

The News - Banner

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2023 BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection \$1.00



Time for boos

Above, Jeff Osborn, president of Horizon Events, led the pack of Cub Scouts through the annual Haunted House, one day before the attraction officially opens to the public. Scouts were thrilled by the costumes and decor. The Haunted House and trick-or-treat trail is a free event open to the public from 6-10 p.m. on Oct. 27 and Oct. 28. At right, a Cub Scout, disguised as a chicken, told a Horizon Events board member that he did a great job. Below, Steve Higgins (left) signaled for Halloween-clad Cub Scouts to quiet down and line up for Horizon Events' annual haunted house. (Photos by Sydney Kent)



Predator catcher groups run 10th Bluffton operation in a year

Groups draw out-of-county suspects to Wells for arrest

By SYDNEY KENT

Bluffton has recently become a popular site for online "vigilante" groups to facilitate sting operations for potential child predators, most of whom are not from the area. Since September 2022, 10 of these arrests have taken place. Predator Catchers Indianapolis, or PCI, is responsible for nine of the 10 arrests thus far. An additional group called Bikers Against Predators, from Goshen, successfully completed their first arrest during the 2023 Bluffton Street Fair. Though it may bring residents peace of mind to know the city is not suddenly overrun with people attempting to prey on children, many citizens have questioned why these groups are arranging arrests in

Bluffton. So far, five have taken place at Walmart. The News-Banner reached out to Wells County Sheriff Scott Holliday to explain more about the experience of local law enforcement with online predator-catcher groups. "Their job is to focus on finding people soliciting children," Holliday began. "They are posing as children on these platforms and trying to catch predators. The conversation will turn sexual in nature and the group will try to meet with that person. They do this live (online). They confront the person and then call 911." According to Holliday, Bluffton police officers are not warned about the encounters (Continued on Page 2)

U.S. economic growth reached 4.9 percent rate last quarter as consumers fought off Fed hikes

By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's economy expanded at a robust 4.9 percent annual rate from July through September as Americans defied higher prices, rising interest rates and widespread forecasts of a recession to spend at a brisk pace. The Commerce Department said the economy expanded last quarter at the fastest pace in nearly two years — and more than twice the 2.1 percent annual rate of the previous quarter. Thursday's report on the nation's gross domestic product — the economy's total output of goods and services — showed that consumers drove the acceleration, ramping up their spending on everything from cars to restaurant meals. Even though the painful inflation of the past two years has soured many people's view of the economy, mil-

lions have remained willing to splurge on vacations, concert tickets and sports events. "This is just a very resilient economy that continues to take hit after hit and keep on," said Joseph Brusuelas, chief economist at RSM, a tax and consulting firm. Yet the robust growth may prove to be a high-water mark for the economy before a steady slowdown begins in the current October-December quarter and extends into 2024. The breakneck pace is expected to ease as higher long-term borrowing rates, on top of the Federal Reserve's short-term rate hikes, cool spending by businesses and consumers. Economists have projected that growth could slow to an annual pace of just 1.5 percent in the final three months of this year. One sign of the coming slowdown, Brusuelas said, was a 3.8 percent drop in (Continued on Page 2)

Israeli troops briefly raid northern Gaza to 'prepare' for expected full-scale incursion

By NAJIB JOBAIN, KAREEM CHEHAYEB and AMY TEIBEL Associated Press

RAFAH, Gaza Strip (AP) — Israeli troops and tanks briefly raided northern Gaza overnight, the military said Thursday, engaging with Hamas fighters and targeting anti-tank weapons in order to "prepare the battlefield" before an expected ground invasion. The third Israeli raid since the war began came after more than two weeks of devastating airstrikes that have left thousands dead, and more than 1 million displaced from their homes, in the small, densely-populated territory. Arab leaders made a joint plea Thursday for a cease-fire to end civilian suffering and allow humanitarian aid into Gaza, where Israel has imposed a suffocating siege ever since Hamas' rampage and hostage-taking in southern Israel ignited the war. Residents are running out of food, water and medicine, and U.N. workers have barely any fuel left to support relief missions. The rising death toll in Gaza is unprec-

edented in the decades-long Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The Health Ministry in Hamas-ruled Gaza said Thursday more than 7,000 Palestinians have died in the fighting, a figure that could not be independently verified. Even greater loss of life could come if Israel launches a ground offensive aimed at crushing Hamas, which has ruled Gaza since 2007 and survived four previous wars with Israel. More than 1,400 people in Israel, mostly civilians, were slain during the initial Hamas attack, according to the Israeli government. The damage to Gaza from nearly three weeks of bombardment showed in satellite photos of several locations taken before the war and again in recent days. Entire rows of residential buildings simply disappear in the photos, reduced to smears of dust and rubble. A complex of 13 high-rises by the sea was pounded to dust near Gaza City's al-Shati refugee camp, leaving only a few tottering bits of facade. Just down the street, hardly anything remained in what had been a neighborhood of low-built homes on winding lanes, (Continued on Page 2)

Leaving a Legacy

Wells County Women in Leadership hosted its second annual all-day conference Thursday. The day included several sessions with breakout speakers. At left, Julie Meitzler, assistant superintendent for Bluffton-Harrison schools, speaks about pursuing positive perspectives. Four Wells County women also spoke about their experience balancing work and rest on a panel. Pictured above, from the left, is Julie Thompson, Angie Topp, Kylie Tomlin and Ashley Kummer. (Photos by Holly Gaskill)

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Outside

Small chance of showers, sunny, warm, and windy

Today	Saturday	Sunday
High 76	High 57	High 51
Low 47	Low 45	Low 37

More Weather on Page 2

Online

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FRIDAY
October 27, 2023

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Jerry Flack & Associates

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Predator catcher groups

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before they occur.

"They don't ever call us ahead of time," Holliday emphasized. "I think it would make it worse. A lot of prosecutors won't prosecute these cases because they believe it borders on entrapment."

Entrapment is a defense used when an accused person alleges they would not have committed a crime had an officer not inspired or persuaded them to do so.

This was the claim of Joshua Clark, a former Portland police officer who was the subject of a sting and later found guilty by a Hendricks County jury in July of 2022. Clark filed an appeal with the Indiana Court of Appeals, who denied the claim, according to court documents.

The Indiana Supreme Court supported their decision, rejecting the argument that the group's work amounted to police entrapment, as no evidence was found that PCI and local law enforcement worked together prior to Clark's arrest. Clark is currently serving a six-year prison sentence for the crime.

Under Indiana law, probable cause must be determined in order for someone to be charged with a crime. Probable cause exists when an arresting officer has knowledge of the facts and circumstances that would lead a reasonable person to believe that a suspect committed a crime.

This fact is applicable across the entire state, however, each county approaches each case differently. Grant, Marion and Madison counties have all prosecuted cases from PCI. Other counties have taken a much different stance.

Howard County Prosecutor Mark McCann issued a press release in April of 2021 warning community members about conducting their own private investigations against potential predators. McCann noted that the sting operations could potentially lead to lawsuits for libel, slander and retaliation.

Diana Moers, Vanderburgh County prosecutor, posted a press release to social media on March 29 expressing the same concerns. According to court documents, this is the same day Moers filed a motion to dismiss preliminary charges against Erik W. Fischer, a 26-year-old Evansville resident who attempted to meet a 14-year-old for sex. In Fischer's case, charges were dismissed after the arrest occurred.

"We can arrest anyone we want to, but the prosecutor has to decide to press charges," Holliday explained. "Each county has their own prosecutor. As an elected official, Colin Andrews can choose which cases to prosecute."

Wells County Prosecutor Colin Andrews, who took office in January, has filed charges on each case in the county thus far.

"It is a duty of every prosecutor to uphold the law, pursue justice and pro-

mote the health and safety of the community," Andrews explained. "If facts and circumstances warrant the filing of charges against any individual, then I have a responsibility to prosecute them for their crimes. I intend to do just that."

Of the 10 cases prosecuted over the last year in Wells County, only one case has been sentenced. Roger Wayne Wiles, a man previously convicted of child molesting, pleaded guilty to the crime earlier this year. Wiles was sentenced to 26 years in prison for the felony, as well as an added habitual offender charge.

In all but one case, the suspect has been charged with child solicitation, a Level 4 felony. In the case of Jonathan Dickey, a 51-year-old man from Poneto, a Level 5 felony was applied instead. Dickey is currently the first case for the county set for a jury trial, scheduled to begin Jan. 24.

Six of the 10 cases have scheduled hearings for pretrial conferences, meaning neither a plea agreement has been reached nor a decision to try the case in court. Two predators have pleaded guilty to the crime and are currently awaiting sentencing.

PCI has not responded to requests for comment at this time.

The News-Banner will continue to follow these cases and report on the conviction rate as they are processed in the Wells Circuit Court.

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Economic growth

(Continued from Page 1)

business spending on new machinery and other equipment last quarter. That pull-back likely reflected the higher cost of borrowing to finance such purchases.

And other key drivers of growth in the July-September period could prove short-lived. They include a surge in stockpiled goods that businesses added to their warehouses and store shelves. The buildup in these inventories accounted for about a quarter of last quarter's growth from July to September and isn't considered likely to be repeated.

An increase in house and apartment construction also boosted growth in the third quarter. But as mortgage rates near 8 percent and sales of existing homes continue to fall, analysts expect housing to weaken the overall economy in the coming months.

"We can already see the drag forming in the final three months of the year," Brusuelas said.

In addition, consumers are spending more of their savings — a drawdown that could eventually weigh on growth. Many, particularly lower- and middle-income Americans, are stepping up their use of credit cards. These cards now carry much higher rates after the Fed boosted its benchmark interest rate to about 5.4 percent, its highest level in 22 years. Americans, as a whole, saved just 3.8 percent of their income last quarter,

down from 5.2 percent in the April-June quarter and notably below pre-pandemic levels.

Several Fed officials acknowledged in speeches last week that the most recent economic data showed growth picking up by more than they had expected. Yet most of the policymakers signaled that they will likely keep their key rate, which affects many consumer and business loans, unchanged when they meet next week.

Even consumers who are closely watching their budgets, though, are still willing to treat themselves in many cases. Among them is Danielle Gagliano, who was at Kohl's department store in Ramsey, New Jersey, last week with her 2-year-old son, returning an item and picking up three pairs of pants for her 10-year-old daughter.

Gagliano, 35, said she has been doing more of her food shopping at ShopRite and discounter Aldi and less at Acme, which she feels is more expensive. And she's been looking for more discounts.

Still, Gagliano said she makes room in her budget to go out to dinner with her family a couple times a month.

"I like to support the local restaurants," she said.

A range of factors have helped fuel consumer spending, which accounts for the bulk of the economy's growth. Though many

Americans are still feeling under pressure from two years of high inflation, average pay has outpaced price increases and enhanced people's ability to spend.

And inflation is steadily easing, Thursday's report showed. Excluding volatile food and gas prices, core inflation slowed to a 2.4 percent annual rate in the third quarter, according to the Fed's preferred measure. That is down from 3.7 percent in the second quarter to the slowest pace in nearly three years.

Smaller price increases likely encouraged some people to spend lavishly on both goods and services last quarter. There were some one-time factors that boosted spending, like blockbuster concert tours by Taylor Swift and Beyonce. Fans spent an average of \$1,500 on air fares, hotel rooms, and concert tickets to see Swift's shows, and an average of \$1,800 for Beyonce, according to calculations by Sarah Wolfe, U.S. economist at Morgan Stanley.

Americans, as a whole, also began the year on healthy financial footing, according to a report last week from the Fed. The net worth of a typical household jumped 37 percent from 2019 through 2022. Home prices shot higher, and the stock market rose in the biggest surge on records dating back more than 30 years.

Even so, consumers are likely reining in their spend-

ing in the final three months of the year, and the sluggish housing market is dragging on the economy as well. This month, nearly 30 million people began repaying several hundred dollars a month in student loans, which could slow their ability to spend. Those loan repayments had been suspended when the pandemic struck three years ago.

Fed Chair Jerome Powell, in a discussion last week, said he was generally pleased with how the economy was evolving: Inflation has slowed to an annual rate of 3.7 percent from a four-decade high of 9.1 percent in June 2022. At the same time, steady growth and hiring have forestalled a recession, which was widely predicted at the end of last year.

If those trends continue, it could allow the Fed to achieve a highly sought-after "soft landing," in which it would manage to slow inflation to its 2 percent target without causing a deep recession.

Still, Fed officials were surprised by a strong government report last week on retail sales, which showed that spending at stores and restaurants jumped last month by much more than expected. Powell has since acknowledged that if the economy were to keep growing robustly, the Fed might have to raise rates further. Its benchmark short-term rate is now about 5.4 percent, a 22-year high.

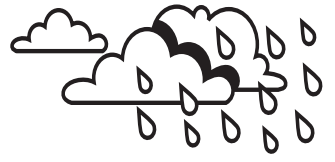
Weather

Friday, October 27, 2023

(24-hour observations at 9:50 p.m. Thursday)
High: 76; **Low:** 60; **Precipitation:** 0.01 inches of rain
Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.28 feet at 8:45 p.m. Thursday

Wells County forecast

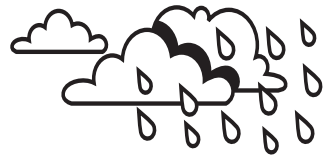
Today: A slight chance of showers between 11 a.m. and noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 76. Southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.



Tonight: A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms before 8 p.m., then showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m., then a chance of showers after 2 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 47. Southwest wind around 10 mph becoming northwest after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent. New rainfall amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch, except higher amounts possible in thunderstorms.

Saturday: A 30 percent chance of showers before 8 a.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 57. North wind around 10 mph.

Saturday Night: Showers. Low around 45. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90 percent. New precipitation amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible.



Sunday: Showers. High near 51. Chance of precipitation is 90 percent. New precipitation amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible.

Sunday Night: Showers, mainly before 2 a.m. Low around 37. Chance of precipitation is 80 percent.

Monday: A 30 percent chance of showers, mainly before 8 a.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 44.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 25.



Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 41.

Tuesday Night: A 20 percent chance of snow showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 24.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 41.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 24.

Israeli troops

(Continued from Page 1)

according to the photos by Maxar Technologies.

New strikes Thursday leveled more than eight homes belonging to an extended family, killing at least 15 people in the southern city of Khan Younis. In the chaotic wasteland of crumbled concrete and twisted metal, rescuers lifted the body of a boy from beneath a slab.

The Israeli military said an airstrike killed one of two masterminds of the Oct. 7 massacre, Shadi Barud, the head of Hamas' intelligence unit. The military says it only strikes militant targets and accuses Hamas of operating among civilians in an attempt to protect its fighters.

Palestinian militants have fired thousands of rockets into Israel since the war began. One struck a residential building in the central city of Petah Tikva, without wounding anyone.

Hamas' military wing said Thursday that Israeli bombardment has so far killed about 50 of the at least 224 hostages the militants abducted during its Oct. 7 assault. There was no immediate comment from Israeli officials, who have denied previous, similar claims.

Family members and Jewish groups are trying to keep the spotlight on the

hostages' plight. In Paris, 30 empty baby strollers were displayed in front of the Eiffel Tower — each with a photo of one of the children taken from Israel. A day earlier, blindfolded teddy bears with photos of the abducted children were placed in front of a fountain in Tel Aviv.

The conflict has threatened to ignite a wider war across the region.

Hezbollah, an Iranian-backed ally of Hamas in Lebanon, has repeatedly traded fire with Israel along the border. The United States has sent to the region two aircraft carrier strike groups, along with additional fighter jets and other weaponry and personnel.

Israel has vowed to crush Hamas' capacity to govern Gaza or threaten Israel again but also says it doesn't want to reoccupy the territory, from which it withdrew soldiers and settlers in 2005. That could prove a daunting challenge, since Hamas is deeply rooted in Gaza, with political and charity organizations as well as a formidable armed wing.

Benny Gantz, a retired general and a member of Israel's war Cabinet, said any possible ground offensive would be only "one stage in a long-term process that includes security, political and social aspects that

will take years."

"The campaign will soon ramp up with greater force," he added.

The overnight raid into Gaza was the largest of several known brief incursions. The military said soldiers and tanks killed fighters and destroyed tunnels and anti-tank missile launching positions. The military said no Israelis were wounded. There was no immediate confirmation of any Pales-

tinian casualties.

Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari, a military spokesman, said the incursion was "part of our preparations for the next stages of the war."

Israel also said it also carried out around 250 airstrikes across Gaza in the last 24 hours, targeting tunnel shafts, rocket launchers and other militant infrastructure. Its reported targeting could not be independently verified.

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On horseback at 'sleepy hollow'

Ichabod Crane, played by Cole Sheets, will ride his horse on stage as the cast of "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" takes to the Auditorium, 428 South Oak St. in Bluffton tonight at 7 p.m. and again tomorrow, Saturday, Oct. 28, at 3 and 7 p.m. Admission is \$15 for adults and \$10 for those 12 and younger. A second horse will carry the "headless" horseman, played by Mark Pazyshko, across the stage. (Photo by Barbara Barbieri)

Lawmakers grapple with legal, educational implications of AI

By WHITNEY DOWNARD

Indiana Capital Chronicle

Artificial Intelligence, or AI, promises to revolutionize how people work and nearly every aspect of life could be transformed — prompting lawmakers in an interim commerce committee to scrutinize the new technology and how to best regulate it.

"We've had the pants scared off of us a little bit, in some regards," said Committee Chair Sen. Scott Baldwin, R-Noblesville, summarizing portions of the meeting.

In the months since they left the capitol, AI has exploded in popularity but regulation and guidelines haven't accompanied it — forcing lawmakers to act faster than the traditional legislative process that can stretch years.

Following more than four hours of testimony, legislators landed on three areas of focus to include in a final report to the General Assembly concerning AI: a study of which currently applicable laws might need to be expanded to include AI, election interference and pivoting educational priorities to include artificial intelligence.

Background on artificial intelligence

Hoosier Justin Sheehan, of Astra Applications, likened AI to computers adopting humanlike thinking but emphasized repeatedly that he didn't see it capable of replacing humans. Rather, it was the act of computers acquiring learning, reasoning and problem solving skills.

"AI feels like it's this new thing that everyone's excited about but actually AI has been a part of our lives for a very long time," Sheehan said, noting that voice recognition tools like Apple's Siri and spam filters are a type of artificial intelligence.

The emergence of ChatGPT and similar, generative models earlier this year pushed AI into the forefront due to its human-like responses, accessibility and effectiveness, Sheehan said.

"AI learns things like humans; it can create, generate content from scratch (and) it can execute complicated tasks. It can remember and understand context — which is important — has access to vast amounts of information (and) it's always learning," Sheehan said.

The technology can write content, plan weddings, tutor math or act as a personal assistant. But it has a myriad of problems, including biases — whether based on race or gender — as well as the spread of disinforma-

tion, cybersecurity and surveillance concerns.

"There's certainly a ton of upsides but there are also risks," Sheehan said. "It's really right now (in) a gray area in terms of federal regulation, in terms of state regulation (and) in terms of business best practices."

What laws does Indiana have on AI?

Though much of the discussion delved into ways AI evolution will change society, legislators focused on what actions they should take on the rapidly-changing technology. Following the passage of a data privacy law earlier this year, Indiana joins the growing number of states with comprehensive protections — a move praised by Ryan Harkins, a senior director of public policy at Microsoft.

"In our view, we need laws. We need laws to ensure both that the public can be (confident) that these sorts of technologies will be developed and used and deployed safely and responsibly and ethically," said Harkins. "But also to make sure that everyone is playing by the same set of rules."

Harkins outlined a five-point blueprint, first created by Microsoft President Brad Smith in May, for governing AI, including:

- Implement and build upon new government-led AI Safety Frameworks.

- Require effective safety brakes for AI systems that control critical infrastructure.

- Develop a broad legal and regulatory framework based on AI's tech architecture.

- Promote transparency and ensure academic and nonprofit access to AI.

- Pursue new public-private partnerships to use AI as an effective tool to address the inevitable societal challenges that come with new tech.

Examples could be making sure applicable laws include AI technology; outlawing the use of AI to create "deep fakes" and influence elections; regulating safety and security; licensing for training and deployment of powerful AI models, as included in Harkins presentation.

Lawmakers worried about whether the creation or possession of child pornography generated by AI would be considered illegal under current law — one way that AI might be circumventing current protections.

Rep. Matt Pierce, D-Bloomington, said the current law should be broad

enough to include AI content.

"We currently have a law that no matter how you generate it ... if you create any kind of child pornography that doesn't involve real children — you sketched it out, you use Adobe Photoshop to create something — however you get it, you can be punished for that so long as you can also get a jury to say it's obscene," Pierce said.

Transforming education

The committee will meet for the final time on Nov. 1 to discuss draft recommendations for the General Assembly.

Following Wednesday's testimony, members discussed three broad areas to include in a final report: application of current laws to AI (specifically child pornography), addressing election issues and incorporating artificial intelligence into classroom learning.

Legislators heard at length from several educators about their use of AI and how it has transformed their teaching.

"An important thing to remember is that focusing narrowly on educating a future workforce that only has the technical skills to build AI will be insufficient and likely lead to the creation of new problems — both predictable and unpredictable," said Jenna Rickus, a vice provost for teaching and learning at Purdue University. "Basic AI data and digital literacy will be necessary for all educated citizens to support equitable access and outcomes for all of us and how we live our lives."

That includes incorporating humanities and the arts to spur critical thinking and ethical decision making, Rikus said. A "blanket ban," she said, would be "unnecessary and probably ill advised."

Just as technology cannot replace a teacher, students shouldn't use AI to replicate assignments or cheat but find ways to incorporate the technology into their learning.

"I just want to make sure that the Indiana Department of Education, and perhaps the Commissioner of Higher Education, are aggressively working on this," Sen. Spencer Deery, R-West Lafayette, said. "Anything that we can do as a General Assembly to prod them and support them in those efforts ... working on speedy adoption and appropriate (use) of AI in the classroom as well as preparing teachers — current and in training."

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City:

Wednesday, 2:04 p.m., Beth Avenue and West South Street. Caller reported a traffic offense.

Wednesday, 3:42 p.m., Grove and Reid streets. Report of a syringe at the bottom of dumpster.

Wednesday, 4:29 p.m., Wings ETC. Driver cited for operating with citted plates.

Wednesday, 4:29 p.m., Short Stop. Report of a theft from a man in a blue beanie and jeans. Man returned items and was warned for trespassing.

Wednesday, 6:01 p.m., 500 block of East Townley Street. Caller reported neighbor drove through their yard. Officer spoke with the neighbors wife who advised she would scold her husband.

Wednesday, 11:10 p.m., Linger Inn. Report of a domestic disturbance.

Wednesday, 11:39 p.m., 1600 block of South Wayne Street. Report of a verbal altercation with party that left the property. Advised to call back if issue reoccurs.

Thursday, 12:34 a.m., Kehoe Park. Caller requested to speak to officer at the pavilion.

Thursday, 1:40 a.m., Linger Inn. Subject arrested on warrant.

Thursday, 5:50 a.m., Papa Johns. Driver was cited for speeding in work zone.

Thursday, 6:19 a.m., Papa Johns. Driver was cited for speeding in work zone.

Thursday, 8:04 a.m., Life Community Church. Report of a stolen gun.

Thursday, 9:07 a.m., Wings ETC. Caller reported a dirty syringe in the parking lot where employees park.

Thursday, 10:52 a.m., 300 block of West Horton Street. Caller reported abuse.

County:
Wednesday, 1:22 p.m., Wells County Jail. Warrant served without issue.

Wednesday, 2:35 p.m., Wells County Jail. Subject came to station to report a sexual harassment that occurred in the county.

Wednesday, 4:11 p.m., 1800 East 200 South, Bluffton. Property owner requested subject be removed from the residence. The subject advised that she lived at the address. The officer informed the owner on the joys of eviction and advised it is a civil matter.

Wednesday, 5:59 p.m., 1800 East 200 South, Bluffton. Caller reported man threatened to slit her throat. Man advised he did not threaten her however the two argued recently. Caller was advised of domestic violence resources. Neither party was willing to separate. CPS was contacted due to a child being present in

the home.

Wednesday, 7:56 p.m., Sonlight Wesleyan Church. Report of a vehicle window busted.

Thursday, 8:08 a.m., 8700 West Railroad Street, Uniondale. Caller requested owner remove bus from property.

Thursday, 11:08 a.m., Wells County Jail. Served warrants without incident.

ARRESTS

Nathan Thomas Nusbaumer, 44, Bluffton, domestic battery and controlled substance, both Level 6 felonies, and invasion of privacy, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond set at \$25,000.

David Lonnie Lawhorne, 28, Ossian, domestic battery in the presence of a child under 16, a Level 6 felony. Bond set at \$25,000.

Nathaniel Eric Parrott, 32, Fort Wayne, possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia, a Class A misdemeanor, and operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class C misdemeanor. Bond set at \$3,500.

Dillon J Jackson, 27, Liberty Center, possession of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor, operating with a vehicle while intoxicated and operating with controlled substance in body, both Class C misdemeanors. Bond set at \$2,000.

Simone Ashli Routen, 33, Markle, escape, a Level 6 felony. Bond set at \$5,000.

Fort Wayne man pleads guilty in harassment of Rep. Jim Banks

By WHITNEY DOWNARD

Indiana Capital Chronicle

A Fort Wayne man on Thursday admitted harassing and intimidating Third District Congressman Jim Banks, with a sentencing hearing set for Nov. 17.

Aaron L. Thompson, born in 1989, pleaded guilty to a Level 6 felony as well as a Class B misdemeanor following repeated threatening calls to Banks' congressional office in April.

In an interview with the United States Capitol Police, Thompson admitted to being intoxicated and calling Banks because he disagreed with his political views. In his messages, Thompson said he owned a gun as allowed by the Constitution and told Banks to choose between himself or his daughters, according to the June 2 probably cause filing.

"Here's the choice. Your daughters grow up without their dad or you grow old without your daughters," Thompson allegedly said. "... boom, boom you pick ..."

According to the plea agreement filed Thursday, Allen County prosecutors recommend a sentence of 2 years and 183 days for the felony charge of intimidation and 180 days for the misdemeanor charge of harassment. Both sentences would be suspended in favor of placing Thompson on probation for 2 years and 360 days.

Under probation, Thompson is not allowed to

possess or use alcohol and other unprescribed drugs. The agreement includes a special probation condition that Thompson shall not contact the Banks family or co-workers, including staff members of the Third Congressional District.

However, the special condition includes a caveat that allows Thompson to write to the congressional office on issues "related to the services provided by the Third Congressional District" and requires he provide a copy of his communication to his probation officer.

A sentencing hearing will determine the fines and restitution required by the court.

Threats against Congress have increased in recent years, with several — including Banks — reporting threats for their votes on House Speaker.

Banks opted not to run for re-election and will instead run for U.S. Senate, where he has won the Indiana Republican Party's nod as nominee, though the primary election won't be held until May. Banks does face a challenger in that race, who is suing the state over a law he says bars him from appearing on the GOP primary ballot.

The guilty plea agreement doesn't include any mention of a potential Senate position in the no-contact order.

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Halloween, 2023 - a look through cartoonists' eyes...



What's the deal with last-minute homemade Halloween costumes?

When I searched online for potential Halloween-column topics, I encountered innumerable headlines screaming about fun, easy, last-minute homemade Halloween costumes.

Who are all the people in desperate need of fun, easy, last-minute homemade Halloween costumes?

Did some poor loser overlook all the Hobby Lobby displays and simply forget about the spooky festivities? ("You mean they're having Halloween again *this* year? I thought it was every 12 years like the ..., waddayacallem ... presidential elections.")

I'm sure some people have a last-minute need for a costume because one of their "friends" had a last-minute RSVP cancellation and grudgingly invited them to the party.

Some celebrants need costume suggestions because of pure procrastination. ("Hey, I work best under pressure. And everyone loved my Guy Wearing His Cardigan Inside Out get-up last year.")

Of course the Clevererthanthou family loves to show off their creativity. ("And this year, you lucky people, we're dressing as our 18-page Christmas newsletter!")

Some people are, understandably, being frugal. Some Americans see spurning the hottest store-bought costumes as "Sticking It To the Man."

It's not always the grown-ups who create the urgency. Let's remember the kids who announce half-way to school, "Oh, yeah, I'm supposed to wear a Halloween costume today." There's not even time for homemade — just SUV-made. ("What am I? I'm a ballerina performing in Roadkill-Swan Lake. Like my ballet-slippers-slash-breakfast-burrito-wrappers?")

I don't fit neatly into any of those categories, but I did have my own experiences with homemade costumes that I wore to church Halloween parties as a young adult. One time I used a second-hand jumpsuit, my father's old U.S. Army knapsack and a vacuum cleaner hose to play a Ghostbuster. ("Who ya gonna call?")

More memorable was the time I dressed up as Ed Grimley, the character Martin Short played on "SCTV" and "Saturday Night Live." Ed was the nerdy, hyperkinetic man-child who played the triangle, gushed over Pat Sajak and repeated catch-phrases such as "totally decent" and "makes me completely mental."

I wore an out-of-style shirt and "high waters" pants, but the "cherry on top" was the hair. In order to achieve a cowlick that towered over my head, I coated my locks with a liberal (and by liberal I mean "let's guarantee a living wage for all gay salamanders") dose of Crisco.

Was it worth it? Some party-goers thought it was just another bad hair day and some of the older congregants became weepy because Lawrence Welk never got to jam with the Blues Brothers, but I enjoyed myself.

Alas, Crisco is some powerful stuff. Nearly 40 years of lather, rinse, repeat haven't quite got me back to normal.

tyreetyrades@aol.com or find him on Facebook



Danny Tyree

Tyrades



What is the U.S. foreign policy?

I learned something new the other day in a Wall Street Journal column: the term "cognitive-dissonance reduction," a form of mental gymnastics used to fit inconvenient facts to the ideology.

I know what cognitive dissonance is, having run into the term in my undergraduate business school classes. Think of it as a propensity to always second guess your opinions, a mortal sin in the left-wing catechism.

It turns into a vile application when applied to the left's justification of Hamas' inhuman brutality against Israeli civilians and the Gaza residents used as human shields. The justification? They've got it coming to them, to trivialize a juvenile school yard excuse when caught by the teacher. Only this isn't grade school bullying; it is a crime against humanity and all that is decent. No matter.

These are Nietzschean anarchists taking his philosophy well beyond any limits he envisioned. Today's country club anarchists—you know them: the privileged children attending super expensive Ivy League colleges at mom and dad's expense—have looked into the abyss without heeding Nietzsche's warning. In fact they welcome the returned stare coming from the unspeakable abyss dweller. It validates their perverted logic.

So what is America to do about it?

The question drives right into the fissure between two schools of thought in our foreign policy strategy, between the realists and the idealists if I may simplify the positions. The realists look at international issues through practical and often short-term lenses. What is in America's best interest today? What is the impact on our military commitments and our balance of trade? I exaggerate somewhat but the thinking focuses on what helps the United States and, dare I say it, what resonates with the voting base.

The idealist focus is on America's role model status as a land of freedom and democracy. Our foreign policy should align itself with those nations which most resemble us and our ideals. Once more I exaggerate but this approach can look naive to people who see threats at the border and unfair competition in the marketplace. And there is another voting base this appeals to.

Perhaps history can once again instruct us.

John Quincy Adams was quite successful as Secretary of State during the Monroe presidency. The Monroe Doctrine was actually the Adams doctrine but the boss always seems to put his name on a subordinate's work.

A colleague at the Indiana Policy Review pointed me to



Mark Franke

Hoosier Opinions

a speech Adams gave in 1821. Adams provided the right mix of national self-interest and world moral leadership in this speech to the House of Representatives.

He stated that America's heart will always be with those peoples searching for freedom and independence but cautioned against taking on these foreign causes as her own. America should speak out and lead by example, being what as Ronald Reagan, borrowing from both John Winthrop and Jesus Christ, called "a shining city on a hill."

I found the most memorable phrase of the Adams speech to be his statement that America "goes not abroad, in search of monsters to destroy." The reason? This would change America's ethos from liberty to force. Might does not make right in Adams' thinking.

Where Adams can be faulted, perhaps unfairly, is that he could not conceive of a United States as the most powerful nation in the world. America was new, small and mostly friendless in the 1820's so his focus was understandably to construct a foreign policy informed by weakness and by America's fortunate isolation from direct European conflict. This worked well until World War I and subsequent recognition by the rest of the world that America was an economic and military powerhouse.

Not all will agree with me but I think Ronald Reagan among twentieth century presidents best understood how to balance our inherent love of isolationism with the expectation we must be the free world's policeman. William Imboden's book, "The Peacemaker: Ronald Reagan, the Cold War, and the World on the Brink," eloquently documents this. He didn't go looking for a monster; the evil Soviet empire was right in his face.

Adams' principles still stand today but must be applied in a different context from that of the post-Napoleonic world. Adams did not have to confront an empire whose dictator Nikita Khrushchev boasted, "We will bury you!" I doubt he could even conceive of a Hamas with a goal of exterminating a sovereign nation and its people.

What would John Quincy Adams do if he somehow awoke, Rip Van Winkel style, and found himself in Israel? Adams may insist that America stick to its shores and preach liberty, but he was too much the realist to do only that. The cognitive-dissonance reduction syndrome infecting the left wing today would not ensnare him. With an intellect like his, he would figure out a solution.

Unfortunately, I don't see a John Quincy think-alike in today's Washington D. C.

Mark Franke, an adjunct scholar of the Indiana Policy Review, is formerly an associate vice chancellor at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Oct. 27, the 300th day of 2023. There are 65 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Oct. 27, 1892, a gunman shot and killed 11 congregants and wounded six others at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue in the deadliest attack on Jews in U.S. history; authorities said the suspect, Robert Bowers, raged against Jews during and after the rampage. (Bowers was convicted and sentenced to death in 2023.)

On this date:

In 1787, the first of the Federalist Papers, a series of essays calling for ratification of the United States Constitution, was published.

In 1904, the first rapid transit subway, the IRT, was inaugurated in New York City.

In 1941, the Chicago Daily Tribune dismissed the possibility of war with Japan, editorializing, "She cannot attack us. That is a military impossibility. Even our base at Hawaii is beyond the effective striking power of her fleet."

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News-Banner Publications, Inc.
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Periodicals Postage Paid at Bluffton, IN 46714. Published every day except Sundays and principal holidays at 125 N. Johnson St., Bluffton IN 46714, Post Office Box 436

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Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily represent the views of this newspaper.

Desperate to better my relationship with my daughter

Dear Annie: I have been married for 32 years to my husband, who has three children from his prior marriage. The children are now in their mid-30s to early 40s.

We were all a big happy family until about four years ago. The middle child called to tell us that we were both bad parents. I asked her to tell us why she felt that way. She said she would call us back to explain, but that never happened.

We would have liked to have communicated about whatever she was holding onto to move past this issue. Her dad could not get her to communicate the problem. We are so confused as to what she is thinking or feeling. We do not do any illegal drugs or drink alcohol; we brought these children up in church. We gave them a loving, fun home while they grew up. Their mother was very vindictive and untruthful to them about their father. Regardless, we would counteract this with being open and honest about our life with them.

No matter what we do, the two oldest daughters and our grandchildren refuse to have anything to do with us. The youngest son does call his dad about two times a year, but he has an issue with me. None of them will talk to us, no matter what we do. Cards we have mailed saying we love you, let's get through this together without any judgment, result in no response.

We have asked our daughter-in-law, a social worker, to try to get the ball rolling on our behalf, but she doesn't want to get in the middle. We have also offered counseling that we would pay for to overcome the problem(s). — Confused in Michigan

Dear Confused in Michigan: That is confusing indeed. Good on you for being willing to take the steps necessary to work through these problems — but are you sure that neither you nor your husband have any clue as to why all three children have an issue with you? Is it possible their "vindictive" mother is influencing their opinions? I would encourage both you and your husband to try to talk to each of his kids one-on-one. Without a little more information,

it's hard to know what you're even trying to fix.

Dear Annie: I have a lovely 31-year-old daughter. Her dad and I divorced when she was 12 after our 30-year, often difficult, marriage. My ex developed serious depression that came after significant troubles. Medication didn't help because he wouldn't stay on it. We didn't share a bed for the last seven years of our marriage. We divorced in 2006. My ex took his half of the proceeds of the sale of our home and immediately squandered it all. He became homeless off and on for the next few years.

A couple of years after the divorce, we had a heated argument about child support. He grabbed my hand and tried to break it. I reported the incident, and he was to start court-ordered anger management for a fee. He couldn't pay the fee, so instead, he committed suicide the day the training was to start.

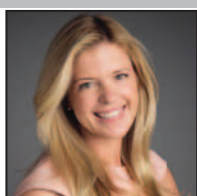
It has been 14 years since he died. In my daughter's angriest moments, she blames me for his suicide. I have asked her many times to go to family counseling with me, but she flatly refuses. When she's not angry or snarky with me, she can be very loving and supportive. I want to go to counseling with her to address the underlying issues. I can't divorce my only child. What is our way forward? — Sad Mom

Dear Sad Mom: Your daughter is clearly still struggling with the trauma of losing her father. Until she is willing to confront these issues and face them head-on, I fear nothing, most notably her relationship with you, will change.

Instead of pushing family therapy, see if she would be willing to start with her own therapist or counselor — as you should, too. In time, I hope she'll be willing to let you in more and repair your relationship, but her journey of healing might be better off started alone.

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

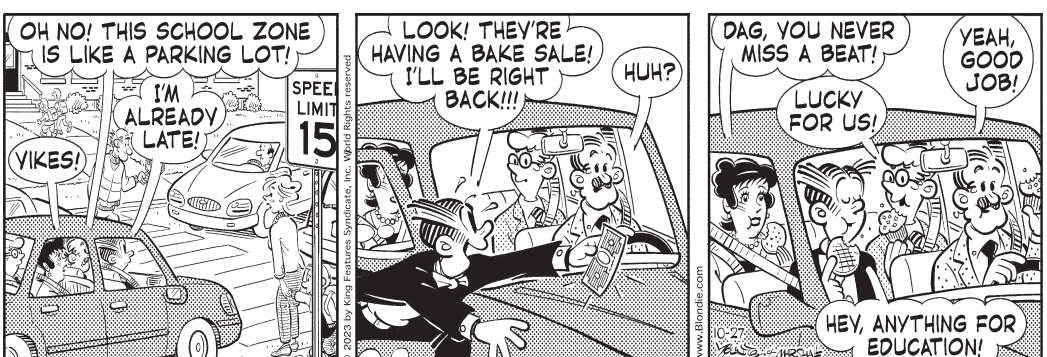
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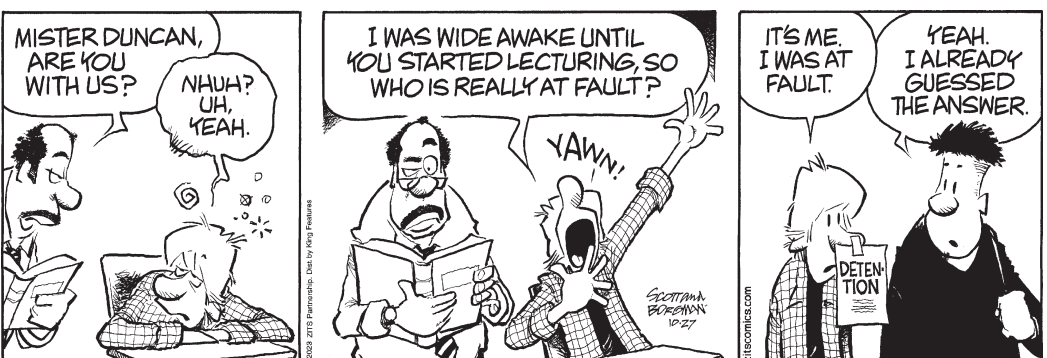
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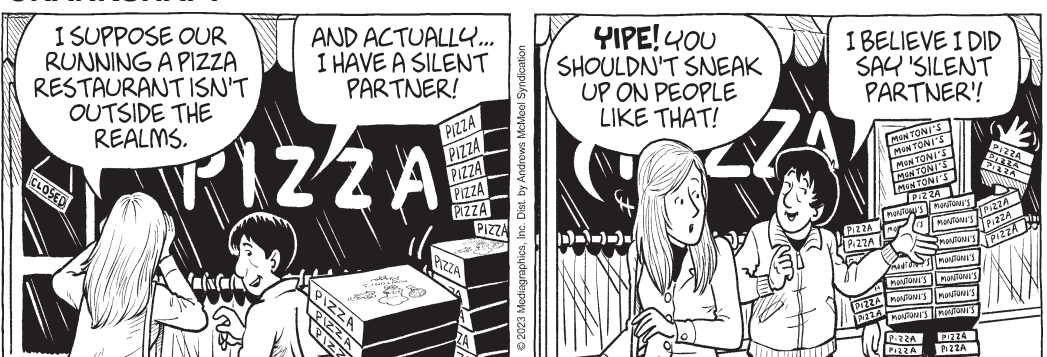
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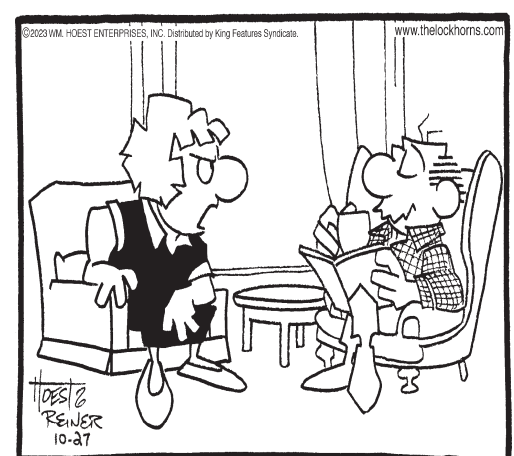
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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

The LOCKHORNS



My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



There is tremendous diversity among humanity

ant and narrow, but Jesus said that the gate to the kingdom of Heaven is narrow.

People who are bothered by this truth do not comprehend that there is a narrowness in mathematics and in chemistry. And aren't we relieved that pilots are not so broad-minded that they come into an airport any way that they want? Why then should we not be narrow when it comes to moral laws and spiritual dimensions?

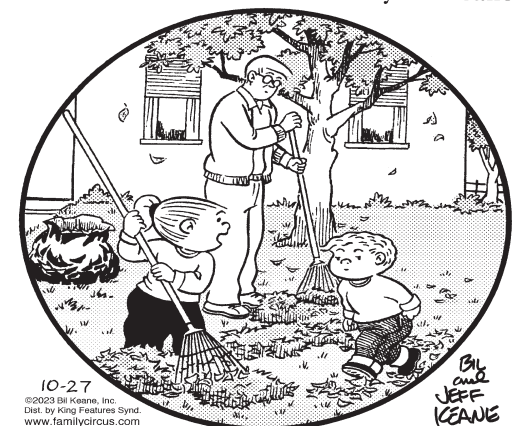
Many intellectuals are asking where history is going; they are speculating on what the end will be. Christ's prayer is, "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on Earth, as it is in Heaven." This prayer

so often recited is going to be answered. When the human race stands at the edge of the abyss, ready to blow itself apart, God will fulfill the last chapter of history. But it will be God's kingdom and will come in God's way.

This is why a Christian can be optimistic. This is why a Christian can smile in the midst of all that is happening. We know what the end will be: the triumph of the Lord Jesus Christ (see Isaiah 30:8).

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

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"We have to rake up the leaves to make room for the snow."

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down, and a solution grid for the previous day's puzzle.

Table with columns for date, time, and program details for various channels like WINM, CBS, Antenna, ABC, NBC, etc.

Table with columns for date, time, and program details for various channels like HBO, MAX, SHOW, TMC, etc.

NCAA investigators interview head coach Jim Harbaugh's staff about sign-stealing scheme

By LARRY LAGE
AP Sports Writer

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) — NCAA investigators interviewed members of Michigan football coach Jim Harbaugh's staff Thursday about a sign-stealing scheme, a person familiar with the governing body's visit told The Associated Press.

The investigation has rocked the undefeated and second-ranked Wolverines on their march toward a potential spot in the College Football Playoff. The interviews were confirmed by the person who spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because no one was authorized to speak publicly about the details.

The NCAA inquiry was triggered by an outside firm's investigation, which turned up videos of and documented plans and budgets for impermissible scouting of opponents. The Washington Post reported the firm obtained computer drives maintained and accessed by multiple Michigan coaches.

The firm presented evidence to the NCAA and suggested Connor Stalions, a low-level staffer who has been suspended by Michigan, was not the only person on staff aware of the scheme, according to the report. A second person with knowledge of the situation confirmed to the AP that a firm provided the NCAA with evidence, including photographs, videos and documents,

that initiated the association's investigation.

That person told AP on Thursday the NCAA has not shared any evidence from the scouting case with Michigan officials or school attorneys.

It was unclear who hired the firm to investigate Michigan.

Harbaugh, who is facing unresolved NCAA violations in a separate case tied to recruiting, has denied any knowledge or involvement in impermissible scouting of opponents.

In January, offensive co-coordinator Matt Weiss was put on leave amid an investigation regarding unauthorized computer access at Schembechler Hall, where the coaching staff has offices and the team practices. University Deputy Police Chief Melissa Overton said Thursday the department has partnered with the FBI on the Weiss investigation, adding it is not related to the sign-stealing investigation.

The Wolverines (8-0, 5-0 Big Ten) have won consecutive conference championships and reached the playoff semifinals each of the last two seasons. Michigan's next game is Nov. 4 at home against Purdue.

The NCAA does not directly ban the stealing of signs, but there are rules against using electronic equipment to record an opponent's signals and in-person, advanced scouting of future opponents in season. There are

also rules against unsportsmanlike or unethical activities by coaches, and head coaches are generally considered to be responsible for violations that occur under their watch.

Stalions appeared to be purchasing tickets to the games of Michigan opponents and sending people to obtain video of the sideline signals used for calling in plays. There are images and video from Michigan games over the past two seasons with Stalions on the sideline, standing near Wolverines coaches. Stalions was hired in 2022 as part of the recruiting staff.

Multiple Big Ten schools have found records of tickets being purchased to their games in Stalions' name over the past three seasons, and records show tickets purchased in Stalions' name to the last two SEC championship games.

According to the Post, the investigative firm told the NCAA that cellphone videos from the games were uploaded to a computer drive accessed by Stalions and other Michigan assistants and coaches, though there was no evidence presented to the NCAA directly linking Harbaugh to the scheme.

The scandal has revived a desire by many coaches for the NCAA to clear the way for technology to be used for coaching staffs to communicate with players on the field, as is done in the NFL.

High School Calendar

THURSDAY, OCT 26
No events scheduled

FRIDAY, OCT 27

FOOTBALL: (sectional semi-final) Eastbrook at Bluffton, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCT 28

CROSS COUNTRY (CO-ED): Bluffton at State final meet host by Indiana State University (LaVern Gibson), 12 p.m.

Stolen bases, batting up, game times down in first postseason with MLB's new rules

By RONALD BLUM
AP Baseball Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Stolen bases and batting averages are up and game times are down in the first postseason with the pitch clock and larger bases.

There have been an average of 1.4 steals per game through the League Championship Series, up from 0.8 through last year's LCS. The Arizona Diamondbacks, who play the Texas Rangers in the World Series beginning Friday, lead all postseason teams with 1.6 steals per game.

"It's our identity now," said Arizona's Christian Walker, tied for the team lead with four steals in 12 postseason games. "It's contagious. You want to be a part of it. You want to be in mix. You want to be out there creating chaos and havoc on the bases."

The overall postseason batting average has climbed from .213 to .241, and the batting average for left-handed hitters has risen from .217 to .244 in the first year with defensive shift limits, although with the small sample size, any changes may be an aberration.

The average game time is 3 hours, 2 minutes, a decrease from 3:22 for nine-inning games during the first three rounds of the 2022 postseason and from 3:40 in 2021 through the LCS.

Just seven pitch-clock violations have been called through 36 postseason games.

Stolen base attempts are up significantly, rising from 1.1 per game to 1.6. The success rate has climbed from 77.8% to 84.5%.

For Rangers rookie Evan Carter, second on his team with three steals, the limit of two disengagements for a pitcher during a plate appearance has boosted steals. Once a pitcher has thrown over twice, a third pickoff without an out would result in a balk.

"Just the fact that in the back of the pitcher's head they know that I could be going just kind of messes with them enough to be able to kind of gain an advantage," he said.

The postseason figures follow a regular season in which the average time of nine-inning games dropped from 3:04 to 2:40, its lowest since 1985.

MLB, over the objections of the players' association, instituted a pitch clock set at 15 seconds with the bases empty and 20 seconds with runners on base. The postseason average of one violation per five games was down from one per four games in the final month of the regular season, which overall averaged just under one per two games.

Changes included the introduction of 18-inch square bases, up from 15 inches, which reduced the distance between first and second, and second and third, by 4 1/2 inches.

Goaltending, defense lets Jets over Red Wings

DETROIT (AP) — Nikolaj Ehlers and Kyle Connor scored in the first period and Connor Hellebuyck made 35 saves, leading the Winnipeg Jets to a 4-1 win over the Detroit Red Wings on Thursday night.

"I know this was kind of a hometown game for him, but he was big for us," Jets interim head coach Scott Arniel said of Hellebuyck, a Michigan native. "He looked like he was rock solid and made the stops when we needed them, especially in the last 10 minutes."

Red Wings head coach Derek Lalonde agreed.

"I think probably look back analytically at the underlying numbers, they'll say it was an even game, maybe a little in our favor," Lalonde said. "(Hellebuyck)

was the difference tonight."

The Jets have won three straight and improved to 6-4-0 in their last 10 visits to Detroit.

"We obviously had a pretty tough start to the season, but it isn't like we didn't like our game, even the ones we lost," Ehlers said. "We did like most of what we were doing and we just needed to continue to play that way."

Ehlers opened the scoring with his first goal of the season at 16:28 of the first period. Just over a minute later, Connor added his team-leading fifth goal at 17:30. Mason Appleton and Nino Niederreiter (empty net) scored in the third period.

"They jumped on us a little in the second and third,

but we weathered the storm, and then we got a timely goal and it took the wind out of their sails a little bit," Appleton said.

Lucas Raymond scored at 3:18 of the second period for Detroit. Dylan Larkin and defenseman Moritz Seider assisted on the goal. James Reimer finished with 28 saves.

"I thought we had looks all game," Raymond said. "I think that's the next step we need to take as a team to be able to win these games, the tight ones in the third period. I think we played a solid game. We had chances to score three-four goals."

The assist was Seider's 100th point in 172 career games. He is the third-fastest Red Wings defenseman to reach 100 points behind

Reed Larson (139 games) and Nicklas Lidström (160 games).

Seider, who has six assists in five career games against the Jets, is the fourth Detroit defenseman to reach 100 points before his 23rd birthday, joining Larson, Steve Chiasson and Lidström.

Larkin extended his season-opening point streak to eight games, with four goals and 11 assists.

Jets coach Rick Bowness is on a leave of absence after his wife suffered a seizure on Sunday. Judy Bowness is out of the hospital and at home recovering. Arniel, the associate coach, is serving as interim head coach.

UP NEXT

Red Wings: At Boston on Saturday night.

News-Banner Scoreboard

BASKETBALL

NBA

Wednesday's Games

Indiana 143, Washington 120
Orlando 116, Houston 86
Charlotte 116, Atlanta 110
Boston 108, New York 104
Toronto 97, Minnesota 94
Miami 103, Detroit 102
Cleveland 114, Brooklyn 113
Oklahoma City 124, Chicago 104
New Orleans 111, Memphis 104
Sacramento 130, Utah 114
Dallas 126, San Antonio 119
L.A. Clippers 123, Portland 111

Thursday's Games

Milwaukee 118, Philadelphia 117
Phoenix at L.A. Lakers, 7 p.m.
Friday's Games
Denver at Memphis, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Miami at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
New York at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.

Houston at San Antonio, 8 p.m.
Toronto at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Brooklyn at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Utah, 9:30 p.m.
Golden State at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

Orlando at Portland, 10 p.m.
Saturday's Games
Chicago at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Memphis at Washington, 7 p.m.
New York at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
Indiana at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
Miami at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Utah at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Denver at Oklahoma City, 3:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.
Golden State at Houston, 7 p.m.
Portland at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Sacramento, 9 p.m.
San Antonio at L.A. Clippers, 9 p.m.

FOOTBALL

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East
Miami 5 1 0 833 223 156
Buffalo 6 3 0 667 222 136
N.Y. Jets 3 3 0 500 113 119
New England 2 5 0 286 101 177

South
Jacksonville 5 2 0 714 173 146
Houston 3 3 0 500 135 113
Indianapolis 3 4 0 429 178 191
Tennessee 2 4 0 333 104 117

North
Baltimore 5 2 0 714 171 97
Cleveland 4 2 0 667 134 115
Pittsburgh 4 2 0 667 103 127
Cincinnati 3 3 0 500 100 127

West
Kansas City 6 1 0 857 178 105
Las Vegas 3 4 0 429 112 161
L.A. Chargers 2 4 0 333 144 155
Denver 2 5 0 286 148 217

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East
Philadelphia 5 1 0 833 155 124
Dallas 4 2 0 667 154 100
Washington 3 4 0 429 140 190
N.Y. Giants 2 5 0 286 85 174

South
Atlanta 4 3 0 571 115 133
Tampa Bay 3 4 0 375 121 128
New Orleans 3 4 0 429 132 127
Carolina 0 6 0 0 0 0 0

North
Detroit 5 2 0 714 174 151
Minnesota 3 4 0 428 151 152
Green Bay 2 4 0 333 130 132

Chicago 2 5 0 286 158 188

West
San Francisco 5 2 0 714 201 109
Seattle 4 2 0 667 144 118
L.A. Rams 3 4 0 429 155 141
Arizona 1 6 0 143 127 182

Thursday's Games

Tampa Bay at Buffalo, 8:15 p.m.
Sunday's Games
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 p.m.

Kansas City at Denver, 4:25 p.m.
Chicago at L.A. Chargers, 8:20 p.m.
Monday's Games
Las Vegas at Detroit, 8:15 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 2
Tennessee at Pittsburgh, 8:15 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 5
Miami vs Kansas City at Frankfurt, DEU, 9:30 a.m.

Arizona at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
Chicago at New Orleans, 1 p.m.
L.A. Rams at Green Bay, 1 p.m.
Minnesota at Atlanta, 1 p.m.
Seattle at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Houston, 1 p.m.
Washington at New England, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Carolina, 4:05 p.m.
Dallas at Philadelphia, 4:25 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Las Vegas, 4:25 p.m.
Buffalo at Cincinnati, 8:20 p.m.
Open: Denver, Jacksonville, Detroit, San Francisco

Monday, Nov. 6

L.A. Chargers at N.Y. Jets, 8:15 p.m.

BASEBALL

MLB

Postseason Baseball Glance
LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES
(Best-of-7)
National League
(All Games on TBS)
Arizona wins series 4-3 over Philadelphia
Monday, Oct. 16: Philadelphia 5, Arizona 3
Tuesday, Oct. 17: Philadelphia 10, Arizona 0
Thursday, Oct. 19: Arizona 2, Philadelphia 1
Friday, Oct. 20: Arizona 6, Philadelphia 5
Saturday, Oct. 21: Philadelphia 6, Arizona 1
Monday, Oct. 23: Arizona 5, Philadelphia 1
Tuesday, Oct. 24: Arizona 4, Philadelphia 2

WORLD SERIES
(Best-of-7)
(All Games on Fox)
Friday, Oct. 27: Arizona at Texas, 8:03 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 28: Arizona at Texas, 8:03 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 30: Texas at Arizona, 8:03 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 31: Texas at Arizona, 8:03 p.m.
x-Wednesday, Nov. 1: Texas at Arizona, 8:03 p.m.
x-Friday, Nov. 3: Arizona at Texas, 8:03 p.m.
x-Saturday, Nov. 4: Arizona at Texas, 8:03 p.m.

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Sent INFs Irving Lopez and Juiel Queeruco and RHP Kyle Leahy outright to Memphis. RHP Casey Lawrence and LHP Andrew Suarez have elected free agency.

HOCKEY

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

GP W L OT Pts GF GA
Boston 7 6 0 1 13 22 11
Detroit 8 5 2 1 11 35 24
Toronto 7 5 2 0 10 27 21
Tampa Bay 8 4 2 2 10 29 24
Montreal 7 4 2 1 9 22 24
Florida 6 3 3 0 6 17 18
Ottawa 7 3 4 0 6 27 24
Buffalo 7 3 4 0 6 19 22

Metropolitan Division

GP W L OT Pts GF GA
Philadelphia 7 4 2 1 9 24 18
N.Y. Rangers 6 4 2 0 8 19 13
Columbus 7 3 2 2 8 20 23
Carolina 8 4 4 0 8 31 35
N.Y. Islanders 6 3 2 1 7 16 19
New Jersey 6 3 2 1 7 24 23
Pittsburgh 7 3 4 0 6 21 20
Washington 6 2 3 1 5 13 23

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division
GP W L OT Pts GF GA
Colorado 7 6 1 0 12 28 16
Dallas 6 4 1 1 9 17 15
Winnipeg 7 4 3 0 8 24 24
Minnesota 7 3 3 1 7 27 31
Arizona 6 3 3 0 6 16 15
Nashville 7 3 4 0 6 20 19
St. Louis 5 2 2 1 5 13 15
Chicago 7 2 5 0 4 14 21

Pacific Division

GP W L OT Pts GF GA
Vegas 7 7 0 0 14 28 13
Vancouver 6 4 2 0 8 23 15
Los Angeles 6 3 2 1 7 27 22
Anaheim 7 3 4 0 6 18 20
Seattle 8 2 4 2 6 18 28
Calgary 7 2 4 1 5 17 28
Edmonton 6 1 4 1 3 17 28
San Jose 7 0 6 1 1 8 29

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

Washington 6, New Jersey 4
Thursday's Games
Tampa Bay 6, San Jose 0
Winnipeg 4, Detroit 1
Pittsburgh 4, Colorado 0
Montreal 4, Columbus 3, OT
Carolina 3, Seattle 2, OT
Anaheim 4, Boston 3, OT
Philadelphia 6, Minnesota 2
N.Y. Islanders 3, Ottawa 2
Toronto 4, Dallas 1
N.Y. Rangers at Edmonton, late
St. Louis at Calgary, late

Friday's Games

Chicago at Vegas, 8 p.m.
Buffalo at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Washington, 7 p.m.
San Jose at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Los Angeles at Arizona, 10 p.m.
St. Louis at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Saturday's Games
Anaheim at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
Seattle at Florida, 6 p.m.
Detroit at Boston, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Ottawa at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Nashville, 7 p.m.
Winnipeg at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Vegas at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Colorado at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Minnesota at New Jersey, 5 p.m.
San Jose at Washington, 5 p.m.
Calgary vs. Edmonton at Commonwealth Stadium, 7 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

Thursday's Transactions
BASEBALL
HOUSTON ASTROS — Announced CINCINNATI REDS — Claimed OF Bubba Thompson off waivers from Kansas City.

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Sent INFs Irving Lopez and Juiel Queeruco and RHP Kyle Leahy outright to Memphis. RHP Casey Lawrence and LHP Andrew Suarez have elected free agency.



F1's booming business to be explored in a CNBC documentary

By JENNA FRYER
AP Auto Racing Writer

Formula One fanatics will get more behind-the-scenes access to the global motorsports series through a new CNBC documentary that explores the business aspects of the highest form of racing in the world.

The documentary "Inside Track: The Business of Formula 1" will debut Nov. 16 on CNBC ahead of the inaugural Las Vegas Grand Prix. The Las Vegas race is a third stop in the United States this season as F1 has expanded through North America behind a burst of popularity sparked by Netflix's own docudrama on the series.

While the "Drive To Survive" series on Netflix focuses on the competitors and the drama of F1, the CNBC one-hour documentary will analyze the finances, revenue, and expansion of the series, as well as the role of sponsors.

CNBC anchor and documentary host Sara Eisen said the program is a "true passion project for me."

"I was initially drawn to F1 because my two young children love the sport, but once we started watching the races together, I realized there was something undeniably fascinating from a business perspective that demanded a full exploration of the sport as it reaches new heights in America," Eisen said.

She said the program will explore how the business of F1 "stands firmly at the intersection of sports, technology and culture."

Eisen will take a closer look at attendance, viewership, and market value, as well as next month's Las Vegas race that is being promoted by F1. Eisen reports from four different F1 venues and had access to Liberty Media CEO Greg Maffei, who discusses the series' growth since Liberty took over the commercial rights in 2017.

Eisen also interviewed F1 CEO Stefano Domenicali, as well as team leaders from Red Bull, Mercedes, McLaren and Haas, and drivers Lewis Hamilton, Kevin Magnussen and Nico Hulkenberg. She delves into engineering, revenue sharing agreements and Red Bull's recent domination and its effect on competition and viewership.

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The Classifieds

This Week's Garage Sales
Clip & Save
SKIP'S GARAGE SALE
 1316 W. Central Ave., Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to ? \$1 to \$3 items, \$1 boxes (NO SORTING).

EMPLOYMENT Help Wanted

WELLS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE is currently seeking applicants for the position of Full Time Court Security Supervisor. This position oversees the coordination of the day-to-day operations for the protection and security of the Wells 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. 20-year 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 review.

OTR DRIVERS: TRANSPORT

Oversize loads inc. windmill components. Opportunity for contracted lane to California to Texas and return. Personalized dispatch, great pay with weekly direct deposit, excellent health, disability, life ins., 401K, and well-maintained equipment. Must have a good Class A CDL record and 3 years in a like profession. Sycamore Specialized Carriers, 3400 Engle Road, Ft. Wayne, IN 46809, Phone: 260-478-6377 ext 340 or recruiting@sycamoretrkg.com (A)

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 JAMES S. JACKSON COMPANY
JACKSON
 GENERAL CONTRACTOR

JOIN THE BEST- HIRING SKILLED CARPENTERS
 With our continued growth, we're looking for highly skilled carpenters with at least 4-5 years experience in commercial or residential construction. Experience with rough & finish carpentry, framing or concrete forming required. James S. Jackson has a great team of professionals, is well established, provides benefits and is looking for career-minded team members right now. Highly competitive pay, paid time off, health insurance and matching 401k are all part of the package. Please send resume or request an application at hireme@jjacksonco.com or www.jjacksonco.com

Lottery Numbers

Thursday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY
 Cash 5 — 07-23-24-28-36
 Cash4Life — 22-30-32-43-51, Cash Ball: 03
Quick Draw Midday — 02-03-04-12-14-18-22-27-34-35-39-51-55-58-61-63-64-68-72-79, BE: 64
Daily Three-Midday — 07-09-06, SB:01
Daily Three-Evening — 00-08-04, SB: 08
Daily Four-Midday — 06-02-06-03, SB: 01
Daily Four-Evening — 02-02-08-01, SB: 08
Quick Draw Evening — 04-06-14-15-16-20-21-23-27-33-40-41-44-48-58-59-60-62-77-78, BE: 40
Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$41.7 million
MEGA MILLIONS
 Estimated jackpot (for Friday): \$137 million
POWERBALL
 Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$125 million

Help Wanted

OWNER/OPERATORS: TRANSPORT Oversize loads inc. windmill components. Opportunity for contracted lane to California to Texas and return if you have a 4-axle unit that is California legal. Personalized dispatch, great pay with weekly direct deposit, FSC, bobtail and OCC/ACC insurance available. Must have a good Class A CDL record, 3 years in a like profession, and DOT certified equipment. Sycamore Specialized Carriers, Inc., 3400 Engle Road, Ft. Wayne, IN 46809, Phone: 260-478-6377 ext 340 or recruiting@sycamoretrkg.com (A)

LOCAL DRIVER: LOCAL

pickup or delivery and transport in Ft. Wayne area of both legal and oversized loads. Personalized dispatch, great pay with weekly direct deposit, excellent health, disability, life ins., 401K, and well-maintained equipment. Must have a good Class A CDL record and 3 years in a like profession. Sycamore Specialized Carriers, Inc., 3400 Engle Road, Ft. Wayne, IN 46809, Phone: 260-478-6377 ext 340 or recruiting@sycamoretrkg.com (A)

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

5 for \$5 SPECIAL!

Earn Extra Cash by selling your "Unwants"! A 20-word, line classified ad is \$5 for 5 Days! For Sale Items Only. Contact the Bluffton News-Banner office at 125 N. Johnson St., 260-824-0224, or classifieds.news-banner.com

JOHN DEERE X475, 23 hp Kawasaki, 54 Inch hydraulic blade, 54 inch mower, never used, only 60 hrs., \$8,500. 260-824-1936.

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SUDOKU

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

King Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty: ★★★★★ 10/27

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

Services

SWITCH TO DISH and get up to a \$300 gift card! Plus get the Multisport pack included for a limited time! Hurry, call for details: 1-855-551-9764 (I)

NOTICE OF EXECUTION OF THIRD AMENDMENT TO LEASE

Pursuant to action previously taken by the Board of Education of Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District (the "School Corporation"), a Third Amendment to Lease (the "Third Amendment") between the School Corporation and Bluffton-Harrison Middle School Building Corporation (the "Building Corporation") was executed and entered into on October 25, 2023. The Third Amendment covers the site of the proposed renovation of Bluffton High School in Bluffton, Indiana. A copy of the Third Amendment is on file in the Administration Building of the School Corporation, 805 East Harrison Street, Bluffton, Indiana, and is available for inspection during normal business hours. Dated this 27th day of October, 2023.
 /s/ Secretary,
 Board of Education
 Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District
 nb 10/27
 hspaxlp

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION TO CREDITORS ESTATE NO. 90C01-2310-EU-000045

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WELLS COUNTY
 Notice is hereby given that KAYLA R. MERRIMAN AND CODY M. MERRIMAN WERE on the 19th day of October, 2023, appointed as Personal Representatives of the ESTATE OF NILS M. MERRIMAN, deceased, who died on the 21st day of September, 2023.
 All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the Office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
 DATED AT BLUFFTON, INDIANA, THIS 19th DAY OF October, 2023.
 Beth Davis
 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR WELLS COUNTY, INDIANA
 nb 10/27, 11/3
 hspaxlp

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Sheriff Sale File Number: 90-23-0024-SS
 Date & Time of Sale: Wednesday, 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 LLC
 Defendants: Kevan 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 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 BLUFFTON, WELLS COUNTY, INDIANA.**
 Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal 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
 Attorney Number: 35534-64
 Law Firm: DOYLE & FOUTTY, P.C.
 Contact Number: (317) 264-5000
 The sheriff's office does not warrant the accuracy of the commonly known street address. It is the buyer's responsibility to research the legal description and associated legal filings.
 PLEASE SERVE:
 Kevan Loomis
 510 W Dustman Rd, Apt 36
 Bluffton, IN 46714
 MANNER OF SERVICE: Certified Mail
 Brian Irvin
 5400 Federal Plaza, Suite 1500
 Hammond, IN 46320
 MANNER OF SERVICE: Certified Mail
 Occupant(s) of 227 W South St, Bluffton, IN 46714
 227 W South St
 Bluffton, IN 46714
 MANNER OF SERVICE: Sheriff
 DOYLE & FOUTTY, P.C. IS A
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 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 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 BLUFFTON, WELLS COUNTY, INDIANA.**
 Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal 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
 Attorney Number: 35534-64
 Law Firm: DOYLE & FOUTTY, P.C.
 Contact Number: (317) 264-5000
 The sheriff's office does not warrant the accuracy of the commonly known street address. It is the buyer's responsibility to research the legal description and associated legal filings.
 PLEASE SERVE:
 Kevan Loomis
 510 W Dustman Rd, Apt 36
 Bluffton, IN 46714
 MANNER OF SERVICE: Certified Mail
 Brian Irvin
 5400 Federal Plaza, Suite 1500
 Hammond, IN 46320
 MANNER OF SERVICE: Certified Mail
 Occupant(s) of 227 W South St, Bluffton, IN 46714
 227 W South St
 Bluffton, IN 46714
 MANNER OF SERVICE: Sheriff
 DOYLE & FOUTTY, P.C. IS A
 DEBT COLLECTOR
 nb 10/20, 11/3
 hspaxlp

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Sheriff Sale File Number: 90-23-0024-SS
 Date & Time of Sale: Wednesday, 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 LLC
 Defendants: Kevan 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 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 BLUFFTON, WELLS COUNTY, INDIANA.**
 Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal 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
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 227 W South St
 Bluffton, IN 46714
 MANNER OF SERVICE: Sheriff
 DOYLE & FOUTTY, P.C. IS A
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4	8	6	1	9	5	2	3	7
9	1	2	7	3	4	8	6	5
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8	9	7	5	1	6	3	2	4
2	3	8	6	7	9	1	5	4
6	7	4	3	9	8	2	7	9
5	7	9	2	4	1	6	8	3

Public Notices

ORDINANCE 1599

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 2, CHAPTER 2.04, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BLUFFTON, INDIANA
WHEREAS, the Common Council ("Council") of the City of Bluffton, Indiana ("City") has authority under the Acts of the Indiana General Assembly to make all necessary regulations for the preservation of the rights, property, health, safety and welfare of its citizens;

WHEREAS, the Council has discussed changing the meeting dates for the Council to schedule regular meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, to commence at 5:30 p.m., as well as other provisions of Title 2, Chapter 2.04 of the City's Municipal Code in order to bring the Code up to date;

WHEREAS, the Council now finds that the interests of the citizens of the City would be best served by amending Title 2, Chapter 2.04 of the City's Municipal Code, to, among other items therein addressed, schedule regular meetings of the Council on the first and third Tuesdays of each month to begin at 5:30 p.m.

WHEREAS, Exhibit A attached to this Ordinance depicts the amendments and changes to be made to Title 2, Chapter 2.04.

WHEREAS, the Council desires that the changes made by this Ordinance as to the time for the regular Council meetings not begin until January 1, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLUFFTON, INDIANA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: Title 2, Chapter 2.04 of the City's Municipal Code of Ordinances is hereby amended and replaced in its entirety with "Exhibit A" attached to this Ordinance.

Section 2: All prior Ordinances which conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 3: This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the Common Council, approved by the Mayor and publication as required by law. Provided, however, the change in the meeting time for regular meetings of the Council shall not take effect until January 1, 2024.

Adopted by the Common Council of the City of Bluffton, Indiana, 17th day of October, 2023, by the following vote:
 AYES 4, to-wit: NAYS 0, to-wit: Rick Elwell
 Scott Menzer
 Janelia Stronczek
 Josh Hunt

Armed police surround home in search for suspect in fatal shooting of 18 in Maine

LEWISTON, Maine (AP) — Heavily armed police surrounded a home Thursday as they searched for a U.S. Army reservist who authorities said killed 18 people and wounded 13 in a mass shooting at a bowling alley and a bar in Lewiston, Maine.

"You need to come outside now with nothing in your hands. Your hands in the air," police shouted through a megaphone outside the home owned by suspect Robert Card's relative near the town of Bowdoin.

Dozens of law enforcement officials had descended on the property, with extended announcements calling for Card and anyone in the home to come out into the driveway. In most instances when police execute warrants — even for suspects wanted for violent crimes — they move quickly to enter the home.

"The announcements that are being heard over a loudspeaker are standard search warrant announcements when executing a warrant to ensure the safety of all involved," state police spokesperson Shannon Moss said. "It is unknown whether Robert Card is in any of the homes law enforcement will search."

Hundreds of law enforcement agents, including dozens of FBI agents, have been hunting for Card, a 40-year-old reservist with a history of mental health issues, since Wednesday night's shootings at a bowling alley and a bar that sent panicked patrons scrambling under tables and behind bowling pins and gripped the entire state of Maine in fear.

Schools, doctor's offices and grocery stores closed and people stayed behind locked doors in cities as far away as 50 miles from the scenes of Wednesday night's shootings in Lewiston.

President Joe Biden ordered all U.S. flags to be flown at half-staff as condolences poured in from around the nation and at home, including from Maine native and author Stephen King, who called it "madness." The attacks stunned a state of only 1.3 million people that has one of the country's lowest homicide rates: 29 killings in all of 2022.

Card is considered armed and dangerous and should not be approached, authorities said at a news conference. Card underwent a mental health evaluation in mid-July after he began acting erratically while with his reserve regiment, a U.S. official told The Associated Press.

Earlier, police had not said if they have seen Card since the shootings at Schemengees Bar and Grille

and at Just-In-Time Recreation, a bowling alley about 4 miles away. The Androscoggin County Sheriff's Office released two photos of the suspect walking into the bowling alley with a rifle raised to his shoulder.

Investigators also haven't said what weapon or weapons Card used in the shootings or how he obtained them.

Earlier Thursday near the Card property near Bowdoin, about 15 miles from Lewiston, several FBI agents and other heavily armed officers gathered. A military-style vehicle and a white van arrived as a helicopter hovered overhead and someone repeatedly yelled, "FBI! Open the door!" Several loud bangs were heard a short time later.

A telephone number listed for Card in public records was not in service. A woman who answered a phone number for one of Card's relatives said Thursday afternoon the family was helping the FBI. She didn't give her name or additional details.

The Canada Border Services Agency issued an "armed and dangerous" alert to its officers stationed along the Canada-U.S. border.

Maine Gov. Janet Mills promised to do whatever was needed to find Card and to "hold whoever is responsible for this atrocity accountable ... and to seek full justice for the victims and their families."

Eight murder warrants were issued for Card after authorities identified eight of the victims, police said. Ten more will likely be issued once the names of the rest of the dead are confirmed, said Maine State Police Col. William Ross.

Three of the 13 people wounded in the shootings were in critical condition and five were hospitalized but stable, Central Maine Medical Center officials said.

The attack started at Just-In-Time Recreation, where a children's bowling league was taking place, just before 7 p.m. Wednesday. One bowler, who identified himself only as Brandon, said he heard about 10 shots, thinking the first was a balloon popping.

"I had my back turned to the door. And as soon as I turned and saw it was not a balloon — I just booked it," he told the AP.

Brandon said he scrambled down the length of the alley, sliding into the pin area and climbing up to hide in the machinery.

Less than 15 minutes after the shooting began, numerous 911 calls started coming in from Schemengees, which was offering 25

percent discounts to customers who work in the bar or restaurant industry.

Patrick Poulin was supposed to be at the bowling center with his 15-year-old son, who is in a league that was practicing Wednesday. They stayed home, but he estimates there were probably several dozen young bowlers, ages 4 to 18, along with their parents, in the facility. Poulin's brother was there, he said, and shepherded some of the children outside when the shooting began.

"He's pretty shook up," Poulin said Thursday. "And it's just sinking in today, like, wow, I was very close to being there. And a lot of the people that got hurt, I know."

April Stevens lives in the same neighborhood where one of the shootings took place. She turned on all her lights overnight and locked her doors. She knew someone killed at the bar and another person injured who needed surgery.

"We're praying for everyone," Stevens said through tears.

Authorities launched a multistate search for Card on land and water. The Coast Guard sent out a patrol boat Thursday morning along the Kennebec River, but after hours of searching, they found "nothing out of the ordinary," said Chief Petty Officer Ryan Smith, who is in charge of the Coast Guard's Boothbay Harbor Station.

A car believed to belong to Card had been discovered by a boat launch in the town of Lisbon near the Androscoggin River, which connects to the Kennebec, and

Card's 15-foot boat remains unaccounted for, Smith said.

A bulletin sent to police across the country after the attack said Card had been committed to a mental health facility for two weeks this past summer after "hearing voices and threats to shoot up" a military base.

A U.S. official said Card was assigned to support training with the Army Reserve's 3rd Battalion, 304th Infantry Regiment in West Point, New York, when commanders became concerned about him.

State police took Card to the Keller Army Community Hospital at West Point for evaluation, according to the official, who was not authorized to publicly discuss the information and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

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Public Sale Calendar

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

BIDDING ENDS 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, 1791 W 1000 S, Warren. Pat Carter & Nick Huffman, sale managers. **The Steffen Group Inc.**, 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.com.

BIDDING ENDS 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. Sale manager, Patrick Carter, **The Steffen Group Inc.**, www.steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

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.

NOVEMBER 5-NOVEMBER 12 - (Online Only) - Kipfer Family, seller. New Holland TL90 diesel tractor, International 706 gas tractor, 1984 Case Model 444 garden tractor, 2008 Miller 250 Bobcat welder generator, Pilot 24-volt fork lift charger, Marathon, Shell, other gasoline plastic signs, Fenton, Lladro, Carnival, Vaseline, Royal Daltion, RS Prussia glassware, antique & modern furniture. Preview: Nov. 2 from 3 p.m.-6 p.m. and Nov. 9 from 3 p.m.-6 p.m., 6345 W 200 S-1, Bluffton. Sale manager, Patrick Carter, **The Steffen Group Inc.**, 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.com.

DECEMBER 5 - 2 p.m.-6 p.m. ET. (Online) - Farm: Goodwin Trust. Property location: 2 miles north of Markle, IN at the intersection of N Marzane Road and W 800 N. 157.3+/- total acres, 136.9+/- tillable, 12.2+/- CRP, 8.2+/- non-tillable. Prime farmland, tillable, CRP, Wells County, Union Township. Soil types: Pemawo silty clay loam, Glynwood clay & silt loam, Del Rey-Blount silt loams, Glynwood-Mississinewa clay loam. WAPI: 133.5 corn bu, 40.2 soybeans bu. **Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management**, 800-424-2324, halderman.com, Rick Johnloz, 260-827-8181.

Public Notices

TO 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 1:00 pm

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 appraisal 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 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 LLC

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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