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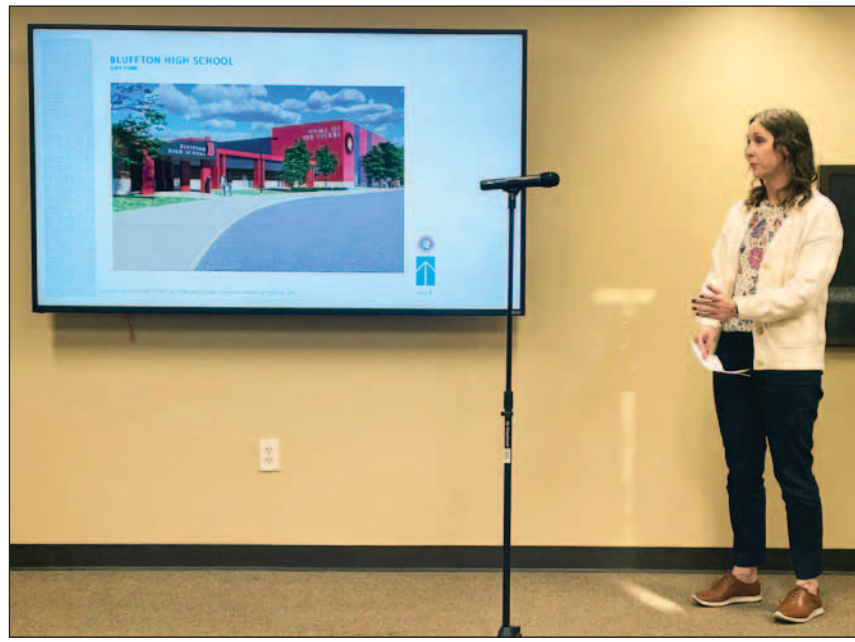
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2023 BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection \$1.00

## Bluffton High School renovation plans come into focus

**By HOLLY GASKILL**  
A series of improvements to Bluffton High School will go to bid this winter. With these projects, the building will likely take on a new look.  
Over the last several months, administration from Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan Schools has discussed issues with moisture in the high school, which have led to frequent roof repairs. It was also recently discovered that the construction of the window heads contributed to some of the moisture damage. Superintendent Brad Yates advised the issues have been ongoing for multiple years.  
In August, the district formally issued a bond for a renovation project to resolve these issues — namely, the building's roof. The bond totals \$10 million and does not significantly affect the district's tax rate due to expiring debt.  
As with any project, these renovations come with design options. During Monday's board meeting, Emily Hower of Elevatus Architecture displayed tenta-

tive final designs, which include a solid-colored BHS red double-panel facade throughout the front entrance canopy and gymnasium area. The red will be accented by a deep gray color appearing on the canopy pillars and alongside the gymnasium.  
The area will also incorporate new signs. At the top of the canopy will read "Bluffton High School" with an indicative 'B' logo, which will be backlit at night. On the corner of the gymnasium, large letters will read "Home of the Tigers", with a large tiger logo on the adjacent wall. The tiger logo will also be backlit at night.  
Hower stated that the firm is also exploring designs to replace the brick road sign to match.  
Given the nature of the repairs, board member Bruce Murray asked if someone would be on-site to guarantee processes would be followed as expected. Hower confirmed the firm is prioritizing quality assurance, noting the products they plan to use will carry a 10-year warranty, and the paint has

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Pictured above is the Bluffton High School design shown to the Bluffton-Harrison school board Monday night. The design featured the BHS colors and logos prominently. (Photo provided) At left, Emily Hower of Elevatus Architecture discusses the project with the board. (Photo by Holly Gaskill)



### Tiny builders

Joshua (left) and William Frauhiger help work on the building outside of the 100 block of West Market Street. The empty space is available to rent as an office space on the lower level, while the upper level will be an Airbnb property. (Photo by Sydney Kent)

## Tourism grants available to market local events

**By HOLLY GASKILL**  
Local tourism grants will soon be open to the public.  
The Wells County Convention and Visitors Commission will award multiple grants to help market Wells County events in November and December. Businesses and organizations could receive up to \$2,000 individually toward the cost of print or online advertising, billboards, flyers, and/or other marketing opportunities.  
The application itself asks the business or organization to describe the event, how the grant will be used, and who will be targeted by the marketing, among other items. The Google form will soon be available [visitwellscounty.com/contact](http://visitwellscounty.com/contact).  
Tourism Coordinator Audry Dudley

stated she wants to prioritize events that brought in outside tourism, which hopefully increases exposure to other local businesses and events, as well as overnight stays.  
During the commission's meeting Wednesday morning, the board members voted 7-0 to allow the grant committee to review and approve relevant applications in between meetings. This contingency was allowed in case an application for an event would come in before their next meeting, Nov. 8. Board members present for the meeting were Scott Elzey, Steve Higgins, Michelle Blount, Zane Herr, Brandy Fiechter, Jon Winne, and Jeff Reed; Justin Osborne and Jay Esparza were absent.  
The innkeepers tax, which adds a 5 per-

(Continued on Page 2)

## Republicans nominate Steve Scalise to be House speaker

**By LISA MASCARO, KEVIN FREKING and FARNOUSH AMIRI**  
Associated Press  
WASHINGTON (AP) — Deeply divided Republicans nominated Rep. Steve Scalise on Wednesday to be the next House speaker but struggled to quickly unify and elect the conservative in a public floor vote after the historic ousting of Rep. Kevin McCarthy from the job.  
In private balloting at the Capitol, House Republicans narrowly pushed aside Ohio Rep. Jim Jordan, the firebrand Judiciary Committee chairman, in favor of Scalise, the current majority leader. The Louisiana congressman, who is battling blood cancer, is seen as a hero to some after surviving a shooting on lawmakers at a congressional

baseball game practice in 2017.  
"We have a lot of work to do," Scalise said afterward.  
A floor vote of the whole House was expected but then abandoned by nightfall. Tensions are still running high among Republicans and the House is at a standstill amid bitter infighting after McCarthy's stunning removal last week. The House was gavelled into a brief session, then closed, with next steps uncertain.  
It's an extraordinary moment of political chaos at a time of uncertainty at home and crisis abroad, moving into a second week without a House speaker. Just 10 months after Republicans swept to power aspiring to operate as a team and run government more like a business, the GOP majority has drifted

(Continued on Page 2)

## Norwell High School approves 2025 Japan trip

**By HOLLY GASKILL**  
Another trip to Japan was approved for Norwell High School students Tuesday night.  
Jacob Bowman, physics teacher, and Mark Weinert, science teacher, presented a proposal to the Norwell Community Schools board Tuesday evening. The trip will look quite similar to the one taken this last summer but will add two days, now an 11 day trip. In doing so, the summer 2025 group can visit Hiroshima.  
The school board was very supportive of this change and trip. Board members Gene Donaghy and Chad Kline noted they'd like to see the teachers organize more opportunities to connect with the people and culture before traveling internationally.  
The trip will cost approximately \$6,489 through the travel company EF Educational Tours. The school plans to send one chaperone for every six to seven students that attend.  
The board later approved a bid package for new buildings and entrances for the football and baseball fields. Springer noted one small change in the project specifications, which swapped flooring options to expand the concession stand by five feet.

Bids for the project totaled \$2,427,061. The board unanimously approved the bid package.  
Also during the meeting, the district's attorney, Nick Hursh, told the board that the separation agreement from the Adams-Wells Special Services Cooperative had been reached. He advised the process had taken roughly seven months given the language of the document, particularly in protecting the retirement benefits of teachers who will continue from the co-op to NWCS.  
Norwell also agreed to transfer its shared ownership in any property and withdraw its representative leadership. NWCS will officially sever itself from the co-op until July 1, 2024, however, the school's liability insurance with the co-op will continue until July 1, 2025.  
The board approved this agreement 5-0.  
Alongside this, Superintendent Mike Springer notified the board negotiation regarding teaching contracts begins this week. He expected the process to go smoothly and agreement approval would follow in November. Additionally, no one from the public provided comment regarding the 2024 budget.

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**Outside**

Chance of showers and thunderstorms

Today	Friday	Saturday
High 70	High 73	High 59
Low 51	Low 54	Low 44

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**THURSDAY**  
October 12, 2023

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## Tourism grants

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cent tax to lodging rentals, has collected \$61,988.71 since February. However, Dudley clarified this number does not reflect a true total collection through September — the online rental and Airbnb portion collected by the Indiana auditor tends to be roughly 60 days delayed. Even so, Dudley said the state has had some late adjustments from checks lost in the mail. Hotels and motels submit their portion to Wells County Treasurer Kathy Peeper every month.

As reported Wednesday, \$56,620.86 was collected from hotels and motels and \$5,367.85 from online bookings. Additionally, the board continued their discussion regarding their strategic plan, which now included a chart outline. The plan outlines four pillar statements: strengthen asset development, market activities, and attractions, enhance organizational awareness, and track and evaluate data.

The plan outlines several strategies for every pillar,

including increasing education about grant opportunities, developing maps of local attractions and way-finding signs, and increasing commission activities and brand awareness, among other items.

A consensus of the board members was that the outlined plan offered room to grow and further develop ideas, possibly into a more formal document as needed. Chad Kline, executive director of Economic Development, advised the most important thing was that the plan included measurable

goals.

Dudley formulated her monthly report with this in mind, categorizing her progress and accomplishments under each of the four pillars. Notably, Dudley took surveys at Ossian Days and Bluffton Street Fair to collect feedback from residents and visitors. She also provided Visitor Guides for the Stauffer Farms Fall Fest.

The visitors commission will meet next at 8 a.m. on Nov. 8 at the Wells County Chamber of Commerce.

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## House speaker

(Continued from Page 1)  
far from that goal.

"We need to make sure we're sending a message to people all throughout the world, that the House is open to doing the people's business," Scalise said.

What's uncertain is whether lawmakers who supported Jordan, the hard-liner backed by Donald Trump, will throw their support to Scalise in what is sure to be a close vote of the full House. Democrats are set to oppose the Republican nominee, easily nominating their leader, New York Rep. Hakeem Jeffries.

Jordan said little after the vote, only that the GOP majority "is divided."

But Jordan did offer to give Scalise a nominating speech on the floor, in what would be a show of support during a vote. And Jordan himself plans to vote for Scalise, and is encouraging his colleagues to do the same, said a person familiar with the private talks and granted anonymity to discuss them.

A centrist leader, Rep. Don Bacon, R-Neb., said, "We do need to get a speaker in place so we can govern."

"What we should have heard today after the vote count was: 'I will heartily support Steve. Let's get behind him,'" Bacon said. "We did not hear that."

Americans are watching. One-quarter of Republicans say they approve of the decision by a small group of Republicans to remove McCarthy as speaker. Three in 10 Republicans believe it was a mistake, according to a poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

At the White House, presidential press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said, "We want to see the chaos be done with so that we can deliver for the American people."

The hard-right coalition of lawmakers that ousted McCarthy, R-Calif.,

has shown what an oversized role a few lawmakers can have in choosing his successor.

In a floor vote, Scalise would need to amass votes from almost all Republicans to overcome the Democratic opposition. Usually, the majority needed would be 218 votes, but there are currently two vacant seats, dropping the threshold to 217.

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

Behind closed doors, the Republicans voted to set aside a proposed rules change that would have tried to ensure a majority vote before the nominee was presented for a full floor vote.

Without the rules change, the Republican lawmakers would be expected to agree to a majority-wins process. But several lawmakers announced they were not supporting Scalise.

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, R-Ga., said she backed Jordan in the private ballot and would do so in the floor vote. Rep. Thomas Massie, R-Ky., said he let Scalise know "he doesn't have my vote on the floor."

Scalise worked from the speaker's office at the Capitol, trying to shore up the vote.

"Steve's going to have to talk to them all and see what their concerns are," said McCarthy, who said he would be voting for Scalise.

Neither Scalise nor Jordan was seen as the heir apparent to McCarthy, who was removed in a push by the far-right flank after the speaker led Congress to approve legislation that averted a government shutdown. The next deadline to fund the government is Nov. 17, again threatening federal closures.

All three men have been here before. In 2018, they were similarly

ying for leadership, with McCarthy and Scalise extending the rivalry to this day.

Scalise was in line for the job this time after McCarthy's ouster, but faced a challenge from Jordan, a founding member of the Freedom Caucus, who was viewed as a more hard-edged option.

Jordan is known for his close alliance with Trump, particularly when the then-president was working to overturn the results of the 2020 election, leading to the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol. Trump backed Jordan's bid for the gavel.

Several lawmakers, including Rep. Matt Gaetz, R-Fla., who engineered McCarthy's ouster, said they would be willing to support either Scalise or Jordan.

"Long live Speaker Scalise," Gaetz said after the vote.

McCarthy had briefly floated a possible comeback earlier this week but the eight hard-liners who helped engineer his removal showed no signs of budging. He told his colleagues late Tuesday not to put his name forward for a nomination.

At the speaker's office, where McCarthy's name had still been out front since his ouster last week, crews were seen carting boxes and artwork out of the stately suite in the Capitol.

For now, Rep. Patrick McHenry, R-N.C., who was named as the speaker pro-tempore, is effectively in charge. He has shown little interest in expanding his power beyond the role he was assigned — an interim leader tasked with ensuring the election of the next speaker.

The role was created in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks to ensure the continuity of government. McHenry's name was at the top of a list submitted by McCarthy when he became speaker in January.

## Israel forms unity government to oversee war

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu joined with a top political rival Wednesday to create a wartime Cabinet to oversee the fight to avenge the gruesome weekend attack by Hamas militants. In the sealed-off Gaza Strip, Palestinian suffering mounted as Israeli bombardment demolished neighborhoods and the only power plant ran out of fuel.

Netanyahu vowed to "crush and destroy" Hamas. "Every Hamas member is a dead man," he said in a televised address.

The new Cabinet establishes a degree of unity after years of bitterly divisive politics and at a time when the Israeli military appears increasingly likely to launch a ground offensive into Gaza. The war has already claimed at least 2,300 lives on both sides.

The Israeli government is under intense public pressure to topple Hamas after its militants stormed through a border fence Saturday and massacred hundreds of Israelis in their homes, on the streets and at an outdoor music festival.

Netanyahu alleged that the attackers engaged in atrocities, including binding boys and girls and shooting them in the head, burning people alive, raping women and beheading soldiers.

The prime minister's allegations could not be independently confirmed, and authorities did not immediately offer further details.

Rescue workers and witnesses have described horrifying scenes, including the slaughter of elderly people and finding bloody rooms crowded with massacred civilians.

Militants in Gaza are holding an estimated 150 people taken hostage from Israel — soldiers, men, women, children and older adults — and they have fired thousands of rockets into Israel over the past five days.

The Cabinet, which will focus only on issues of war, will be led by Netanyahu; Benny Gantz, a senior opposition figure and former defense minister; and current Defense Minister Yoav Gallant.

Still, Israel's political divisions remain. The country's chief opposition leader, Yair Lapid, was invited to join the Cabinet but did not immediately respond to the offer. It appeared that the rest of Netanyahu's existing government partners, a collection of far-right and ultra-Orthodox parties, would remain in place to handle non-war issues.

Israel's increasingly destructive airstrikes in Gaza have flattened entire city blocks and left unknown numbers of bodies beneath debris. A ground offensive in Gaza, whose 2.3 million residents are densely packed into a tiny, coastal strip, would likely result in a surge of casualties for fighters on both sides.

Hamas on Wednesday

launched a fresh barrage of rockets into Israel aimed at the southern town of Ashkelon.

The UN said late Wednesday the number of people displaced by the airstrikes had soared 30 percent within 24 hours, to 339,000, two-thirds of them crowding into U.N. schools. Others sought shelter in the shrinking number of safe neighborhoods in the strip of land only 25 miles long, wedged among Israel, Egypt and the Mediterranean Sea.

After nightfall, Palestinians were plunged into pitch blackness in large parts of Gaza City and elsewhere after the territory's only power station ran out of fuel and shut down. Only a few lights from private generators still glowed.

Israel on Monday halted the entry of food, water, fuel and medicine into the territory. The sole remaining crossing from Egypt was shut down Tuesday after airstrikes hit nearby.

The Gaza Strip's biggest hospital, Al-Shifa, has only enough fuel to keep power on for three days, said Matthias Kannes, a Gaza-based official for Doctors Without Borders. The group said the two hospitals it runs in Gaza were running out of surgical

equipment, antibiotics, fuel and other supplies.

Ghassan Abu Sitta, a reconstructive surgeon at al-Shifa, said he had 50 patients waiting to go to the operating room.

"We're already beyond the capacity of the system to cope," he said. The health system "has the rest of the week before it collapses, not just because of the diesel. All supplies are running short."

The Palestinian Red Crescent said other hospitals' generators will run out in five days. Residential buildings, unable to store as much diesel, likely will go dark sooner.

Egypt and international groups have been calling for humanitarian corridors into Gaza. Convoys stood loaded with fuel and food Wednesday on the Egyptian side of the Rafah crossing, but were unable to enter Gaza, an Egyptian security official said, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the press.

In Gaza's Jabalia refugee camp, rescue workers and civilians carried men covered with blood and soot toward ambulances after strikes toppled buildings. Streets were left blanketed with metal and chunks of concrete.

## Weather

Thursday, October 12, 2023

(24-hour observations at 7:33 p.m. Wednesday)  
High: 68; Low: 37; Precipitation: Trace of rain  
Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.17 feet at 8:45 p.m. Wednesday

## Wells County forecast

**Today:** A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 70. East wind around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50 percent.

**Tonight:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 51. East wind around 10 mph.

**Friday:** A 30 percent chance of showers after 2 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 73. East wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Friday Night:** A chance of showers and thunderstorms, then showers and possibly a thunderstorm after 8 p.m. Low around 54. East wind 10 to 15 mph becoming south after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 90 percent. New rainfall amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible.

**Saturday:** Showers and thunderstorms likely, then showers after 11 a.m. High near 59. Chance of precipitation is 80 percent. New precipitation amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch, except higher amounts possible in thunderstorms.

**Saturday Night:** Showers, mainly before 8 p.m. Low around 44. Chance of precipitation is 80 percent.

**Sunday:** A 30 percent chance of showers, mainly after 2 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 55.

**Sunday Night:** A 30 percent chance of showers before 8 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 40.

**Monday:** A 40 percent chance of showers, mainly after 2 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 53.

**Monday Night:** A 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 41.

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

**Tuesday Night:** A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 41.

**Wednesday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 56.

## BHS renovations

(Continued from Page 1)  
a 30-year lifespan.

Also during the meeting, Yates communicated he will soon explore options to replace the high school's turf football field and the track. Either item, Yates said, has reached its expected lifespan and shows it. These items join a roster of projects the district is still planning, executing, or wrapping up at all three schools.

"Have you ever heard of construction fatigue?" Hower quipped. While

met with laughs, board member Bruce Holland also noted, "But this (moisture issue repairs) is a big one we can't afford not to do."

The board later accepted a series of donations — \$1,000 to the football program for equipment from James and Saundra Wenger, clothing for the elementary school's nurse's clinic from Angela Harris, and shoes for the elementary school from Taylor Harris.

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## Council approves corrected budget

By HOLLY GASKILL

The Wells County Council held a special meeting Wednesday night to correct a mistake in the original budget outline.

While the council had agreed to budget \$76,000 for the Purdue Extension 4-H Office, the approved ordinance did not include this data. Auditor Lisa McCormick noticed the mistake, and a special meeting was scheduled to approve a revised budget in Ordinance 2023-17. It was approved 6-0, with council members Seth Whicker, Todd Mahnensmith, Scott Ezley, Brandon Harnish, Steve Huggins, and Brian Lambert present and Vicki Andrews absent.

The next regular council meeting is 7 p.m. Nov. 7.

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## Bluffton man killed in Ind. 124 collision

A fatal crash on Ind. 124 claimed the life of a Bluffton woman Friday, Oct. 6.

In a press release, Adams County Sheriff Dan Mawhorr said lifesaving measurers were "exhausted" on Kim P. Graham, 70, Bluffton, who was pronounced dead at the scene.

Law enforcement was contacted at approximately 4:24 p.m. regarding the collision at the intersection of Ind. 124 and Adams County Road 200 East. Dean L. Ulrey, 74, Rockford, Ohio, was reportedly driving a Chrysler Town and Country westbound on Ind. 124 and turned southbound on CR 200E, failing to yield to Graham, who was driving a GMC Sierra eastbound on Ind. 124. Ulrey's vehicle was struck by Graham's in the rear passenger side. Evidence then indicates Graham's truck left the roadway and overturned.

A passenger of the Ulrey's vehicle, Sandra J. Ulrey, was emergency transported by Adams County EMS to a Fort Wayne area hospital.

The investigation is ongoing. Adams County deputies were assisted by the Monroe Fire Department, Adams County EMS and Lutheran Air.

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OBITUARIES

Emily Jane Butler, 50

Emily Jane Butler, born April 28, 1973, passed away Oct. 10, 2023 at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne. Emily was 50 years old.

An artist and dreamer at heart, Emily was a talented painter and a holistic health coach. She studied Spanish in Spain, the Impressionist Art movement in France, spent her 30th birthday in Italy, and lived for several years in Portland, Ore. Emily volunteered for a time as a docent at the Portland Art Museum and the Children's Museum in Indianapolis. She was also a talented flamenco dancer, a self-described "foodie," and an excellent cook. She has lived in Bluffton for the past ten years.

Emily was an adored daughter, sister, aunt, cousin, and friend known for her delightful laugh and quick sense of humor. She lived a life of optimism, gratitude, love, and joy, and believed that challenges in life were opportunities for growth.

In her final week at Lutheran Hospital, after each difficult treatment or procedure, she took her caregivers' hand in hers, looked them directly in the eye, and thanked them for their kindness and service to her. Her family shares her grati-



tude for her comforting care and wishes to thank the friends and family who have been, and continue to be, so supportive during this time.

Emily is survived by her parents, Tom and Maureen (Thomas) Butler; her sisters, Mary (Scott) Harpin and Margaret (Peg) Horner; two beloved nieces; and dozens of aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, Oct. 16, 2023, at St. Joseph Catholic Church with Father David Violi celebrating mass. Visitation will be held from 10 to 11 a.m., the time of mass, at the church. Burial will follow at Elm Grove Cemetery in Bluffton.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Wells County Foundation. These contributions will fund a college scholarship in Emily's name that will be awarded to a Wells County student courageous enough to study art, and to continue to use their creative talents to make the world a more beautiful place.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the Butler family at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com).

Kim P. Graham, 70

Kim P. Graham, 70, of Bluffton, passed away Friday evening, Oct. 6, 2023, in Adams County, as the result of an automobile accident.

Kim was born in Bluffton on April 13, 1953, to Glenn and Joan (Schumacher) Graham. Both parents preceded him in death.

Kim graduated from Norwell High School in 1971 and was a third generation lifelong agricultural and dairy farmer in Wells County. He also worked for over ten years for W & W Concrete (Speedway) in Bluffton. Kim loved old westerns and was an avid New York Yankees fan. He also loved his Collie dogs and his International Harvester tractors.

Survivors include a daughter, Carla (Mindy) Graham of Chesapeake, Va.; a



son, Daniel Graham of Bluffton; a sister, Kay (Jim) Crow of Bluffton; his long-time partner, Lori Wile of Bluffton; Lori's children, Jennifer Cook of Uniondale, and Jason (Makayla) Cook of Ossian; along with four grandchildren, Charliee Graham, Keeghan Shuman, Kamdyn Shuman, and Kasetyn Shuman.

A casual receiving of friends and family will be held Thursday, Oct. 12, 2023, from 4:00 until 7:00 p.m., at Goodwin - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton.

In honor of Kim's three-year battle with cancer, memorial contributions may be made to Friends Who Care Cancer Relief Foundation.

Online condolences may be made at [www.goodwincaleharnish.com](http://www.goodwincaleharnish.com).

Janet E. Grimm, 91

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

Janet was born March 11, 1932 in Wells County to Gerald and Ciele (Kennedy) Nusbaumer. She graduated from Chester Center High School in 1950.

She worked in production at Sheller Globe in Montpelier for 23 years, retiring in 1992. Janet volunteered with the Wells County Auxiliary at the Bargain Hut for many years. She enjoyed bowling with the Bluffton Ladies Bowling Leagues. She loved to read James Patterson mysteries; she was a very talented piano and organ player. Janet will be known for crocheting baby blankets for all of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, along with making quilts for them as wedding gifts.

On Dec. 26, 1977, Janet and Gerald L. "Pete" Grimm were married. He preceded her in death on Sept. 30, 1988.

Survivors include her children; Shirley (Michael) Meyer of Hoagland, Kenneth (Nancy) Habig of Gainesville, Fla., David (Janalyn) Habig of Indianapolis, Mary (Claudio) Basicili of Columbia, Ky., Penelope (Lee) Gearhart of Texas, and Jeffrey (Valerie) Habig of Bluffton; along with 13



grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. She is survived by a sister Beverly Mugg of San Diego, Calif.

Janet is also survived by stepchildren; Susan (Bill) Warren of Berne, Beverly (Marvin) Salyers of Bluffton, Mike (Gwen) Grimm of Keystone, Dave (Cherry) Grimm of Bluffton; along with 13 step-grandchildren, and 17 step-great-grandchildren.

Janet is preceded in death by her husband Pete; her parents; a sister Mariana Wentz; a brother, Roderick Nusbaumer; and a step-son, John Kleinknight.

Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 15, 2023, at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton with Pastor Steve Sutton officiating.

Visitation will take place 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, prior to the funeral service.

Burial will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery in Montpelier.

Memorials may be made to the Bargain Hut.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the family at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com).

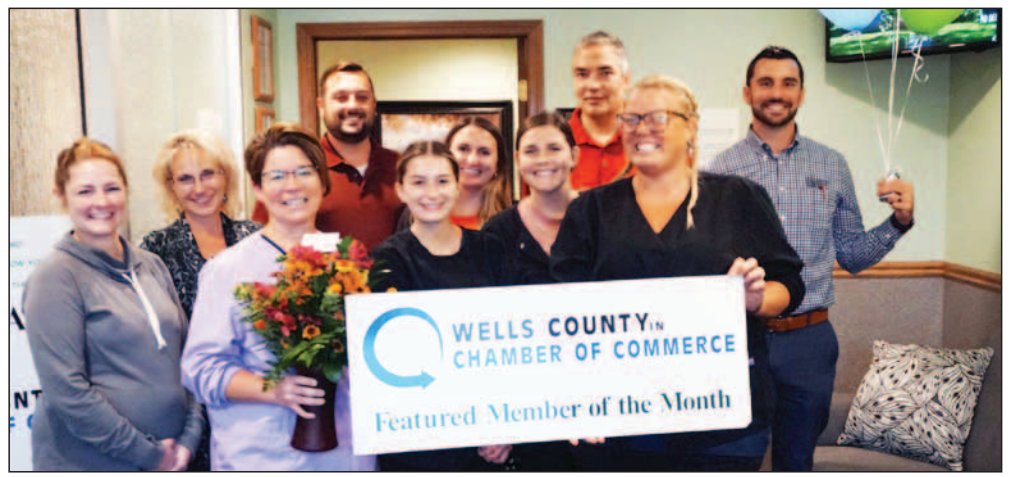
Peggy L. Driver, 82

Peggy L. Driver, 82, of Montpelier, passed away Oct. 10, 2023. She was born on Dec. 16, 1940, in Indianapolis. She married Henry Clay Driver on April 18, 1968.

She is survived by her children, Bud Garmon and Roger (Yolanda) Garmon, both of Montpelier; stepdaughter, Sherry Perry, Scottsville, Ky.; seven grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, three step-grandchildren, and nine step-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, Elmer Malston and Lillian (Eaton) Malston, and two children, Gary Garmon and Loretta Garmon.

Family and friends may gather from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Oct. 14 at Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W Windsor St. in Montpelier. A service will follow at 1 p.m. with Pastor Steve Rogers officiating. Interment will follow in the Alexandria IOOF Cemetery in Alexandria.



Pictured in the photo left to right: Alyssa Brown, Archbold & Lewis; Erin Prible, executive director, Wells County Chamber of Commerce; Dr. Teresa Nicholson, Nicholson Family Dental; Nick Huffman, Steffen Group; Aubrie Leas; Jayde Ketring, First Bank of Berne; Maddie Jacobs; Keith Muhlenkamp, First Merchants Bank; Andrea Grimm; and Piercen Harnish, Shelton Financial Group. (Photo submitted)

Nicholson receives Member of the Month recognition

The Wells County Chamber of Commerce is delighted to announce Dr. Teresa Nicholson of Nicholson Family Dental as the October Member of the Month. This prestigious recognition is awarded to Dr. Nicholson in appreciation of her dedication and outstanding contributions to the field of dentistry, and her commitment to providing exceptional dental care to the Bluffton community.

Dr. Teresa Nicholson, an esteemed dentist with nearly two decades of experience, took ownership of Nicholson Family Dental in Bluffton in 2014. She acquired the practice from Dr. Rob Evans, who was retiring at the time, and was also managing an office in Muncie. Within two years, Nicholson's dedication and expertise led to substantial growth in the Bluffton practice, prompting the expansion of the facility to accommodate more patients.

In her pursuit of excellence, Nicholson made the decision to sell her Muncie practice, allowing her to focus entirely on serving the Bluffton community and eliminating the challenges of managing two offices simultaneously.

Nicholson's passion for her profession lies in its flexibility and versatility. She continually seeks to enhance her services, offering a range of treatments beyond traditional dentistry. Among her innovative offerings is "facial rejuvenation," a procedure designed to address a variety of facial concerns, including scars, wrinkles, fine lines, acne, and large pores. This treatment utilizes a patient's own blood components to promote healing. Nicholson performs micro-needling and applies the patient's platelets to tighten and heal the skin. Her unique qualifications as a dentist also enable her to provide prescription-strength numbing for patient comfort.

Her dedication to patient well-being and

her credentials as a licensed practitioner set her apart, allowing her to offer advanced treatments that an esthetician cannot replicate.

"The procedure is very good for your complexion and for those of us that are aging it can help with confidence, appearance and simply feel better about ourselves," explained Nicholson.

One of the remarkable aspects of Nicholson's practice is her credentialing at Parkview Hospital to treat children and special needs patients under anesthesia. She provides essential dental care to individuals with complex needs who cannot be treated in a standard dental office setting. Nicholson has held these credentials at Parkview since 2009, demonstrating her commitment to ensuring access to dental care for all.

Nicholson Family Dental offers a comprehensive range of services, including regular dental cleanings, fillings, extractions, and the innovative facial rejuvenation treatment.

Nicholson said, "I am here to help people and keep them from having major problems. Life isn't perfect and a mouth isn't either. I'm not looking for perfection, but I am looking for a logical approval to keeping people's mouths healthy."

Nicholson Family Dental is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday. Nicholson and her team look forward to welcoming new and existing patients to experience the exceptional care and expertise that have earned her the title of October Member of the Month by the Wells County Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Nicholson Family Dental at 116 East Dustman Road, Bluffton, Indiana, or call 260-824-2811.

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City:

Tuesday, 2:20 p.m., 400 block of Homestead Court. Caller requested to speak to an officer regarding suspicious calls her mother received.

Tuesday, 2:53 p.m., West Water and North Oak streets. Car accident reported.

Tuesday, 3:36 p.m., 700 block of North Main Street. Caller reported multiple vehicles parked at a storage unit with the door open. Caller stated subjects never move items out and are there frequently.

Tuesday, 4:22 p.m., 70 block of Capri Court. Caller reported man screaming and yelling.

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., 1000 block of Clark Avenue. Caller reported sister threatened her child during verbal argument.

Tuesday, 6:31 p.m., 70

block of Capri Court. Caller reported man yelling and slamming things again.

Tuesday, 10:44 p.m., Goodyear Tire Service. Report of 3 males in dumpsters for 15-20 minutes. Officers did not locate anyone.

Wednesday, 4:53 a.m., Airplane Express and Service Station. Caller reported a thirsty thief who drank a Monster energy drink and consumed a salad and sandwich on the property without paying for them. He reportedly also took additional drinks with him.

Wednesday, 5:02 a.m., 600 block of West Spring Street. Caller reported vandalism.

Wednesday, 6:04 a.m., West Wabash and North Morgan streets. Driver cited for speeding 50 mph in a 30 mph zone.

Wednesday, 8:02 a.m., Advance Auto Parts. Report

of a vehicle in parking lot with slashed tires.

Wednesday, 8:34 a.m., Walmart. Driver issued a citation for disregarding a stop sign.

Wednesday, 11:41 a.m., Riverstone Dental. Report of a construction crew concerned about a subject on the property, believes he is homeless.

Wednesday, 1:15 p.m., Arby's. Welfare check requested for elderly man in parking lot looking very confused.

County:

Tuesday, 2:00 p.m., West 100 South and South 200 West, Keystone. Concerned citizen approached the officer about the state of the railroad. Officer observed several pot holes down to the number two rock foundation and several places pavement was missing. Reported to the N&S hotline

(Continued on Page 10)

American Legion Fish Fry

The American Legion Post 111 will host a fish fry from 5-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20. The three-piece fish dinner will include French fries, coleslaw and a dessert for \$12. A carry-out option is also available.

Tickets must be purchased in advance at the post or by calling 260-824-3815.

Fall Fest Oct. 14 at Ouabache

Part 1 of Ouabache State Park's Fall Fest activities will be held this Saturday, Oct. 14.

Activities will include: 10 a.m.: Bison Feeding at the Bison Pen.

10 a.m.-2 p.m.: Spooky Scavenger Hunt. With participants entered in a drawing to win an annual park pass.

1 p.m.: The annular eclipse! Eclipse glasses will be available for purchase at the park office.

5-7 p.m.: Trick-or-Treating throughout the campground. Awards for campsite decoration will be announced after the trick-or-treating.

More information at (260) 824-0926 or at [www.dnr.IN.gov](http://www.dnr.IN.gov)

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## Why do even popular bills get hung up in Congress?

It's not hard to imagine that as Congress edged closer and closer to shutting down the US government at the end of September, most Americans watched with a sense of both disbelief and bemusement. Disbelief, because on Congress's list of key responsibilities, keeping the federal government running surely ranks near the top. And some degree of confusion because, given overwhelming bipartisan support for passing spending bills, how could things have gotten so dire?



Lee Hamilton

### Hoosier Opinions

Before we get to that, though, it's worth remembering that to some extent this is just Congress being Congress. At the best of times, the congressional process is slow, messy, complex, and often contentious—regardless of where popular sentiment lies. Not only is it not designed for quick action, it's actually structured to slow things down so that matters of national importance can get a careful look.

In general, bills have to go through the committee system, which in an ideal world adds both expertise and additional scrutiny to the process—but also adds time. They're subject to debate both in committee and on the floor of each chamber—and, in the Senate, always at risk of being filibustered. At every step of the process, interest groups and lobbyists are weighing in—often behind the scenes—in a full-court press to shape or block a bill. Procedural rules offer plenty of opportunities for individual members to block progress even in the face of widespread condemnation from colleagues, as Alabama GOP Sen. Tommy Tuberville has been facing for holding up military promotions and appointments. Sometimes, getting to a majority in both houses on the same piece of legislation can feel like a minor miracle, requiring negotiation, compromise, and lots of patience.

Our history offers plenty of examples. It took well over a year for the Affordable Care Act to win passage in 2010, despite strong public support for health care reform. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 faced concerted opposition from southern senators in particular, though it enjoyed the support of a majority of Americans. Immigration reform has been a perennial top-of-mind issue on Capitol Hill, with members of Congress and the public at large agreeing that it needs to happen and many on both sides of the aisle believing that undocumented immigrants need a "pathway to citizenship," yet disagreements over how to achieve reform have stymied legislation for decades.

To be sure, Congress can act very quickly when it needs to, especially in the face of a national emergency: after 9/11, during the 2008 financial crisis, when confronted with the Covid pandemic. And in the past, even when the appropriations process to fund the federal government has hit snags, Congress has been able to move quickly to pass a continuing resolution or an omnibus spending bill to avert a shutdown.

But when both Congress and the nation are polarized and Congress itself is closely divided along partisan lines, everything becomes more difficult. This is especially so in the House these days, where, as we've seen, just a tiny handful of members can gum things up and the GOP speaker faces the constant prospect of losing his post if even a single member of his caucus decides to give it a shot. In other words, the potential for messiness, gridlock, and obstruction has reached new heights this year.

Yet despite all this, there's one other key thing to remember: When it comes to its most important business, like passing appropriations bills and funding the government, Congress always comes through. Debate might be contentious and every so often we face a shutdown—with all the disruption and political fallout that entails—but eventually every department will get its funds. Given all the forces arrayed against making progress, that's no small feat.

Lee Hamilton is a distinguished scholar with the IU School of Global and International Studies. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

## Your Right to Know

A continuing series on how to contact government officials

As an Indiana citizen you have the right to inspect and copy most governmental records and attend government meetings.

Open review and discussion of government actions are fundamental principles of our form of government.

If you feel you have been improperly denied access

to a record or a public meeting, you are encouraged to contact the office of the Public Access Counselor, an office established by the Governor to deal with access complaints.

Call 1-800-228-6013  
You may discuss your issue with an access counselor free of charge.



Submit your Letters to the Editor via:

- Our website link (Submit your Letter)
- Fax: (260) 824-0700
- E-Mail: email@news-banner.com
- Mail: PO Box 436, Bluffton IN 46714
- Drop-off: 125 N. Johnson St., Bluffton

All letters must be signed and must include a phone number or address in case verification is desired. Letters are edited for brevity and clarity. **Letters must be no more than 500 words.** Please mark your correspondence as a "Letter to the Editor," or if you wish to express an opinion to us but do not want it published, please mark as "Not for Publication."

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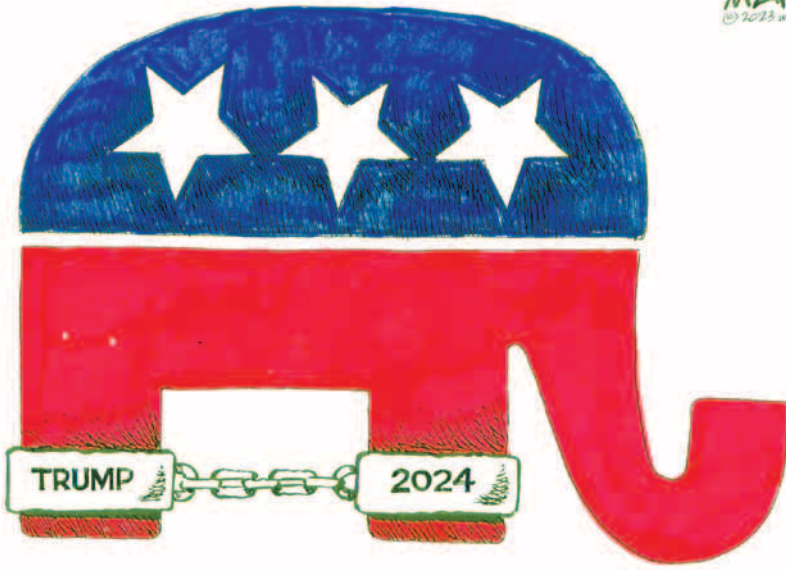
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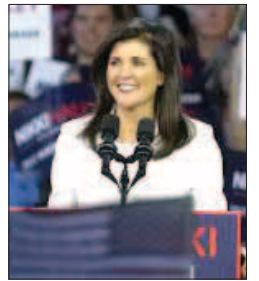
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Tim Scott



Nikki Haley

## Tim Scott, please drop out, urge others to follow and unite behind Nikki Haley

There is national incredulity, exhaustion, embarrassment, disgust and fatalism about the political parties' inability to generate palatable presidential choices. Tim Scott could alter this with a trifecta of statesmanlike acts: withdrawing from the competition for the Republican presidential nomination, challenging others to do likewise and exhorting them to join him in supporting Nikki Haley.

This is the South Carolina senator's choice: He can acknowledge that his energetic campaigning has failed to enkindle sufficient enthusiasm and depart as he campaigned, cheerfully. Or he can try to become someone whom, to his credit, he has no aptitude for being — another peddler of synthetic anger, stoking today's rage culture.

Of Scott we may say what Sam Rayburn, Democratic House speaker for 17 years, reportedly said of Dwight D. Eisenhower when in 1948 Democrats contemplated giving Ike their presidential nomination: "Good man but wrong business." Actually, Ike was, like Scott, a good man and, as Scott someday could be, a fine president. Scott is not, however, the man for this season.

By catalyzing a coalescence around Haley, Scott could transform the nation's political mood. As long as the Republican race pits Donald Trump against a cluster of lagging pursuers, the nominating electorate cannot ponder a binary choice. When, however, it is Trump against one experienced, polished, steely and unimpaired adversary, voters can internalize this exhilarating reality: There is a choice suitable for a great nation.

Scott could mercifully end the candidates' miserable "debates," which are caricatures of real ones and diminish everyone involved. (In the Lincoln-Douglas debates, one spoke for an hour, the other for 90 minutes, then the first speaker delivered a 30-minute answer.) More 60-second simplicities about complexities will benefit only the nonparticipating candidate, who has time on his side.

Trump is so deeply shallow that many might still underestimate his potential destructiveness, of which fresh evidence constantly accumulates. Most recently: his reported telling a foreign blatherskite\* secret details concerning U.S. nuclear submarines, the foundation of deterrence. A reelected Trump, having promised to secure Russia's success against Ukraine — he vows to end the war "in 24 hours" — would mean the unraveling of collective security, from Europe to the Far East: Serious nations will not tether themselves to a United States that tethers itself to someone who is in equal measures frivolous, petulant and malevolent.

If after Super Tuesday (March 5), a Trump nomi-



George Will

nation seems highly probable, a serious third-party candidacy will become probable, as will multiplying uncertainties. If, however, Haley deflates the Trump blimp, the Democratic Party also could benefit.

She would be heavily favored against the fast-fading President Biden. So, if her nomination becomes likely, Democratic panic might produce what Democratic prudence evidently will not: a 2024 ticket other than one joining someone no longer fit for the presidency with someone who never will be fit.

Haley has established policy preeminence among her Republican rivals. Regarding foreign policy, she has been the most forthright against the amalgam of nihilism, isolationism and opportunism currently fueling many elected Republicans' eagerness to appease Russia. In domestic policy, she alone is ready to address, with changes affecting only people far from retirement, the unsustainable trajectory of Social Security and Medicare, and this ticking fiscal time bomb: Soon, the federal government will spend \$1 trillion annually on debt service alone.

Haley's policy preeminence among the Republican aspirants must become political preeminence, quickly. What Gen. Douglas MacArthur said of military disasters is also true of political ones: They are explained by two words — "too late." Too late to respond proactively. With every passing day, the probability of a national disgrace — a Trump nomination — increases. And with it the probability of another disgrace, a Biden-Trump rematch, which might mean the probability of another Trump presidency.

The Republican contenders are unintentionally enacting a political version of the tragedy of the commons: When everyone has a right to graze cattle on the commons, no one has an incentive for restraint; soon, the commons are barren and all who pursued their self-interest are equally injured.

If four or more of Trump's Republican rivals slog on, each hoping a strong Iowa showing will propel them to stronger ones in New Hampshire and South Carolina, they are all likely to finish with equally barren prospects. Their replication of the tragedy of the commons will, unless disrupted now, produce a national tragedy. Tim Scott, by acting boldly — one might say presidentially — against a dimly predictable political dynamic, could give a grateful nation hope for the redemption of this shabby era.

Disclosure: The columnist's wife, Mari Will, an adviser to Republican presidential candidate Sen. Tim Scott (S.C.), disagrees with this column.

\*Editor's Note: blatherskite — a person who talks at great length without making much sense.

georgewill@washpost.com

## Kestrel conundrum culminated

'Twas a mystery. Angelpond's south bank's overgrown plant life extended eight feet over the water. Not in, but over.

'Twas it purslane or spurge? The "p" variety became a pretty healthy food option. Spurge could be toxic. It grew so well it resembled an invasive. Only occasionally did it allow an arrowhead plant to emerge.

Arrowhead is considered invasive. Anglekeep likes it because its stems are the birthplace of hundreds of dragonflies.

It seemed unfortunate E. B. Williamson no longer lived. He probably could identify the purslane/spurge conundrum. He was a genius and could identify anything, plant or animal. Dragonflies. Water plants. Birds. Irises. Mushroomrooms. Even banking. He knew. Ultimately, E. B. became Bluffton's greatest human asset.

One purslane plant could produce 200,000 seeds, each capable of living 40 years. Purslane grew as an extremely healthy vegetable. Spurge was a scourge. Angelkeep, being unaware of truth, began mucking, not harvesting. Rake out and destroy, rather than top with Caesar's dressing and croutons.

As Angelpond's shoreline cleared, many critters celebrated. Deer drank. Birds waded. Frogs croaked. *Oops!* One bullfrog croaked in a bad way when a great blue heron opted for a frog legs meal rather than fish. Angelkeep once ate frog legs. Just the hind legs. Of course, they tasted like chicken. A heron ate all four legs at once, plus all parts in-between. Head first. The last sighting of bullfrog was the two-foot slide down heron's long neck. The descending bulge appeared to be a final wave goodbye.

## Angelkeep Journals

That might have been an Angelkeep Journals' record for an opening segue (pronounced seg-way) into a topic, today being a kestrel conundrum.

The mucked-out, cleared shoreline of Angelpond looked invitingly beautiful from the kitchen window. Past sweaty work paid dividends once all the critters began enjoying the shoreline again. Sometimes the camera zoom lens provided identification assistance. The pond location's distance became an observation handicap to an old man's aging eyesight. "What's that on the pond edge?" Gwen asked.

Nikon zoom provided the answer. "Hawk," said I. Thankfully Gwen didn't ask, "What kind?"

Hawk identification grew to be an Angelkeep nightmare. Multiple kinds. If you missed last month's hawk column, you missed "A chance of 10,000 lifetimes." It identified a red-tail hawk visiting the house patio. It didn't want to leave. Just like a particular aging old man in his patio rocking chair.

The hawk variety question arose once again. Angelkeep previously identified sharp-shinned, cooper's, and last month's column hero. Indiana supports seven-to-nine hawk varieties, depending on which website could be believed. Angelkeep's hawk perched on a pond-edge stake defied identification as one of the former visitors.



Alan Daugherty

When Zanesville's Chaney brothers dug Angelpond in 1999, the empty 15-foot hole was bordered with wooden stakes marking the future pond's edge based on the level of the overflow ground. All transit-set stakes were perfectly placed. Three yet survived. One served the unknown hawk as a rest perch. The hawk hopped down and drank freely from Angelpond's mucked edge. It flew away without introducing itself.

One Facebook friend identified it as a kestrel. Thus today's title: "Kestrel conundrum." This hawk's tail failed to match any kestrel photos online. Tail-feather tips held pure snow-white color. The tail's length measured less than eight inches based on a comparison to the stake's height. The remainder of the tail-feathers held stripes. Three sets of black and light tan. Black stripes were two-thirds the size of the wider tan parts. White, black, tan, black, tan, black, tan. That distinctive tail failed to match any hawk found online until running across photos of a Northern Harrier.

A Northern Harrier had a white rump. So did Angelkeep's stake-perching hawk. Breast, beak, eyes, and more matched the harrier. Digital-images.net provided definitive photos. Northern Harriers live year-round in this area and eat mice and frogs, no chickens. Angelpond was a frog pond.

Kestrel conundrum culminated. In the spirit of Wells County Public Library's One Book One County, and John Green's "The Anthropocene Reviewed," Angelkeep gave Northern Harrier four stars. Angelkeep waits to rate kestrel.

Mr. Daugherty is a Wells County resident who, along with his wife Gwen, enjoy their backyard and have named it "Angelkeep."

# A home tour, and the many memories with it

OK, what I would really like is an open house and host all of you for a meal, get acquainted, and the like. I know it's impossible, but I won't stop wishing for it. Daniel was bound and determined that we should travel to Ohio or somewhere closer to you to allow me to meet you. He was going to make it happen by this year, but plans have changed since he went to heaven. We'll see what comes together one day.

For now, I'll take you on a little tour of our home as a reader suggested.

Oh my, where do you want to start? Hop on the pony cart, and let's be off—don't worry, we'll bring you back safely. On either side of the dusty, gravel road, you'll notice corn fields and pastures for Grandpa's horses and beef cows, including one that Daniel had bought as a calf that spring just before he passed.

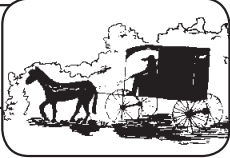
Uncle Paul owned the little country store less than a half mile from our house, and has now been sold to his daughter and son-in-law and Daniel's parents. Shopping there is always enjoyable, providing the children keep in mind we can't buy every other item.

Returning home, Tissa, our new pony, will naturally take you straight into our driveway, where the road makes a sharp right.

Picture this: when I was five years old, and we lived in the large Amish community of Holmes County, Ohio, we came to Illinois, and my parents told me we would live 'over there.' I didn't get it — it was only a barren field with woods beyond it as far as I could see. How

## The Amish Cook

by Gloria Yoder



could we live there?

Today, 28 years later, it doesn't seem like the same lonely field. Driving into our lane, you'll notice maple trees along the right side, which my dad planted years ago. On the left is a row of pine trees my husband planted five years ago after we bought this home. Beyond pines is our chestnut grove, where Hubby poured in his heart to provide work and grub for his growing children.

As we keep going, we'll loop past our garden and through the front yard; yes, I know, it's not necessarily found to be proper, but our front yard gets lots of use on all sides. It is big enough for the boys to play softball or for Julia to ride horseback with Tissa.

The shop my dad built sits next to the house. Dad worked with multiple types of wood and rustic furniture designs. Thus, he extended his shop numerous times. It is now large enough to host weddings, funerals, and other events with many people.

Across from the shop is the barn— one of my favorite places. I know barns can be smelly and lots of work, but our love for animals outweighs all that. I have been amazed at how tonic animals can be to struggling children. If they can care for an animal, it's next to them getting the care themselves when Mom can't take care of everything all at once. We hope to get more animals next summer once we redid our fencing system; we

constantly need to be on the lookout for coons, minks, foxes, and such that want to steal our ducks.

Daisy, the milk goat, has done fantastic in clipping back weeds behind the barn or wherever we tie her. Her young kid, Lily, runs with the sheep. Hopefully, she'll also be having babies by next year.

Next, we'll return beyond the shop to a particular spot I visit almost daily. It's my little sanctuary Daniel built that last winter before he went home to heaven. He made it a temporary home for Cousin Owen, yet in my heart, I knew that's where I would someday spend time with God. I had no idea how it would ever happen with children who need me 24/7. Since he passed, family and friends have taken turns to watch the children daily for an hour to allow me to pray, grieve, and rest.

We enjoy going back as a family, but at this point, it is mostly for my quiet hour.

Taking a walk back to the house, I'll take you in the front door to the living room. If you come on a winter evening, you'll probably find us sitting on the floor playing Memory or UNO or sitting around the living room singing.

Come on out into the kitchen! Here, we have tea, cookies, and good conversations. You'll notice our new double doors going off of the kitchen and back onto the deck that has been replaced this summer. One of my primary plans with the deck is

to host guests in the evening, invited or not invited. So have a seat and stay a while!

This week, my mom made a tasty casserole, which we served to the Stoll brothers and their families who came to help us with fencing. The casserole was warm and satisfying as the temperature around us dropped.

We plan to put a screen around the deck later this fall; you can leave your mosquito spray at home!

**Herb Roasted Chicken Thighs and Potatoes**  
 8 boneless chicken thighs  
 1 onion, cut into chunks  
 1 sweet potato, cut into chunks  
 3 red potatoes, cut into chunks  
**SAUCE:**  
 1/4 cup butter  
 4 garlic cloves, crushed  
 1 teaspoon brown sugar



1/2 teaspoon salt  
 1/2 teaspoon pepper  
 1/2 teaspoon poultry seasoning  
 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper  
 1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley  
 Lay chicken and vegetables in a large greased skillet

or a 9 X 13 baking dish.  
 Make sauce: in a small saucepan, melt butter, add garlic, brown sugar, salt, pepper poultry seasoning, cayenne pepper, and parsley. Pour sauce over chicken and vegetables. Make sure sauce is coating everything evenly. Bake at 350 for 90 minutes.

## Poets added to state archive

The Indiana Arts Commission and Indiana State Library have announced the addition of more than 50 poets to the state's poetry archive, INverse.

Six poets were from Northeast Indiana including Dawn Cunningham, Helen Frost, Ardiene Jennings, Vincent Luebke and Jonathan Winters from Allen county and Keith Stanton of LaGrange county.

Indiana residents can submit poems to the archive each year between Feb. 1 and April 30. For more information go to [www.in.gov/arts/programs-and-services/partners/indiana-poet-laurate/inverse-indianas-poetry-archive](http://www.in.gov/arts/programs-and-services/partners/indiana-poet-laurate/inverse-indianas-poetry-archive).

INverse may be accessed online at [hryp://indianamemory.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p16066coll82](http://hryp://indianamemory.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p16066coll82).

## Theater Thursdays at the library

Every third Thursday of the month the Wells County Public Library hosts free Theater Thursday for adults at the Bluffton library.

Scheduled for 2023 are these PG-13 films:  
 Oct. 19: "Uncharted"  
 Nov. 16: "Fatherhood"  
 Dec. 21: "Last Christmas"

Sponsors are the Friends of the Library and the Bluffton Parks & Recreation. Registration appreciated to (260) 824-1612 or online at [wellscolibrary.org](http://wellscolibrary.org).

## Craft Club at the Wells County Public Library

On the Tuesdays of Oct. 17 and Nov. 21, from 1 to 3 p.m. the Wells County Public Library in Bluffton is hosting a Craft Club for adults who knit, crochet, embroider, quilt or do paper crafts.

Attendees should bring a current travel-size project and materials to work upon at the drop-in event.

More information at (260) 824-1612.

## 'Rocky horror Picture Show' at Botanical Conservatory

Doors will open at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 21, at the Fort Wayne Botanical Conservatory's Terrace Garden for the showing of the "Rocky Horror Picture Show."

The movie will begin at 9:15 p.m. Lawn chairs are welcome and food and beverages for purchase will be offered by the Mad Anthony Brewing Company. Attendees 17 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Regular admission applies.



Bluffton High School Class of 1950

Members of the Bluffton High School Class of 1950 who were present at their 73rd Reunion were: front row, left to right, Carolyn Sliger Van Gordon, Shirley Reed Townsend, Mary Jo Lounsbury Zearbaugh. Back row, Gerry Mounsey Clayhorn, Barbara Decker Irving, Gerry Worthman Irwin, Betty Sprunger Hughes, Don Lockwood, Joyce Felts Gilliom attended but not in picture. (Photo submitted)

## A Talk with Tego



Sparton is an 11-week-old, domestic short hair male.



Spitfire is an 11-week-old, domestic short hair male.



Spunky is an 11-week-old, domestic short hair male.



Tego

**Tego's Tips:** A costume on a pet should not constrict its movement, hearing, or breathing to bark or meow.

These are just a few pets available for adoption at the Wells County Animal Shelter, 1613 W. Cherry St., Bluffton. For more information call 824-6063.

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# Online Directory

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# Bluffton's Godwin racing toward the state meet

*Tigers' senior aims to be the first to appear at the state meet in 23 years*

By RYAN WALKER

Tyler Godwin has a chance to do what no other Bluffton cross-country runner has done since 2000 — make an appearance at the state meet.

The now senior is coming off a dominant performance at the Allen County Athletic Conference meet held on Saturday morning, winning by 30 seconds in front of second-place and teammate Levi Johns. He was the only runner to reach below the 17-minute mark, a rate that has only been archived by 10 runners in school history (unofficially). He also was awarded honorable mention by the Indiana Association of Track and Cross Country Coaches.

Godwin's career began in middle school, running competitively in sixth grade with the inspiration from his mother, a former state competitor of her own in Georgia.

He never really thought of how good he might be until his freshmen year of track, winning the ACAC 3200 meter race. Since then, he has had a belief in himself to do more and train with more intensity and consistency.

"I was doing what we were told to do, but I wasn't training that hard per se," Godwin said after practice by the track Tuesday. "And I went, and I won conference in the 3200, and I wasn't really supposed to win that race. That was kind of where I was like, 'Dad, I could be pretty decent at this.'"

Godwin said that last year's sectional meet in cross country was one of the most "disappointing races" in his running career. He placed fifth with a time of 17:06.4. He carried that feeling into the regional race the following week and shaved off 12 seconds.

That strive to improve not only translated to immediate results, but into motivation heading into the off-season, where he found the perfect workout partner.

During the summer, Godwin lives with his father in Florida. He packed his bags and wanted to get right to work.

He asked his head coach, Michael Vanderkolk if he could research some of the area high schools to see

if he could work out with their team. What they found was a nearby Wakulla High School in Crawfordville, just south of Tallahassee.

Vanderkolk went to the school's website and contacted the cross country coach, Michael Martin, and explained the situation. Martin agreed, and even said that his best runner, junior Henry Lewis, would benefit from having Godwin train with him.

Lewis hovered in the 16:48 time range, the best by far on the team, and couldn't challenge himself. Godwin sat just below that time slot, and the two immediately benefited.

The two compared in time, but each had different strengths. Lewis was good with endurance, while Godwin was better with speed. Throughout the summer, both would teach each other drills to improve their weaknesses.

The two improved vastly together. At the time, Godwin didn't see the results, but a lot had changed when he returned home.

"I didn't notice as much in the summer, but I really started to tell how all the training helped whenever we started doing practices (in Bluffton), and we were doing tempo runs," Godwin said. "I spent a day and would look back at my runs from the previous year. But at the end of the year, for typical runs, the mile paces are like 20 or 25 seconds faster."

At the ACAC meet, he ran a 16:43.60, 13 seconds faster than the semi-state race.

The efforts as an individual trickled down to the team for the Tigers with a new-found leader with Godwin.

Bluffton had success of its own last year, winning the ACAC, sectional champions for the first time in 24 years, and an appearance at the semi-state race.

Godwin became a leader for everyone on the team, especially the younger ones.

Vanderkolk and Godwin shared that he texted his teammates after the second race this season, encouraging them to find a routine before each meet to simplify the big day.

For example, Godwin said that he eats a carb-heavy meal the night before, as endurance-type athletes

typically do. On race day, he randomly scrolls through a chapter of his Bible and reads scripture while listening to the same set of songs. To warm up, he does four strides. On the second one, he goes alone to thank God for giving him the opportunity to run that day.

Before the season began, Godwin and Vanderkolk came to an agreement to run with more intentionality during practices to reach a higher level. Before, Vanderkolk said that the last few weeks of practice didn't have goals other than to advance to the next round.

"Tyler said, 'I don't want it to be like this next year. I want to be more aggressive with our training, staying on top of it.' It's like, 'Yeah, I'm for that as well,'" Vanderkolk said.

The grind has paid off to this point for Godwin, who now has his eyes set on the state meet in Terre Haute.

According to incstats.com, a website that gives odds for teams and individuals to advance in the post-season. Godwin has a 74.7 percent chance to move on to state.

If he makes it, this will be the first Tiger to appear at the state level since Chris Brown and Bret Grover did it in 2000, according to the team.

The state meet has been a dream for him, one he may have never thought could come true. He admitted he's tried not to tune out the noise, but it's been on his mind for a while now, and he can't help when it's glaring in his face.

"Now it's getting more and more nerve-wracking, and you kind of realize, OK, it's here, but then you don't really want to think about it," Godwin said. "You see the percentages. You're supposed to go to make state. Maybe you become relaxed for things that you shouldn't be relaxed on that you haven't relaxed on for the last five or six months. I try not to think about it too much, but it's hard not to."

The quest for state begins this weekend in the sectional. Godwin and the Bluffton Tigers will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday at Taylor University. The regional meet will be the following week, with state a week after that.

sports@news-banner.com



Bluffton's Tyler Godwin runs alone during the ACAC meet at Bluffton High School on Saturday, Oct. 7. He ended up winning the conference as an individual for the second year in a row and helped the Tigers capture the ACAC title. (Photo provided)



Tyler Godwin (left) races alongside teammates Jude Baumgartner (middle) and Levi Johns (right) during Bluffton's inaugural cross country Invitational on Saturday, Oct. 2. The three placed 1-3 that day, leading Bluffton to a team win. (Photo provided)

## High School Calendar

**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) Nor-

well, 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

# Kansas hoops escapes major penalties, postseason ban as panel downgrades violations

By DAVE SKRETTA  
AP Basketball Writer

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) — The Kansas men's basketball program was put on probation and ordered to take down its 2018 Final Four banner but escaped a postseason ban Wednesday, when an independent panel created by the NCAA to handle complex cases downgraded five Level I violations lodged against the Jayhawks.

The violations stem from a 2017 federal investigation into college basketball corruption, and hinged on whether representatives of the apparel company Adidas were considered boosters when two of them arranged payments to prospective recruits.

Kansas officials never disputed that payments were made, only that they had any knowledge of them, and they appealed the violations through the Independent Accountability Resolution Process. Their hearing took place in April and the ruling was announced less than a month before the start of the season, in which the powerhouse Jayhawks will be a

national championship contender.

"Today's decision by the Independent Resolution Panel confirms what

we've said since the beginning: the major infractions of which we were accused were unfounded," Kansas Chancellor Douglas Girod and athletic director Travis Goff said in a statement. "Most importantly, the panel decision unequivocally confirms our coaches were not involved in — or had knowledge of — payments to student-athletes."

In a campus news conference with Goff on Wednesday, coach Bill Self said he was eager to move forward "without this cloud hovering above our program."

"I'm very happy that It's over," Self said. "I'm certainly happy with the end result, and at the same time, don't feel like a celebration mode because this is exactly what we thought the end result would be years ago. And it's taken such a long period of time to get here. But I am pleased with the findings because the findings are accurate."

The panel concluded the apparel company's consultant "was a representative of Kansas' athletics interests" beginning in August 2017, resulting in multiple Level II and Level III violations. But it found "no credible and persuasive information" to suggest that Kansas officials failed to cooperate, lacked institutional control or failed to monitor the basketball program.

Among the penalties, the 2018 Final Four banner was ordered to be removed from Allen Fieldhouse, and any wins involving forward Silvio De Sousa — identified as "student-athlete No. 1" and central to the case — would be stripped from all records. The school also was given a variety of recruiting restrictions, adding to penalties that were self-imposed last year.

The panel made a point to avoid giving Kansas a postseason ban, though. The Jayhawks, led by Michigan transfer Hunter Dickinson and with several key players returning, are expected to be ranked No. 1 when the pre-season AP poll is released next week.

"We have the penalties we've imposed, but we don't want that to be a reflection on current student-athletes, or impose any limitations on current student-athletes," Christina

(Continued on Page 7)

# Bluffton finishes the middle school football season unbeaten

The Bluffton middle school football teams both defeated Adams Central Tuesday night to finish the season undefeated.

With a 19-8 win over the Jets, the Tigers went 8-0 on the season and won the ACAC championship.

Gavin Grieser led the passing game going 6-8 through the air with 119 yards and a touchdown.

Barker Barnes led the rushing attack with 105 yards on nine attempts for 101 yards and a touchdown. Dawson Lee had 98 yards and a touchdown.

Barnes also led the receivers with 90 yards on three catches. Bennett Stoller had one catch for a 15-yard score, and Rafe Gerber had one catch for 12 yards.

On the defensive side, Barnes led the way with five solo tackles. Lee had four solo and one assist, Gerber had three solo, Conner Byrd two solo 1 assist, Grieser two solo, Jace Campbell one solo three assists,

and Gibby Grieser one solo one assist.

The seventh-grade team defeated Adams Central 41-0, ending the year with a 6-0 record. There are not enough schools to hold a conference champion.

Ethan Ribich led the passing game, going 3-5 for 37 yards and a touchdown. Parker Christal went 2-4 for 31 yards and a touchdown.

Chase Kistler led the rushing attack with 185 yards on seven attempts and three touchdowns. Maddox White had 55 yards.

White led the receiving group with 65 yards on three catches and a touchdown.

Cameron Simpson recovered a fumble for 48 yards and a touchdown. Ribich made a 21-yard field goal.

On the defensive side, Cooper Affolder had five solo tackles and one assist. Simpson had three solo and one assist, Wyatt Holmes had two solo, and Kistler one solo and one assist.

# Minshew looking forward to return to Jacksonville as Colts' Anthony Richardson goes IR

By MICHAEL MAROT  
AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — When Gardner Minshew reflects on his magical 2019 season in Jacksonville, he cherishes the moment.

The fast start, the trendy mustache that

turned the rookie quarterback into a league-wide sensation. Yes, "Minshew Mania" was all the rage. Less than two years and seven straight losses later, it was over.

Minshew may never experience anything quite like those months again, but returning

(Continued on Page 7)



# News-Banner Scoreboard

## BASKETBALL WNBA

**Finals**  
(Best-of-5)  
No. 1 Las Vegas 1, No. 2 New York 0  
Sunday, Oct. 8: Las Vegas 99, New York 82  
Wednesday, Oct. 11: Las Vegas, New York  
Sunday, Oct. 15: New York at Las Vegas, 3 p.m.  
x-Wednesday, Oct. 18: New York at Las Vegas, TBD  
x-Friday, Oct. 20: Las Vegas at New York, TBD

## BASEBALL

**DIVISION SERIES**  
(Best-of-5)  
**American League**  
Texas 3, Baltimore 0  
Saturday, Oct. 7 — Texas 3, Baltimore 2  
Sunday, Oct. 8 — Texas 11, Baltimore 8  
Tuesday, Oct. 10 — Texas 7, Baltimore 1  
Houston 3, Minnesota 1  
Saturday, Oct. 7 — Houston 6, Minnesota 4  
Sunday, Oct. 8 — Minnesota 6, Houston 2  
Tuesday, Oct. 10 — Houston 9, Minnesota 1  
Wednesday, Oct. 11 — Houston 3, Minnesota 2  
**National League**  
(All Games on TBS)  
Philadelphia 2, Atlanta 1  
Saturday, Oct. 7 — Philadelphia 3, Atlanta 0  
Monday, Oct. 9 — Atlanta 5, Philadel-

phia 4  
Wednesday, Oct. 11 — Philadelphia 10, Atlanta 2  
Thursday, Oct. 12 — Atlanta (Strider 20-5) at Philadelphia, 6:07 p.m. (TBS)  
x-Saturday, Oct. 14 — Philadelphia at Atlanta (Fried 8-1), 6:07 p.m. (TBS)  
Arizona 2, Los Angeles 0  
Saturday, Oct. 7 — Arizona 11, at Los Angeles 2  
Monday, Oct. 9 — Arizona 4, Los Angeles 2  
Wednesday, Oct. 11 — Los Angeles (Kershaw 13-5) at Arizona (Pfaadt 3-9), late  
x-Thursday, Oct. 12 — Los Angeles (Kershaw 13-5) at Arizona, 9:07 p.m. (TBS)  
x-Saturday, Oct. 14 — Arizona at Los Angeles, 9:20 p.m. (TBS)  
**LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES**  
(Best-of-7)  
**American League**  
(Fox or FS1)  
Sunday, Oct. 15: Texas at Houston  
Monday, Oct. 16: Texas at Houston  
Wednesday, Oct. 18: Houston at Texas  
Thursday, Oct. 19: Houston at Texas  
x-Friday, Oct. 20: Houston at Texas  
x-Sunday, Oct. 22: Texas at Houston  
x-Monday, Oct. 23: Texas at Houston

## HOCKEY

### NHL

**Tuesday's Games**  
Tampa Bay 5, Nashville 3  
Chicago 4, Pittsburgh 2  
Vegas 4, Seattle 1  
**Wednesday's Games**

Carolina 5, Ottawa 3  
Toronto 6, Montreal 5, SO  
Boston 3, Chicago 1  
Colorado at Los Angeles, 10 p.m.  
Edmonton at Vancouver, 10 p.m.  
Winnipeg at Calgary, 10 p.m.  
**Thursday's Games**  
N.Y. Rangers at Buffalo, 7 p.m.  
Philadelphia at Columbus, 7 p.m.  
Detroit at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.  
Florida at Minnesota, 8 p.m.  
Seattle at Nashville, 8 p.m.  
St. Louis at Dallas, 8 p.m.  
Vegas at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.  
**Friday's Games**  
Arizona at New Jersey, 7 p.m.  
Pittsburgh at Washington, 7:30 p.m.  
**Saturday's Games**  
Philadelphia at Ottawa, 1 p.m.  
Florida at Winnipeg, 4 p.m.  
Calgary at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.  
Chicago at Montreal, 7 p.m.  
Minnesota at Toronto, 7 p.m.  
N.Y. Rangers at Columbus, 7 p.m.  
Nashville at Boston, 7 p.m.  
Tampa Bay at Detroit, 7 p.m.  
Buffalo at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30 p.m.  
Seattle at St. Louis, 8 p.m.  
Anaheim at Vegas, 10 p.m.  
Colorado at San Jose, 10 p.m.  
Vancouver at Edmonton, 10 p.m.  
Carolina at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

## TRANSACTIONS

**Wednesday's Transactions**  
**BASEBALL**  
**Major League Baseball**  
MLB — Announced Minnesota OF Byron Buxton will substitute for 1B/OF Alex Kiriloff who sustained an injury.  
**BASKETBALL**  
**National Basketball Association**  
CHARLOTTE HORNETS — Waived F/C Kai Jones.

## FOOTBALL

**National Football League**  
ATLANTA FALCONS — Re-signed LB Andre Smith and WR Keiahla Harris to the practice squad. Released WRs Zay Malone and C.J. Saunders from the practice squad.  
DALLAS COWBOYS — Signed LB Rashaun Evans to the practice squad.  
DENVER BRONCOS — Released WR Lil Jordan Humphrey.  
DETROIT LIONS — Designated CB Khalil Dorsey to return from injured reserve to practice.  
HOUSTON TEXANS — Signed CB Jason Verrett to the practice squad. Designated WR Noah Brown to return from

injured reserve to practice.  
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Placed QB Anthony Richardson on injured reserve. Signed QB Kellen Mond and WR Anthony Miller to the practice squad.  
LAS VEGAS RAIDERS — Signed WR Malik Flowers to the practice squad.  
LOS ANGELES RAMS — Signed LB Olakunle Fatukasi to the practice squad.  
MIAMI DOLPHINS — Placed RB DeVon Achane on injured reserve. Designated RB Jeff Wilson to return from injured reserve to practice.  
**HOCKEY**  
**National Hockey League**  
COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS —

Signed RW Justin Danforth to a one-year contract extension.  
PITTSBURGH PENGUINS — Assigned Fs Dillon Hamaliuk, Jordan Frasca, Ty Glover and G Taylor Gauthier from Wilkes-Barre/Scranton (AHL) to Wheeling (ECHL).  
TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS — Recalled D Simon Benoit from Laval (AHL).  
**ECHL**  
FORT WAYNE KOMETS — Released Fs Olivier Picard and Jordan Maher from professional try-out contracts (PTO). Released D Brandon Michaelian and F Parker Saretsky. Traded F Kamryn Nault to Florida.

## Jayhawks drop penalties

(Continued from Page 6)

Guerola Sarchio, the chief member for the Independent Resolution Panel hearing the case, said on a Zoom meeting to discuss the case.

Kansas won the 2022 national title while going through the IARP process. That championship is not affected.

The case against Kansas, which included minor infractions involving its football program, was the final one pending for the soon-to-be disbanded IARP after it sanctioned former LSU and current McNeese State men's basketball coach Will Wade in June.

Kansas officials suspended Self and top assistant Kurtis Townsend for the first four games of last season, along with imposing several recruiting restrictions, potentially mitigating any penalties that IARP would hand down.

Goff said the school reviewed NCAA guidelines before determining the self-imposed penalties that ended up "probably on the heavier end of things" in terms of severity.

"I don't think it implies a measure of guilt at all," Self said. "What I think it implies is we were doing everything possible to move forward and put this behind us. And at the same time, doing what was in the best interest of our present student-athletes and future student-athletes to make sure they were not impacted in any negative way whatsoever."

Along with barring the two coaches from off-campus recruiting last summer, the school self-reduced the number of official visits

that it would allow during the 2023-24 academic year, reduced the total number of scholarships by three over a three-year span and reduced the number of recruiting days during the current year by 13 days.

"The NCAA membership has acknowledged the significance of these self-imposed penalties," Sarchio said.

The case against Kansas stemmed from an FBI investigation that ensnared several schools, including Auburn, Arizona, LSU, Louisville and North Carolina State, and led to convictions of shoe company executives, a middleman and several assistant coaches.

Kansas initially was charged by the NCAA with five Level I violations, which are considered the most severe, including a charge of lack of institutional control and an allegation that Self had failed to keep the program in compliance.

Auburn received four years of probation through a traditional NCAA infractions process for a similar case, but Kansas joined others in appealing through the IARP, which was among the proposals made by former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice in 2018 to reform the sport. The panel was designed to work outside the purview of the NCAA and handle complex cases.

The IARP has been slow, though, and former NCAA President Mark Emmert acknowledged last year that the process was taking "way too long." That is part of the reason the panel

will be eliminated now that the Kansas case has been completed as the NCAA attempts to modernize its infractions process.

In the meantime, many alleged infractions from the 2017 investigation would no longer be against the rules. Name, image and likeness guidelines allow NCAA athletes in all sports to earn money from endorsements and other off-the-field business arrangements.

"That has been something we have been very conscientious about, in terms of the allegations of this case spanning an incredibly long time, and the resolution to get to where we are today took a number of months and years," Sarchio said. "This case was not dormant. There was activity going on. It took this long to render a decision because it was an incredibly thorough record."

The panel also has been criticized for inconsistent penalties. Arizona, LSU, Louisville and North Carolina State were given minor penalties and no postseason ban, while Oklahoma State was barred from postseason play for relatively minor violations.

Sarchio said all of those cases were considered in rendering judgment in the Kansas case.

"What we looked at was the conduct, the fact that there were no Level I findings — there were some Level II and Level III — and compared to what the self-imposed penalties were," she said. "That led us to reach the conclusion that we disclosed today."

## Minshew to start for Colts

(Continued from Page 6)

to Jacksonville this week as the Indianapolis Colts starter rekindles memories of the best of times.

"It was awesome, man, it was a dream. It was everything you wanted as a kid and then some," he said Wednesday after rookie Anthony Richardson went on injured reserve.

"It seems like forever ago now, but it's an experience I was really grateful for. I'm really grateful for my time in Jacksonville, those fans, that community. It was awesome."

Clearly, Minshew harbors no ill will toward the team that drafted him and started him before opting to trade him to Philadelphia in August 2021.

But nothing has been the same for the former Washington State star since his rookie season.

He struggled in Year 2, which led to a two-year tenure with the Eagles. There he bided time behind the rapidly improving Jalen Hurts, fine-tuning his mechanics, working overtime in the film room, mastering the offense constructed by Nick Sirianni and Shane Steichen and staying ready for whenever he might be needed.

The results were good. He made it to the playoffs twice and last year won an NFC championship before losing in the Super Bowl. And though he appeared in only seven games with the Eagles and went 1-3 as the starter, Minshew emerged as the consummate pro with a steady, reliable presence.

It was one reason Steichen, hired by the Colts in February, lobbied the team to sign Minshew in March. Steichen and his offense also played key roles in Minshew's decision to go to Indy, which also was willing to give him a real chance to fight for the starting job — even after selecting Richardson with the fourth overall pick in April's draft.

"They were very straight forward from the jump. They said if they pick somebody at that spot, most likely they're going to be out there playing," Minshew said. "I'm just glad they thought of me."

Minshew found out he'd lost the competition after the preseason opener.

Still, the 27-year-old Mississippi native

was not dissuaded. He kept working, pushing himself so he would be ready — if needed — and he's played better than some expected.

In the Colts first five games, he's relieved an injured Richardson three times. Indy (3-2) won two of those games as well as Minshew's first start, in overtime at Baltimore.

And while the numbers might not mesmerize fantasy football fans — 57 of 83 with 553 yards and two touchdowns — Minshew has not thrown an interception and has looked poised in the pocket.

Perhaps most important, Minshew has been a welcome addition in the locker room.

"Everything he does, whether it's a team meeting, whether it's a good-on-good period in practice, whether it's watching one-on-ones — you all know me I'm going to talk trash and he's going to talk back to me," said linebacker Zaire Franklin, who leads the NFL with 69 tackles. "That's the type of energy he brings. It's infectious and that's what you want."

Steichen & Co. at least know they're in good hands for the next four weeks as Richardson recovers from the injured AC joint in his right shoulder — something Indy lacked a year ago when three different starters won a total of four games.

One of them, Sam Ehlinger, will serve as Minshew's backup for the matchup of AFC South co-leaders. Indy signed former Vikings and Browns quarterback Kellen Mond to the practice squad Wednesday.

But when Minshew makes his first trip to his former team since the trade, it will bring back good, old days when Minshew was Jacksonville's featured attraction.

"He's always been a great player. It's unfortunate how he kind of got ran out of the building here," said safety Andrew Wingard, who also was part of the Jags' 2019 rookie class. "But he is where he is, and I've always said he'll play in this league as long as he wants to. I think the Colts are just as good, if not better, with him behind center. He's so smart, so cerebral, knows where you're rolling, knows where you're not covering guys, checks it down, gets it out of his hand quick. He does everything."

## Bryce Harper slugs two more HRs as Phillies pound Braves in Game 3 of NL Division Series

By DAN GELSTON  
AP Sports Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Bryce Harper answered Orlando Arcia's mockery with a mammoth three-run homer and a solo shot, glaring at the shortstop on each trot around the bases, and the Philadelphia Phillies beat the Atlanta Braves 10-2 in Game 3 of their NL Division Series on Wednesday night.

Nick Castellanos homered twice as Philadelphia rebounded from its disappointing loss at Atlanta on Monday night. Trea Turner and Brandon Marsh also went deep.

Aaron Nola (2-0) and four relievers combined to push the 104-win Braves to the brink of elimination. The Phillies can advance to the NL Championship Series for the second straight season with a win at home Thursday.

Harper continues to make teams pay for any perceived slight, and his eighth and ninth postseason homers in the last two seasons added to his growing October lore.

Not that he needs any incentive to go deep, but Harper tried to atone for a Game 2 baserunning blunder that capped an astonishing collapse. Harper had rounded second base on a deep flyout and was doubled up at first to end the game, the final meltdown in a series of late-inning plays that melted a 4-0 lead into a 5-4 loss.

In the jubilant Atlanta clubhouse after the win, Arcia reportedly cracked, "ha-ha, attaboey, Harper." Faster than Harper rocked his shot off Game 3 starter Bryce Elder (0-1), the barb got back to the two-time NL MVP.

"If that adds to his motivation," Phillies manager Rob Thomson said ahead of Game 3, "then thank you."

Harper and Castellanos seemed to send a message about the wisecrack when they arrived at the ballpark wearing gear inspired

by Colorado coach Deion Sanders. Harper wore a "Coach Prime" T-shirt and Castellanos a "Prime" hoodie.

The brash Sanders retorted at criticism earlier this season from a rival coach by saying, "they done messed around and made it personal."

Harper took it personal. First, though, it was Castellanos — who said after Game 2 that the Phillies "thrive after we get punched in the face" — who delivered the first counterpunch with a homer in the third that tied it at 1.

Rep Deion, hit dingers. That's a Philly fact.

Also true, the Phillies pounded the Braves in the third inning of Game 3 of the NLDS for the second straight season.

A year ago, the Phillies returned home from a 1-1 split in Atlanta and scored six runs in the third. The outburst was highlighted by Rhys Hoskins' bat spike on a three-run homer.

After Castellanos and Harper went deep off Elder in this one for a 4-1 lead, catcher J.T. Realmuto tacked on a two-run double against Michael Tonkin.

Harper added a solo shot to center in front of 45,798 frenzied Phillies fans in the fifth off Brad Hand — well out of reach for Michael Harris II, who saved the Game 2 win with a great leaping catch — and delivered one more death stare to Arcia as he rounded second base.

"Stare downs aren't an official stat (yet!) but we're all in awe of Harper over here," the Elias Sports Bureau wrote on social media.

Nola, eligible for free agency after the World Series, tipped his cap in appreciation of a roaring standing ovation after 5 2/3 innings. He struck out nine and allowed Ozzie Albies' RBI single in the third.



### NASCAR CUP SERIES South Point 400

**Site:** Las Vegas.  
**Schedule:** Saturday, practice, 12:35 p.m., and qualifying, 1:20 p.m.; Sunday, race, 2:30 p.m. (NBC).

**Last race:** A.J. Allmendinger led a race-best 46 laps, including the last 33, on The Roval at Charlotte to win for the third time in his career in NASCAR's top series.

### NASCAR XFINITY SERIES Alco Uniforms 302

**Site:** Las Vegas.  
**Schedule:** Friday, practice, 7:05 p.m., and qualifying, 7:35 p.m.; Saturday, race, 3:30 p.m. (USA).

**Last race:** Sam Mayer rallied from the verge of elimination into the next round of the playoffs with a dominating win on The Roval at Charlotte.

### NASCAR TRUCK SERIES

**Last race:** 2018 series champion Brett Moffitt turned his first race of the season in the series into his first superspeedway victory, prevailing in a three-wide overtime battle to win at Talladega. Corey Heim is the only driver to have secured a spot in the championship finale with one race remaining for the seven other contenders.

### FORMULA ONE

**Last race:** Max Verstappen clinched his third consecutive season championship with a second-place finish in the sprint race, then won in Qatar for his 14th victory in 17 races this season. He and Red Bull teammate Sergio Perez have combined to win 16 times.

### INDYCAR

**Last race:** Scott Dixon won at Laguna Seca, his third win of the season, all in the last four races. The six-time champion gave Chip Ganassi Racing a 1-2 finish in the standings. A week earlier, teammate Alex Palou became the first driver in 18 years to clinch the title before the final race of the season.

### NHRA DRAG RACING

**Last race:** Clay Millican won in Top Fuel and Matt Hagan won in Funny Car at Gateway Motorsports Park.

### WORLD OF OUTLAWS

**Next events:** Oct. 13, Wichita, Kansas, and Oct. 14, Kansas City, Kansas



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# Daughter-in-law drama

Dear Annie: My 35-year-old son is about to be married in November. This would be his second marriage. From his first marriage, he had two wonderful children who are now 10 and 13. When my son got divorced from his first wife, my granddaughter was 3.

Here's maybe my problem: I have been in contact with my grandkids' mom for forever. We have a wonderful relationship, and everyone knows that, even my son. When I met his soon-to-be second wife, I told her that I had a very good relationship with my grandkids' mom because I wanted to be in my grandkids' lives as much as possible. She never said anything bad about this or disagreed in any way.

About five months ago, we had a family gathering. It was my three kids, who are adults now, and my grandkids and my husband and my soon-to-be daughter-in-law. We were having a great time playing cards. My husband accidentally mentioned my ex-daughter-in-law's name, and I turned to look at my son, who was looking at his fiancée, and I just knew something was going to happen. She was furious.

So, Annie, it's been five months since that happened. My son stopped coming to see us — just complete silence. I have been a wonderful mother-in-law to his fiancée, and I was not expecting this reaction. My son and I had a very good relationship, so that's what's killing me. I think my future daughter-in-law is overreacting and my son will not speak up, fearing maybe of a breakup. So, Annie, I'm thinking of not going

to the wedding because I'm hurt that she went this far without a word. — Sad Mom

Dear Sad Mom: It seems that there is more to this story. If you had already addressed your relationship with your former daughter-in-law with your son's fiancée, why would she react with such horror by the mere mention of a name? Is it possible that she was never truly OK with your son's ex?

Whatever the story is, you should reach out to both your son and your future daughter-in-law individually and explain that you never intended to cause pain or discomfort, and that you look forward to welcoming your son's fiancée into your family with open arms. As long as they both know you love and accept their marriage, you should be able to work things out.

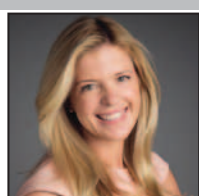
And assuming the couple still wants you there, I highly recommend that you attend the wedding. Opting out due to your own hurt feelings is petty and will only make reconciliation more difficult.

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

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## Dear Annie

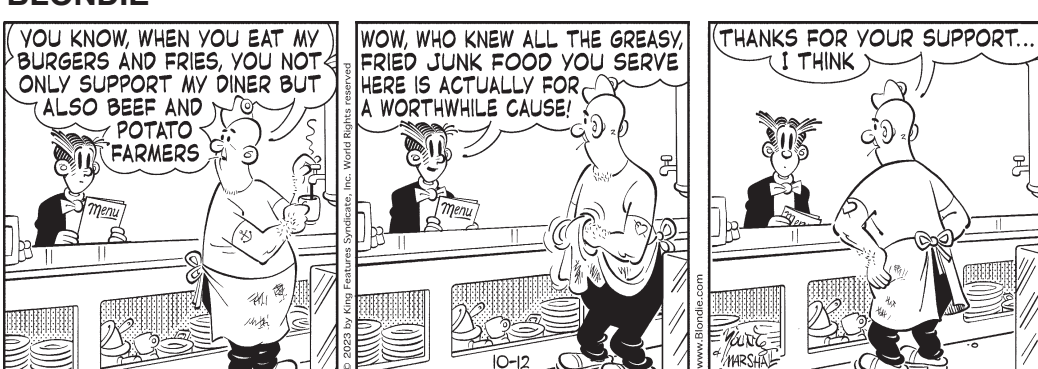
by Annie Lane



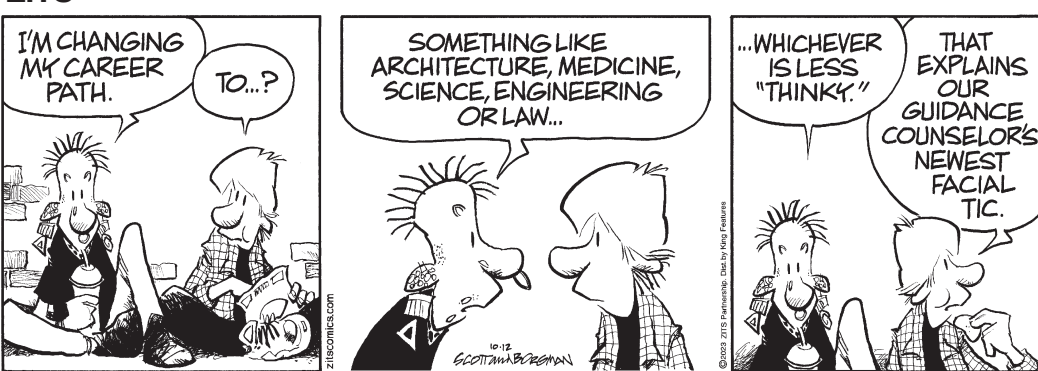
## BEETLE BAILEY



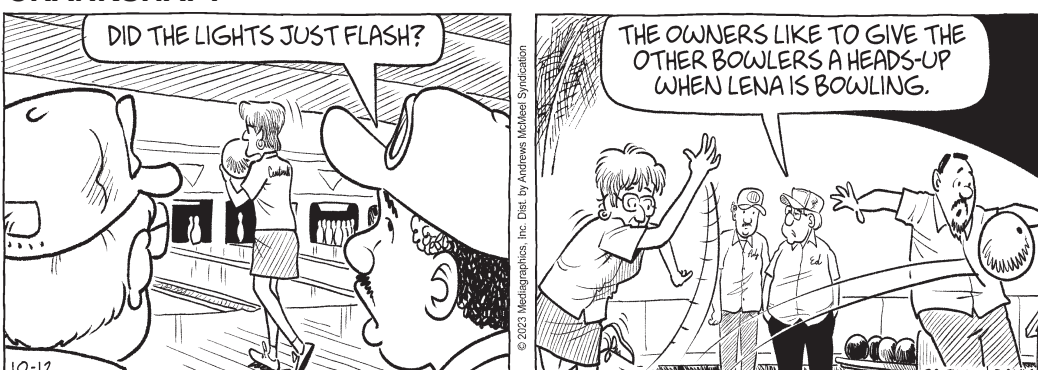
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## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

## The LOCKHORNS



## My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



# Memorizing God's Word is a gift that keeps on giving

Q: So many good programs have been removed from churches today and replaced with entertainment. I recall being encouraged to memorize Scripture as a child. When I asked my church about this, they said it wasn't necessary anymore because even children have devices in their hands at all times they can use to access every Bible translation through the internet. But is this the same as accessing our minds to what the Bible has to say about life? — B.M.

A: There are more people who know the words to a television commercial than know the words in the Bible. Stories have come out of prison camps about Christians who had no

Bibles but who had committed portions of the Scripture to memory and shared them with others.

One such story is from a man who was a prisoner of war for three years. He lamented that he had not committed more Scripture to memory. Another story is told of a Chinese missionary imprisoned during World War II. She managed to take a forbidden gospel of John with her. When she went to bed, she pulled the covers over her head and memorized one verse each night for three years. When the prisoners were released, most of them shuffled out, but the missionary was so chipper that someone said she must have been brainwashed. A Life magazine report-

er, who had interviewed her, said, "She's been brainwashed for sure. God washed her brain."

Others who have suffered said that sometimes they could only remember small parts of Scripture. One woman, upon hearing bad news, repeated over and over again, "I can do everything through him who gives me strength" (Philippians 4:13, NIV).

Memorizing God's Word is a gift that keeps on giving. We should read it, study it, and memorize it.

(This column is based on the words and writings of the late Rev. Billy Graham.)  
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## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes solution time: 24 mins.

Table with 12 columns (Time slots: 10:12, 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) and 30 rows of TV channels and programs.



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## SUDOKU

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

### King Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty: ★★★

10/12

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## NOTICE

### Notices

**ONE STOP SHELL!** New Owners! Krispy Krunchy Chicken-freshly made, perfectly Cajun. It's delicious! All new-Hot Stuff Pizzas. Perfect for any day of the week! Get Free fountain drink with purchase of family chicken meal, breakfast pizza or breakfast sandwich-offer good through November 1st. We look forward to seeing you soon! 1303 South Main-Bluffton. (EAP2)

## FOR SALE

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**BULL'S-EYE!** EARN EXTRA CASH by selling your "unwanted" items during the month of October. A 20-word, line classified ad for five days is only \$5! For Sale Items Only. Excludes Garage Sales. Contact the Bluffton News-Banner office, 125 N. Johnson St., 260-824-0224, or place online at [news-banner.com](http://news-banner.com) and click on classifieds.

## Lottery Numbers

Wednesday's lottery numbers were unavailable at time of printing.

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A CHILD IN NEED OF SERVICES: CM, a child And YOSHUA Tear Monday, (Father)

SUMMONS FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION & NOTICE OF A MOTION FOR PERMANENCY/ MODIFICATION OF CUSTODY HEARING

To: YOSHUA Tear Monday, YOSHUA IS HEREBY GIVEN to the above noted parent, whose whereabouts are unknown, and who is the parent of aboved named minor child, that the Indiana Department of Child Services has a motion for permanency and that a modification of custody hearing has been scheduled with the Court.

UPON ENTRY OF SAID MOTION FOR PERMANENCY/ MODIFICATION OF CUSTODY HEARING will be held in which the Court will consider: (1) Modification of Legal Custody of the Children (2) Modification of Physical Custody of the Children (3) Visitation between the Parents and Children (4) Parental Child Support Obligations.

YOU MUST RESPOND by appearing in the case in person or by attorney within thirty (30) days after the last publication of this notice, and in the event you fail to do so, an adjudication on said motion and a modification of the parental custodial rights regarding the above listed children may be ordered by the court without further notice.

THE ATTORNEY REPRESENTING THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES, is Cassandra DeGooD, 201 East Rudisill Street, Suite 200, Fort Wayne, IN 46806; telephone (260) 458-6100.

Date this Sept 07 2023  
Christopher M. Nancarrow  
Clerk of Allen County  
Superior Court  
nb 9/28, 10/5, 10/12  
hspaxlp

## SERVICES

### Services

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**Mark your Calendar for this event**

**PORK CHOP SUPPER** at Mc-Natt Church, 9183 W 800 S, Wells County, Sat., Oct. 14 from 4:30 to 7 p.m.

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## EMPLOYMENT

### Help Wanted

**EMSHWILLER & EMSHWILLER** is looking for an office assistant to join our team. Seasonal help - January thru May of each year. Responsible for performing a range of clerical and administrative tasks to support daily operations in an office setting. Ideal candidate would be good at organizing, multi-tasking & taking direction. To apply for this position, please send resume to [sharedadmin@emshwiller.net](mailto:sharedadmin@emshwiller.net) (EAP2)

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**HELOISE HINT:** How to handle office discussions. If people are chatting about controversial issues, you may want to stay away from them. Keep everything professional while at the office. Email [HELOISE@Heloise.com](mailto:HELOISE@Heloise.com).

## Read & recycle

## Public Notices

**NOTICE OF DETERMINATION**  
Pursuant to Indiana Code § 6-1.1-20-5, notice is hereby given that the Board of Education of the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District has preliminarily determined to enter into a lease agreement and issue bonds in the aggregate principal amount of \$10,000,000 to fund the renovation of and improvements to Bluffton High School, including moisture abatement, HVAC, and building envelope improvements, and the purchase of equipment and technology

Dated: October 5, 2023  
/s/ Board of Education  
Bluffton-Harrison  
Metropolitan School District  
nb 10/5, 10/12  
hspaxlp

**NOTICE OF HEARING FOR BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS 10/6/23**

Notice is hereby given that the BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS will hold a Public Hearing in Conference Room 105 in the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St., in the City of Bluffton, IN at 7:00 o'clock P.M. on the 24th day of October, 2023, for the purpose of reviewing and hearing comment on the request of 1796 S Main LLC, 1796 S Main St., Bluffton, IN 46714 for the purpose of a Variance.

**Current Zoning: B-3**  
**Proposed Variance:** To allow a second free-standing sign with an increased size to 168 sq ft per face.

**Common Location:** The subject property is located at 1796 S Main St., Bluffton, Indiana, 46714.

Brief Legal: The subject property is described as 0.368 ac in the SE quarter of Section 9 Township 26N Range 12E in Harrison Township.

Dated this 6th day of October, 2023

WELLS COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS  
Michael Lautzenheiser, Jr., Director  
nb, oj 10/12  
hspaxlp

## This Week's Garage Sales



**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:** Before your garage sale, make some posts about it online. Include photos of the best items you are selling. This will help attract more customers. Email [HELOISE@Heloise.com](mailto:HELOISE@Heloise.com).

Place a three day garage sale line classified ad and receive a free garage sale kit!

## NOTICE OF HEARING FOR BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS 10/6/23

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**Current Zoning: R-1**  
**Proposed Variance:** To reduce front yard setback from 30' to 20' for a covered porch.

**Common Location:** The subject property is located at 107 S Melching Dr., Ossian, Indiana, 46777.

Brief Legal: The subject property is described as 0.3 ac in the SW quarter of Section 15 Township 28N Range 12E in Jefferson Township.

Dated this 6th day of October, 2023

WELLS COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS  
Michael Lautzenheiser, Jr., Director  
oj, nb 10/12  
hspaxlp

## SUDOKU ANSWER

21/01	***	Difficulty	10/12
1	9	9	7
8	7	6	9
6	2	7	8
8	9	1	8
4	8	9	2
2	6	2	9
2	1	8	6
9	8	7	1
9	8	7	1
9	8	7	1

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# Norwell announces 1st quarter distinctions, honors

Norwell Middle School has announced its honor rolls for the second semester of the 2022-2023 school year.

**6th Grade Distinction (GPA of 10 or higher and no grade lower than A-)**  
Oakley Bryant, Mackenzie Bunn, Violet Butcher, Julia Collins, Keegan Corey, Harbert Davis, Jackson Decker, Kaydence Denton, Cayden Doak, Jack Dunwidie, Lydia Felton, Cooper Figert, Paxton Frisch, Blake Fuess, Camrynn Fulton, Aria Geng, Gabriel Gerber, Annabelle Gill, Austin Harnish, Weston Harris, Allison Hart, Laken Heaston, Nolan Hitzfield, Cole Jackemeyer, Anistyn Joloff, Alexis Keller, Grant Keller, Kennedy King, Harrison Koop, Piper Krumma, Camryn McCartney, Macy McNabb, Hudson Meriwether, Ellie Miller, Paxton Miller, Mason Morales, Madison Nordman, Elias Nussbaum, Brynleigh Ormsby, Paizley Price, Jace Reinhard, Claire Ringger, Aubree Roberts, Meghan Roberts, Brynlee Sliger, Alec Smith-Fisher, Graciela Torres, George Tucker, Rylie Van't Hof, Mason Vendal, Rylan Watson, Chloe Whitaker, Blake Whitmer, Easton Wilson and Samuel Worthman.

**6th Grade Honor (GPA of 2.7 or higher and no grade lower than B-)**  
Sephora Alfreus, Braydon Arnold, Canyon Aschliman, Melody Bailey, Tanna Bauman, Maleah Baumgartner, Celia Behning, Alyssa Borkholder, Vivian Branham, Kayah Bryant, Joshua Buirley, Madelyn Chubb, Wesley Dafforn, Addison Dalrymple, Adleigh Ervin, Clark Evans, Leila Fitzmaurice, Reece Goeglein, Isaac Gruss, Veronica Haiflich, Austin Hartnett, Jaydon Heindel,

Della Hensley, Rachel Hoag, Emma Holte, Rylan Ingram, Annabelle Johnson, Lyric Johnston, Kody Krinn, Braylon Leeth, Aubrey Leighton, Brody Lengerich, Travis Lenwell, Carter Lloyd, Daniel McBride, Aiden McInerney, Mercy Meyer, Grayson Miser, Emma Moon, Nova Mosser, Layla Moyer, Brielle Noe, Sydney Nordman, Taylor Nunn, Nevaeh Pilkinton, Brooklyn Quintanilla, Triton Rankin, Marin Reinhard, Desirae Ruch, David Runkel, Claire Sands, Riley Schoenemann, Skylynn Selleck, Landon Sonnigsen, Wesley Springer, Tyson Taylor, Mason Turnbough and Jaxon Yager.

**7th Grade Distinction (GPA of 3.7 or higher and no grade lower than A-)**  
Stella Ballard, Kynnlei Beste, Jordyn Brickley, Joao Calduro, Dalton Crow, Crete Edwards, Leah Ewing, Kendall Fegley, Baylee Ford, Kayla Freed, Vincent Fuhrmann, Camdyn Gerber, Ally Graft, Gracie Hulvey, Hadie Isch, Carter Jackemeyer, Titus Jacob, Kayla Jeffrey, Preslie Jones, Wyatt Knell, Hunter Kurtz, Derek Lenwell, Haley Lewis, Addison Long, Benjamin Lukins, Novalynn Malone, Elizabeth Mann, Brenna Meyer, Quinn Oakleaf, Allyson Peterson, Leah Randol, Kenley Reed, Madeline Ringger, Joshua Roby, Elaina Scott, Charles Simerman, Bristol Smith, Adalyn Stine-McCave, Avery Thornton, Maddux Thornton, Katelyn Trout, Stella Tumbleston, Cody Waldman and Mason Zent.

**7th Grade Honor (GPA of 2.7 or higher and no grade lower than B-)**  
Isabel Affolder, Josephina Alig, Joshua Antrim, Sara Arellano, Emma Bailey, Reid Bolyn, Morgan Boomershine, Henry Brin-

son, Kaylyn Buck, Maddox Bunn, Callie Burton, Kach Cuable, Landon Clark, Caddon Confer, Miles Daugherty, Nyla Davis, Jillien Dawalt, Lily Dillion, Mason Diver, Rylan Falk, Siena Favory, Alivia Fenstermaker, Kenley Fisher, McKenzy Flores, Myah Frauhiger, Kyndal Fuller, Chase Gerber, Krista Gerber, Parker Gerber, Owen Grover, Jordyn Grzych, Alec Haag, Rilynn Hoopingarner, Cohen Karns, Claire Kelley, Elijah Landis, Madelynn Lewis, Elizabeth Long, Angela Mayer, Anna McBride, Hadley Meyer, Roman Meyer, Ian Mitchell, Noah Nash, Clayton Parsons, Brynn Payton, Easton Pine, Easton Reinhard, Jaydin Rhoads, Connelly Rupp, Stormie Selking, Abigail Swineford, Isaiah Thompson, Allyson Wheeler and Case Wireman.

**8th Grade Distinction (GPA of 3.7 or higher and no grade lower than A-)**  
Kenan Abdulrahim, Roman Aschliman, Ellie Bales, Corbin Behning, Brooke Bowling, Fielder Brege, Cooper Bunn, Emma Burnau, Edward Bushee, Robert Cahoon, Greyson Chavis, Dylan Chism, Madelyn Clark, Kaitlyn Collins, Gracie David, Stellen Davis, Kamdyn Ealing, Avery Elmore, Elias Fagin, Adalynn Fausz, Cash Fegley, Lillie Felton, Zeke Ford, Layla Frisch, Amore Gilbert, Eva Grisafio, Kinley Heindel, Ethan Hill, Ivy Hill, Abigail Hippensteele, Kahlun Hollenbach, Lillian Holmes, Payton Hupfer, Carson Joloff, Marvin Keller, Carter Kelley, Mia Kurtz, Emma Lenwell, Jacob Macy, Brock Martin, Ava Mason, Joshua McBride, Rebecca McConn, Lance Meriwether, Emma Miller, Evie Miser, Tripp Mitchell, Eric Morgan, Khloe

Morgan, Tenlee Morris, Cooper Nagel, Macy Oatess, Addison Parsons, Amelia Penrod, Hudson Petrie, Addison Privett, Vivian Reidenbach, Connor Rose, Kahra Rupp, Illiyana Sailors, Abigail Schlemmer, Gabrielle Schlemmer, Hailey Singleton, Jillian Smith, Daisy Swineford, Julian Torres, Ashley Tucker, KayLee Tucker, Grady Vachon, Adrienne Wagner, Reese Wathen, Travis Watson, Coral Weiss, Rachel Werling, Kiera Whitaker, Phoenix Whitsitt, Reagan Wilson, Mallory Young, Amelia Zavacki and Anthony Zavacki.

**8th Grade Honor (GPA of 2.7 or higher and no grade lower than B-)**  
Chesney Anderson, Kingston Ayers, Tiffany Bays, Kaylee Bennett, Kendall Billington, Jillian Bischoff, Keyani Brinneman, Connor Carens, Reid Cavanaugh, Aidan Chandler, Trinity Cole, Chloe Comer, Carter Costello, Emma Crippen, Erika Crosswhite, Carter DeWeese, Addison Dohrman, Emma Easley, Keigan Fortriede, Miyah Foss, Dessie Fritts, Brennen Fryback, Isaiah Goeglein, Wyatt Goulet, Alicia Harris, Carly Jacobs, Baylee Johnston, Shelby Kaehr, Koda Keller, Owen Lichtsinn, Ethan Mast, Collin McAtee, Ada McLaughlin, Anna McLaughlin, Royce Merrill, Layken Mialkowski, Westin Miller, Jordan Mills, Caden Mitchell, Carly Mittlstedt, Lincoln Moyer, Magnolia Neuenschwander, Mya Oatess, Carmen Ortiz, Austin Parteko, Benjamin Peterson, Khaymen Peterson, MacKenzie Price, Cyndall Pyle, Hayleigh Raskie, Greyson Shoemaker, Khloe Stockman, Channing Thompson, Ty Tofflemoyer, Brady Watkins and Tyler Zent.

## Police Notebook

(Continued from Page 3)  
listed on the railroad crossing.

Tuesday, 2:36 p.m., Ind. 1 and 350 South, Bluffton. Subject flagged down officer to ask for directions.

Tuesday, 5:04 p.m., Wells County Courthouse. Officer transported subject to Wabash.

Tuesday, 7:54 p.m., North 100 East and South Adams Street, Bluffton. Car versus deer; Car won.

Tuesday, 8:20 p.m., East 950 South and South 700 East, Keystone. Caller reported he hit a cat with his car and requested a report for insurance.

Wednesday, 6:15 a.m., Wells County Jail. Robert Rankin at the jail to turn

himself in on warrant.

Wednesday, 11:06 a.m., 300 block of North Williams Street, Bluffton. Report of subject who failed to register as required by the sex offender registry.

**Ossian:**  
Tuesday, 12:35 p.m., Ind. 1 and Ind. 224, Ossian. Report of drywall thrown all over road. Officer removed several small pieces of drywall from the roadway.

Tuesday, 5:58 p.m., 800 block of Park Drive, Ossian. Protective order served.

Tuesday, 10:14 p.m., Dollar General, Ossian. Report of a small child on bicycle. Advised he was going to a friend's house.

Wednesday, 2:13 a.m., 500 block of South Little

River Trace, Ossian. Report of sound of gunshots. Nothing found.

### ACCIDENTS

**City:**  
Tuesday, 1:30 p.m., West Center Drive and Ind. 1. Anita Carr was parked on the side of the road to look at items for sale. A second vehicle parked behind her. Carr was unaware of this vehicle when she reversed, and the rear end of her Chevrolet Tahoe struck the front end of the vehicle. Damages not exceeding \$1,001.

### ARRESTS

Robert Daniel Rankin, 39, Bluffton, leaving the scene of a crash, a Class B misdemeanor. Bond set at \$1,000.

## NASA shows off its first asteroid samples delivered by a spacecraft

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — NASA on Wednesday showed off its first asteroid samples delivered last month by a spacecraft — a jumble of black dust and rubble that's the most ever returned to Earth.

Scientists anticipated getting a cupful but are still unsure how much was grabbed from the carbon-rich asteroid named Benu, almost 60 million miles (97 million kilometers) away. That's because the main sample chamber has yet to be opened, officials said during an event at Johnson Space Center in Houston.

"It's been going slow and meticulous, but the science is already starting," said the mission's lead scientist, Dante Lauretta of the University of Arizona.

NASA's Osiris-Rex spacecraft collected the samples three years ago from the surface of Benu and then dropped them off sealed in a capsule during a flyby of Earth last month. The expected cupful was far more than the teaspoon or so that Japan brought back

from a pair of missions.

Black dust and particles were scattered around the outside edge of the internal sample chamber, according to Lauretta. He said there's still "a whole treasure chest of extraterrestrial material" to be studied. The samples are priceless, the preserved building blocks from the dawn of the solar system.

No one at Wednesday's celebration at Johnson got to see any of the samples firsthand — just photos and video. The asteroid pieces were behind locked doors in a new lab at the space center, accessible only to scientists in protective gear.

Besides carbon, the asteroid rubble holds water in the form of water-bearing clay minerals, Lauretta and others pointed out.

"That is how we think water got to the Earth," he said. "Minerals like we're seeing from Benu landed on Earth 4 billion years ago to 4.5 billion years ago, making our world habitable."

That was one of the primary reasons for the \$1 bil-

lion, seven-year mission: to help learn how the solar system — and Earth in particular — formed. "You can't get more exciting than that," said NASA Administrator Bill Nelson.

Back in 2020, Lauretta and his team lost some of their haul when the lid on the sample container jammed a few days after the spacecraft collected the material. It vacuumed up so many pieces from Benu that small rocks got lodged under the lid and prevented it from closing, sending pieces floating off into space.

That's why scientists did not have a precise measurement of what was coming back; they estimated 250 grams, or about a cupful, ahead of the Sept. 24 landing in the Utah desert. They won't have a good count until the container is opened, within two weeks or so.

## Kansas becomes the 10th state to require 2-person train crews, despite the industry's objections

By JOSH FUNK  
AP Business Writer

Kansas became the 10th state in the nation Wednesday to require two-person railroad crews despite objections from freight railroads, but the industry may challenge the rule in court as it has in other states like Ohio.

The major freight railroads have long pushed to cut crews down to one person, but unions have resisted because they believe it's safer to have two people working together to operate trains.

Gov. Laura Kelly said two-person crews "will protect workers from the effects of fatigue, prevent train derailments and reduce risks in the many Kansas communities along our railroad tracks." The new administrative rule took effect Wednesday.

The railroad industry maintains there isn't enough evidence to show that two-person crews are safer and many short-line railroads already operate with a single person aboard.

"Regulatory efforts to mandate crew staffing such as the latest in Kansas lack a safety justification," said spokesperson Jessica Kahane with the Association of American Railroads trade group.

Kahane said she didn't want to speculate whether the industry will file a lawsuit challenging the Kansas rule the way it did in Ohio. The railroads generally argue in their lawsuits that the federal government should be the only one to regulate the industry to ensure there's a uniform set of rules.

At least a dozen states impatient with the federal government's reluctance to pass new regulations on railroads have tried to pass restrictions on the industry related to minimum crew size, train length and blocked crossings.

Both the Ohio and Kansas crew-size rules were proposed in the months after the fiery Norfolk Southern derailment in eastern Ohio in February. That crash forced thousands of people to evacuate their homes around East Palestine while hazardous chemicals burned in the days afterward. The cleanup continues and residents continue to worry about possible long-term health effects.

The other states that have rules requiring two-

person crews on the books are California, Wisconsin, Arizona, West Virginia, Minnesota, Washington, Nevada and Colorado. Those state regulations could be unnecessary if the Federal Railroad Administration approves a proposed rule to require two-person crews or if a package of rail safety reforms proposed in Congress that includes that requirement is approved. But the rail safety bill hasn't received a vote in the Senate or a hearing in the House, so it's prospects are uncertain.

Jeremy Ferguson, who leads the Transportation Division of the Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers union that represents conductors, praised the new Kansas rule alongside the governor Wednesday.

**OCTOBER 15-OCTOBER 22 - (Online Only Auction) - Michael & Jane Michaud, seller.** Gravely 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. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, Kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.

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

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

**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! *Krueckeberg 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. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, Kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.

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**November**  
Saturday 4th  
Drop it like its Hot 4 - 8 p.m.

**Rylie Lynn Band Saturday Oct. 28 Concert 5 p.m.**

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