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BLUFFTON, INDIANA · Wells County's Hometown Connection

14 00

A frustrated board of health

Health Department leaders struggle to fill open positions and deal with both the public and commissioners

By HOLLY GASKILL

While the Wells County Health Board continues to struggle to fill open positions, the department's normal activities, such as responding to public health complaints, have been constrained by directives from the Wells County Commissioners

During the health board's meeting Thursday morning, board members revisited the ongoing issue of understaffing in the department. Marlene Hoag, interim administrator, advised there has been little progress regarding hiring for multiple reasons.

Firstly, Hoag said there has not been clarity with the advertisement of the position she currently occupies. Before retiring last fall, Hoag's technical title was deputy administrator and vital records clerk. While Hoag advised that administrative responsibilities and vital records should be two full-time positions, she told the board that commissioner feedback regarding the postings has been unclear.

"As I've said before, a year ago - I'm not out there to be hired," Hoag said. "It's not that it's rocket science and

there's nobody that can be hired for this position, it's just a lot of on-the-job training. Public health is forever changing."

That being said, Hoag has hired a part-time vital records clerk, Sahara Wall, to fill the position that opened in August. Hoag said she has not had any promising applications for the environmental specialist (septic) position, which has been vacant since June, or the part-time medical assistant position.

"It just seems unfair to me, that you folks who are handling this burden (of work), are also expected to find your own replacements," stated Dr. Mary Donley, health board member. "Isn't that the job of the county commissioners? Are you getting support? Are they helping with the search or is it just being dumped on the board to handle this problem that is not the board's responsibility?"

Hoag responded that it's been common practice for individual offices to search for their replacements. Donley repeated her question, "Are they doing enough to help?"

Continued on Page 2)



Their departure comes amid questions of evidence security; Richard Allen is charged in the killings of two teenage girls in Delphi

By ISABELLA VOLMERT Associated Press

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (AP) — The trial for an Indiana man charged in the killings of two teenage girls is expected to be delayed after his defense attorneys withdrew from the case Thursday amid questions about security of evidence

Special Judge Fran Gull said during a scheduled hearing that Richard Allen's attorney Andrew Baldwin made an oral motion to withdraw Thursday afternoon. Gull said she expects Allen's other attorney, Bradley Rozzi, to submit a motion to withdraw in writing in "the next couple of days."

"We've had an unexpected turn of events," Gull said.

Allen, 51, was arrested in October 2022 and charged with two counts of murder in the 2017 slayings of 13-year-old Abigail Williams and 14-year-old Liberty German. He has pleaded not guilty to the charges and his trial was scheduled for January.

Messages left at Baldwin's and Rozzi's offices were not immediately returned Thursday afternoon.

A relative of one of the teenagers — known as Abby and Libby — dropped them off on Feb. 13, 2017, at a hiking trail near their hometown of Delphi, about 60 miles northwest of Indianapolis. They were reported missing that evening after they didn't show up at a meeting place to be picked up. Their bodies were found the next day in a

rugged, heavily wooded area near the trail.

The killings have haunted Delphi, a city of about 3,000 where Allen worked at a drugstore, and the case has been closely watched in the state and nationwide.

Gull originally ordered Thursday's hearing to discuss future court proceedings and dozens of media personnel and other onlookers gathered, anticipating a rare update in the case. But it was effectively canceled by the attorneys' withdrawal.

Allen was not brought into the courtroom.

Gull said she will ask to appoint a new public defense attorney for Allen (Continued on Page 2)



From fences to pathways

Barricades went up Thursday to block access to three downtown alleyways in preparation of upcoming work to transform the alleys into "Downtown Pathways," a project of Bluffton NOW! Mike Lautzenheiser, Jr., leader of the group focused on downtown Bluffton improvements, said the transformations. "A mix of pedestrian walkways and gatherings spots" are slated to be completed by early March 2024. The north-south alleys affected include the one shown above in the 100 East block between Perry and Market streets. The second is in the 200 East block between Perry and Market; the third alley being transformed is next to the American Legion post between East Walnut and Washington streets. (Photo by Mark Miller)

Halloween spiders are busy

Halloween decorations are popping up all over the area as the "decorating spiders" have been hard at work preparing for fall seasonal displays. This large spider web and witch are residing at the corner of East Washington and South Scott streets for the rest of the "spooky" season. (Photo by Barbara Barbieri)



Biden: support for Israel, Ukraine is 'vital' for U.S. security

By CHRIS MEGERIAN and SEUNG MIN KIM Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden declared it is "vital for America's national security" for Israel and Ukraine to succeed in their wars, making the case Thursday night for deepening U.S. involvement in two unpredictable foreign conflicts as he prepared to ask for billions of dollars in military assistance for both countries.

If international aggression is allowed to continue, Biden said in a rare Oval Office address, "conflict and chaos could spread in other parts of the world."

"Hamas and Putin represent different threats," Biden said. "But they share this in common. They both want to completely annihilate a neighboring democracy."

He said he would send an urgent funding request to Congress, which is expected to be \$105 billion for the next year. The proposal, which will be unveiled on Friday, includes \$60 billion for Ukraine, much of which is for replenishing U.S. weapons stockpiles that have already been provided

There's \$14 billion for Israel, \$10 billion for humanitarian efforts, \$14 billion for managing the U.S.-Mexico border and fighting fentanyl trafficking and \$7 billion for the Indo-Pacific region, which includes Taiwan. The proposal was described by three people familiar

(Continued on Page 2)

Powell: Slower growth may be needed to conquer inflation

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell said Thursday that inflation remains too high and that bringing it down to the Fed's target level will likely require a slower-growing economy and job market.

Powell noted that inflation has cooled significantly from a year ago. But he cautioned that the

economy is growing faster than the Fed had expected and could continue to keep inflation elevated. As a result, the Fed chair said, it's not yet clear whether inflation is on a steady path back to the Fed's 2 percent target.

"We certainly have a very resilient economy on our hands," Powell said in a discussion at the Eco-

nomic Club of New York. "Many forecasts called for the U.S. economy to be in recession this year. Not only has that not happened; growth is now running for this year above its longer-run trend. So that's been a surprise."

Powell's comments echoed speeches from other Fed officials this week, which have under-

scored that they are grappling with an unusual and unexpected development: Inflation is slowing even while economic growth and hiring have been robust.

In its drive to tame inflation, the Fed has raised its key rate 11 times since March 2022 to about 5.4 percent, its highest level in 22 years. Though inflation has tumbled

from its peaks of last year, it still has further to go to reach the Fed's 2 percent inflation target. Doing so is likely to require slower economic growth.

If the healthy economic expansion and hiring endure, Powell said Thursday, the central bank might have to further raise its (Continued on Page 2)

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Outside



If all the raindrops were gumdrops, we'd get cavities

Today	Saturday	Sunday
High 58	High 59	High 53
Low 41	Low 38	Low 31

More Weather on Page 2



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Health Department

(Continued from Page 1)

"(The commissioners) have said they would be receptive to whatever we throw at them," said Lynn Blevins, public health nurse.

Although no commissioners were present at Thursday's meeting, they have been involved in health board conversations since the department had two full-time employees resign in June.

However, the commissioners threatened to remove a health board member in August, given what they perceived as a lack of action from the board. All members of the health board, which currently includes six of seven possible members, are appointed by the commissioners.

'It seems like you're being tasked with an impossible job, and I think that's unfair," Donley continued.

"Public health is really strange right now," Hoag said. "I've said for years, every time I hire somebody, I tell them, 'Health departments or public health is the red-headed stepchild."

'Much like you see so much with everything, when it's needed - like during COVID — you know, we were superheroes for doing what we could ... And we were praised for that, and it was much appreciated," Blevins added. "But now we're back (to where we were before). We're not the favorites. We're 'government overreach.'

Board member Steven Bales emphasized the job market has been difficult for every business and organization, not just healthcare. Blevins reiterated this — "It's just a time of high demand and low supply.

Although short-staffed, the department has continued to field public health complaints. Hoag shared two recent complaints with the board Thursday, noting that the property owners had only recently received notice of their respective issues. She advised the delay came from the commissioners' request for Dr. Kay Johnson, health officer, and themselves to be notified first.

"As background to all of this, what

we identified was a need for better internal communication with this board, especially with the commissioners, based upon what happened several months ago with a particular inspection that just kind of morphed into all of this situation," Johnson said, referring to a situation where Yergy's State Road BBQ received differing recommendations during two health

inspections in the last year. Johnson continued: "So, as we discussed it, at our end, I thought it was a good idea that if something were more than routine and we had to start looking at enforcement, or perhaps some punitive action ... we needed to involve this board and also the commissioners for input ... The intent is not that we don't know what we're doing or don't understand the code or what should be done to handle certain complaints, but to increase communication so we don't get criticized or, you know, our heads taken off.'

'In these couple of instances, this has been going on four weeks now because we notified everybody and waited for a response before we moved ahead," Hoag stated. "And that's sad three to four weeks."

Bales responded that he "did not see the point" of going through this process, given the county attorney reviews protocol and notices. He said it was worthwhile to keep communication open, but not every step needed the commissioners' permission.

You're saying we've held things back waiting for (the commissioners) to respond," Bales said. "I don't know why they would respond — they normally wouldn't have to ... They probably read it, and they're aware of it, but they would probably assume you already went and sent things out.'

Hoag replied, "I agree with what you're saying. It's just (that) in the past, whenever we have acted upon a complaint, and the information goes differently to somebody else, then we're the bad guy that nobody knew anything about that situation.'

"Then they need to change, not you," Bales said. Hoag pointed at him and nodded, then replied, "We're following what has been requested of us. I think (health board president) Chris (Esterling) can attest to that.'

Blevins and Johnson affirmed this, noting they wanted to avoid "unnecessary criticism.'

Lewis Brown, superintendent of the Regional Sewer District, likened the situation to instances with former commissioners and septic issues, saying the interference "strips the health department of any enforcement.'

Hoag added that officials, when breached with complaints, have jumped to criticize the health department rather than seek more information from the department. Furthermore, she said the "gray areas" of the Indiana Code should be left to legal authority.

"It usually comes down to support to a resident over support to the health department," Hoag stated.

All board members were present for the meeting. The next scheduled meeting of the health board is 6:30 a.m. Dec. 21 in the meeting room of the Wells County Carnegie Annex Building.

Other updates during Thursday's the meeting included:

• Blevins offered Naloxone training to all three local schools and will soon deliver doses to the Wells County Sheriff's Office. He noted that October has provided particularly gruesome statistics for overdoses, with at least four suspected overdoses from individuals ages 14 to 23 within the first weekend of the month. Blevins did not have further information regarding the outcome of those cases.

• Brown advised the RSD has encountered a delay in finishing Craigville connections. The RSD is also working on Kingsland and will request funding for Tocsin next year.

 Daniel Miller, environmental specialist in the food division, reported Ossian Days and Bluffton Street Fair had no notable issues.

holly@news-banner.com

Weather

Friday, October 20, 2023 (24-hour observations at 9:32 p.m. Thursday) **High:** 56; Low: 50; Precipitation: 0.40 inches of rain Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.37 feet at 8:45 p.m. Thursday

Wells County forecast

Today: A 50 percent chance of showers, mainly before 5 p.m. Cloudy, with a high near 58. West wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Tonight: A slight chance of showers before 8 p.m., then a slight chance of showers after 2 a.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 41. West wind 5 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Saturday: A 40 percent chance of showers, mainly between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 59. Southwest wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 38. Northwest wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 53.

Sunday Night: Patchy frost after 1 a.m. Otherwise, mostly clear, with a low around 31.

Monday: Widespread frost, mainly before 9 a.m. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 58.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 44. **Tuesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 69.

Tuesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 54.

Wednesday: A 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 69.

Wednesday Night: A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 53.

Thursday: A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 63.

Israel, Ukraine

(Continued from Page 1) with the details who insisted on anonymity before the official announcement.

"It's a smart investment that's going to pay dividends for American security for generations," Biden said.

Biden hopes that combining all of these issues into one piece of legislation will create the necessary political coalition for congressional approval. His speech comes the day after his highstakes trip to Israel, where he showed solidarity with the country in its battle against Hamas and pushed for more humanitarian assistance to Palestinians in the Gaza Strip.

Ahead of his address, Biden spoke with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to stress that the U.S. remained committed to backing Kyiv, the White House said. And a senior White House official said Biden continued to develop his remarks on Thursday after working with close aides throughout the week, including on his flight home from Israel. The official declined to be identified ahead of the president's speech.

Biden faces an array of steep challenges as he tries to secure the money. The House remains in chaos because the Republican majority has been unable to select a speaker to replace Rep. Kevin McCarthy, who was ousted more than two weeks ago.

In addition, conservative Republicans oppose sending more weapons to Ukraine as its battle against the Russian invasion approaches the twoyear mark. Biden's previous request for funding, which included \$24 billion to help with the next few months of fighting, was stripped out of budget legislation last month despite a personal plea from Zelenskyy.

The White House has warned that time is running out to prevent Ukraine, which recently struggled to make progress in a grueling counteroffensive, from losing ground to Russia because of dwindling supplies of weapons. There will be resistance

on the other side of the

political spectrum when it

comes to military assistance for Israel, which has been bombarding the Gaza Strip in response to the Hamas attack on Oct. 7. Critics have accused Israel of indiscriminately killing

civilians and committing war crimes by cutting off essential supplies like food, water and fuel. Bipartisan support for

Israel has already eroded in recent years as progressive Democrats have become more outspoken in their opposition to the country's decades-long occupation of Palestinian territory, which is widely viewed as illegal by the international community.

There are rumbles of disagreement within Biden's administration as well. Josh Paul, a State Department official who oversaw the congressional liaison office dealing with foreign arms sales resigned over U.S. policy on weapons transfers to Israel.

"I cannot work in support of a set of major policy decisions, including rushing more arms to one side of the conflict, that I believe to be short-sighted, destructive, unjust and contradictory to the very values that we publicly espouse," he wrote in a statement posted to his LinkedIn account.

Paul is believed to be the first official to have resigned in opposition to the administration's decision to step up military assistance to Israel after the Oct. 7 attack.

While visiting Tel Aviv on Wednesday, Biden told Israel that "we will not let you ever be alone." However, he cautioned Israelis against being "consumed" by rage as he said the United States was after the Sept. 11 attacks of 2001.

Delphi murders (Continued from Page 1)

and hopes to hold a planned hearing Oct. 31. But she said it won't be possible to keep the Jan. 8 trial date she previously set.

"I don't believe counsel will be prepared within the next couple of months to try a case of this magnitude in January," she said.

Gull did not give any indication of why the defense attorneys withdrew from the case. However, a memorandum filed Thursday by an attorney representing Baldwin said authorities are investigating three people suspected as "disseminators" of information tied to the case. The document said Baldwin was not among them but was "betrayed" by a friend who had access to his office space.

The memorandum did not

provide more detail but said Baldwin had since kept items related to the case "locked in a room or a locked fireproof file cabinet."

Baldwin's representation, David R. Hennessy, declined to comment further when reached by email.

"Attorney Baldwin did nothing wrong. He was snookered and abused." Hennessy said in the memorandum.

Asked whether the agency is investigating improper access of case materials, an Indiana State Police representative said it will not comment and cited a gag order on the case.

Gull issued the order in December 2022, barring attorneys, law enforcement officials, court personnel, the coroner and the girls' family members from commenting

on the case to the public or the media in any form, including social media. Prosecutors had sought the order, citing intense public scrutiny and media attention. Gull was brought in as a special judge to oversee the case after a Carroll County judge recused himself.

Court documents released in June said that the teens' "wounds were caused by a sharp object," the first time authorities have indicated how they died. Those documents also included a filing by prosecutors that said Allen confessed multiple times to the killings in a phone call to his wife, which was later transcribed by authorities.

Allen's attorneys argued in court documents filed in September that the girls were killed by members of a pagan Norse religion and white nationalist group known as the Odinists as part of a ritual sacrifice. The prosecutor overseeing the case dismissed the theory as a "fanciful defense" made for social media.

The defense also said in a court filing that law enforcement lied or omitted information to obtain a search warrant for Allen's house, the Journal & Courier reported.

Carroll County Prosecutor Nicholas McLeland denied those claims in a separate filing. He also wrote that when investigators obtained the search warrant in October 2022 they believed there was a chance Allen "would destroy crucial evidence in the investigation" if he knew he was suspected in the killings.

Inflation

(Continued from Page 1) benchmark rate. The Fed's long series of rate hikes have raised the costs of auto and home loans, credit card borrowing and business loans, imposing financial burdens on many house-

holds and companies. At the same time, Powell suggested that the Fed might not have to impose another hike, at least not soon, because of a spike in longerterm bond rates. The rise in long-term rates has contributed to a jump in the average cost of a 30-year mortgage to nearly 8 percent. Higher long-term rates, coming on top of the Fed's own short-term rate hikes, could help slow growth and cool inflation, thereby easing pressure on the Fed to hike further.

"That's exactly what we're trying to achieve," Powell said.

"At the margin," he said, "it could" mean the Fed won't have to further raise rates.

Yet Powell also said there was no evidence that inter-

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est rates are too high right now, a signal that he thinks the Fed could raise them further without causing a recession in the process.

Asked Thursday about the economy's resilience despite the rate hikes, Powell suggested that interest rates simply "haven't been high enough for long enough." Many economists expect that the Fed, even if it doesn't raise its rate again, will keep them high for an extended period.

Last month, Fed officials predicted that they would impose one more rate hike before the end of the year. Economists and Wall Street traders expect the central bank to leave rates unchanged when it next meets in about two weeks.

Several recent economic reports have suggested that the economy is still growing robustly and that inflation could remain persistently elevated.

In September, hiring was much greater than had been expected, with the unemployment rate staying near

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a half-century low. Strong hiring typically empowers workers to demand higher wages, which, in turn, can worsen inflation if their employers pass on the higher labor costs by raising their prices.

Yet so far, Powell noted that wage growth has slowed. Other measures of the job market are also cooling, a trend that could keep inflation contained. Indeed, even with solid economic growth, inflation has largely decelerated: The Fed's preferred measure of price changes eased to 3.5 percent in September compared with 12 months earlier, down sharply from a yearover-year peak of 7 percent in June 2022.

On Wednesday, Christopher Waller, an influential member of the Fed's governing board, suggested that the slowdown in inflation even as the economy has remained healthy is "great news" but also "a little too good to be true." He noted that growth could either slow, helping cool inflation, or remain strong, fueling higher inflation and requiring further rate hikes by the Fed to contain it.

"It is too soon to tell," Waller said. "I believe we can wait, watch and see how the economy evolves before making definitive moves."



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OBITUARIES

Arzetta "Mae" Cobb, 86

Arzetta "Mae" Cobb, 86, of Bluffton passed away Wednesday evening, Oct. 18, 2023, surrounded by her loving family at

Mae was born May 9, 1937 in Huntington to Robert D. Lehman and Olive L. (Harshman) Hoag. She attended Rockcreek High School.

Mae worked for Franklin Electric in the accounting department for over 27 years, retiring in 2003. She

was a member of Calvary Lutheran Church. She loved bowling, gardening and spending time with her family. She could often be seen watching her grandchildren and great-grandchildren at their extracurricular events. She could often be found watching IU basketball.

On April 15, 1954, Mae married her high school sweetheart, James "Jim" W. Cobb. They spent 66 years together prior to his passing on Nov. 6, 2020.

Survivors include her children, Steve (Cindy) Cobb of Fort Wayne, Mark (Lu Ann Coleman) Cobb of Ossian, and Tammy Schisler of Bluffton; along with five grandchildren, Chris (Stephanie) Cobb, Kevin Cobb, Ryan (April) Schisler, Nick (Shelby) Cobb, and Danielle (Jeremy) Reed; along with 11 great-grandchildren, Tyler Reed, Hannah Stambaugh, Ian Cobb, Kierstynn Reed, Paxton Cobb, Bryce Schisler, Parker Cobb, Carter Schisler, Isla Cobb, Finley Cobb, and Lindsey Schisler. She is also survived by her siblings, Diane Bunch of Muncie, Larry (Darlene) Hoag of Elkhart, Marilyn Langley of The Villages, Fla., James (Marlene) Hoag of Craigville, and Doug (Theresa) Hoag of Ossian; and a sister-in-law Denise Hoag of Antwerp, Ohio.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Jim; her parents; a stepfather, Noble L. Hoag, who raised her since she was 10 years old; and siblings Janet Hoag and Guy Hoag.

Funeral service will take place Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton, with Tony Garton officiating. Burial will take place at Elm Grove Cemetery.

Visitation will be held from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2023 and for one hour prior to the service.

Memorials may be made to Friends Who Care Cancer Relief Foundation or Calvary Lutheran Church.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home. Friends can send online condolences to the family at www.thomarich.com.

Thomas Gordon Tudor, 75

Thomas Gordon Tudor, 75, of Ossian, passed away on Wednesday, Oct. 11, 2023, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne following an extended illness.

He was born on May 30, 1948, in Muncie to Ned and Wilma (Fallis) Tudor.

He retired as bank manager from First Merchants Bank in Lapel. The Tudor family started the Lapel Post and operated it from 1985 to 1992. They started

the Lapel Car Wash in 1987 and owned it from 1987 to 2016. They started the Lapel Laundry in 2000 and operated it from 2000 to 2016. Tom served as the clerk/treasurer for the Town of Lapel from 1991 to 2015. He loved his faith, family and community. He loved Lapel where he lived from 1972 to 2018, before moving to Ossian to be near his family. He enjoyed gardening and loved farming and the rural life. He was a member of Ford Street United Methodist Church

Thomas is survived by his wife, Susan (Snyder) Tudor; three children, Eliza Tudor (husband, Lance Sykes) of Indianapolis, Adam (wife, Dawn) Tudor of Bluffton, and Christopher (wife, Sarah) Tudor of Bourbonnais, Ill.; and seven grandchildren, Cleo, Dexter, Kate, Grant, Ethan, Adaiynn and Elia.

He was preceded in death by two sons, Joshua and Joseph Tudor; his parents; and a brother, Phillip Tudor. A funeral service was held at noon Monday, Oct.

16, 202,3 at Ford Street United Methodist Church, 925 North Ford Street in Lapel with Pastor Jill Moffett officiating. Burial followed at Brookside Cemetery in Lapel.

Visitation preceded the service from 10 a.m. to noon Monday at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to Lapel Com-

munity Association, P.O. Box 834, Lapel, Indiana 46051. Online condolences may be shared at www.hersbergerbozell.com.

Truly Miser, 6

Truly Miser, 6, of Bluffton died Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2023, at Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis. Funeral arrangements are pending at this time with the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.

Susan Grace Reno, 79

Susan Grace Reno, 79, of Muncie died Thursday morning, Oct. 19, 2023, at Lynd Place Assisted Living in Muncie. Funeral arrangements are pending at this time with the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.

Carrasco named state senator-elect

By LESLIE BONILLA MUÑIZ **Indiana Capital Chronicle**

Former Indiana Inspector General Cyndi Carrasco is set to be Indiana's next state senator after Republican precinct committee members overwhelmingly voted her into the role Wednesday evening. She beat out former state Rep. John Jacob — a hard-right minister — with a vote of 53-5.

"I will be an unwavering conservative voice for Marion and Johnson counties in the state Senate," Carrasco told precinct committee members ahead of the vote, in a pitch that focused heavily on public safety.

"We must always fully support law enforcement and their mission to keep our families and our communities safe, and hold criminals accountable," she said. "I will always have their backs in the General Assembly.'

She will replace Sen. Jack Sandlin, a veteran and police officer, who died unexpectedly in September.

"I will never be able to thank Jack enough for his support and his service, but I will try to the very best of my ability to carry on his legacy in the Indiana State Senate," Carrasco

Carrasco most recently made an unsuccessful bid for Marion County prosecutor, but lost to Democrat incumbent

Carrasco's victory ended an attempted comeback by Jacob, who lost his Indiana House seat in elections last fall. Jacob was among the most prominent anti-abortion advocates during a 2022 special legislative session, as he pushed unsuccessfully for a ban with no exceptions.



INCIDENTS

City:

Wednesday, 5:13 p.m., 200 block of Capri Court. Caller requested welfare check for coworker. Two subjects advised the subject had just left the residence and was going to an unknown location.

Wednesday. 6:32 p.m., 600 block of West Cherry Street. Caller reported unknown subject kicking door in, leaving dents on multiple occasions. Advised to install camera system. Wednesday, 10:55 p.m.,

Bluffton Police Department. Caller advised she wanted to speak to an officer but would not give info over phone. Subject wanted car back from her parents.

Thursday, 12:33 a.m., WEG. Open 911 call from this location, no answer on callback. Officer walked through plant with manager and found no issues, aside from the obvious.

Thursday, 1:23 a.m., Ind. 124 and Elm Grove Road. Subject unaware that suspended driving privileges effectively removed his privilege to drive. Vehicle towed, subject arrested.

Thursday, 2:23 a.m., 1200 block of West Washington Street. Caller reported hearing beating on door. Unable to locate anyone. Thursday, 4:53 a.m., 400

block of West Wiley Avenue. Caller reported vandalism to his vehicle at 5 p.m. the day prior, has video of the happy hour hit.

Thursday, 9:56 a.m., 1200 block of West Washington Street. Caller reported someone stealing metal for her roof while she was

at work. The subject was installing the roof.

Thursday, 12:14 p.m., Family Farm and Home. Report of someone reportedly keying two vehicles. Subject denied the allegations and unlocked a no trespass warning to the business.

County:

Wednesday, 3:03 p.m., North Main Street and Ind. 224, Uniondale. Driver advised tire on vehicle felt loose, took it back home.

Wednesday, 7:38 p.m., Ind. 218 and 800 East, Bluffton. Officer transported subject to Wells County Jail.

Wednesday, 11:01 p.m., 4500 West 300 South, Liberty Center. Officer requested to stand by while subject collected vehicle from par-

Thursday, 6:38 a.m., Wells County Jail. No con-

tact order served to Carrie Campbell at booking desk in

the jail. Thursday, 8:44 a.m., 7300 West 100 South, Warren. Report of a dispute

and property lines. **ARRESTS**

between neighbors, trees,

Carrie Elizabeth Campbell, 30, Richmond, domestic battery — presence of a child less than 16-years-old, a Level 6 felony. Bond set at \$25,000.

Jimmy Richard Robert Sheets, 45, Peru, sentence court order — probation violation, a Class A misdemeanor.

Alexander Lynn Price, 36, Geneva, contempt of court - civil. Bond set at

Matthew James Coombs, 21, Ossian, driving while suspended - prior suspension, A Class misdemeanor.



Indiana's eighth and newest state park inn will be located on the south shore of Worster Lake at Potato Creek State Park, which is near North Liberty in St. Joseph County. (Rendering provided by the governor's office)

Holcomb, DNR officials break ground on new Potato Creek State Park lodge

By CASEY SMITH **Indiana Capital Chronicle**

Indiana officials broke ground Thursday on a new lodge at Potato Creek State Park, making it the first lodge to be built in one of the state's parks since 1939.

The lodge will be the eighth to join the Indiana State Parks Inns system and sit on the south shore of Worster Lake at Potato Creek State Park, which is near North Liberty in St. Joseph County.

"There's a reason why Indiana's state park inns have the highest occupancy rate in the nation and continue to earn such high national rankings," Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb said in a statement. "People come here from across the country and around the world because of the unparalleled experience and hospitality extended at our state park inns. Whether you're out hiking a trail or sitting by the fire, our state parks offer an opportunity to immerse yourself in nature's finest surroundings."

State lawmakers set aside \$50 million in 2021 for the inn, but as inflation caused construction prices to increase, the funding turned out not to be enough.

Holcomb then called for the legislature to include \$1.25 billion for general

Swiss Stitchers at the Berne fire station

The Swiss Stitchers will meet at the Berne fire station On Oct. 23 at 7 p.m.

We will have a short meeting with Show and Tell to follow.

Gail is our program presenter and will be explaining beginner paper piecing. Come see what she has to show us.

Also, we need someone to head up the Opportunity Quilt process. Please let Gail or I know if you are interested.

If you have any questions please contact Gail at (260)589-2845 or Vivian at (260) 692-6227.

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capital expenditures in the ing of spring wildflowers, 2023 budget, including for migratory birds and fall the Potato Creek State Park colors in the surrounding woods and prairies. Inn. Lawmakers agreed to the request and added an

A rendering of the outside of the new lodge now under construction at Potato Creek State Park. (Rendering provided by the governor's office)

additional \$100 million in

the latest state budget for the

lodge.

The preliminary plan for the inn includes 120 guest rooms, a full-service dining room that seats 150, a conference center with three break-out rooms and capacity for 350 guests, an indoor aquatic center, a variety of indoor and outdoor spaces for small gatherings, a mininature room for programs and exhibits, a café, a gift shop, and access to the lake and other park features.

The governor's office said the lodge will provide year-round outdoor recreation for guests. Activities will range from bike riding and boating in the summer to ice fishing and hiking in winter, along with the viewThe lodge will be operat-

ed through the Indiana Inns Authority, part of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources' Division of State Parks.

"By building our second overnight lodging facility for Hoosiers in the northern part of the state, we're both making history and making way for new opportunities to get out and explore our great outdoor Indiana," said DNR Director Dan Bortner. "Our park guests love making year-round memories at

Potawatomi Inn at Pokagon State Park, and we know this new lodge at Potato Creek is going to be a great place for more memories to be made." State officials said they

do not have a definite completion date for construction of the lodge but anticipate it to be done sometime in 2026 or 2027.

Pricing for overnight lodging, conference facility use and other inn amenities also has not yet been determined. DNR officials said fees will be comparable with prices at the current Indiana State Park inns and lodges.







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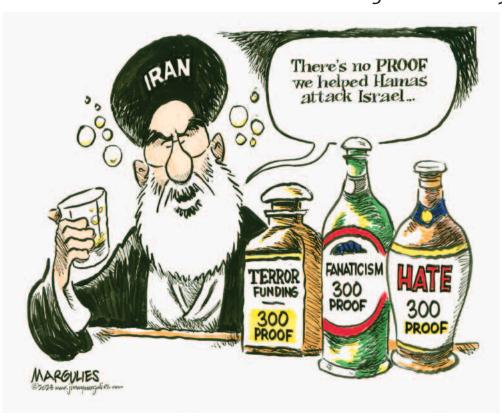
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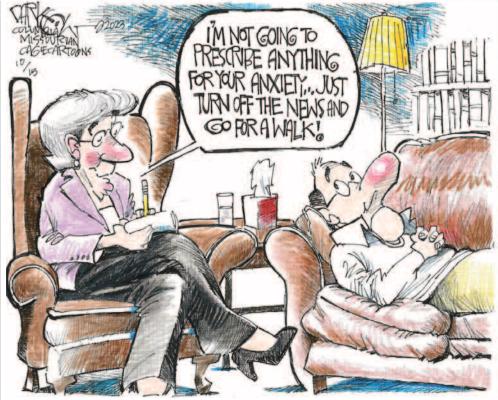
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The Week That Was - a look back through cartoonists' eyes...









Is this remnant of American culture doomed, y'all?

"Where's your Bayer?"

I vividly remember that question from my high school job working in a convenience market in my Tennessee hometown.

A buxom young lady from out-oftown posed the query and I helpfully directed her to the section of the store showcasing our aspirin, bandages, Merthiolate, etc.

She sauntered to the shelves I suggested. Alas, she searched in vain. I clarified the directions. The "last year's Easter Egg" aura **Tyrades** increased.

I finally asked, "What was it you said you were looking for?"

"Your Bayer. You know, like Pabst and Miller."

This incident comes to mind because "The Daily Mail" reports that researchers at the University of Georgia and Georgia Tech say the distinctive southern drawl is on its way out. Members of Generation X have less of an accent than their Baby Boomer parents, and the folksy diphthongs become less apparent with each succeeding generation.

Two main factors drive the transition: (a) the Yankee and West Coast dominance of mass media and (b) the mass migration into the South that followed World War II. Formerly isolated southern schoolchildren supposedly tried to assimilate with their newly transplanted

I'll admit some time-honored aspects of southern speech never made sense. Granted, one linguist did try to rationalize and dignify their etymology. ("The settlers brought certain dialects from Europe. Then they encountered traders from other European countries. Then the Cherokee taught them unfamiliar vowels and encouraged them to flap their arms and cluck like a ...d'oh!!")

I have never been one to wave my college speechand-theater minor in anyone's face (especially since I'm still trying to live down Tony Young laughing at me for announcing the junior high yearbook cover was going to be "blue and yeller"), but I can see the positive side of the change tracked by the researchers.

It's irksome to hear people pronouncing "hill" like where Achilles got wounded or "yell" like an Ivy League university in New Haven, Connecticut.

One of my favorite neighboring towns is Shelbyville, which has a crisp, three-syllable name. A name which many people in surrounding counties degrade to "Shevel" or "Shovel" or (if they're feeling particularly pretentious) "Shebbuvuhl."

I'm not the first member of the family with reservations about go-with-the-flow language. My father said Granny Tyree wanted to name his little sister "Caroline," but she shifted gears because she knew her backwoods neighbors would pronounce it "Cowline."

Still, "Gone With the Wind" remains my favorite movie and a tenacious part of me has lactose intolerance when it comes to homogenization of the language.

I don't want to live in a world where Foghorn Leghorn or Tennessee Williams's Big Daddy become indecipherable without a Rosetta Stone.

I have handwritten a heartfelt letter asking today's youngsters to cling to select features of our cultural heritage.

Unfortunately, the plan is going all cattywampus because I plumb forgot and wrote it in cursive! Did that wisecrack give you a headache? I do declare,

I'm just getting warmed up.

Here, hold my Bayer...

tyreetyrades@aol.com or find him on Facebook

It's time for Congress to measure up to the country's expectations

As I write this, the war between Hamas and Israel continues with fury on both sides and the US House of Representatives remains without a speaker, unable to pass legislation or allow the United States government to respond with its full weight to that crisis. Like many Americans, I find myself both frustrated by the standstill and left wondering, What if we faced a fullblown crisis on our own shores?

Could Congress put

Danny

Tyree

its divisions behind it and act quickly for the good of the country? I don't want

to pick apart the maneuvering that brought us to this moment. The eight Republican House members who voted to dislodge Kevin McCarthy from the speakership had their own motivations. So did the centrist Republicans who decided against trying to find a candidate palatable to

centrist Democrats. House Democrats had plenty of logical and well-articulated reasons for refusing to come to McCarthy's rescue. And over in the Senate, GOP Sen. Tommy Tuberville has his own rationale for continuing to block military promotions thus affecting our ability to project power in the

Middle East — because of a clash over abortion policy.

The thing about a global crisis, though, is that it puts things in perspective, and right now, the US doesn't look like a fully functioning world leader. That's thanks in no small part to decisions made by members of Congress that put political gain or score-settling or partisan calculations ahead of the responsibility they all hold to keep the US government operating effectively and with the full range of its capabili-

Comments

on Congress

Hamilton

And the American people have noticed. In a poll released early in October, Gallup found that 63 percent of US adults 'currently agree with the statement that the Republican and Democratic parties do 'such a poor job' of representing the American people that 'a third major party is needed.'

I am not among that 63 percent: I

believe that, over the course of our history, the two-party system has served the American people well, and that it can continue to do so. Still, that's a lot of people who don't like where the parties have taken us.

The challenge, certainly for the House, is to find a way past this

edly raised the issue of entering into a bipartisan governing coalition with our Republican counterparts" and been rebuffed. In particular, he wrote, his caucus had hoped to put in place rules changes that would "encourage bipartisan governance and undermine the ability of extremists to hold Congress hostage."

There's a good chance that any Republican who supported such moves would face a primary next year. Yet clearly, the rules under which the House now operates aren't serving it — or the country — in good stead. While I have some sympathy with those GOP members of the Freedom Caucus who want to restore the power of committees in the House, as well as what's known as the "regular order" and the ability of rank-and-file members to have a voice in debate, I also believe that in this day and age, the speaker needs to be a strong presence, with the ability to keep fractiousness within bounds.

At a minimum, this means rejecting the idea that at any moment, a single member can topple a speaker by bringing a motion to vacate, as Republican Matt Gaetz did to McCarthy.

I can't predict how the House will get itself out of this mess, or how the Senate might deal with Tuberville's obstruction. But I do know that the American people are losing patience, that a broad range of domestic issues need Congress's attention, and that the situation in the Middle East — as well as in

Ukraine and elsewhere — demands a US government that can respond quickly and effectively. It's time for Congress to show that it recognizes

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



fries, the Democratic leader there, wrote an op-ed in the Washington Post in which he noted that he and other Democratic leaders had "repeat-

moment quickly — and to put in

Americans' faith that it can be a fully

responsible partner in governing this

country. Not long ago, Hakeem Jef-

place changes that will buttress

Today in History

By The Associated Press Today is Friday, Oct. 20, the 293rd day of 2023. There are 72 days left in

Today's Highlight in History: On Oct. 20, 1977, three members of the rock group Lynyrd Skynyrd, including lead singer Ronnie Van Zant, were killed along with three others in the crash of a chartered plane near McComb, Mississippi.

On this date:

In 1947, the House Un-American Activities Committee opened hearings into alleged Communist influence and infiltration in the U.S. motion picture industry.

In 1967, a jury in Meridian, Mis-

sissippi, convicted seven men of violating the civil rights of slain civil rights workers James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner; the seven received prison terms ranging from 3 to 10 years.

In 1973, in what would become known as the "Saturday Night Massacre," special Watergate prosecutor Archibald Cox was dismissed and Attorney General Elliot L. Richardson and Deputy Attorney General William B. Ruckelshaus resigned.

In 1976, 78 people were killed when the Norwegian tanker Frosta rammed the commuter ferry George Prince on the Mississippi River near New Orleans.

In 1979, the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum was dedicated in Boston.

In 1990, three members of the rap group 2 Live Crew were acquitted by a jury in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., of violating obscenity laws with an adultsonly concert in nearby Hollywood the previous June.

In 2001, officials announced that anthrax had been discovered in a House postal facility on Capitol Hill.

In 2004, a U.S. Army staff sergeant, Ivan "Chip" Frederick, pleaded guilty to abusing Iraqi detainees at Abu Ghraib prison. (Frederick was sentenced to eight years in prison; he was paroled in 2007.)

Had it with office's lack of hiring

Dear Annie: I've dated a man for was tired of workfive years. He used to work, prior to the pandemic, but he hasn't really actively applied to jobs. My biggest issue is the fact that I'm paying all the expenses for the household we share He called me together, and he doesn't need to do anything to assist me.

At the same time, he's starting and said I need to treat me like a servant in my own to just continue house. He controls the TV. Foods to do my job. I that I like, he throws away, since he asked him, "So doesn't eat them. He has outbursts and tantrums when I tell him to get a

I'm fed up with supporting a grown man. What should I do? -- Frustrated

Dear Frustrated: He can complain all he wants, but numbers don't lie. Sit down with your boyfriend and a financial planner so you can review all your finances together. He will be forced to confront the fact that he is not contributing to the household. Then, make a plan. A good couples your higher-ups to calmly and ratiocounselor can help you two communicate. If that doesn't work, be prepared to kick him out.

Dear Annie: I have a job where I work for a doctor. He has two offices. He has four people working at one office, and I work alone at the other. On clinic days, which is when the doctor sees patients, I am supposed to have help. The other staff that come from the other office either take the day off or, when they are there, they don't help me. They just sit in the break room and talk, and I run the show by myself.

even the manager above her, and they are hiring someone but are not sure when she is starting. I went to the doctor recently and told him that I

ing by myself and that his staff should come help with the clinic. inappropriate for saying that

it's OK for me



Dear

Annie

by Annie Lane

to be alone then?" He said nothing. I am not sure what to do. — Losing Patience

Dear Losing: You're in a frustrating predicament. While the doctor's reply was less than helpful, I can't blame him: You're more likely to have luck speaking with the manager again or another supervisor who assists with staffing and personnel decisions.

Arrange a meeting with one of nally explain your side. Ultimately, without proper staffing, the patients are the ones who suffer the most. If your managers are not serious about hiring extra hands, it'd be prudent to start looking for other job opportunities, where you feel not only set up for success but like your needs are heard and valued.

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

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BLONDIE













CRANKSHAFT



My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham

Q: In our high-tech society it seems that parents encourage their children to play games on their devices but shield them from reality. My elderly father is dying and my adult children (who are Christians) feel that it is morbid to let their children visit with him since his ability to communicate is difficult, but he's aware of the presence of loved ones. What encouragement is there about this sensitive issue? -D.P.

A: A hospice nurse was helping care for a grandfather who was dying. His four-yearold granddaughter was ordered to go another part of the house to play, and told not to go near Grandpa's room. The

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48 64 150 219 (3:00) MLB on FS1 Pregame Previews of the day's games, highlights, updates and analysis. (L) (N) (L) (N)

Vargas Report (N)

(:50) *** ** Edge of Tomorrow (2014, Sci-Fi)
Emily Blunt, Brendan Glescop Tom

(:40) ★★★ Stillwater (2021, Drama) Camille Cottin, Abigail Breslin, Matt Damon.

Diners

307 The Hill (L) (N)

60 140 129 237 Real Housewives

300 501 (4:30) TBA

128 260 (4:30) Law Law "Corruption" 110 231 Diners Diners Dine

310 515 (4:20) ★★★ Pride and Glory (*08) Colin Farrell, Edward Norton.

351 851 318 545 (4:30) ♀★★ Labor Day ('13) Josh Brolin, Gattlin Griffith, Kate Winslet.

Death for the Christian is the doorway to Heaven's glory

adult members of the family sat and cried in the living room, and the teenage grandsons wandered in and out of the house aimlessly. The hospice worker found the little girl sobbing in the corner of her room. "What's the matter, honey?" she asked. "They won't let me see Grandpa," she whimpered. The nurse said to the family, "It's wrong not to allow the children to see their grandfather and tell him goodbye. Don't keep them away."

Reluctantly, the parents told their children they could go into the room. The little girl stood on her tiptoes and kissed her grandpa, and then, not satisfied that he knew she was there, she pulled herself up on the

bed and snuggled next to him. The boys sat in chairs beside his bed, and a smile came to Grandpa's face — and he died peacefully. That little girl never forgot the experi-

What an important time for teaching the peace of God in difficult times. Jesus spoke about death and said, "He who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me ... has passed from death into life" (John 5:24). Death for the Christian is the doorway to Heaven's glory.

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

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"They're flash cards, Grandma. You hold them up and I try to guess the words."

The LOCKHORNS



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20) ♀★★ Machete

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ove After "Unhappy Father's Day'

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*** Free State of Jones ('16) Gugu Mbat Raw, Matthew McConaughey.

Ladybug

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*★★★ Girls Trip ('17) Queen Latifah, Regina Hall

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(45) 學★★★ American Sniper (2014, War) Sienna Miller, Jake McDorman, Bradley Cooper.

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Verity, Chase Offerle, Jessica Barr

20 Bard's Jetsons" 56 Crumb river carrier boy 21 "Me time" 57 Blood-11 Idyllic hound's resort spots 23 Punker **17** More clue Vicious friendly **DOWN** 19 Singer 24 Acts like a raptor **1** "Shoo!" Elliott 25 Belgrade Solution time: 25 mins. resident 27 Oregon's capital 29 Goodies 31 Vinegary GRATINGS **35** Cake tier 37 Queue after Q 38 Stupefy **41** "Top Hat" studio

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Football sectional preview: No easy games for anyone

This is what we've all been waiting for: postseason football.

It took a while for us to get into the thick of football weather, but



the playoffs never fail to deliver with rain mixed and 50s to high 40s Fri-We've got three

games that should be really exciting on the scoreboard, and I look forward to seeing how **Ryan** they all shape out. No Walker team has an easy win, and no team realistically will get blown out.

Without further ado, I'll share some thoughts and a preview of each game to begin the state tournament. We'll go in alphabetical order.

Bluffton

Isn't it time to make a change to the postseason format? The No. 7 Tigers (7-2) enter the sectional with one of their best seasons in school history. The reward couldn't have gotten worse with a road game against No. 6 Alexandria-Monroe, the highest-rated team in the sectional.

Although the Jeff Sagarin ratings have Bluffton one spot higher, the two schools are the best in the eight-team field and won't be meeting in the championship, but rather, the first round.

I'm sure the coaching staff has told its players that you have to beat the best to be the best, but come on, IHSAA.

The Alexandria Tigers are 8-1 on the season and reside in the Central Indiana Conference, finishing second behind unbeaten Mississinewa.

Like Bluffton, Alexandria has been tested with good opponents, beating the likes of Eastbrook and Oak Hill and falling to Mississinewa by 10 points.

They're a fairly balanced offense led by sophomore quarterback Brady Gast, who has shown up in big games for his team. The one blemish was against Mississinewa, where he and the offense struggled with a tough Indian defense.

Bluffton, on the other hand, handled its business without its X-factor running back for the majority of the season. Khamel Moore returned two weeks ago in the Adams Central game and made an immediate impact, following it up with a big 149-yard day on nine carries over Lakeland.

The Tigers arguably would have beaten Heritage to go 8-1 on the season had they had Moore, but nonetheless, he adds to an already solid offense and a stellar and experienced offensive line.

Other than Alexandria being one of the top teams in 2A, a big concern is the hourlong road trip for Bluffton. A long bus ride against a good team isn't going to help, but I believe the Tigers have what it takes to keep the season alive by the end of the night. Expect a very tight game that could go down to the final drive.

Norwell

Boy, have the Knights had a season?

It started with a quarterback competition between Drew Graft and Alex Fojtik, and a few weeks later, sophomore Cavden Cassel won the job due to injuries to both.

The Knights looked like they had a long season ahead of them, with players getting injured left and right and getting beat like a drum. But a rather stunning road upset over Columbia City gave the young, inexperienced group some life heading into this week and belief to make a run.

Norwell has already seen its opponent, Delta, on the road earlier in the year. The

By RALPH D. RUSSO

AP College Football Writer

by sending representatives to their games

and said he would fully cooperate with an

NCAA investigation into the allegations

mation regarding the University of Michi-

gan football program illegally stealing sig-

nals, nor have I directed any staff member

or others to participate in an off-campus

scouting assignment," Harbaugh said Thurs-

day in a statement. "I have no awareness of

anyone on our staff having done that or hav-

informed of the investigation. But the con-

ference provided no further details, only to

say that it had notified Michigan's upcom-

university-imposed three-game suspension

for a still unresolved NCAA infractions case,

eration to the NCAA in this matter," Michi-

gan athletic director Warde Manuel said

Thursday. "At the University of Michigan,

all of us are committed to the highest stan-

dards of ethics and integrity for all members

of our community. This is the same expecta-

"I want to personally assure you that U-M Athletics will offer its complete coop-

play at Michigan State on Saturday.

The second-ranked Wolverines (7-0), who started their season with Harbaugh serving a

The Big Ten also announced it had been

"I do not have any knowledge or infor-

against his program.

ing directed that action."

ing opponents.

NCAA investigating allegations

of sign-stealing by Michigan.

Eagles may have won handily on the scoreboard 34-16, but it didn't tell the full story.

That was the game Graft got injured in the second quarter, holding on to a 16-14 lead when he hit the locker room. Backup Fojtik was also out, having the junior varsity guy in Cassel take over. Obviously, it's not a knock on Cassel, who was thrown into the fire, but the offense took a hit in that second half.

Who knows what would have happened if Graft didn't get hurt, but before he did, that two-point lead was on the road against a good team. Norwell has gained much-needed experience from that week three game, got Graft back, and got Delta at home.

Delta began the season red-hot, going 5-1, but since then has lost three straight to elite-caliber teams. The Eagles' offense is also very good and tore up the Knights in that meeting with good quarterback play and two solid running backs.

Considering all the factors, though, I think Norwell has a chance to play spoiler if it plays its best ball, and perhaps with a revenge factor.

Southern Wells

The mighty Raiders got by far the best draw out of the three schools and has a chance to win its first sectional football game since 2015.

I was ecstatic when I saw the pairings for 1A and Southern Wells (1-8) matched up with North Miami (1-8). The two are a perfect match for one another, given the random draw format by the IHSAA. Both should probably be playing No. 2 Adams Central and No. 10 South Adams (who both hilariously play each other instead), but they're not, so who cares?

Literally, the Raiders and Warriors are separated by eight schools in the entire state of Indiana, according to the Sagarin ratings.

Southern Wells gets them at home, and head coach Jeff Sprunger already has an advantage as his brother, Brad, played against them with Whitko. That means endless game tape, and he can help with a game plan.

North Miami has played a few good teams, but not like the Raiders, who have seen ranked matchups with Adams Central, South Adams, Madison-Grant, and Bluffton. The team has also faced a 7-2 Heritage squad and 3A and 4A schools like Jay County and Woodlan.

This will be the perfect opportunity for the Raiders to start running the ball again with opponents more their size, led by Case Boxell, Tucker Worster, and Brandon Enochs. North Miami hasn't been particularly good against the run, boding in the Raiders favor.

The most important factor, in my opinion, is the fact that the Warriors don't throw the ball hardly at all. This has been the kryptonite for the Southern Wells defensive unit all season, as it just hasn't had the personnel to keep up with those sideline track meets.

According to MaxPreps, North Miami has thrown the ball five times on average per contest — and not well. The three combined throwers are under 30 percent in completion rate with only four touchdowns to four interceptions.

When I've watched the Raiders, though the stats might look inflated, I have had some good moments stopping the run. Better teams have had some pushback when trying to carry the rock, and opposing head coaches have all complimented that this is one of the most well-coached Southern Wells groups they've seen.

I'm hoping for the best for them this Friday, and they should have a chance to ring that bell at Carnes Field again.

sports@news-banner.com

Bluffton's Khamel Moore looks for an opening as Tucker Jenkins tries to open the lane and

Lakeland's Isaiah Weingartner tries to close it in the third quarter of the season finale Friday night at LaGrange. (Photo by Glen Werling)

Marte hits walk-off single in ninth, D-backs beat Phillies and close to 2-1 in NLCS

By DAVID BRANDT ÅP Baseball Writer

PHOENIX (AP) — More than 15 minutes after the game, Ketel Marte stood at his clubhouse locker, gulping water while trying to finally catch his breath after delivering the Arizona Diamondbacks' latest clutch postseason moment.

"After my hit, I sprinted so hard," Marte said, shaking his head.

Marte capped a three-hit afternoon with a walk-off single in the ninth, rookie Brandon Pfaadt pitched 5 2/3 scoreless innings and the Diamondbacks closed to 2-1 in the NL Championship Series by rallying to beat the Philadelphia Phillies 2-1 on Thursday.

On the verge of falling behind 3-0 in the best-of-seven matchup, Arizona tied the score on Lourdes Gurriel Jr.'s RBI double in the seventh.

Gurriel opened the ninth with a leadoff walk against Craig Kimbrel, stole second and took third on Pavin Smith's infield sin-Gurriel was thrown out at the plate by

shortstop Trea Turner on Emmanuel Rivera's hard-hit grounder as the Phillies played the infield in. Geraldo Perdomo walked after falling behind 1-2 in the count and Marte — one of the few Diamondbacks who has looked comfortable at the plate this series hit a liner that fell in front of center fielder Johan Rojas, sending the D-backs onto the field in celebration.

"I felt like I could make some pitches to get us out of it," Kimbrel said. "Sometimes you get them. Some days you don't. Today just wasn't that day."

NASCAR reverses Blaney disqualification

C H A R - LOTTE, N.C. (AP) -NAS-CAR on Monday rescinded Ryan Blaney's disqualification at Las Vegas Motor Speedway when series officials found a problem with the template used during post-

race inspection. The reversal restored Blaney's sixth-place finish from Sunday's race, which had been stripped hours after the checkered flag for an alleged illegal front shock on his Ford. The disqualification dropped Blaney to last in the race and would have crippled his championship chances.

Blaney went from last in the round-of-eight field to seventh, but his deficit below the cutline was reduced significantly.

"NASCAR has shown a tremendous amount of integrity throughout the process which has led to this conclusion," Team Penske said in



Ryan Blaney

suit of the NAS-CAR Cup Series Championship." NASCAR did not reveal what about the template used in the inspection led to the initial disqualification.

a statement that lauded the reversal. "We are proud of

the effort and the

results by the No.

12 team during the

2023 season. We look forward to

continuing the pur-

"Monday morning during its race weekend debrief, NASCAR discovered an issue with the damper template used for inspection. NASCAR then conducted a detailed investigation, and has restored the No. 12's stage and race finishing positions from Sunday," NASCAR said in a statement.

NASCAR has two more races to set the championship-deciding final field of four drivers. Kyle Larson won at Las Vegas to clinch the first spot in the finale.



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Discontinued

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Harbaugh denies knowledge prohibit in-person advanced scouting of opponents and using electronic equipment Michigan coach Jim Harbaugh denied to record an opponents' signals. There are any knowledge or involvement in plotalso bylaws prohibiting unsportsmanlike or ting to steal opponents' play-calling signals unethical activities.

The NCAA had no comment, and the conference offered little more.

'The Big Ten Conference considers the integrity of competition to be of utmost importance and will continue to monitor the investigation," the league said in a statement.

Michigan has been tied up in an infractions case involving impermissible contact with high school prospects during the pandemic recruiting dead period for more than a year. Trying to get out in front of any possible NCAA punishment, the school hit Harbaugh with a three-game suspension in August, and he missed Michigan's first three games.

It hardly mattered. The Wolverines have plowed through their opposition, winning by an average of 33 points per game.

That case has not yet been resolved as the NCAA's committee on infractions rejected a potential negotiated resolution regarding Harbaugh's involvement in the case based on his lack of cooperation with investigators.

"I do not condone or tolerate anyone doing anything illegal or against NCAA rules," Harbaugh said. "No matter what program or organization that I have led throughout my career, my instructions and awareness of how we scout opponents have always been firmly within the rules."

Complaints about possible sign-stealing have become somewhat common among college football coaches.

College football does not use the radio technology in helmets used by the NFL to allow coaches to communicate with players on the field. Hand signals and even large, elaborate play cards are often used on the sideline during games to call in plays for both offense and defense.



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tion I have of all coaches, staff, and studentathletes.' Michigan is coming off two straight playoff appearances under Harbaugh and is currently tied with No. 1 Georgia as the odds-on favorite to win the national title, according to FanDuel Sportsbook. The NCAA does not have rules specifically against stealing signs, but it does

Rangers 5

Texas 3

Arizona 3

Arizona 0

News-Banner Scoreboard

FOOTBALL NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE East W L T

	44	_		FUL FI FA
Miami	5	1	0	.833 223 156
	4	2	0	.667 173 89
N.Y. Jets	3	3	0	.500 113 119
New Engla	nd1	5	0	.167 72 152
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Jacksonville	e 5	2	0	.667 173 146
Houston	3	3	0	.500 135 113
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Tennessee	2	4	0	.333 104 117
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Baltimore	4	2	0	.667 133 91

3 2 0 3 2 0 3 3 0 .600 95 77 .600 79 110 Cleveland Pittsburgh .500 100 127 West W L T
Kansas City 5 1 0
Las Vegas 3 3 0
L.A. Chargers 2 3 0 Pct PF PA .833 147 88 .500 100 131 .400 127 124 0 .167 129 200

NATIONAL CONFERENCE **East / L T 5 1 0** W L
Philadelphia 5 1 .833 155 124 Dallas 4 2 Washington 3 3 .667 154 100 .500 133 176 N.Y. Giants 1 5 0 .167 71 167 South
W L T
Tampa Bay 3 2 0
Atlanta 3 3 0 Pct PF PA .600 90 88 .500 99 120

.500 133 127

.000 112 186

W L T
Detroit 5 1 0
Green Bay 2 3 0 Pct PF PA

New Orleans3 4 0 Carolina 0 6 0

Carolina

.333 129 135 .167 128 176 2 4 0 1 5 0 Chicago West W L T 5 1 0 3 2 0 Pct PF PA .833 184 87 .600 124 108 San Fran Seattle L.A. Rams

3 3 0 .500 138 117 1 5 0 .167 117 162 Arizona Thursday's Games Jacksonville 3

Sunday's Games
Atlanta at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
Buffalo at New England, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at Indianapolis, 1 p.m. Detroit at Baltimore, 1 p.m. Las Vegas at Chicago, 1 p.m. Washington at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m. Arizona at Seattle, 4:05 p.m. Pittsburgh at L.A. Rams, 4:05 p.m. Green Bay at Denver, 4:25 p.m. L.A. Chargers at Kansas City, 4:25

Miami at Philadelphia, 8:20 p.m. Open: Cincinnati, Houston, N.Y. Jets, Tennessee, Carolina, Dallas

Monday's Games
San Francisco at Minnesota, 8:15 Thursday, Oct. 26
Tampa Bay at Buffalo, 8:15 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 29 Atlanta at Tennessee, 1 p.m. Houston at Carolina, 1 p.m. Jacksonville at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m. L.A. Rams at Dallas, 1 p.m. Minnesota at Green Bay, 1 p.m N.Y. Jets at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m. New England at Miami, 1 p.m. New Orleans at Indianapolis, 1

p.m. Philadelphia at Washington, 1 p.m. Cleveland at Seattle, 4:05 p.m. Baltimore at Arizona, 4:25 p.m. Cincinnati at San Francisco, 4:25

Kansas City at Denver, 4:25 p.m. Chicago at L.A. Chargers, 8:20 p.m. **Monday, Oct. 30** Las Vegas at Detroit, 8:15 p.m.

HOCKEY

NHL **EASTERN CONFERENCE** Atlantic Division

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G	βP	W	L	OTF	ts	GF	GA
Ottawa	4	3	1	0	6	19	10
Detroit	4	3	1	0	6	19	11
Tampa Bay	5	2	2	1	5	17	20
Boston	2	2	0	0	4	6	3
Florida	4	2	2	0	4	11	12
Toronto	4	2	2	0	4	15	16
Montreal	3	1	1	1	3	10	13
Buffalo	4	1	3	0	2	9	14
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GA GP W L OTPts GF GA
Philadelphia 4 3 1 0 6 12 8
Carolina 4 3 1 0 6 21 19
N.Y. Islanders 2 2 0 0 4 4 2
Pittsburgh 4 2 2 0 4 14 12
N.Y. Rangers 4 2 2 0 4 11 1
Columbus 3 1 2 0 2 7 11
Washington 3 1 2 0 2 4 12
WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division Central Division
GP W L OTPts GF GA

GP W L OTPt
Colorado 3 3 0 0
Chicago 4 2 2 0
Minnesota 4 2 2 0
Arizona 4 2 2 0
Nashville 5 2 3 0
Dallas 2 1 0 1
St. Louis 3 1 1 1
Winnipeg 4 1 3 0
Pacific Division
GP W L OTPt 0 6 11 0 4 11 0 4 14 0 4 13 1 3 4 1 3 5 0 2 13 15 5 9

Facility Division GP W L OTPts GF GA Vegas 5 5 0 0 10 20 8 Los Angeles 4 2 1 1 5 19 15 Calgary 4 2 1 1 5 13 14

4 15 2 8 2 11 2 1 3 2 3 0 2 8 0 2 11 1 1 5 1 1 5 Anaheim Edmonton San Jose 3 0 2 1 1 5 Seattle 4 0 3 1 1 5 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. Wednesday's Games
Ottawa 6, Washington 1
Detroit 6, Pittsburgh 3
Thursday's Games

Nashville 4, N.Y. Rangers 1 Florida 3, Toronto 1 Tampa Bay 4, Vancouver 3 Calgary 4, Buffalo 3 Philadelphia 4, Edmonton 1 Vegas 5, Winnipeg 3 Arizona 6, St. Louis 2 Los Angeles 7, Minnesota 3 Carolina at Seattle, late Dallas at Anaheim, late Boston at San Jose, late Chicago at Colorado, late

Friday's Games

Calgary at Columbus, 7 p.m.

New Jersey at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30

Saturday's Games Detroit at Ottawa, 1 p.m. Anaheim at Arizona, 4 p.m. Ariahem at Alizona, 4 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.
Vancouver at Florida, 7 p.m.
Washington at Montreal, 7 p.m. Columbus at Minnesota, 8 p.m. Philadelphia at Dallas, 8 p.m. Pittsburgh at St. Louis, 8 p.m. San Jose at Nashville, 8 p.m. Vegas at Chicago, 8 p.m. Carolina at Colorado, 9 p.m. N.Y. Rangers at Seattle, 10 p.m. Winnipeg at Edmonton, 10 p.m.

Boston at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m. Sunday's Games Calgary at Detroit, 5 p.m. Boston at Anaheim, 8:30 p.m.

BASEBALL MLB

Postseason Baseball Glance LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES (Best-of-7) Àmerican League Texas 2. Houston 0

Sunday, Oct. 15: Texas 2, Houston 0

Thursday, Oct. 19: Philadelphia (Suárez 4-6) at Arizona (Pfaadt 3-9), Friday, Oct. 20: Philadelphia at Arizona, 8:07 p.m. Monday, Oct. 16: Texas 5, Houston 4 Wednesday, Oct. 18: Houston 8,

x-Saturday, Oct. 21: Philadelphia at Arizona, 8:07 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 19: Houston 42,

Philadelphia 2, Arizona 0 Monday, Oct. 16: Philadelphia 5,

Tuesday, Oct. 17: Philadelphia 10,

National League (All Games on TBS)

High School Calendar

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) Bluffton, Norwell, Southern Wells at The PLEX Fort Wayne, 10:30 a.m. **MONDAY, OCT 23** No events scheduled **TUESDAY, OCT 24**

No events scheduled **WEDNESDAY, OCT 25** No events scheduled **THURSDAY, OCT 26** No events scheduled FRIDAY, OCT 27

FOOTBALL: (sectional semi-final) TBD.

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This Week's

Garage

Sales

CHURCH, 1532 N. Main St.

Bluffton, Fri., Oct. 20, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat., Oct. 21, sack day, 9

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, saddless toilets, and the saturday of the s

lectibles, wide variety of items

misc. Pies, cookies, breads, pretzels, noodles.

GIGANTIC GARAGE SALE

Friday/Saturday, October 20-

21, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., 216 East

Central Avenue, Bluffton. Boys

and girls name brand clothes,

coats, and shoes sizes 6 to

XL, Power Wheels, girls bicy-

cles, toys and games, elliptical trainer, sporting goods, Christ-

mas decorations, antique furni-

ture, glasses, sport cards and

sports figures, recliner. FREE

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aren't any tools, broken items

or nails. You want your yard

and sales area to be clear and

safe. Email HELOISE@Helo-

14 foot trampoline.

ise.com.

barrels,

toilets,

CALVARY

a.m.-noon

LUTHERAN

Mark your Calendar for this event

FALL FLING AT National Guard Armory, 500 E. Spring St., Bluffton, Saturday, October 21, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free admission. Raffles, food, 25+ direct sales vendors and hand-made crafts. Raffle items are vendor donated. All proceeds donated to Honor Flight of Northeast Indiana.



OFFICE is currently seeking applicants for the position of Full Time Court Security Supervisor. This position over-sees the coordination of the day-to-day operations for the protection and security of the County Courthouse. Must have college level courses or work experience in supervision or management, and at least five (5) years of experience in law enforcement or corrections, including experience with security measures and devices. Must have at least two (2) years of direct supervisory experience. Must pass background investigation which may include but is not limited to employment history and criminal history check. 20year matrix salary range for a Court Security Supervisor is \$43,682 - \$52,774. Years of service and experience will be honored for a starting salary up to five years in the pay matrix. Deadline for Pre-application submission is no later than November 10, 2023. Apply at www.wellscountysheriff.com under "Job Opportunities". A full job description will also be listed on the website for re-

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and click on classifieds.

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

King Classic Sudoku

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Difficulty: ★★★★

Lottery Numbers

Thursday's Drawings **HOOSIER LOTTERY**

Cash 5 — 02-14-26-28-36

Cash4Life — 03-07-44-47-55, Cash Ball: 03 **Quick Draw Midday** — 01-02-05-06-19-22-28-36-42-

49-54-60-63-65-66-71-74-76-78-79, BE: 02 **Daily Three-Midday** — 09-08-04, SB:09 Daily Three-Evening — 07-07-08, SB: 02 Daily Four-Midday — 08-01-01-03, SB: 09 Daily Four-Evening — 08-07-05-05, SB: 02

Quick Draw Evening — 03-07-08-13-16-20-21-39-40-

44-50-52-57-58-61-63-66-67-75-78, BE: 67 **Hoosier Lotto** — Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$40.5 million

MEGA MILLIONS Estimated jackpot (for Friday): \$91 million

POWERBALL

Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$70 million

Public de Calendar

BIDDING ENDS 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. Sale managers, Patrick Carter & Nick Huffman. *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.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 house: 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. 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, Kiauction.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*

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Bluffton-Harrison Middle School Building Corporation") shall convene on October 15 2022 at 10:00 pm of 505 East 25, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at 805 East Harrison Street, Bluffton, Indiana to consider the form of Third Amendment to Lease to be entered into between the Building Corporation and the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District (the "School Corporation"), including the plans referred to therein, and made a part thereof, the proposed First Supplemental Trust Indenture, and the issuance of the Ad Valor-em Property Tax First Mortgage Bonds, Series 2023 (or such other name or series designation as determined by the School Corporation's underwriter) by the Building Corporation.
Bluffton-Harrison Middle

School Building Corporation nb 10/20

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE Sheriff Sale File Number: 90-23-0024-SS

Date & Time of Sale: Wednes-

day, December 13, 2023 at 1:00 P.M. Sale Location: Wells County Courthouse, First Floor, 102 W Market St, Bluffton, IN

Judgment to be Satisfied:

\$93,891.28 Cause No: 90C01-2304-MF-000003

Plaintiff: Nationstar Mortgage

Defendants: Keevan Loomis, United States of America acting through The Rural Housing Service or successor agency, United States Department of Agriculture, Snow & Sauerteig LLP and Bluffton

Health System LLC
TO THE OWNERS OF THE
WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL
ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED **PARTIES**

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Superior/Circuit Court of Wells County, Indiana, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, at the hour of 1:00 PM of said day as listed above, at 1615 W Western Av, Bluffton IN, fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Wells Counbody of Real Estate in Wells County, Indiana: THE SOUTH HALF
(1/2) OF LOT NUMBERED 190 AS
KNOWN AND DESIGNATED ON
THE RECORDED PLAT OF THE
TOWN, NOW CITY OF BLUFF-

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

Sheriff of Wells County Township of property location: Harrison

Common street address of property: 227 W South St, Bluffton, IN 46714 Property tax ID: 90-08-04-539-128.000-004

Attorney: Scott A. Hale Attornev Number: 35534-64 Law Firm: DOYLE & FOUTTY,

Contact Number: (317) 264-5000

The sheriff's office does not warrant the accuracy of the com-monly known street address. It is the buyer's responsibility to research the legal description and associated legal filings. PLEASE SERVE:

Keevan Loomis 510 W Dustman Rd, Apt 36 Bluffton, IN 46714 MANNER OF SERVICE: Certi-

5400 Federal Plaza, Suite 1500 Hammond, IN 46320 MANNER OF SERVICE: Certi-

Occupant(s) of 227 W South

St, Bluffton, IN 46714 227 W South St Bluffton, IN 46714 MANNER OF SERVICE: Sher-

DOYLE & FOUTTY, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR nb 10/20, 10/27, 11/3

TO THE OWNERS OF THE IO THE OWNERS OF THE
WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL
ESTATE AND ALL
INTERESTED PARTIES
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
Sheriff Sale File number:
90-23-0023-SS
Date & Time of Sale: Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at 4,00

day, December 13, 2023 at 1:00

Sale Location: Wells County Courthouse First Floor, 102 W Market St, Bluffton, IN

Judgment to be Satisfied: \$102,216.96 Cause Number: 90D01-2209-MF-000032 Plaintiff: SPECIALIZED LOAN

SERVICING LLC
KENDRA D MILLER Defendant: and AKA KENDRA D
STIMPSON, ET.AL.
By virtue of a certified copy of

a decree to me, directed from the Clerk of Superior/Circuit Court of Wells County Indiana, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said DECREE, with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder at the date, time and location listed above, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate, a certain tract or parcel of land described as follows:

LOT NUMBERED 76 AS KNOWN AND DESIGNATED ON

THE RECORDED PLAT OF OLD CREEK ADDITION, SECTION TWO, AS ADDITION TO THE CITY OF BLUFFTON, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 26, OF THE RECORDS OF WELLS COUNTY, INDIANA.

Commonly Known as: 1502 RIDGEWOOD LN, BLUFFTON, IN 46714 Parcel No. 90-08-10-502-

076.000-004 Together with rents, issues,

income and profits thereof, this sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisement laws. In accordance to the requirements of IC 32-29-7-3, this Notice shall also represent service of Notice of Sale of this real estate upon the owners.

* An entire Sheriff's Sale may

be cancelled due to inclement weather or other county emergencies. If the entire Sheriff's Sale is cancelled, each parcel will be cancelled. Each parcel will be assigned to the next available sale (normally 2 months from original sale). This will allow compliance with Indiana Code concerning posting, publication, and serving time frames. Also, new Sheriff's Sale fees will be assessed and the parcels will be automatically re-advertised. The plaintiff will be responsible for the new fees and

advertising costs.

Matthew C. Gladwell,
Plaintiff's Attorney Attorney No. 30493-49 Reisenfeld & Associates LPA

3962 Red Bank Road Cincinnati, OH 45227 (513) 322-7000 Atty File#: 30493-49 Scott Holliday, Sheriff By: Krista Markley, Phone: 260/824.3426 Harrison Township

The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the commonly known address published herein.

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ANDREW R STIMPSON 1502 RIDGEWOOD LN BLUFFTON, IN 46714 KENDRA D MILLER AKA KEN-

DRA D STIMPSON 1502 RIDGEWOOD LN BLUFFTON, IN 46714 nb 10/20, 10/27, 11/3

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Jordan still running for House gavel, plan for temporary speaker fails

WASHINGTON (AP) — Refusing to give up, Rep. Jim Jordan told GOP colleagues Thursday he was still running for the House gavel — leaving Republicans few viable options after his hardline backers resisted a plan to expand the temporary speaker's powers to reopen the House.

The combative Jordan delivered the message at a fiery closed-door meeting at the Capitol as the Republican majority considered an extraordinary plan to give the interim speaker pro tempore more powers for the next several months to bring the House back into session and conduct crucial business, according to Republicans familiar with the private meeting who insisted on anonymity to discuss it.

But neither option seemed immediately workable. GOP moderates who have twice rejected Jordan are unwilling to support him

now, especially after some report harassing pressures and even death threats from his supporters. At the same time, Jordan's hard-right allies are refusing to allow a temporary speaker to gain more power.

The prolonged stalemate risks keeping the House intractably shut down for the foreseeable future after the unprecedented ouster of Kevin McCarthy as speaker,

"I'm still running for speaker and I plan to go to the floor and get the votes and win this race," said Jordan, the Judiciary Committee chairman and founder of the hardline House Freedom

Thursday's meeting grew heated at times with Republican factions blaming one another for sending their majority into chaos, lawmakers said.

When Rep. Matt Gaetz of Florida, a chief architect of the ouster of the speakspeak, McCarthy told him it was not his turn.

'We're shaking up Washington, D.C. We're breaking the fever. And, you know what, it's messy," Gaetz said

With Jordan refusing to concede and his hardright detractors rejecting the longshot idea of installing McHenry as a temporary speaker, there are few options left to put the shattered House back to normal.

The House convened briefly at midday Thursday, but no action was taken, the schedule ahead uncertain.

There is a sinking realization that the House could remain endlessly stuck, out of service and without a leader for the foreseeable future as the Republican majority spirals deeper into dysfunction.

"We're trying to figure out if there's a way we can get back with a Republicanonly solution," said veteran legislator Rep. Tom Cole, R-Okla.

"That's what normal majorities do. What this majority has done is prove it's not a normal majority."

Elevating McHenry to an expanded speaker's role would not be as politically simple as it might seem. The hard-right Republican lawmakers including some who ousted McCarthy, don't like the idea.

"Asinine," said Rep. Chip Roy, R-Texas, a leader of far-right House Freedom Caucus.

While Democrats have suggested the arrangement, Republicans are loathe to partner with the Democrats in a bipartisan way. And it's highly unlikely Republicans could agree give Speaker Pro Tem Patrick McHenry more powers on their own, even though they have majority control of the House.

"It's a bad precedent and

I don't support it," said Rep. Scott Perry, R-Pa., the Freedom Caucus chairman.

McHenry himself has brushed off attempts to take the job more permanently after he was appointed to the role after the unprecedented ouster of McCarthy more than two weeks ago.

"I did not ask for additional powers," said McHenry of North Carolina, a Republican who is wellliked by his colleagues and viewed as a highly competent legislator. "My duty is to get the next speaker elected. That's my focus."

But McCarthy himself explained that he tapped McHenry for the role, created in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks to ensure continuity of government, because he "wanted somebody that could work with all sides. And McHenry is ideal for all that."

Next steps were highly uncertain as angry, frustrated Republicans predict the House could stay essentially shuttered, as it has been almost all month, until the mid-November deadline for Congress to approve funding or risk a federal govern-

ment shutdown. "I think clearly Nov. 17 is a real date," said Rep. Kevin Hern, R-Okla., who leads a large conservative caucus,

referring to the next deadline What was clear was that Jordan's path to become House speaker was almost certainly lost.

On Wednesday, Jordan, failed in a crucial second ballot, opposed by 22 Republicans, two more than he lost in first-round voting the day before.

Many view the Ohio congressman as too extreme for a central seat of U.S. power and resented the harassing hardball tactics from Jordan's allies for their votes. Several lawmakers said they had received death threats.

Gaza under Israeli siege: Bread lines, yellow water, explosions

Strip (AP) — There are explosions audible in the cramped, humid room where Azmi Keshawi shelters with his family in Gaza's southern city of Khan Younis. The bombardments keep coming closer, he says, and they're wreaking death and destruction.

Keshawi, his wife, two sons, two daughters and tiny grandchildren are trying to survive inside.

The Israeli military has relentlessly attacked Gaza in retaliation for a devastating Hamas rampage in southern Israel almost two weeks ago and the Keshawi family's sense of desperation is growing. Food is running out and Israel has so far stopped humanitarian attempts to bring it in.

The family hasn't showered in days since Israel cut off Gaza's water and fuel supplies. They get drinking water from the U.N. school, where workers hand out jerrycans of water from Gaza's subterranean aquifer to desperate families. It tastes salty. The desalination stations stopped working when the fuel ran out.

Keshawi hoils and hopes for the best.

"How the hell did the entire world just watch and

let Israel turn off the water?" said Keshawi, 59, a U.S.educated researcher at the International Crisis Group, his voice rising with anger.

That the world is watching, he says, saddens him

Sometimes there are too many airstrikes to forage for food. But his family's stocks are dwindling, so he tries to get bread when he can. On Thursday, the line for one loaf was chaotic and took five hours. Several bakeries have been bombed. Others have closed because they don't have enough water or power. Authorities are still working out the logistics for a delivery of humanitarian aid into Gaza from Egypt.

Keshawi has money to buy food for his grandchildren. But there's hardly anything to buy. The children often eat stale bread and drink powdered milk. A few Palestinians who own chicken farms and have gas stoves run take-out kitchens from their homes, asking customers to wait for hours to get a meager plate of rice and chicken. Keshawi wishes he didn't see the water they used — liquid with a disconcerting yellow hue, from a donkey cart. He didn't tell his wife.

"It's not the time to be

picky," he said from his friend's house where he sought refuge after heeding an Israeli military evacuation order for Gaza City. "We don't know if anything will be available tomorrow.'

The toilet in the house is nearly full to the brim with urine. What water they can spare to wash the dishes they then use to flush waste down the toilet. Without enough food or water, they don't use the bathroom much.

The nights are the hardest, he said. When airstrikes crash nearby and explosions light up the sky, the adults muster what little resolve they have to soothe the children.

"Boom!" they yell and cheer when the bombs thunder. The babies laugh.

But older kids are terrified. They see the news and know that the airstrikes have crushed thousands of homes and killed over 3,000 Palestinians in Gaza so far, including dozens of people a mere kilometer (half mile) from the house they thought would offer safety.

Keshawi said he tries to put on a brave face. But often, he said, he can't stop

"It's really killing me," he said. "It really breaks my

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to overturn Trump's loss in Georgia ATLANTA (AP) overturn the election. Her Lawyer Sidney Powell cooperation in the case pleaded guilty to reduced and participation in strate-

Powell pleads guilty over efforts

charges Thursday over efforts to overturn Donald Trump's loss in the 2020 election in Georgia, becoming the second defendant in the sprawling case to reach a deal with prosecutors.

Powell, who was charged alongside Trump and 17 others with violating the state's anti-racketeering law, entered the plea just a day before jury selection was set to start in her trial. She pleaded guilty to six misdemeanors accusing her of conspiring to intentionally interfere with the performance of election duties.

As part of the deal, she will serve six years of probation, will be fined \$6,000 and will have to write an apology letter to Georgia and its residents. She also recorded a statement for prosecutors and agreed to testify truthfully against her co-defendants at future tri-

Powell was initially charged with racketeering and six other counts as part of a wide-ranging scheme to keep the Republican president in power after he lost the 2020 election to Democrat Joe Biden. Prosecutors say she also participated in an unauthorized breach of elections equipment in a rural Georgia county elections office.

The plea deal makes Powell the most prominent known person to be working with prosecutors investigating Trump's efforts to

gy talks threaten to expose the former president and offer insight on what he was saying and doing in the critical period after the

Above all, the guilty plea is a remarkable about-face for a lawyer who, perhaps more than anyone else, strenuously pushed baseless conspiracy theories about a stolen election in the face of extensive evidence to the contrary. She also has important knowledge about high-profile events, including a news conference she participated in on behalf of Trump and his campaign shortly after the election and on a White House meeting she attended in mid-December of 2020 in which prosecutors say ways to influence the outcome of the election were discussed.

Powell's only comments in court came in response to routine questions from prosecutor Daysha Young and the judge.

There was a moment of levity when Young asked,

"How old are you, ma'am?"

"Oh gosh," Powell said with a chuckle. "Sixty-eight, despite my astonishingly youthful countenance."

But Powell was solemn and succinct when Young asked, "How do you plead to the six counts of conspiracy to commit intentional interference with performance of election duties?"

"Guilty," Powell said, her hands folded in front of her on the defense table.

John Fishwick, a former U.S. attorney for the Western District of Virginia, called Powell's plea a significant win" for Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis.

'This is somebody who was at ground zero of these allegations and a lawyer who is pleading guilty," he said. "This is very significant.'

Fishwick also said Powell's plea is helpful to Jack Smith, the Justice Department's special counsel.

Powell is referenced, though not by name, as one of six unindicted coconspirators in Smith's federal case charging Trump with plotting to overturn the election. That indictment notes how Trump had privately acknowledged to others that Powell's unfounded claims of election fraud were "crazy," yet nonetheless he promoted and embraced a lawsuit that Powell filed against the state of Georgia that included what prosecutors said were "far-fetched" and baseless assertions.

Barry Coburn, a Washington-based lawyer for Powell, declined to comment Thursday. Powell gained noto-

riety for threatening in a Fox Business interview in November 2020 to "release the Kraken," invoking a mythical sea monster when talking about a lawsuit she planned to file to challenge the results of the presidential election. Similar suits she filed in several states were promptly dismissed.