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BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection

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From classroom to community

Bluffton explores experiential learning opportunities

By HOLLY GASKILL

What if every school day was like a field trip? While it may seem like a dream, Bluffton-Harrison schools are pursuing several opportunities that make this idea seem more of a reality.

The projects at hand are based in experiential learning, where students can learn concepts through doing a task or applicable experiences. In its 'simplest' sense, the preschool and middle school are incorporating themed classrooms to learn fundamentals and career pathways. At the largest scale, the district is endeavoring to build a playground version of downtown Bluffton.

The Preschool Farm Experience

The first of these endeavors is at the preschool, where a classroom has become a kid-sized farm, fit with silo and barn structures, farmers market toys, and wall artwork of sprawling fields.

Students review similar topics as they normally would but through a new realm of play and creativity. For example, students count as they round up toy horses in the barn and practice using money in playing at the cash register.

Elementary Principal Schlauro Linderwell first observed this kind of instruction at East Allen County preschool classrooms, where all nine classrooms had an immersive aspect ranging from a doctor's office to a more abstract creative studio.

An experiential classroom, Linderwell said, also initiates conversations about career pathways. While the conversation matches the young understanding of the audience, she emphasized that it gets "the wheels turning" about their future and connection to the community.

"It really is a foundational piece that's going to help kids," Linderwell shared. "It's a bit of a backward way of thinking. We think we've got to make sure they're writing and reading, and they come to school, and they know all their letters — and we can accomplish that through play, inquiry, and exploration. It's a much more developmentally appropriate way of learning."

Administrators discussed concepts for a local application, and, ultimately, landed on a farm classroom given the agriculture community. Subsequently, they also found local partners who supported some of the costs, and whose names



Pictured above is the Farm Experience preschool classroom at Bluffton-Harrison Elementary School, where students dressed up as farmers for their first day in the classroom. The classroom's barn structure is shown in the back right of the photo, and the farmers market play set in the back center of the photo. (Photo provided)

are now written on signposts on the wall artwork. The project took over one year from concept to opening day this fall.

In practice, the five preschool classes will rotate into the experiential classroom for two weeks. During their rotation, students work through a curriculum developed by the BHES teachers specially for the classroom experience. This curriculum will be new every time a group rotates back into the classroom again.

"We're extremely fortunate to have teachers and administrators who saw this vision and supported it," Linderwell said.

The students' excitement for the classroom is in no short supply. On the classroom's opening day, the first rotation

teacher and her students dressed as farmers.

As students gathered for instruction on a rug — which is supposed to look like a grass patch — in the opening week, students enthusiastically agreed when asked if they enjoyed the farm room. "I like that we get to make pretend money," one student smiled shyly. "I just like it all so much!" another student chirped.

Long term, Linderwell hopes to incorporate experiential learning opportunities into several preschool classrooms. Discussions have begun regarding their next project, but Linderwell noted the school is a long way from getting started as they will have to restart the fundraising and design process.

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The Utz manufacturing facility on Dustman Road has been sold to a Canada-based company, Super-Pufft Snacks USA, an announcement from Utz said Friday. (Photo by Dave Schultz)

Bluffton Utz plant sold to Canadian company

By DAVE SCHULTZ

The Utz plant in Bluffton was sold Friday to a Canadian company, Super-Pufft Snacks USA.

Utz acquired the former Inventure Foods facility at 505 W. Dustman Road and formally changed its name to Utz in 2019. The sale of the Bluffton plant is part of a major restructuring for Utz, which is based in Hanover, Pa.

The Bluffton facility will apparently be the first U.S.-based operation for Super-Pufft Snacks USA. According to the company's website, it has a facility at its base in Mississauga, Ontario, and three other facilities in Canada.

The decision by Utz to sell the Bluffton

operation came from a decision to "maximize the impact of (the company's) resources and footprint," according to a statement by Kevin Brick, a company spokesman.

Brick added that the day-to-day operation of the Dustman Road facility will apparently not change much.

"We are grateful to our Bluffton manufacturing colleagues for their many contributions to Utz and know they will be in very good hands with Super-Pufft," Brick said. "Notably, all Utz Bluffton associates have been offered positions with Super-Pufft, and Super-Pufft will continue to produce Utz products in the Bluffton facility."

That continuing production of Utz- (Continued on Page 2)

McCarthy's plan to keep the government open collapses

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Speaker Kevin McCarthy's last-ditch plan to keep the federal government temporarily open collapsed in dramatic fashion Friday as a robust faction of hard-right holdouts rejected the package, making a shutdown almost certain. McCarthy's right-flank Repub-

licans refused to support the bill despite its steep spending cuts of nearly 30% to many agencies and severe border security provisions, calling it insufficient.

The White House and Democrats rejected the Republican approach as too extreme. The vote was 198-232, with 21 hard-right

Republicans voting to sink the package. The Democrats voted against it.

The bill's complete failure a day before Saturday's deadline to fund the government leaves few options to prevent a shutdown that will furlough federal workers, keep the military working without pay and

disrupt programs and services for millions of Americans.

A clearly agitated McCarthy left the House chamber. "It's not the end yet; I've got other ideas," he told reporters.

The outcome puts McCarthy's speakership in serious jeopardy with almost no political lever-

age to lead the House at a critical moment that has pushed the government into crisis. Even the failed plan, an extraordinary concession to immediately slash spending by one-third for many agencies, was not enough to satisfy the hard-right flank that has upturned his

(Continued on Page 2)

Higher gas prices lift the Fed's preferred inflation gauge

WASHINGTON (AP) — An inflation gauge closely tracked by the Federal Reserve rose in August, boosted mainly by higher gas prices. But measures of underlying inflation slowed in the latest sign that overall price pressures

are still moderating.

Friday's report from the Commerce Department showed that prices rose 0.4 percent from July to August, up from just 0.2 percent the previous month. A 10 percent monthly spike in prices at the gas

pump drove the increase.

Excluding volatile food and energy prices, though, "core" inflation rose by the smallest amount in nearly three years, evidence that inflation pressures continue to ease. Fed officials pay particular attention

to core prices, which are considered a better gauge of where inflation might be headed. Last month's modest rise in core inflation could raise the likelihood that the Fed will leave interest rates unchanged at its next meeting Oct. 31-Nov. 1.

Core prices edged up 0.1 percent from July to August, down from July's 0.2 percent. It was the smallest monthly increase since November 2020. Compared with a year ago, core prices were up 3.9

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Outside

Another beautiful fall weekend

Today	Sunday	Monday
High 77	High 79	High 81
Low 54	Low 54	Low 55

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Online

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Vol. 94 No. 281

SATURDAY
September 30, 2023

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Utz plant sells

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branded goods in Bluffton, however, may not be a long-term plan.

"Super-Pufft received real estate and manufacturing assets in the transaction, and in return, the company entered a newly established co-manufacturing relationship with Super-Pufft, under which Super-Pufft will manufacture certain TGIF products

under favorable terms," the announcement detailing Utz's overall plan said. "Over time, the company expects to shift production of these products into Utz owned and operated manufacturing facilities."

The sale of the Bluffton plant, the decision to close another production plant in Pennsylvania, as well as other decisions announced Friday, will leave Utz

with 13 active plants, the announcement said.

Brick, in a separate statement, said Super-Pufft and Utz have "a strong historic partnership."

"The purchase of the Bluffton plant greatly increases their capacity and provides them with a strategic location in the mid-west as they continue to expand," Brick said.

Super-Pufft's Canadian

operations produce potato chips, kettle cooked chips, canister crisps, popcorn, extruded and fried pellet snacks, and pop chips, according to the Super-Pufft website. The company calls itself "one of North America's largest manufacturers and co-packers of salty snacks for retailers and national brands."

daves@news-banner.com

Government shutdown

(Continued from Page 1)
speakership.

The Senate pushed ahead Friday with its own plan favored by Republicans and Democrats to keep the government open while also bolstering Ukraine aid and U.S. disaster accounts. But that won't matter with the House in political chaos.

The White House has brushed aside McCarthy's overtures to meet with President Joe Biden after the speaker walked away from the debt deal they brokered earlier this year that set budget levels.

"Extreme House Republicans are now tripling down on their demands to eviscerate programs millions of hard-working families count on," White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said.

Jean-Pierre said, "The path forward to fund the government has been laid out by the Senate with bipartisan support — House Republicans just need to take it."

Catering to his hard-right flank, McCarthy had returned to the spending limits the conservatives demanded back in January as part of the deal-making to help him become the House speaker.

His package would not have cut the Defense, Veterans or Homeland Security departments but would have slashed almost all other agencies by up to 30% — steep hits to a vast array of programs, services and departments Americans routinely depend on.

It also added strict new border security provisions that would kickstart building the wall at the southern border with Mexico, among other measures. Addi-

tionally, the package would have set up a bipartisan debt commission to address the nation's mounting debt load.

Ahead of voting, the Republican speaker all but dared his holdout colleagues to oppose the package a day before Saturday's almost certain shutdown. The House bill would have kept operations open through Oct. 31.

"Every member will have to go on record where they stand," McCarthy said.

Asked if he had the votes, McCarthy said, "We'll see."

But as soon as the floor debate began, McCarthy's chief Republican critic, Rep. Matt Gaetz of Florida, announced he would be voting against the package, urging his colleagues to "not surrender."

The hard right, led by Gaetz, has been threatening McCarthy's ouster, with a looming vote to try to remove him from the speaker's office unless he meets the conservative demands. Still, it's unclear if any other Republican would have support from the House majority to lead the party.

Gaetz said afterward that the speaker's bill "went down in flames as I've told you all week it would."

He and others rejecting the temporary measure want the House to instead keep pushing through the 12 individual spending bills needed to fund the government, typically a weeks-long process, as they pursue their conservative priorities.

Some of the Republican holdouts, including Gaetz, are allies of Donald Trump, who is Biden's chief rival in 2024. The former president has been encouraging the Republicans to fight

hard for their priorities and even to "shut it down."

The margin of defeat shocked even Republican members.

Rep. Mike Garcia, R-Calif., said: "I think what this does, if anything, I think it's going to rally people around the speaker and go: 'Hey, the dysfunction here is not coming from leadership in this case. The dysfunction is coming from individuals that don't understand the implications of what we're doing here.'"

Garcia said, "For the people that claim this isn't good enough, I want to hear what good enough looks like."

Another Republican, Rep. Ralph Norman of South Carolina, a member of the Freedom Caucus who supported the package, suggested the House was losing its leverage with the failed vote: "We control the purse strings. We just ceded them to the Senate."

Republicans convened for a closed-door meeting later Friday afternoon that grew heated, lawmakers said, but failed to produce a new plan. Leaders announced the House would stay in session next week, rather than return home, to keep working on some of the 12 spending bills.

Rep. Rosa DeLauro of Connecticut, the top Democrat on the Appropriations Committee, criticized the proposed Republican cuts as hurting law enforcement and education and taking food out of the mouths of millions. She said 275,000 children would lose access to Head Start, making it harder for parents to work.

"This is a pointless charade with grave consequences for the American people," DeLauro said.

NYC gets one of its wettest days in decades

NEW YORK (AP) — Rain walloped the New York metropolitan area with a startling punch Friday, knocking out several subway and commuter rail lines, stranding drivers on highways, flooding basements and shuttering a terminal at LaGuardia Airport in one of the city's wettest days in decades.

Almost 7 inches of rain had fallen in parts of Brooklyn by midday, with at least one spot seeing 2.5 inches in a single hour, according to weather and city officials. The nearly 8 inches at John F. Kennedy Airport surpassed its record for any September day, a bar set during Hurricane Donna in 1960, the National Weather Service said.

And more downpours were expected.

The deluge came two years after the remnants of Hurricane Ida dumped record-breaking rain on the Northeast and killed at least 13 people in New York City, mostly in flooded basement apartments. Although no deaths or severe injuries have been reported so far from Friday's storm, it stirred frightening memories.

Ida killed three of Joy Wong's neighbors, including a toddler. And on Friday,

water began lapping against the front door of her building in Woodside, Queens.

"I was so worried," she said. It became too dangerous to leave: "Outside was like a lake, like an ocean."

Within minutes, water filled the building's basement nearly to the ceiling. After the family's deaths in 2021, the basement was turned into a recreation room. It is now destroyed.

City officials said they got reports of six flooded basement apartments Friday, but all occupants got out safely.

Gov. Kathy Hochul and Mayor Eric Adams declared states of emergency and urged people to stay put if possible. But schools were open, students went to class and many adults went to work, only to wonder how they would get home.

Virtually every subway line was at least partly suspended, rerouted or running with delays. Metro-North commuter rail service from Manhattan was suspended for much of the day but began resuming by evening. The Long Island Rail Road was snarled, 44 of the city's 3,500 buses got stranded and bus service was disrupted citywide, transit officials said.

"When it stops the buses, you know it's bad," Brooklyn high school student Malachi Clark said after trying to get home by bus, then subway. School buses were running, but they transport only a fraction of public school students, many of them disabled.

A long line of people snaked from the ticket counter in the afternoon at Grand Central Terminal, where Mike Tags was among those whose trains had been canceled. Railroad employees had suggested possible workarounds, but he wondered whether they would work out.

"So I'm going to sit here, ride it out, until they open up," he said.

Traffic hit a standstill earlier in the day on a stretch of the FDR Drive, a major artery along Manhattan's east side. With water above cars' tires, some drivers abandoned their vehicles.

At around 11 a.m., Priscilla Fontallio said she had spent three hours in her car, which was on a piece of the highway that wasn't flooded but wasn't moving.

"Never seen anything like this in my life," she said.

On a street in Brooklyn's South Williamsburg neigh-

borhood, workers were up to their knees in water as they tried to unclog a storm drain while cardboard and other debris floated by. Some people arranged milk crates and wooden boards to cross flooded sidewalks.

Flights into LaGuardia were briefly halted in the morning, and then delayed, because of water in the refueling area. Flooding also forced the closure of one of the airport's three terminals.

A Brooklyn school was evacuated because its boiler was smoking, possibly because water got into it, Schools Chancellor David Banks said at a news briefing. Another Brooklyn school was mopping up ground-floor classrooms, City Councilwoman Crystal Hudson said in an email seeking volunteers to help.

The New York Rangers and New York Islanders postponed a preseason game on Long Island. And at the waterlogged Central Park Zoo, a sea lion swam out of her swollen pool. With the zoo closed because of the weather, she looked around for a bit before returning to the pool, zoo officials said in a statement.

Weather

Saturday, September 30, 2023
(24-hour observations at 8:18 p.m. Friday)
High: 71; Low: 60; Precipitation: None
Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.27 feet at 8:45 p.m. Friday

Wells County forecast

Today: Patchy fog before 10 a.m. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 77. East wind around 5 mph.

Tonight: Patchy fog after 2 a.m. Otherwise, mostly clear, with a low around 54. East wind around 5 mph.

Sunday: Patchy fog before 8 a.m. Otherwise, sunny, with a high near 79. East wind around 5 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 54. East wind around 5 mph.

Monday: Sunny, with a high near 81.

Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 55.

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 83.

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 59.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 82.

Wednesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 61.

Thursday: A 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 74.

Thursday Night: A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52.

Friday: A chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 66.

Higher gas prices

(Continued from Page 1)
percent, below July's reading of 4.2 percent. That was the slowest such increase in two years.

In the meantime, while Americans kept spending in August, they did so at a much more modest pace. Friday's government report showed that consumer spending, adjusted for inflation, ticked up just 0.1 percent after having risen 0.6 percent in July.

"Overall, spending remains positive and inflation is slowing, which will be welcome news to policymakers," Rubeela Farooqi, chief U.S. economist at High Frequency Economics, said in a note to clients.

Compared with a year earlier, overall prices rose 3.5 percent in August, slightly higher than the 3.4 percent increase in July. It was the second straight rise in the year-over-year figure, which has tumbled from its 7 percent peak in June 2022 but still exceeds the Fed's 2 percent inflation target.

The spike in gasoline prices is eating away at Americans' incomes. After some solid gains last spring, inflation-adjusted incomes fell in August for a second straight month.

The burden of rising energy costs is hitting Europe as well, even as new data released Friday showed inflation there declined sharply in September to the lowest level in two years. A recent surge in oil prices, however, has cast a shadow over prospects for quickly beating inflation down in Europe to the central bank's target of 2 percent.

The combination of higher gas prices in the U.S. and sluggish income growth could weaken consumer spending in the months ahead. If so, it would mark a slowdown from last summer's healthy pace of spending, which is believed to have fueled solid economic growth in the July-September quarter.

The inflation gauge that was issued Thursday, called the personal consumption expenditures price index,

is separate from the better-known consumer price index. Earlier this month, the government reported that the CPI rose 3.7 percent from a year earlier, down from a peak of 9.1 percent in June 2022, though its core measure also slowed.

The latest data will likely bolster hopes among Fed officials that they will be able to bring inflation back to their target without driving up unemployment or causing a deep recession as many economists have feared. When the Fed released its quarterly economic forecasts last week, it showed that the central bank's policymakers envision only a small rise in unemployment by the end of 2024: They expect joblessness to rise from its current 3.8 percent to a still-low 4.1 percent, along with a gradual drop in core inflation to just 2.6 percent.

Many economists now expect core inflation, as measured by the Fed's preferred gauge, to drop by the end of the year to below the central bank's estimate of 3.7 percent. That might show sufficient progress for the Fed to avoid any further rate increases this year.

Still, threats to a so-called "soft landing" — in which inflation would fall back to the Fed's 2 percent target without a deep recession — have been growing. Congress is on track to shut down parts of the government by this weekend because a group of hard-right House Republicans have blocked a spending agreement.

How much a shutdown would weaken the economy would depend on how long it lasts. A short closure probably won't have much impact on the economy. But it would likely have a more far-reaching impact than previous shutdowns did because a larger portion of the government will close.

In earlier shutdowns, for example, legislation had been approved to pay members of the military. That hasn't happened this time, which would leave upwards of a million service members without paychecks.

Senator Dianne Feinstein of California dies at age 90

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California, a centrist Democrat and champion of liberal causes who was elected to the Senate in 1992 and broke gender barriers throughout her long career in local and national politics, has died. She was 90.

Feinstein died on Thursday night at her home in Washington, D.C., her office said on Friday. Tributes poured in all day. Opening the Senate floor, Majority Leader Chuck Schumer announced that "we lost a giant in the Senate."

"As the nation mourns this tremendous loss, we know how many lives she impacted and how many glass ceilings she shattered along the way," Schumer said, his voice cracking.

President Joe Biden, who served with Feinstein for years in the Senate, called her "a pioneering American," a "true trailblazer" and a "cherished friend."

California Gov. Gavin Newsom will appoint a temporary replacement, and there

is sure to be a spirited battle to succeed her.

Feinstein, the oldest sitting U.S. senator, was a passionate advocate for liberal priorities important to her state -- including environmental protection, reproductive rights and gun control -- but was also known as a pragmatic lawmaker who reached out to Republicans and sought middle ground.

Her death came after a bout of shingles sidelined her for more than two months earlier this year — an absence that drew frustration from her most liberal critics and launched an unsuccessful attempt by Democrats to temporarily replace her on the Senate Judiciary Committee. When she returned to the Senate in May, she was frail and using a wheelchair, voting only occasionally.

On Friday, her Senate desk was draped in black and topped with a vase of white roses. Senators gave tearful tributes as members of the California House delegation stood in the back of the chamber and former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi sat in the gallery with Feinstein's daughter, Katherine.

CAR & CRAFT FEST

Benefiting Forgotten Children Worldwide!

CRAFT FEST

Friday, October 6 & Saturday, October 7, 2023
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE! Pumpkins & mums, seasonal decor, handmade craft items, woodworking, floral decor, honey, baked goods, & more!

FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT

Friday, October 6 & Saturday, October 7 - 10 am - 6 pm
Fun for the whole family!
Come enjoy food trucks, kettle corn, hay rides, face painting, bounce houses, pumpkins & mums, handmade crafts, woodworking, flower arrangements, honey, baked goods, & much more!

CAR FEST

Saturday, October 7 Only - 9 am - 6 pm
Registration 9 am-12 pm. Awards at 3:30 pm (Top 20, Best of Show, People's Choice Award, Kid's Choice Award, & All American Stores Choice Award). Dash plaques, DJ Scott Teeter, Music, & Raffle!
\$15 entry fee (\$10 if Pre-Registered by September 16, 2023). For pre-registration, contact Jeff Patterson at (260)366-7590.
Cars, Trucks, & Bikes all welcome!

UPCOMING SEASON

Check out what's happening at the farm. We are preparing for another fall season by planting and harvesting new pumpkins and gourds for customers to come and pick out their favorite.

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OBITUARIES

Thomas D. Mounsey, 85

Thomas D. Mounsey, 85, of Montpelier, died Friday, Sept. 29, 2023, surrounded by his family at his home in Montpelier. He was born Sunday, April 17, 1938 in Montpelier. He married Marie M. Gillette Wednesday, May 25, 1958 at the Montpelier Church of the Nazarene.

Tom is survived by his wife, Marie M. (Gillette) Mounsey, Montpelier; daughter, Linda (Monty) McCain, Hartford City; son, Greg (Tami) Mounsey, Centerville; four grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father, Clayton Thomas Mounsey; mother, Edith (White) Mounsey; and sister, Janet D. Den-

ton. Family and friends may gather to share and remember Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2023 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Walker & Glancy Funeral Home located at 109 W. Windsor St. Montpelier, IN.

A service to celebrate Tom's life will be at Walker & Glancy Funeral Home at 11:00 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 5, 2023, with Pastor Laura High and Pastor Jesse Johnson officiating. Interment will follow in the Brookside Memorial Park in Montpelier.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Glancy Funeral Home in Montpelier.

Online condolences may be made at www.glancyfuneralhomes.com

Frank H. Osborn, 77

Frank H. Osborn, 77, died Friday morning, Sept. 29, 2023, at Brookdale Senior Living Community in Fort Wayne.

Funeral arrangements are pending with Goodwin – Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton.

Bluffton Parks & Rec News & Notes



By Brandy Fiechter

Destination Recreation

The Bluffton Parks Department was awarded a grant through the Lake and River Enhancement Program to study 2.41 miles of the Wabash River, from the White Bridge to Kehoe Park, to identify areas of bank erosion. The engineering company, Stantec, found 22 areas of concern. The site between S 400 E. and S 450 E. near the White Bridge has been selected to move to a construction phase design, while two other locations will receive conceptual drawings.

Please join the Bluffton Parks Department and Stantec on Oct. 18 at the indoor pavilion at Washington Park starting at 5:30 p.m. All meetings are open to the public, and interested parties are invited to learn about stabilizing the Wabash River streambank and present any concerns, ideas, or suggestions. Light refreshments will be served. For more information about the public meeting, contact the Bluffton Parks Department office at (260) 824-6069.

FREE Farm Wagon — The Community Harvest Farm Wagon visits Bluffton every Tuesday at 9 a.m. to give FREE fresh food to needy families at the Life Community Church South parking lot (428 S Oak St.). Please enter the parking lot at the south entrance off Oak Street and park facing North.

This coming Tuesday, Oct. 3, will feature the annual **Community Vaccination Clinic** during the Farm Wagon Program from 7-9 a.m. Participants can stay in their vehicle and nurses will come to you at your car. Please bring your insurance card; they will accept and bill all insurance (commercial, Medicare, Medicaid). There is no cost to those without insurance, except for the Shingles vaccine. If you prefer to sign up online, go to www.patients.vaxcare.com/registration.

FREE Toddler Time starts Oct. 4. The Bluffton City Gym will be open every

Tuesday and Thursday from 11-noon for you to bring your tots and burn off some energy. (October – March) This free drop-in program will allow young children to play with others their age in a large open space. Balls will be available in the storage closet at the East end of the gym when we hear the children arrive. Please note that this is not a staff-facilitated event, and parents are responsible for their children. We will offer a special tour or activity on the first Thursday of each month except for December (The special event will be Dec. 14). Please sign in on the wooden door each visit and turn off the gym lights if you are the last to leave. Call the park office at 824-6069 if you have any questions. Special visits include the October 5th Police Station visit, the November 2nd Fire Station visit, and the Dec. 14 **Story Time with Mrs. Claus!**

City Gym Membership Sale — The price will drop for a Bluffton City Gym Membership on Oct. 1. Visit the Clerk Treasurer's office in City Hall during business hours to purchase a key. A single member costs only \$20 until the end of the year, and a family membership is discounted to only \$40. Membership includes the weight room, locker room with showers and a sauna, racquetball court, and the gym floor when there isn't a scheduled event.

Pavilion Rentals — It's time to start thinking about your fall and winter parties. Dates are filling up at the Washington Park indoor pavilion. Call 824-6069 to schedule your next event. The facility has seating for 120 guests and would make an excellent location for your company's Christmas Party. To check available dates, visit <https://teamup.com/ksahp6rajmudh7k7m>. Print a rental form at the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/fpfc7hf>.

Have a great week!

Local Roundup

County Drainage Board will meet Monday

The Wells County Drainage Board will meet at 4:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 2, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St. in Bluffton.

Items on the agenda include:

- Discussion regarding the Walter Johnson Open Drain in Harrison Township.
- Project updates and miscellaneous drainage matters.

County Commissioners will meet Monday evening

The Wells County Commissioners will meet at 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 2, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St. in Bluffton.

Items on the agenda include:

- Department updates from Sheriff Scott Holliday, Highway Supervisor Shawn Bonar, and Wells County Engineer Nate Rumschlag.
- An appointment with Ron Turpin regarding the Northeast Indiana Strategic Plan Commission.
- Discussions regarding 2024 meeting dates, 2024 wellness plan and miscellaneous business.

Poneto will host candidate forum Monday evening

A candidate forum will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 2, at the Town Hall, 105 W. Washington St. in Poneto. Candidates for the Town Council are Kelly Potter (I), Ashley O'Reilly (D), Kelly Potter (D), Isaiah Geels (R), Paul Miller (R) and Becky Smith (R), and candidates for clerk-treasurer are Brad Schoeff (D) and Lou Ann Reinhard (R).

Bluffton Board of Works to meet Tuesday afternoon

The Bluffton Board of Public Works and Safety will meet at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct.

3, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St.

Bluffton Common Council will meet Tuesday evening

The Bluffton Common Council will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 3, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St.

Items on the agenda include:

- Financial matters.
- Adoption of the 2024 budget.
- Highway garage update from Conor Jackson.
- A discussion regarding 2024 meeting dates.

UWRBC board will meet Wednesday morning

The board of the Upper Wabash River Basin Commission will hold its regular bi-monthly meeting at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 4, at the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St. in Bluffton.

Topics on the agenda include:

- LARE grant updates
- Discussion regarding the UWR Autumn Festival with Randy Lehman.
- Financial matters

For additional information, contact Stacia Henderson, the UWRBC watershed coordinator by e-mail at shenderson@adamswells.com or by phone at 260/273-0972.

Bluffton parks board will meet Thursday evening

The Bluffton park board will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 5, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St.

Area Plan Commission will meet Thursday evening

The Wells County Area Plan Commission will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 5, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City:

Thursday, 2:48 p.m.. West Wiley Avenue and South Oak Street. Report of power line down.

Thursday, 3:39 p.m.. Dollar General. Caller requested a trespass warning for individual.

Thursday, 4:20 p.m., 1000 block of West Central Avenue. Subject requested to speak to officer regarding property retrieval.

Thursday, 6:08 p.m., 300 block of Willowbrook Trail. Report of two subjects fighting.

Thursday, 6:33 p.m.. 300 block of West South Street. Caller reported car blocking driveway, requested removal.

Thursday, 9:01 p.m., 1300 block of Sunnyside Court. Caller reported residents burning plastic. Officer spoke to homeowner who advised he would put out fire.

Friday, 12:56 a.m., Wings Etc. Driver issued citation for expired plates.

Friday, 4:53 a.m., 200 block of North Union Street. Report involving slight damage to vehicle.

Friday, 12:14 p.m., Kroger. Subject attempting to meet with 14 year old girl, decoy met instead. One detained.

County:

Thursday, 2:37 p.m., North 100 East and East 400 North, Bluffton. Report of students driving recklessly near construction, no signs or flaggers. Construction company moved their equipment and opened up the lane.

Thursday, 6:14 p.m., 3500 block of Church Road, Bluffton. Caller reported scam via phone call.

Thursday, 8:27 p.m., Wells County Sheriff's Department. Jeffery Lockwood was charged with driving while suspended - prior, a Class A misdemeanor, after he drove himself to the Sheriff's department to update his sex offender registry. Lockwood has 9 previous license suspensions.

Ossian:

Thursday, 5:07 p.m., East 1200 North and Ind. 1, Ossian. Report of styrofoam all over the side of the road.

ACCIDENTS

City:

Friday, 7:04 a.m., Main Street and Willowbrook Trail. Christen Johnson was driving North on Main Street when Jack Pezo pulled into traffic. Johnson's Chevrolet equinox collided with Peso's Dodge Durango. Damages not exceeding \$10,000.

County:

Friday, 7:19 a.m., 300 West and 250 South. Lawrence Hansen was driving Southbound on 300 West when a deer ran into the roadway. Damages not exceeding \$5,000.

ARRESTS

Natasha Stanton, 42, Bluffton, battery — committed with a deadly

weapon, a Level 5 Felony, two counts of domestic battery with moderate bodily injury, both Level 6 felonies, confinement and strangulation, both misdemeanors. No bond set.

Quinten P. Byrd, 34, Bluffton, battery, a Level 5 Felony. No bond set.

Nichole Marie Colwell, 36, Bluffton, family offense — invasion of privacy, a Level 6 Felony. Bond set at \$1,500.

Susan Louise Wright, 42, Claypool, operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Level 6 Felony. Bond set at \$5,000.

Christie R Miller, 41, Bluffton, charged with contempt of court. \$150 cash bond.

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'Wastewater' — exploration for seniors

As the Bluffton Park Department's Senior Snippets classes began the first "How's It Made" series. The class tackled the topic of Bluffton's Wastewater with the treatment plant's manager Tony Fey. He explained that the first treatment plant was completed in 1935 with a second added in 1967. He shared photos of the progress being made on the new plant now under construction. Program attendees also learned that after Bluffton's wastewater is treated at the plant it can safely be returned to the Wabash River, meeting strict ecological standards and laws. Next program in the series will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 3 and feature information on Weg. (Photo by Barbara Barbieri)

Obituary Policy

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

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

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

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It's just a coincidence.

Or not.

Harry Bosch doesn't believe in coincidences. I am becoming a disciple.

My latest casual reading has been several books by Michael Connelley. He has a series about LAPD Detective Bosch and another about an attorney who drives around in old Lincolns. They both are complicated, almost dark characters. They seem to never get the girl but they always figure out whodunnit. If there's one constant for Harry, it is not accepting anything that happens as coincidental.

So was it a coincidence that as I was wrapping up last Saturday's column about a stack of old newspapers that had been left at the office, I went back to double check something and a headline caught my eye: "Mrs. William Borah gets \$207,000 From Safety Box"?

It seems that Mrs. Borah's husband, a U.S. Senator from Idaho, had died unexpectedly. She wasn't sure if she had enough money for a funeral. The couple had lived modestly in a Washington, D.C. apartment and had a home in Idaho; he had always handled the couple's finances. She was aware that they had a joint-custody safe deposit box where she found \$207,000 in \$1,000 bills. This was in 1940. According to Mrs. Google, that equals about \$4.4 million today.

The coincidence? In the news Friday evening was the indictment of U.S. Sen. Bob Menendez (D, New Jersey) on bribery charges. He seems to have assisted getting favorable treatment for some Egyptian businessmen in dealing with the federal government who coincidentally had hired his wife who coincidentally didn't really do anything. The couple also had several gold bars in their home that were coincidentally close in serial numbers to other gold bars owned by one of those businessmen.

If you're following this story at all, you will know that Menendez beat a series of very similar bribery charges in unrelated circumstances just a few years ago due to a hung jury. He had argued that he was only doing what a senator does — assisting his constituents through the maze of government bureaucracy. It is only a coincidence that they make substantial campaign contributions and in this case gave his wife a cushy job and/or bought her a car and/or dropped off a few gold bars from time to time.

Perhaps what bothers me most about this is the prospect that Menendez will walk free again. His claim that he's only getting things done in Washington the way things get done in Washington seems to be coming more generally accepted as the way things get done in Washington.

Witness, coincidentally(?), another story from this past week: Dana Bash interviewed California Gov. Gavin Newsom on CNN. He asked Newsom about the propriety of President Biden who, at a minimum, allowed his son — and now, we read, brothers — to peddle the family name quite profitably. Newsom's response: That's hardly unique.

"I don't know enough about the details of that," he told Bash. "I mean, I've seen a little of that. If that's the new criteria, there are a lot of folks in a lot of industries, not just in politics, where people have family members and relationships and they're trying to parlay and get a little influence and benefit in that respect. That's hardly unique. I don't love that any more than you love it or other people, I imagine, love that."

So we don't have to love how Washington works. The question is: Do we just accept it and live with it?

This reminds me of the tale of Dennis Hastert. First elected to Congress in 1987 when he was a high school teacher and coach, he rose to become Speaker of the House. He retired in 2007. His annual salary never exceeded \$165,000. However, he was able to afford a \$1 million payment in an unsuccessful attempt to keep some unsavory information hidden.

People are elected to Congress and, coincidentally, get rich.

Speaking of coincidences, Menendez's new wife, Nadine Arslanian, is a native of the Middle-East. According to a New York Times report, the three co-indicted Egyptian businessmen were — an *amazing* coincidence — friends of hers before she met the senator in an IHOP in New Jersey in 2019. She wasn't working when she began dating Menendez but, coincidentally, started an international consulting company, Strategic International Business Consultants, shortly after, in June 2019.

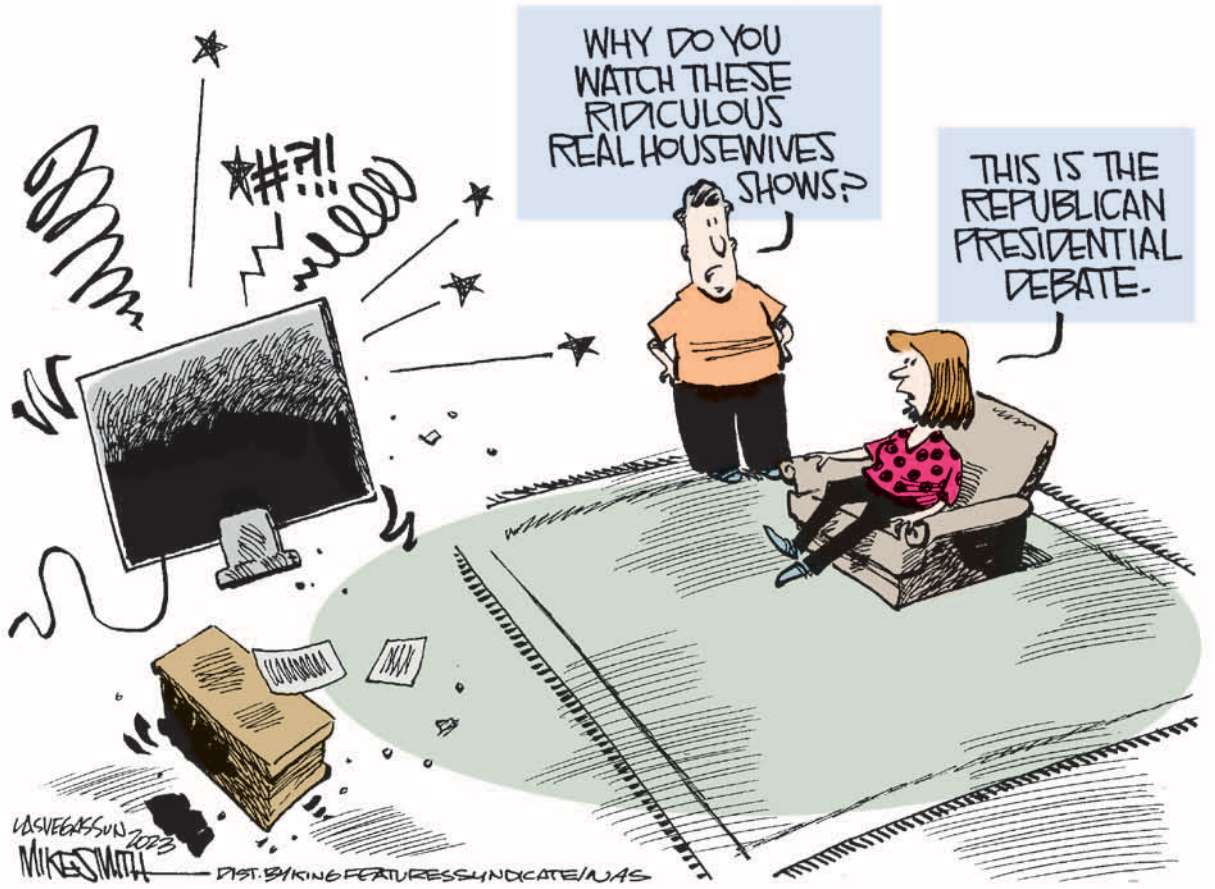
By the way, Nadine is about 15 years younger than the senator and has ... or is, shall we say, buxom. Sorry, I just can't help but notice these things, which I don't think are coincidental. Neither would Harry Bosch.

miller@news-banner.com

Saturday's Sub



Mark Miller



Fox Business loses the GOP's second debate

From the first dumb question to the abrupt ending that caught everyone by surprise, the GOP presidential primary debate produced by the Fox Business channel was a total disaster.

I know. I was there Wednesday night — in Row 5 of the Air Force One pavilion in the Ronald Reagan Library in Simi Valley, Calif.

At the beginning of the debate it was a special treat to see and hear the praise that the Fox people bestowed on my father, his historic accomplishments and his strong and personable brand of conservatism.

But from then on it was all downhill.

Everything about the debate was dumb, wrong or poorly designed — the seven-candidate format, the trio of incompetent debate moderators, the high-speed stream of questions they asked and the rude behavior of the cross-talking candidates.

Unless something changes, it was a lineup of potential future losers to Donald Trump — Gov. Doug Burgum of North Dakota, ex-New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, Ex-South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, businessman/commentator Vivek Ramaswamy, South Carolina Sen. Tim Scott and ex-VP Mike Pence.

They all tried to slip in their canned quips and pitches for their leadership abilities, but no one learned anything in two excruciating hours — except that it's impossible to have a good political debate with seven people.

Other than Pence and professional Trump hit-man Christie, the "Not-so Magnificent Seven" spent most of their time interrupting each other and beating up Joe Biden for all the problems his policies have brought America.

If I had to pick the top three "winners," I'd go with the governors — Burgum, Christie and DeSantis. They should be in the next primary debate and the rest should go home.

Nikki Haley was very good at first. But then half-way through the debate she did her impression of a mad housewife.

She picked a fight with Kid Ramaswamy and hit Sen. Scott upside the face with a mean tirade that



Michael Reagan

made no sense to any of us in Row 5.

At one point we were all confused because she and Scott were acting like a married couple having an argument over drapes.

The big winners, for sure, were the elephants who weren't in the room — Trump and Biden.

By far the night's biggest loser was Fox Business.

It proved it is no smarter or better than any of the liberal networks who've hosted previous presidential debates.

On paper it should not have been so awful. Stuart Varney is great as the likable anchor of Fox Business' morning show. And Dana Perino is the quiet star of Fox News' deservedly popular show, "The Five."

But neither of them had ever moderated a political debate — and it immediately showed.

They had no control over the cross-talking candidates and acted like they had a quota of 100 questions they had to ask.

Half the time they were more concerned with firing off the next question than allowing a real debate to get started on important issues like our support for Ukraine or parental rights in schools.

It almost seemed like the people in charge at Fox had never seen a multi-person political debate before. They should have made sure that on the important issues each candidate got a turn to answer the question, not just two or three, which would have prevented most of the annoying cross-talk.

And whoever thought that it was a good idea to put Ilija Calderón of Univision in as the third moderator should be fired.

Supposedly intended to appeal to Latino voters who increasingly are attracted to the GOP, her accent was so heavy that those sitting around us often couldn't understand what she was asking.

Some friends who watched the debate on TV told me they turned it off after 20 minutes, but I was trapped there in Row 5.

The good news is that Air Force One that my father used didn't fall on our heads. Thank God the food and wine was great again.

Reagan@caglecartoons.com • Twitter: @reaganworld

Skiping the debates has worked for Trump

Woody Allen said 90% of life is showing up. Donald Trump is proving that he overshot the mark considerably.

The former president has paid no discernible price for skipping the Republican debates. Arguably, he's been winning them by diminishing the rest of the field through his absence, while his polling has held steady or gone up a little.

The latest forum, at the Reagan Library, will not be long remembered, or perhaps remembered at all.

The candidates tended either to over-promise about what they'd do as president in frenzied, rapid-fire fashion, or to talk over one another in squabbles difficult to watch or listen to.

If Trump was hoping that, if he failed to show, his opponents would tear at each other in pursuit of marginal advantage in the race for second, third or fourth place, it hardly could have gone better.

In fact, it went so swimmingly that one of Trump's advisors took the opportunity to announce that he won't show up for the third debate, scheduled for November in Miami, either. Why mess with a successful formula?

It's another instance where Trump has a set of political rules all to himself. Everyone else has been desperate to secure a place, even at the farthest edge, of the debate stage, while Trump has foregone an opportunity to occupy its center.

The difference between Trump and the other candidates is that they seek attention, but Trump himself is attention. His presence makes something an event, whereas they hope to be at the event.

This isn't a criticism of the other candidates who almost all are public-spirited people. It's simply a fact of life as they grapple with running against a de facto incumbent president who is also a massive celebrity.

Chris Christie hoped to take down Trump in the debates, but now many of his anti-Trump gibes are meant to goad Trump into showing up or to slam him for not doing so.

The former New Jersey governor spoke directly to



Rich Lowry

Trump at one point in the debate, saying that he knew he was watching, which was likely to be true, assuming Trump himself hadn't grown tired of the unintelligible crosstalk and bootless and petty arguments.

It's not that there's anything wrong with contention, by the way. Arguments can be clarifying and important, although not so much if they are carefully prepared attacks on an opponent based on not terribly significant opposition research.

Is it a good thing for the Republican Party that its frontrunner won't show up at, traditionally, some of the highest profile, most consequential events of the campaign season?

No. It is clearly a disservice to the voters and to the process. Chris Christie and Ron DeSantis, who has also been pressing the point, are both right about this.

It is insulting to Republican voters that Trump feels that he doesn't need to show them the basic consideration of standing on a debate stage for two hours. But what is to be done if Republican voters refuse to be insulted?

The Trump camp is upping the ante by asserting the debates are affirmatively bad things.

"The RNC should immediately put an end to any further primary debates," Trump advisor Chris LaCivita said, "so we can train our fire on Crooked Joe Biden and quit wasting time and money that could be going to evicting Biden from the White House."

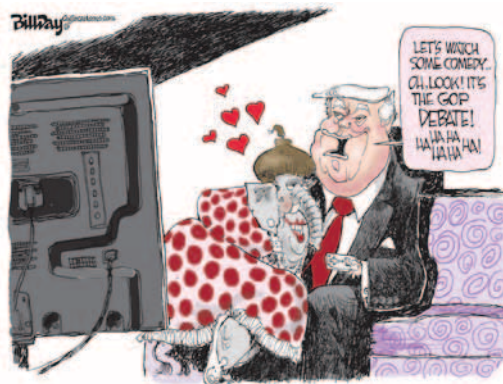
Sure, and maybe there should be no caucuses or primaries, either. They are such

a hassle.

While Trump doesn't deserve a coronation, a significant portion of Republican voters are ready to outfit him with St. Edward's Crown.

There's no good political answer for this phenomenon, except for the other candidates to keep making their case, hope there's a breakout or the field begins to winnow -- and, yes, continue to show up at the debates, whether the frontrunner, making his own self-interest above all, deigns to make an appearance.

Rich Lowry is on Twitter @RichLowry



Today in History

By The Associated Press
Today is Saturday, Sept. 30, the 273rd day of 2023. There are 92 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Sept. 30, 1955, actor James Dean was killed at age 24 in a two-car collision near Cholame, Calif.

On this date:
In 1777, the Continental

Congress — forced to flee in the face of advancing British forces — moved to York, Pennsylvania.

In 1938, after co-signing the Munich Agreement allowing Nazi annexation of Czechoslovakia's Sudetenland, British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain said, "I believe it is peace for our time."

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Holly Gaskill, Editor

Mark Miller, Opinion Page Editor

Scoreboard

FOOTBALL

High School

Adams Central 49, Southern Wells 7
 Alexandria 38, Oak Hill 14
 Batesville 49, Greensburg 0
 Beech Grove 62, Indpls Ritter 20
 Bloomington North 42, Columbus East 0
 Bloomington South 49, Columbus North 14
 Boone Grove 55, Whiting 7
 Boonville 54, Princeton 7
 Bremen 34, Prairie Heights 0
 Brownsburg 59, Zionsville 21
 Brownstown 56, Madison 6
 Carroll (Flora) 64, Clinton Central 6
 Carroll (Ft. Wayne) 41, Homestead 20
 Cascade 40, Owen Valley 19
 Castle 39, Jasper 32
 Caston 49, Culver 14
 Center Grove 48, Indpls Pike 17
 Centerville 63, Union Co. 14
 Central Noble 24, Churubusco 12
 Charlestown 33, Corydon 0
 Clinton Prairie 48, Taylor 14
 Crown Point 42, LaPorte 0
 Culver Academy 42, Woodlan 0
 Danville 46, Frankfort 6
 DeKalb 49, Norwell 27
 Decatur Central 63, Greenwood 42
 E. Central 64, Connersville 0
 E. Noble 35, Columbia City 0
 Eastbrook 62, Elwood 0
 Eastern (Greentown) 31, Tri-Central 7
 Eastern (Pekin) 22, Salem 21
 Eastern Hancock 40, Monroe Central 26
 Eastside 35, Fremont 0
 Edinburgh 54, Indpls Irvington 18
 Elkhart 34, S. Bend Adams 0
 Evansville Bosse 36, Evansville Mater Dei 20
 Evansville Harrison 28, Evansville Central 21
 Evansville North 31, Vincennes 0
 Evansville Reitz 34, Evansville Memorial 0
 Fishers 29, Franklin Central 23
 Floyd Central 28, Bedford N. Lawrence 27
 Ft. Wayne Luers 29, Ft. Wayne Dwenger 28
 Ft. Wayne North 20, Ft. Wayne South 6
 Ft. Wayne Snider 49, Ft. Wayne Northrop 7
 Ft. Wayne Wayne 45, Ft. Wayne Concordia 6
 Garrett 22, Fairfield 19
 Gary West 14, Griffith 13
 Gibson Southern 45, Washington 6
 Goshen 24, Plymouth 21
 Greencastle 68, Cloverdale 7

Greenfield 35, Yorktown 30
 Greenwood Christian 49, Clarks-ville 14
 Guerin Catholic 29, Northview 24
 Hamilton Hts. 43, Tipton 0
 Hamilton Southeastern 43, Noblesville 22
 Hammond Morton 56, Hammond Central 3
 Hanover Central 31, Hobart 26
 Heritage 27, Bluffton 21
 Heritage Hills 49, Mt. Vernon (Posey) 3
 Highland 28, Munster 27, OT
 Indian Creek 35, Speedway 21
 Indpls Attucks 28, Indpls Shortridge 22
 Indpls Ben Davis 45, Carmel 16
 Indpls Cathedral 39, Cin. La Salle, Ohio 26
 Indpls Chatard 41, Andean 0
 Indpls Lutheran 49, Monrovia 14
 Jimtown 35, S. Bend Washington 0
 Kankakee Valley 38, Lowell 14
 Knox 50, Pioneer 8
 Kokomo 52, Anderson 14
 LaVille 31, Glenn 27
 Lafayette Catholic 43, Twin Lakes 0
 Lafayette Harrison 38, Indpls Tech 6
 Lake Central 20, Chesterton 14
 Lapel 29, Heritage Christian 15
 Lawrence Central 49, Indpls N. Central 20
 Lawrence North 48, Warren Central 7
 Lawrenceburg 48, Rushville 14
 Lebanon 35, Crawfordsville 0
 Leo 48, Huntington North 0
 Linton 40, N. Knox 0
 Logansport 50, Richmond 8
 Lou. Male, Ky. 43, Indpls Roncalli 0
 Maconaquah 43, Cass 26
 Madison-Grant 38, Frankton 15
 Manchester 21, Whitko 0
 Martinsville 37, Indpls Perry Meridian 31
 McCutcheon 34, Lafayette Jeff 22
 Michigan City 21, Portage 8
 Mishawaka Marian 39, Angola 14
 Mississinewa 49, Blackford 6
 Mooresville 21, Whiteland 7
 Mt. Vernon (Fortville) 51, New Castle 21
 Muncie Central 32, Marion 30
 N. Decatur 38, N. Daviess 0
 N. Posey 41, Forest Park 7
 N. Putnam 48, W. Vigo 0
 N. Vermillion 41, Parke Heritage 0
 N. White 58, S. Newton 22
 New Albany 29, Jeffersonville 7
 New Haven 32, Belmont 14
 New Palestine 49, Shelbyville 7
 New Prairie 35, S. Bend Riley 12
 NorthWood 43, Mishawaka 42, OT
 Northeastern 19, Shenandoah 16
 Northridge 21, Concord 14
 Paoli 50, Crawford Co. 7
 Pendleton Hts. 28, Delta 23

Penn 28, S. Bend St. Joseph's 0
 Perry Central 48, W. Washington 14
 Peru 61, Southwood 7
 Plainfield 38, Franklin 3
 Providence 41, Milan 13
 Rensselaer 64, Benton Central 26
 River Forest 49, Hammond Noll 0
 Riverton Parke 53, Attica 0
 Rochester 62, Northfield 0
 S. Adams 23, Jay Co. 20
 S. Central (Union Mills) 61, Lake Station 8
 S. Dearborn 38, Franklin Co. 6
 S. Decatur 27, Switzerland Co. 7
 S. Putnam 66, Brown Co. 0
 S. Vermillion 53, Fountain Central 20
 Scottsburg 56, Mitchell 6
 Seeger 14, Covington 13
 Seymour 56, Jennings Co. 32
 Sheridan 37, Delphi 14
 Silver Creek 42, N. Harrison 37
 South Vigo 32, Indy Brebeuf 25
 Southport 43, North Vigo 7
 Southridge 42, S. Spencer 7
 Spring Valley 68, Tecumseh 7
 Sullivan 28, Edgewood 7
 Tell City 42, Pike Central 0
 Tippecanoe Valley 35, W. Lafayette 13
 Tri 48, Knightstown 14
 Tri-County 38, Frontier 21
 Tri-West 38, N. Montgomery 0
 Triton 40, N. Judson 7
 Triton Central 38, Indpls Secunia 14
 Union City 62, Cambridge City Lincoln 26
 Valparaiso 26, Merrillville 24
 W. Noble 35, Lakeland 34, OT
 Wabash 20, N. Miami 18
 Warsaw 22, Wawasee 15
 Wes-Del 35, Indpls Tindley 14
 Western 55, Northwestern 40
 Western Boone 29, Southmont 6
 Westfield 38, Avon 14
 Wheeler 38, Calumet 8
 Winamac 22, W. Central 14
 Winchester 48, Hagerstown 0

San Diego (Wacha 13-4) at Chicago White Sox (Clevinger 9-8), 7:10 p.m.
 Boston (Crawford 6-8) at Baltimore (Gibson 15-9), 7:15 p.m.
 Texas (TBD) at Seattle (Castillo 14-8), 7:15 p.m.
 Houston (Verlander 12-8) at Arizona (Kelly 12-7), 8:10 p.m.
 Minnesota (TBD) at Colorado (TBD), 8:10 p.m.
 Oakland (Boyle 1-0) at L.A. Angels (TBD), 9:07 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Cleveland at Detroit, 3:10 p.m.
 Houston at Arizona, 3:10 p.m.
 Minnesota at Colorado, 3:10 p.m.
 N.Y. Yankees at Kansas City, 3:10 p.m.
 San Diego at Chicago White Sox, 3:10 p.m.
 Texas at Seattle, 3:10 p.m.

National League

Friday's Games

Miami 4, Pittsburgh 3
 Washington 10, Atlanta 6
 San Diego 3, Chicago White Sox 2
 Cincinnati 19, St. Louis 2
 Minnesota 7, Colorado 6
 Milwaukee 4, Chicago Cubs 3, 10 innings
 Houston 2, Arizona 1
 L.A. Dodgers at San Francisco, 10:15 p.m.
 Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets, p.p.d.

Saturday's Games

Philadelphia (TBD) at N.Y. Mets (Quintana 3-6), 4:10 p.m., 1st game
 Miami (Chargois 1-0) at Pittsburgh (Priester 3-2), 6:35 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs (Wicks 4-1) at Milwaukee (TBD), 7:10 p.m.
 San Diego (Wacha 13-4) at Chicago White Sox (Clevinger 9-8), 7:10 p.m.
 Cincinnati (Phillips 1-0) at St. Louis (Rom 1-4), 7:15 p.m.
 Washington (Adon 2-4) at Atlanta (Strider 19-5), 7:20 p.m.
 Philadelphia (TBD) at N.Y. Mets (TBD), 7:40 p.m., 2nd game
 Houston (Verlander 12-8) at Arizona (Kelly 12-7), 8:10 p.m.
 Minnesota (TBD) at Colorado (TBD), 8:10 p.m.

Sunday's Games

L.A. Dodgers (Kershaw 13-4) at San Francisco (Beck 3-3), 9:05 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Miami at Pittsburgh, 3:05 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee, 3:10 p.m.
 Houston at Arizona, 3:10 p.m.
 Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets, 3:10 p.m.
 San Diego at Chicago White Sox, 3:10 p.m.
 Cincinnati at St. Louis, 3:15 p.m.

BASEBALL

American League

Friday's Games

Cleveland 7, Detroit 5
 San Diego 3, Chicago White Sox 2
 Kansas City 12, N.Y. Yankees 5
 Minnesota 7, Colorado 6
 Houston 2, Arizona 1
 Texas at Seattle, late

Saturday's Games

Cleveland (McKenzie 0-2) at Detroit (TBD), 1:10 p.m.
 Tampa Bay (Armstrong 1-0) at Toronto (Ryu 3-3), 3:07 p.m.
 N.Y. Yankees (Schmidt 9-9) at Kansas City (TBD), 7:10 p.m.

High School Calendar

SATURDAY, SEPT 30

BOYS TENNIS: (sectional at Norwell) championship Norwell vs. Bluffton, 11 a.m.

CROSS COUNTRY (CO-ED): Norwell at NE8 CC Championship at Columbia City, 10 a.m.; Bluffton at Bluffton Invitational, 10 a.m.

MONDAY, OCT 2

VOLLEYBALL: Bluffton at Norwell, 7:30 p.m.; Southern Wells at Lakeland Christian, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCT 3

BOYS SOCCER: (sectional at Woodlan) Norwell vs. Heritage, 5 p.m.
 GIRLS SOCCER: (sectional) Woodlan at Norwell, 5 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL: Norwell at East Noble, 7:30 p.m.; Southern Wells at Anderson Prep, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCT 4

VOLLEYBALL: North Side at Bluffton, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCT 5

VOLLEYBALL: Norwell at Huntington North, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCT 6

FOOTBALL: Huntington North at Norwell, 7 p.m.; Adams Central at Bluffton, 7 p.m.; Heritage at Southern Wells, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCT 7

CROSS COUNTRY (CO-ED): Norwell at Delta Eagle Invitational at Taylor University, 8:30 a.m.; Bluffton, Southern Wells at ACAC race at South Adams 11 a.m.



Norwell's Grant Mishler (left) hits a hard serve against South Adams during the sectional semi-final match. The Knights won 5-0, including Mishler's two-game sweep. Bluffton's Nolan Lamber (right) slices a backhand during the Tigers' match against Adams Central. The Tigers won in a 3-2 comeback and will face the Knights tomorrow at 11 a.m. (Photos by Ryan Walker)

Knights sweep Starfires, Tigers come back in win over Jets; both will meet in sectional final

By RYAN WALKER

It will be a Wells County battle in the boys' tennis sectional Saturday morning.

After three schedule changes due to weather delays during the week, Norwell and Bluffton advanced to the championship round in their wins Friday afternoon at Norwell High School.

The Knights won handily 5-0 over South Adams, while the Tigers completed a comeback to win 3-2 over Adams Central.

Head coach Noah Tobias was pleased with what he saw from his group, having been over a week since its last match and still coming up with a sweep.

"Today was a good win for our guys, especially because we haven't played the past couple of days due to rain," Tobias said.

The final two matches didn't come easy, though Norwell already had clinched a victory with three team points.

Gavin Reynolds dropped the first set at No. 3 singles but was able to crawl back to win in three sets.

Grant Mishler edged out his opponent at No. 1 singles but had a hard-fought effort to do so.

"I was especially proud of Gavin (Reynolds) because of how hard he fought after losing the first set," Tobias said. "It looks like every match. It's just

coming together more and more, and it's coming together at a really good time."

"Grant (Mishler) did an excellent job tonight planning against some really good competition," Tobias said. "He did a great job just focusing on winning his serve and knowing that he was going to get a break here and there, but he wouldn't get every break."

For Bluffton head coach Robert Vanderkolk, he didn't sweat being down 2-0 against the Jets.

The Tigers had to win the final three matches at No. 2 singles and both doubles teams, which has answered the bell throughout the season.

"I really wasn't that worried," Vanderkolk said. "We've leaned on Ben (Maggard), Kade (Abbett), and Nolan (Lambert) quite a bit this year, and especially these last couple of weeks. Nolan is a notorious slow starter. I was confident he would settle in and take care of business."

At No. 2 singles, Lambert won his final two sets after dropping the first one.

At No. 1 doubles, Abbett and Maggard won the first set, then failed to keep a 5-2 lead to win the second before sweeping the third.

Finally, Coy Lantz and Dane Schlagenhaut took care of business at No. 2 doubles.

The two teams will square off for the sectional crown at 11 a.m. Satur-

day morning. In the first meeting, the Knights won 4-1. But now, the stakes are higher. This is the sectional final.

Both Tobias and Vanderkolk are alumni of their respective schools and understand there's a bit of a rivalry between the two.

"Playing against Bluffton for the sectional championship is going to be a lot of fun," Tobias said. "I think there's going to be a decent amount of people there, which will also make the atmosphere fun. To play against a county rival for something like this is going to make tomorrow extra fun so that we can show off Wells County tennis."

Regardless of who won between South Adams and Norwell, Vanderkolk and his group were seeking another crack at either.

"We didn't care who the opponent is for tomorrow," Vanderkolk said. "Whoever won that match is someone who we are looking to gain revenge on anyway. ... We'll be ready to go against Norwell tomorrow. It's not going to be easy, but there's no fun in easy. We want to beat the best teams to win a title, and even if we aren't able to pull it off, we're going to make sure Norwell has to earn it. My guys are peaking at the right time, and we're going to embrace the moment, attack it with everything we've got, and hopefully come home with some more hardware."

sports@news-banner.com

Brother worries about farming sister

Dear Annie: My sister and her husband are both in their mid-80s and live on a farm. He is disabled. They insist on retaining horses and livestock, which my frail 90-pound sister feeds daily.

On a recent visit, I observed her moving amongst the animals without her hearing aids and without her cell-phone to use to call for help should she be knocked down and injured. He remains in the house and is usually asleep when she is in the feedlot.

My pleadings that it is time to sell off the animals are met with responses such as, "The market is down" (him), or "I love taking care of them" (her).

So, how can I get them to appreciate the importance of a balance between economics, a joyous life and her safety? — One Concerned Brother

Dear Concerned Brother: You sound like a very caring brother, and your sister sounds like a very impressive lady. The answer to your question of how to get them to see the importance of living their lives your way is that you don't get them to see that.

Instead, you should support their decision to keep their horses and livestock, especially if she loves them and finds daily purpose in taking care of them. I doubt they are not aware of the economics, safety or joy in these circumstances. On the safety issue, continue to encourage her to wear her hearing aids and bring her cell-phone.

Maybe stop by and help her out some mornings. Rather than observing all the things she is doing "wrong," dive right in and lend a hand with caring for her animals. My guess is that it will make you feel a lot better and strengthen the relationship with your sister.

Dear Annie: After reading your recent column on bullying, I knew I had to let you know that a large group of people from all over the world are working hard to help alleviate this serious situation. For instance, check out an online video called, "Beat a Bully Without Using Your Fists."

As a kid, I was called "Susan Boozy." I don't recall it bothering me, however. I guess bullying has always been around, but it does seem to be worse in the last decade or so.

If you have ever wondered why things seem to be getting worse worldwide, you will find answers in various scriptures of the Bible. Thank you for addressing this important issue and for letting me refer your readers to the video and the Bible, especially 2nd Timothy 3:1-5. And keep those good answers coming! — Stop Bullying

Dear Stop Bullying: Thank you for your kind words, and I hope everyone will continue to work to eradicate bullying worldwide.

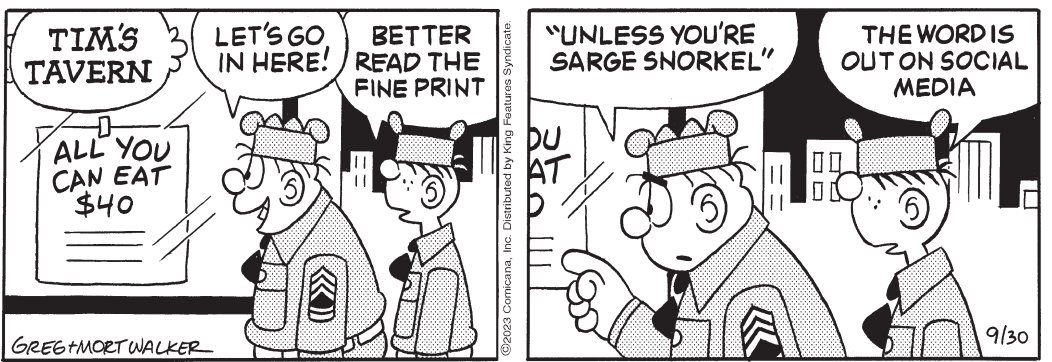
"How Can I Forgive My Cheating Partner?" is out now! Annie Lane's second anthology — featuring favorite columns on marriage, infidelity, communication and reconciliation — is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit <http://www.creators-publishing.com> for more information. Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com. © 2023 CREATORS.COM

Dear Annie

by Annie Lane



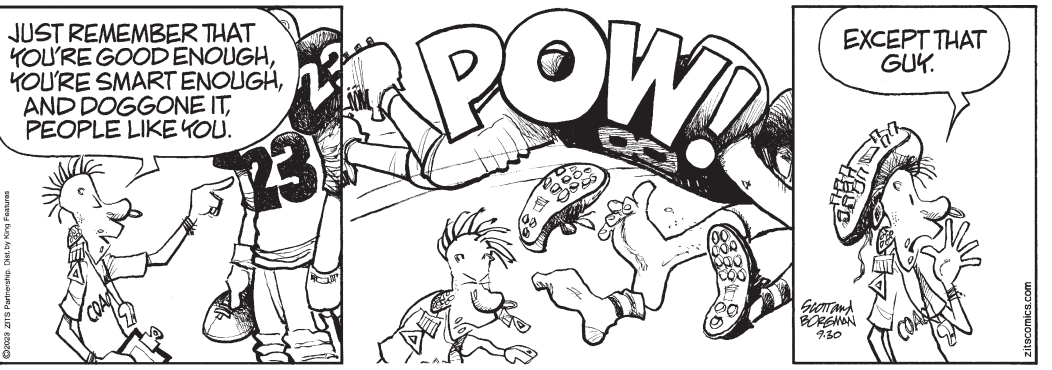
BEETLE BAILEY



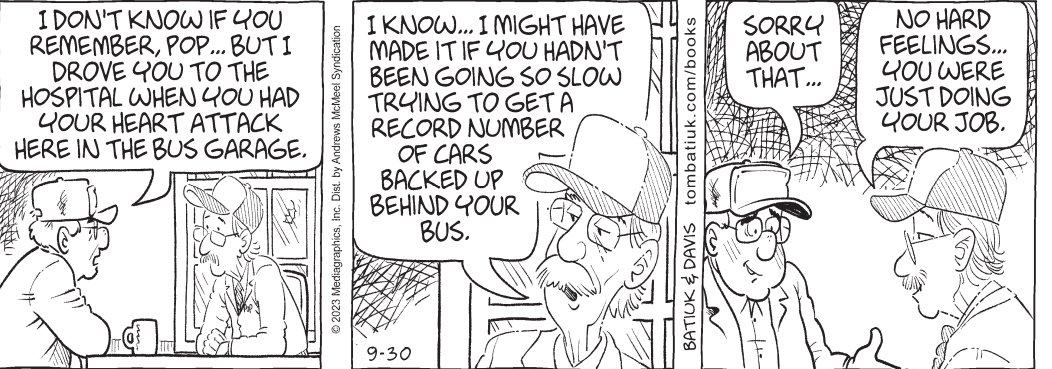
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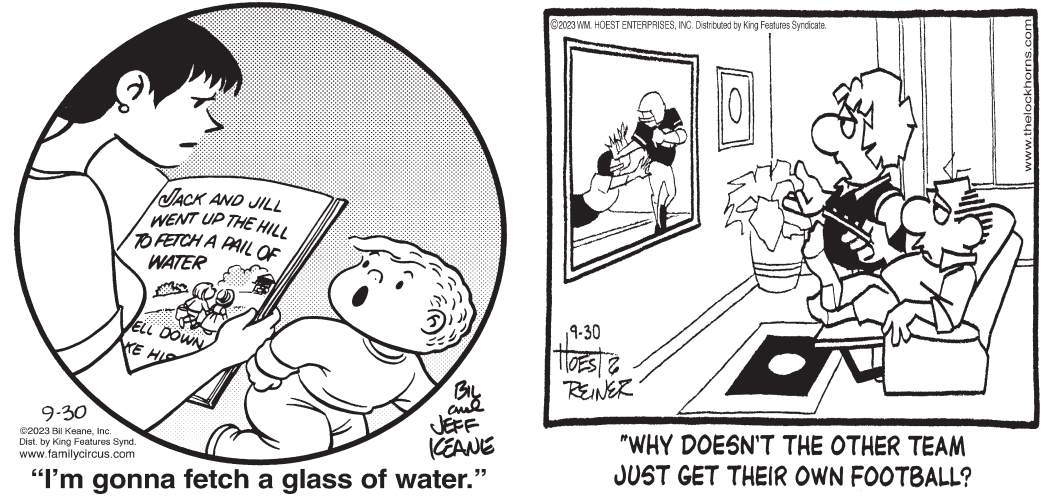
CRANKSHAFT



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

The LOCKHORNS



My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



He promises to take the sting out of death

Q: As a doctor, I'm faced with death daily as I care for dying patients. Many who have strong spiritual faith seem to deal with the end of life differently from others who live their last days in fear. Why is this? — D.P.

A: Last statements of dying men and women provide an excellent study for those who are looking for realism in the face of death. Some curse God and die; others who know Him as Savior and Lord say with the great Presbyterian minister John Knox, "Live in Christ, and the flesh need not fear death." How different are the stories of Christians who con-

fessed their sin and received Jesus Christ as personal Savior and Lord.

The story of Dr. Effie Jane Wheeler, who taught English and literature at Wheaton College, is remarkable. Two weeks before she died, she wrote a letter to the president of the college that was read to the faculty and student body. It said:

"I should like to have you know the truth about me as I learned it myself only last Friday. My doctor at last has given what has been his real diagnosis of my illness for weeks — an inoperable case of cancer. Now if he had been a Christian he wouldn't have been so dilatory or shaken, for he would have known, as

you and I do, that life or death is equally welcome when we live in the will and presence of the Lord. If the Lord has chosen me to go to Him soon, I go gladly. Please do not give a moment's grief for me. I do not say a cold goodbye but rather a warm expression of farewell 'till I see you again' — in the blessed land [of Heaven]."

What an example of God's power in the Christian's life. He keeps His promise to take the sting out of death (see 1 Corinthians 15:55).

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

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09/30	M	A	D1	D2	5 PM	5:30	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM	12:30
WINM (12)	11	26	63		Let's Take It Outside	A Fishing Story	The Stranger	Don Frost Family & Friends	Who Is This Jesus? Is He the Only Way?	Three Days	Sue Thomas F.B. Eye	Pacific Garden Mission	Daywind	Billy Graham TV	Daily Faith With Philip Cameron					
CBS WANE (15)	2	15	15		College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)
Antenna WANE-2 (152)	106	20			Law & Order: SVU "Child's Welfare"	Law & Order: SVU "Justice Denied"	Law & Order: SVU "Valentine's Day"	Law & Order: SVU "Street Vendors"	Law & Order: SVU "Father Dearest"	Law & Order: SVU "Learning Curve"	Law & Order: SVU "Strange Beauty"	Law & Order: SVU "Rhodium Nights"	Law & Order: SVU "Special Victims Unit "Guilt"	Law & Order: SVU "Special Victims Unit "Guilt"	Law & Order: SVU "Special Victims Unit "Guilt"	Law & Order: SVU "Special Victims Unit "Guilt"	Law & Order: SVU "Special Victims Unit "Guilt"	Law & Order: SVU "Special Victims Unit "Guilt"	Law & Order: SVU "Special Victims Unit "Guilt"	Law & Order: SVU "Special Victims Unit "Guilt"
ABC WPTA (21)	4	3	21	21	College Football Teams TBA (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA (L) (N)
NBC WPTA-2 (212)	7	8	14		2023 Ryder Cup Day 2	News (N)	NBC News (N)	Big Ten (L)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)	College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)
MNT WPTA-3 (213)	10	9	56	34	World Chage Tag	Chicago Fire "What I Saw"	Chicago Fire "What I Saw"	Chicago Fire "What I Saw"	Chicago Fire "What I Saw"	Chicago Fire "What I Saw"	Chicago Fire "What I Saw"	Chicago Fire "What I Saw"	Chicago Fire "What I Saw"	Chicago Fire "What I Saw"	Chicago Fire "What I Saw"	Chicago Fire "What I Saw"	Chicago Fire "What I Saw"	Chicago Fire "What I Saw"	Chicago Fire "What I Saw"	Chicago Fire "What I Saw"
CW WISE (38)	8	4	33	33	Football	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers
PBS WFVA (39)	13	5	39	39	Weekend Plan	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"
PBS WFP (48)	3				Weekend Plan	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"	Antiques "Vintage Louisville 2021 Hour 1"
FOX WFMT (55)	6	5	55	55	College Football Michigan at Nebraska From Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Neb. (L) (N)	College Football Michigan at Nebraska From Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Neb. (L) (N)	College Football Michigan at Nebraska From Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Neb. (L) (N)	College Football Michigan at Nebraska From Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Neb. (L) (N)	College Football Michigan at Nebraska From Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Neb. (L) (N)	College Football Michigan at Nebraska From Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Neb. (L) (N)	College Football Michigan at Nebraska From Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Neb. (L) (N)	College Football Michigan at Nebraska From Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Neb. (L) (N)	College Football Michigan at Nebraska From Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Neb. (L) (N)	College Football Michigan at Nebraska From Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Neb. (L) (N)	College Football Michigan at Nebraska From Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Neb. (L) (N)	College Football Michigan at Nebraska From Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Neb. (L) (N)	College Football Michigan at Nebraska From Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Neb. (L) (N)	College Football Michigan at Nebraska From Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Neb. (L) (N)	College Football Michigan at Nebraska From Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Neb. (L) (N)	College Football Michigan at Nebraska From Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Neb. (L) (N)

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Preparedness kit	1 Needle-nosed fish
6 Unlocked	18 Porch
12 Lamoon	21 British verb ending
13 Big name in chocolate	25 Mil.
14 Damaged	26 Agra
15 Look over again	28 Estrange
16 Tennis great Arthur	30 Secret-protecting doc.
17 Holiday lead-ins	31 Retrieve and Harris
19 Indivisible	33 Cote cry
20 Beget	34 Vinyl records
22 However	39 Mannerly
24 However	41 1971 Jane Fonda film
27 "Brave" singer Barenilles	42 "Peek-!"
29 Engagement gift	43 Show-room model
32 "The House of the Spirits" novelist	45 Arizona city
35 "Vegas" singer — Cat	47 Detail
36 Use scissors	48 "Ratatouille" rat
37 Have lunch	49 MGM motto start
38 Buddy	51 — Cruz "Barbie"
40 Cubicle fixture	53 Bamboozle



Yesterday's answer 9-30

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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14											
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42	43					44	45		46	47	48
50			51						52	53	
54											
									55		
56										57	

The Classifieds

SUDOKU

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

King Classic Sudoku

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

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Difficulty: ★★★★★

9/30

Help Wanted



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VEHICLES

Auto/Trucks

INDIANA AUTO AUCTION, INC. Huge Repo Sale October 5, 2023. Over 100 repossessed units for sale. Money order or cashier's check only. \$500 cashier's check or money order deposit per person required. Register 8 am-9:30 am. No public entry after 9:30 am. All vehicles sold AS IS! 4425 W. Washington Center Road, Fort Wayne. (A)

FOR SALE

Miscellaneous

GARAGE SALE Multi Family Sale. 508 Lamar St Friday 8-4 Saturday 8-2. We have a pyrex mixing bowl, depression batter mixing bowl, cabbage patch kids, other vintage glassware, card table, tons of household miscellaneous items, name brand clothing mens small- 2XLT young girls plus 14/16- adult 2xl. Everything priced to sell.

Go to classifieds.news-banner.com to place your ad today!

Public Sale Calendar

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.

BIDDING NOW OPEN AND STARTS CLOSING OCTOBER 8 STARTING AT 4 PM EST - Larry Beer, owner. Sports collector's dream! 950+ lots featuring lots of sports memorabilia, signed jerseys, bats & balls, MLB, NFL, MLB cards (some cards Graded), die cast toys, stamp collection, yard & hand tools, Yamaha gas powered golf cart, like new Cub Cadet riding lawn mower, household, furniture, Fenton glass, Roseville & Hull pottery, more! Preview: Oct. 5, 4-6 p.m., 909 Woodridge Ct., Decatur. **Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC**, Kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.

OCTOBER 15-OCTOBER 22 - (Online Only Auction) - Michael & Jane Michaud, seller. Gravelly zero turn riding mower, 2018 Family Farm Home single axle utility trailer, Craftsman portable air compressor, Craftsman & DeWalt power tools, late model appliances, antique furniture, assorted household, Christmas decorations, Berkley fishing boat w/14' trailer, assorted fishing. Preview: Oct. 12 from 3 p.m.-6 p.m. and Oct. 19 from 3 p.m.-6 p.m., 1791 E 1100 S,

Warren. Sale managers, Patrick Carter & Nick Huffman. **The Steffen Group Inc.**, www.steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

BIDDING STARTS CLOSING OCTOBER 17 STARTING AT 6 P.M. EST - Ronald L Franke estate, owner. Real estate 6 p.m.: 812 sf, full basement, 2 bed, 2 full bath, 14'x22' detached garage, .29 acre lot, Fort Wayne Community School, Wayne Township, Allen County. Personal property 6:30 p.m.: 2006 Chevy Monte Carlo SS, 105k miles, household, tools, riding lawn mower, furniture, collectibles, more! Preview: Oct. 9, 5-6 p.m., 930 Irene Ave., Fort Wayne. Pick up: Oct. 18, 3-6 p.m. **Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC**, Kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.

OCTOBER 22-OCTOBER 27 - (Online Only Auction) - Michael & Jane Michaud, seller. Single story home situated on 4.55 Acres w/ outbuildings. 3 bedroom and 2 full bathrooms with 1,880 square foot and an attached 2 car garage. Open houses: Oct. 12 from 3-6 p.m., Oct. 19 from 3-6 p.m., Oct. 26 from 4-6 p.m., 1791 E 1100 S, Warren. Pat Carter & Nick Huffman, sale managers. **The Steffen Group Inc.**, 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.com.

OCTOBER 22- OCTOBER 29 - (Online Only Auction) - Harvey E. & Wilma D. King, seller. H&D Repair Center & Body Shop retirement auction. Automotive & body shop equipment, pickup truck, tractor, Rotary Lift 9,000-lb. capacity 2-post hydraulic lift, mower. Preview: Oct. 19 from 3 p.m.-6 p.m. and Oct. 26 from 3 p.m.-6 p.m., 300 Standard Oil Blvd., Montpelier. Sale manager, Patrick Carter, **The Steffen Group Inc.**, www.steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

This Week's Garage Sales



HUGE SALES, 1104 W. Cherry and 1234 W. Cherry, Bluffton, Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. New items, plus size ladies clothes, sports, toys, jewelry, books.

806 W. SPRING Friday, Sept. 29, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 30, 8 a.m. to ? Boys' clothes size 8-18, girls' clothes size 14-18, plus adult men and women size small & medium, Squishmallows (all sizes), Boyd's Bears & Cats, recliner, artificial flowers, pictures, flower pots, Christmas items, baby items, books, games, toys and etc.

4684 E STATE ROAD 201 FAMILY GARAGE SALE Precious Moments, Teen kids and adult cloths, Toys, and Home Decor items. Sep. 30 8:00 AM-4:00 PM Rain or Shine

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Lottery Numbers

Friday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY
Cash 5 — 13-25-28-32-37

Cash4Life — 06-08-25-32-50, Cash Ball: 04

Quick Draw Midday — 01-09-11-14-15-16-21-23-28-29-49-53-55-62-68-71-74-75-77-78, BE: 71

Daily Three-Midday — 01-07-06, SB: 05

Daily Three-Evening — 05-00-06, SB: 05

Daily Four-Midday — 00-04-02-06, SB: 05

Daily Four-Evening — 06-02-04-03, SB: 05

Quick Draw Evening — 03-08-09-18-19-22-25-26-31-35-38-45-46-52-57-66-68-75-76-79, BE: 09

Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$35.5 million

MEGA MILLIONS
18-40-47-55-64, Mega Ball: 11, Megaplier: 4X

POWERBALL
Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$960 million

SUDOKU ANSWER

06/6	****	Difficulty	9/30						
1	6	7	4	7	9	8	6	9	8
9	4	7	9	8	6	1	2	7	9
9	8	6	6	1	7	9	4	7	4
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7	8	6	9	7	9	4	8	1	4
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4	9	8	1	9	7	2	8	6	6
6	7	9	8	9	8	1	7	4	4
8	7	1	2	4	6	8	9	9	8

September GOODS & SERVICES DIRECTORY

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As a resident of the Wells County community for decades, Attorney, Gerret J. Swearingen, has devoted his legal practice to assisting clients in preserving the family assets from the high cost of Nursing Home and In-Home Healthcare.
As your guide through the "Medicaid Planning" process, Swearingen Elder Law will provide the right path to both protect your life savings and receive the quality of care we all deserve.
-OSSIAN-
1645 Hillcrest Dr., Suite 2A
Ossian, IN 46777
Attorney Gerret J. Swearingen
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Pictured is a digital rendering from Exhibit Concepts of one corner of the "EEE Exploration Center." At the right and left of the photo are stations for welding and electrical activities. The shown artwork panels slide open like barn doors to uncover respective interactive elements.



Shown is a design concept from Barton Coe Vilamaa Architects and Engineers for the OurTown Safety Village, with scaled buildings and street traffic. Formal plans for the construction have not been finalized. (Photos provided)

Classroom to community

(Continued from Page 1)

Middle School Career Exploration

At the same time, the seventh- and eighth-graders will also be exploring their own version of an experiential classroom with the "EEE Exploration Center."

The two grades complete a "college and careers" class, where the students assess their skills and interests, possible career pathways, and general application and interview skills.

However, Assistant Superintendent Julie Meitzler said these lessons are often stymied by a lack of experience and understanding. Where a student is familiar with a classroom or doctor's office, they may have no way to gauge a possible aptitude or interest for careers outside of their experience.

The class alone has proven valuable for students at a younger age. Eighth-grade students can earn high school credit for the course, but feedback to Meitzler concluded the students wanted access to high school pathway information early in middle school. The one-semester course is now also being offered to seventh-grade students.

This new classroom will also provide new interactive opportunities for students to explore several new pathways — food service, electrical work, and welding — all of which have coordinating technical classes in the high school. Meitzler hopes that, by incorporating these items, more students will be able to identify their interest in high school technical classes before enrolling. The name of the classroom itself shows this relationship — in middle school, "EEE" stands for explore, engage, and experience, and in the high school, it stands for enroll, enlist, and employ.

"I think exposing kids to different career pathways in the exploration phase is just

so important," Meitzler said. "And I think seventh grade and eighth grade is a perfect spot to do that because they're just starting to make some of those future choices."

The project is currently in the design phase, but the school has acquired one interactive element — a virtual welder. The machine resembles an arcade game, allowing students to practice the fine motor skills and attention to detail used in welding materials.

Similarly to the farm experience classroom, the career exploration classroom will include top-to-bottom wall art and decor. "The goal is not to look like a classroom," Meitzler said.

The school is working with Exhibit Concepts, based out of Ohio, for the design and construction. The group predominantly builds exhibits for museums and trade shows, so the classroom's design will integrate instructional and museum space.

Exhibit Concepts will also develop interactive elements simulating food truck design for the culinary element, mock electrical circuits, and additional activities accessible by the students' laptops. Much of this project has been made possible through a \$200,000 grant from the Don Wood Foundation.

Construction will take place over winter break in December.

Our Town Safety Village

The last of current experiential learning endeavors for the district is the "Our Town Safety Village" at the elementary school. The 250-foot long by 130-foot wide outdoor area will serve as a scaled-down mock community to practice safety skills, like crossing a road and stranger awareness.

It's a new idea to many but not to BHES. The kindergartners take an annual field trip to the Adams County Safety Park to intro-

duce many safety ideas and skills. However, Superintendent Brad Yates believes it would be beneficial to have something to regularly review these ideas across the grade levels.

Having the home-field advantage, Yates explained, would also allow teachers to integrate the area into various lessons about safety and the community or simply provide a unique play opportunity. "This would be a continuous, ongoing opportunity for our elementary, not only from a safety element, but I think other things will blossom out of this," Yates said. An annual trick-or-treating event is even held at a similar Fort Wayne site.

The safety village would also be the first of its kind in Wells County, allowing all three districts a closer opportunity to review safety skills.

Much about the Safety Village is still in its infancy. Ideally, the Safety Village would be able to resemble Bluffton, with buildings that mimic local resources, businesses, and industries. Preliminary designs for the project capture six key environments — a Bluffton residential area, downtown Bluffton, businesses, a rural home and farm, municipal services, and a church.

While the primary goal is to teach safety practices, Yates noted that these local connections again foster conversations about various careers and businesses, how the community works, and how to be an involved community member.

"A component of this area is when they're out there, and they're at a police station, or they're at an automotive shop in the Safety Village, is to have those conversations and say, 'This is where they work. These are the things they do,'" Yates explained.

Yates continued to connect this project to those being developed in the preschool and middle school

with experiential classrooms.

"Things like these give what I like to call 'spark moments,' where (students) go, 'I really like this' and 'I don't like that at all' ... where they get the exposure," he said. "At the elementary, we just want them to have a little bit of knowledge and awareness that they're more careers out there than the people they're aware of. When I was little, I wanted to be a teacher or policeman or fireman because those were the jobs that people knew — they're in the storybooks and on the TV show. To know what an auto mechanic was, unless your family member was one, you didn't know. Those trade areas are prominent jobs in our community that are great jobs for people that live and work here, but it's difficult to get exposure to kids."

Ideally, Yates hopes work on the Safety Village will begin next spring. The district received only one bid thus far, which was unfortunately outside the district's budget. Yates said the administration is currently evaluating how and when to rebid and the scale of the work.

Certain factors in the design, including electrical features and realism, also drive up the price. At its most elaborate, the area could appear as a one-for-one scale of local buildings and landmarks. Depending on funding, however, the district may opt for more generic shed-like structures

with differentiating signage.

The district has received some state grant funding for the project and is in the process of determining the best course of action with the scope of the project, timing, and funding. The school may also pursue partnerships with local businesses to sponsor an Our Town building or an annual sign for the upkeep of the Safety Village.

Whatever the conclusion is, Yates confirmed, "We will do something." He anticipates the Safety Village being built adjacent

to the playground, leaving plenty of room for the sledging hill.

And, all together, the three projects project a vision for Bluffton schools — a connection between classroom and community.

Yates continued, "There is intentionality to try to provide that continuum — from a child's experience at the kindergarten level all the way through the senior level — to see consistent opportunities, experiences, and education for the best we can provide."

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Tricia Baker, Pre-K instructional assistant, shows students different features of the classroom market. (Photo provided)

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