accomplished that Sunday with victory at the Southern 500.

Larson, the 2021 Cup Series champion, came into this event having been in front for 715 career laps at the track "Too Tough To Tame" without taking the checkered flag.

"This is a track I really enjoy, suits my style," Larson said. "I just hadn't won yet. Was good to do it today."

Especially because it puts his No. 5 Chevrolet into the second round of the NASCAR playoffs no matter where he finishes at the two remaining first-round races at Kansas and Bristol the next two weeks.

Larson led the final 55 laps for his first career win at Darlington.

"Adding this trophy to the collection is amazing," Larson continued. "This is one of three or four crown jewels."

Larson didn't have the fastest car at the Southern 500, just one that got out front at the right time while other contenders fell away.

Denny Hamlin led a race-best 177 of 367 laps and looked headed for the win before he felt vibrations for what he told his crew was a loose wheel and had to pit on consecutive laps.

"We controlled the race until we had some trouble," said Hamlin, who won the first two stages. "That's just part of it."

Tyler Reddick led 90 laps, yet lost the lead to Larson coming off pit road. Kevin Harvick, seeking the first victory of his final season, challenged Harvick for the lead with less than 60 laps remaining, but was penalized when he could not avoid entering the pits moments after they were closed by NASCAR after a caution came out.

Harvick was penalized and couldn't recover. He said he didn't have time to get back on the track before the commitment line.

It was a successful run at the track for Larson after several close calls. He has had three seconds and two thirds in his 11 previous Cup Series races at Darlington. In May, Larson was racing for the lead late when he was hit by Ross Chastain and wound up 20th.

"This has been one of my favorite tracks my whole career," Larson said. "Been really, really fast here my whole career, just usually in the wall."

The victory was also the 299th all-time for Hendrick Motorsports and the 500th motorsports win for the Hendrick engine program.

Larson won for the third time this season and took his eighth race in seven playoff appearances.

Cliff Daniels, crew chief for Larson's No. 5 Chevrolet, said he and his

driver have dealt with lots of Darlington heartbreak through the years and were glad to end that.

"This track and this race has been circled on our calendar for a long time," Daniels said.

Playoff drivers took the first seven spots. Tyler Reddick was second, followed by Chris Buescher, William Byron, Chastain, Brad Keselowski and Bubba Wallace.

Harvick ended 19th and Hamlin 25th. The rest of the playoff field was Kyle Busch in 11th, Joey Logano in 12th, Ricky Stenhouse Jr. in 16th, Martin Truex Jr. in 18th, pole-sitter Christopher Bell in 23rd and Michael McDowell in 32nd.

The point standings have Bell as 12th on the playoff grid on the second-round playoff bubble. Those drivers on the outside of the next round after this week are Wallace, Harvick, Stenhouse and McDowell.

Byron, Larson's Hendrick Motorsports teammate and co-top seed with Truex, entered with a series-best five victories this year and was glad with the high finish.

"I think this is a good stepping stone for Kansas and good to get a solid first race in the playoffs," he said.

Ryan Preece, the Stewart-Haas Racing driver who endured a frightening crash at Daytona last week yet walked away largely unharmed, finished 28th at Darlington in his return to Cup racing.

## Sports Roundup

(Continued on Page 7)

The boys placed eighth in the 5K race with a team score of 200, and the girls did not have a score due to an insufficient amount of runners.

### Individual results

#### Boys

Joshua Bricker finished in 22nd place with a time of 18:09.8, Andrew Aker 26th (18:27.3), Colter Kiel 53rd (19:34.1), Jarin Frauhiger 57th (19:39.5), Kelton Barr 58th (19:40.0), Peyton Ellis 80th (20:37.7), Miles Garrett 84th (20:46.8), Aiden Carroll 103rd (21:53.0), Kane Jenkins 104th (22:05.1), Dalton Stephan 116th (22:47.0), Perrin Gates (26:28.6),

Braden Yencer 146th (28:17.4).

#### Girls

Alexis Leidig came in 51st with a time of 26:28.3, Ella Lahr 74th (29:09.3), Chanie Mounsey 79th (29:57.0), and Adeline Sabinske 81st (30:11.0).

### Team scores

#### Boys

Lapel first with a team score of 65, Clinton Prairie second (132), Eastern Hancock (138), Northwestern fourth (170), Heritage fifth (171), Muncie Burriss sixth (176), Adams Central seventh (191), Southern Wells eighth (200), Madison-Grant ninth (208), Monroe Central 10th (225), Clinton

Central 11th (238), Bishop Luers 11th (238), Canterbury 13th (301), Tipton (307), Wisdom 15th (329), and Wes Del 16th (391).

#### Girls

Adams Central came in first with a team score of 34, Monroe Central second (52), Churubusco third (105), Bishop Luers fourth (143), Frankton fifth (146), Randolph Southern sixth (154), Clinton Central seventh (173), Heritage eighth (184), Muncie Burriss ninth (193), Wisdom builders 10th (202).

Southern Wells will be at the Wildcat Classic Invitational at Indiana Wesleyan University starting at 8 a.m. Saturday, Sept 9.

## Cubs win

(Continued from Page 6)

Yan Gomes also had two hits, including a double, and an RBI. Dansby Swanson drove an insurance run in the eighth with a bloop double that dropped in front of and got by Giants left fielder Mitch Haniger.

After allowing a solid line single to Casey Schmitt with two outs in the second, Steele retired 16 straight until walking J.D. Davis to start the eighth. Davis was erased on a double play before Paul DeJong singled for San Francisco's second hit.

José Cuas pitched a 1-2-3 ninth to seal the win. The 28-year-old Steele hasn't

lost since July 16 when Boston scored six runs — five unearned — against him.

Webb (9-12) allowed three runs on five hits and walked one through 6 2/3 innings as San Francisco lost its fourth straight. The Giants have dropped 17 of their last 25, but entered Monday tied with Arizona and Miami for the last NL postseason spot. Cincinnati was percentage points behind in the crowded mix.

"We definitely have to be better than we showed today and what we've been showing recently," Giants manager Gabe Kapler said. "Right now, we have to be more aggressive."

Webb retired 10 straight Cubs hitters between Suzuki's homer and Gomes' double to the wall in the fifth.

The Cubs chased Webb in the seventh when Cody Bellinger singled and then came home on Suzuki's double. Gomes' RBI singled made it 3-0 and Tristan Beck relieved.

The Cubs added two unearned runs in the eighth.

### UP NEXT

RHP Kyle Hendricks (5-7, 3.59 ERA) takes the mound on Tuesday night as the series continues. The Giants will use RHP Ryan Walker (4-2, 2.16) as an opener.



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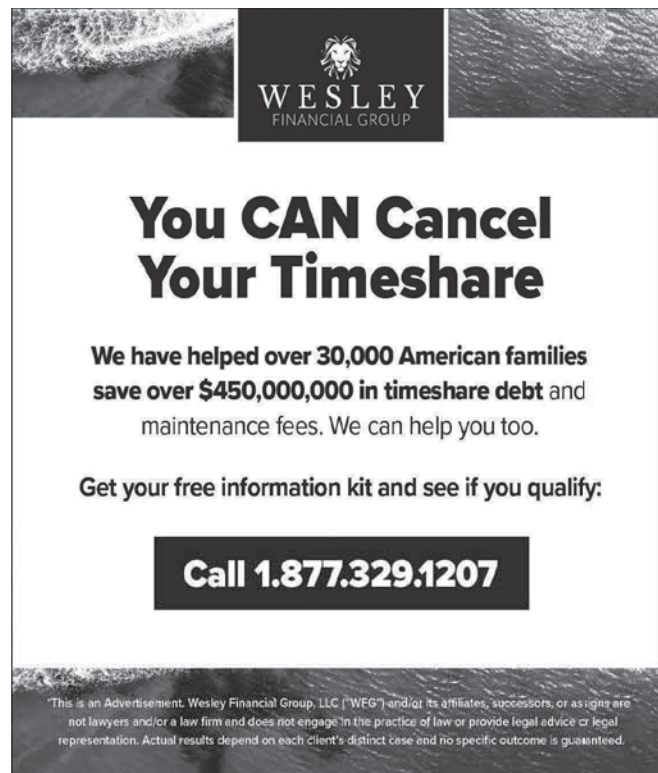


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# Purdue researcher's short corn has far-reaching potential

By NANCY ALEXANDER

Purdue University

Gurmukh (Guri) Johal is a scientist, not a teller of fairy tales. But the Purdue professor of botany and plant pathology likens his recently patented genetic mutation in corn to "Goldilocks and the Three Bears." Like the girl's three tries to find the perfect porridge, chair and bed, Johal tried two other mutations on his 35-year path to high-yield dwarf corn before discovering the one he says is "just right."

"I found the Goldilocks mutation in 2020 when Covid started," Johal says. "So we could not do research in the lab and that year could not hire anybody to work in the field. I was doing everything on my own. Then I found this mutant in the field — I'd never seen anything like it before. That was my aha moment."

This short corn variant, D16, generates a hybrid plant optimal in both height and vigor, he says.

Johal's focus on the mechanism of dwarfing in corn dates to 1988, when he was a postdoctoral researcher with Pioneer Hi Bred Seed Company (now Corteva). "That's where we cloned the first gene for disease resistance ever in plants, which happened to be in corn," he says. That particular gene was closely linked to the brachytic2 (br2) mutation, which the researchers used as a genetic marker to clone the gene for disease resistance.

"Brachysm" refers to

dwarfing in plants in which only the internode — the plant stem between two nodes from which leaves emerge — are shortened. The work sparked Johal's interest in plant height regulation and architecture. "Definitely disease resistance is very important, but height is important as well," he says.

A short corn variant could benefit farmers, industry and the environment. Based on its financial potential, D16 has attracted interest from several large agribusinesses, for obvious reasons: U.S. farmers plant 90 million acres of corn annually. The trait is non-GMO so can be planted worldwide and, when permitted, can be easily introduced into any elite line by gene editing.

"This trait has the potential to impact the entire crop of corn in the U.S. and beyond," Johal says.

In working toward D16, his research increased understanding of two other corn-dwarfing mutations. In 1995 he began working with anther ear 1 (an1), a gene in the same pathway that rice and wheat breeders, including Norman Borlaug, used to make dwarf varieties in the 1960s. These were key to the Green Revolution of the late 1960s, heading off famine on the Indian subcontinent and in Southeast Asia.

But corn isn't like rice and wheat, Johal explains. "In the 1960s when people were working on rice and wheat and were very successful there, people did try it on corn. But they did not find anything that was just

right, so they kind of gave up on it."

## Short Corn study

Johal's own research with an1 resulted in dwarf corn, but of variable height. He showed that the mechanism that worked in wheat and rice — a limitation in the pathway that leads to the production of the plant hormone gibberellic acid — didn't work in corn because it impacted the differentiation of male and female sexes of flowers.

Johal next focused on the brachytic2 (br2) mutation of maize. Although br2 was first identified in 1951, scientists did not understand its underlying genetic mechanism until Johal and his research team published their results in the journal Science in 2003. "We showed why plants that had the brachytic2 mutation were short," he says.

Johal's team cloned and patented the br2 gene in 2002 in collaboration with Pioneer. Once the patent expired, other companies began applying the brachytic2 mutation to reduce the height and generate what they called smart, or short, corn.

But plant breeders didn't get it just right, either. "Corn, unlike all other plant species, has two aspects of plant height," Johal explains. "One is the overall height. The second is the height of the ear." These seemed to conflict with each other, he adds: Shortening the overall plant height lowers the ear too far; bringing the ear up mitigates against the short stature of the plant. "Working with these

mutations, it became clear to me that the only way we can generate short corn plants that would be commercially viable and very beneficial, would be if the mutation were dominant, so it has to be in only one of the two inbred lines used to make hybrid plants," Johal says. "And secondly, it has to make a plant not too tall and not too short. But that window of height range is very narrow."

His D16 mutant reduces corn from 9-10 feet in height to 6.5-7 feet, which keeps the ear at a height that can be harvested mechanically with a standard U.S. combine.

Since the 1960s, corn breeders have increased yield by developing germplasm that allows plants to be grown closer together. "Some people think there's still potential to increase density," Johal says. "But to be able to realize that potential, we first must bring the height of the plant down. Tall and dense plants become vulnerable to wind damage. This domino effect basically causes the entire crop to fall down."

Short corn's durability in wind is especially important as climate change increases the frequency of high-speed Midwest storms called derechos. In 2020, a derecho flattened 2 million acres of corn in Iowa alone, causing \$8 billion in damage. Growers lost not just their crops; costly inputs like fertilizer, fungicide and water all went to waste.

Financial impact and environmental impact "go hand in hand," Johal says. He

cites fertilizer as an example. Normal hybrids get so tall so quickly that farmers have to provide fertilizer at the time of planting, he notes. "But plants use very little of it early on; they need it later." In the meantime, much of the fertilizer runs off or degrades. "If farmers can provide this crop fertilizer at later stages, we would need less fertilizer," he says.

The D16 mutation offers this possibility, he says. And because dwarf corn allows for more plants per acre, Johal believes it may allow

growers to use less land, which means less energy, fertilizer, water and other expenses.

He cites a hypothetical situation: "If you have 1,000 acres of land — but only 300 acres of that land is really the best for planting — only use that much. Put your best genetics in there and give it the utmost attention and treatment, then you probably can get more from those 300 acres than the entire 1,000 acres. So then 700 acres can be left to nature."

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# USDA announces \$73M in grant awards

The grants are awarded to support U.S. specialty crop producers; \$1B marked in Investments through program

WASHINGTON, August 23, 2023 -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service today announced \$72.9 million awarded to 55 states and territories through the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program. The grant program provides funding to enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops and support specialty crop growers through marketing, education, and research.

"USDA is excited to announce that this year's Specialty Crop Block Grant awards marks over \$1 billion invested in nearly 12,000 projects that support the U.S. specialty crop industry," said Agriculture Secretary

Tom Vilsack. "The Specialty Crop Block Grant Program is a critical piece of USDA and the Biden-Harris Administration's efforts to support small and mid-sized producers and ensure Americans have sustained access to fresh, locally grown specialty crop products."

Fiscal year 2023 SCBGP funding is awarded to the departments of agriculture in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Funding for SCBGP is authorized by the 2018 Farm Bill.

States are encouraged to

subaward funding to projects that address the needs of U.S. producers of fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops. Funded projects include investing in food safety, specialty crop research, including research to focus on conservation and environmental outcomes, developing new and improved seed varieties and specialty crops, and pest and disease control. Additional projects focus on increasing child and adult nutrition knowledge and consumption of specialty crops; and improving efficiency and reducing costs of distribution systems.

More information on the projects is included in the individual press releases for each state and territory. The press releases can be viewed on the SCBGP 2023 Grant Awards webpage.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. Under the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov).

# Ag groups: final WOTUS rule misses mark

By AGDAILY

The Environmental Protection Agency announced the new Waters of the U.S. rules today, following the Sackett v. EPA ruling in May that required a revision of the WOTUS definition.

"We have worked with EPA to expeditiously develop a rule to incorporate changes required as a result of the Supreme Court's decision in Sackett," said Michael L. Connor, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works.

While the agency changed parts of the 2023 rule that were invalid under the recent court decision, the rule has remained primarily unchanged. New EPA guide-

lines remove the "significant nexus" test from consideration when determining what waters are federally protected and clarifies that interstate wetlands do not automatically qualify as interstate waters.

"We have worked with EPA to expeditiously develop a rule to incorporate changes required as a result of the Supreme Court's decision in Sackett," wrote Connor. "With this final rule, the Corps can resume issuing approved jurisdictional determinations that were paused in light of the Sackett decision. Moving forward, the Corps will continue to protect and restore the nation's waters in support of jobs and healthy

communities."

While agricultural groups praise the removal of the "significant nexus" test, many affected agricultural groups are not on board with the lack of changes made.

Tedd McKinney with the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture also voiced his concerns: "The ruling in Sackett v. EPA was a chance for EPA and the Army Corps to correct a deeply flawed, prematurely released rule and work to truly improve water quality outcomes. It is baffling that the revised rule does not accurately address all the issues and questions raised by the Supreme Court

in the Sackett decision, nor does it address many of the questions stakeholder groups raised about the WOTUS rule EPA released at the end of last year."

EPA will conduct a public webinar on Sept. 12 to offer additional updates on the new rule. The agency also plans to host a series of listening sessions this fall, including co-regulators and stakeholders.

# Bipartisan bill introduces the National Agricultural Crisis Hotline

Agricultural producers face suicide 3.5 times higher than the general population. The biggest stressors? Farm debt and the trickle-down effect felt by teens in the household.

The National Agricultural Crisis Hotline Act is a bipartisan bill introduced to help provide support, information, suicide crisis intervention, mental health support services, and related referral services.

The mental health crisis has hit farmers and ranchers over the past several years. They already face significant financial pressures managing their land in the face of small margins and have confronted external factors ranging from severe weather events that threaten livestock and crops to a tumultuous economic environment caused by inflation.

These are combined with a lack of access

to mental health care and a strong stigma against asking for help.

The bill was introduced earlier this month by Reps. Dr. Yadira Caraveo (D-Colo.) and Tony Gonzales (R-Texas) in the U.S. House, and U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.).

"Our farmers and ranchers carry a heavy burden to put food on our tables every day. Unfortunately, that means many in our ag communities struggle with mental health — with a suicide rate three and a half times higher than other populations. My latest bipartisan bill provides resources to support our neighbors in crisis," said Congresswoman Caraveo.

The hope is that while some states already have mental health lines, a national line will ensure that no matter where a farmer or rancher is, they can get the help they need.



# The Classifieds

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## Lottery Numbers

**Saturday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY**  
Cash 5 — 30-32-36-39-41  
Cash4Life — 07-35-38-57-59, Cash Ball: 03  
Lotto Plus — 01-06-11-15-20-23  
Quick Draw Midday — 05-07-10-14-16-20-21-23-24-27-31-40-45-54-59-63-65-69-70-77, BE: 16  
Daily Three-Midday — 02-06-06, SB: 07  
Daily Three-Evening — 07-07-01, SB: 03  
Daily Four-Midday — 01-02-06-08, SB: 03  
Daily Four-Evening — 08-06-02-05, SB: 03  
Quick Draw Evening — 01-04-15-16-20-21-26-28-31-36-39-43-44-45-50-54-55-69-73-77, BE: 16  
Hoosier Lotto — 01-02-13-20-26-44  
**POWERBALL**  
25-38-42-66-67; Powerball: 19; Power Play: 4X

**Sunday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY**  
Cash 5 — 02-12-20-32-40  
Cash4Life — 13-23-53-58-59, Cash Ball: 04  
Quick Draw Midday — 07-09-16-18-32-35-37-47-50-52-54-58-59-60-65-68-73-74-77-78, BE: 54  
Daily Three-Midday — 01-02-02, SB: 03  
Daily Three-Evening — 07-06-09, SB: 04  
Daily Four-Midday — 01-02-06-08, SB: 03  
Daily Four-Evening — 04-09-08-06, SB: 04  
Quick Draw Evening — 03-06-10-14-17-21-23-26-29-35-39-46-50-56-65-68-69-72-77-79, BE: 72

**Monday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY**  
Cash 5 — 07-09-13-20-23  
Cash4Life — 03-38-40-44-50, Cash Ball: 02  
Quick Draw Midday — 06-08-17-21-24-26-28-41-45-46-48-49-56-59-61-64-66-67-72-75, BE: 67  
Daily Three-Midday — 09-06-04, SB: 00  
Daily Three-Evening — 00-09-01, SB: 02  
Daily Four-Midday — 08-06-09-06, SB: 00  
Daily Four-Evening — 01-04-04-03, SB: 02  
Quick Draw Evening — 06-07-09-23-24-32-34-44-46-52-54-57-60-61-62-64-66-76-78-80, BE: 80  
Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$30.5 million  
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Estimated jackpot (for Tuesday): \$101 million  
**POWERBALL**  
25-38-42-66-67; Powerball: 19; Power Play: 4X

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

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## Public Notices

**NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE**  
Sheriffs Sale File Number 90-23-0017-SS  
Sale Date & Time of Sale 10/11/2023 at 1:00 PM  
Cause Number 90C01-2211-MF-000038  
Judgment to be Satisfied \$146,739.45  
Plaintiff Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Soundview Home Loan Trust 2006-WF1, Asset- Backed Certificates, Series 2006-WF1  
Defendant DONALD G. HUSS; ET AL

**TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**  
By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Superior/Circuit Court of Wells County, Indiana requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, at the hour of 1:00 PM of said day as listed above, at Courthouse, 102 W. Market St., 1st Fl., Bluffton, IN 46714 the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Wells County, Indiana:

Part of the Northwest Quarter of Section 17, Township 26 North, Range 12 East, Harrison Township, Wells County, Indiana, described as follows: Starting at the Northwest corner of said Northwest Quarter found per record witness; thence Easterly, 200.00 feet along the North line of said Northwest Quarter to the place of beginning; thence Southerly, deflecting right 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds, 270.56 feet; thence Westerly, deflecting right 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds, 322.00 feet parallel with the North line of said Northwest Quarter; thence Northerly, deflecting right 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds, 270.56 feet to the place of beginning. Containing 2.00 acres, more or less.

Commonly known as: 1086 East 200 South, Bluffton, IN 46714  
State Parcel Number: 90-08-17-200-006.000-003

Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisalment laws. This Notice shall also represent service of Notice of Sale of the above-described real estate upon the owners, pursuant to requirements of IC 32-29-7-3.

**Scott Holliday,** Sheriff of Wells County Township HARRISON TOWNSHIP  
Common Street Address 1086 East 200 South, Bluffton, IN 46714

Parcel Number Property Tax ID: 90-08-17-200-006.000-003  
Attorney Robert S. Kruszynski  
Attorney Number 15488-45  
Law Firm Codilis Law, LLC  
Contact Number (219) 736-5579  
Contact Email [sales@codilis.com](mailto:sales@codilis.com)

**Atty File Number 15-22-01486**  
The Sheriff's office does not warrant the accuracy of the commonly known street address. It is the buyer's responsibility to research the legal description and associated legal filings.  
nb 8/29, 9/5, 9/12  
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**Public Notice**  
The Harrison Township Advisory Board will be holding a meeting on Thursday, Sept. 14, 2023, at 6:30 PM in the Harrison Township Trustees Office in the Annex Building located at 223 West Washington Street. Agenda is 1. Budget, 2. Internal Control Standards Policy, 3. Capital Asset Policy, 4. Fire Protection, 5. Township Assistance.  
Kyle Hunt, Harrison Twp. Trustee  
nb 9/5  
hspaxlp

**NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE**  
Sheriffs Sale File Number 90-23-0018-SS  
Sale Date & Time of Sale 10/11/2023 at 1:00 PM  
Cause Number 90D01-2304-MF-000005  
Judgment to be Satisfied \$37,040.12  
Plaintiff Matrix Financial Services Corporation  
Defendant JESLYNN C. RUBLE

**TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**  
By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Superior/Circuit Court of Wells County, Indiana requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, at the hour of 1:00 PM of said day as listed above, at Courthouse, 102 W. Market St., 1st Fl., Bluffton, IN 46714 the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Wells County, Indiana:

Thirty-one (31) feet of even width off of the entire South side of Lot Numbered Sixteen (16) as known and designated on the recorded plat of Winterville Addition to the Town, now City of Bluffton, Wells County, Indiana.

Commonly known as: 725 West Wiley Avenue, Bluffton, IN 46714  
State Parcel Number: 90-08-04-514-018.000-004  
Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisalment laws. This Notice shall also represent service of Notice of Sale of the above-described real estate upon the owners, pursuant to requirements of IC 32-29-7-3.

**Scott Holliday,** Sheriff of Wells County Township HARRISON TOWNSHIP  
Common Street Address 725 West Wiley Avenue, Bluffton, IN 46714

Parcel Number Property Tax ID: 90-08-04-514-018.000-004  
Attorney Brian Berger  
Attorney Number 19753-45  
Law Firm Codilis Law, LLC  
Contact Number (219) 736-5579  
Contact Email [sales@codilis.com](mailto:sales@codilis.com)

**Atty File Number 15-23-00424**  
The Sheriff's office does not warrant the accuracy of the commonly known street address. It is the buyer's responsibility to research the legal description and associated legal filings.  
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Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

King Classic Sudoku

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

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# UAW's clash with Big 3 automakers shows confrontational union

By TOM KRISHER  
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — A 46 percent pay raise. A 32-hour week with 40 hours of pay. A restoration of traditional pensions.

The demands that a more combative United Auto Workers union has pressed on General Motors, Stellantis and Ford — demands that even the UAW's own president calls "audacious" — are edging it closer to a strike when its contract ends Sept. 14.

The automakers, which are making billions in profits, have dismissed the UAW's wish list. They argue that its demands are unrealistic at a time of fierce competition from Tesla and lower-wage foreign automakers as the world shifts from internal combustion engines to electric vehicles. The wide gulf between the sides could mean a strike against one or more of the automakers, which could send already-inflated vehicle prices even higher.

A potential strike by 146,000 UAW members comes against the backdrop of increasingly emboldened U.S. unions of all kinds. The number of strikes and threatened strikes is growing, involving Hollywood actors and writers, sizable settlements with railroads and major concessions by corporate giants like UPS.

Shawn Fain, who won the UAW's presidency this spring in the first direct election by members, has set high expectations and

assured union members that they can achieve significant gains if they are willing to walk picket lines.

In a speech to a Labor Day parade crowd in Detroit on Monday, Fain said that if the companies don't come up with a fair contract, "come Sept. 14, we're going to take action to get it by any means necessary."

Fain has characterized the contract talks with Detroit automakers as a form of war between billionaires and ordinary middle-class workers. Last month, in an act of showmanship during a Facebook Live event, Fain condemned a contract proposal from Stellantis as "trash" — and tossed a copy of it into a wastebasket, "where it belongs," he said.

Over the past decade, the Detroit Three have emerged as robust profit-makers. They've collectively posted net income of \$164 billion over the past decade, \$20 billion of it this year. The CEOs of all three major automakers earn multiple millions in annual compensation.

Speaking last month to Ford workers at a plant in Louisville, Kentucky, Fain complained about one standard for the corporate class and another for ordinary workers.

"They get out-of-control salaries," he said. "They get pensions they don't even need. They get top-rate health care. They work whatever schedule they want. The majority of our

members do not get a pension nowadays. It's crazy. We get standard health care. We don't get to work remotely."

UAW members have voted overwhelmingly to authorize its leaders to call a strike. So, too, have Canadian auto workers, whose contracts end four days later and who have designated Ford as their target.

The UAW hasn't said whether it will select one target automaker. It could strike all three, though doing so could deplete the union's strike fund in under three months.

On the other hand, if a strike lasted even just 10 days, it would cost the three automakers nearly a billion dollars, the Anderson Economic Group has calculated. During a 40-day UAW strike in 2019, GM alone lost \$3.6 billion.

Last week, the union filed charges of unfair labor practices against Stellantis and GM, which it said have yet to offer counter-proposals. As for Ford, Fain asserted that its response, by rejecting most of the union's demands, "insults our very worth."

All three automakers have countered that the union's charges are baseless and that they're seeking a fair deal that would allow them to invest in the future.

Marick Masters, a business professor at Wayne State University in Detroit, suggested that the strong U.S. job market and the companies' outsize profits have

given Fain leverage in negotiations. In addition, he noted, the automakers are poised to release a slew of new electric vehicles that would be delayed by a strike. And they have only a limited supply of vehicles to withstand a prolonged walkout.

"They are vulnerable," Masters said.

"The question really is," he said, "are the parties willing to move on some of these things at the table? That hasn't been evident yet."

Even Fain has described the union's proposals as "audacious" in demanding the restoration of traditional defined-benefit pensions for new hires; an end to tiers of wages; pension increases for retirees; and — perhaps boldest of all — a 32-hour week for 40 hours of pay.

Currently, UAW workers who were hired after 2007 don't receive defined-benefit pensions. Their health benefits are less generous, too. For years, the union gave up general pay raises and lost cost-of-living wage increases to help the companies control costs. Though top-scale assembly workers earn \$32.32 an hour, temporary workers start at just under \$17. Still, full-time workers have received profit-sharing checks ranging this year from \$9,716 at Ford to \$14,760 at Stellantis.

At Detroit's Labor Day Parade, workers said a strike appears likely now.

Jason Craig, a worker at a Stellantis parts warehouse

near Detroit, said his company appears most likely to be the strike target, but he said the union might go to Ford because it seems more family-oriented. Fain reiterated Monday that all three companies remain strike targets.

Perhaps the biggest issue blocking a contract agreement is union representation at 10 EV battery plants that the companies have proposed. Most of these plants are joint ventures with South Korean battery makers, which want to pay less.

"These battery workers deserve the same wage and salary standards that generations of auto workers have fought for," Fain told members.

The union fears that because EVs are simpler to build, with fewer moving parts, fewer workers will be needed to assemble them. In addition, workers at com-

bustion engine and transmission plants will likely lose jobs in the transition; they'll need a place to go.

Fain, a 54-year-old electrician who came out of a Chrysler factory in Kokomo, Indiana, is among several labor leaders across the economy who have been escalating their demands and flexing their muscles. So far this year, 247 strikes have occurred involving 341,000 workers — the most since Cornell University began tracking strikes in 2021, though still well below the numbers during the 1970s and 1980s.

Masters suggested that the automakers wouldn't be able to quickly replace striking workers. The tight job market, diminished interest in manufacturing jobs and comparatively modest wages would make it difficult to hire enough workers.

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## Endangered red wolves face predators: humans

By ALLEN G. BREED  
AP National Writer

ALLIGATOR RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, N.C. (AP) — Jeff Akin had to bite his tongue.

He was chatting with a neighbor about efforts to protect and grow the area's red wolf population. The endangered wolves are equipped with bright orange radio collars to help locals distinguish the federally protected species from invasive, prolific coyotes.

"If I see one of those wolves with a collar on, I'm going to shoot it in the gut, so it runs off and dies," Akin says the neighbor told him. "Because if it dies near you, and they come out and find the collar, they can arrest you."

Akin is a hunter and the walls of his country house are lined with photos of the animals he's killed. But what he heard made him sick.

"I wouldn't shoot a squirrel in the stomach if I was hungry," he says. "It's just not humane."

In a way, the anecdote sums up the plight of this uniquely American species.

Once declared extinct in the wild, *Canis rufus* — the only wolf species found solely in the United States — was reintroduced in the late 1980s on the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge, just across the sound from eastern North Carolina's famed Outer Banks. Over the next quarter century, it became a poster child for the Endangered Species Act and a model for efforts to bring back other species.

"The red wolf program was a tremendous conservation success," says Ron Sutherland, a biologist with the Wildlands Network. "It was the first time that a large carnivore had been returned to the wild after being driven extinct, anywhere in the world."

But the wild population is now back to the brink of oblivion, decimated by gunshots, vehicle strikes, suspected poisonings and, some have argued, government neglect.

For the first time in nearly three decades, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is poised to release an updated recovery plan for the red wolf. According to a draft, the agency proposes spending a quarter billion dollars over the next 50 years to rebuild and expand the wild wolf population.

"It was done once before," says Joe Madison, North Carolina manager

for the Red Wolf Recovery Program. "And we can do it again."

But the effort depends heavily on cooperation from private landowners. And the passage of 36 years seems to have done little to soften locals' hearts toward the apex predator.

Out here, farming and leasing land to hunters are big business. The red wolf is seen by some as competition, and a threat to a way of life on a fragile landscape already imperiled by climate change.

"They don't belong here!" a woman shouted at agency staff during a recent public meeting on the program.

Add to that a widespread mistrust of government and the road ahead looks long and perilous for "America's wolf." But allies like Akin and Sutherland say they have to try.

"The red wolf, it's ours," Sutherland says. "It's ours to save."

On a recent visit to Alligator River, Madison parks his truck beside a canal, climbs out and hoists an H-shaped antenna into the air. Faint beeps emanate from a radio in his left hand as he slowly swivels from side to side.

"Based on the radio telemetry, there are six red wolves hunkered down in there," says Madison, motioning to a patch of brush between two cleared farm fields. His bushy red-and-grey beard lends him an uncanny resemblance to his quarry.

That's roughly half of the world's total known wild red wolf population.

The red wolf once roamed from central Texas to southern Iowa and as far northeast as Long Island, New York. But generations of persecution, encroachment and habitat loss reduced them to just a remnant clinging to the ragged Gulf coast along the Texas-Louisiana border.

Starting in 1973, the year Congress passed the Endangered Species Act, the last wolves were pulled from the wild and placed in a captive-breeding program.

"By 1980," Madison says, "they had declared red wolves extinct in the wild."

But the captive breeding program did so well that, after just a few years, officials felt it was time to try restoring the red wolf to the wild.

They chose Alligator River, a 158,000-acre expanse of upland swamp on North Carolina's Alber-

marle Peninsula, not far from Sir Walter Raleigh's doomed "lost colony" of Roanoke.

The program started in 1987 with four breeding pairs. Five years later, a second group was placed in Great Smoky Mountains National Park — 522,427 acres of forest straddling the border of North Carolina and Tennessee.

The inland experiment was ended in 1998, due to "low prey availability, extremely low pup survival, disease, and the inability of red wolves to maintain stable territories within the Park," the government said

at the time.

But with the releases of adults and fostering of captive-born pups into wild family groups, the Alligator River population thrived.

"It was the model for how gray wolves were returned to Yellowstone," Sutherland says of the Western species, which has since been taken off the endangered list. "And it's been the model since then for all kinds of re-wilding of projects all over the world."

By 2012, the population in the five-county restoration area reached a peak of about 120 animals. Then the bottom fell out.

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**Public Sale Calendar**

**SEPTEMBER 9 - 9 a.m. - Various consignors, sellers.** Lehman Feed Mill, 511 S 000 Rd., Berne. Farm machinery consignment auction. Tractors, hay wagons, grain carts, discs, planters, plows, trucks, trailers, semis, livestock trailers, tools, lawn and garden equipment, shop equipment, livestock equipment and more! Consign Sept. 6-8 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. **Heartland Auction & Realty, Inc.**, 260-724-3499, heartlandauctionreality.com.

**SEPTEMBER 9 - 10 a.m. - Les Conrad, owner.** 8383 N 700 W, Decatur. Live onsite Les Conrad woodworking retirement auction! Online bidding available! Nearly 6,000' board foot lumber & timber! Featuring 250+ lots! This impressive assortment includes an abundance of walnut, cedar, cherry, oak, live edge, various other species, custom made wood furniture, Latina band saw, Leneave 8" jointer, Super Max drum sander, Woodmizer LT15 portable sawmill. Preview Sept. 8, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. **Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC**, Kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.

**SEPTEMBER 9 - 10 a.m. - Melvin J. & Effie Graber, owners.** 7820S 850W, South Whitley, 40+/-A offered in 4 tracts, Cleveland Township, Whitley County. Tract 1: 20+/-A farmland, 850W frontage. Tract 2: 4+/-A w/home, outbuildings. Tract 3: 8+/-A, corner lot, 800S and 850W frontage, possible building site. Tract 4: 8+/-A wooded pasture or possible building site, fence w/mature trees. Auction manager Ritter Cox, 260-609-3306, **Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc.**, schraderauction.com, 800-451-2709.

**BIDDING ENDS SEPTEMBER 10 - (Online Only Auction) - The Estate of Vincent Tippmann, seller.** 2300 Meyer Rd., Fort Wayne, Indiana. "An auction of the year." One of the Midwest's largest Indian and Native American artifact collections, unique antiques and collectibles, large butcher block on legs, outstanding coin collection, art, bronze sculptures, vintage stoves, much more. Brandon Steffen, sale manager, **The Steffen Group Inc.**, www.steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

**BIDDING STARTS CLOSING SEPTEMBER 12 - 10 a.m. EST - Whites Meat Market, owner.** Complete liquidation! Delivery trucks, trailers, Kubota BX2230 tractor w/loader, Cat forklift, walk-in coolers, Southern Pride SC-200SM smoker, meat saws, scales, display coolers, retail shelving, stainless sinks and tables, more! Preview: Sept. 5, 10 a.m.-noon, Lots 80 and above, 134 N. Main Street, Tipton, 1-2 p.m., Lots 3-68, 2100 Washington Street, Kokomo. Pick up: Sept. 14, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. EST. Second pick up location TBD. **Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC**, Kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.

**SEPTEMBER 14 - Online - 2-6 p.m. - Farm: GRS Holdings.** Property location: 7370 E US 224, Craigville, IN. Wells Co., Lancaster Twp., 2.243+/- acres include: 1,952 sf 2-story home (4 bedrooms, 2 baths), attached garage, basement, 4,860 sf pole barn (metal roof, half concrete floor), 5,000+ sf historical pin frame barn (metal roof), (3) steel grain bins. **Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management**, 800-424-2324, halderman.com, Rick Johnloz, 260-827-8181.

**SEPTEMBER 26 - 6 p.m. - Steven H. Arnold, seller.** OK Modern Dry Cleaners, 404 S. Main St., Bluffton. Empty building, 1,078 sq. ft., 70'x55' lot, half bath. Open house: Sept. 12, 4-6 p.m. **Heartland Auction & Realty, Inc.**, heartlandauctionreality.com, 260-724-3499.

**BIDDING NOW OPEN AND STARTS CLOSING SEPTEMBER 26 - 6 p.m. EST - Leo Thieme, owner.** Real estate 6 p.m.: 1,780 sq. feet, full basement, 3 bedroom, 2 full bath home, oversize 2 car attached garage, 3 acres. Personal property 6:30 p.m.: 2007 Dodge Grand Caravan, 131k miles, appliances, antiques, collectibles, furniture, fish and animal mounts, household items, tools, etc. Preview Sept. 12, 5-6, 6850 E 700 N, Decatur. **Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC**, Kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.

**OCTOBER 1-8 - (Online Only) - Estate of Robert Isch, seller.** 1978 White 2-50 diesel tractor, 2015 Ex-Mark Laser-Z zero turn riding lawn mower, 2002 Simplicity lawn mower, 2006 Simplicity Legacy riding lawn mower, single axle utility trailer, tandem axle trailer, 14' hay wagon, 3 bottom plow, Winco generator, lawn and garden, tools, antique & modern furniture, antiques, primitives, glassware, household. Preview: Sept. 28, Oct. 5, from 3-6 p.m., 601 E St. Rd. 124, Monroe. Sale manager, Patrick Carter, The Steffen Group Inc., 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.com.

Husband has become a man I hardly recognize

Dear Annie by Annie Lane



Dear Annie: I'm 40 years old and tired of having my siblings always telling me what to do. This has come up recently because my mother has to move out of her home. I've lived with her in the past, and she treated me horribly. Now my siblings expect me to get up and help her move and pack her stuff. I'm not a child anymore.

But then he changed again, and he now calls me the most terrible names I could ever think of being called.

I asked my sister a couple of days ago if she could take me to the store. I didn't hear from her until yesterday, when she said she assumed I was going to help her and my other siblings by packing my mother's belongings. I told her no, and she and my other siblings cussed me out on the phone and called me horrible names. They are totally ungrateful for what I have done for my mother, putting up with her abuse.

The way I see it, I have backed him for 19 years, including when there were illnesses in his family. I attended the funerals of several of his family members and took care of his parents when they were in hospice at home.

I don't know what to do anymore. I don't want to be bothered by them anymore. Can you please tell me how I can ignore them completely? — Tired of Ungrateful Family Members

My brother has now passed, and my husband has become so angry that he will not attend the funeral with me. He says he wants for us to separate but not divorce because he does not want to pay for it. I am desperate to fix this situation but am not sure that it can be fixed. What do you suggest? — Desperate

Dear Tired: It sounds like you all need some space. If you don't want to help your mother out or engage with your siblings, then don't. You are an adult and sound capable of making your own decisions. Focus on finding some great friends until things cool off with your family.

Dear Desperate: It sounds like the man you first married is long gone. If he is drinking or using drugs again, that will tell you a lot. But for whatever reason, he has gone from gentleman to monster. He is verbally abusing you.

Dear Annie: My husband and I have been married for 19 years. In the beginning, he was such a gentleman. He never raised his voice or called me names, but as soon as we decided to blend our families, with my children living with us, he became very loud and started calling me names, and we argued frequently.

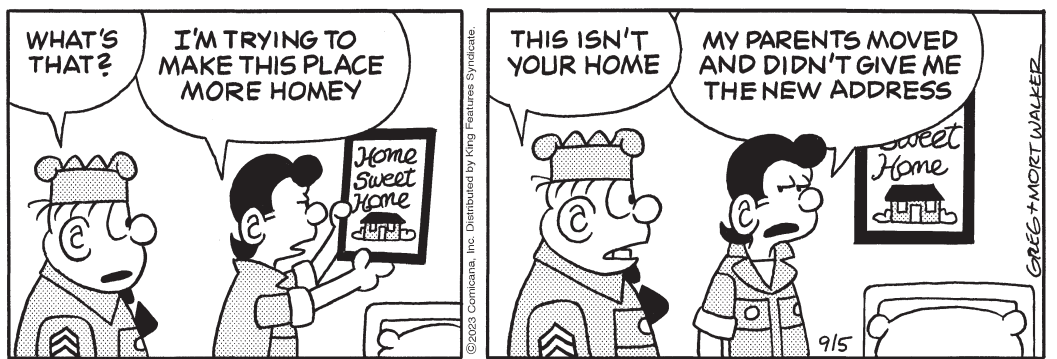
As I see it, you have two options: You can get into marriage counseling and work through your issues, or, if he is resistant, you can contact a divorce attorney and get the ball rolling so that you can heal and begin to move on with your life.

I realized that he was abusing substances, but he quickly turned that behavior around when I told him I would not allow it. A few years later, he stopped drinking completely, and things were calm.

"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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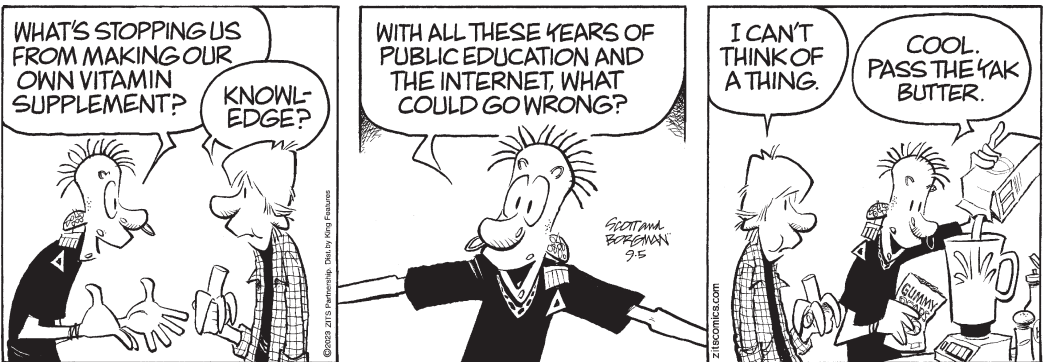
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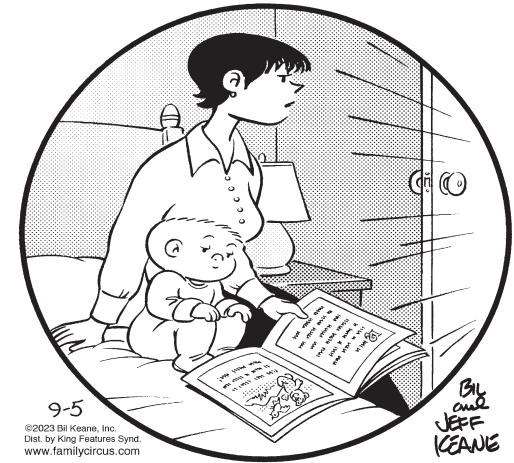
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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

The LOCKHORNS



My Answer



By Dr. Billy Graham

Our God is in the arena of life

Q: I'm a new Bible teacher and have people coming from all backgrounds to attend the class at my place of employment. Most questions asked are about the changing times and suffering. How does one give truthful answers from the Bible and provide comfort to those in pain? — B.T.

But one thing is certain: God has not changed, for He said, "I am the Lord, I do not change" (Malachi 3:6). This is an immeasurable comfort to the believer in times of change.

It would be impossible to list all the Bible's promises. Some estimate there are anywhere from 8,000 to 30,000 promises of God.

John Bunyan tells us, "Afflictions are governed by God, both as to time, number, nature, and measure. Our times, and our conditions in those times, are in the hand of God, yea, and so are our souls and bodies, to be kept and preserved from the evil while the rod of God is upon us."

Our God is in the arena of life. He goes with His people into the scene of difficulty and onto the platform of pain, not necessarily to deliver us from them but to sustain us in the midst of them.

God is interested in, and concerned about, every aspect of our lives — physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual. The Bible makes it clear that nothing that concerns us

We can take comfort in the fact that "God is our refuge and our strength" (Psalm 46:1).

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

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and solution time: 22 mins.

Yesterday's answer 9-5 crossword puzzle grid

Table with 12 columns (09:05 to 12:30) and 30 rows of TV channel listings including networks like NBC, ABC, CBS, and local channels.

# Ukrainian amputees face trauma on scale unseen since WWI

By **EVGENIY MALOLETKA**  
Associated Press

LVIV, Ukraine (AP) — The small band of soldiers gather outside to share cigarettes and war stories, sometimes casually and sometimes with a degree of testiness over recollections made unreliable by their last day fighting, the day the war took away their limbs.

Some clearly remember the moment they were hit by anti-tank mines, aerial bombs, a missile, a shell. For others, the gaps in their memories loom large.

Vitaliy Bilyak's skinny body is a web of scars that end with an amputation above the knee. During six weeks in a coma, Bilyak underwent over 10 surgeries, including his jaw, hand, and heel, to recover from injuries he received April 22 driving over a pair of anti-tank mines.

"When I woke up, I felt like I was born again and returned from the afterlife," said Bilyak, who is just beginning his path to rehabilitation. He does not yet know when he'll receive a prosthesis, which must be fitted individually to each patient.

Ukraine is facing a future with upward of 20,000 amputees, many of them soldiers who are also suffering psychological trauma from their time at the front. Europe has experienced nothing like it since World War I, and the United States not since the Civil War.

Mykhailo Yurchuk, a paratrooper, was wounded in the first weeks of the war near the city of Izium. His comrades loaded him onto a ladder and walked for an hour to safety. All he could think about at the time, he said, was ending it all with a grenade. A medic refused to leave his side and held his hand the entire time as he fell unconscious.

When he awoke in an intensive care unit the medic was still there.

"Thank you for holding my hand," Yurchuk told him.

"Well, I was afraid you'd pull the pin," the medic replied. Yurchuk's left arm was gone below the elbow and his right leg above the knee.

In the 18 months since, Yurchuk has regained his equilibrium, both mentally and physically. He met the woman who would become his wife at the rehabilitation hospital, where she was a volunteer. And he now

cradles their infant daughter and takes her for walks without the slightest hesitation. His new hand and leg are in stark black.

Yurchuk has himself become the chief motivator for new arrivals from the front, pushing them as they heal from their wounds and teaching them as they learn to live and move with their new disabilities. That kind of connection will need to be replicated across Ukraine, formally and informally, for thousands of amputees.

"Their whole locomotive system has to be reoriented. They have a whole redistribution of weight. That's a really complicated adjustment to make and it needs to be made with another human being," said Dr. Emily Mayhew, a medical historian at Imperial College who specializes in blast injuries.

There are not nearly enough prosthetic specialists in Ukraine to handle the growing need, said Olha Rudneva, the head of the Superhumans center for rehabilitating Ukrainian military amputees. Before the war, she said, only five people in all of Ukraine had formal rehabilitation training for people with arm or hand amputations, which in normal circumstances are less common than legs and feet as those sometimes are amputated due to complications with diabetes or other illnesses.

Rudneva estimated that 20,000 Ukrainians have endured at least one amputation since the war began. The government does not say how many of those are soldiers, but blast injuries are among the most common in a war with a long front line.

Rehabilitation centers Unbroken and Superhumans provide prostheses for Ukrainian soldiers with funds provided by donor countries, charity organizations and private Ukrainian companies.

"Some donors are not willing to provide military aid to Ukraine but are willing to fund humanitarian projects," said Rudneva.

The hardest part for many amputees is learning to live with the pain — pain from the prosthesis, pain from the injury itself, pain from the lingering effects of the blast shockwave, said Mayhew, who has spoken with several hundred military amputees over the course of her career. Many are dealing with disfigurement and ensuing cosmetic surgeries.

## Ukraine's defense minister resigns following Zelenskyy's announcement of his replacement

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukrainian Defense Minister Oleksii Reznikov submitted a letter of resignation on Monday after President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said he would be replaced and named his successor.

Oleksii Reznikov's removal follows a scandal around the defense ministry's procurement of military jackets. It was not the first similar case during the ongoing war.

Zelenskyy made the announcement on his official Telegram account, writing that new leadership was needed after Reznikov went through "more than 550 days of full-scale war." He named Rustem Umerov, a Crimean Tatar lawmaker, as the new defense minister.

"Reznikov was a good and prominent international negotiator, but it appears that there is chaos and disorder within the Ministry of Defense, which many deputies have taken advantage of, resulting in corruption scandals during the war," said analyst Volodymyr Fesenko from the Kyiv-based Penta Center.

"All actions of the Ukrainian authorities are geared toward the interests of the war, and scandals and statements about Ukraine's slow counteroffensive in the face of very limited military resources compel Zelenskyy to be flexible and seek new personnel solutions."

Reznikov was appointed in November 2021, several months before Russia's invasion of Ukraine. In his resignation letter, Reznikov pointed out that it had been "not an easy journey" from his appointment until today, but that he had been part of the process of persuading international donors to give Ukraine sophisticated weaponry, from "the cat-

egorical refusal to provide Ukraine with Stingers in November 2021 to the creation of an 'aviation coalition.'"

Umerov, 41, a politician with the opposition Holos party, has served as head of the State Property Fund of Ukraine since September 2022. He resigned from that position on Monday, according to the Verkhovna Rada, Ukraine's parliament.

An economist by training, he has worked in the telecommunications and investment sectors, was involved in human rights advocacy and has founded numerous funds to support the rights of Crimean Tatars.

Fesenko said that Western partners value Umerov for this role as head of the State Property Fund, and he is one of the few politicians in Ukraine with direct contact with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Since the full-scale war broke out, Umerov has been involved in prisoner exchanges and was part of the Ukrainian delegation in negotiations with Russia over the U.N.-backed grain deal.

Military analysts say that the replacement of the minister will not affect the situation on the front lines because the minister is not responsible for operational decisions.

Military analyst Roman Svitan said the advance of the Ukrainian army southward towards the occupied Melitopol and Berdiansk will continue without a pause during the autumn-winter period. Therefore, the new minister will need to "intensify negotiations with Western partners of Kyiv and ensure a continuous cycle of supplying the necessary weaponry to the front lines."

## Burning Man revelers begin exodus after flooding left tens of thousands stranded in the Nevada desert

BLACK ROCK DESERT, Nev. (AP) — Muddy roads flooded by a summer storm that left tens of thousands of partygoers stranded for days at the Burning Man counterculture festival had dried up enough by Monday afternoon to allow them to begin their exodus from the northern Nevada desert.

Event organizers said they started to let traffic flow out of the main road around 2 p.m. local time — even as they continued urging attendees to delay their exit to help ease traffic on Monday. About two hours after the mass departure began, organizers estimated a wait time of about five hours.

Organizers also asked attendees not to walk out of the Black Rock Desert about 110 miles north of Reno as others had done throughout the weekend, including celebrity DJ Diplo and comedian Chris Rock. They didn't specify why.

The festival had been closed to vehicles after more than a half-inch of rain fell Friday, causing flooding and foot-deep mud.

The road closures came just before the first of two ceremonial fires signaling an end to the festival was

scheduled to begin Saturday night. The event traditionally culminates with the burning of a large wooden effigy shaped like a man and a wood temple structure during the final two nights, but the fires were postponed as authorities worked to reopen exit routes by the end of the Labor Day weekend.

Weather permitting, "the Man" is scheduled to be torched 9 p.m. Monday while the temple is set to go up in flames 8 p.m. Tuesday.

The National Weather Service in Reno said it should stay mostly clear and dry at the festival site Monday, although some light rain showers could pass through Tuesday morning. The event began Aug. 27 and had been scheduled to end Monday morning, with attendees packing up and cleaning up after themselves.

"We are a little bit dirty and muddy, but spirits are high. The party still going," said Scott London, a Southern California photographer, adding that the travel limitations offered "a view of Burning Man that a lot of us don't get to see."

The annual gathering, which launched on a San Francisco beach in 1986,

attracts nearly 80,000 artists, musicians and activists for a mix of wilderness camping and avant-garde performances. Disruptions are part of the event's recent history: Dust storms forced organizers to temporarily close entrances to the festival in 2018, and the event was twice canceled altogether during the pandemic.

At least one fatality has been reported, but organizers said the death of a man in his 40s wasn't weather-related. The sheriff of nearby Pershing County said he was investigating but has not identified the man or a cause of death.

President Joe Biden told reporters in Delaware on Sunday that he was aware of the situation at Burning Man, including the death, and the White House was in touch with local authorities.

The event is remote on the best of days and emphasizes self-sufficiency. Amid the flooding, revelers were urged to conserve their food and water, and most remained hunkered down at the site.

Some attendees, however, managed to walk several miles to the nearest town or catch a ride there.

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