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Bluffton man found guilty of sexual misconduct

By SYDNEY KENT

In a two-day trial this week, Zachary Archbold, 30, Bluffton, was unanimously found guilty of sexual misconduct with a minor, a Level 4 felony that carries up to 12 years in prison.

The jury of eight women and four men deliberated for less than an hour Wednesday afternoon. Archbold closed his eyes firmly as the final jury member announced the verdict.

At this time, the jury was notified they would be making a sec-

ond choice determining Archbold as a habitual sexual offender. Archbold had been previously convicted of the same crime in 2012. Information regarding Archbold's previous convictions had not been disclosed during the trial under Indiana law. The jury was unanimous — guilty.

As a third vote, and final surprise, the jury was asked to find Archbold guilty of being a habitual offender. Archbold has prior convictions for resisting law enforcement causing bodily inju-

ry, a Level 6 felony, two separate cases of failure to register as a sexual offender, each a Level 5 felony, and intimidation and battery, both Class D felonies. The jury's vote again was again unanimous — guilty.

Archbold faces up to a combined 42 years in prison under the habitual offender, sexual habitual offender, and sexual misconduct charges. A date has not yet been scheduled for sentencing.

The state's case was handled by Wells County Deputy Prosecutor

Timothy Sipe. Archbold hired lawyer James Hansen for his defense.

According to the probable cause affidavit, the victim, 15-years-old at the time, reported the assault to a trusted member of the staff at Parkview Behavioral Health in August of 2021. The girl reported Archbold had sexual intercourse with her while she was under the influence of marijuana in her home. She allegedly advised the two would smoke together with some of her teen friends. He was 29-years-old at the time.

According to court documents, an additional minor accused Archbold of the same crime in March, however, charges were dropped when the victim moved states.

The Department of Child Services and Bluffton Police Department Detective Cliff Thomas approached Archbold at his work to investigate the accusations. When Archbold was informed a rape allegation had been made against him, he replied that he "never forced himself on anyone."

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Great students and a great writer

Shannon Anderson is an award-winning children's author who recently visited Southern Wells Elementary to speak with students about becoming great writers. At the end of her program, all grade level students were entered in a drawing for one of Anderson's books. Pictured are the winners Logan McNally, Anthony Grover, Alice Dyson, Iris Vargas-Romero, author Shannon Anderson, Cooper Reeves and Hazel Leas. (Photo submitted)

Indiana Drainage Task Force debates floodplain mapping

By CASEY SMITH
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Are enough Hoosiers up to date on statewide floodplain mapping? How are landowners being notified about changes to those maps? And should property owners have more say, overall, in what areas are designated as flood zones?

Those questions were at the heart of the Indiana Drainage Task Force's Wednesday meeting, where lawmakers, state officials and industry experts gathered to discuss the ability of landowners to seek changes in flood hazard map designations after the Indiana Department of Natural Resource's "best available mapping data" is adopted by the federal government.

Talks also centered around the possible effects of the DNR's "best available mapping data" on mortgage lending, as well as the need

for — and availability of — flood insurance.

Hoosier property owners continue to complain that the newest floodplain maps adopted by the DNR are more restrictive than those from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Many contend that they were never notified of the floodplain map changes that went into effect in 2022 and are now faced with costly requirements for building projects on their property.

Multiple lawmakers expressed concerns on Wednesday about the accuracy of the DNR maps and said they now support a more robust system that ensures property owners know if they are in a flood zone, whether it be within the state or federal maps.

They emphasized, too, that a process should exist for Hoosiers

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Hoosier leaders praise hydrogen hub award, others wary

By LESLIE BONILLA MUÑIZ
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Hoosier leaders cheered Friday's federal announcement that Indiana is among 16 states set to host assets for seven regional hydrogen hubs, but resident advocates scrutinized the initiative's use of "blue" hydrogen and carbon sequestration.

The Biden administration is directing \$7 billion from the bipartisan infrastructure law to build the hubs, in grants that senior administration officials said Thursday would catalyze more than \$40 billion in private sector investment.

Indiana is part of the Midwest Alliance for Clean Hydrogen, along with Illinois, Michigan and 70-plus public and private organizations. Its grant is up to \$1 billion.

"We are ecstatic that Indiana is a beneficiary of this monumental investment," Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb said in a Friday news release. "... This grant could propel forward this project as a critical piece of this new hydrogen ecosystem."

The hub will include blue hydrogen production "at or near" British multinational oil and gas company BP's refinery in Whiting, Indiana, according to Holcomb's office.

Blue hydrogen is made by converting natural gas into carbon dioxide and hydrogen. The hub will catch the carbon dioxide byproduct and store it deep underground rather than emit it into the atmosphere — as process known as carbon capture and sequestration.

"We are thrilled that the U.S. Department of Energy awarded this grant to the MachH2 coalition," BP Vice President of Hydrogen and CCC Tomeka McLeod said in the release. "Our proposed Midwest hydrogen hub can help decarbonize America's industrial heartland while enhancing Indiana's economy, creating jobs and attracting new businesses and investments to the state."

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Learning about local manufacturing

Above, Norwell eighth-grade student Jordyn Hart, front, looks over a medical tool produced at Cadrex (formerly Haven Manufacturing) in Ossian as classmates, in back from left, Reagan Wilson, Adrienne Wagner, and Samantha Krider look on during a tour of the facility on Wednesday, Oct. 11.

Above right, Stacey Duncan with WEG Commercial Motors shows eighth grade students at Bluffton-Harrison Middle School a motor that is produced at their Bluffton facility touring a tour Friday, Oct. 6 as part of National Manufacturing Day. Wells County Economic Development organized for students from all three Wells County districts to tour manufacturing facilities throughout the county to learn about local career opportunities.

At left, Davie Jaskie, manufacturing director for Roembke Manufacturing, shows Southern Wells eighth grade students a half of a baby they mold that is meant to reduce SIDS in infants during a tour of the facility on Thursday, Oct. 12. The school trips were sponsored by the Wells County Foundation, Adams Well Manufacturing, Alliance, and Purdue IN-MaC. (Photos provided)

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Outside



Showers today and tonight with wind gusts

Today	Sunday	Monday
High 59	High 54	High 54
Low 44	Low 41	Low 40

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Online

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Vol. 94 No. 293

SATURDAY
October 14, 2023

ANNUAL OPEN ENROLLMENT IS HERE!

Jerry Flack & Associates

Oct. 15th - Dec. 7th MARKETPLACE
MEDICARE Annual Enrollment
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Man found guilty

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Thomas reportedly asked Archbold about several minors and if he had sexual intercourse with them, which Archbold denied and stated he did not know the victim's name. However, toward the end of the conversation, Archbold said they had intercourse "just that one time."

During the trial, Hansen argued that Archbold had misunderstood who Thomas was referring to in his question. Archbold detailed a previous relationship he had with a 17-year-old minor during his testimony. He also stated he did not know the victim's name until he was "harassed at work" and assumed she was 17-years-old. The age of consent in Indiana is 16 years old.

To this, Sipe played the audio file of the interview for the jury. During a portion of the interview, Thomas said the victim's name for the first time and Archbold immediately responded with her nickname, unintentionally incriminating himself by proving he knew who was being referenced during his admission before charges were formally filed. "(The detective) said the victim's name," Sipe argued. "You then said the victim's nickname. Why did you believe this was the same person if you claimed not to know her name?"

Archbold stated he knew what Sipe was saying, however, he said he could not answer the question. Sipe also questioned why Archbold was hanging out with teenagers at 29-years-old, to which Archbold replied his "love affair with marijuana" was the reason.

The state called multiple family case managers from the Department of Child Services, Thomas, and Detective Mari Heckel with the Bluffton Police Department, to testify about the initial interview with Archbold. Two men who were inmates with Archbold after he was initially arrested also testified.

Carlos Slater, an inmate with pending charges in the Wells Circuit Court, testified to nearly every accusation, claiming Archbold admitted to the

charges and sought his advice during their shared incarceration. Hansen emphasized that nearly every one of Slater's claims was found in the probable cause affidavit. This, as well as Slater's potential motives, drew Hansen's suspicions of the testimony.

"Was it true you were in the belief that Zachary Archbold snatched on you?" Hansen asked. "He never snatched on me but he told his attorney," the man responded.

In a last-minute decision, the state called Chief Deputy Prosecutor Jeffrey Stineburg to the stand. Stineburg, the prosecutor assigned to Slater's case, testified that he has not received any additional benefits for his testimony against Archbold.

"Is it possible sometimes people are motivated to cooperate in hopes they would receive a benefit?" Hansen asked Stineburg before commencing questioning. Stineburg confirmed.

The second former inmate to testify, James McElroy, said that Archbold told him that Archbold had led the victim to believe he was only 19 years old — the victim also testified to this during her time on the stand.

During her testimony, Sipe asked the victim to "set the scene" for the jury and recount the event where she and Archbold engaged in sexual intercourse. The incident began with the pair smoking a strain of marijuana called Pineapple Express. The victim stated she felt "weird" after smoking it, and though she had smoked it before, she had never felt the way that she did that evening. She broke down in tears and asked for a moment alone to collect herself. The judge issued a brief recess. After she returned, she detailed the sexual encounter with Archbold. She stated she told Archbold she did not want to participate, however, "one thing led to another" and sexual intercourse occurred.

Hansen recalled the victim to the stand on the second day of the trial. He asked her about an incident where Archbold assaulted another individual at the

victim's request. The victim confirmed the incident. Hansen then asked the victim if she ever asked Archbold to "get rid of" her grandparents.

"The last time you had an encounter with Zachary Archbold," Hansen chose his words carefully. "Did you or did you not ask for his assistance again in respect to your grandparents?"

"I did not ask him directly," The victim replied. "I didn't want him to do anything to my grandparents."

Archbold testified that the victim made him uncomfortable asking her to "get rid of" her grandparents and offered to bribe him with opiates in the house.

Hansen asked him how was the request made. Archbold responded that the victim's friend suggested it, and the victim brought the conversation to what she would offer Archbold and asked how she could avoid trouble with law enforcement.

"What did you understand that to mean?" Hansen prompted.

"To kill them," Archbold answered. "I felt very uncomfortable and left shortly after. That was the last time I was there."

Sipe asked the victim if this was true during his cross-examination on the second day of the trial. She denied the allegations.

Also during the trial, a juror realized he knew one of the minors in the case, as he had served as her youth pastor several years prior, and reported it to Judge Kenton Kiracofe. Kiracofe questioned if he had any knowledge of the case or Archbold. He also asked if it would affect his ability to remain impartial. The juror denied both questions and the trial continued.

Jury selection for the trial began at 8:30 a.m. and the trial began later the same afternoon shortly after 1 p.m. Initially scheduled through Thursday, the trial came to an end after 5 p.m. on Wednesday. The News-Banner will continue to follow Archbold's case and sentencing.

sydney@news-banner.com

Weather

Saturday, October 14, 2023

(24-hour observations from Fort Wayne International Airport at 11:54 p.m. Friday)

High: 67; **Low:** 45; **Precipitation:** .07 inches of rain
Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.25 feet at 8:45 p.m. Friday

Wells County forecast

Today: Showers. High near 59. Northeast wind 10 to 15 mph becoming northwest in the morning. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90 percent. New precipitation amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch possible.

Tonight: Showers, mainly before 8 p.m. Low around 44. North wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80 percent.

Sunday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 54. North wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 41. North wind around 10 mph.

Monday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 54.

Monday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 40.

Tuesday: Partly sunny, with a high near 56.

Tuesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 39.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 62.

Wednesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 45.

Thursday: A 30 percent chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 64.

Thursday Night: A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 45.

Friday: A chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 64.

Hydrogen hub

(Continued from Page 1)

McLeod thanked Holcomb and Indiana's lawmakers for establishing a framework in 2022 regulating hydrogen-related CCS projects.

Although Biden's and Holcomb's administrations emphasized the "renewable" and "clean" nature of the hub, others were unconvinced.

Kerwin Olson, leader of energy watchdog Citizens Action Coalition, called blue hydrogen a "false solution to climate change" in a statement Friday, criticizing its use of natural gas and CCS.

"(CCS) relies on a massive network of hazardous (carbon dioxide) pipelines, enabled by eminent domain, and untold numbers of (carbon dioxide) dumps throughout our State and the Midwest," Olson said in a statement to the Indiana Capital Chronicle. He said Holcomb and the state of Indiana should "take note" of "strong" public opposition to such projects.

"The only clean hydrogen is hydrogen made using renewable energy," Olson concluded. "In contrast, this hydrogen hub appears to be nothing more than a dirty backroom deal made without the consent or input of impacted communities and stakeholders, designed to help Big Oil get even richer from using more fossil fuels

while threatening the health and safety of Hoosier communities."

Hub to 'decarbonize' stickiest emissions

"Clean" hydrogen is critical to cutting emissions in industries that have struggled to decarbonize, including heavy-duty transportation and chemical, steel, and cement manufacturing, the White House said in a news release.

The hubs are expected to reduce carbon emissions by 25 million metric tons each year, according to the release.

MachH2 will focus on steel and glass production, power generation, refinement, heavy-duty transportation and aviation fuel, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. Along with natural gas, it will use nuclear and renewable energy to fuel its activities.

"Today's announcement is a win for Indiana and the entire Midwest," Republican U.S. Sen. Todd Young of Indiana said in a news release. "This investment in Indiana's hydrogen ecosystem will mean more opportunities for our Hoosier workforce and higher education system. This is exciting news and another example of how Hoosiers are leading the way in innovation, and I congratulate the entire MachH2 team."

Drainage task force

(Continued from Page 1)

to challenge the mapping in a timely manner — without exorbitant costs.

"I think these maps aren't ready," said Republican Rep. David Abbott, of Rome City. "I think we need to take a step back — a big step back — take a look at these maps as a whole, and take them off the table. I think these maps need to be avoided temporarily until they can go in and do a more detailed modeling ... of the whole state. And that's going to be very, very expensive."

Environmental groups, meanwhile, point to increases in extreme rain events that lead to greater flooding. They maintain that state lawmakers should focus more on ways to introduce green infrastructure — like planting trees and restoring and protecting wetlands.

The interim committee, created in 2022, is tasked with reviewing state drainage laws and making recommendations concerning drainage and regulatory matters — including at the legislative level. Wednesday's meeting was the second of three to be held this fall.

Concerns over proper notification

A floodplain is the area next to a stream or river that is at risk for flooding at least once per 100 years or more.

Resulting floodplain maps are often made by calculating rainfall, topography, and hydraulic analysis, which evaluates the capacity of a stream or other water body.

FEMA has published maps for many of Indiana's floodplains, but not for all of them.

To cover the rest of the state, the DNR maintains floodplain maps for an additional 18,500 miles of Indiana streams. The state agency combined its maps with those created by FEMA to produce the Best Available Flood Hazard Area map.

Environmental advocates maintain that the DNR map is the best resource for identifying flood-prone areas. Currently, local floodplain administrators are charged with using it to reduce construction in the floodplain so rivers and streams can spread out, as needed. That keeps flood waters from flowing as fast or rising as high, which also reduces erosion.

But several on the Drainage Task Force took issue with the lack of notification given to property owners about changes to the DNR floodplain maps. Updates to

the state maps meant some parcels of land were no longer determined to be in flood zones, while others are now located in newly-designated floodplains.

DNR water division director David Knipe maintained that the agency's new maps have been available online since 2018. It has been up to Hoosiers to access that data on their own.

Now, however, FEMA is in the process of updating federal maps, beginning with Wells County. New map adoptions are expected in other Indiana counties in the coming years.

As a part of that process, a public hearing is held when maps change. If property owners don't like the maps proposed, they can hire a surveyor or engineer to refute them, although industry representatives said Wednesday that appeal could cost Hoosiers upwards of \$20,000.

Knipe said about 2,000 fliers were sent out about the informational meeting to Wells County property owners affected by floodplain designation changes, but that only 50 people showed up.

Abbott said the fliers amounted to "mumbo jumbo" for many who received them: "They're not going to understand that their designation has now changed."

"Maybe we need to extend the time period where these people have a chance to respond and have their properties checked," he added. "Whether we disregard the maps or we delay the maps, I don't think FEMA should be coming in adopting them yet."

Sen Jeff Raatz, R-Richmond, said property owners should be informed about the latest changes and have a chance to refute the maps before DNR sends them to the federal government.

"I'm protecting the property owner. I shouldn't have to pay to go to the federal government after the fact and ... defend my supposition that I'm not in the flood zone," he said, maintaining that while "maybe 90 percent to 95 percent" of DNR's maps are "absolutely accurate," some are still in contention and deserve to be refuted. "I don't think it's the role of government to just all of a sudden say, from the top down, that you're now in the floodplain without having any conversation with people who rightfully own that property."

Task force co-chair Sen. Jean Leising, R-Oldenburg,

agreed that the DNR fliers didn't do enough to properly notify affected Hoosiers in Wells County. She said she's concerned that, unless changes are made, thousands of Hoosiers will remain under-informed.

"I think the flier obviously wasn't as effective as it needed to be because otherwise more than 50 people would have come if they would have understood the ramifications of what it might mean to their property values and for their ability to build," she said at Wednesday's meeting. "I think it's wrong that we have taken away people's property rights without any of them knowing it."

Insurance matters and implications

Knipe said there are more than 2.5 million households in Indiana, but only 17,390 flood insurance policies in effect. Most, but not all, are actually located within a floodplain.

Any property owner in a community that participates in the National Flood Insurance Program, no matter what floodplain they are in, can purchase flood insurance. Not every Hoosier community takes part in the program, but the majority do, he said.

Ross Teare with the Indiana Bankers Association said his industry "relies solely on FEMA floodplain maps, rather than DNR mapping," because that's all that is required by federal law when determining whether flood insurance is needed.

He said FEMA maps enable banks to establish whether a property falls within a designated flood zone. When it does, federal regulation mandates that the property owner maintain flood insurance. Banks are responsible for ensuring that borrowers adhere to the requirements when they provide loans.

A lender is required to notify property owners at least 10 days ahead of closing, but many banks alert clients as soon as the purchasing process begins, Teare said.

If maps are updated, like in Wells County, banks are required by federal law to notify property owners that they are now in a floodplain zone and are required to have floodplain insurance, Teare added.

"We just want the most accurate maps available because our interests need to be protected when it comes to mortgages, and we need

to know where the floodplains are," he said before the task force.

Wayne Capek, president and CEO of Brownsburg-based Floodplain Consultants, which represents about 60 percent of the banks in Indiana, said nearly all lenders use services like his to track floodplain map changes.

Floodplain Consultants is already keeping tabs on 1.2 million properties. If a FEMA map change goes into effect, Capek said his company will notify lenders within 30 to 60 days that the property is now in a special flood hazard area and flood insurance is required.

Capek said flood insurance costs a Hoosier property owner, on average, anywhere from \$500 to \$1,000 annually through the federal insurance program, but varies depending on the property.

Michael Niland with the Insurance Institute of Indiana further said there is a private market for homeowners seeking flood insurance, but that can be even more expensive.

Other task force issues

Raatz recommended that any future changes to floodplains in Indiana would require meetings at the county level, with all affected individuals, "to make sure there are no errors."

"The issue for me is not that things are either in the floodplain, it's the process ... and how we notify property owners," he said.

Knipe said the DNR is "not adverse" to a beefed up notification process about future changes to the best available floodplain maps, but he cautioned that more requirements can become "quite a burden" for agency staff.

"I mean, do we knock on people's doors and tell them they're in a floodplain?" he asked.

Rep. John L. Bartlett, D-Indianapolis, additionally echoed others who suggested that information about floodplain mapping should be sent out with property tax bills.

Jeff Healey, a supervisor for the Hendricks County Soil and Water Conservation District and member of the task force, said DNR mapping should be "ground truth" to make sure that the previous surveying has accurately reflected the ground surfaces. Doing so would require boots on the ground, which Knipe said the agency "certainly doesn't have enough staff for."

OBITUARIES

Michael E. Harris, 75

Michael E. Harris, 75, of Auburn, went to be with the Lord and he was ready to meet his Savior on Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2023, at Parkview Regional Medical Center in Fort Wayne.

He was born on Oct. 18, 1947, in Fort Wayne, to Melvin E. and Marcell E. (Saalfrank) Harris, the first of six children, who along with their parents had the initials MEH. Mike loved to tell this story.

The Harris family moved to a farm near Markle and Mike learned the work ethic of a farmer and to carry out responsibilities as the oldest child.

Mike graduated from Lancaster High School in 1965. He graduated cum laude from Huntington College with a bachelor of arts degree in 1970. He then graduated from Purdue University in Fort Wayne in 1974, with a master of arts degree in teaching.

He married Patsy J. Schwartz on June 12, 1971, at Hopewell United Brethren Church in rural Auburn.

Mike taught middle school math at Avilla Middle School from 1970 until his retirement in 2008. After his retirement, he began substitute teaching at Lakewood Park Christian School.

He was an active member of Hopewell United Brethren Church.

He was a former member of Kiwanis International and served on the Youth For Christ Northeast Indiana board of direc-



tors for more than 25 years.

Mike enjoyed bowling, playing card games, gardening, refinishing furniture and watching his grandchildren in all their various activities.

Surviving are his wife, Patsy J. Harris, of Auburn; two children and a daughter-in-law, Holly N. Harris, of Auburn and Paul M. and Tiffany (Pepple) Harris, of Leo; three grandchildren, Hayden J. Harris, Hayley J. Har-

ris and Hadley G. Harris; five siblings and their spouses, Marcia E. Miller of Bluffton, Martha E. Harris of Bluffton, Marlene E. and Paul Hess of Decatur, Marilyn E. Stiltner of Berne, and Mark E. and Susan Harris of Bluffton; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, David Matthew Harris; niece, Samantha Grace Stiltner; and a nephew, Bruce David Harris.

Services will be held at 11 a.m., on Monday, Oct. 16, 2023, at Hopewell United Brethren Church, 6852 CR 35 in Auburn, with visitation from 10-11 a.m. prior to the service. Pastor Ryan Koch will be officiating.

Burial will take place at Roselawn Cemetery in Auburn.

Visitation also will be from 2-6 p.m., on Sunday, Oct. 15, 2023, at the church.

Memorials may be directed to Hopewell United Brethren Church Building Fund, 6852 C.R. 35, Auburn or Image of Hope Ranch, 5499 C.R. 31, Auburn.

Camilla L. Irelan, 73

Camilla L. (Candy) Irelan, 73, of Bluffton, formerly of Montpelier, died at 1:24 a.m. Friday, Oct. 13, 2023, at her residence in Bluffton. She was born Sunday, May 7, 1950, in Hartford City. She married David Irelan Friday, Dec. 29, 1967, at the Methodist Church in Montpelier. Her husband David preceded her in death Nov. 14, 1989.

She is survived by her sons, David Bryan (Tammy) Irelan, Portland, Phillip Anthony Irelan, Bluffton, Jonathan Bradley (Tammie) Irelan, Fort Wayne, and Scott Nathaniel (Angela) Irelan, Keystone; daughter, Vickie Lynn (Thomas Conley) Buzzard, Warsaw, Ind.; 13 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren; sister, Betty Jeanann Shady, Montpelier; brother, Michael Harrold, Augusta, Ga.; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Cleo S. Harrold and Betty J. Harrold; husband, David Nathaniel Irelan; brothers, Danny Harrold, David Harrold, Donnie Harrold, and Steven Harrold; and sisters, Connie Wyatt and Sandra Harrold.

Family and friends may gather to share and remember at Walker & Glancy Funeral Home 109 W Windsor St. Montpelier, Sunday, Oct. 15, 2023, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. A service to celebrate her life will follow after, with Pastor Steve Rogers officiating. Interment will follow in the Brookside Memorial Park in Montpelier.

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

Online condolences may be made at www.glancyfuneralhomes.com

Bluffton Parks & Rec News & Notes



By Brandy Fiechter

Destination Recreation

Lancaster Park has seen a flurry of activity lately! Restrooms are taking shape, and the pavilion siding is going up. The barricade to differentiate the parking lot from the maintenance drive is finished, and the grass is coming in beautifully. Special thanks to the amazing street department crew for patching up some of the worst areas of our parking lot so that the park will be usable this winter for sledding. We can't wait for the bids to come back to get it entirely replaced next spring.

Speaking of the new parking lot at Lancaster Park, the City of Bluffton is now accepting bids for this, as well as the new pickleball courts and the last mile of the Interurban trail.

General plans and specifications: Complete digital project bidding documents are available at www.questcdn.com. Quest CDN will serve as the Issuing Office and maintain the plan holder list. Digital Bidding Documents may be downloaded by inputting Quest project number QuestCDN eBidDoc #8771507 for the Pickleball and Parking Lot at Lancaster Park or by inputting Quest project number QuestCDN eBidDoc #8768165 for the Interurban trail. Back-to-back Pre-Bid Meetings will be held at 10:00 and 11:00 a.m. local time Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2023, at 128 East Market Street, Bluffton, Indiana, in the Parks Department Room.

The Parks Department is now accepting **2024 pavilion rentals** for the months of January—April. If you want to book your winter/spring event, please call 824-6069. May—December 2024 rentals will be accepted starting on Jan. 2. Pavilion rental rates can be found on the city website at <https://tinyurl.com/mrx49hnh>.

Anyone wanting to know more about the **Wabash Riverbank erosion** is invited to join the Bluffton Parks Department and Stantec on Oct. 18 at the indoor pavilion at Washington Park starting at 5:30 p.m. All meetings are open to the public, and interested parties will learn about stabilizing the Wabash River streambank and present any concerns, ideas, or sug-

gestions. Light refreshments will be served.

Our friends at the **Ossian Parks Department** have their **last season concert** today, Saturday, Oct. 14, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Archbold Wilson Park. Bring a few dollars for the evening's food truck while you enjoy the band Gunslinger.

We want to give a special thanks to 3 Rivers Federal Credit Union, who braved the cooler temperatures to give the storage building at Lion's Park a fresh coat of paint. This is a huge task that they were able to knock out in only 3 hours. We are so thankful for the help.

We also want to thank the American Legion Auxiliary Post 111 and Paddlefish Solar for donating to the **Boo in Bluffton event**. We are very excited to see nearly 2,000 people on Halloween night. The list for Boo in Bluffton, so far, includes:

- Downtown 5 to 6 p.m.: City Hall (Mayor's Office), Body Magic Massage, The Meeting Place, Jerry Flack and Associates, Archbold & Lewis Insurance, Lifewise Academy, Dollar General, American Salvage, The Broken Vessel Sign Co., Balance Massage Therapy, Wells County Republicans, Wells County Land Title, 1st Source Bank, Elks Lodge 796, Welches All Vehicle Repair, and Flagstar Bank.
 - In the City Gym 5 to 6 p.m.: Scooter's, Bi-County Services, State Farm/Ben Barman, WEG, Peyton's Northern, Pharaohs Car Club, Best Day Travel, Optimist Club, SCAN Wells CO. Prevent Child Abuse Council, Hershey Salty Snacks, Sonlight Kids Ministry, 20/20 Custom Molded Plastics, and Valero.
 - Outside along the west side of City Hall: First Reformed Church (Trunk or Treat), Park Community Church, EMS, Friends of the Shelter, and American Axle.
 - Parking lot across from City Hall: Pharaoh's Car Club will do a trunk or treat event.
 - Outlying (6 to 7 p.m.): Christian Care, Subway, The Mattress & Furniture Store, and Kroger.
- Have a great week!**

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City:

Thursday, 2:43 p.m., Taco Bell. Report of a woman on the property yelling at employees and refusing to leave. Issued warning for trespassing.

Thursday, 2:53 p.m., Walmart. Report of a vehicle with 2 dogs inside and windows partially down.

Thursday, 3:01 p.m., Bluffton High School. Officer gave student courtesy ride.

Thursday, 3:12 p.m., West Washington and South Williams streets. Report of a car accident.

Thursday, 3:19 p.m., Whicker Park. Report of two special needs subjects with caregiver being vulgar with female.

Thursday, 5:06 p.m., North Main and East Market streets. Driver cited for driving left of center and warned for unsafe lane movement and driving the wrong way on a one way search.

Thursday, 5:13 p.m.,

Bluffton Harrison Elementary School. Caller reported adults were drinking alcohol and then picked up students. Driver advised he was drinking a C4 energy drink.

Thursday, 8:04 p.m., 500 block of East Townley Street. Report of threats made to damage vehicles on property.

Friday, 12:56 p.m., North Main and West Water streets. Report of big piece of wood in the road. Wood removed.

County: Thursday, 3:42 p.m., Wells County Courthouse. Assisted with subject with Allen County warrant.

Thursday, 8:26 p.m., Ind. 201 and Ind. 124, Bluffton. Report of a vehicle speeding and swerving.

Friday, 12:41 a.m., Ind. 218 and Ind. 3, Warren. Officer checked on subject who stated he pulled over for a nap after work before driving home to Marion.

Friday, 2:52 a.m., West 700 South and South 700 West, Warren. Report of a semi truck trailer in ditch.

Friday, 7:25 a.m., 7500 South 200 West, Poneto. Car versus deer.

Ossian: Thursday, 10:54 p.m., 11000 North 750 East, Ossian. Assisted subject after fall.

Thursday, 11:20 p.m., 6000 North Greenwood Avenue, Ossian. Report of suspicious box truck at construction site.

ACCIDENTS

County: Friday, 7:28 a.m., 200 West and C.R. 700. Cody Thomas was driving North when a deer attempted to cross the roadway. Thomas's Dodge Ram rammed into the deer. Damages not exceeding \$1,001.

ARRESTS

Kyler Dean Rolston, 19, Bluffton, minor consumption of alcoholic beverage, a Class C misdemeanor.

Indiana woman charged after daughter falls from roof of moving car

VALPARAISO, Ind. (AP) — A northwestern Indiana woman faces several charges after her 11-year-old daughter suffered multiple injuries falling from the roof of her moving car, court records say.

Records show the 36-year-old Portage woman was booked into the Porter County Jail on Tuesday and charged with two felony counts of neglect of a dependent, two misdemeanor counts of criminal recklessness and misdemeanor false informing stemming from the Aug. 3 incident, The Times of Northwest Indiana reported Wednesday.

A witness told police "the little girl said 'Hi' then 'I'm going to fall,'" before falling to a street and being knocked unconscious, according to records.

The child suffered a skull fracture, a concussion and multiple abrasions to a shoulder, foot, elbow and side, police said.

The witness told police he saw the woman get out of the car, grab her daughter by

an arm, place the child in the vehicle and drive away.

The woman told police she allows her daughter and her 9-year-old son to hang on to the back of her car and ride skateboards. She said she was driving 4 to 5 mph when she realized the girl had fallen off her skateboard, police said. She said she believed the girl struck her head, so she picked her up and drove her home.

But the witness told police that the girl was on the roof of the car and that he had also seen her driving with her children on top of it previously.

VISITATION & SERVICES

Emily Jane Butler

Calling: 10 - 11 a.m. Monday, October 16. Service: 11 a.m. Monday, October 16 at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home

308 W. Washington St. 824-3850 www.thomarich.com

VISITATION & SERVICES

Janet E. Grimm

Calling: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Sunday, October 15. Service: 1 p.m. Sunday, October 15 at the funeral home.

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home

308 W. Washington St. 824-3850 www.thomarich.com

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TTY 711

Ossian Health Heli-ween helicopter candy drop rescheduled for Oct. 21

For the safety of the pilot and those attending the event, Ossian Health Communities has rescheduled its Heli-ween helicopter candy drop event due to impending weather Oct. 14.

Please join the group at 1p.m. Saturday, Oct. 21 at 215 Davis Dr. in Ossian. For more information, contact Tomi Cobb at 260-622-7821 x 2262 or Kathy Boles at 765-661-0178.

OSSIAN HEALTH COMMUNITIES
HELL-WEEN HELICOPTER CANDY DROP

RESCHEDULED SAT., OCT. 21 @ 1PM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14 AT 11AM

Get there early to be ready for the candy to drop at 11am!

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Patience is not known to be one of my virtues

Martin Luther King, Jr., reminded us that “the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.” So we are encouraged to be patient, but that can be difficult, perhaps most particularly when it comes to terrorists — as demonstrated once again in the volatile Mideast.

But I digress.

So put into that perspective, seven weeks is not a long time. Nonetheless, it is a longer period of time than it should have taken for the police chief in Marion, Kansas to be suspended.

Gideon Cody and his August 11 raid of a small community newspaper in that small city was the subject of several national news reports and a Saturday morning essay in this space August 19. I subsequently became an online subscriber of the Marion Record and have been following the developments and aftermath. It's been, of course, interesting.

You may recall that the police chief's cited reasons for the raid on the newspaper office, the owner's home and the home of the city's vice-mayor involved purported identity theft and computer crimes. The publisher was not shy in suggesting that it more likely was triggered by reporter Deb Gruver's investigations into Cody's past as a member of the Kansas City Police Department where he had worked before being hired in Marion.

That was confirmed by body-camera footage of the raid, which recorded Cody and another police officer searching Gruver's desk. When the officer handed Cody a file which contained her investigative notes regarding the chief, it was clear that he'd found what he was looking for.

As other events have unfolded, as tension and accusations dominated the city's bi-weekly council meetings, the patience of the citizens of Marion was wearing thin. The mayor and at least one council member were busy playing defense — calling it a “coverup” would not be out of line — refusing to even discuss the conduct of the police chief or the issues that led up to the raids during council meetings.

Meanwhile, Gruver filed a federal lawsuit against the chief, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation determined that Cody had been facing dismissal from the Kansas City PD for sexual harassment of a subordinate, and the National Newspaper Association has been peppering Congress in support of the basic constitutional rights that had been violated.

So, seven weeks after the raid, the mayor finally suspended the police chief, who resigned three days later on Oct. 2. While no charges have been filed against him, he will, at least, have to deal with Gruver's lawsuit and another pledged by the newspaper's publisher, Eric Meyer.

More recently, Gruver resigned her position, saying she no longer felt safe in Marion. The reporter who took over the city beat, Phyllis Zorn, has now taken a leave of absence for health reasons, as the stress of the situation triggered seizures.

Meyer, who came back to his hometown to take over his parents' small, weekly newspaper after a career teaching journalism at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and editing the Milwaukee Journal, had assembled a veteran, award-winning team of local journalists. He is now covering the city council meetings himself.

Cody will likely sneak out of town at some point, if he hasn't already; he has yet to answer any inquiries from any reporter. Recall also that Meyer's 98-year-old mother died suddenly in the aftermath of the raids. She was still actively involved in the business and it was her home that had also been raided.

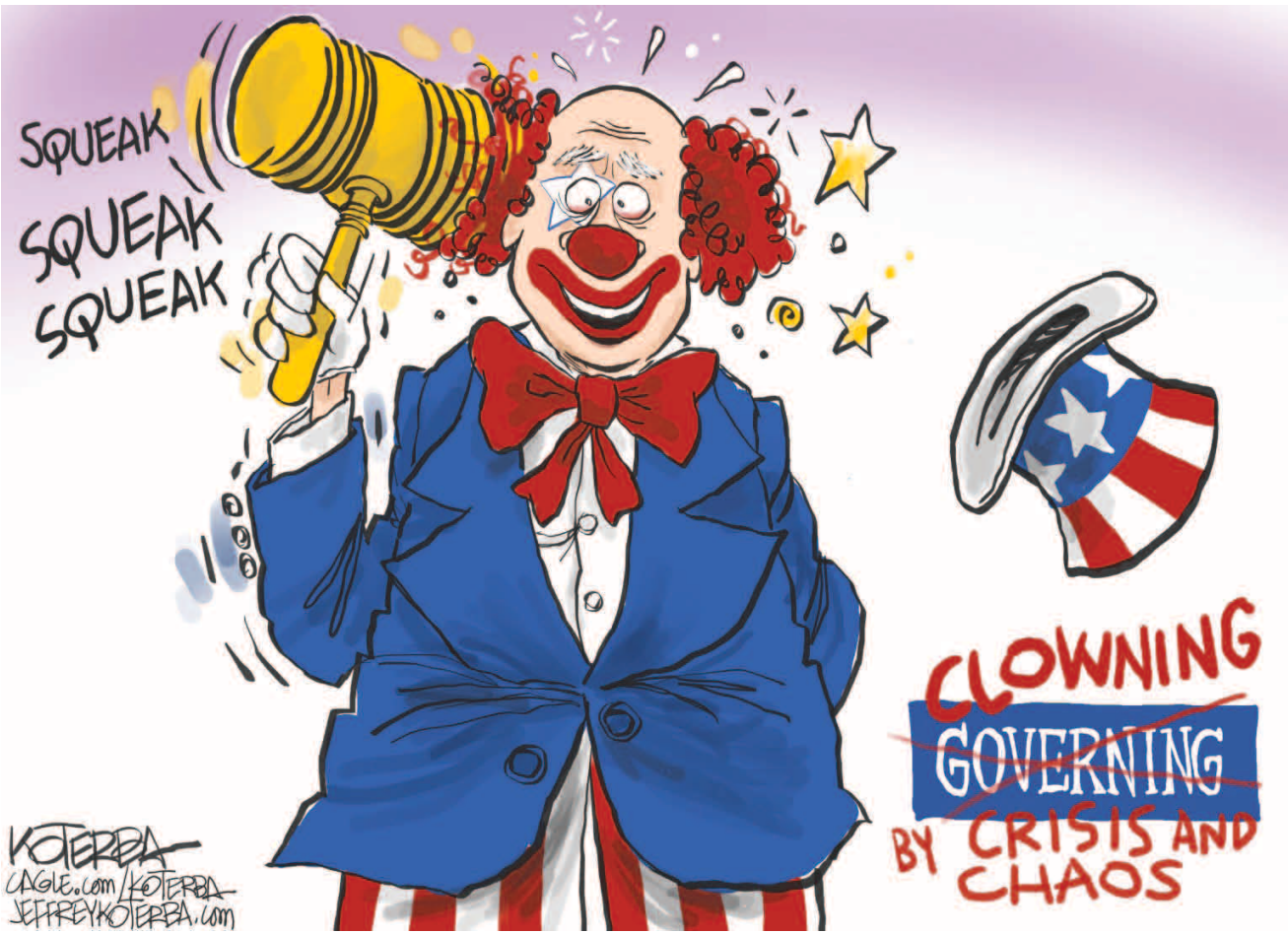
In this particular case, the arc of the universe is bending toward justice, but it still has a ways to go.

miller@news-banner.com



Mark Miller

Saturday's Sub



As ominous threats rise, the U.S. is mired in moronic, clownish politics

Bilious rhetoric pours from members of Congress presiding over their dilapidated institution. Never has there been such a disjunction between the seriousness of the nation's problems and the irresponsibility of its political class.

About the latter, look around. There is turmoil in the party that controls only one congressional chamber and cannot control itself. The unfolding presidential campaign is doing nothing to elucidate intelligent responses to two regional wars abroad and fiscal incontinence at home. About the nation's peril, consider this:

“The United States now confronts graver threats to its security than it has in decades, perhaps ever. Never before has it faced four allied antagonists at the same time — Russia, China, North Korea, and Iran — whose collective nuclear arsenal could within a few years be nearly double the size of its own. Not since the Korean War has the United States had to contend with powerful military rivals in both Europe and Asia. And no one alive can remember a time when an adversary had as much economic, scientific, technological, and military power as China does today.”

That is from a Foreign Affairs article (“The Dysfunctional Superpower”) by one of the nation's wisest foreign policy practitioners, former CIA director and former defense secretary Robert M. Gates. He knows military preparedness is jeopardized by Congress's inability to perform its most basic function, budgeting. Since 2010, it has failed to pass defense appropriations bills before the next fiscal year begins. “Continuing resolutions” continue the planning difficulty.

The war Hamas launched against the United States' most important Middle East ally underscores a lesson from Ukraine: War remains a matter of mass — artillery, armor, air support. And much of the U.S. defense industrial base has atrophied. This cannot be rectified quickly. One thing, however, can be.

Senate rules, which allow maximum individual latitude, presuppose minimal maturity. To protest a Defense Department policy pertaining to abortion, a caricature — Sen. Tommy Tuberville (R-Ala.), who says the three branches of government are “the House, the Senate, and the executive” — is blocking confirmation of hundreds of senior military promotions. This, says Gates, is “making the United States a laughingstock among its adversaries.” The Senate should immediately end this moronic behavior. Senators should either change Tuberville's unfurnished mind (“My dad fought 76 years ago in Europe to free Europe from socialism”) or change the rule he is

abusing.

Russia's attempted annihilation of Ukraine has become an attritional war. As Johns Hopkins University foreign policy scholar Hal Brands says, “The U.S. and its allies need to start equipping Ukraine now for operations in 2024 and after.” And they need to ponder this: “Without nuclear weapons and nuclear threats, Russia might well have lost the war by now.” China's President Xi Jinping might believe that Vladimir Putin's nuclear arsenal has made U.S. assistance to Ukraine timid and hesitant. Brands says:

“If Ukraine is a precedent for how America handles crises with nuclear-armed great powers, the U.S. is in big trouble in the Western Pacific. ... It's not clear why the U.S. would be more willing to risk nuclear war for Taiwan — another strategically important but distant democracy — than it was for Ukraine.”

All but one of the Republican presidential aspirants should stop tiptoeing around the crucial fact about the other one: Donald Trump is an unexampled threat to national security. He is unambiguously supporting Putin, as is a growing cohort of congressional Republicans who, by opposing material aid to Ukraine, are preparing to enable Trump to keep his promise to end the war “in 24 hours.” This would consign Ukraine to eventually losing the 82 percent of its territory that Putin has not yet seized.

As the world becomes more ominous, clownishness among Republican presidential aspirants — let's attack Mexico! — becomes more insufferable. Ron DeSantis promises gas at \$2 a gallon — cheaper in inflation-adjusted terms than when the price was 26 cents in 1948. At a July event, a crazed New Hampshire told Vivek Ramaswamy that the Federal Reserve is “adding zeros to the bank accounts to the media or maybe your political opponents.” Ramaswamy's response included this: “You're correct to point out what very few people are aware of. Absolutely, that happens.”

In the world beyond Iowa and New Hampshire, events are turning and turning in a widening gyre. Chaos, the métier of the Republican front-runner, is rising. Last week, the world spun into a new level of dangerousness. This coming week, any Republican aspirant worthy of the office she or he seeks will at last forthrightly stand against Trump's siren call of isolationism.

georgewill@washpost.com.



George Will

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Saturday, Oct. 14, the 287th day of 2023. There are 78 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Oct. 14, 1964, civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was named winner of the Nobel Peace Prize.

On this date:

In 1066, Normans under William the Conqueror defeated the English at the Battle of Hastings.

In 1586, Mary, Queen of Scots, went on trial in England, accused of committing treason against Queen Elizabeth I. (Mary was beheaded in February 1587.)

In 1933, Nazi Germany announced it was withdrawing from the League of Nations.

In 1939, a German U-boat torpedoed and sank the HMS Royal Oak, a British battleship anchored at Scapa Flow in Scotland's

Orkney Islands; 833 of the more than 1,200 men aboard were killed.

In 1944, German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel took his own life rather than face trial and certain execution for allegedly conspiring against Adolf Hitler.

In 1947, U.S. Air Force Capt. Chuck Yeager became the first test pilot to break the sound barrier as he flew the experimental Bell XS-1 rocket plane over Muroc Dry Lake in California.

In 1964, Soviet leader Nikita S. Khrushchev was toppled from power; he was succeeded by Leonid Brezhnev as First Secretary and by Alexei Kosygin as Premier.

In 1981, the new president of Egypt, Hosni Mubarak, was sworn in to succeed the assassinated Anwar Sadat. Mubarak pledged loyalty to Sadat's policies.

Russia has been attacking Ukraine for 20 months now.

Iran, through its terrorism partner Hamas, attacked Israel this weekend. China has been threatening to attack Taiwan.

The world is beginning to look a lot like the 1930s, when Japan attacked and overran much of China, and Nazi Germany and its then-ally the Soviet Union attacked and overran Poland and the Baltic States.

Former President George W. Bush has been ridiculed for describing an “Axis of Evil.” But at this point, the axis of Russia, Iran and China seems to be acting in greater unison than the axis of Germany and Japan acted during World War II. And we have no reason to assume today's axis will turn on itself as when Hitler attacked the Soviet Union in June 1941.

No American military forces are currently fighting in Ukraine, none will surely be fighting in Israel, and no forces are currently stationed in Taiwan. But then there were no American military forces fighting in Asia or Europe in June 1941. Soon, there would be.

And conceivably, they could be again sometime soon. As military historian Eliot Cohen points out, no one lately has a good record of military predictions.

What is clear is that the United States will be called on to provide large numbers of conventional weapons to Ukraine and Israel for some unspecified time. This could be a strain for a nation concentrating in recent decades on producing high-tech weapons in small numbers.

In prolonged on-the-ground fighting, however, numbers matter. Pro-



Michael Barone

duction of artillery shells (“munitions”) in adequate numbers was the issue that ousted one British prime minister and installed David Lloyd George in World War I (see Andrew Roberts' biography of Lord Northcliffe). And President Franklin Roosevelt's foresighted enlistment of top corporation executives made America the world's “arsenal of democracy” in World War II (see Arthur Herman's “Freedom's Forge”).

Those were the days when America was capable of building big things, in large numbers — a capacity, as liberal writers Ezra Klein and Derek Thompson have lamented, we have lost.

One reason is that our leaders lack Roosevelt's capacity to pick men (and women) good at getting things done, which made big government look misleadingly easy for the next few generations of Americans. Roosevelt picked the leaders who built the Pentagon in 15 months (see Steve Vogel's “The Pentagon”), and the generals and admirals who assembled from almost nothing the 16-million-men military (see Eric Larrabee's “Commander in Chief”) that produced the “absolute victory” that Roosevelt promised on Dec. 8, 1941).

Currently, American defense stockpiles are already strained in supplying arms and ammunition to Ukraine, and supplying Israel will strain them more. “The threat from China has not dissipated in the slightest while our defense spending and industry remain basically status quo as threats multiply,” former Pentagon

official Elbridge Colby wrote. “We should have been on a national mobilization footing for our defense industry a long time ago.”

That would require a major shift in budget priorities, away from things such as the Biden administration's \$400 billion forgiveness of college loan debt (with benefits tilted toward above-average-income borrowers). Moreover, thanks to inflation stoked by Trump and Biden COVID-era stimulus spending, government interest costs have skyrocketed. And will American armed forces, currently failing to meet recruitment goals, need to be expanded?

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is ordering a vigorous response to Hamas but in time will have to answer why his government was apparently so unprepared for the Oct. 7 attacks. And in a forthright statement on Oct. 10, President Joe Biden said unambiguously that “we're with Israel” and “we will make sure Israel has what it needs.” But in time, he may need to answer why he and his appointees and colleagues in the Obama administration tilted U.S. policy toward Hamas' patron Iran, to the point of releasing \$6 billion to Iran in September and appointing an Iranian sympathizer and possible spy to a national security post.

Meanwhile, America is bitterly split on partisan lines, with a narrowly Republican House (which nonsensically ousted its speaker), a narrowly Democratic Senate, and a Democratic president who, like Woodrow Wilson and unlike Franklin Roosevelt, has not taken Republicans into his councils as the storms of war gather. Stormy weather ahead.

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Call to Worship

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10 a.m. - Worship.

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1970 S.-800E., Bluffton
9:45 & 11:45 a.m. - Worship.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH - NORTH
630 E. Dustman Rd.
9:45 & 11:45 a.m. - Worship.

ASBURY CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST
8013 W.-1100S.-90, Montpelier
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:30 - Worship.

BETHEL
(Independent Bible)
4500E-300S, Bluffton
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

BETHEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMS
6114E-750N, Ossian
bethlehemossian.org
9 a.m. - Divine Service.
10:15 - Adult Bible Class, Youth Bible Class & Sunday School. 11:30 - Voice of Bethlehem on 92.7 FM.

BLUFFTON CHURCH OF GOD
327 W. Cherry St.
10 a.m. - Sunday School.
11 a.m. - Worship. 6 p.m. - Service.

BLUFFTON WESLEYAN CHAPEL
(Independent Holiness Church)
1309 W. Washington St.
blufftonwesleyan.net
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:30 & 6:30 p.m. - Worship.

COVENANT CHAPEL
3550 S. SR 1
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9:15 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:15 - Worship. (Children's Church for ages 6-12).

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3467 S 600 W, Liberty Center
boehmerumc.org
9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:45 - Sunday School.

CALVARY LUTHERAN, ELCA
1532 N. Main St.
9 a.m. - Worship.

CHESTER CENTER
900S-300W, Poneto
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:30 - Worship.

CHRISTIAN NEW LIGHT
1011 W. Washington St.
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:30 - Worship. 6 p.m. - Praise & worship.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
735 S. Marion St.
10 a.m. - Bible Study.
10:45 - Worship.

DILLMAN UNITED BRETHREN
8888S-1100W-90, Warren
9 a.m. - Worship. 10 a.m. - Sunday School.

DOMESTIC CHURCH OF CHRIST
9 a.m. - Sunday school. 10 a.m. - Church service.

EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST
1204 W. Cherry St.
9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:40 a.m. - Sunday School.

FAIRVIEW CHURCH OF GOD
5511 W. Yoder Rd., Yoder
fairviewlife.com
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST
210 W. Townley
fbc-bluffton.com
10 a.m. - Worship. 11 a.m. - Discipleship.

FIRST BAPTIST
202 W. Cherry St.
fbcbluffton.com
10:15 - Worship.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF OSSIAN
1001 Dehner Dr.
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:30 a.m. - Worship. 6:30 - Service.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST
909 W. Spring St.
FCCfamily.com
9:30 & 11 a.m. - Worship.

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
1515 Clark Ave.
blufftonnazarene.org
9 a.m. - Sunday School.
9-10 a.m. - Free ESL classes.
10:15 - Worship. 6 p.m. - Service.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
215 E. Dustman Rd.
firstpcbbluffton.org
9:30 a.m. - Children/youth & Adult Sunday School.
10:30 - Worship.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN (EVANGELICAL)
123 S. Jefferson St., Ossian
www.OssianChurch.com
8:45 a.m. - Adult Sunday school. 10 a.m. - Worship.

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF BLUFFTON
301 W. Cherry St.
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:30 - Worship.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
325 W. Washington St.
blufftonfirstumc.com
9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:45 - Sunday School.

FORGIVEN CHURCH
1409 S. Main St.
forgivenonline.org
9 a.m. - Worship.

GRACE BAPTIST
1621 S. 350 E. Stogdill Rd. Ext.
gbcbluffton.com
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. & 6 p.m. - Worship.

HOPE MISSIONARY
429 E. Dustman Rd.
hope4thefamily.com
8 a.m., 9:30 & 11 a.m. - Service at Main Campus.
9:30 & 11 a.m. - Service, north campus, Ossian.

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A Joyful Noise ...

GRASPING FOR GRACE

In his first epistle to Timothy, Paul encourages him to show rather brutal grace.

Officially, the veteran evangelist identifies the proper place for the Old Testament Law in evangelism: convicting sinners. However, Paul then identifies the type of sinners Timothy needs to convict: "murderers of fathers" and "murderers of mothers."

They deserve an opportunity to repent, Paul writes. They deserve grace.

And Paul doesn't stop there. The Law, he says, can even convict "manslayers" and "kidnappers."

God can even convert them, Paul declares.

And he should know, as Luke's account in Acts proves. Ultimately, Paul told Timothy to employ the Law as a means to ignite grace, even when that grace threatens — and understandably so — to offend those called to offer it.

Christian author and pastor Randy Alcorn certainly didn't want to show grace to Westley Allen Dodd.

As Alcorn once wrote, "I couldn't sleep the night of January 4, 1993, so I turned on the coverage of the execution of Dodd. He was the man who tortured, raped, and murdered three young boys ... about twenty minutes from where I live.

"Earlier that evening our family had prayed together. Both our daughters had asked God to intervene, praying that Dodd would repent and place his faith in Christ. I agreed with their prayer because I knew I should.

"But something in me resisted. What Dodd did was so unspeakably horrible that I was sickened by it ... If any man ever deserved to go to Hell, it was this one."

Oh yes, Dodd certainly deserved to go to Hell. Reck did too.

"You know, I am God," the communist told the imprisoned Christian, Greco, as he tortured him. "Everything depends upon me. If I wish, you live. If I wish, you are killed."

Andrew van der Bijl also deserved God's punishment. When the Dutchman joined the army, he couldn't wait to kill as many communists as he could. Instead, he and his fellow soldiers slaughtered a village of innocent civilians.

"About halfway through (a) peaceful-looking village, we stepped into a nest of mines," he wrote. "The company went berserk. We simply started shooting. When we came to ourselves, there was not a living thing in the village ... a young Indonesian mother lay on

the ground ... a baby boy at her breast. Both had been killed by the same bullet.

"I think I wanted to kill myself after that."

Years after that, van der Bijl would once again travel to communist countries, this time carrying a far more powerful weapon. "Brother Andrew," as many know him today, smuggled Bibles behind the Iron Curtain. He also helped start the organization Open Doors, which provides relief to persecuted Christians.

After the slaughter at the village, God showed him grace.

God showed grace to Reck too, who converted after the Spirit convicted him through Greco's words to him: "Every caterpillar is in reality a butterfly, if it develops rightly. You have not been created to be a torturer, a man who kills ... Your real calling is to be Godlike—to have the character of God, not a torturer."

And before the state hanged Dodd, he told reporters, "I have found hope and peace in the Lord Jesus Christ."

"Is Westley Allen Dodd in Heaven? I can't say, because I don't know his heart," Alcorn wrote, "but I do know this — if (his final words) did reflect a turning to Christ, then the answer to the question is a certain and resounding 'yes.'"

Of course, such grace does not promote naiveté. Brutal grace still hates evil and weeps for its victims.

The same apostle who told Timothy to reach out to "murderers" and "kidnappers" also wrote, "For (government authority) is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil."

Grace does not resent God for showing justice and wrath, but grace recognizes that God alone knows how to perfectly unleash that justice and wrath and at the perfect time.

And until He does, grace searches for the Paul smothered beneath the Saul; he prays for the "Brother Andrew" trapped inside the maniacal soldier. He testifies to the Reck waiting to fly free from sin.

"For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die," Paul the former persecutor wrote to the Romans. "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Perhaps he wrote that with tears streaming down his face, not just for himself, but for every Saul still out there.

baumofchet@gmail.com



by Chet Baumgartner

LIFE COMMUNITY
428 S. Oak St.
lifecommunity.net
10:30 a.m. - Service (Children's programs available).

MARKLE RIVERSIDE 316
145 W. Morse St.
10 a.m. - Worship.

MURRAY MISSIONARY
1117 N. Washington St., Murray
murraymc.org
9:30 a.m. - Worship. 11 a.m. - Sunday School.

NEW BEGINNING
2187 W. SR 218
10 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:30 - Worship.

NEW HOPE LUTHERAN
(Missouri Synod)
8824 N. SR 1, Ossian
newhopelutheran-ossian.webs.com
9 a.m. - Sunday School & Adult Bible study. 10 a.m. - Worship.

NOTTINGHAM
1100 S. SR 1
9:30 - Sunday School.
10:30 & 6 p.m. - Worship.

OSSIAN CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
302 N. Metts St.
ossiannaz.org
9:15 a.m. - Bible study.
10:30 - Service.

OSSIAN UNITED METHODIST
201 W. Mill St.
ossianumc.org
9 a.m. - Worship, Worship child care nurse. 10 a.m. - Fellowship. 10:15 - Adult Sunday School.

PARK COMMUNITY
617 S. Bennett St.
blog.parkub.org
10 a.m. - Connection. 11 a.m. - Worship.

PETROLEUM COMMUNITY CHURCH
3625 E. 2nd St.
9 a.m. - Worship. 10:30 - Sunday School.

PONETO BAPTIST
Grape Street
8:30 a.m. - Sunday School.
9 a.m. - Worship.

PONETO FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH
36 E. Walnut St.
9 a.m. - Worship. 10 a.m. - Fellowship. 10:15 - Sunday School.

RIVER OF HOPE
1224 W. Central
11 a.m. - Worship & the Word.

RIVER OF LIFE
927 N. Main St.
10:30 a.m. - Worship.

SIX MILE
4790 SE SR 116
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

SONLIGHT WESLEYAN
2350 S. SR 1
sonlightwesleyan.org
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:30 - Worship. Nursery & Children's classes available during Sunday School & Worship.

SOUTHERN WELLS COMMUNITY CHURCH
9450 S 300 W, Poneto
9 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship.

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC
1300 N. Main St.
Saturday: 7:45 a.m. - Prayer. 8 a.m. - Mass.
8:30 - Rosary. 4 p.m. or by appointment - Confessions.
5 p.m. - Mass.
Sunday: 7:30 & 10 a.m. - Mass.

ST. LUKE CHURCH
4960W-100N, Decatur
stlukechurch.in
9 a.m. - Worship. 10:15 - Sunday School.

ST. MARK EV. LUTHERAN
16933 Thiele Rd.
stmarkfv.org
8:45 a.m. - Sunday School.
10 a.m. - Worship.

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN (NALC)
5912 N. Sugar St., Uniondale
10 a.m. - Worship. 10:15 - Children's Sunday School.

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN
455 E. Morse St.
marklechurch.org
9 a.m. - Adult Bible study groups. 10:30 - Worship. Children's & student programming both hours.

THE CHURCH AT MCNATT
9221 W 800 S-90, Montpelier
8:30 a.m. - Coffee fellowship. 9:15 - Worship.

THE MEETING PLACE
115 E. Market St.
6:30 p.m. - Bible study.

TOWER LIFE CENTER
11811 N. Wayne St., Zanesville
towerlifecenter.com
9:30 a.m. - TLC Groups.
10:30 - Worship.

TURNPOINTE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
500 W. Logan, Markle
turnpointchurch.com
9:30 a.m. - Fellowship. 10 a.m. - Adult & Children's Worship.

UNIONDALE COMMUNITY CHURCH
5867 N. Main St.
9 a.m. - Worship.

UNIONTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST
11419 N-200W, Ossian
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

VERA CRUZ FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER CCCU
2771 SE Mulberry St., Vera Cruz
9-10 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:10:30 - Fellowship. 10:30 - Worship.

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH
205 S. Adams St., Monroe
9 a.m. - Worship. 10:15 - Discipleship for adults & children.

ZANESVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF GOD
11984 N. Marzane Rd.
9 a.m. - Bible Class. 10 a.m. - Worship.

ZANESVILLE UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST
3092 W. Broadway
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

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HARVEST TIME BIBLE
11015S-600E, Keystone
9:10 a.m. - Prayer. 10 a.m. - Worship.

KEYSTONE CHURCH
10556S-200W
9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:30 - Sunday School.

LANCASTER CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST
4510 E 400N, Craigville
9 a.m. - Sunday School.
9:40 - Fellowship. 10 a.m. - Worship.

LIBERTY CENTER BAPTIST
3071 W. Cherry St.
8:30 a.m. - Pastor/Deacon's Prayer. 9 - Sunday School. 9:55 - Fellowship. 10:15 - Worship.

LIVING WATER UNITED CHURCH
6486 S 700E, Bluffton
8:45-9 a.m. - Prayer. 9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

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- Drop information at 125 N. Johnson St. in Bluffton



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News-Banner Scoreboard

FOOTBALL High School

Friday's Scores
Adams Central 45, Woodlan 6
Alexandria 20, Madison-Grant 14
Angola 14, Eastside 3
Avon 14, Noblesville 7
Batesville 55, Connorsville 14
Bedford N. Lawrence 28, Columbus East 21
Beech Grove 28, Franklin Co. 27
Bloomington North 42, Southport 14
Bloomington South 47, Seymour 0
Bluffton 32, Lakeland 14
Boone Grove 45, Hammond Noll 0
Brownsburg 21, Hamilton South-eastern 14
Brownstown 48, Scottsburg 21
Carroll (Flora) 24, Sheridan 0
Carroll (Ft. Wayne) 51, Ft. Wayne North 14
Cass 38, Southwood 14
Castle 24, Evansville Memorial 21
Center Grove 45, Indpls Cathedral 38
Centerville 49, Knightstown 3
Charlestown 52, Eastern (Pekin) 14
Christel House Manual 68, Indpls Irvington 0
Christian Brothers, Mo. 47, Warren Central 3
Clarksville 48, Crawford Co. 34
Columbus North 22, South Vigo 20
Concord 46, Plymouth 0
Covenant Christian 38, Indpls Ritter 13
Crawfordsville 44, Frankfort 12
Crown Point 38, Michigan City 0
Danville 23, N. Montgomery 20
Decatur Central 36, Franklin 0
Delphi 41, Taylor 13
E. Central 41, Indpls Roncalli 7
E. Noble 70, Bellmont 7
Eastern (Greentown) 43, N. Central (Farmersburg) 6
Eastern (Greentown) 48, Clinton Prairie 20
Edgewood 46, Brown Co. 6
Evansville Bosse 48, Evansville Harrison 13
Evansville North 72, Evansville Central 0
Evansville Reitz 14, Evansville Mater Dei 10
Fairfield 33, Churubusco 0
Fishers 34, Zionsville 14
Floyd Central 47, New Albany 0
Frankfort 47, Blackford 6
Fremont 34, Ft. Wayne Blackhawk 0
Frontier 21, S. Newton 20, OT Ft. Wayne Dwenger 47, Ft. Wayne Concordia 16
Ft. Wayne Northport 35, Ft. Wayne South 17
Ft. Wayne Snider 37, Ft. Wayne Wayne 0
Garrett 22, Central Noble 7
Gary West 30, Calumet 28
Gibson Southern 35, Boonville 8
Glenn 53, S. Bend Washington 20
Greencastle 17, N. Putnam 9
Greenfield 44, New Castle 20
Guerin Catholic 42, Culver Academy 7
Hagerstown 27, Northeastern 20
Hamilton Hts. 26, W. Lafayette 23
Hanover Central 35, Hammond Central 0
Heritage 28, Jay Co. 6
Heritage Christian 48, Purdue Polytechnic 8
Heritage Hills 50, Washington 7
Hobart 48, Highland 0
Homestead 10, Ft. Wayne Luers 7
Indian Creek 22, Northview 21
Indpls Attacks 70, Southside Home School 6
Indpls Ben Davis 50, Indpls N. Central 3
Indpls Chatard 34, Cin. Elder, Ohio 7
Indpls Park Tudor 65, Edinburg 6
Indpls Washington 20, Indpls Tind-

ley 14
Indy Brebeuf 48, North Vigo 27
Jasper 13, Vincennes 0
Jennings Co. 28, Jeffersonville 27, 20T
Knox 50, Caston 0
LaPorte 12, Portage 0
LaVille 52, Culver 0
Lafayette Catholic 26, Western 7
Lafayette Harrison 42, Richmond 6
Lafayette Jeff 34, Kokomo 21
Lapel 36, Eastern Hancock 31
Lawrence Central 21, Carmel 17
Lawrence North 21, Indpls Pike 6
Lawrenceburg 42, S. Dearborn 21
Leo 43, DeKalb 14
Logansport 34, Anderson 27
Lowell 16, Andean 14
Martinsville 13, Plainfield 6
McCutcheon 41, Marion 7
Merrillville 35, Chesterton 7
Milan 43, Madison 0
Mishawaka 41, Wawasee 22
Mishawaka Marian 16, S. Bend St. Joseph's 10
Mississinewa 42, Eastbrook 6
Monroe Central 22, Shenandoah 6
Monrovia 44, Indpls Secocina 0
Mooreville 24, Indpls Perry Meridian 14
Mt. Vernon (Fortville) 35, Yorktown 21
Mt. Vernon (Posey) 38, Princeton 0
Muncie Central 41, Indpls Tech 12
Munster 28, Kankakee Valley 24
N. Decatur 47, Switzerland Co. 0
N. Judson 33, Pioneer 12
N. Posey 70, Pike Central 0
N. Vermillion 26, Seeger 0
N. White 20, W. Central 18
New Haven 47, Huntington North 12
New Palestine 38, Delta 7
New Prairie 16, Elkhart 8
NorthWood 22, Goshen 0
Northfield 18, N. Miami 8
Norwell 28, Columbia City 22
Oak Hill 63, Elwood 0
Owen Valley 53, Cloverdale 14
Paoli 37, N. Knox 30
Pendleton Hts. 28, Shelbyville 6
Penn 42, S. Bend Adams 0
Perry Central 47, Mitchell 7
Peru 52, Manchester 6
Providence 35, N. Harrison 0
Rensselaer 33, Tipton 0
River Forest 62, Lake Station 6
Riverton Park 20, Covington 6
Rochester 36, Maconaquah 14
Rushville 52, Greensburg 13
S. Adams 48, Southern Wells 3
S. Bend Riley 24, Jintown 12
S. Decatur 38, Day, Christian, Ohio 15
S. Putnam 20, Cascade 17
S. Vermillion 48, Attica 0
Salem 43, W. Washington 36
Silver Creek 46, Corydon 9
Southridge 49, Forest Park 17
Spring Valley 50, N. Daviess 14
Sullivan 48, W. Vigo 0
Tecumseh 41, OPH, Ill. 6
Tell City 55, S. Spencer 15
Tippacanoe Valley 51, Bremen 16
Tri 60, Union Co. 6
Tri-Central 21, Clinton Central 14
Tri-County 56, N. Newton 20
Tri-West 21, Southmont 7
Triton 35, Winamac 6
Triton Central 40, Speedway 7
Twin Lakes 24, Northwestern 19
Valparaiso 47, Lake Central 7
W. Noble 48, Prairie Heights 6
Wabash 35, Whitko 0
Warsaw 24, Northridge 10
Wes-Dei 42, Cambridge City Lincoln 6
Western Boone 27, Lebanon 21
Westfield 28, Franklin Central 19
Wheeler 27, Griffith 6
White Pigeon, Mich. 72, Greenwood Christian 6
Whiteand 28, Greenwood 24
Whiting 30, S. Central (Union Mills) 8
Winchester 49, Union City 7

College

NCAA Football Scores
SOUTH
Tulane 31, Memphis 21
FAR WEST
Fresno St. 37, Utah St. 32

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

HOCKEY

NHL
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
GP W L OTpts GF GA
Tampa Bay 1 1 0 0 2 5 3
Boston 1 1 0 0 2 3 1
Toronto 1 1 0 0 2 6 5
Montreal 1 0 0 1 1 5 6
Detroit 1 0 1 0 0 3 4
Ottawa 1 0 1 0 0 3 5
Florida 1 0 1 0 0 0 2
Buffalo 1 0 1 0 0 1 5
Metropolitan Division
GP W L OTpts GF GA
New Jersey 2 1 0 1 3 7 7
N.Y. Rangers 1 0 0 2 5 1
Carolina 1 1 0 0 2 5 3
Philadelphia 1 1 0 0 2 4 2
Pittsburgh 2 1 1 0 2 6 4
N.Y. Islanders 0 0 0 0 0 0
Columbus 1 0 1 0 0 2 4
Washington 1 0 1 0 0 4 4
WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division
GP W L OTpts GF GA
Colorado 1 1 0 0 2 5 2
Minnesota 1 1 0 0 2 2 0
Arizona 1 1 0 0 2 4 3
Dallas 1 1 0 0 2 2 1
Nashville 2 1 1 0 2 6 5
Chicago 2 1 1 0 2 5 5
St. Louis 1 0 0 1 1 1 2
Winnipeg 1 0 1 0 0 3 5
Pacific Division
GP W L OTpts GF GA
Vegas 2 2 0 0 4 8 2
Vancouver 1 1 0 0 2 8 1
Calgary 1 1 0 0 2 5 3
Anaheim 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Los Angeles 1 0 1 0 0 2 5
San Jose 1 0 1 0 0 1 4
Edmonton 1 0 1 0 0 1 8
Seattle 2 0 2 0 0 1 7
NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Thursday's Games
Philadelphia 4, Columbus 2
N.Y. Rangers 5, Buffalo 1
New Jersey 4, Detroit 3
Nashville 3, Seattle 0
Minnesota 2, Florida 0
Dallas 2, St. Louis 1, SO
Vegas 4, San Jose 1
Friday's Games
Arizona 4, New Jersey 3, SO
Pittsburgh 4, Washington 0
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.

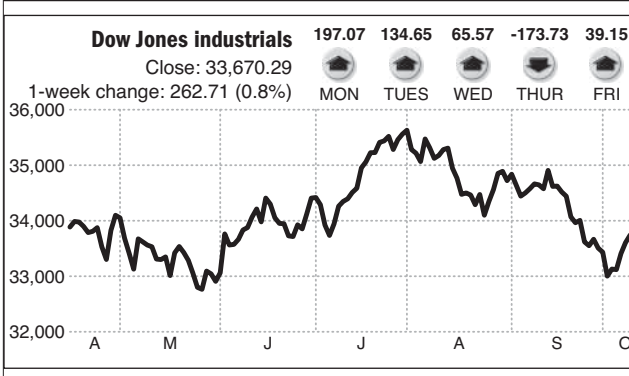
Minnesota at Toronto, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Nashville at Boston, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Buffalo at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30 p.m.
Seattle at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Anaheim at Vegas, 10 p.m.
Colorado at San Jose, 10 p.m.
Vancouver at Edmonton, 10 p.m.
Carolina at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Tampa Bay at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Carolina at Anaheim, 8:30 p.m.
Monday's Games
Arizona at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Calgary at Washington, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Florida at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Detroit at New Jersey, 7 p.m.

BASEBALL

DIVISION SERIES
Postseason Baseball Glance
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, Philadelphia 4
Wednesday, Oct. 11 — Philadelphia 10, Atlanta 2
Thursday, Oct. 12 — Philadelphia 3, Atlanta 1
Arizona 3, Los Angeles 0
Saturday, Oct. 7 — Arizona 11, Los Angeles 2
Monday, Oct. 9 — Arizona 4, Los Angeles 2
Wednesday, Oct. 11 — Arizona 4, Los Angeles 2
LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES (Best-of-7)
American League
Sunday, Oct. 15: Texas at Houston (Verlander 13-8), 8:15 p.m. (Fox)
Monday, Oct. 16: Texas at Houston, 4:37 p.m. (Fox, FS1)
Wednesday, Oct. 18: Houston at Texas, 8:03 p.m. (FS1)
Thursday, Oct. 19: Houston at Texas, 8:03 p.m. (FS1)
x-Friday, Oct. 20: Houston at Texas, 5:07 p.m. (FS1)
x-Sunday, Oct. 22: Texas at Houston, 8:03 p.m. (FS1)
x-Monday, Oct. 23: Texas at Houston, 8:03 p.m. (Fox, FS1)
National League
(All Games on TBS)
Monday, Oct. 16: Arizona at Philadelphia, 8:07 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 17: Arizona at Philadelphia, 8:07 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 19: Philadelphia at Arizona, 5:07 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 20: Philadelphia at Arizona, 8:07 p.m.
x-Saturday, Oct. 21: Philadelphia at Arizona, 8:07 p.m.
x-Monday, Oct. 23: Arizona at Philadelphia, 5:07 p.m.
x-Tuesday, Oct. 24: Arizona at Philadelphia, 8:07 p.m.

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

WEEKLY DOW JONES AND S&P 500



STOCK MARKET INDEXES

Table with columns: High, Low, Name, Last, Wk Chg, Wk %Chg, YTD %Chg, 12-mo %Chg. Lists various indices like Dow Jones Industrials, S&P 500, etc.

STOCK EXCHANGE HIGHLIGHTS

Table with columns: NYSE GAINERS, NYSE LOSERS, NYSE ACTIVES, NASDAQ GAINERS, NASDAQ LOSERS, NASDAQ ACTIVES. Lists stock names and their price changes.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Wk %Chg, Wk %Chg YTD, Name, Div, Last, Wk %Chg, Wk %Chg YTD. Lists local stocks like AFLAC, AT&T, AMD, etc.

SATURDAY, OCT 14

CROSS COUNTRY (CO-ED): (sectional) Norwell, Bluffton, Southern Wells at Taylor University, 10:30 a.m. boys' race, 11:15 a.m. girls' race.
VOLLEYBALL: (sectional semi-final & final) Maconaquah at Norwell, 12:30 p.m.; South Adams at Bluffton, 12:30 p.m.

MONDAY, OCT 16

No events scheduled
TUESDAY, OCT 17
No events scheduled
WEDNESDAY, OCT 18
No events scheduled
THURSDAY, OCT 19
No events scheduled

FRIDAY, OCT 20

FOOTBALL: (sectional quarterfinal) Delta at Norwell, 7 p.m.; Bluffton at Alexandria Monroe, 7 p.m.; North Miami at Southern Wells, 7 p.m.
SATURDAY, OCT 21
CROSS COUNTRY (CO-ED): (regional) TBD at Taylor University.

Knights top Eagles

(Continued from Page 6)
throats with a 55-yard, eight-play drive that was culminated by Timothy Bonjour's 15-yard dash into the end zone.

of the fourth quarter, the latter with just 6:41 left on the clock, Norwell seemed to be in control.

Bonjour was a thorn in Columbia City's side all night as he rushed for 203 yards and two touchdowns, including that one and a 31-yarder in the third quarter.

But then came the mishandled exchange in the backfield and Columbia City's last-ditch effort that kept fans from both teams parked under their umbrellas instead of heading for the exits.

Moser followed that score with the first of his two interceptions, and the Knights rammed it in on a 61-yard, 11-play drive, with Bonjour carrying the ball on nine of those plays. That put Norwell on top, 28-15.

For Columbia City, it was a game of missed opportunities.
The Eagles fumbled the ball away at the Norwell 4 in the first quarter and had two other touchdowns nullified by penalties on drives that ended with no points.

And with the Knights forcing a punt and getting interceptions from Moser and Bailey on Columbia City's first three possessions

Norwell finishes regular season play with a record of 3-6 and will open sectional play next week at home against Delta next Friday.
sports@news-banner.com

THIRD QUARTER
NOR—Bonjour 31 run (DeLeon kick), 10:05.
NOR—Drew Graft 1 run (DeLeon kick), 3:58.
FOURTH QUARTER
CC—Bradberry 2 run (Urban kick), 3:10.
TEAM STATISTICS
NOR CC
First Downs 17 19
Rushes-Yards 58-302 35-167
Passing Yards 0 199
Passing (C-A-I) 0-8-1 12-32-3
Fumbles-Lost 2-1 4-2
Penalties-Yards 6-50 2-20
Punts-Average 6-21.0 2-29.0
Time of Possession 29:18 18:42
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
Rushing: Norwell-Timothy Bonjour 44-203, Trey Bodenheimer 8-79, Drew Graft 4-10, Cohen Bailey 2-10; Columbia City-James Getts 8-62, Noah Pletcher 7-35, Grayson Bradberry 5-7, Cayden Sroufe 4-25, Gavin Smith 3-4, Stratton Fuller 2-6.
Passing: Norwell-Drew Graft 0-8-1 0; Columbia City-Grayson Bradberry 12-32-3 199.
Receiving: Norwell-None; Columbia City-Stratton Fuller 6-54, Gavin Smith 2-68, Bradlyn Elkins 2-51, James Getts 1-24.

NORWELL 28, COLUMBIA CITY 22 at Columbia City
Norwell 0 14 14 0—28
Columbia City 0 15 0 7—22
FIRST QUARTER
No scoring.
SECOND QUARTER
CC—Stratton Fuller 80 blocked field goal return (Landon Urban kick), 9:53.
NOR—Trey Bodenheimer 50 run (Austin DeLeon kick), 9:31.
NOR—Timothy Bonjour 15 run (DeLeon kick), 5:18.
CC—Fuller 3 run (Bradlyn Elkins pass from Grayson Bradberry), 2:42.

Raiders fall to Starfires

(Continued from Page 6)
said. "(South Adams) stalemated us pretty well, and a lot of it's because they bring a lot of pressures, and a lot of shifts and movements."

Whitko and could be used to the Raiders' advantage. Whitko's head coach, Jeff's brother Brad Sprunger, will have tape and everything he needs to help prepare for them.

Wanner and Caleb Hirschfeld scored the only two touchdowns in the second half by either side on the ground to round out the final to 48-3.

Sprunger also goes way back with head coach Joe Grant from North Miami when they were both equipment managers for Indiana University football.

This was the final week of the regular season, and while there are three rated schools in Southern Wells' sectional starting next week, according to the Associated Press rankings on Tuesday, the Raiders perhaps got the luck of the draw.

That game is set for a 7 p.m. kickoff next Friday.
sports@news-banner.com

They'll host North Miami at Carnes Field, where both teams have a 1-8 record on the season.
The lone victory for the Warriors was against

draw," Sprunger said. "I think it's going to be an opportunity for us to go out on our home field and ring a bell here late in the season. Like I told our boys tonight, the whole entire state, everybody's back to 0-0. I mean, it's a whole new season, and that's the one wonderful thing about Indiana football is we all get in the playoffs, and we all get the opportunity to start thrashing."

SOUTH ADAMS 48, SOUTHERN WELLS 3
at South Adams
Score By Quarters
Southern Wells 3 0 0 0—3
South Adams 7 27 7 48
Scoring Summary
First Quarter
SW—Joshua Aulbach 23-yard field goal, 5:32.
SA—Colton Bollenbacher 75-yard carry (Jackson Garcia kick), 1:10.
Second Quarter
SA—Owen Wanner 36-yard run (Garcia kick), 10:15.

MONEY RATES

Table with columns: Last, Pvs Day. Lists rates for Prime Rate, Discount Rate, Federal Funds Rate, etc.

CURRENCIES

Table with columns: Last, Pvs Day. Lists exchange rates for Australia, Britain, Canada, Euro, Japan, Mexico, Switzerland, etc.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table with columns: Name, Total Assets, Obj, (\$Mln), NAV, Total Return/Rank, Pct Load. Lists various mutual funds like American Funds, Fidelity, etc.

CA—Conservative Allocation, CI—Intermediate-Term Bond, FB—Foreign Large Blend, GS—Short Government, IB—World Bond, IH—World Allocation, LB—Large Bond, LG—Large Growth, LV—Large Value, MA—Moderate Allocation, MI—Muni National Intermediate, ML—Muni National Long, NT—Nontraditional Bond, WS—World Stock, Total Return: Chng in NAV with dividends reinvested. Rank: How fund performed vs. others with same objective. A is in top 20%, E in bottom 20%. Source: Morningstar.
Stock Footnotes: g = Dividends and earnings in Canadian dollars. h = Does not meet continued-investing standards. ll = Late filing with SEC. n = New in last 52 weeks. pl = Preferred. rs = Stock has undergone a reverse stock split of at least 50 percent within the past year. r1 = Right to buy security at a specified price. s = Stock has split by at least 20 percent within the last year. un = Units. vj = In bankruptcy or receivership. wd = When distributed. wj = When issued. wt = Warrants. Mutual Fund Footnotes: b = Fee covering market costs is paid from fund assets. d = Deferred sales charge, or redemption fee. f = front load (sales charges). m = Multiple fees are charged. NA = not available. p = previous day's net asset value. s = fund split shares during the week. x = fund paid a distribution during the week. Source: The Associated Press. Sales figures are unofficial.

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SERVICES

Services

TIMESHARE CANCELLATION EXPERTS - Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 877-329-1207 (I)

Services

MARV'S CONSTRUCTION Room additions, fix old saggy floors, all types remodeling. Redo bathrooms, old foundation repairs. Marv Schwartz: 260-525-8877.

MILLER'S U-STOR We have clean, secure storage units available. Various sizes. 260-824-4141. Miller U-Stor, 1118 W. Silver, Bluffton, IN.

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PORTABLE OXYGEN CONCENTRATOR May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 877-930-3271 (I)

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted

EMSWILLER & EMSWILLER 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@emswiller.net (EAP2)

HELOISE HINT: If you want to succeed and stand out at work. Ask your supervisor for more work, projects or assignments. You don't have to wait for them to come to you. Email HELOISE@Heloise.com.

FOR SALE

5 for \$5

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 and click on classifieds.

Mark your Calendar for this event

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

VEHICLES

Auto/Trucks

INDIANA AUTO AUCTION, INC. Huge Repo Sale October 19, 2023. Over 100 repossessed units for sale. Money order or cashier's check only. \$500 cashier's check or money order deposit per person required. Register 8 am-9:30 am. No public entry after 9:30 am. All vehicles sold AS IS! 4425 W. Washington Center Road, Fort Wayne. (A)

Lottery Numbers

Friday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY
Cash 5 — 04-29-30-33-34
Cash4Life — 12-16-24-37-55, Cash Ball: 03
Quick Draw Midday — 06-09-13-20-25-29-41-42-43-44-46-48-53-61-62-68-70-71-75-77, BE: 71
Daily Three-Midday — 09-03-07, SB: 07
Daily Three-Evening — 09-00-01, SB: 05
Daily Four-Midday — 01-04-03-07, SB: 07
Daily Four-Evening — 06-09-01-07, SB: 05
Quick Draw Evening — 01-03-10-11-17-21-24-25-33-39-44-45-48-52-62-67-69-70-72-76, BE: 24
Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$39 million
MEGA MILLIONS
06-18-44-46-68, Mega Ball: 18, Megaplier: 2X
POWERBALL
Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$20 million

Read & recycle

SUDOKU

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

King Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty: ★★☆☆

10/14

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20 Words, 10 Days
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ADD A PHOTO
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One item per ad

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Your ad runs 'til your item is sold! (6-month maximum) Private party only, one-item in ad. Limited to "For Sale" and "Automotive" categories (Real Estate excluded)

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Your "Guaranteed Sold" ad (up to 20 words) with a Photo: \$44
Add'l Lines, 88 cents each

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Put your Garage Sale in Wells County's Easy-to-Use Garage Sale Guide!

Get a FREE

GARAGE SALE KIT

when you place your Garage Sale ad in The News-Banner for 3 days or more.

SELL YOUR WHEELS!

HOT DEAL!

20 Words, 10 Days
just \$25
ADD A PHOTO
for just \$5 more
One item per ad

GUARANTEED SOLD

Your ad runs 'til your item is sold! (6-month maximum). Limited to one-item, private party only.

20 words \$39
Add'l Lines: 88 cents each
ADD A PHOTO!

Your "Guaranteed Sold" ad (up to 20 words) with a Photo: \$44
Add'l Lines, 88 cents each

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2-Month Special: \$97

ATTENTION GRABBERS!

Add a photo or artwork to any ad! You can also add a headline or other attention-getters for less than you'd expect! Place your ad ON-LINE and explore the possibilities!

This Week's Garage Sales

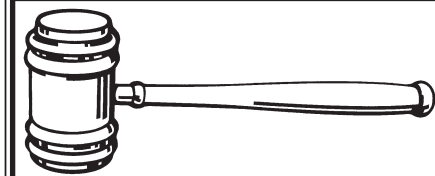


SEMI-ANNUAL GARAGE SALE, Thurs. & Fri., Oct. 19 & 20, 8a-6p, Sat., Oct. 21, \$6 bag day, 8a-2p. Ossian United Methodist Church, 201 W. Mill St., Proceeds to United Methodist Women projects.

HUGE FLEA MARKET and church bake sale, Chester Center Church, 9009 S 300 W, Poneto (across from Southern Wells HS), Thursday, Oct. 19, Friday, Oct. 20, Saturday, Oct. 21, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Craft items, honey, antiques, saddles, toilets, barrels, collectibles, wide variety of items, misc. Pies, cookies, breads, pretzels, noodles.

HELOISE HINT: Organization is the key to a successful garage sale. Make everything look neat. Group items by category. This will make it easy for customers to find exactly what they are looking for. Write to Heloise, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001.

Public Sale Calendar



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. 19 from 3 p.m.-6 p.m., 1791 W 1000 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*, 260-724-7402, Kjauction.com.
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. 19 from 3-6 p.m., Oct. 26 from 4-6 p.m., 1791 W 1000 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, car, 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.

Public Notices

NOTICE
The City of Bluffton is accepting sealed bids for the demolition of an unsafe building at 418 Hale Street and 228 E Market Street. Bidding instructions and specifications may be obtained from the Clerk Treasurer's Office, 128 East Market Street, Bluffton, IN, during the hours of Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Bids must be returned to the Clerk Treasurer's Office by 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 7, 2023, to be opened and read aloud at the public meeting of the Board of Public Works and Safety on November 7, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.
nb 10/14, 10/21
hspaxlp

Lancaster Township, Wells County Indiana

The Lancaster Township Board will be having a meeting on Monday, Oct. 23, 2023 at 6:00 PM at the Lancaster Township Office located at 915 N Main Street, Bluffton Indiana.
Agenda: Approval of Minutes
Update On Oakland Cemetery Restoration
Update On Fire Territory
Review of Township Accounting Services
Discussion on collaboration with Bluffton Parks
Other business related to Lancaster Township
David Rigney
Lancaster Township Trustee
915 N. Main Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
260-824 9501 Office
260-760-0501 Cell
nb 10/14
hspaxlp

SUDOKU ANSWER

11/01	****	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8	6	9	4	8	7	9	6	2	9	5
9	2	7	6	9	1	8	4	3	5	7
6	4	8	7	2	9	1	9	5	3	6
2	7	9	5	1	4	8	6	3	7	2
9	1	8	9	4	6	7	4	2	8	3
7	9	4	1	8	9	2	6	4	3	5
1	9	2	7	6	4	3	8	9	5	1
8	4	6	2	4	9	1	9	7	5	3

When business was good, he said he didn't need to advertise.

When business was bad, he said he couldn't afford to advertise.

For the life of us, we can't remember his name.

The News - Banner
824-0224
125 N. Johnson St., Bluffton, IN 46714
Fax: 260-824-0700
e-mail: email@news-banner.com

Outraged by friend overstepping boundaries

Dear Annie: A few weeks back, I had to cancel plans to visit my friend and attend a musical festival in Wisconsin. My employers basically told me that if I went, there wouldn't be a job for me when I came back.

Before my shoulder replacement, Janice told me she wanted to visit sometime at the end of the summer. I responded very enthusiastically because it'd give me time to heal and we could do things!

As I was being operated on, Janice texted my daughter, "Savannah," that she was coming to help out. Savannah and my son both agreed I would not want this but would check with me.

This was one of the first things I had to deal with post-surgery. I immediately said NO. A visit would disturb my healing. I live in a tiny one-bedroom apartment. Savannah was already there to help and was sleeping on the floor.

Savannah relayed that to her. I, too, texted Janice the exact same thing that night. THEN, knowing her plans were to leave the day after my surgery, I texted her at 5 the next morning and, in a very detailed manner, reiterated how detrimental it would be for me to have a visitor, especially one staying for many nights.

She texted me that she left anyway and was in Ohio. I asked why she still left after my text, and she said, "I'm more persistent than you and Savannah are stubborn." This was NOT about

stubbornness! She then made me feel guilty about needing to cancel the festival trip and said she "had no idea how she would explain what went wrong THIS time.?" I wasn't even aware of her plans. Why are my wishes my fault? I wasn't rude. I conveyed what I needed nicely and asked for her to honor that, all BEFORE she left!

I was angry and, ONCE AGAIN, explained my wishes and was VERY firm telling her not to come. The next day, she texted that she was in a hotel half a mile down the road. I was both livid and creeped out. This is emotional manipulation. All I want is to heal in peace, which I have been unable to do.

Her "persistence" is exhausting, not just with this but with other things that have occurred in the past. Her refusing to take no for an answer has me truly reconsidering this friendship. Am I overreacting? For now, I've blocked her, but I'm still nervous about her showing up. She was STILL down the road a day later, and I'm STILL creeped out. —Furied Friend

Dear Furied: You are certainly not overreacting. A true friend would have, as you noted, honored your wishes and boundaries despite their own "persistence."

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

Dear Annie by Annie Lane



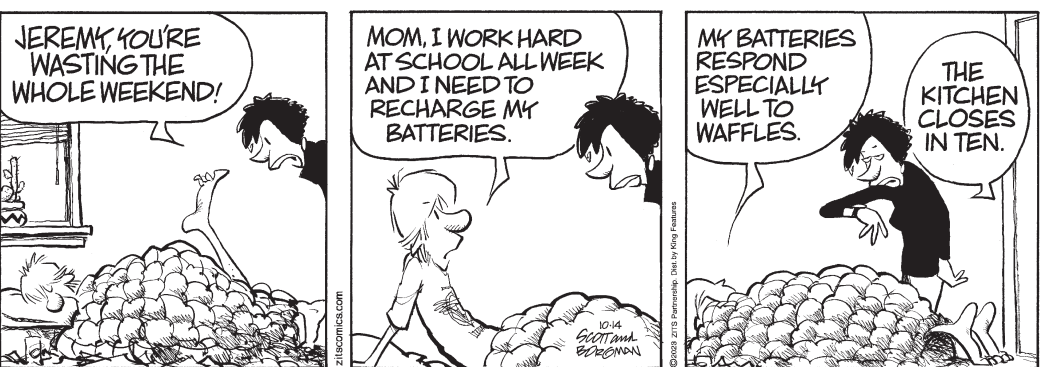
BEETLE BAILEY



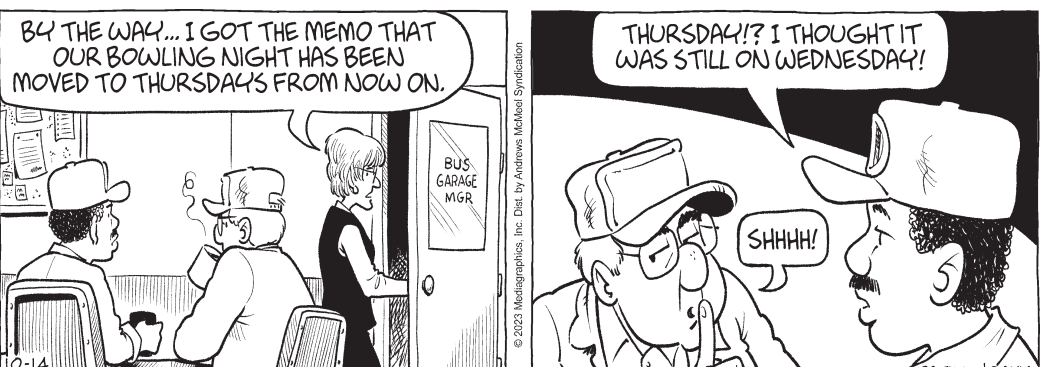
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My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



It often takes a tragedy to open our hearts, minds, and wills to the truth of God's promises

were thrown into the fire (see Daniel 3), they didn't know they were going to come out unscathed. They only trusted God that whatever happened to them was going to display God's will for their lives.

The story has been told about a lone survivor of a shipwreck who was marooned on an uninhabited island. He managed to build a hut in which he put everything he had saved from the wreck. He prayed to God for rescue, and anxiously scanned the horizon every day to signal any passing ship. One day he returned to his hut and to his horror found it in flames and all of his possessions gone. How could

such a tragedy bring about any comfort? But shortly after, a ship arrived. "We saw your smoke signal and hurried here," the captain explained. The survivor had only seen his burnt hut, but out of disaster, God worked a blessing. The shipwrecked man fell to his knees to thank God for the fire that caused his rescue.

It often takes a tragedy to open our hearts, minds, and wills to the truth of God's promises. (This column is based on the words and writings of the late Rev. Billy Graham.)

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Q: Our family home burned and we've been unable to keep our family together as we look for adequate housing. We're spread out among family and neighbors. As a Christian I know that the Bible says that all things work together for those who love God, but I am having a hard time seeing how that is possible. Is there something in the Bible that can bring hope with purpose? —B.O.

A: The Old Testament account of Daniel's three Hebrew friends is a thrilling account of God's promise never to leave or forsake His own. When these young men

Table with columns for time slots (10/14, 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 rows for various TV channels (WINM, CBS, ANA-2, ABC, NBC, MNT, CW, PBS, FOX, WFT, etc.) listing programs and their descriptions.

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words. Includes a solution time of 26 mins and a grid for yesterday's answer.

Table with columns 1-11 and rows 1-51, representing a crossword puzzle grid.

Tonner Dumpsters breaks ground on new facility

The Wells County Chamber of Commerce, joined by its staff and ambassadors, gathered on Oct. 9, 2023, for the groundbreaking of the Tonner Transfer Station. Situated at 3626 East 550 South in Bluffton, this groundbreaking event marked a significant milestone for the community and the owners, Brandon Gerber, Todd Gerber, and Damon Gerber.

The Gerber family expressed their excitement about introducing the county's first-ever facility of its kind. The Tonner Transfer Station will be constructed by Meyer Building, a reputable construction company based in Craigville.

A transfer station is a facility that temporarily holds and sorts trash. The Tonner Transfer Station will serve multiple purposes, enhancing the efficiency of Tonner Dumpsters when bringing dumpsters back to the new facility and streamlining the landfill's holding

process. Additionally, it will serve to the local businesses and community members as a location to dispose of items such as mattresses, couches, and chairs.

The new 80 by 64 ft. building will feature two large overhead doors to accommodate dump trucks. A large pusher wall will compact and offload trash into semi dump trailers in a lowered bay. A front scale will weigh vehicles as they enter and exit, with charges based on the weight of the contents. Residential rates will be available for smaller loads, and detailed information will be accessible on the company's website once operations commence.

The journey toward this achievement began in July 2020 when the Gerber family acquired Tonner Trucking from Bill and Susan Tonner, which had served the community for over a decade. Following the acquisition, the business was renamed to Tonner Dumpster Ser-



Pictured at the groundbreaking event are Erin Prible, executive director of the Wells County Chamber of Commerce; Tonia Price, Troy Zook, Zach Mounsey, all from Tonner Transfer Station; Sam Haiflich, BKM Real Estate and chamber board member; Todd Gerber, Brandon Gerber, Damon Gerber, all from Tonner Transfer Station; Mayor John Whicker; Stacey Duncan, WEG Commercial Motors and hamber ambassador; Kody Kumfer, Forgotten Children Worldwide and chamber ambassador; Bluffton city council member Chandler Gerber; Matthew Gerber, Meyer Building; Event Norris, Ossian Hardware and chamber board member; Alyssa Brown, Archbold & Lewis and chamber ambassador; and Cyndee Fiechter, Northeastern Group Realty and chamber ambassador. (Photo submitted)

VICES and was relocated to Wells County, where their daughter, Tonia Price, has continued to work with the company.

Brandon Gerber reflected on the Tonner Dumpster Services' legacy, saying, "Bill and Susan did a great job building the company. After purchasing the company, our goal was to continue to grow and become more efficient as a company. It was during this process that

the concept of a transfer station emerged."

The Gerber family is dedicated to providing excellent service and has assembled an exceptional team to ensure a smooth and positive experience for all users of the Tonner Transfer Station. They emphasized their

commitment to the community, noting that they are not a landfill but a temporary holding station until waste is transported to the landfill.

"We are excited to be the first to offer this service in Wells County," added Brandon Gerber. "We have carefully thought through

every aspect of this project with our team to benefit the entire community. This family-owned and locally operated company is here to serve and truly cares about our customers."

Tonner Transfer Station aims to be operational after the first of the year.

Local Roundup

Solid Waste District board will meet Monday

The board of the Wells County Solid Waste District will meet at 4 p.m. Monday, Oct. 16, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Financial matters
- Consideration of a resolution regarding the skid loader bucket.
- Superintendent's report.
- 2024 meeting dates

County Drainage Board will meet Monday morning

The Wells County Drainage Board will meet at 4:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 16, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Project updates
- Miscellaneous drainage matters.

County Commissioners will meet Monday morning

The Wells County Commissioners will meet at 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 16, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Department reports from Sheriff Scott Holliday, Highway Supervisor Shawn Bonar and County Engineer Nate Rumschlag.
- A presentation regarding the Northeast Indiana Strategic Development Commission from Ron Turpin.
- Consideration of a grant application request from Beth Davis.
- Monthly reports, miscellaneous business.
- Approval of the 2024 Sheriff salary contract.
- A discussion regarding vacating an alley or road.
- Approval of right-of-way or utility agreements.

County Election Board will meet Tuesday afternoon

The Wells County Election Board will meet at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 17, in the clerk's office in the Wells County Court-

house, 102 W. Market St.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Affidavit of County Voter Registration Maintenance (VRG-21).
- Certification of Testing for DRE Voting Systems (IEC-9) and Certification of Testing for Scan Ballot Cards (IEC-10).
- Legal Notice of General Election (CAN-39).
- 2024 Wells County Election Board Meeting Dates.
- Town of Ossian precinct changes.

Bluffton Board of Works to meet Tuesday afternoon

The Bluffton Board of Public Works and Safety will meet at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 17, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Personnel and financial matters.
- Ganite Inliner — CIP Pay App 2
- Consideration of a water bill adjustment for 119 S Morgan St.

Bluffton Common Council will meet Tuesday evening

The Bluffton Common Council will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 17, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Consideration of several 2024 budget-related ordinances.
- Consideration of resolutions 2023-13 with Star Engineering, 2023-12 fire territory 2024 funds transfer, and 2023-14 transfer of funds MVH.
- Consideration of Ordinance 1604 — Prepayment of Goods and Services.

County health board will meet Thursday morning

The board of the Wells County Health Department will meet at 6:30 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 19, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Bi-monthly reports
- Department updates regarding the personnel searches.
- A report of Ossian Days and Street Fair.
- Discussion of recent complaints.
- A report regarding immunizations.
- Discussion regarding NARCAN training and overdoses in Wells County.

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