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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2023 BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection \$1.00



Christine Walker, current director for Community Care, speaks with guests during the Hannah's House open house Tuesday. She is pictured in the home's living room, which offers ample seating, welcoming decor, and comfortable amenities. (Photo by Holly Gaskill)

Open house held for Hannah's House in downtown Bluffton

By HOLLY GASKILL
 Anticipated to open Oct. 23, Hannah's House hosted an open house Tuesday to share its mission with the public.
 The home falls under the umbrella of Community Care of Northeast Indiana but holds a unique role in rehabilitation. Whereas Grace and Mercy Transitional Housing focuses on providing support for women to be able to support themselves, Hannah's House will be solely focused on healing.
 Residents of the home, located at 319 S. Marion St. in Bluffton, will spend three to six months at a time dedicated to recovering their individual circumstances, guided by the schedule and direction of Hannah's House staff. This includes regular attendance of support groups, physical improve-

ment at the YMCA, and other opportunities. During this time, the women will not hold jobs or have their cell phones or vehicles to limit distractions. Although there will be regular visiting hours, the home is not meant for children.
 Ultimately, the ministry intends to graduate its residents into the Grace and Mercy home, where they'll then work on building a resume and other skills needed to live successfully and independently.
 Hannah's House is equipped to serve seven women at a time but currently has six beds in the home. Grace and Mercy Program Director Bethanie Burns advised the organization plans to open Hannah's House with three residents and work up to full capacity by
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NWCS discusses strategic planning meetings and public communication

By HOLLY GASKILL
 The board for Norwell Community Schools is wrestling with a balance of public participation regarding their monthly strategic planning committee meetings.
 These meetings were recently added to the end of the regular school board agenda. During the board's regular meeting on Tuesday, several board members contended that this change, as well as the streaming of the meeting, changed the dynamic.
 Board member Corey Krug noted that the meetings manifested differently over the years. However, in recent years, the meetings contained group discussions between administrators, teachers, students, parents, and other community members. Krug believes the format has shifted toward more presentation-based, similar to regular board

meetings. He also feels that participation has decreased and people communicate less effectively because the meetings are online.
 "I feel like if we continue down what we're doing, it will just become people presenting to us and not really getting into the nitty gritty of it," Krug said. He later continued, "If the public isn't coming, then that's on them, frankly. I think responsibility needs to be there."
 Board member Angie Topp added that, in her experience on the board, attendance tends to correlate with the level of participation allowed.
 "When people are listening and when the media is present, people tend to be a little more cautious of what they tell us," board member Chad Kline said.
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Three members of the Ossian Psi Otes presented a donation for different needs within Norwell High School's fine arts to Superintendent Mike Springer Tuesday evening. The donation totaled \$1,100. Pictured are Joan Furey, Jeanie Klaus, Cathy Clark, and Springer. (Photo by Holly Gaskill)

RSD tackles questions on the Craigville project

By DAVE SCHULTZ
 Some customers of the Wells County Regional Sewer District had a question for the board Monday night: What's taking so long?
 "What's been the holdup?" asked Jerry Sheets. "It (the Craigville project) was supposed to be done in June." Things such as materials, an electrical problem, and pressure problems were mentioned but Sheets had a rejoinder: "Somebody's not doing the job and it's costing us \$95 a month."
 "Is there an updated timeline as to when we will be able to hook up?"

asked Nathan Huss.
 There were others who asked similar questions, but Sheets wanted to know about fining the company, VTF Excavating. Andy Stoller, a member of the board, said the delays, while aggravating, were not as bad as the alternative: "If we get caught up in a legal battle, we will all wind up paying more."
 Levi Morrison of Wessler Engineering, noted several items that he listed as "progress, concerns, and what's to come" in his report on the Craigville work. Morrison's report was brought to
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SWCS considers potential partnership to help teachers

Elementary school teachers recognized for IREAD scores
By SYDNEY KENT
 Southern Wells Community School teachers may receive the opportunity to create classroom "wish lists" with the help of a global solar energy developer, Lightsource BP.
 Darrin Jacobs, the development manager at Lightsource BP, spoke to the board about potential methods to assist the district with funding for teachers on Tuesday evening.
 "We're developing a solar project in Wells County," Jacobs began. "Anytime we go into a community, we look for ways to partner with the people. Long term, we want to have a good conversation with this board about larger opportunities to help in the future."
 In the short term, Jacobs explained that Lightsource BP is seeking to partner with the district to help teachers succeed. Jacobs said this works with the help of a website called Donors Choose, an online crowdfunding platform for classrooms.
 "Teachers make a wish list of items they want," Jacobs explained. "This could be books, calculators, maybe a course they wouldn't usually do like robotics. We have several thousand dollars set aside we would like to use to help the community. We're asking specifically to help Southern Wells, if your teachers are interested in this."
 Jacobs also emphasized if this was not the preferred method to partner with the
 (Continued on Page 2)

House GOP appear no closer to choosing new speaker

By LISA MASCARO and KEVIN FREKING
Associated Press
 WASHINGTON (AP) — The House Republican majority is stuck, one week after the ouster of Speaker Kevin McCarthy, with lawmakers unable to coalesce around a new leader in a stalemate that threatens to keep Congress partly shuttered indefinitely.
 On Tuesday evening, two leading contenders for the gavel, Majority Leader Steve Scalise and Judiciary Chairman Jim Jordan, were addressing colleagues behind closed doors at a candidate forum. But they appeared to be splitting

the vote.
 McCarthy, meanwhile, was openly ready to reclaim the gavel he just lost, but was seen by many as a longshot option unlikely to win back the handful of hardliners who just ousted him.
 "We're going to get the House back to work," Scalise said Tuesday ahead of the meeting.
 House Republicans took the majority aspiring to operate as a team, and run government more like a business, but have drifted far from that goal. Just 10 months in power, the historic ouster of their House speaker — a first in the U.S. — and the prolonged in-

ing it has unleashed are undercutting the Republicans' ability to govern at a time of crisis at home and abroad.
 Now, as House Republicans push ahead toward snap elections Wednesday aimed at finding a new nominee for speaker, the hard-right
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Outside

 A perfect opportunity to sing in the rain

| Today | Thursday | Friday |
|---------|----------|---------|
| High 64 | High 72 | High 73 |
| Low 48 | Low 51 | Low 51 |

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Hannah's House

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the end of the year. The home will serve northeast Indiana but has a prominent focus on serving women in Wells and Huntington counties.

The house itself is equipped with several bedrooms and bathrooms, in-house laundry, a kitchen, a dining room, a living room, and a patio area. A full-time employee will live in the home with the women, and at least one other employee will manage day-to-day schedules, activities, and transportation.

While Hannah's House will begin its operations in the coming weeks, Rachel Reinhard, Grace and Mercy operations manager, noted the home still has multiple physical needs and is supported by ongoing grants and donations. An Amazon wishlist is available on the Community Care Facebook page. Community members can also contact Andrea Dimond at 260-224-0977 for other donation questions.

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Hannah's House, located at 319 S Marion St. in Bluffton, was open to the public on Tuesday. The home will operate as a place for healing and recovery before women are ready for Grace and Mercy Transitional Housing. Above, Kelley Householder, former executive director for Community Care, and a volunteer welcome guests into the home. (Photo by Holly Gaskill)

Norwell Community Schools

(Continued from Page 1)

"But that's what got us in trouble with the branding discussion," Topp then noted.

The administration previously stated strategic planning meetings would be online to increase transparency following criticism that district branding changes — which were discussed in strategic planning meetings — were not adequately communicated before they were considered by the board in a regular board meeting.

In response to Topp, Kline continued to state that it's been beneficial to have increased communication about the planning meetings but that he'd prefer the format to stay more conversational.

Superintendent Mike Springer said he wants to ensure there are opportunities for feedback and discussion but that it's also valuable to have time to

learn about where the district is at and what it's doing from the people enacting changes.

Kline later noted there were previously more efforts to encourage attendance of strategic planning meetings. Part of this was because individual focus groups were asked to attend and would break out into smaller discussion groups.

Both board members Gene Donaghy and Traci Neuenschwander said they were uncertain if live streaming the strategic planning had either a negative or positive value. However, they'd like to see continued efforts to communicate the meeting topics and outcomes and room for conversations with the public.

To this, Springer noted it's often a tricky balance to find the best, most effective ways to communicate with stakeholders. The board took no for-

mal action at the time, and Springer said he would consider the feedback in preparing the next planning session.

Other items included:

- The board accepted the retirement notice of Jody Paschal, OES music teacher. Her retirement will be effective Jan. 1.

- Employment recommendations were made for the following personnel: Steve Clark, bus driver; Christian Bohata, NHS varsity baseball head coach; and Quinn Biberstine, NHS assistant swim coach.

- The board received donations of \$200 for the OES library fund from Psi Iota Xi; and \$800 for NHS band equipment, \$100 for NHS drama/theatre, \$100 for NHS choir, and \$100 for the NHS Art Department, all from the Ossia Psi Otes.

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Craigville project questions

(Continued from Page 1)

the board by Lewis Brown, the RSD's superintendent. Morrison's report mentioned the startup of the Craigville lift station and grinder setups but noted that "punch list line items are being established and brought to light day by day."

Brown also noted that several customers, including Huss, would be connected on Thursday.

The Craigville items

were somewhat counterbalanced, however, as Ryan Lefeld of Choice One Engineering, said the deadline for completion of the Kingsland sewer project is May of 2024.

Tuesday night's meeting, which was delayed a day due to the Columbus Day federal holiday, also touched on the following topics:

- Leon Berning, an RSD board member who serves as the district's treasurer,

presented 17 checks to his fellow board members totaling \$64,941.53 for approval.

- Brown expressed concerns about property owners installing grinder pumps on their own instead of hiring a professional that had been certified by the RSD. There was a question of whether the district would be responsible for any equipment if it's not properly installed.

- Despite the irritation concerning the delays, a

pay application for work on the Craigville project for \$1,134,873 will be sent to the State Revolving Loan Fund.

- There are still "a couple" of customers in the Liberty Center and Murray areas that have still not connected, Brown said.

- Brown said he had met with area real estate agents and gave a 10-minute talk about the RSD's progress.

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SWCS potential partnership

(Continued from Page 1)

district, the company is open to ongoing conversations surrounding support. The board thanked him for his presentation.

Later, Kristen Wall, Southern Wells Elementary School Principal, recognized her third grade team, as well as fourth grade teacher Susan Oswald, for achieving outstanding IREAD scores this year.

"It is truly impressive they continually achieve the highest scores in the area," Wall told the board. "I

am extremely proud to acknowledge them."

Todd Thieme, who was present at the meeting, was approved as the new Jr./Sr. High School Assistant Principal and Athletic Director in an unanimous vote. Brooke Zigler was approved as the Instructional Assistant position in the Elementary school.

The board also:

- Approved the budget for 2024.
- Approved a request to formally add co-ed golf as a sport to the SW Junior-High school for the Spring of 2024.

- Accepted a resignation from Jeff Sprunger as a mentor teacher, with Tricia Tucker approved as a mentor teacher.

- Accepted a resignation from Mark Gates as Junior High Basketball Coach, with Caleb Sleppy approved in the position.

- Gave kudos to the classes and teachers for excellent work.

The next regular meeting of the board will be at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 21 at the high school.

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House speaker

(Continued from Page 1)

coalition of lawmakers that ousted McCarthy has shown what an oversized role a few lawmakers can have in choosing the successor.

"This is a hard conference to lead," said Rep. Steve Womack, R-Ark. "A lot of free agents."

Both Scalise and Jordan are working furiously to shore up support. Both are easily winning over dozens of supporters and could win the majority of Republicans, about 110 votes.

But it's unclear if either Scalise or Jordan can amass the 217 votes eventually needed in a floor vote to overcome opposition from Democrats. A vote could

come as soon as Wednesday.

Many Republicans want to prevent the spectacle of a messy House floor fight like the grueling January brawl when McCarthy became speaker.

"We're in a similar situation that we were back in January," said Doug Heye, a former Republican leadership aide, adding the political optics of the feud look "terrible" to American voters.

Some have proposed a rules change that Rep. Patrick McHenry, R-N.C., the interim speaker pro tempore, is considering ahead of a party meeting early Wednesday to ensure a majority vote behind closed doors before the nominee is presented for a full

floor vote in the House.

McCarthy himself appeared to agree with a consensus approach. "They shouldn't come out of there until they decide that they have enough votes for whoever they bring to the floor," McCarthy said.

But short of a rules change, Republican lawmakers would be expected to agree to a majority-wins process — whichever candidate wins in the internal private vote would be given the full backing of the Republicans on the House.

Weather

Wednesday, October 11, 2023

(24-hour observations at 9:27 p.m. Tuesday)

High: 60; Low: 27; Precipitation: None

Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.19 feet at 8:45 p.m. Tuesday

Wells County forecast

Today: A 30 percent chance of showers, mainly after 3 p.m. Areas of frost before 8 a.m. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 64. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Tonight: Showers likely before 2 a.m., then showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm between 2 a.m. and 5 a.m., then showers likely after 5 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 48. South wind around 5 mph becoming east in the evening. Chance of precipitation is 70 percent. New rainfall amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible.

Thursday: A chance of showers and thunderstorms before 11 a.m., then a chance of showers between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 72. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southwest in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 51. East wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Friday: A 40 percent chance of showers after 2 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 73.

Friday Night: A chance of showers and thunderstorms, then showers and possibly a thunderstorm after 8 p.m. Low around 51. Chance of precipitation is 90 percent.

Saturday: Showers likely, mainly after 2 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 57. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent.

Saturday Night: Showers likely, mainly before 8 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 45. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent.

Sunday: A 40 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 54.

Sunday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 42.

Monday: A 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 53.

Monday Night: A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 42.

Financial literacy is being taught by more states

WASHINGTON (AP) — Inside a high school classroom, Bryan Martinez jots down several purchases that would require a short-term savings plan: shoes, phone, headphones, clothes, and food.

His medium-term financial goals take a little more thought, but he settles on a car — he doesn't have one yet — and vacations. Peering way into his future, the 18-year-old also imagines saving money to buy a house, start his own business, retire, and perhaps provide any children with a college fund.

Martinez's friend next to him writes a different long-term goal: Buy a private jet. "You have to be a millionaire to save up for that," Martinez says with a chuckle.

Call it a reality check or an introduction to a critical life skill, this exercise occurred in a course called Advanced Algebra with Financial Applications. The elective math class has been a mainstay in Capital City Public Charter School's offerings for more than a decade, giving students a foundation in money management while they hone math skills. Conversations about credit, investments, and loans, for instance, intersect with lessons on compound interest, matrices, and exponential equations.

The surge comes as educators are scrambling to bolster students' math skills, which plummeted during the pandemic and haven't fully recovered. At the same time, a general dislike for math remains an obstacle among young people.

But do topics like high interest rates translate to higher interest among students? Tonica Tatum-Gormes, who teaches the course, says yes. She attributes better student engagement to them seeing the connection between math and their future financial well-being.

Students begin to understand that "yes, I need to learn decimals, and I need to learn fractions, and I need to learn percentages because I have to manage my money and I have to take out a loan," Tatum-Gormes says.

Advocates say personal finance courses could pay dividends if students learn how to make wiser money decisions and avoid financial hazards. In the process, they may also develop an interest in math because of its practical applications.

The K-12 standards for personal finance education, as recommended by the Council for Economic Education, include topics such as earning income, budgeting, saving, investing, and managing credit and financial risk. Experts say it's a course that doesn't necessarily have to be taught by a traditional math teacher.

"The more math you add to financial literacy, frankly, the better it is," says Annamaria Lusardi, founder and academic director of the Global Financial Literacy Excellence Center. "In many cases, to make a decision, you have to do calculations, so I think math is a very powerful tool. ... Having said that, financial literacy is more than math."

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OBITUARIES

Joseph Ray, 64

Joseph "Joe" R. Ray, 64 of Zanesville and formerly of Colo., passed away Friday afternoon Sept. 29, 2023, at his residence.



Joe graduated high school in 1977 from Lakewood High school. He then attended and graduated from the Air Traffic Control Academy in Oklahoma City, Okla. He began his career in California at the EMT tower. He then worked in Long Beach, Calif. at the LBG tower. He moved to Seattle, Wash., and worked at the BFI tower there and lastly landed in Aurora, Colo. working at the Stapleton tower, which became DIA where he was in the DEN tower for the rest of his career. He worked as an air traffic controller for 32 years and 4 months from Aug. 24, 1982 to Jan. 21, 2014. Joe became a pilot for Express Jet at the age of 55 in 2014, then worked at SkyWest as a pilot and trainer until 2023. His hobbies were all thing aviation and he loved using his ham radio. Joe loved to travel and has been all over the U.S. in his R.V. in the last 14 years with his wife Melissa and three dogs Tango, Finnegan and his beloved beagle Wilbur. He was adventurous and spontaneous, as he didn't like to plan ahead. "Just go and find a place to park it."

Joe was born on March 14, 1959, in Long Beach, Calif., a son of the late William C. and Dorothy I. (Norris) Ray.

He was united in marriage to Mary Melissa Jackson on June 4, 2009. Melissa survives.

Additional survivors include three sons: Cody Ray and Andy Ray of Denver, Colo., and Jeffery Ray currently in Guam; a daughter: Katie Ray of Denver; two grandchildren, Cecelia Marie Ray and Ren Betty Ray of Denver; and a brother, Dick Ray of Angola.

He was preceded in death by his Parents and two brothers: David Ray and Bill Ray.

A celebration of life will take place at a later time in Colorado.

Preferred Memorials are to the donor's choice, sent in care to Myers Funeral Home, P.O. Box 403, Markle, IN 46770.

To sign Joe's online guest registry log onto www.myersfuneralhomes.com and scroll down to obituaries.

Burr N. Ryan, 77

Burr N. Ryan, 77, of Marion, died at 10:33 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 8, 2023 at Twin City Nursing Home in Gas City. He was born Tuesday, Feb. 19, 1946, in Marion. He married Gloria "Jeane" (Borrer) Ryan, Saturday, July 14, 1973 in Montpelier.

Burr is survived by his wife, Gloria "Jeane" (Borrer) Ryan, Marion; sons, Richard (Debbie Gribben) Hicks, Kokomo, Ronald Hicks, Hartford City; daughter, Cindie Mounsey, Liberty Center; brother, Charles Ryan, Jr., San Antonio, Texas; eight grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; his great friend and one of the last dinosaurs — George Hall; and extended family, Randy Mounsey and Lea Anna Hicks.

He was preceded in death by his father, Charles F. Ryan; mother, Dorothy (Coppock) Ryan; son, William Ryan; and grandson, Jerod Hicks.

The family will have a Celebration of Life at a later date.

Arrangements are being handled by Walker & Glancy Funeral Home in Montpelier.

Online condolences may be made at www.glancyfuneralhomes.com

Janet E. Grimm, 91

Janet E. Grimm, 91, of Bluffton died Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 10, 2023, at Ossian Health Care.

Funeral arrangements are pending at this time with the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.

Renaissance in Roanoke Oct. 14

On Saturday, Oct. 14, downtown Roanoke will celebrate with art in the marketplace offered by area artists.

There will be events for kids, demonstrations, entertainment, artists painting "plein air", and food for purchase.

More information at renaissanceroanoke.org

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.

Board OKs pay increases for three people

By DAVE SCHULTZ

Three individuals had merit pay increases approved during Tuesday afternoon's brief meeting of the Bluffton Board of Public Works and Safety.

The increases were Tony Fey, supervisor of the city's wastewater treatment plant, who received a \$1-an-hour raise above his current \$31.75 pay rate; Kim

Okey of the Bluffton Utilities office, who received a \$1-an-hour raise above her current \$24.72 pay rate; and Mike Gillespie of the sewer collections department, who also received a \$1-an-hour raise above his current \$22.48 pay rate.

The board also approved and sent on a \$121,385.25 pay application from Inliner Solutions of Orleans,

Ind., for the company's work on the city's wastewater network. The pay application will be sent on to the State Revolving Loan Fund.

All three Board of Works members — Mayor John Whicker, Scott Metzger, and Josh Hunt — were present for Tuesday's meeting.

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Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City:

Monday, 2:49 p.m., Wells County Public Library. Caller reported issue with juvenile.

Monday, 4:59 p.m., Bluffton Regional Medical Center. Officer requested for detention papers.

Monday, 6:08 p.m., 1000 block of West Wabash Street. Attempt to locate subject, one detained.

Monday, 8:48 p.m., Wells and Third streets. Caller reported a male laying face down on the ground. Man was later alert, used some form of marijuana recently.

Tuesday, 10:02 a.m., 200 block of South Jersey Street. Caller reported a friend's boyfriend was acting strange and had a Uhaul trailer he attempted to cut the lock off of. Trailer was confirmed stolen from Allen County.

Tuesday, 11:47 a.m., North Main Street and Ind. 124. Subject had broke down vehicle. Officer gave courtesy transport to subject's place of employment.

Tuesday, 1:08 p.m., Dollar General. Welfare check requested for two men, one seemed unresponsive and one was drinking vodka on the sidewalk. Men were fine.

County:

Friday, 2:50 p.m., 400 block of Countryside Drive, Markle. Caller reported a dog belonging to a neighbor bit her dog.

Friday, 3:28 p.m., 3000 Ind. 116, Markle. Report of a driver that sneezed over his shoulder while driving 70 mph in a 55 mph zone, causing the car to roll off of the roadway. Mild injuries.

Friday, 4:14 p.m., Wells County Jail. Michael O'Rourke appeared to turn himself in for an arrest warrant.

Friday, 4:34 p.m., Ind. 116 and North 500 West, Markle. Officer checked on vehicle pulled over with door open. Driver advised her toddler was doing toddler stuff and throwing a tantrum.

Friday, 6:26 p.m., Wells County Jail. One subject who is currently incarcerated for domestic battery was threatened by another subject who is currently incarcerated for battery. The subject who reported the threats of rape and death stated he was Jewish and believed the threats were due to his religion.

Friday, 6:31 p.m., 5300 South 300 West, Bluffton. Caller wanted to buy a car but believed it was a scam. Still wanted to buy it. Officer suggested they should beware.

Friday, 10:46 p.m., 2300 North East Street, Craigville. Multiple witnesses reported that they

saw a man named Daniel Hunt intoxicated in their driveway before driving away. The witnesses stated Hunt was in a passenger van that had a Hunt's Appliance logo on the side.

Saturday, 1:03 a.m., Archbold Wilson Park. Caller reported hearing gunshot noises and screaming that sounded like someone saying, "never put your hands on a woman again". Officer located a hat and cell phone and eggs along the trail and spoke with a man identified as the victim of an assault. The victim had egg yolk on his shirt and blood on his ear and face, and reported being attacked by multiple people. Officer noted the incident appeared to be juveniles out committing delinquent acts.

Saturday, 5:34 a.m., Ouabache State Park. Caller reported intoxicated subjects in verbal altercation near children at campground. One subject charged with possession of marijuana and disorderly conduct, both misdemeanors, one subject charged with possession of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor.

Saturday, 2:15 p.m., North 700 East and 500 North, Craigville. Driver cited for speeding.

Saturday, 9:02 p.m., Wells County Jail. Protective order served to Sabastian Hubble.

Saturday, 11:50 p.m., Ind. 124 and 700 East, Bluffton. Report of two vehicles stopped, driver ran out of gas and friend was helping.

Sunday, 8:56 a.m., East Morse and North Tracy streets, Markle. Report of a fallen tree in the roadway. Dispatch contacted State Highway.

Sunday, 5:50 p.m., Ind. 218 and 275 West, Bluffton. Driver cited for speeding 70 mph in a 55 mph zone.

Monday, 11:24 a.m., 300 block of North Williams Street, Bluffton. Officers executed search warrant. Two subjects charge with multiple drug charges.

Monday, 3:00 p.m., 8900 South 450 West, Ponto. Caller reported being charged an extra \$2,000 from a lawyer in Indianapolis. Advised it is a civil matter and to speak to, presumably, a different lawyer.

Monday, 8:28 p.m., 5200 West 100 North, Markle. Caller reported seeing a subject pushing a cart and later hearing a knock at the door. The caller was concerned it was the same subject.

Monday, 11:54 p.m., North 300 West and West 1000 North, Markle. Multiple callers reported subject walking in the middle of the road. Woman advised she was "walking up out this county." Officer advised she would be hit by a car in this

county. Would not accept a ride due to pushing a cart.

Tuesday, 10:57 a.m., 2000 East 100 North, Bluffton. Caller reported property damage from semi truck turning around the night before.

Ossian:

Sunday, 12:49 a.m., Ind. 1 and East 1200 North, Ossian. Driver cited for speeding 75 mph in a 55 mph zone.

Sunday, 8:11 p.m., 5700 North 450 East, Ossian. Caller reported subject shook his door handle. Monday, 8:26 a.m., 500 block of East Spring Street, Bluffton. Served protection order to Robert Conley and gave courtesy transport.

Tuesday, 2:22 a.m., 7100 North Ind. 1, Ossian. Driver was cited for driving 65 mph in a 55 mph zone and driving with a suspended license.

Tuesday, 2:41 a.m., Ind. 1 and Industrial Parkway, Ossian. Officer checked on man staggering along roadway. Subject did not want any interaction with police and said he was walking to the Ossian BP. Denied offer for a ride.

Tuesday, 2:52 a.m., Ossian Elementary School. Officer pulled over vehicle driving around school and Melching and LaFever streets. Subjects advised they were looking for the dog park with no dogs.

Tuesday, 3:46 a.m., Ossian Deli. Report of a possibly intoxicated male asking customers for a ride, loitering, and refusing to leave. Officer found the same male he spoke with previously that did not want any police interaction. Subject immediately left.

Tuesday, 4:08 a.m., Ind. 1 and Ind. 224, Ossian. Caller reported same subject walking in middle of road with shopping cart. Officer warned her not to cross the white line again or she would be arrested.

Tuesday, 7:21 a.m., Ind. 224 and Ind. 1, Ossian. Caller reported subject pushing shopping cart in roadway. Subject finally accepted ride to Jay County. Jay Co. advised.

Tuesday, 8:40 a.m., 1100 West 1200 North, Ossian. Welfare check requested for subject after caller reported the subjects boyfriend and kids were pretending to be the subject and saying she was in jail. Dispatch advised subject was in the Wabash County Jail.

ACCIDENTS

City:

Monday, 3:40 p.m., Ind. 1 and East Monroe Street. Katelyn Lothridge was driving straight on Ind. 1 and when her Nissan Versa rear ended the back of Cassandra Casio's Hyundai Sonata,

which was slowing due to traffic. No injuries reported, slight damage to both vehicles. Damages not exceeding \$5,000.

FIRES

City:

Friday, 2:45 p.m., South 400 East and 650 South, Bluffton. Report of a combine fire.

ARRESTS

Jeffrey D Hall, 33, Bluffton, domestic battery — presence of a child less than 16, and strangulation, both Level 6 felonies. Bond set at \$30,000.

Steven Carl Thomas, 61, Holgate, Ohio, burglary, a Level 6 felony, battery — bodily injury, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond set at \$6,500.

Jared Isaac Williams, 33, Bluffton, possession of cocaine and possession of methamphetamine, both Level 6 felonies, resisting law enforcement and possession of paraphernalia, both Class A misdemeanors. Bond set at \$13,000.

Casy Lee Hundley, 42, Bluffton, possession of hypodermic syringe and possession of methamphetamine, both Level 6 felonies, and possession of paraphernalia and possession of marijuana, both Class A misdemeanors. No bond set.

Paula Elaine Thieman, 48, Bluffton, possession of cocaine and possession of methamphetamine, both Level 6 felonies, and possession of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor. No bond set.

Kenneth Ray Humphrey II, 34, Bluffton, controlled substance — possession of methamphetamine, a Level 4 felony. No bond set. Also charged with contempt of court — civil, with a \$500 cash bond.

Trisha Renea Humphrey, 41, Bluffton, controlled substance — possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 Felony. Bond set at \$5,000. Also charged with contempt of court — civil, with a \$500 cash bond.

Robert Lee Wilson, 48, Bluffton, theft — auto parts, a Level 6 Felony. Bond set at \$5,000.

Javeon Montrel Stephens, 25, Fort Wayne, driving while suspended — prior suspension, a Class A misdemeanor.

VISITATION & SERVICES

Lori E. Dobson

Calling: 3-7 p.m.
Wednesday, October 11 and one hour prior to the service.

Service: 11:30 a.m.
Thursday, October 12 at the funeral home.

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Talk of school consolidations return at the state level

It's hard to separate the sentimentality tied to your high school years from a fact-based discussion about school consolidation. But it needs to be done.

I get it. I loved my Ohio high school and I have amazing memories of being a Wildcat. But I came from a small district and as an adult I know that, had we consolidated with the nearby town, all students would have been better prepared for the future.

It is this focus that the Indiana Chamber of Commerce is bringing to a push for lawmakers to consolidate school districts with fewer than 2,000 students.

It's not a new idea — it goes back to at least 2017.

That's when a Ball State University study found students in smaller districts fared worse on standardized tests and in Advanced Placement classes. The chamber is updating that study now, and will likely push the idea in the 2024 budget session.

And the problem is getting worse.

Kevin Brinegar, the outgoing chamber president and CEO, said he's still awaiting final results, but new data shows the number of school districts with fewer than 2,000 students has increased by six: to 56% of all districts.

Behind the numbers

So why is the number 2,000 important?

"Students attending small school corporations (enrollment of less than 2,000 students) face resource constraints that impede secondary school performance, as measured by standardized test scores and pass rates. These constraints are likely to restrict post-secondary educational opportunities and outcomes," the 2017 report said.

In other words, smaller school corporations simply offer less to their students, whether that's in the number of foreign languages, advanced placement or STEM classes. It simply isn't feasible to hire teachers for these more tailored courses with so few students taking them.

Consolidation can work.

To begin the 2018-19 school year, Rockville and Turkey Run High Schools combined to form a new 9-12 grade high school called Parke Heritage High School located at the former Rockville Junior-Senior High School location. The new 6-8 grade middle school formed is called Parke Heritage Middle School, and is located at the former Turkey Run Junior-Senior High School location.

"This consolidation brings many new opportunities to our students, both in the classroom and on the athletic field," the district website says. "The NCP staff has strived to maintain the heritage of the former schools while moving forward in the best interest of our students. We are striving to celebrate the past while shaping the future."

Moving forward

That 2017 study found that if small school corporations increased their size to around 2,000 students, they'd see an increase in the average student's performance on the SAT of 20.5 points, a 14.9 percentage-point increase in share of students passing AP exams, an additional 4 percentage-point increase on end-of-course assessment pass rates in algebra and biology, and a 5 percentage point-increase in the 8th grade then-ISTEP pass rate.

I understand the attachment people have to a school and a mascot and how much it becomes a part of the community. But I hope more counties will examine whether one robust, thriving district is better for the community as a whole than two smaller, struggling districts that aren't adequately preparing its students for the future.

We need students ready to fulfill jobs if the state is to grow — and that includes in the struggling rural parts of the state.

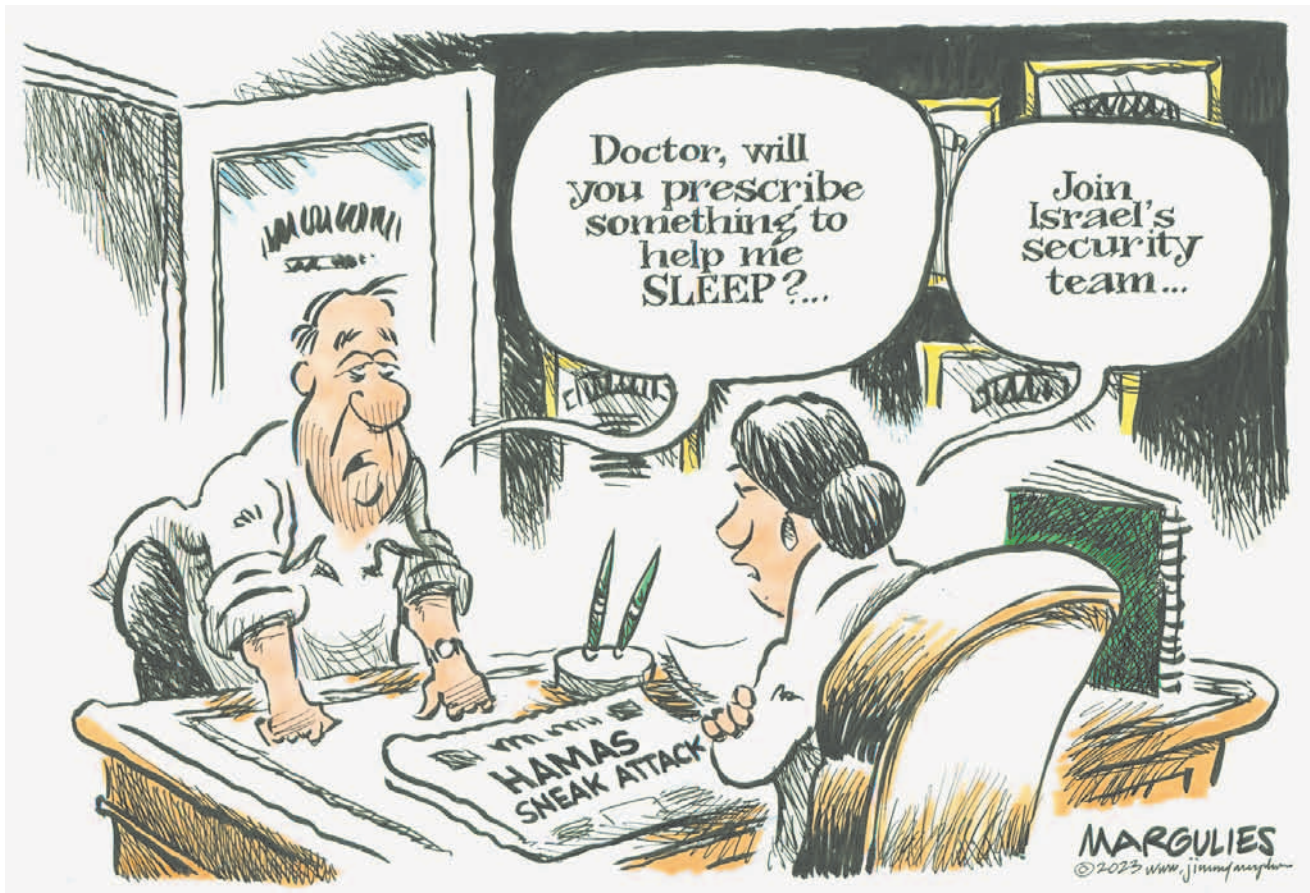
While some might fear a consolidation will lead to further decay or rural cities and towns, I believe it could lead to a renaissance.

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



Niki Kelly

Hoosier Opinions



Hamas attack is an intelligence failure that may take Israel years to unravel

The vicious Hamas assault of terrorism on Saturday truly was Israel's 9/11 — not simply in the anguished demand for revenge that has followed the attack but also in the strange blindness that preceded it.

True intelligence failures result not simply from a lack of information but also an inability to understand it. Israelis knew the malevolent hatred that animated Hamas and its backers in Iran. What they didn't appreciate was the creativity and competence of their adversaries. This was a level of organized malice that was, literally, unthinkable.

Just as Americans never imagined that the Muslim fundamentalists of al-Qaeda would have the perverse genius to fly airplanes into buildings, Israeli analysts don't seem to have appreciated that Hamas fighters could escape the barricaded compound of Gaza with paragliders. Israelis evidently didn't credit their foe's ability to operate simultaneously across air, sea and land. And they certainly didn't appreciate Hamas's and its allies' ability to keep secrets.

Will we learn, as we did after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, in the United States, that the information necessary to prevent the attacks was in the system? Somewhere, the lights might have been "blinking red." But in the haunting phrase that came to explain the 9/11 failure, Israelis evidently couldn't "connect the dots." They couldn't see what, in retrospect, was staring them in the face.

In the United States in 2001, one big problem was that the CIA and the FBI were intense rivals and didn't trust each other. They wouldn't share (or when they did, couldn't comprehend) the intelligence that was in their separate silos. I don't know enough about Israeli intelligence to draw any firm parallels. But the intelligence world always has professional rivalries and jealousies. What's more, this was a moment when top political leadership was so disorganized that it couldn't have imposed order.

The Israel of 2023 — in the months that preceded the Gaza disaster — has been a domestic political nightmare. The country was more divided than I have seen it in more than 40 years of reporting there. The security establishment — meaning Mossad, military intelligence and the domestic security service known as Shin Bet — was bitterly opposed to the fragile government headed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. And it showed.

The intelligence elite believed that Netanyahu was wrecking Israel by assaulting its Supreme Court. I say that because several senior Mossad officers, including a former director, conveyed that message to me directly in recent months. The security elite is secular; it lives in Tel Aviv and Haifa; it listens to Mozart. It deeply resented Bibi's alliance with ultra-Orthodox parties who generally don't serve in the military and espouse a very different, much more religious Israel than the one created in courageous

service by the security barons and their predecessors.

Israel seemed to be coming apart in the months before Hamas fighters broke through the Gaza cage. Thousands of Israelis were marching in the streets of Tel Aviv to protest Netanyahu's attempt to alter what they saw as the fundamental character of the state. Did that political chaos contribute to the Gaza attacks? I don't know. But, surely, the domestic feuds of the past few months might have led Hamas and its backers in Tehran to believe that Israel was internally weak and, perhaps, vulnerable.

America before 9/11 knew something of that fragility. President George W. Bush came to office after a contested election that could only be resolved by the Supreme Court. Our divisions then seem like nothing compared with now. But the 9/11 Commission documented how the Bush team didn't pay adequate attention to warnings from CIA Director George Tenet and his analysts of a possible al-Qaeda attack.

Intelligence failures involve a strange hubris. The tough guys get sucker punched. As journalists sometimes say, people start "reading their own clips" and believing their vaunted reputations. Mossad and its fellow agencies have lived off their mythic aura for generations; they're celebrated as lions in novels and TV shows even as their American brethren are ridiculed as "clowns in action." But sometimes tough guys don't see the dangers that more cautious people might.

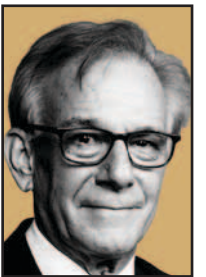
The Iranians and their Hamas allies play a more complicated game than some Israelis, in their justified hatred of the mullahs, might realize. Iran was genuinely threatened by Israel's plan to normalize relations with Saudi Arabia and, in the process, neuter the Palestinian issue as Tehran's trump card. In its consternation, Iran was considering an opening to the United States, even as its allies were planning a vicious attack, Arab sources tell me.

Intelligence failures begin with overconfidence. People who are running scared sometimes look more closely in the shadows.

A final thought: When we say that the Gaza outrage was an Israeli version of 9/11, we should remember the other big lesson of that catastrophe, other than our failure to see it coming. The United States overreacted. It didn't simply take revenge and destroy its enemies. It sought to remake the Middle East, with long, mostly fruitless wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Israeli power at its best is calculated and ruthlessly efficient. I hope that Israel, in avenging this assault, doesn't create future problems that are even worse.

Follow David Ignatius @IgnatiusPost on X



David Ignatius

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Oct. 11, the 284th day of 2023. There are 81 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Oct. 11, 1991, testifying before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Anita Hill accused Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas of sexually harassing her; Thomas re-appeared before the panel to denounce the proceedings as a "high-tech lynching."

On this date:

In 1614, the New Netherland Co. was formed by a group of merchants from Amsterdam and Hoorn to set up fur trading in North

America.

In 1809, just over three years after the famous Lewis and Clark expedition ended, Meriwether Lewis was found dead in a Tennessee inn, an apparent suicide; he was 35.

In 1884, future first lady Eleanor Roosevelt was born in New York City.

In 1906, the San Francisco Board of Education ordered the city's Asian students segregated into their own school. (The order was later rescinded at the behest of President Theodore Roosevelt, who promised to curb future Japanese immigration to the United States.)

Trump's courtroom campaign

Donald Trump is getting indicted and tried all the way into a third Republican presidential nomination, and perhaps a second term in office.

Trump's court dates and legal entanglements aren't a distraction from his campaign, as some observers predicted; in large part, they are the campaign.

We're all familiar with the so-called front-porch campaigns of the late-19th century, most famously the Republican William McKinley who would have delegations of supporters visit him at his home in Canton, Ohio. Joe Biden built on the concept with his lockdown-compliant basement campaign during the 2020 campaign (at least McKinley interacted with real people).

Now, Trump has come up with another variant of this concept — the courtroom campaign.

It involves massive media attention before, during and after court appearances; images and statements of bold, unadorned defiance; and inflamed Republican emotions from the sense that he is being treated unfairly.

This is the potent political cocktail that Trump has used to build what appears to be a nearly unassailable lead in the Republican primaries. Perhaps GOP voters were going to swing toward Trump no matter what, or maybe the struggles of the Ron DeSantis campaign have played a big role. But everything suggests that, so far, Trump's legal travails have been



Rich Lowry

political gold.

Certainly, Trump's opponents within the party have been thinking, "Please, make it stop," since the initial Alvin Bragg indictment. But it hasn't stopped, and it's not going to stop.

Every key juncture of Trump's legal drama has allowed him to dominate the fight for media coverage, which, as we learned in the 2016 nomination battle, is key terrain in a primary.

Trump's various indictments, arraignments and court appearances have given him an entirely new way to blot out the sun.

It used to be that candidate debates were, besides some traditional occasions (a state fair, a party dinner), the most important events on the political calendar. No more.

So there was a nice initial Republican debate in August? Well, the next day there was an instantly iconic Trump mugshot everywhere on TV and social media.

There was another, not-so-great Republican debate in September. Who cares? Trump showed up at his civil fraud trial in New York City the following Monday.

When much of the Republican Party is in a state of high alarm about the instruments of the establishment being used against the right, Donald Trump is starring in a real-life drama about partisan prosecutors and the Biden Justice Department trying to annihilate his business and jail him ahead of the 2024 election.

What else is going to generate more interest and sympathy among perhaps a decisive proportion of Republicans than that? Promises to end the deep state, which we hear from almost all the Republican candidates, are nothing compared to Trump spitting fury at legal adversaries who are playing for keeps.

It only helps Trump that, despite his sundry deceptions and disgraceful conduct, the myriad legal actions against him are generally ridiculous at worst and ambiguous and legally adventurous at best, while almost all represent blatant selective prosecution.

Perhaps the political reaction in his favor wouldn't have been as strong if he'd only been prosecuted for obstruction related to his handling of classified documents, a case where Special Counsel Jack Smith seems to have him nailed. But not for the first time, Trump and his enemies have a symbiotic relationship — they want to destroy him by any means necessary, and he uses their enmity as his chief political calling card.

This time, the stakes are higher than ever, and we could be heading to a true "Gottterdammerung" next year, with a major-party presidential candidate at risk of going to jail months before a national election. Republican voters would be wise to avoid finding out where this ends by nominating any of the plausible alternatives to Trump. But none of them are being charged or arraigned like the front-runner, whose courtroom campaign is overwhelming them all.

Rich Lowry is on Twitter @RichLowry

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Mark Miller, Opinion Page Editor

Purdue is favored to win the Big Ten again. Can the Boilermakers end the league's March trouble?



By **PATRICK DONNELLY**
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Big Ten got an unexpected boost in the offseason when Zach Edey decided to return to Purdue for a fourth year.

But the question remains whether Edey's towering presence will make a difference next March. Or will Purdue's well-publicized struggles in the NCAA Tournament — emblematic of the entire conference's recent postseason failures — persist?

The 7-foot-4, 300-pound Edey was the runaway winner of the AP National Player of the Year award last season, when he averaged 22.3 points, 12.9 rebounds and 2.1 blocks per game. He helped lead the Boilermakers to the Big Ten regular-season and tournament titles and a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament.

Then Purdue became just the second top seed in history to lose in the first round when it was stunned 63-58 by No. 16 seed Fairleigh Dickinson. That was the most painful of a long list of March disappointments for the Boilermakers, who were knocked out by No. 15 seed Saint Peter's in 2022 and No. 13 seed North Texas in 2021.

Purdue coach Matt Painter, speaking at Big Ten men's basketball media day on Tuesday, said those losses have led to some long off-seasons.

"I think that's part of coaching. Like, you don't sit around and shine your trophies. You sit around and wonder why in the hell you couldn't beat somebody 17 years ago on a cold Wednesday night," Painter said. "The thing that I've always tried to do, and it's probably the hardest route but the best route, is you've got to face it. Don't run from something. Face it, take it on, and that's how you're going to hopefully reverse that scenario where you're going to be better in March."

Painter's team is the consensus favorite to repeat as Big Ten champion, and it's easy to see why. The Boilermakers return all five starters, including Edey, who could become just the second player — Virginia's Ralph Sampson won three in a row from 1981-

83 — to win consecutive Player of the Year awards.

"If the opportunity presented itself, I would be glad to take that podium and accept that award," Edey said. "But that's not my goal for the next season."

Edey listed a number of team-oriented goals, including reaching the Final Four and winning a national title. But the Big Ten hasn't sent a team to the Final Four since 2019, when Michigan State made it. And Tom Izzo's Spartans were the conference's most recent national champions, all the way back in 2000.

The Big Ten led the country with eight teams in the 2023 tournament. Michigan State was the only squad to advance past the second round and lost in the Sweet 16.

Izzo, who's rarely at a loss for words, struggled to come up with an explanation for the Big Ten's postseason shortcomings.

"I'm supposed to have an educated answer since I've been part of the problem," Izzo said. "It isn't for lack of trying. I think I've been in three or four Final Fours where there's been another Big Ten team in it. If we keep knocking on the door, that thing's going to open again."

Iowa coach Fran McCaffrey chalked the problem up to the one-and-done nature of March Madness.

"Any time you play in a tournament situation where if you lose you're out, anything can happen. That's why the pros play best of seven. The best teams advance," McCaffrey said. "Our league has the most teams in. That's indicative of how good the league is and how many good players we have."

Major changes are looming that could have a significant effect on the conference's postseason fortunes. Next year, the league will expand to 18 teams, adding Southern California, UCLA, Oregon and Washington. The influx of new talent — and new ways of playing the game — could better prepare Big Ten teams for national competition in March.

"We're going to see athleticism and different styles of basketball that maybe we don't see in this conference," Maryland coach Kevin Willard said. "I think it's going to help Michigan State see how a West Coast team plays so that when you get a West Coast team in the NCAA Tournament, maybe your players have seen a different style. Because this league, we're all pretty much similar in the way we play. Seeing a UCLA, seeing an Oregon who plays match-up zones and presses a little bit is going to help these guys in March be a little bit more prepared."

Astros pound 4 homers to rout Twins and take 2-1 ALDS lead

By **DAVE CAMPBELL**
AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Late-afternoon shadows made the ball difficult to pick up, and Minnesota's Sonny Gray presented a tough opponent on the mound.

The Houston Astros just powered their way through and produced yet another October masterpiece.

José Abreu hit a three-run homer for Houston in a four-run first inning against Gray and piled on with a two-run shot in the ninth, carrying the Astros past the Twins 9-1 on Tuesday for a 2-1 AL Division Series lead.

Yordan Alvarez hit his fourth home run in three games and Alex Bregman had a homer and an RBI single for the defending World Series champions, who took charge from their first at-bat and moved within one win of a seventh consecutive AL Championship Series appearance. Astros starter Cristian Javier took it from there with nine strikeouts in five scoreless innings.

"It was kind of just pass the torch to the next guy," said Bregman, who has 16 post-season homers. "Put together a good at-bat and grind it out."

Game 4 is at Target Field on Wednesday. If the Twins force Game 5, it would be in Houston on Friday.

"This was one of the reasons why I signed with this organization, to be in the best situation and compete," said Abreu, who set his low with a .237 average this season, nearly 50 points below his career mark.

Splitting the first two games in Houston gave the Twins home-field advantage, and they sold out both games three days in advance. Johan Santana threw out the ceremonial first pitch to Joe Mauer, and the crowd the Twins credited for carrying them to a two-game sweep of Toronto in the AL Wild Card Series was roaring from the start.

The Astros were hardly going to be fazed by the environment. They went 51-30 on the road, the third-best record in the major leagues, and have made October games quite a habit since their run started in 2017.

"It's a very confident club, not a cocky club. We don't showboat too much. We just play," manager Dusty Baker said. "The guys have a knack of picking each other up."

Javier had a 4.56 ERA that was by far his worst in four big league seasons and failed to finish five innings in five of his prior 11 starts, but the Astros weren't concerned.

"He has a slow heartbeat. He wants the



baseball," Bregman said. "He's a competitor and we have all the confidence in the world in him every single time he takes the mound."

The right-hander, who threw six hitless innings in World Series Game 4 last year to beat Philadelphia, lowered his career post-season ERA to 1.91 over 37 2/3 innings.

"Their guy did what I didn't do. He executed pitches in spots with runners on," Gray said.

With 13 misses in 16 swings at Javier's slider, the Twins flailed through the shadows in a feeble response to the early Astros explosion. Javier allowed one hit, a one-out double by Max Kepler in the first, but he stranded two runners in scoring position with consecutive strikeouts of Royce Lewis and Carlos Correa.

With five walks and one hit batter, the Twins had plenty of opportunities to catch up. They loaded the bases on walks in the fifth inning, but Kepler and Lewis ended the inning with strikeouts.

The Twins left nine men on base and went 1 for 9 with runners in scoring position. Correa, who has a hit in all five post-season games and is 9 for 19 with four RBIs, scored on Willi Castro's one-out single in the sixth. But Jeremy Peña made a diving stop at shortstop of a grounder rocketed by Ryan Jeffers and leaped to his feet to start a double play.

"It was a difficult day to hit, so them jumping out early was very, very important," Twins manager Rocco Baldelli said. "Whichever team did that was going to definitely be in the driver's seat."

FAST START

Jose Altuve greeted Gray with a single, and a one-out bouncer down the first-base line eluded Alex Kirilloff's glove for a two-base error. Kyle Tucker put the Astros on the board with a single. Then Abreu hit a 2-1 sweeper into the second deck for a 4-0 lead that took some buzz out of the ballpark.

"We were fighting an uphill battle as a team. I was fighting an uphill battle every inning," Gray said.

UP NEXT

Astros RHP José Urquidy will start Game 4. He beat the Twins in Game 2 of the AL Wild Card Series in 2020. Twins RHP Joe Ryan will make his first career post-season start on Wednesday. He has allowed 13 earned runs, nine walks and three homers in 14 innings over three career starts against the Astros.

NCAA President Baker will testify to Senate on college sports issues next week

By **RALPH D. RUSSO**
AP College Sports Writer

NCAA President Charlie Baker is expected to testify in front of a Senate committee next week during the 10th hearing on Capitol Hill over the last three years on college sports.

The Senate Judiciary Committee announced it has scheduled a hearing on Name, Image and Likeness, and the Future of College Sports for next Tuesday.

Baker, the former governor of Massachusetts, took over as NCAA president in March and has been spending a lot of time in Washington lobbying lawmakers to help college sports with a federal law to regulate how athletes can be compensated for their fame.

Several bills have been introduced by federal lawmakers lately, including two bipartisan efforts from the senate, but still there has been little movement toward serious action on an issue that has been a topic of conversation since the

summer of 2020.

"I do get worried about Congress micromanaging the rules of endorsement deals or transfer portals or compensation," Sen. Chris Murphy, D-Conn., told members of the athletic directors' association LEAD1 last month at a gathering in Washington.

Baker is expected to be joined next week by Big Ten Commissioner Tony Petitti.

While college sports leaders have repeatedly said federal intervention that prevents college athletes from being deemed employees is the best solution for NIL, the NCAA is working on finally passing its own detailed rules.

The NCAA Division I Council last week introduced several proposals to bring transparency to NIL transactions and oversight of those who want to work with students. They could be voted on as soon as January and a working group is still discussing more ways to regulate NIL payments to athletes.

High School Calendar

WEDNESDAY, OCT 11

No events scheduled

THURSDAY, OCT 12

VOLLEYBALL: (sectional) Peru at Norwell, 6 p.m.; Southern Wells vs. Lakeland Christian at Southwood, 7 p.m.; Whitko at Bluffton, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCT 13

FOOTBALL: Norwell at Columbia City, 7 p.m.; Bluffton at Lakeland, 7:30 p.m.; Southern Wells at South Adams, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCT 14

CROSS COUNTRY (CO-ED): (sectional) Norwell, Bluffton, Southern Wells at Taylor University, 10:30 a.m. boys' race, 11:15 a.m. girls' race.

VOLLEYBALL: (sectional semi-final & final) TBD.

MONDAY, OCT 16

No events scheduled

TUESDAY, OCT 17

No events scheduled

WEDNESDAY, OCT 18

No events scheduled

Barry Melrose retiring as ESPN's longtime hockey analyst after Parkinson's disease diagnosis

By **JOHN WAWROW**
AP Hockey Writer

Former NHL player and coach Barry Melrose is stepping away from his career as one of hockey's most recognized analysts after being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, ESPN announced on Tuesday.

The news of Melrose's illness and retirement was made on ESPN's SportsCenter on the same day the NHL 2023-24 season opened with a three-game slate.

"I've had over 50 extraordinary years playing, coaching and analyzing the world's greatest game, hockey. It's now time to hang up my skates and focus on my health, my family, including my supportive wife Cindy, and whatever comes next," Melrose said in a statement released by the network.

"I'm beyond grateful for my hockey career, and to have called ESPN home for almost 30 years," he added. "Thanks for the incredible memories, and I'll now be cheering for you from the stands."

The 67-year-old Melrose's journeyman playing career as a hard-nosed defenseman led to a brief coaching career — which included a Stanley Cup Final appearance — before he became one of the

game's top broadcasters. Melrose had a relatable everyman's broadcasting style, bringing a sense of humor to his insights, and was easily recognized by his goatee and slicked-back hair.

"Barry is a unique, one-of-a-kind person. And hockey on ESPN won't be the same without him," NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman said. "Barry's gigantic personality and trademark style have made our game bigger, more exciting and more entertaining."

ESPN chairman Jimmy Pitaro congratulated Melrose for his "exceptional contributions to hockey on ESPN," and wished him and his family the best.

"Barry has had a connection to the sport for an astonishing 50 years as a player, coach and analyst, and he has left an indelible mark both on and off the ice," Pitaro said.

From rural Kelvington, Saskatchewan, the cousin of former Toronto star Wendel Clark, broke into pro hockey with the Cincinnati Stingers of the now-defunct World Hockey Association in 1976. He played three seasons in Cincinnati and, following the WHA's demise, made the transition to the NHL with Winnipeg in 1979. He went on to play for Toronto and Detroit,

where he closed his career following the 1985-86 season.

Overall, he finished with 10 goals and 33 points and 728 penalty minutes in 300 NHL career games. His WHA totals were five goals and 32 points and 343 penalty minutes in 178 games with Cincinnati.

Melrose turned to coaching and led the Adirondack Red Wings to win the American Hockey League Calder Cup in 1992.

The following year, Melrose was hired by the Kings, where he brought a sense of colorful flare and instant success to Los Angeles. In his rookie season, he coached a Kings team that featured Wayne Gretzky to make a memorable playoff run. They reached the Final before losing to Montreal in five games.

Melrose finished with a record of 79-101 and 29 ties over two-plus seasons in L.A. before being fired midway through the 1994-95 season.

He was hired by ESPN in 1996 and left broadcasting for what became a brief stint coaching the Tampa Bay Lightning in Steven Stamkos' rookie season in 2008-09. Melrose was fired 16 games into the season following a 5-7-4 start and returned to broadcasting.

Vikings place Justin Jefferson on IR for a hamstring injury

By **DAVE CAMPBELL**
AP Pro Football Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Minnesota Vikings will place wide receiver Justin Jefferson on injured reserve, according to a person with knowledge of the decision, forcing the 2022 NFL Offensive Player of the Year to miss at least the next four games because of a hamstring injury.

The person confirmed the decision to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity Tuesday because the Vikings had not finalized the move.

Jefferson slipped on the U.S. Bank Stadium turf while trying to make a cut on his route during a third-down pass deep in Kansas City territory and limped slowly to the sideline after grabbing the back of his

right leg in the fourth quarter of the 27-20 loss to the Chiefs.

Vikings coach Kevin O'Connell, speaking to reporters on Monday, made it clear the team would be extra cautious with their most important and extremely competitive player.

"We're going to have to, medically, make a good decision and help almost protect him from himself a little bit in a way, where we have to take care of him and get him back to 100%," O'Connell said.

Without Jefferson, Kirk Cousins and the Vikings will have to lean hard on rookie Jordan Addison, their first-round draft pick who is off to a promising start. Fellow wide receivers K.J. Osborn and Brandon Powell will

have their roles elevated, and tight end T.J. Hockenson will be even more vital on third downs.

Addison has 19 catches for 249 yards and three touchdowns in his first five games.

"I'm very confident in that group," O'Connell said.

The Vikings could hardly have had a worse setback after losing four of their first five games, all by eight points or fewer. Their entire offense is built around Jefferson, who has set all kinds of all-time records just five games into his fourth NFL season. He has 36 catches for 571 yards and three touchdowns and never has missed a game in his career until now.

Minnesota (1-4) plays at Chicago (1-4) on Sunday.

News-Banner Scoreboard

FOOTBALL

High School

| | Rcd | TP | Pvs |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. Brownsburg | 8-0 | 286 | 1 |
| 2. Center Grove | 7-1 | 262 | 2 |
| 3. Indpls Ben Davis | 7-1 | 258 | 3 |
| 4. Hamilton South | 7-1 | 182 | 5 |
| 5. Crown Point | 8-0 | 176 | 4 |
| 6. Westfield | 7-1 | 156 | 6 |
| 7. Indpls Cathedral | 6-2 | 124 | 8 |
| 8. Penn | 7-1 | 98 | 9 |
| 9. Carroll (Fort Wayne) | 6-2 | 46 | 10 |
| 10. Fishers | 5-3 | 34 | 7 |

| | Rcd | TP | Pvs |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. Bloomington North | 8-0 | 296 | 1 |
| 2. Ft. Wayne Snider | 7-1 | 266 | 2 |
| 3. Bloomington South | 7-1 | 236 | 3 |
| 4. Valparaiso | 6-2 | 204 | 4 |
| 5. Lafayette Harrison | 7-1 | 172 | 5 |
| 6. Merrillville | 6-2 | 134 | 7 |
| 7. Decatur Central | 6-2 | 118 | T8 |
| 8. Floyd Central | 7-1 | 88 | T8 |
| 9. Mishawaka | 6-2 | 74 | 10 |
| 10. Plainfield | 6-2 | 42 | 6 |

| | Rcd | TP | Pvs |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. E. Central | 8-0 | 298 | 1 |
| 2. Ev. Reitz | 8-0 | 268 | 2 |
| 3. Northridge | 7-1 | 204 | 4 |
| 4. New Palestine | 7-1 | 196 | 5 |
| 5. Kokomo | 7-1 | 162 | 6 |
| 6. Greenfield | 7-1 | 158 | 7 |
| 7. Mississinewa | 8-0 | 94 | 9 |
| 8. E. Noble | 6-2 | 92 | NR |
| 9. New Haven | 7-1 | 68 | 3 |
| 10. Leo | 6-2 | 48 | NR |

| | Rcd | TP | Pvs |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. Indpls Chatard | 8-0 | 300 | 1 |
| 2. Hanover Central | 8-0 | 222 | 2 |
| 3. Guerin Catholic | 6-2 | 198 | 3 |
| 4. Tippecanoe Valley | 8-0 | 194 | 5 |
| 5. Hamilton Hts. | 8-0 | 188 | 4 |
| 6. Gibson Southern | 6-2 | 134 | 6 |
| 7. Heritage Hills | 7-1 | 110 | 7 |
| 8. Tri-West | 7-1 | 90 | 8 |
| 9. Peru | 8-0 | 76 | 9 |
| 10. Knox | 8-0 | 60 | 10 |

| | Rcd | TP | Pvs |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. Triton Central | 7-1 | 284 | 1 |
| 2. Linton | 7-1 | 260 | 2 |
| 3. Brownstown | 7-1 | 228 | 3 |
| 4. N. Posey | 7-1 | 190 | 4 |
| 5. LaVille | 7-1 | 182 | 5 |

| | Rcd | TP | Pvs |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. Indpls Lutheran | 8-0 | 300 | 1 |
| 2. Adams Central | 8-0 | 268 | 2 |
| 3. Carroll (Flora) | 8-0 | 236 | 3 |
| 4. Providence | 8-0 | 202 | 4 |
| 5. Indpls Park Tudor | 8-0 | 182 | 5 |
| 6. S. Putnam | 7-1 | 154 | 6 |
| 7. N. White | 8-0 | 106 | 9 |
| 8. Springs Valley | 7-1 | 90 | NR |
| 9. Sheridan | 6-2 | 56 | 7 |
| 10. Madison-Grant | 6-2 | 30 | 8 |

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| 1. E. Central | 8-0 | 298 | 1 |
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| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| 6. Ft. Wayne Luers | 6-2 | 134 | 7 |
| 7. Alexandria | 7-1 | 128 | 8 |
| 8. Eastbrook | 7-1 | 46 | T10 |
| 9. S. Vermillion | 7-1 | 44 | T10 |
| 10. Bluffton | 6-2 | 38 | 6 |

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| Others receiving votes: Lafayette Catholic 28. Paoli 24. Rochester 18. Greencastle 14. Northeastern 12. Indpls Scenic 10. Eastern (Greentown) 6. Heritage Christian 4. |
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|---|
| Monday, Oct. 9 — Arizona 4, Los Angeles 2 |
| Wednesday, Oct. 11 — Los Angeles (Lynn 13-11) at Arizona (Paadt 3-9), 9:07 p.m. (TBS) |
| x-Thursday, Oct. 12 — Los Angeles at Arizona, 9:07 p.m. (TBS) |
| x-Saturday, Oct. 14 — Arizona at Los Angeles, 9:20 p.m. (TBS) |

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Carrying the weight of everyone else's problems

Dear Annie: I am the kind of person everyone goes to if they have a problem or if they're going through a tough time. I want to be clear: I don't take that lightly, and I'm honored that my friends feel safe enough to share their feelings, frustrations and tears with me.

With that said, this seems to happen wherever I go. I can be in a gas station or grocery shopping, and for some reason, a total stranger will ask me for help ("Can you reach that thing for me?" or "Do you have a dollar?") and then suddenly start sharing their deep traumas. I seem to give off some kind of comforting and safe vibe, which is ironic, since I myself have gone through a lot of trauma. I just don't share to the degree that other people do with me.

What I'm currently having a struggle with is this: I have a couple of friends, two in particular, who are going through some serious issues. One friend has been watching her husband die for two years and just found out he's been unfaithful, and the other has just had her heart truly broken for the first time in her life. I have made myself as emotionally available as I can, but I am getting severely drained, to the point where I'm becoming angry and distant from them. I'm not a trained therapist, and I can't hear the same issue over and over and over again. I also have my own stressors to tend to and deal with. I can't carry my own troubles along with those of everyone else.

I'm trying my best to be compassionate and remember that we all get stuck in our pain and trauma, and some people can never move on. I'm also trying to remember that people have a hard time listening to other people's pain when they are in so much of it themselves, and to let things go if I'm not being heard in return.

At the same time, I feel I'm about ready to snap. It's harder for me to handle even the most minor of conversations with people. I'm becoming so

drained. Most days, I don't even want to go outside. I feel I'll be forced into conversations I don't want to have. I don't have the energy for it anymore.

The really funny thing is, I can mention this to the people around me and the friends I'm currently struggling with. They all agree I should set boundaries, but then they continue to drone on about their own problems, completely missing how they're contributing to the issue.

What advice would you give for someone in my position? — A Very Tired Listener

Dear Tired Listener: My advice to you is to take time to recharge and rest. It is your turn to do whatever you need to do to take care of yourself. You don't owe your friends a listening ear right now; instead, you owe yourself a listening ear as to what will truly bring you joy, happiness and peace. If your cup is empty, there is no nourishment to give to others, so find things that nourish and fill your own cup.

You are a kind and empathetic person who people want to share with, but that doesn't mean that you have to. Someone might be beautiful and everyone wants to be around them, but that doesn't mean they have to date everyone.

Deal with your own trauma with a trained therapist before you snap. And even if you snap at your friends, remember that you are only human. Next time you feel forced into a conversation, pay attention to how you feel in the moment, and if it feels painful or burdensome, simply excuse yourself and go somewhere that you want to be.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com. © 2023 CREATORS.COM

Dear Annie



BEETLE BAILEY



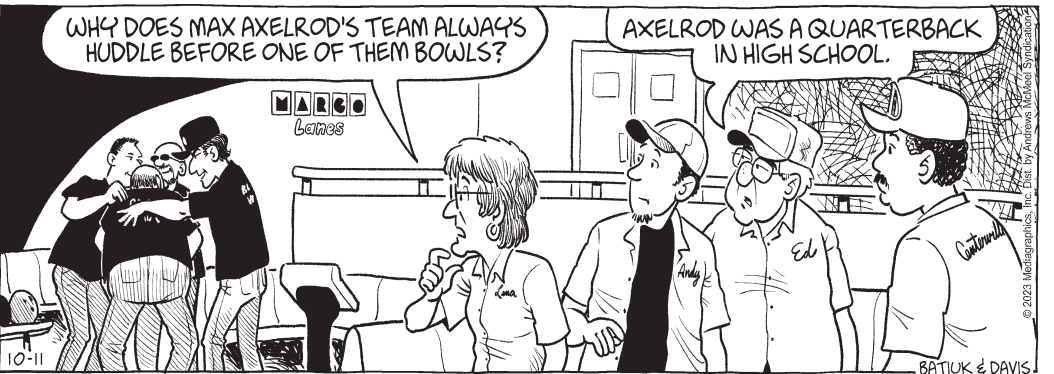
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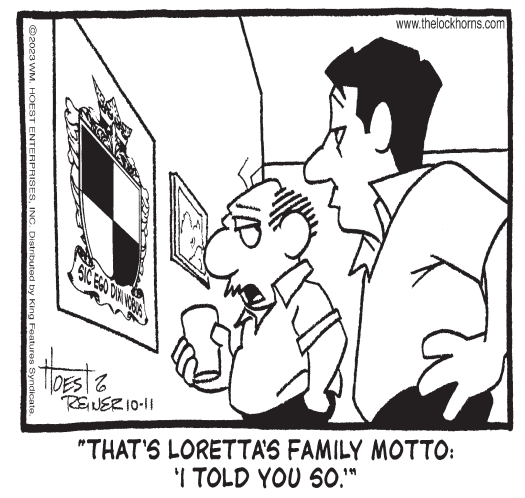
CRANKSHAFT



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

The LOCKHORNS



My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



The Bible reveals Christ, who is the Bread of life for our hungry souls

Q: Some churches say that the Bible "contains" the Word of God; others say the entire Bible "is" the Word of God. I've never thought about it until now but the answer makes a big difference in what the truth really is. Can this be sufficiently answered? — R.T.

A: Where there is truth and error there is always compromise. Within some churches, there is a movement to reshape the Christian message to make it more acceptable to man. If our minds and hearts are not filled with God's truth, something else will take its place: cynicism, false religions, philosophies, etc. The list is endless. Jesus Christ made the astounding

claim: "I am ... the truth" (John 14:6). He is the embodiment of all truth.

Those who doubt that the Bible is the Word of God doubt it because they are unwilling to ascribe to God anything they cannot themselves achieve. We are not to pick and choose the parts we want to believe or obey. God has given it all with the instruction to be obedient to all of it. The Spirit of God will never lead us contrary to the Word of God.

The Bible reveals Christ, who is the Bread of life for our hungry souls and the Water of life for our thirsty hearts. We can trust the Bible because it points us to the most important events in human

history: the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Behind every book in the Bible is the Author: the Spirit of God; every word is inspired (see 2 Timothy 3:16-17). It is the textbook of His revelation. The Bible is the highest law of God that sets forth His spiritual laws and gives His enduring promises. The Bible reveals the plan of redemption for the human race. It is the "living" book that works its way into hearts, minds, and souls. The Bible is God's gift to us.

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

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| 10/11 | 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 | | 3D Woman | Julie & Friends | Movie | | | Berean Endeavors | TCT Today | News-watch | Love Worth | James Robison | Dr. Robert Jeffress | Jewish Jesus | Andrew Womack | Ask the Pastor | Rabbi Lapin | | |
| CBS WANE (15) | 2 | 15 | 15 | | News (N) | Inside Edition (N) | News at 6 (N) | CBS News (N) | Wheel of Fortune (N) | Jeopardy! (N) | Survivor (N) | | | The Amazing Race (N) | | | Nightcast (N) | (35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert | (35) Comics Unleashed | | |
| Antenna WANE-2 (352) | 106 | 20 | | | Blue Bloods "More Than Meets the Eye" | | Blue Bloods "For Whom the Bell Tolls" | | Blue Bloods "The Common Good" | | Blue Bloods "Guardian Angels" | | Blue Bloods "Happy Endings" | | Blue Bloods "Fallen Heroes" | | Blue Bloods "The New You" | Blue Bloods "The End" | | | |
| ABC WPTA (21) | 4 | 3 | 21 | 21 | ABC21 News at 5 (N) | | ABC21 (N) | ABC World News (N) | ABC21 (N) | Ent. Tonight (N) | Celebrity Jeopardy! (N) | Celebrity Wheel of Fortune (N) | | The \$100,000 Pyramid (N) | | ABC21 (N) | (35) Jimmy Kimmel Live! | (35) Nightline | | | |
| NBC WPTA-2 (212) | 7 | 8 | 14 | | Family Feud | 25 Words or Less | News (N) | NBC News (N) | Family Feud (N) | Family Feud (N) | Quantum Leap "Ben & Teller" (N) | Magnum P.I. "Three Bridges" (N) | | Chicago Fire "Acting Up" | | News (N) | (35) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon | (35) Seth Meyers | | | |
| MNT WPTA-3 (213) | 10 | 9 | 56 | 34 | King "The Rock" | The King of Queens | Mod Fam "The Help" | 21Alive News at 6 | Last Man Standing | Last Man Standing | Dateline "Lauren's Promise" | Dateline "Voices for Vanessa" | | Seinfeld | Seinfeld | Mom | Mom | The Goldbergs | The Goldbergs | | |
| FOX WISE (38) | 8 | 4 | 33 | 33 | The Steve Wilkos Show | | TMZ Live (N) | | Dish Nation (N) | TMZ (N) | Sullivan's Crossing "Homesweeper" (N) | Sisters "The Executive's Elegy" (N) | | Dish Nation (N) | TMZ (N) | Family Guy | Family Guy | Burgers "Topsy" | Bob's Burgers | | |
| PBS WFWA (39) | 13 | 5 | 39 | 39 | NOVA "Ancient Earth: Birth of the Sky" | | PBS NewsHour (N) | | BBC News America | LIFE Ahead | America "Maine: Embrace the Cold" (N) | NOVA "Ancient Earth: Birth of the Sky" | | Secrets "The Sunken Basilica" (N) | | Amanpour and Company (N) | Amanpour and Company (N) | America "Maine: Embrace the Cold" | | | |
| PBS WFP (48) | 3 | | | | NOVA "Ancient Earth: Birth of the Sky" | | Context | PBS News America | PBS NewsHour (N) | | America "Maine: Embrace the Cold" (N) | NOVA "Ancient Earth: Birth of the Sky" | | Secrets "The Sunken Basilica" (N) | | Amanpour and Company (N) | Amanpour and Company (N) | America "Maine: Embrace the Cold" | | | |
| FOX WFFT (55) | 6 | 5 | 55 | 55 | WFFT Fox News at 5 (N) | | WFFT Fox News at 6 (N) | | Big Bang | Big Bang | The Masked Singer (N) | Snake Oil (N) | | FOX 55 News First at 10 (N) | | Young Sheldon | Young Sheldon | Neighbor | Neighbor | | |
| <p>CABLE CHANNELS</p> <p>LIFE 23 113 108 252 Castle "Hong Kong Hustle"</p> <p>FX 24 132 136 148 *** Get Out (17) Allison Williams, Daniel Kaluuya</p> <p>TVLAND 25 106 304 Andy Griffith Andy Griffith</p> <p>E! 26 142 114 236 *** Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (2007, Fantasy) Rupert Grint, Emma Watson, Daniel Radcliffe</p> <p>PARMT 30 241 241 Two and a Half Men Two and a Half Men</p> <p>ESPN 31 50 140 206 Around (N) Pardon (N)</p> <p>ESPN2 32 54 143 209 NFL Live (N)</p> <p>FSMW 33 418 671 Live on the Line</p> <p>USA 34 133 105 242 Law & Order: SVU "A Tangled Strands of Justice"</p> <p>DISC 35 72 182 278 Expedition Unknown "Amelia Earhart"</p> <p>TLC 36 73 183 280 My 600-Lb. Life "Amelia Earhart"</p> <p>HIST 38 77 120 269 Pawn Stars "Pawning for Trouble"</p> <p>A&E 39 134 118 265 The First 48</p> <p>HALL 40 117 185 312 * A Splash of Love Rhianon Fish</p> <p>SYFY 41 135 122 244 *** Ghostbusters (84) Dan Aykroyd, Harold Ramis, Bill Murray</p> <p>TNT 43 130 139 247 *** MLB Baseball All the latest action from Major League Baseball</p> <p>TSB 44 131 138 245 *** Suicide Squad (16, Act) Jared Leto, Margot Robbie, Will Smith</p> <p>AMC 45 131 254 *** Halloween Horror: Stacy Nelkin, Daniel O'Herlihy, Tom Atkins</p> <p>COM 47 107 249 Seinfeld Seinfeld</p> <p>FS1 48 64 150 219 *** MLB on FS1 Postgame (L) (N)</p> <p>WGN 53 307 The Hill (L) (N)</p> <p>WE 57 128 260 NCIS "The Good Son"</p> <p>FOOD 59 153 110 231 Guy's Grocery Games</p> <p>BRAVO 60 140 129 237 Real Housewives</p> <p>NICK 68 170 299 Monster: Marvel's S.H.I.E.L.D. Agents</p> <p>DISN 69 30 172 290 Kiff</p> <p>FREEFORM 70 32 180 311 *** Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2</p> <p>HBO 301 *** Avatar (19)</p> <p>MAX 325 *** Regresion (2015, Thriller) Emma Watson, David Thewlis, Ethan Hawke</p> <p>SHOW 351 851 318 545 *** The Caine Court-Martial (1988, Drama) Jeff Daniels, Brad Davis, Eric Bogosian</p> <p>TMC 375 859 327 553 *** Bridge of Spies (2015, History) Mark Rylance, Alan Snipes</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Resort

4 Spanish artist

8 June 6, 1944

12 — Royal Highness

13 Saint Laurent of fashion

14 Bit of merchandise

15 Early hrs.

16 Problem-solving exams

18 Persian nation

20 Scratch (out)

21 Roman censor

24 Follows orders

28 Army dining area

32 Halt

33 Boxing legend

34 Attack

36 Pie — mode

37 Crumbly earth

39 Astronaut in a David Bowie classic

41 Fake name

DOWN

1 Cager O'Neal, for short

2 Fine cotton

3 CEO's aide

4 Avid exercisers

5 Eggs

6 Even so

7 Queens stadium name

8 Nerdy types

9 "Kapital"

10 Curator's focus

11 Thumbs-up

17 Ring decision

19 Apt. coolers

22 Abound

23 Available

25 Coup d' —

26 Present-day "carpe diem"

27 Pesky email

28 Nursery cry

29 Airline to Tel Aviv

30 iPhone voice

31 Japan's Prime Minister, 1941-44

35 "Easy"

38 Deli pancakes

40 "The Pioneer Woman" Drummond

42 Venus, to Serena

45 Dele undero section

48 In-cursion

49 Doc's "Now!"

50 Chinese chairman

51 Entirely

52 Scarlet

53 "Am — blame?"

54 6 on a phone

Solution time: 23 mins.

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ERIC TEND MAN
LISA AGE E ABU
MARVELOUS RID
ILKS PASTE
ALMAY EACH
L I A R C A D I L L A C
E R R G O N E R A L A
C A M E R O O N S N O B
O R A L A N D E S
A S S A M D A D A
C H E M A R G A R I T A
N A T A N N E K N I T
E D S R E O S S A M E
    
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Yesterday's answer 10-11

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| 50 | 51 | 52 | | | | | 53 | 54 | | | 55 | | |
| 56 | | | | | | | 57 | | | | 58 | | |
| 59 | | | | | | | 60 | | | | 61 | | |

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

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

Difficulty: ★★★

10/11

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Notices

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STATE OF INDIANA)
COUNTY OF WELLS) SS:

IN THE WELLS CIRCUIT COURT
CAUSE NUMBER:
90C01-2309-JT-000008
IN THE MATTER OF THE)
TERMINATION OF THE)
PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP:
AC - DOB 4/6/2023
AND
NICHOLE M COLWELL
(BIOLOGICAL MOTHER)
CASEY HUNDLEY
(BIOLOGICAL FATHER)
**SUMMONS FOR SERVICE
BY PUBLICATION &
NOTICE OF TERMINATION
OF PARENTAL RIGHTS
HEARING**

TO: Casey Hundley
Whereabouts unknown
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
to the above noted parent whose whereabouts are unknown, that the Indiana Department of Child Services has filed a Petition for Involuntary Termination of your Parental Rights, and that an adjudication hearing has been scheduled with the Court.
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Judge of the Wells Circuit Court, 102 Market Street, Bluffton, IN 46714 - 260-824-6485 for a(n) Preliminary Conference on 11/27/2023 at 8:30 AM and to answer the Petition for Termination of your Parental Rights of said child.
You are further notified that if the allegations in said petition are true, and/or if you fail to appear at the hearing, the Juvenile Court may terminate your parent-child relationship; and if the Court terminates your parent-child relationship, you will lose all parental rights, powers, privileges, immunities, duties and obligations including any rights to custody, control, visitation, or support in said child; and if the Court terminates your parent-child relationship, it will be permanently terminated, and thereafter you may not contest an adoption or other placement of said child.
You are entitled to representation by an attorney, provided by the State if applicable, throughout these proceedings to terminate the parent-child relationship. If you have been appointed an attorney in the Child in Need of Services action involving the above-named child(ren), that attorney may not be automatically appointed to represent you in these proceedings. You must appear at the hearing currently scheduled in this matter and request that the Court appoint an attorney to represent you in these proceedings to terminate the parent-child relationship.
YOU MUST RESPOND by appearing in person or by an attorney within thirty (30) days after the last publication of this notice, and in the event you fail to do so, adjudication on said petition and termination of your parental rights may be entered against you, in your absence, without further notice.
Beth Davis
Clerk
Bruce Antrim, 32454-90
Attorney, Indiana Department of Child Services
1314 North Meridian Street Suite 100
Portland, IN 47371
Office: 260-251-8445
nb 10/11, 10/18, 10/25
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Lottery Numbers

Tuesday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY

Cash 5 — 02-06-15-24-39
Cash4Life — 08-12-24-39-60, Cash Ball: 04
Quick Draw Midday — 08-11-24-25-31-35-39-41-44-46-54-55-59-6162-65-66-68-71-75, BE: 25
Daily Three-Midday — 09-05-06, SB: 07
Daily Three-Evening — 09-03-01, SB: 07
Daily Four-Midday — 03-08-05-05, SB: 07
Daily Four-Evening — 08-02-01-02, SB: 07
Quick Draw Evening — 02-03-11-14-15-17-18-20-22-23-26-29-32-38-46-51-53-62-66-73, BE: 26
Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$38.8 million

MEGA MILLIONS

03-08-17-46-63; Mega Ball: 07; Megaplier: 4X.

POWERBALL

Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$1.725 billion

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Attorney
Gerret J. Swearingen

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MOVING SALE, 830 Parkway Drive, Bluffton, Friday, October 13, Saturday, October 14, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Antique glassware, records in original album covers, push lawn mower, snow blower, some tools, empty tubs, free CD's and DVD's.

HELOISE HINT: If you want to bargain for a lower price at a garage sale. Ask if you can take many items along with the expensive item and see what price the seller offers. Usually, the more you buy, the better prices you get. Fax Heloise @ 210-HELOISE (435-6473).

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Public Notices

NOTICE

The City of Bluffton is accepting sealed bids for the Interurban Trail - Phase 2, NLT 3-12. Bidding instructions and specifications may be obtained from the Clerk Treasurer's Office, 128 East Market Street, Bluffton, IN, during the hours of Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Bids must be returned to the Clerk Treasurer's Office by 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov 7, 2023, to be opened and read aloud at the public meeting of the Board of Public Works and Safety on Nov 7, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.

nb 10/11, 10/18
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NOTICE

The City of Bluffton is accepting sealed bids for the installation of 3 pickleball courts at Lancaster Park. Bidding instructions and specifications may be obtained from the Clerk Treasurer's Office, 128 East Market Street, Bluffton, IN, Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Bids must be returned to the Clerk Treasurer's Office by 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 7, 2023, to be opened and read aloud at the public meeting of the Board of Public Works and Safety on November 7, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.

nb 10/11, 10/18
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SUDOKU ANSWER

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

Rep. Santos faces new charges he stole donor identities

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. Rep. George Santos stole the identities of donors to his campaign and then used their credit cards to ring up tens of thousands of dollars in unauthorized charges, according to a new indictment filed Tuesday.

He then wired some of the money to his own personal bank account, prosecutors said, while using the rest to inflate his campaign coffers.

The 23-count indictment replaces one filed in May against the New York Republican charging him with embezzling money from his campaign and lying to Congress about his wealth, among other offenses.

In the updated indictment, prosecutors accuse Santos of charging more than \$44,000 to his campaign over a period of months using cards belonging to contributors without their knowledge. In one case, he charged \$12,000 to a contributor's credit card and transferred the "vast majority" of that money into his personal bank account, prosecutors said.

Santos is also accused of falsely reporting to the Federal Elections Commission that he had loaned his campaign \$500,000 when he actually hadn't given anything and had less than \$8,000 in the bank.

The fake loan was an attempt to convince Republican Party officials that he was a serious candidate, worth their financial support, the indictment said.

"As alleged, Santos is charged with stealing people's identities and making charges on his own donors' credit cards without their authorization, lying to the FEC and, by extension, the public about the financial state of his campaign," U.S. Attorney Breon Peace said in a statement.

Santos came out of a two-hour Republican conference at the U.S. Capitol and told reporters he had no comment on the superseding indictment. "I was in conference like everyone else, without my phone, so I have nothing to say," he said. He has previously maintained his innocence, claiming he is the victim of a "witch hunt."

The new charges deepen the legal peril for Santos, who likely faces a lengthy prison term if convicted. So far, he has resisted all calls to resign, insisting he intends to run for reelection next year.

Santos' personal and professional biography as a wealthy businessman began to unravel soon after winning election to represent parts of Long Island and Queens last year, revealing a tan-

gled web of deception.

In addition to lying to voters — about his distinguished Wall Street background, Jewish heritage, academic and athletic achievements, animal rescue work, real estate holdings and more — Santos is accused of carrying out numerous schemes meant to enrich himself and mislead his donors.

He was initially arrested in May on a 13-count federal indictment, which charged him with using funds earmarked for campaign expenses on designer clothes and other personal expenses and improperly obtaining unemployment benefits meant for Americans who lost work because of the pandemic.

Free on bail while awaiting trial, Santos has described his litany of lies as victimless embellishments, while blaming some of his financial irregularities on his former campaign treasurer, Nancy Marks, who he claims "went rogue."

Last week, Marks, a longtime Long Island political bookkeeper, pleaded guilty to a fraud conspiracy charge, telling a judge she helped her former boss hoodwink prospective donors and Republican party officials by submitting bogus campaign finance reports.

Tuesday's indictment said Marks and Santos were involved in the same scheme to fake a \$500,000 campaign loan in order to meet a benchmark that would unlock additional support from a Republican Party committee. Santos has now also been charged with recording fake donations from at least 10 people, all his or Marks' relatives, as part of the same effort to make the campaign look like it hit those fundraising goals.

Santos was not initially charged in the criminal complaint against Marks, but was identified in court papers as a "co-conspirator."

The new indictment alleges a multi-part fraud by Santos, who allegedly duped both his donors and his family members.

In one instance, Santos allegedly swiped the credit card information of one of his contributors, who had already donated \$5,800 to the campaign, to give himself an additional \$15,800 in payments, the indictment said. Because the unauthorized charges exceeded contribution limits under federal law, Santos listed the additional payments as coming from his own unwitting relatives, prosecutors allege.

The credit card fraud scheme

began in December 2021, prosecutors said, shortly after Santos failed to qualify for a Republican Party program that would have provided financial and logistical support to his second congressional campaign.

In text messages to Marks at the time, he described himself as "lost and desperate," prosecutors said.

Financial questions have continued to swirl around Santos, who claimed to be rich but spent much of his adulthood bouncing between low-paying jobs and unemployment, while fending off eviction cases and two separate-criminal charges relating to his use of bad checks.

A separate fundraiser for Santos, Sam Miele, was also previously indicted on federal charges that he impersonated a high-ranking congressional aide while soliciting contributions for the Republican's campaign.

Prosecutors said Miele, 27, impersonated the former chief of staff to GOP Rep. Kevin McCarthy, who at the time was the House minority leader, by setting up dummy email addresses that resembled the staffer's name.

Miele's attorney, Kevin Marino, previously predicted his client would be exonerated at trial.

Aid groups scramble to help as Israel-Hamas war intensifies

Gaza blockade complicates efforts

NEW YORK (AP) — Humanitarian groups are scrambling to assist civilians caught in the war between Israel and Hamas and determine what aid operations are still safe to continue — efforts that are being complicated by an intensified blockade of Gaza and ongoing fighting.

Two days after Hamas militants went on a rampage that took the world by surprise, Israel increased airstrikes on Gaza and blocked off food, fuel and other supplies from going into the territory, a move that raised concerns at the United Nations and among aid groups operating in the area home to 2.3 million people. Hamas, in turn, pledged to kill Israelis it abducted if the country's military bombs civilian targets in Gaza without warning.

Hundreds of people have been killed and thousands wounded on both sides, and aid groups operating in the region say there are needs both in Gaza and Israel.

More than 2 tons of medical supplies from the Egyptian Red Crescent have been sent to Gaza and efforts are underway to organize food and other deliveries, according to an Egyptian military official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the press. But the United

Nations and other aid groups are pleading for more access to help Palestinians who find themselves in the middle of intense fighting.

The UN and other aid agencies were talking with Egypt to send humanitarian aid to the besieged Gaza through a crossing point between the strip and Egypt's Sinai Peninsula, an Egyptian official and aid worker said Tuesday. Meanwhile, the World Health Organization said Tuesday medical supplies it has in seven hospitals in Gaza had already been used up and it was reprogramming funds to purchase more from local markets.

Doctors Without Borders, which is still operating in Gaza, has to rely on supplies it already has inside the territory because it can't bring any more in, said Emmanuel Massart, a deputy desk coordinator with the organization in Brussels.

The group — which says it only runs programs in Palestinian areas since Israel has strong emergency and health services — reported Monday that it provided treatments to more than 50 people following airstrikes at the Jabalia refugee camp located north of Gaza City. In addition to helping patients in Gaza, it said it was donating medical supplies to other clinics and hospitals, which have become overcrowded with

patients and are experiencing shortages of drugs and fuel that can be used for generators.

If Doctors Without Borders is not able to resupply fairly quickly, Massart said, it will run out of supplies it can use to operate on patients who might be wounded. He also said since the facilities the organization uses are running on generators due to the low supply of electricity, cutting off fuel will present a "huge problem."

"If there is no fuel anymore, there is no medical facilities anymore because we cannot run our medical facility without the energy," Massart said.

The war has also been deeply disruptive to work Mercy Corps has been doing to provide people in Gaza with necessities like food and water, said Arnaud Queminn, the Middle East regional director for the organization. Right now, he said the team on the ground is trying to find a scenario that would enable them to get back to work. The blockade of food and other supplies into Gaza is a major worry.

"We are very concerned with the way things are going at this point because it looks like it's going to get worse — very soon," Queminn said. The sealing of Gaza, he said, will create "humanitarian needs very quickly."

Governments have also been weighing how to respond.

As the fighting intensified, the European Union on late Monday reversed an earlier announcement by an EU commissioner that the bloc was "immediately" suspending aid for Palestinian authorities. Instead, the 27-nation group said it would urgently review the assistance it provides in the wake of Hamas' attacks on Israel. Two European countries — Germany and Austria — said they were suspending development aid for Palestinian areas.

Meanwhile, some organizations are stepping up aid efforts in Israel, which has seen displacement because of the violence.

Naomi Adler, CEO of Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, said a trauma center in Jerusalem that's owned by the organization is treating wounded Israeli soldiers and civilians. About 90% of the patients in the center right now are soldiers, who are typically the first to be brought in for traumatic injuries, Adler said. But the center also accepts anyone who's wounded or injured in the country.

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, a Jewish humanitarian organization, said on Sunday that it was activating its

emergency response team in Israel, where it runs programs to support people with disabilities, the elderly and children and families who've been impacted by the war and prior conflicts. The organization said it was working with its partners, including in the Israeli government, to address what it called an unprecedented emergency.

JDC's CEO Ariel Zwang said among other things the nonprofit is helping teachers, social workers and other caregivers provide support to those who've suffered trauma and tragedies from the events of the past few days. She said it will help nurse teachers, for example, explain to children why some of their classmates are suddenly missing.

"If you're a teacher now, if you know the children are traumatized, you need special skills and special training in order to manage what you're experiencing and provide for the emotional needs,

which are extraordinary at this time, of your youngest charges," Zwang said.

One organization that helps Palestinian children is shifting its focus, too. Steve Sosebee, the president of Palestine Children's Relief Fund, a U.S.-based charity that helps children in need travel to the U.S. for medical treatment, said given the war, the fund is now looking away from long-term programs and toward more urgent needs for food, medication, clothing and other types of basic humanitarian aid. But like others, he noted the blockade and security risks to its Gaza staff makes it more challenging to do that.

"There are no areas of security, there are no safe havens," Sosebee said. "And therefore, it's very difficult for us to be out in the field providing humanitarian aid when there are no safe places from the constant bombing and attacks that are taking place over the last 72 hours."

Biden's second try at student loan cancellation moves forward with debate over plan's details

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden's second attempt at student loan cancellation moved forward Tuesday with a first round of negotiations to help guide the administration to a new plan.

The Biden administration vowed to try again after the Supreme Court rejected an earlier plan in June. In opening remarks at Tuesday's hearing, Under Secretary of Education James Kvaal said the debt crisis threatens to undercut the promise of higher education.

"Student loan debt in this country has grown so large that it siphons off the benefits of college for many students," Kvaal said in prepared remarks. "Some loans made to young adults stretch into retirement with no hope of being repaid. These debt burdens are shared by families and communities."

Biden directed the Education Department to find another path to loan relief after conservatives on the high court ruled that he couldn't cancel loans using a 2003 law called the HEROES Act.

The latest attempt will rest on a sweeping law known as the Higher Education Act, which gives the education secretary authority to waive

student loans, although how far that power extends is the subject of legal debate.

The Education Department hopes to settle the dispute by adding federal rules that clarify when the secretary can waive student loans. To change those rules, however, the department is required to assemble a committee of outside negotiators to help hash out details.

The first day of negotiations, held virtually, lasted more than five hours but appeared to bring the department no closer to clarity. Much of the discussion centered on the shortcomings of existing student loan cancellation programs or problems caused by student loan interest.

Department officials repeatedly intervened to say those problems don't fall under the scope of the current process.

The negotiators all come from outside the federal government and represent a range of viewpoints on student loans. The panel includes students and officials from a range of colleges, along with loan servicers, state officials and advocates including the NAACP.

It's unclear who will be eligible for forgiveness under the new plan and how much relief they would get. Those details will be decided after the administration takes input from the negotiators, who meet in a series of sessions scheduled to continue into December.

Responding to suggestions from the panel, administration officials said they aren't considering blanket cancellation.

"We are not looking at a broad-based debt cancellation where we are going to wipe off debt in its entirety. We are looking at individual ways that the secretary can exercise the authority to grant waivers," said Tamy Abernathy, who leads a policy group in the department.

She later clarified that the department's next proposal "could cancel some borrowers' debt completely, but it could not cancel all borrowers debt completely."

At the end of the process, negotiators will vote on a proposed rule drafted with input from their discussions. If they reach consensus on a proposal, the department will move forward with it. If they don't, the agency will propose its own plan, which can be finalized after a public comment period.

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Public Sale Calendar

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! Pick up: Oct. 18, 3-6 p.m., 930 Irene Ave., Fort Wayne. *Krueckeburg 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.

OCTOBER 27 - 8 a.m. - Secured creditors & various consignors, owners. 815 Adams St., Decatur. Truck & equipment auction. Live and online bidding. 700+ lots! 100+/- municipal units! 2012-2014 Freightliner M2106 box trucks, dump trucks, day cabs, sleepers, utility trucks, bucket trucks, utility & semi trailers, SUV's, 1/2 ton & 3/4 ton pickups, 100+ various skid steer attachments & more! Cargo & passenger vans, large group of Chevy Impalas, Tahoes, Dodge Chargers, more! Selling absolute! Accepting consignments! *Krueckeburg Auction & Realty LLC*, Kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.

BIDDING NOW OPEN AND STARTS CLOSING NOVEMBER 5 STARTING AT 4 PM EST - Randy Rossman, owner and multiple consignors. Online only consignment auction. 1,000+ lots! Featuring furniture, household items, collectibles, antiques, tools, guns, & much more! Auction preview: Nov. 2, 3-5 p.m., 812 Elm St., Decatur. Pick up times: Nov. 6, 1-6 p.m. & Nov. 7, 9 a.m.-noon, 3 pick up locations in Decatur. *Krueckeburg Auction & Realty LLC*, Kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.

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