Page 1a

BLUFFTON, INDIANA · Wells County's Hometown Connection



Honoring their service

Pictured above, U.S. Air Force Maj. Cole Hoopingarner was the featured speaker of Norwell middle and high school's Veterans Day program Friday morning, honoring local veterans and encouraging the next generation in service. Hoopingarner is a 2007 graduate of Norwell. At right above, the choir sings an Armed Forces medley. Below, sophomore Grant Tudor plays 'Taps' on the trumpet. The schools also hosted a breakfast for veterans preceding the program. (Photos by Holly Gaskill)





Bluffton man sentenced for child solicitation

A Bluffton resident will spend the next three years in prison after he attempted to meet a 13-year-old child for sexual intercourse.

Ronald Comer, 49, was sentenced in the Wells Circuit Court on Wednesday to six years in the Indiana Department of Correction with three years suspended. The sentence was issued after Comer pled guilty to one count of child solicitation, a Level 4 felony, last month.

Comer was one of the first subjects of a series of sting operations in Wells County, arranged by an undercover nonprofit called Predator Catchers Indianapolis. Prior to his arrest last November, Comer had never faced any significant issues with the law.

According to his lawyer, Donald Carl Swanson, Comer was a hard-working man. He was a widow, and his wife's death occurred during the time frame of the crime. He held the same job for over a decade until his arrest, raised three children, was close to his parents, and continued to significantly support one of his now adult children.

"If this had never happened," Prosecuting Attorney Timothy Sipe told the court. "It would be reasonable for an individual to believe he was an upstanding and law-abiding citizen. It is the purely detestable nature of his actions that give the state concern moving forward.'

According to a probable cause affidavit, Comer responded to a post on a dating app called MeetMe, where a decoy from PCI eventually identified herself as a 13-year-old girl named "Sasha."

Sipe cited this fact in response to Comer's claim that the "victim" in the case greatly facilitated the offense. Comer then continued to request naked photos, send crude and illicit messages, and arrange to meet "Sasha" for sexual acts after he learned of her age.

(Continued on Page 2)

Indiana high court takes on behavioral, mental health crisis

By LESLIE BONILLA MUÑIZ **Indiana Capital Chronicle**

The criminal justice system is the primary referrer to substance use disorder treatment and largest provider of mental health care — but the judiciary is doing its part to change that, Indiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Loretta Rush said

"I love the direction the Indiana judiciary is going," she told reporters. "I love the fact that we're working on the behavioral health ... because we'd better do better than 70 percent of people in jail with a substance abuse or mental health issue.'

Rush also highlighted a post-pandemic recovery in caseload, changes in technology and transparency and a dragging bar passage rate in its latest annual report.

Tackling behavioral health

She said over her career, she's encountered many a parent grateful for their child's arrest — because through the justice system, the child could access help.

"I think that's problematic," Rush said.

"I think for a long time, like 40 years ago, judges just (Continued on Page 2)

Jonathan Snyder joins N-B staff

Jonathan Snyder of Bluffton has joined The News-Banner as a fulltime reporter.

Snyder graduated in the spring from Cedarville University with a Bachelor's Degree in broadcasting, digital media and journalism. He is originally from Toledo, Ohio, and he moved to Bluffton along with his family in 2019.

At Cedarville, Snyder worked at the campus newspaper for two years, predominantly covering sports. He also worked as a broadcaster for TKDS Sports, a live streaming



Jonathan Snyder

(Continued on Page 2)





Saluting our veterans

Above, Students at Bluffton-Harrison Elementary School performed several songs and heartfelt speeches during the Veterans Day program to staff, fellow students, and Veterans in attendance Friday morning. At left. Ashley Johnson, the veteran of honor at Bluffton High School's program, gave a speech Friday morning. (Photo by Jessica Bricker)

Below, Johnson and Bluffton High School students and faculty saluting during the National Anthem. (Photos by Sydney Kent)



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Sports. 1a-2a Classifieds 4a Diversions 3a



A sunny and cool weekend in store

		Monday
High 48	High 54	High 58
Low 31	Low 35	Low 29

More Weather on Page 2

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Bluffton man sentenced

Comer's defense claimed that not only did he have a low risk of reoffending, it was unlikely that these circumstances would recur. Sipe advised that the state found this to be false, and stated "the internet is everywhere."

"Mr. Comer did go to an adult website, where people over 18 are supposed to have accounts," Judge Kenton Kiracofe stated before he issued his ruling. "He went there believing he was going to meet an adult. Unfortunately, this court has acknowledged some other cases where real juveniles do in fact go on websites and create a fake profile. That does happen."

This was the case for a minor victim from Bluffton whose abuser was convicted in the Wells Circuit Court earlier this year. Brian Randy Vanauken, 41, Fort Wayne, was sentenced to 69 years in prison after a jury found him guilty on 16 charges for child molesting, exploitation, and sex trafficking.

"This person told Mr. Comer that she was a minor," Kiracofe concluded. "That should have been enough for Mr. Comer to say he isn't interested any longer, and move on, but he didn't. He outlined what was going to happen in a text message with this person."

Swanson pointed out that Comer assisted in the investigation and admitted to the allegations the same day that he was arrested. He claimed Comer was cooperative throughout the case.

However, during his change of plea hearing last month, Comer attempted to deflect responsibility and deny that he understood the decoy's age when the state presented a factual basis for the charge.

Some surrounding counties refuse to file charges from or investigate subjects from PCI investigations, with concerns of entrapment as a potential defense

in court. Comer's defense explained why he did not use this as his argument.

"(The claims) were not made by a law enforcement agency, but by a private agency," Swanson stated. "I think there's no way I can argue entrapment. The court and state and I all appreciate that pedophilia is incur-

After the sentence was issued, Comer was immediately taken into custody by the Wells County Sheriff's Department. He is ordered to complete a period of probation following his incarceration and pay court costs and filing fees.

sydney@news-banner.com

Weather

Saturday, November 11, 2023 (24-hour observations at 8:47 p.m. Friday) **High:** 54; **Low:** 38; **Precipitation:** None Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.18 feet at 8:45 p.m. Friday

Wells County forecast

Today: Sunny, with a high near 48. Northwest wind around 5 mph becoming northeast in the afternoon.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 31. East wind around 5 mph. Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 54. Southeast wind 5 to

10 mph. Sunday Night: Clear, with a low around 35. Southwest

ind 5 to 10 mph. **Monday:** Sunny, with a high near 58.

Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 29.

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 56.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 33. Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 60.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 40. **Thursday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 62.

Thursday Night: A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, ith a low around 46.

Friday: A chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 59.

Behavioral health crisis

(Continued from Page 1)

decided the case then got out the door," she said. "Now we're saying, 'We're players in our community.' I tell judges, 'you've got a superpower.'

She said Indiana has trained its judges on substance abuse and mental health, with best practices for different people: children, pregnant women, and so on.

And judges are encouraged to be proactive: to find ways to divert people away from the system and toward resources.

Rush additionally offered 988 as an effective strategy.

The national suicide and crisis hotline is an alternative to 911's traditional police and fire response. It launched in

Indiana has put \$133.6 million in federal funds, along with \$100 million in its latest biennial budget, into the hotline. Lawmakers considered — but didn't add — a fee on cell phones that would fund 988 similarly to 911.

"I love 988," Rush said. "And I would love to see permanent funding

She said the hotline means that crisis intervention teams respond to behavioral health crises "as opposed to handcuffs and incarceration.'

The court also brought together about 800 people from every Hoosier county during a mental health summit last October, according to the report.

Rush noted that those local units also have more financial resources for substance use help through the state's opioid settlement with manufacturers and distributors.

Caseload, cameras and exam-passers

Cases are back on the rise after a pandemic-era drop, according to the

The court in 2022 received 717 cases and disposed of 693, as opposed to the 634 received and 633 disposed of the year prior. But that's still down from previous totals in the 800s and 900s.

It also oversaw changes in technology and access — most notably, ditching a blanket ban on cameras in courtrooms in favor of allowing judges to decide for their own courtrooms.

Additionally, parties to cases can now also access documents online in their own proceedings. Lawyers have had that added access since 2017.

And the court's staff is hard at work on a massive jail management system integrating data from across the state, although they've hit some snags.

"It is the biggest project we've ever taken on," Rush said of the system, dubbed INjail. And it's likely years away from going live and public, according to court spokeswoman Kathryn Dolan.

Additional courts in 2022 joined a separate case management pilot that aims to speed up simple cases and allow more time to complex cases. That year, three counties — Marion, Monroe and Vigo — began piloting text message reminders in certain family cases.

But the state's severe attorney shortage saw little improvement in the report: 389 of 617 applicants passed the bar exam in 2022, or 63 percent. That's down from 2021's 65 percent, but slightly up from previous rates closer to 60 percent.

Passage rates peaked in 2020, but technical complications during the pandemic-era remote exam meant it was open-book and without any live monitoring or proctoring, according to a court order.



Elected Indiana president

Bluffton auctioneer Isaac Stoller, left, was installed as the 2023-24 president of the Indiana Auctioneers Association at the group's annual meeting Nov. 4. "I'm deeply honored and thrilled," Stoller said in a news release, "and I look forward to working to promote and advance our industry." He is accepting the president's gavel from outgoing president, Marc Huber of Greenfield. (Photo

Snyder joins N-B

service covering local high school sports around the Dayton, Ohio area.

For The News-Banner, Snyder will start covering Bluffton city government later this month, in addition to general reporting for the

"We're happy to have Jon join our staff," Editor Holly Gaskill said. "Jon brings an attention to detail and passion for reporting that will benefit our coverage of Bluffton well as he begins in his new beat."

"I'm really excited to get started at the Banner," Jonathan said. "Any time you have a close deep-knit community like Bluffton has, there are always special stories to tell. I cannot wait to start serving the community here.'

In his free time, Snyder enjoys cheering on the Ohio State Buckeyes and finding new hats for his collection.

96-year-old Korean War veteran still trying to get Purple Heart medal after 7 decades

ST. PETER, Minn. (AP) - Earl Meyer remembers in vivid detail when his platoon came under heavy fire during the Korean War -- he still has shrapnel embedded in his thigh.

But over 70 years later, the 96-year-old is still waiting for the U.S. Army to recognize his injury and to award him a Purple Heart medal, which honors service members wounded or killed

in combat. Meyer has provided the Army with documents to back up his assertion that he was wounded in combat in June 1951. Doctors at the Department of Veterans Affairs agreed that his account of the shrapnel coming from a mortar attack was probably true. But few men in his unit who would have witnessed the battle have survived, and he thinks the medic who treated him on the battlefield was killed before

he could file the paperwork. An Army review board in April issued what it called a final rejection of Meyer's request for a Purple Heart, citing insufficient documentation. His case highlights how it can be a struggle for wounded veterans to get medals they've earned when the fog of war, the absence of records and the passage of time make it challenging to produce proof.

'At first I didn't know that I had been wounded," Meyer wrote in a sworn statement that was part of his rejected appeal. "But as my unit advanced from where the mortar rounds were hitting, I noticed that my pants were sticking to my leg. I reached down to correct this and discovered that my hand was covered in blood.'

Meyer took the rare step of suing the Department of Defense and the Army in September. The Army's Office of Public Affairs said it doesn't comment on

ongoing litigation. But after The Associated Press made requests for comment on Meyer's case, the office of the Army's top noncommissioned officer, Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael Weimer, said that it's going to take another look.

"The Sergeant Major of the Army's Office is engaging with Mr. Meyer's family and looking into the situation," spokesperson Master Sgt. Daniel Wallace said. "Either way, we're proud of Mr. Meyer's service to our country.'

Meyer said in an interview that he wouldn't have pursued the Purple Heart because his injuries were relatively minor compared to those of many men he served with, but his three daughters persuaded him. Growing up, they knew that he had been injured in the war, but like many veterans, he never talked much about it. It's only been in the past decade or so that he's opened up to them, which led them to urge his

pursuit of a Purple Heart.

"I think it will provide closure for him. I really do," said his daughter, Sandy Baker, of New Buffalo, Michigan.

Tony Cross, a disability claims and appeals specialist with the American Legion, the country's largest veterans' service organization, said the Legion doesn't commonly see cases like Meyer's of medals denied, though it did see one earlier this year. The process is challenging because each military branch has its own approval process and it gets more challenging after a veteran leaves the military, he said.

Meyer's main obstacle has been the lack of paperwork. He told the AP the medic who bandaged his leg told him he would file the forms to show he was wounded in combat. But he never did. Meyer thinks the medic may have been killed in action. Only a few members of his platoon made it out unharmed.



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OBITUARIES

Sam Shafer, 35

Sam Shafer, 35, originally of Ossian, passed away on Oct. 31, 2023, in Fishers, Ind.

He was born on Jan. 11, 1988. Sam's abiding passion since his youth was history. He loved discovering new facts, and he shared his knowledge through his knack for engaging storytelling. This passion and his abundant creativity served him well during his employment at Conner Prairie role-playing a Civil

War soldier. His favorite days on the job were those spent teaching history to kids. Blending his love of history with his fas-

cination with coin collecting, Sam then pursued a career as a numismatist. After getting his start in other people's coin shops, Sam branched out on his entrepreneurial adventure with Sam Shafer Numismatics. It was a business into which he poured his heart and soul.

Sam will be remembered as a quick wit, great writer, music lover, inspired entrepreneur, and a cat papa. He will also be remembered for his laugh, mischievous



twinkle in his eye and numerous acts of generosity.

Surviving family include his father, Philip Shafer; brother, Patrick Shafer; aunt and uncle, Sally and Steve Bracke; uncle, John Holzinger; uncle and aunt, Tom Shafer and Susan Parrish; and his cousins, Marissa Bracke, Alex (Jilayne Willhoite) Bracke, Charles Bracke, and Joe (Leslie) Shafer.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Mary Shafer; uncle, L. Lamont Humbracht; and his grandparents, Loyal and Larraine Humbracht.

No service will be held. A private celebration of life gathering for the family will happen at a later date. Memorials may be made to Conner Prairie (www. connerprairie.org) or American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (www.afsp. org). Elzey-Patterson-Rodak Funeral Home, Ossian is handling arrangements. Condolences and memories can be left online at www.elzey-patterson-rodak.

Local Roundup

Friends of the Shelter will meet Monday afternoon

Friends of the Shelter, the organization that provides support for the Wells County Animal Shelter, will meet at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 13, in the meeting room on the first floor of Bluffton City Hall, 128 E. Market St. Items on the agenda include financial reports, reports on recent events and planning for upcoming events.

Ossian Town Council will meet Monday evening

The Ossian Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 13, at the Ossian Town Hall, 507 N. Jefferson St. in Ossian.

Topics on the agenda will include:

- Department reports from the fire department, police commission and park board.
- A review of the stand-alone agreement for the design of Melching and Millside
- New business, including approval of the 2024 holiday schedule, adoption of section 2 of the Crosswinds Lakes addition, the appointment of a member to the Area Plan Commission, and discussion of employee gift cards and salary.
 - Personnel and financial matters

Regional Sewer District board will meet Monday

The board of the Wells County Regional Sewer District will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 13, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Project status updates from Liberty Center/Murray, Craigville, Kingsland and Tocsin.
- General project updates, customer questions, and financial matters.
 - Approval of 2024 meeting dates.

Wells County SWCD board will meet Tuesday morning

The board of the Wells County Soil and Water Conservation District will meet at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 14, in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Service Center at 117 W. Harvest Road in Bluffton.

Agenda items will include discussion regarding the annual meeting and conference.

Bluffton Board of Works to meet Tuesday afternoon

The Bluffton Board of Public Works and Safety will meet at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 14, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Financial matters
- Previous business, including discussion of a water line and awarding of bids for the Lancaster Park pickleball courts and exten-

sion of the Interurban Trail.

• New business, including approval purchase pool chemicals, Parks Department transfers, discussion of 2024 medical and dental rates, and compost site permits.

Norwell school board will meet Tuesday evening

The board of the Norwell Community Schools will meet at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 14, at Norwell High School, 1100E. U.S. 224.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Personnel and financial matters
- Acceptance of donations • Field trip requests
- A report from Superintendent Mike Springer, including the Ossian Rotary Youth Exchange program, update regarding the Educational Resources Reconsideration Commission and pool floor maintenance, and a quarterly financial report.
 - 2024-25 meeting dates
- Action items, including the 2023-25 Collective Bargaining Agreement, acceptance of the SEBT Trust Document and Bylaws, Reconsideration Committee Recommendations, and December through June board meeting dates.

A strategic planning meeting will directly follow the regular agenda items to discuss 2023-24 SWOT analysis and participation

Wells County Public Library board will meet Tuesday

The board of the Wells County Public Library will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 14, in the meeting room of the main library, 200 W. Washington St.

Topics on the agenda will include:

- Librarian's and treasurer's reports. · Financial matters.
- A staff report of the Children's Book
- Festival. · Committee reports regarding the building, budget, policy and bylaws, public awareness and outreach, nominating, and director evaluation.
- New business, including policy changes for 2024, health insurance and library hours.
- Updates from Director Sarah MacNeill.

Markle Town Council will meet Wednesday evening

The Markle Town Council will meet at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 15, in the meeting room of the Markle fire station, 150 W. Sparks St. in Markle.

County Election Board will meet Friday afternoon

The Wells County Election Board will meet at 2 p.m. Friday, Nov. 17, in the clerk's office in the Wells County Courthouse, 102 W. Market St. to confirm the results of the

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Bluffton Parks Rec News Notes



Destination Recreation

Congratulations to Finn Brackin for winning the Bluffton Parks Department's Virtual Costume Contest! His adorable homemade train engine costume stole the hearts of 214 voters. We want to thank everyone who participated in the contest; we loved seeing all the creative costumes.

We would also like to congratulate Landen Lautzenheiser for being the first child to find Walter the Wandering Turkey at Pickett's Run Park. Keep an eye on the Bluffton Parks Department's Facebook page to see when Walter will be hiding again in one of the city parks.

It was a beautiful day last Saturday for our annual WOOF trail run for the 132 runners who participated in the race. To view the race results, visit http://www. erunner.biz/results.

For those who want to keep active over the winter months, we are now accepting registration for the Wells Winter 100-Mile Challenge. Whatever your fitness goals are for 2024, this challenge will help you build and maintain a solid base while reinforcing good habits and consistency through group accountability and motivation. All you need is an average of just under 10 miles a week.

The price of the challenge is only \$25.00, and you will receive:

- Access to our Strava group, where you can log your miles and view the leaderboard. (Note: You can also submit your miles via email)
- Long Sleeve Wells 100 Challenge T-Shirt
- Medal if you complete 100 miles by March 31. · Chances to win additional prizes and
- discounts by submitting photos and comments on Strava or the Wells Winter 100 Challenge Facebook Page. To sign up, visit https://tinyurl.com/35ce9bzw.

Mark your calendars

for the next Theater Thursday on, Nov. 16.

We will be showing the movie "Fatherhood," rated PG13. Bluffton Parks and Recreation Department and Wells County Public Library have partnered to offer adults a free monthly movie. The film "Fatherhood," will be shown at 10 a.m. at the Wells County Public Library. This year-round event is on the third Thursday of every month.

Coloring contests were dropped off at the area schools last week and will be due by Dec. 15 for a chance to win a giant toy and candy-filled stocking. If you need an extra copy, visit the City Website at https://tinyurl.com/4sbuk7c7.

Be sure to sign your child up for the Free Indoor Foam Snowball Fight. The event will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 5, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Bluffton City Gym for Children ages 6-16. This awesome indoor snowball fight game lets you challenge your friends without getting chilly in the cold. Please pre-register your child by emailing events@blufftonindiana.gov or call 824-6069.

It's about that time of year when Santa's Mailbox shows up in front of City Hall for the children in Wells County to write to the jolly old elf. The Bluffton Parks Department is happy to deliver your child's letter to Santa between Nov. 22 and Dec. 8. Each child will receive a personalized letter back with a small gift enclosed. Please ensure that the child's name and address are clearly marked on the outside of the envelope. This is a free service, and no postage is needed.

We want to thank the Lions Club for purchasing and planting a beautiful Tulip tree at Lion's Park this week. We appreciate their generosity in caring for this park.

Have a great week!

Rep. Bob Cherry won't seek reelection, ending 25 years in seat which Cherry said would

By LESLIE **BONILLA MUÑIZ Indiana Capital Chronicle**

Rep. Bob Cherry announced Friday he won't seek reelection in 2024, retiring after serving out his

The Greenfield Republican will have served in Indiana's House of Representatives for 25 years since 1998. His district, 53, includes parts of Hancock and Madison counties.

"During my time in the legislature, our state's national economic momentum and outlook rankings have gone from near the bottom of nearly every recognized list to at or near the top," Cherry said in a news release.

"We also turned budget deficits into structurally balanced budgets with healthy reserves, which protect against future economic downturns," he continued.
"I'm grateful to have been part of Indiana's success story and for the strong conservative leadership that helped propel us to where we are today.'

Cherry co-authored the state's latest biennial budget. The \$44 billion bill speeds up an existing individual income tax cut timeline,

save taxpayers \$430 million over the next two years. He co-authored the original timeline in 2022. He also touted the bud-

get's increase funding for K-12 education and elimination of textbook and curricular fees for parents. "Bob is an integral

member of our team as he brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the table, particularly when it comes to working on budgeting matters," House Speaker Todd Huston said. "He also approaches tough issues with Hoosier common sense, and keeps the needs of his constituents and local communities top of mind.

Cherry additionally coauthored a controversial law this year cracking down on the state's pension investment managers. But his legislative attempt to give retirees a 13th check was unsuccessful.

Last year, he supported a contentious bill banning transgender girls from playing on girls K-12 sports teams at public schools; in the release, he said the move protected integrity and fair-

"It's been a great privi-

lege and honor to serve Hancock and Madison counties as well as portions of Rush and Shelby counties under the prior legislative district maps," Cherry said. "I've been blessed to represent our area of the state and I'm so thankful for everyone who supported me along the way.'

Huston said he looked forward to serving alongside Cherry during his final year and "wish(ed) him the absolute best in retirement.'

Cherry is one of three long-serving GOP lawmakers to announce retirement plan this fall. Two others resigned early, prompting party insiders to select replacements. And one, Sen. Jack Sandlin of Indianapolis, died unexpectedly in September.

VISITATION & SERVICES Terry S. Hampton **Calling:** 12 - 3 p.m.

Sunday, November 12. **Service:** 3 p.m., Sunday, November 12 at the funeral home.

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'Finding Gen. Barnes' — It might make a good movie

Sometimes the hunt is the most fun part.

That noticelly somes egress as a

That actually comes across as a little crude, but the point is, finding a person can be as enjoyable as sitting down and talking to them.

We've had some occasional stories about Wells County natives who have gone on to successful military careers and experiences. When Mike Stohler was promoted to general a couple years ago (already!), there was some speculation as to whether there had been any others. The name of



Mark Miller

Charles Barnes surfaced relatively early, but my efforts to find any information on him went nowhere.

The good news was that when you asked Mrs. Google for "Charles Barnes Bluffton Indiana" or variations of that, no obituaries popped up. Someone then shared they thought he was once the commander of the same outfit Stohler had led, the 122nd Fighter Wing in Fort Wayne. An email sent to the unit's public information officer got no response. An internet search adding that information got a birthday, which turned out to be correct, and a one-sentence bio: "Charles Barnes spent 64 years and 5 months in the Indiana Air National Guard and retired with the rank of Brigadier General." While the rank was correct, the years of service, which calculates that he would have retired just five years ago at the age of 83, was not.

After a long dry spell of no new leads, another conversation revealed that Gen. Barnes had grown up in Petroleum, and then a few weeks later that he might be related to Chip Mann's wife. It took me a few weeks to find a mutual acquaintance who had Chip's contact information. An added twist: Chip has a "gmail.com" address with which "news-banner.com" addresses seem to have a communication problem. But, glory be, Chip answered promptly that Mr. Barnes is indeed *his* uncle (his mother's brother) and he would pass the message along.

I need to mention that, having served in the Army, I have this image of a general: Tall, ramrod straight. Gruff, all business. Imposing. Intimidating. I wasn't sure how I would handle interviewing a retired, presumably crusty general.

I had given Chip my cell phone number. It rang a couple days later with an unfamiliar number displayed. As usual, it went unanswered but I quickly listened to the message that had been left.

"Hi, this is Charlie Barnes. Understand you're trying to get a hold of me. Call me back."

Charlie? A general calls himself Charlie? And it was a friendly voice. Perhaps because he turned out to be a very friendly person, blowing my stereotype out of the water.

The "hunt" had lasted, I think, well over a year. What fun to call him back, discover he lives in Fort Wayne and arrange a meeting — one which stretched out to well over a couple hours. That was fun, I hope as displayed in Friday's Veterans Day salute to one of Wells County's offspring that "done good." But finding him was fun too

Two additional notes on his crash and safe ejection over his home territory:

— I don't know a whole lot about flying, but it strikes me that Charlie never got proper credit for his pilot skills. He managed to aim a disabled plane away from Montpelier and towards an open field. And then had the presence of mind to remember his training and "roll on the wing" in order to improve his odds for surviving the ejection, all the while maintaining the plane's direction towards that open field.

— How many people from Wells County can say they've seen their name on the front page of the New York Times?

After hearing his story about his crash near Fiat, it occurred to me that I would find those clippings in some too-often-forgotten files at the N-B. During the 1960s, '70s and into the '80s, Gene McCord had faithfully taken each day's edition, clipped out stories and pictures and filed them away. Sure enough, there was an envelope with "Barnes, Charles" typed in the upper left corner. It included clippings of his promotion to general, his retirement announcement, and two stories about the crash. A gold mine.

And then Friday morning, one of our newer part-time employees told me that he has a number of photos from Charlie's career. Turns out Steve Poulson was the 122nd Wing's staff photographer for about 20 years.

"He's a great guy," Steve shared. "A great sense of humor." Although he did not know Charlie's whereabouts now, "I could have found out," he said.

There is likely some kind of analogy or lesson here. I'd been looking for my "prey" for a number of months. The information about him was in the same building and he was living only a half-hour or so away.

Life can be like that.

miller@news-banner.com

Submit your Letters to the Editor via: • Our website link (Submit your Letter) • E-Mail: email@news-banner. com • Fax: (260) 824-0700 • Mail: PO Box 436, Bluffton IN 46714 • Drop-off: 125 N. Johnson St., Bluffton. All letters must be signed and must include a phone number or address in case verification is desired. Letters are edited for brevity and clarity. Letters must be no more than 500 words. Please mark your correspondence as a "Letter to the Editor," or if you wish to express an opinion to us but do not want it published, please mark as "Not for Publication."

The News-Banner

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Bluffton IN 46714, Post Office Box 436

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A Veteran's Day Salute

Editor's Note: Every time I hear the word "veteran," there is one particular person that comes to mind. Every time. I didn't get to know Gary Books until after I'd come to the News-Banner in 1997 and then after he retired from Fort Wayne Newspapers. Not sure what year that was. He told me once that the had offered me a job when he was working for Nixon Newspapers, based in Peru. I was the ad manager for the Decatur paper at the time. I'd forgotten about it, but after some prodding, the conversation at a state press association meeting finally rang a bell. So technically, we had met before.

Longtime Blufftonites will recall that Gary was the News-Banner's sports editor from 1970 to 1977. The Bluffton native and 1964 Lancaster grad had studied journalism at Indiana University before being drafted

He served in Vietnam, That's an understatement. He was a Ranger. He earned four Purple Hearts. The aftereffects of those combat injuries would stay with him for the rest of his life, most noticeably by his pronounced limp. Although I do not think it was ever certified, I am convinced his premature death at the age of 61 in 2006 was the result of his exposure to Agent Orange.

But I do not recall him ever complaining. I was blessed to then work with him for about five or six years towards the end of his life. It was a part-time gig for him. He sold some ads and wrote some stories and columns for us. He

was simply a good guy. A guy who valiantly served his country. He put his life at risk. He was "the" veteran. He wrote this essay and poem very early in his News-Banner career. The memories were obviously quite fresh. We published this as part of a Veterans Day salute sometime after his passing. A month or so ago, a reader brought by a copy and suggested we might re-print it for Veterans Day this year. Excellent idea. Thank you, Mike Sutton.

— Mark I

The Bunker

After the platoon had been out in the field for several days and returned to our support base for a shower, hot food and rest, some of us who had been in South Vietnam for a while wold gather around a bunker that was in the middle of our platoon's defensive area.

We'd talk about the girl back home, strawberry pie, our families and our dreams for the future. We'd also talk about the war.

A soldier new to South Vietnam always would join us; you could tell he was new because his hair still would be cut short — a requirement of the training camps back in the States.

The new guy would usually listen intently as we talked about the war and our experiences, hoping to learn something that might save is his.

In the poem that follows, the new guy at the bunker on this night stunned the rest of us by expressing his thoughts. What you're about to read is true, the words have been shuffled and changed a little so they rhyme.

The Bunker

We used to sit around the bunker at night And we'd often talk about an earlier fight. And Always a new guy would join us there, We could tell he was new by his close-cropped hair.

One night, a new guy said to me, as he began with a flinch

"You know yesterday, Sarge, I came within an inch of losin' my life.

I raised my head up and a bullet grazed my steel pot And they started comin' in and for a second I froze and

All the hand-to-hand combat I'd been taught.
I wanted to get up and I almost ran
But instead I stood and fought the best that I can.
And you know yesterday, Sarge, I killed my first man."

The rest of us in the bunker that night had been in South Vietnam a long time. We'd all gone through the same thing as the new guy, but had just never been able to talk about it. And so it struck us as kind of strange,

actually kind of funny, that a new guy could. So, we all just laughed about that.

And he said, "Sarge, you remember Larry Wright,
The one who got his foot shot off?
When he got home he wrote someone here
That his wife had run off
With some other guy, I guess he had two feet.
And you remember Ronnie Lipscomb, that day in the

He tripped that booby trap and man, I've never seen so much blood.
I didn't know, I thought he was dyin'
So I turned and started to walk away
So he wouldn't see me cryin'.
I looked at him and I just couldn't take it no more

And I wanted to go out and kill every man, woman, child and every slant-eyed whore in that God-forsaken land.

He reached both hands up in the air, and you know, Sarge, I'm just a dumb clod, But never before had I ever heard Anyone prayin' like that, to God."

The rest if us in the bunker that night had been in South Vietnam a long time. When Larry and Ron got hurt, we were bothered by it, too. But we'd just never been able to talk about it. So it struck us as kind of strange, actually kind of funny, that a new guy could. So we all just laughed about that.

Now that I'm home and safe and sound And don't have to worry about any more rounds Come whistling over my head, I think about Johnny Mike, and little Georgia-born Ed Crazy ol' Tex, and Sergeant Beetle Bailey Fred. I'd like to say they made it home all right too, but I

'Cause you see, they're all dead.
I'm the only one left from the bunker that night
And even though I've tried with all my might,
I just can't laugh about that.

Gary Books February 1970

Virginia, Ohio and abortion

Glenn Youngkin, who

Elections, especially in Virginia and Ohio, should convince pro-life Republicans of their need to come up with a different strategy when it comes to abortion. A no-exceptions mandate, or strictly limiting the procedure isn't working, in part because a new generation of younger people seem less predisposed to curtailing it.

Instead of being put on the defensive for pregnancies due to rape, incest or the life of the mother, Republicans and pro-lifers need to go on the offensive. USA Today has reported that according to the Guttmacher Institute, "Just one percent of women obtain an abortion because they became pregnant through rape, and less than 0.5% do so because of incest."

Those who are pro-life need to do a better job of portraying the other side as the real radicals. They mostly oppose any restrictions on abortion. Pro-lifers should continue to work to protect the lives of the unborn at earlier stages. Aren't more than 60 million U.S. abortions since 1973 enough? Are people not concerned about the decline in America's birth rate?

Back to politics. In Virginia, Gov.



Cal Thomas

has been seen by some as a possible alternative to Donald Trump in the presidential contest, had campaigned hard to hold on to the slim Republican majority in the state house and flip the Democrat's slim majority in the state Senate. He and Republicans lost both houses, dooming most of his agenda for his last two years in office, as well as his proposal to limit abor-

as his proposal to limit altions to 15 weeks.

Redistricting in Virginia did not help Youngkin's cause. On top of the usual large turnout by Democrats in Northern Virginia, Richmond and other high population cities, the redrawing of district lines favored Democrats. It's fair to say that any hope of a Youngkin presidential candidacy next year is dead, if it ever was alive because he eschewed any talk of running until the election was over. It's now over and with filing deadlines rapidly approaching in some states, it appears over for him in 2024.

There are calls from some Republicans for RNC Chair Ronna McDaniel to resign because of continuing Republican losses, but she is not the

main problem. Too many Republicans are reluctant to talk about abortion because they appear unsure or uncomfortable with their positions. The other side is anything but uncomfortable. They are deeply committed to fighting for "a woman's right to choose" and their convictions appear to be overwhelming the pro-life position.

overwhelming the pro-life position.

We live in an anti-life and increasingly lawless culture. When I was young, newspapers buried most crime stories on inside pages because there was so little of it. The rare murder made it to the front page and was the lead story on local TV. Today, even when there are multiple murders in big cities, they barely get our attention because we have become so

inured to violence.

I see abortion increasingly as a reflection of our deepening decadence at many levels. It's not the main cause of our moral decline.

That means it must be dealt with at a deeper level than politics.

As expected, Democrats are celebrating their victories. It appears they will make abortion a central issue in the 2024 presidential campaign. Perhaps, Republicans should keep the focus, not on abortion, but rather on President Biden's sagging poll numbers.

tcaeditors@tribpub.com



This page is dedicated to the building of a more spiritual and greater church-going people and is made possible by the Advertisers on this page who want as their return to see more people go to church.



A CITY ON A HILL CHURCH 705 W.-900 N.,

Uniondale 10 a.m. - Worship.

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

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

> **ASBURY CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST** 8013 W.-1100S.-90,

Montpelier 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.

BETHEL

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

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMS

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

> **BLUFFTON CHURCH OF GOD** 327 W. Cherry St.

10 a.m. - Sunday School. 11 a.m. - Worship. 6 p.m. -Service.

> **BLUFFTON WESLEYAN CHAPEL** (Independent Holiness

Church) 1309 W. Washington St. blufftonwesleyan.net

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 & 6:30 p.m. - Worship.

COVENANT CHAPEL 3550 S. SR 1

mycovenantchapel.org 9:15 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:15 - Worship. (Children's Church for ages 6-12).

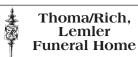


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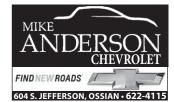


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BOEHMER UNITED METHODIST 3467 S 600 W,

Liberty Center boehmerumc.org 9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:45 - Sunday School.

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

CHESTER CENTER

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

CHRISTIAN NEW LIGHT

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

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

> **DILLMAN UNITED BRETHREN** 8888S-1100W-90,

Warren 9 a.m. - Worship. 10 a.m. -Sunday School.

DOMESTIC CHURCH

OF CHRIST

9 a.m. - Sunday school. 10 a.m. - Church service.

EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST 1204 W. Cherry St.

9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:40

a.m. - Sunday School. **FAIRVIEW CHURCH**

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

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

- Discipleship. **FIRST BAPTIST** 202 W. Cherry St. fbcbluffton.com

10:15 - Worship.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF OSSIAN

1001 Dehner Dr. 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. - Worship. 6:30 -Service

> FIRST CHURCH **OF CHRIST**

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

FIRST CHURCH

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

(EVANGELICAL) 123 S. Jefferson St., Ossian www.OssianChurch.com 8:45 a.m. - Adult Sunday school. 10 a.m. - Worship, Communion. 11 a.m. - Veterans Day lunch.

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF BLUFFTON 301 W. Cherry St.

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.

> **FIRST UNITED METHODIST**

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

FORGIVEN CHURCH 1409 S. Main St. forgivenonline.org

9 a.m. - Worship. **HARVEST TIME BIBLE**

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

HOPE MISSIONARY 429 E. Dustman Rd.

hope4thefamily.com 8 a.m., 9:30 & 11 a.m. -Service at Main Campus. 9:30 & 11 a.m. - Service, north campus, Ossian.



127 Oak Forest Dr., Bluffton, IN 824-1588





Baumgartner

TRIUMPHANT LOVE

This Thursday, 54 years ago, Mom and Dad walked down an aisle, and verbally, they declared, "I do."

Their hearts, however, declared, "I will." I will love you when we wrestle with the bills.

I will love you when we wrestle with home repairs.

I will love you when we wrestle with poor health. I will love you when we wrestle with children wrestling

(Well, the two older children, at least, wrestled with each other. The youngest of the three was no doubt studying the Bible or serving the least of these at a food kitchen or perhaps praying for orphans.)

And I will love you as you walk through the valley of the shadow of cancer 46 years later.

And I will love you when you say goodbye.

But I will tell you I love you again when Jesus returns. Until He returns, though, I pray that married couples, like my parents, will reflect the love that moved Him to come, suffer, die and now intervene for His bride, the church of God.

"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish," Paul wrote to the Ephesians.

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church, and He is the Savior of the body. Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything," he also wrote.

I also pray that everyone married to Jesus — whether they ever say "I do" to another person — will tell the world of His love through their love for Him.

Verse 1

O church, God's precious bride Through His grace and strength now thrive Ye servants of God's Kingdom come Ye nation of saints rise

Renounce your idols vain Complacency and fame Your lust for pleasure, worldly treasures That fetter you in shame

Chorus

Hallelujah, Father we are Yours Consecrated, conquering and pure

Verse 2

Unleash God's vision grand To redeem all tribes and land And triumph through disciples who Love through their Lord's commands

> The blessings we now seek Reward the poor and meek The merciful who forgive foes And overcome with peace

> > Chorus

Hallelujah, Savior we are Yours Our faith's Captain, Cornerstone, the Word

Verse 3

United in the Word Inspired, true and sure Refuting lies and compromise To overcome the curse

O church, God's precious bride Through His grace and strength now thrive Ye servants of God's Kingdom come Ye nation of saints rise

Chorus

Hallelujah, Spirit we are Yours God within us, Guide and Comforter

Chorus Hallelujah, even so Lord come And forever, we will live as One

And forever, we will live as One baumofchet@gmail.com

GRACE BAPTIST 1621 S. 350 E.

Stogdill Rd. Ext. gbcbluffton.com 9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. & 6 p.m. - Worship.

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

LIBERTY CENTER

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

LIBERTY CENTER COMMUNITY CHURCH

8:45 a.m. - Choir practice. 9 a.m. - Coffee, donuts, conversation. 9:30 - Worship w/ infant nursery & children's church. 10:45 - Sunday School.

LIFE COMMUNITY 428 S. Oak St. lifecommunity.net 10:30 a.m. - Service (Chil-

dren's programs available).

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

LANCASTER CHAPEL

LIVING FAITH **MISSIONARY** 17718 Bluffton Rd., Yoder 10 a.m. - Worship. 11:30 -Sunday School.

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

> MARKLE CHAPEL HILL SEVENTH DAY **ADVENTIST** 470 E. Morse St.

Saturday: 9:30 a.m. -Worship. 10:45 - Sabbath School (Bible study).

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

a.m. - Sunday School.

TO REPORT CHURCH NEWS:

• E-mail to churchnews@news-banner.com • Drop information at 125 N. Johnson St. in Bluffton MARKLE CHURCH **OF CHRIST** 455 E. Morse St.

marklechurch.org 9 a.m. - Adult Bible study groups. 10:30 - Worship. Children's & student programming both hours.

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

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

10:30 - Worship.

NEW HOPE LUTHERAN

(Missouri Synod) 8824 N. SR 1, Ossian newhopelutheran-ossian. webs.com

9 a.m. - Sunday School &

Adult Bible study. 10 a.m. -Worship. **NOTTINGHAM**

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

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

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

OSSIAN UNITED

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

Sunday School.

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

PONETO BAPTIST

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

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

PONETO FAITH

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

School.

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

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

SONLIGHT WESLEYAN 2350 S. SR 1 sonlightweslevan.org

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship. Nursery & Children's classes available during Sunday School & Worship.

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

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC

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

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

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

THE CHURCH AT MCNATT 9221 W 800 S-90, Montpelier 8:30 a.m. - Coffee fellow-

ship. 9:15 - Worship.

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

Owner

ST. MARK'S **LUTHERAN (NALC)** 5912 N. Sugar St.,

Uniondale 10 a.m. - Worship. 10:15 -Children's Sunday School.

TOWER LIFE CENTER 11811 N. Wayne St., Zanesville towerlifecenter.com

TURNPOINTE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN 500 W. Logan, Markle

turnpointechurch.com

9:30 a.m. - Fellowship. 10

9:30 a.m. - TLC Groups.

10:30 - Worship.

Worship. UNIONDALE **COMMUNITY CHURCH** 5867 N. Main St.

a.m. - Adult & Children's

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

9 a.m. - Sunday School.

10 a.m. - Worship.

VERA CRUZ FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER CCCU

2771 SE Mulberry St., Vera Cruz 9-10 a.m. - Sunday School. 10-10:30 - Fellowship. 10:30 - Worship.

> WESTSIDE **COMMUNITY CHURCH** 205 S. Adams St.,

Monroe 9 a.m. - Worship. 10:15 - Discipleship for adults & children.

ZANESVILLE

COMMUNITY

CHURCH OF GOD

11984 N. Marzane Rd.

9 a.m. - Bible Class. 10 a.m. - Worship.

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





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Lions Club plants donates tree

The Bluffton Lions Club recently donated and planted a new tulip tree at Lion's Park. Pictured left to right are Karen Harrold, Karen Ottjes, Jim Ottjes, Jerry Ziegler, Sandy Zeigler and Dean Engle. (Photo submitted)



Pictured in the photo from left are Wells County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Erin Prible, Jasmine Spriggle of State Farm-Erin Daugherty, Kevin Sills of Farm Bureau Insurance, Erin Daugherty of State Farm-Erin Daugherty, Danielle Thompson of Flagstar Bank, Casey Robbins of F&M Bank, Steve Higgins of Anthony Wayne Area Council BSA, Keith Muhlenkamp of First Merchants Bank, Katty Navarijo and Norma Alicia Nowarijo of Tienda Mexicana La Katty, Ben Renkenberger of United Way of Wells County, Lizzandro Sosa of Tienda Mexicana La Katty, Nick Huffman of Steffen Group, Erica Lehman of Coldwell Banker-Holloway, Heather Morgan of National Oil & Gas, Angie Topp of Thrive Mortgage of Special Events, Katie Stauffer of Parlor City Cabinetry and Chandler Gerber of the City of Bluffton. (Photo submitted)

Tienda Mexicana La Katty joins downtown Bluffton, bringing authentic flavors and culture

The Wells County Chamber of Commerce is thrilled to announce the arrival of Tienda Mexicana La Katty, a vibrant addition to downtown Bluffton, located at 202 W. Market Street. To mark the occasion, a ribbon-cutting celebration was organized by the Chamber's staff and Ambassadors.

Owner, Norma Alicia Nowarijo, is a native of Matamoros Tamaulipas, Mexico, has proudly introduced Tienda Mexicana La Katty to provide an array of grocery items and supplies hailing from both Mexico and Guatemala. Her passion for preserving her culture and catering to the needs of the community has inspired this exciting venture.

Norma's multicultural background and strong family ties have played a significant role in shaping Tienda Mexicana La Katty. "My parents are from Mexico, and my husband is from Guatemala, so we had to make sure we offered food and supplies from both areas," said Norma. "Family is very important to me. We wanted to fill a need in our community for products that are related to our culture."

The store's name carries a special significance as it is named after Norma's daughter, emphasizing the importance of family throughout this endeavor. The store aims to bring a piece of home to Wells County, making cultural products more accessible to the local population.

Tienda Mexicana La Katty offers a diverse range of products, including grocery staples, beauty items, and household essentials. One of their specialties is sweet bread, a beloved treat in their culture, perfect for pairing with coffee. Additionally, the store provides assistance for sending money back home to Mexico, with Norma utilizing her experience as a translator to help customers navigate the system and answer any questions they may have.

Bilingual in Spanish and English, Norma is dedicated to fostering a sense of community and unity. "My main goal is to connect with my Hispanic roots and get other Hispanics in our community to know that we are here to help. I want people to know that I am here to assist you, no matter your culture or religion."

Tienda Mexicana La Katty also tantalizes taste buds with special authentic Mexican food every Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., offering a taste of their restaurant experience from Texas. With a hopeful eye on the future, Norma envisions expanding her offerings into a restaurant and a butcher store, setting her aspirations on long-term growth.

Operating hours for Tienda Mexicana La Katty are Monday through Friday: 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturdays: 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., and Sundays: 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Norma and her team are excited to welcome the community to experience the rich flavors and warm hospitality at Tienda Mexi-

Stuck announces run for **2024 Wells County Recorder**

has announced her candidacy for Wells County

Recorder. Stuck has previously held the position for two terms, 2008-2012 and 2012-2016, before reaching her term limits. She then worked under her former deputy and current Recorder Carolyn Bertsch until March of 2020 when she was

appointed as Chief Deputy Recorder in Adams County. She has over 20 years of experience in total.

Recognizing her early announcement to the Republican primaries, Stuck told the News-Banner she wanted to announce her campaign early to begin conversations the next chapter of the Wells County Recorder's Office. Bertsch has reached her term limit and a new recorder will be elected in 2024.

In a press release announcing her candidacy, Stuck said, "The love I have for Indiana's first constitutional county office speaks with my years of experience in not one but two county Recorder's Offices. I have a passion for public service, and I take great pride in being a public servant. I've developed an admiration for what the Recorder's office contributes to the history of our county and the state. Being held accountable for the work the office does and having a good quality working relationship with the other county offices, commissioners and county council is high importance to me as we are all there to serve the taxpayer.'

Citing her experience, Stuck said she wants to modernize the processes of the Wells County Recorder's Office, improving workflow and utilizing technology to better serve the community. Specifically, Stuck said she wants

cana La Katty. This new

establishment promises to

be a hub for cultural con-

nection and community sup-

Rina Stuck of Bluffton to digitize and index older microfilm records.

Stuck said the impor-

tance of this work was proved during the pandemic, where recordings were at their all-time highest. "With the knowledge I have gained while working in Adams County, I am

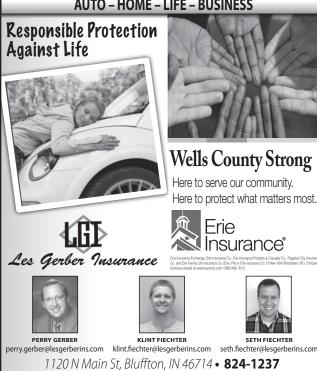
confident that I can implement the changes needed, which will utilize the software and workflow of the office to create an efficiency to the Wells County Recorder's office that will take it to the next

Rina Stuck

level," Stuck added. In 2013 during Stuck's second term she received the Indiana Recorders Association Outstanding Recorders Service Award, was honored in 2015 with being Association of Indiana Counties Recorder of the Year. She has also served on boards and leadership for the Recorders Association Education Committee, Recorder's Legislation Committee, and Association of Indiana Counties. She is also an alumni of the Richard G. Lugar Excellence in Public Service Series. Locally, Stuck serves with the Bluffton Street Fair Board, Friends of the Shelter and Wells County Republicans.



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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2023 · The News-Banner · Page 1a

Bishop Luers ends Tigers' season for second straight year in the regional final

By RYAN WALKER FORT WAYNE — Bluff-

ton's football season ended the same way it did last year - falling on the road to Bishop Luers in a 15-7 final score Friday night.

The game was much closer than last year's 35-6 rout as the Tigers (10-3) returned the vast majority of their team, but not enough to overcome the now 22-time regional champion Knights

Bluffton will be graduating 16 seniors on the roster, a class that broke the 34-year drought of a sectional title and won it twice, and a group that poured everything over the past two seasons and cut the losses in the regional final down by 21 points to the Knights.

"It's a tough group to watch play their last game," said a teary-eyed Bluffton head coach Brent Kunkel after the game. "They've done a lot for our program. (The) winningest all-time class in school history, two sectional titles, and played their butts off tonight. It sucks. It sucks.'

The Tigers had their opportunities in all four quarters and plenty of them.

The Knights' defensive unit took the run game away for mostly the entire game, holding for 2.4 yards per attempt. Five Tiger drives stalled for three-and-outs, and seven total punts were the difference.

Khamel Moore and Andrew Hunt had a few carries that had life but never consistently.

Bluffton's offensive line was the primary reason for Moore, Tucker Jenkins, and Cooper Craig to run through with much success. The coaching staff's game plan in the first half was to pound

the rock, running the ball 26 times to just three Braxton Betancourt throws. But what they didn't expect was it not to work like it has all

"They were much better up front — maybe more than we had seen on film or anticipated," Kunkel admit-

It wasn't just the Tigers that struggled to get the offense going, as the Knights couldn't find much of anything either.

Of the three possessions in the first half, Luers was only able to cross midfield once, which turned into a 28-yard field goal by Angel

The two teams were an even 92-92 in total yardage, with Bluffton's pressure on senior quarterback Kohen McKenzie enough to force three straight third-down completions.

The third quarter was where Bishop Luers showcased its speed and athleticism that ate the Tigers alive last season.

McKenzie hit Isaac Zay for a 26-yard play on a crucial third-and-seven completion to set up the game's first touchdown. McKenzie lobbed a screen pass to the speedy running back Gio Jimenez for 15 yards, who carried a pair of Tigers to the endzone with him.

After Bluffton went three-and-out for the third straight time to open the second half, Bishop Luers quickly moved up the field. It took four run plays to set up shop in the fourth quarter at the Tigers' 20-yard line. The first play in the quarter was a 20-yard score from Mickey Daring, who also muscled his way across the goalline with defenders

The two touchdowns only tallied 12 points, as one of Rojas' kicks hit the left upright of the goal post, and Brody Lewis blocked another. The score remained at one possession and technically still within Bluffton's

But still, the offense was swarmed by Knights.

Even when the Tigers got a fumble recovery near midfield, an interception followed two plays later.

It didn't help that Betancourt took a hit in the third quarter and was removed for the rest of the game with an elbow injury, Kunkel confirmed. Freshmen Axton Beste came out from the sidelines to try and muster a comeback against a top-10 team in 2A down 15 points.

Two drives later, the Knights gave the Tigers their best opportunity to score of the night, fumbling again but now at their own 20-yard line.

After a five-yard false start, Beste rainbowed a perfect pass into the hands of AJ Streveler, who snatched the ball and came down with a 25-yard score on the far right side.

With Bluffton back in business, it tried an onside kick but failed with over two minutes remaining.

The Knights got down to the Bluffton 29-yard line and threw an incomplete pass to give the ball back to with 2:16 to go.

Beste completed a pair of passes for a first down to Jenkins and Hunt, but was faced with a 3rd-and-eight. Beste was rushed in the pocket and couldn't escape the Knights' pressure, losing 11 yards.

The final play was an interception that iced the



Bluffton's A.J. Streveler hangs onto the ball long enough to score a Tiger touchdown in the fourth quarter Friday night at Bishop Luers. The Knights' Daveon Surry is draped all over Streveler and would manage to knock the ball loose but not until after Streveler had established possession of the ball across the plane of the end zone. (Photo by Glen Werling)

All things considered, Beste, the likely candidate to replace Betancourt behind center next year, did what he could when called upon. He went 8-15 with 60 yards.

"I thought Axton came in and did some good things, but he's a 14-year-old kid playing in the regional final against Bishop Luers," Kunkel said.

Bishop Luers will play for the semi-state next week at home against Lafayette Central Catholic. In the other semi-state, Southmont will travel to North Posey. sports@news-banner.com

BISHOP LUERS 15, BLUFFTON 7 At Bishop Luers Bluffton 0 0 0 7 – 7 Bishop Luers 3 0 6 6 – 15 **Scoring Summary**

First Quarter
L—Angel Rojas 28-yard field goal, 4:14. **Second Quarter**

No scoring.

Third Quarter L—Kohen McKenzie 15-yard pass to Gio Jimenez (kick no good), 5:50.

Fourth Quarter L—Mickey Daring 20-yard run (kick blocked), 11:51. B—Axton Beste 25-yard pass to AJ Streveler (Yaroslav Serdiuk kick),

Team Statistics

Passing (C-A-I) Penalties-Yards Penalties-Yards 6-50 Fumbles-Lost 3-2 Punts-Average 4-39 Time of Possession 19:47 4-30 1-0 7-34 **Individual Statistics** Rushing: Bluffton: Khamel Moore 15-50, Andrew Hunt 4-20, Braxton Betancourt 4-19, Tucker Jenkins betancourt 4-19, Tucker Jenkins 5-12, Cooper Craig 2-3, Hunter Wenger 1-2, Axton Beste 3-(-22). Bishop Luers: Gio Jimenez 16-73, Mickey Daring 8-40, Finn Saxe 1-4, Daveon Surry 1-(-1), Kohen McKen-zie 1-(-3).

103 67 19-11-0 22-9-2

Rushes-Yards

Yards Passing

Passing: Bluffton: Axton Beste 8-15-2 60, Braxton Betancourt 1-7-0 7. Bishop Luers: Kohen McKenzie 11-18-0 103, Jaylen White 0-1-0 0. Receiving: Bluffton: AJ Streveler 1-25, Tucker Jenkins 3-20, Ben Ramseyer 1-14, Andrew Hunt 3-8, Trey Bustos 1-0. Bishop Luers: Isaac Zay 4-57, Gio Jimenez 3-30, Jaylen White 3-13, Wes Javins 1-3.

Michigan coach Jim Harbaugh suspended High School Calendar from final 3 games of the regular-season

By RALPH D. RUSSO AP College Football Writer

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (AP) The Big Ten Conference banned Jim Harbaugh from coaching at Michigan's three

remaining

regular-season

games on Fri-

day, defying a

warning from the

second-ranked

Wolverines in

an extraordinary confrontation

over an alleged

sign-stealing

scheme that has

rocked college



Jim Harbaugh

football.

we intend to seek a court order, together with Coach Harbaugh, preventing this disciplinary action from taking effect," it said.

The Big Ten said the school had violated its sportsmanship policy by conducting "an impermissible, in-person scouting operation over multiple years" that resulted in "an unfair competitive advantage that compromised the integrity of competition." As a result, the Big Ten said Michigan must play without Harbaugh against the Nittany Lions (8-1) this weekend, next week at Maryland and in the annual showdown game against rival and No. 3 Ohio State two weeks from now. While Harbaugh is allowed at practices and other activities, he cannot be 'present at the game venue.'

Such a fight between a conference and one of its most storied members is unheard of. The dispute began three weeks ago and the allegations leaked day by day, with it becoming clear the Wolverines do not want their undefeated

season derailed by an unfinished investigation of activities it says Harbaugh knew nothing about and are not unheard of across college football.

Michigan says it is cooperating with the NCAA, which does not outlaw sign-stealing, but has rules against in-person scouting of opponents and using electronic equipment to steal signs. The allegations against Michigan suggest a far more robust approach to gathering signs. The low-level staffer at the center

of the investigation, Connor Stalions, resigned last week. Through his attorney, Stalions said that, to his knowledge, none of the Michigan coaches told anyone to break rules or were aware of improper conduct when it came to advance scouting.

The NCAA probe is likely to stretch well past the season. Big Ten's rules allowed for swifter action and coaches and athletic directors in the league had pushed Petitti to discipline Michigan under conference bylaws that cover sportsmanship and competitive integ-

Multiple Big Ten schools found tickets purchased in Stalions' name to their games over the last three seasons. Tickets to the last two Southeastern Conference championship games were also purchased in Stalions, name. Big Ten schools have also provided the NCAA some video surveillance footage of people sitting in those seats, holding cellphones pointed toward the

Harbaugh served a school-imposed, three-game suspension earlier this season for an unrelated and unresolved NCAA infractions case tied to recruiting. The former star quarterback for the Wolverines has an 80-25 overall record and a 59-17 mark in Big Ten

games over nine seasons with the Wolverines.

The Big Ten's disciplinary action may push Harbaugh to seek another opportunity to coach in the NFL. He tried to go back to the league after the 2021 season.

Michigan has contended that other schools steal signs. A former employee at a Big Ten football program, whose role was to steal signs, said he was given details from multiple conference schools before his team played Michigan to compile a spreadsheet of play-calling signals used by the Wolverines last year. He spoke with The Associated Press on condition of anonymity, fearing the disclosures could impact his coaching career.

The person said he also passed along screenshots of text-message exchanges with staffers from a handful of Big Ten football teams with the Wolverines, giving them proof that other conference teams were colluding to steal signs from Harbaugh's team.

He said he gave the additional details to Michigan last week because he hoped it would help Harbaugh's embattled program, adding he believes the head coach and his assistants are being unfairly blamed for the actions of a rogue staffer.

SATURDAY, NOV 11 ton, 7:30 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL: SWIMMING & DIVING: Northridge at Norwell, 2:30

p.m.; Eastbrook at Southern Wells, 7:30 p.m.; East Noble at Bluffton, 2:30 p.m.

SWIMMING & DIVING: Norwell girls Invitational, 9

MONDAY, NOV 13 No events scheduled **TUESDAY, NOV 14** GIRLS BASKETBALL:

Homestead at Norwell, 7:45 p.m.; Mississinewa at Bluff-

(girls only) Norwell at Adams Central, 5:30 p.m.; Bluffton at Huntington North, 5:30 p.m. **WEDNESDAY, NOV 15**

No events scheduled **THURSDAY, NOV 16** BOYS BASKETBALL: Mississinewa at Southern Wells, FRIDAY, NOV 17

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Norwell at Blackhawk Christian, 7:30 p.m.

'Generational player' **Caitlin Clark puts on** a show with 44 pts over No. 8 Va Tech

By STEVE REED AP Sports Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (ÂP) — Virginia Tech coach Kenny Brooks could only shake his head when asked about trying to slow down Caitlin Clark, the college women's basketball sensation from Iowa.

"I love my girls (on my team), but sometimes you're playing checkers and she's playing chess," Brooks said. She's that good.'

Clark wasn't just good on Thursday night, she was tre-

The Associated Press' 2023 player of the year poured in 44 points and had eight rebounds to lead No. 3 Iowa to an 80-76 win over No. 8 Virginia Tech in a contest of Final Four teams from a year ago that exceeded expectations.

Clark went 13 of 31 from the field and had five 3's. She got to the basket with relative ease, converting several onehanded scoop layups while finding her way to the foul line time and time again. She made 13 of 17 free throws, and anyone who attempted to guard her soon wound up with a seat on the bench next to Brooks in foul trouble.

She was, on almost every possession, uncoverable even as the Hokies knew she was getting the ball.

When she wasn't scoring, Clark was making those around her better. She finished with six assists, but could have easily had 10 or more had teammates not repeatedly missed easy layups.

"She is a generational player and we are going to watch this young lady play for a very long time and she is going to play at a very high level," Brooks said.

More than 15,000 spectators turned out on a weeknight in Charlotte, North Carolina, many coming just to see Clark play, which is not an uncommon phenomenon around the country. Wherever the Hawkeyes played last year, the host city would see a dramatic spike in attendance of more than 3,000 just to see Clark.

to win a third straight Big Ten title and the school's first national championship since 1997. Michigan's plane landed in Pennsylvania shortly before the announcement. It issued a statement ridiculing the decision. "Like all members of the Big Ten Conference, we are entitled to a fair,

Harbaugh was disciplined by the

conference less than 24 hours before

the Wolverines play at No. 9 Penn

State in their toughest matchup of the

season so far. His team (9-0) has a shot

deliberate, and thoughtful process to determine the full set of facts before a judgment is rendered," the school said. "Today's action by Commissioner Tony Petitti disregards the conference's own handbook, violates basic tenets of due process, and sets an untenable precedent of assessing penalties before an investigation has been completed."

Harbaugh has denied any knowledge of an improper scouting scheme in his program. Michigan warned earlier this week that it was prepared to take possible legal action if the conference punished the program before a full investigation; the NCAA and the Big Ten are both looking into the Getting a court order could prove

difficult before Saturday's game; Friday is the recognized federal holiday for Veteran's Day and courts were closed and Michigan noted that in its response. "To ensure fairness in the process,

News-Banner Scoreboard

FOOTBALL High School

Friday's Scores Regional Championship Class 6A Center Grove 14, Warren Central 0 Crown Point 34, Penn 33 Indpls Ben Davis 27, Indpls Cathe-

Westfield 24, Hamilton Southeast-Class 5A Bloomington South 42, Evansville

North 21

Decatur Central 41, Whiteland 7 Ft. Wayne Snider 19, Mishawaka 18 Merrillville 24, Valparaiso 20 Class 4A
E. Central 47, Evansville Memo-

Leo 41, Mississinewa 7 New Palestine 39, Mooresville 6 NorthWood 38, New Prairie 14 Class 3A

Heritage Hills 24, Batesville 21 Indpls Chatard 35, Delta 6 Knox 41, W. Lafayette 23 Class 2A Ft. Wayne Luers 15, Bluffton 7 Lafayette Catholic 22, LaVille 0 N. Posey 28, Triton Central 13 Southmont 41, Eastern Hancock 34

Class 1A Adams Central 29, Carroll (Flora) 0 Indpls Lutheran 14, Providence 7 N. Judson 44, Indpls Park Tudor 26 Sheridan 24, N. Decatur 20

NFL AMERICAN CONFERENCE

	Eas	st										
W	L	Т	Pct PF PA									
	3	0	.667 285 225									
	4		.556 240 160									
N.Y. Jets 4	4	Õ	.500 132 156									
New England2	7	0	.222 135 228									
	Sou	th										
W	L	Т	Pct PF PA									
Jacksonville 6	2		.750 193 156									
	4		.500 187 165									
Indianapolis 4		Õ	.444 232 242									
Tennessee 3		0	.375 148 160									
	Nor	th										
W	L	Т	Pct PF PA									
Baltimore 7	2	0	.778 239 124									
Cincinnati 5	3	0	.625 155 162									
Cleveland 5	3	0	.625 181 139									
Pittsburgh 5	3	0	.625 133 163									
,	We	st										
W		Т	Pct PF PA									
Kansas City 7	2	0	.778 208 143									
L.A. Chargers4	4	0	.500 201 174									
Las Vegas 4	5	0	.444 156 193									
	5	0	.375 172 226									
NATIONAL	NATIONAL CONFERENCE											
East												
W												
Philadelphia 8			.889 252 195									
Dallas 5	3	0	.625 220 148									

Washington 4 5 N.Y. Giants 2 7 Ŏ .444 191 245 0 .222 101 217 South
W L T
ns5 4 0
4 5 0 Pct PF PA .556 195 171 .444 166 192 New Orleans5 Atlanta Tampa Bay 3 Carolina 1 5 8 0 .375 158 167 .111 153 242 North Pct PF PA .750 200 165 W L T 2 0 Detroit .556 206 190 .375 160 159 Minnesota 4 Green Bay 3 5 7 3 .300 204 255 West W L T
San Francisco5 3 0
Seattle 5 3 0 Pct PF PA

.625 218 140 .625 171 175

.333 178 204

.111 151 240

Friday night's regional at Luers. (Photo by Glen Werling)

By MICHAEL MAROT

AP Sports Writer

night.

i n

Then

the reign-

national

player of

the year

enjoyed

watching

his team-

mates put

away the victory.

Edey finished with 18

points and eight rebounds,

Lance Jones scored 11 of his

15 points in the second half

and Braden Smith nearly

delivered his first triple-dou-

ble as No. 3 Purdue ran away

from Morehead State 87-57.

itself, but he's a great play-

er," coach Preston Spra-

dlin said after his Eagles

struggled to match up with

the 7-foot-4 Edey. "At 6-11,

he's good enough to be the

best player in the country.

He's that good with the skill

set and all of those things, so

"His size is unique in

WEST LAFAYETTE,

Thursday's Games Chicago 16, Carolina 13 Sunday's Games Indianapolis vs New England at

L.A. Rams 3 6 Arizona 1 8

Frankfurt, DEU, 9:30 a.m. Cleveland at Baltimore, 1 p.m. Green Bay at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m. Houston at Cincinnati, 1 p.m. New Orleans at Minnesota, 1 p.m. San Francisco at Jacksonville, 1

Tennessee at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m. Atlanta at Arizona, 4:05 p.m. Detroit at L.A. Chargers, 4:05 p.m. N.Y. Giants at Dallas, 4:25 p.m. Washington at Seattle, 4:25 p.m. N.Y. Jets at Las Vegas, 8:20 p.m. Open: Kansas City, Miami, L.A.

Rams, Philadelphia

Monday's Games Denver at Buffalo, 8:15 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 16

Cincinnati at Baltimore, 8:15 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19

Arizona at Houston, 1 p.m. Chicago at Detroit, 1 p.m. Dallas at Carolina, 1 p.m. L.A. Chargers at Green Bay, 1 p.m. Las Vegas at Miami, 1 p.m. N.Y. Giants at Washington, 1 p.m. Pittsburgh at Cleveland, 1 p.m. Tennessee at Jacksonville, 1 p.m. Tampa Bay at San Francisco, 4:05

p.m. N.Y. Jets at Buffalo, 4:25 p.m. Seattle at L.A. Rams, 4:25 p.m. Open: Indianapolis, New England, Atlanta, New Orleans

Monday, Nov. 20
Philadelphia at Kansas City, 8:15

BASKETBALL High School

Friday Girls' Scores Benton Central 74, Seeger 26 Bethany Christian 59, Elkhart 22 Bethany Christian 59, Elkhart Chris-

Bremen 59, S. Bend Clay 20 Brown Co. 57, Greencastle 44 Caston 57, N. White 15 Clay City 59, Bloomington Light-

Columbia City 74, Whitko 25
Columbia Columbia Shorth 55, Martinsville 27
Culver Academy 46, N. Miami 41 Daleville 57 Centerville 36 DeKalb 37, Angola 33 Delta 49, Cowan 20 Eastern (Greentown) 54, Taylor 15 Eastside 56, Fremont 48 Edgewood 57, S. Putnam 40 Fountain Central 43, Lafayette Jeff 33

Franklin 58, Greensburg 53 Franklin Co. 58, Northeastern 53 Ft. Wayne Blackhawk 57, New Haven 39

Gibson Southern 61, N. Posey 25 Glenn 39, S. Bend Adams 31 Indpls Attucks 63, IMSA 34 Lebanon 38, Indpls Shortridge 25 Madison 50, Switzerland Co. 47 Marion 50, Muncie Central 38 McCutcheon 72, Logansport 23 Morgan Twp. 61, W. Central 40 Munster 59, Chesterton 45 N. Harrison 58, Eastern (Pekin) 51 N. Montgomery 31, Attica 24 Noblesville 55, Hamilton Hts. 38 Noblesville 55, Hamilton Hts.
Oak Hill 45, Northfield 30
Oldenburg 55, Southwestern
(Hanover) 37
Orleans 37, Salem 32
Penn 64, S. Bend Riley 4
Perry Central 57, Mitchell 22
Plainfield 68, Danville 64

Plainfield 68. Danville 64 Richmond 63, Anderson 57 S. Bend Washington 87, Mishawaka

Shelbyville 69, Edinburgh 13 Silver Creek 42, Seymour 34 Tri-West 52, Crawfordsville 10 Vincennes (South Knox-73, Pike Waldron 64, Southwestern (Shelby)

Lewis blocks extra point in regional vs. Luers

Wawasee 43, Westview 31 Western 80, Frankfort 9 Winamac 57, Argos 55 Woodlan 43, Bellmont 38 Banks of Wabash Tournament Championship Parke Heritage 54, N. Vermillion 30 First Round

Corydon 65, Rock Creek Academy Third Place\ Riverton Parke 38, S. Vermillion 10 Corydon Central Tournament First Round Borden 54, Crawford Co. 32

Evansville Central 65, New Albany Washington 50, Vincennes Rivet 23

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlan	tic Di	visio	on	
	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	7	1	.875	_
Boston	6	2	.750	1
New York	4	4	.500	3
Toronto	4	4	.500	3
Brooklyn	4	5	.444	31/2
South		Divis		
	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	5	3	.625	_
Miami	4	4	.500	1
Orlando	4	4	.500	1
Charlotte	3	5	.375	2
Washington	2	6	.250	3
Cent	ral Di	visio		
	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	6	3	.667	_
Milwaukee	5	3	.625	1/2
Cleveland	3	5	375	21/2

.333

 $4\frac{1}{2}$

GB

6 Detroit .200 WESTERN CONFERENCE Southwest Division **L** 2 3 5 6 8 Dallas Houston .625 New Orleans

Chicago

1½ 3 4 6 .444 .333 .111 San Antonio Memphis Northwest Division W GB Denver 8 .889 1½ 2½ Minnesota Oklahoma City .750 .625 2 3 5 7 .375 .300 Portland **Pacific Division W** 6 4 GB Pct Golden State .667 1½ 2 2½ 2½ 2½

L 3 4 4 5 5 Phoenix .429 .375 .375 Sacramento L.A. Lakers L.A. Clippers 3 5 .375

Thursday's Games
Indiana 126, Milwaukee 124 Atlanta 120, Orlando 119

Adams 120, Orlando 119 Friday's Games Charlotte 124, Washington 117 Philadelphia 114, Detroit 106 Boston 121, Brooklyn 107 Minnesota 117, San Antonio 110 Utah 127, Memphis 121 Houston 104, New Orleans 101 Dallas 144, L.A. Clippers 126 L.A. Lakers at Phoenix, late Oklahoma City at Sacramento, late Saturday's Games

Milwaukee at Orlando, 6 p.m. Toronto at Boston, 7 p.m. Miami at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.

Cleveland at Golden State, 8:30 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Charlotte at New York, 12 p.m.
Washington at Brooklyn, 3 p.m. Memphis at L.A. Clippers, 3:30 p.m. Indiana at Philadelphia, 6 p.m. Dallas at New Orleans, 7 p.m. Denver at Houston, 7 p.m. Detroit at Chicago, 7 p.m. Miami at San Antonio, 7 p.m. Oklahoma City at Phoenix, 8 p.m. Minnesota at Golden State, 8:30 p.m. Portland at L.A. Lakers, 10 p.m.

New York at Boston, 7:30 p.m. Washington at Toronto, 7:30 p.m. Chicago at Milwaukee, 8 p.m. Cleveland at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

College Men's College Basketball Scores Friday, Nov. 10 EAST

Davidson 64, Maryland 61 Penn St. 74, Lehigh 65 Rutgers 69, Boston U. 45 SOUTH Arizona 78, Duke 73

Auburn 86, SE Louisiana 71 Florida St. 94, Kennesaw St. 67 Georgia 80, Wake Forest 77 Kentucky 81, Texas A&M Com-

Miami 88, UCF 72
Virginia 73, Florida 70
MIDWEST
Butler 91, SE Missouri 56 Cincinnati 93, Detroit 61 IUPUI 66, Valparaiso 56 Illinois 64, Oakland 53 Iowa 98, Alabama St. 67 Kansas 99, Manhattan 61 Marquette 95, Rider 65 Memphis 70, Missouri 55 Michigan 92, Youngstown St. 62 Northwestern 71, Dayton 66 Purdue 87, Morehead St. 57
Tennessee 80, Wisconsin 70
Texas A&M 73, Ohio St. 66
Xavier 79, Jacksonville 56
SOUTHWEST

Oklahoma 82, MVSU 43 Texas 86, Delaware St. 59 **FAR WEST** Adams St. 70, Texas-Permian

Basin 67 BYU 74, San Diego St. 65 Colorado 95, Grambling St. 63 Colorado St. 105, Wright St. 77 Gonzaga 86, Yale 71 Oregon 75, Montana 61

Women's College Basketball Scores Women's College Basketball Scores Friday, Nov. 10

EAST
Penn St. 107, Navy 44
Syracuse 101, CCSU 53
SOUTH
Alabama 79, Winthrop 50

MIDWEST

Detroit 83, Chicago St. 48 FAR WEST
Arizona 87, N. Arizona 64

Arizona St. 75, Montana St. 62 BYU 77, Weber St. 49 Nebraska 71, Wyoming 52

HOCKEY

Detroit Tampa Bay 14 6
Toronto 14 7
Buffalo 14 7
Montreal 13 6
Ottawa 12 5 Ottawa 12 5 7 0 10 46

Metropolitan Division

EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division

GP W L OTPts GF GA

13 11 1 1 23 44 25

13 8 4 1 17 40 37

14 7 5 2 16 50 45

Bay14 6 4 4 16 53 50

14 7 5 2 16 50 52

14 7 6 1 15 44 43

al 13 6 5 2 14 39 46

12 5 7 0 10 46 43 **Boston** Florida

Central Division

GP W L OTPts GF GA GP W L OTP*

Dallas 12 8 3 1 1

Colorado 12 8 4 0 1

Winnipeg 13 7 4 2 1

St. Louis 12 6 5 1 1

Arizona 13 6 6 1 1

Minnesota 14 5 7 2 1

Chicago 12 5 7 0 1

Nashville 13 5 8 0 1

Pacific Division

GP W L OTP* 1 17 37 0 16 41 2 16 47 1 13 29 1 13 42 2 12 47 0 10 31 34 37 56 41 0 10 37

GP W L OTPts GF GA
Vegas 14 11 2 1 23 53 32
Vancouver 13 10 2 1 21 59 26
Los Angeles 13 8 2 3 19 54 38

Anaheim 12 7 5 Seattle 14 5 6 Calgary 13 4 7 Edmonton 12 2 9 San Jose 13 2 10 0 14 37 3 13 38 2 10 36 1 5 31 1 5 17 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

Thursday's Games Vancouver 5, Ottawa 2 N.Y. Rangers 4, Minnesota 1 Boston 5, N.Y. Islanders 2 Chicago 5, Tampa Bay 3 Montreal 3, Detroit 2, OT Dallas 5, Columbus 2 Winnipeg 6, Nashville 3 St. Louis 2, Arizona 1 Seattle 4, Colorado 3

San Jose 3, Edmonton 2
Pittsburgh 4, Los Angeles 3, OT
Friday's Games Washington 4, New Jersey 2
Buffalo 3, Minnesota 2
Florida 5, Carolina 2
Toronto 5, Calgary 4, SO
Philadelphia at Anaheim, late
San Jose at Vegas, late
Saturday's Games

Saturday's Games
Columbus at Detroit, 1 p.m.
Dallas at Winnipeg, 3 p.m.
Boston at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Calgary at Ottawa, 7 p.m. Carolina at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.
Vancouver at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Buffalo at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30

Arizona at Nashville, 8 p.m. St. Louis at Colorado, 9 p.m Edmonton at Seattle, 10 p.m. Philadelphia at Los Angeles, 10:30

Sunday's Games Chicago at Florida, 1 p.m. Dallas at Minnesota, 6 p.m. Columbus at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m. Vancouver at Montreal, 7 p.m. San Jose at Anaheim, 8 p.m.

Monday's Games N.Y. Islanders at Edmonton, 8:30

Colorado at Seattle, 10 p.m.

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Edey is one of many problems the Boilermakers pose with a focused, deep and talented roster.

he's a huge challenge.'

Purdue (2-0) broke the

rolls to win over Morehead State school record for most consecutive regular-season wins against non-conference foes with its 26th in a row. The

Brody Lewis for Bluffton blocks a field goal attempt by Luers' Angel Rojas in the third quarter of

Zach Edey dominates as Purdue

Ind. (AP) - Zach Edey previous mark stood since started fast again Friday November 1994. Purdue's streak, the long e s t

a loss at Miami in Decem-

ber 2020. And it wouldn't have been this easy without Jones or Smith, who had 11 points, 11 assists and eight rebounds.

active

one in

Division

I, began

following

'You see Lance's ability to pressure the basketball and how that really helps us," Purdue coach Matt Painter said. "And then you see when Braden pushes the ball and how it finds him, whether he's shooting or driving the ball, how it helps

Riley Minix led the defending Ohio Valley Conference regular-season champions with 18 points. Jordan Lathon had 12 for Morehead State (1-2), which has lost to Alabama and Purdue.

Edey spurred Purdue's on Monday night.

opening 15-0 run with four points, four rebounds and all three of his assists in the first five minutes. And after the Eagles cut the deficit to 26-17 midway through the first half and 42-29 at halftime, Jones made sure they didn't stand a chance in the second half.

After Kalil Thomas made a 3-pointer to trim the margin to 10, Jones scored eight points in a 15-5 spurt that gave Purdue a 57-37 cushion. Morehead State never got close again.

"Over the past couple days, I've kind of been hard on myself about my shooting," Jones said. "You're just taking your shot, so I just let it run tonight."

BIG PICTURE

Purdue: Beating Samford and Morehead State may not look impressive on paper. Yet both are coming off league titles and could contend again this season, so it might be a better start than some think.

POLL IMPLICATIONS Two blowout wins to open

the season should be enough to keep the Boilermakers among the top five in an 18th consecutive AP poll. **UP NÉXT**

Purdue: Will host Xavier

Dragged down by husband's drinking

Dear Annie: My husband and I have care on his own, been married for 36 years, together for now is the time for 40. He suffers from anxiety and depression and has chosen alcohol as his drug of choice. He thinks he is not an alcoholic because he can quit for weeks and even months at a time.

We have four grown children and five grandchildren. The kids all talk about their dad's drinking problem and have said things to him. I have also told him how much it hurts our relationship, but he continues. He's not affectionate himself and to othanymore, rarely goes out of his way to do nice things for me, yet he still wants to have sex. I can hardly stand it when he touches me because I harbor so much resentment toward him.

I know the long-term effects of alcohol abuse, and he is already starting to show signs — episodes of blacking out, memory loss and liver damage to name a few. He has gotten physical with me only once and choked me in front of two of the kids while drunk. He says he doesn't remember it. I am at a point in my life that I want to travel and do things. I am the major breadwinner, and I feel like it's my right to enjoy life.

There was one point where I left him and, while separated, connected with a friend of ours going through a similar situation. We were of great emotional support for one another. This relationship became physical, and it was amazing — tender and fulfilling for both of us. We both went back to our partners because of our children and grandchildren and wanting to keep our families whole. We still talk and support one another as friends. I have just grown so unhappy and don't know what to do. — Struggling in the Midwest

Dear Struggling: Your husband is exhibiting frightening, unacceptable behavior. First thing's first, you need to ensure your safety as well as that of your children and grandchildren. While you a win-win. say he's not physical often, violence to any degree is not OK.

Since your husband will not seek

Dear a serious interven-Annie tion. Between you by Annie Lane and your children, hopefully an ultimatum will make him finally come to terms with

how detrimental

his addiction has

become, to both



ers. Rehabilitation first and, eventually, marriage counseling second, if he is willing to commit to bettering your relationship. With all this going on, you might consider seeking out your local Al-Anon chapter for support.

Dear Annie: I am writing regarding "No Visits for Nana," the elderly woman whose adult daughter, grandchildren and great-grandchildren live two hours away and almost never visit. I find that many elders have unrealistic expectations for their family who are busy with work, school, etc., yet are not particularly amenable to making changes of their own.

"Nana" needs to consider selling her home and moving into adult/assisted living. She can do this near where she currently resides or closer to her family. It does sound as if she would benefit from more social interaction. She may or may not see her family as much as she would like but will probably see them a lot more frequently if she does this. — Champion for Change

Dear Champion: I wholeheartedly agree with you. If "Nana" doesn't have much tying her down to her current community, a move, when and if feasible, is a no-brainer. Being closer to her family and having more opportunities to see them plus being surrounded by peers in an assisted-living setting equals

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

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BEETLE BAILEY





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CRANKSHAFT





By Bil Keane



My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham

Q: This world is getting worse by the day. There is so much hatred, anger, and rage. It has even become dangerous to go to church these days. Where is all this heading, and how do we keep one another encouraged in order to overcome fear of living? -

A: Evil has been present in the world from the moment sin invaded God's perfect world. Wars have raged around the world from the beginning of time. But part of the angst that is present today can be the result of a 24-hour news cycle, something that hit in the last part of the 20th century with the coming of cable news and the internet. People are for-

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351 851 318 545 (4:00) \(\frac{\psi}{\psi}\times\) Scream (22) (55) \(\frac{\psi}{\psi}\times\) Corremy (1023, Horror) Jenna Ortega, Courteney Cox, Melissa Barrera.

375 859 327 553 (20) *** ** Zodiac (2007, Thriller) Mark Ruffalo, Robert Do

Let's Take A Fishing It Outside Story

(15) 2 2 15 15 (3:30) College Football Teams TBA All the action from NCAA college football. (L) (N)

Law & Order: SVU

Evil has been present in the world from the moment sin invaded God's perfect world

ever hearing about bad news. But the Bible says that in the final days before Jesus returns to this earth there will be "terrible times." Jesus Himself declared that we "will hear of wars and rumors of wars" (Matthew 24:6, NKJV). More than any other time in history, more Christians are mar-

tyred for their faith. Our world is filled with hatred, anger, conflict, turmoil, and insecurity. Jesus said the basic problem is in our hearts — and the reason is because we are alienated from our Creator. Instead of giving God His rightful place at the center of our lives, we have substituted the gods of this world that claim to satisfy mankind's longings. But only Christ can change our hearts.

Does this mean that we can never make any progress against the massive problems that assail society? No, of course not; God wants us to fight evil wherever it is found. But our greatest need is for repentance and spiritual renewal and to keep Christ at the center of our thoughts and actions.

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not lear... still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:1-2, 10, NKJV).

(This column is based on the words and writings of the late Rev. Billy Gra-

ham.) ©2023 Billy Graham Literary Trust. Distributed by Tribune Content Agen-

cy, LLC.

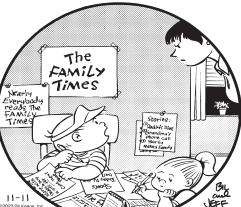
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Postgame NWSL Pre. NWSL Soccer Championship: Teams TBA From Snapdragon

Stadium in San Diego. (L) (N)

Law & Order: SVU "And Law-SVU "Never Turn

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Do my homework? Mommy! What about 'freedom of the press'?

The LOCKHORNS



"HAVE A HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LORETTA! IT'S NOT EVERY DAY YOU HAVE ONE ... SOMETIMES NOT EVEN EVERY YEAR."

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★★★ The Man From U.N.C.L.E. (2015, Action)

Armie Hammer, Alicia Vikander, Henry Cavill.

John Bradley, Halle Berry.

(10) ★★★★ Out of the Furnace Christian Bale.

₹★★★★ The Godfather (1972, Crime Story) Al Pacino, James Caan, Marlon

♀★ **Bless the Child** ('00) Jim Smits, Kim Basinger.

The Godfather, Part II

('74) Robert Duvall, Al Pacino

(:20) ♥★★★★ Terminator 2: Judgment Day ('91) Linda Hamilton, Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Focus (N)

"When Worlds Collide'

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****★★ The Woods** ('05) Bruce Campbell, Patricia Clarkson.

D1 - Dish

Place Your Ad 24/7: GO TO www.news-banner.com AND CLICK ON "Classifieds" OR CALL **824-0224** MON-FRI 8-5 • TOLLFREE **800-579-7476** • FAX **824-0700** WE ACCEPT



SEE your ad published every day in Wells County homes ...

11/11

Help Wanted

OTR DRIVERS: TRANSPORT

Oversize loads inc. windmill

components. Opportunity for

contracted lane to California to

Texas and return. Personal-

ized dispatch, great pay with

weekly direct deposit, excel-

lent 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 Carri-

ers, 3400 Engle Road, Ft. Wayne, IN 46809, Phone: 260-478-6377 ext 340 or

recruiting@sycamoretrkg.com

THE BLUFFTON POLICE De-

partment is seeking applica-

tions to fill the position of

Ordinance Compliance Officer.

This full-time civilian position is

responsible for ensuring com-

pliance with all city ordinances

and is based in the police department working M-F 8a-4p.

Duties include downtown park-

ing enforcement and resolution

of weed and junk complaints.

The successful applicant must

be at least 18 years old with a

high school diploma or GED

equivalent, possess a respon-

sible driving history and clean

criminal background. Knowl-

edge of law procedures pre-

ferred. Application is available

www.blufftonindiana.net. For more information contact Chief

Police Kyle Randall

824-3320 or kyle.randall@bluff

tonindiana.gov. Applications are due back December 22,

EARLY MORNING DRIVER

needed to deliver papers to

post offices and stores in

southern part of county. Must

have reliable transportation.

Call Natasha or Doug, (260) 824-0224, for more informa-

2023 by 4:30 p.m.

city's website

All ads are searchable at classifieds.news-banner.com...

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

King Classic Sudoku

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VEHICLES

Difficulty: ★★★★

Auto/Trucks

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC General Services Administra-(GSA) Sale Thurs.. November 16, 12pm. View vehicles in person on November 15, 2pm until 5pm and November 16, 8am-12pm. View up to listing www.indianaautoauction.net or www.autoauctions.gsa.gov.



2011 CADILLAC CTS 4 door coupe, V-6, 307 H.P., local, 1 owner, 51,100 miles, Tuscany bronze, clear Carfax Report, \$13.500. 812-699-1341.

INDIANA AUTO AUCTION, INC. Huge Repo Sale November 16, 2023. Over 100 repossessed units for sale. Money order or cashier's check only. \$500 cashier's check or money order deposit per person required. Register 8 am-9:30 am. No public entry after 9:30 am. All vehicles sold AS IS! 4425 W. Washington Center Road, Fort Wayne. (A)

HELOISE HINT: If you start to feel tired while driving. Get off the road as soon as you can. Get a cup of coffee or walk around to make sure that you are awake and ready to drive. Fax Heloise @ 210-HELOISE (435-6473).

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted



JOIN THE BEST- HIRING CARPENTERS SKILLED With our continued growth, we're looking for highly skilled carpenters with at least 4-5 years experience in residential Experience commercial or construction. 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 appli-

hireme@jjacksonco.com www.jjacksonco.com

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 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

Follow us at... twitter.com/newsbanner

OWNER/OPERATORS:

Help Wanted

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, 3400 Engle Road, Ft. Wayne, 46809, 260-478-6377 ext 340 or recruiting@sycamoretrkg.com

LOOKING FOR

EMPLOYEES? Place a 20 word line classified ad for a month for \$52. Add a graphic or photo for an additional \$5. Contact the Bluffton News-Banner, 260-824-0224, 125 N. Johnson St., or online at www.news-banner.com and click on classifieds.

COUNTRY CABINETS LLC, a local custom cabinet shop, is looking for a full time employee. Duties include building and installation of cabinets. Experience a plus, but willing to train the right person. Health benefits, paid vacation and holiday pay included. Call (260) pay incl 341-7273.

HELOISE HINT: In spite of inflation and other current events, many people have quit their jobs. Some companies are looking for new hires. See which companies are hiring by visiting their website, social media pages or a job search site. You can also check this newspaper's want ads. Send your job-success story to HE-LOISE@Heloise.com.

REAL ESTATE

Real Estate

LOOKING TO SELL your Home? Save time & money, connect with the Top Agents in your area to get more MONEY and close FASTER! Call 317-854-9781 (I)

HELOISE HINT: Thinking of painting a room in your home? First, clean the walls thoroughly because paint will not stick to a dirty surface. It will blister or peel instead. So make sure all the walls are wiped clean before applying any paint. Fax Heloise @ 210-HELOISE (435-

SERVICES

DENIED SOCIAL SECURITY Disability? Appeal! If you're 50+, filed for SSD and denied, our attorneys can help get you approved! No money out of pockets! Call 1-855-995-4758

SERIOUSLY INJURED IN an AUTO ACCIDENT? Let us fight for you! Our network has recovered millions for clients! Call today for a FREE consultation! 844-517-6414 (I)

Public

ale Calendar **BIDDING ENDS 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 Dalton, RS Prussia glassware, antique & modern furniture. Sale manager, Patrick Carter, The Steffen Group Inc., www.steffengrp.com, 260-

NOVEMBER 17-NOVEMBER 24 - (Online Only Auction) - Fiechter, seller. 2357 N. Main St., Bluffton. Glock, Smith & Wesson, Sig Sauer, Ruger, Beretta, Remington, Century Arms, Kel-Tec, Kahr, Savage Arms, Winchester, Bushmaster, Saltwater Arms, handguns, pistols, rifles, shotguns. Preview: Nov. 21 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Nov. 22 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Bluffton Gun & Pawn. Sale manager, Isaac Stoller, The Steffen Group Inc., 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.

NOVEMBER 27 - 6 p.m. -Pamela & Rick Myers, owners. Auction conducted at Wells County 4-H Community Center, 1240 4-H Park Road, Bluffton, IN. Land located at County Rd. 100 N & State Rd. 116, NW corner of Bluffton. 118.91 acres, Sec. 28 & 33, Lancaster Twp., Wells County. These farms will be offered in the following tracts, and/ or combined. Tract 1: 26.18 acres. Tract 2: 92.73 acres. Auctioneer: Jody Holloway, 260-273-0999, Holloway Auction Company, Inc., 260-824-5060, www.HollowayAuction. DECEMBER 1 - 8 a.m.

Secured creditors & various

Adams St., Decatur. Truck & equipment auction. Live and online bidding. Offering 700+ lots! 2012-2014 Freightliner M2106 box trucks, dump trucks, day cabs, sleepers, utility trucks, bucket, trucks, utility & semi trailers, SUV's, pickup trucks, 100+ various skid steer attachments & much more! Cars, SUV, 1/2 ton & 3/4 ton pickup trucks, cargo & passenger vans! Accepting consignments! Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC, Kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.

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: Pewamo 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.

SUDOKU ANSWER

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Mark your Calendar for this event

FREE EVENT - Surviving the Holidays After Loss Sunday, Nov. 12, 2-4 p.m., Hope Missionary Church. No registration needed. Griefshare.org for more information.

Services

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

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LIVE PAIN FREE with CBD products from AceWellness. We guarantee highest quality, most competitive pricing on CBD products. Softgels, Oils, Skincare, Vape & more. Cou-pon Code: PRINT20 Call Now 833-226-3105 (I)

Lottery Numbers

Friday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY Cash 5 — 02-16-17-33-

Cash4Life — 13-35-55-56-58, Cash Ball: 04

Quick Draw Midday -02-10-12-13-23-30-31-50-54-55-56-59-61-62-63-64-75-76-79-80, BE: 79

Daily Three-Midday — 08-08-08, SB: 06 Daily Three-Evening -

06-07-09, SB: 02 Daily Four-Midday -

00-03-08-03, SB: 06 Daily Four-Evening -06-09-08-00, SB: 02

Quick Draw Evening 03-10-11-23-25-32-33-36-38-39-41-42-49-50-54-56-60-62-66-80, BE: 10

Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$42.6 million

MEGA MILLIO 13-33-59-68-70, Mega Ball: 08, Megaplier: 3X

POWERBALL Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$220 million

Public Notice

LEGAL NOTICE

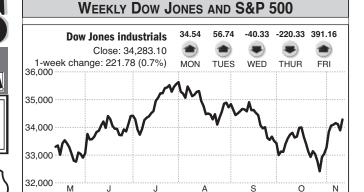
LEGAL NOTICE
CAUSE NO. 45967
PETITION OF NORTHERN
INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE
COMPANY LLC PURSUANT
TO IND. CODE §§ 8-1-2-42, 8-1-2-42, 7 AND 8-1-2-61 FOR (1)
AUTHORITY TO MODIFY ITS RETAIL RATES AND CHARGES FOR GAS UTILITY SERVICE THROUGH A PHASE IN OF RATES; (2) APPROVAL OF NEW SCHEDULES OF RATES AND CHARGES, GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS, AND RIDERS (BOTH EXISTING AND NEW); (3) APPROVAL OF A NEW SALES RECONCILIATION ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM; (4) APPROVAL OF REVISED GAS DEPRECIATION RATES APPLI-DEPRECIATION RATES APPLICABLE TO ITS GAS PLANT IN SERVICE; (5) APPROVAL OF NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE ACCOUNTING RELIEF, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO APPROVAL OF CERTAIN DEFERRAL MECHANISMS FOR PENSION, OTHER POST-DETIDEMENT PENSELTS AND RETIREMENT BENEFITS, AND LINE LOCATE EXPENSES; AND (6) TO THE EXTENT NEC-ESSARY, APPROVAL OF ANY OF THE RELIEF REQUESTED HEREIN PURSUANT TO IND. CODE CH. 8-1-2.5.

Notice is hereby given that on October 25, 2023, Northern Indiana Public Service Company LLC ("NIPSCO") filed a Petition with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission ("Commission") for (1) authority to modify its retail rates and charges for gas utility service through a phase in of rates; (2) approval of new schedules of rates and charges, general rules and regulations, and riders (both existing and post): (3) approval of a power of the post of the pos ing and new); (3) approval of a new Sales Reconciliation Adjustment mechanism; (4) approval of revised gas depreciation rates applicable to its gas plant in service: (5) approval of necessary and appropriate accounting relief, including but not limited to approval of certain deferral mechanisms for pension, other post-retirement benefits, and line locate expenses; and (6) to the extent necessary, approval of any of the relief requested pursuant to Ind. Code ch. 8-1-25. A copy of the Verified Petition and other submissions in this proceeding are on file with the Commission, PNC Center, 101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 East, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204. The telephone number of the Commission is (317) 232-2701. Anyone wishing to protest, challenge, or intervene in this action

may do so by contacting the Com-

nb 11/11

THE WEEK IN REVIEW





	STOCK MARKET INDEXES										
52-1 High	Week Low	Name	Last	Wk Chg	Wk %Chg	YTD %Chg	12-mo %Chg				
35,679.13	31,429.82	Dow Jones Industrials	34,283.10	+221.78	+.65	+3.43	+1.59				
16,717.04	13,230.05	Dow Jones Transportation	14,426.49	-86.27	59	+7.73	88				
1,013.30	765.47	Dow Jones Utilities	837.98	-22.07	-2.57	-13.38	-9.64				
16,458.89	14,471.08	NYSE Composite	15,388.44	-86.76	56	+1.34	+.23				
14,446.55	10,207.47	Nasdag Composite	13,798.11	+319.83	+2.37	+31.83	+21.86				
4,607.07	3,744.22	S&P 500	4,415.24	+56.90	+1.31	+15.00	+10.58				
2,743.01	2,322.38	S&P MidCap	2,439.62	-38.72	-1.56	+.38	-3.65				
46,570.30	37,261.77	Wilshire 5000	44,188.99	+396.87	+.91	+16.06	+10.93				
2,007.31	1,633.67	Russell 2000	1,705.32	-55.38	-3.15	-3.18	-9.42				
15,531.26	11,731.63	Lipper Growth Index	14,611.73	+252.67	+1.76	+21.79					

STOCK EXCHANGE HIGHLIGHTS

NYSE G	AINERS	\$ (\$2 OF	R MORE)	NYSE L	.OSERS	(\$2 or	MORE)	NYSE A	CTIVES (\$1 or i	MORE)
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Unisys	4.41	+1.51	+52.1	WidOpW	2.87	-4.70	-62.1	Palantir	3229377	19.67	+.78
Lifezone n	9.73	+2.65	+37.4	CanoHI rs	5.98	-4.23	-41.4	FordM	2465949	9.86	70
TriumphGp	10.17	+2.07	+25.6	NuScale	2.09	-1.36	-39.4	Uber Tch	2039609	51.58	+3.83
OscrHl	7.11	+1.38	+24.1	GreenDot	7.74	-4.46	-36.6	BkofAm	1811235	27.68	74
TorridHI	3.32	+.63	+23.4	NineEnrgy	2.32	-1.31	-36.1	NewmntCp	1744755	34.20	-4.82
HCI Grp	75.70	+13.01	+20.8	B&W En p	fA11.19	-5.18	-31.6	Pfizer	1526549	29.48	-1.37
GenieEn	24.26	+4.05	+20.0	ProAssur	13.03	-4.86	-27.2	AMC Ent re	1479041	8.01	-2.71
AmbacFin	14.64	+2.14	+17.1	WarbyPrk	10.06	-3.60	-26.4	AT&T Inc	1402721	15.64	24
NetLOffc n	15.11	+2.19	+17.0	InsprMed	125.70	-44.00	-25.9	Disney	1303282	88.27	+3.20
VTEX	6.65	+.94	+16.5	BraemHot	2.08	71	-25.4	Carnival	1289046	12.76	+.21
NASDAQ G	AINER	s (\$2 o	R MORE)	NASDAQ	Losers	s (\$2 on	MORE)	NASDAQ	ACTIVES	(\$1 OR	MORE)
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg

NASDAQ C	GAINER	s (\$2 o	R MORE)	NASDAQ L	OSERS	MORE)	NASDAQ ACTIVES			
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Vol (00)	
Korro rs	42.53	+27.53	+183.5	Ventyx	2.40	-13.19	-84.6	Tesla	6128286 2	
Fitell n	2.80	+1.60	+133.3	OportunF	2.51	-3.61	-59.0	CardioDi	3731838	
TenonMd rs	s 2.41	+1.14	+89.8	WwdWbb u	n 3.15	-4.21	-57.2	PlugPowr I	13161221	
JagGIGrI A	8.92	+3.81	+74.6	Cardlytc	6.11	-7.76	-55.9	RiviaAu A	3109371	
BoneBio w	t 3.84	+1.62	+73.0	AltoIngred	2.09	-2.53	-54.8	Apple Inc s	3033344 1	
ChXiang rs	2.23	+.75	+50.7	CollecAud	2.97	-3.33	-52.9	AMD	2813446	
uCldlnk h	2.27	+.75	+49.3	PlugPowr h	3.53	-3.09	-46.7	Amazon	2283436 1	
Ramaco A	17.47	+5.34	+44.0	DgssIntA rs	3.25	-2.77	-46.0	MarathDig	2273293	
CarbnRev I	n41.00	+11.68	+39.8	MobivAc A	5.10	-4.35	-46.0	SoFiTech	2240105	
GldnHeavn	A23.75	+6.61	+38.6	Zentalis	9.84	-8.04	-45.0	Nvidia	2043738 4	
			_							

3	+183.5	Ventyx	2.40	-13.19	-84.6	Tesla	6128286	214.65	-5.31
0	+133.3	OportunF	2.51	-3.61	-59.0	CardioDi	3731838	1.02	+.65
4	+89.8	WwdWbb un	3.15	-4.21	-57.2	PlugPowr h	3161221	3.53	-3.09
1	+74.6	Cardlytc	6.11	-7.76	-55.9	RiviaAu A	3109371	15.40	-2.31
2	+73.0	AltoIngred	2.09	-2.53	-54.8	Apple Inc s	3033344	186.40	+9.99
5	+50.7	CollecAud	2.97	-3.33	-52.9	AMD	2813446	118.59	+6.34
5	+49.3	PlugPowr h	3.53	-3.09	-46.7	Amazon	2283436	143.56	+4.96
4	+44.0	DgssIntA rs	3.25	-2.77	-46.0	MarathDig	2273293	9.61	+.20
8	+39.8	MobivAc A	5.10	-4.35	-46.0	SoFiTech	2240105	6.94	-1.07
1	+38.6	Zentalis	9.84	-8.04	-45.0	Nvidia	2043738	483.35-	+33.30
STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST									

Wk Wk YTD Wk Chg %Chg %Chg Div Last Chg %Chg %Chg AFLAC AT&T Inc 2.00 81.48 1.11 15.64 -.75 -.24 6.64 149.02 +2.78 +1.9 1.16 378.39 +10.68 +2.9 -0.9 +13.3 IBM Inv QQQ -1.5 -15.0 1.60 118.59 +6.34 +5.6 +83.1 ... 143.56 +4.96 +3.6 +70.9 AMD LincNat 1.80 22.01 -2.55 -10.4 -28.4 Amazon -.18 -2.02 .40 11.80 3.52 77.70 .96 186.40 -1.5 -2.5 +5.7 4.40 194.60 AmAirlines -7.2 Lowes AEP -18.2 MarathDig 9.61 +2.1 +181.0 +9.99 6.68 267.79 Apple Inc s McDnlds ApidMati BP PLC 1.28 150.68 +10.93 1.74 35.08 -.68 +7.8 +54.7 -1.9 +.4 micromobl rs Microsoft -.00 -11.1 -100.0 3.00 369.67 +16.87 -.74 -2.6 -.02 -40.0 .20 4.87 BkofAm .96 27.68 MullnAuto rs -.10 -33.8 .28 .03 -99.7 +.16 +3.4 BitBroLtd rs NL Inds 2.28 50.61 -2.21 1.48 40.42 -.57 -4.2 -1.4 -29.7 BrMySq -.72 -2.8 -.17 -15.3 1.00 25.00 CampSp 1.48 40.42 -28.8 NiSource CardioDi 1.02 +.65+172.7 -3.8 Nikola 5.40 196.88 +2.32 +1.2 2.04 152.62 +.31 +0.2 -1.07 -4.66 -0.4 -3.2 Caterpillar 5.20 239.68 NorflkSo 6.04 142.95 -20.4 Nucor Chevron -.42 -.18 -0.8 +10.4 -0.4 -7.0 +7 4 +230 7 Cisco 1.56 52.59 Nvidia .16 483.35 +33.30 2.12 42.08 .03 -.01 -17.6 -99.1 Nxu Inc A Citigroup -.02 ... -1.29 -11.9 19.67 +.78 +4.1 +206.4 +.13 +0.1 -7.6 1.84 56.72 -10.8 Palantir **DxSOXBr** -75.9 PepsiCo 5.06 166.92 9.53 1.64 29.48 DxBiotBII -18.9 +2.22 +12.1 +113.0 PluaPowr h -3.09 -46.7 **DxSOXBI** 20.60 3.53 Dir30TrBul +3.8 +1.6 +3.3 +41.3 Disney Eaton +3.20 +7.03 88.27 **PShtQQQ** 17.28 -1.54 -8.2 -68.0 RiviaAu A 2.92 221.82 -2.31 -13.0 -16.4 +2.40 +0.7 +5.92 +1.4 EliLilly ExxonMbl +5.3 +63.4 -3.7 -5.9 3.98 343.01 4.13 440.61 4.52 597.71 +29.90 SpdrDJIA 3.80 103.75 -4.03 S&P500ETF +5.92 .60 9.86 .90 87.40 ... 6.94 -1.07 -13.4 +50.5 1.70 109.02 -2.85 -2.5 +11.6 FordM -.70 -6.6 -15.2 SoFiTech FrankElec -.14 StlDynam -0.2 +9.6 .30 33.68 -1.47 -4.2 -11.4 .32 115.27 +6.35 +5.8 +77.152 -.08 -13.5 ... 214.65 -5.31 -2.4 FrptMcM Tellurian -24 +743 GenElec Tesla HP Inc 1.02 27.62 +.20 +0.7 +2.8 Uber Tch 51.58 +3.83 +8.0 +108.6 -7.7 -11.6 8.36 291.59 -4.02 VerizonCm HomeDo -1.4 2.66 35.71 iSh20 yrT 3.05 87.99 +0.4 WalMart 2.28 166.19 +.36 5.09 74.06 -.35 1.77 169.11 -5.38 -0.5 -3.1 +.6 WalgBoots WBroDis A 1.92 20.76 -1.35 -6.1 ... 10.13 -1.64 -13.9 iShiBxHYB -44.4 +6.9 iShR2K 2.80 171.77 +3.65 +2.2 1.40 40.89 -.73 -1.8 .50 38.86 +.85 +2.2 +47.0 WsteMInc

Money	HAIE	3
	Last	Pvs Day
Prime Rate	8.50	8.50
Discount Rate	6.00	6.00
Federal Funds Rate	5.33	5.33
Treasuries		
1-year	5.38	5.39
2-year	5.06	5.03
5-year	4.65	4.65
10-year	4.63	4.64
30-year	4.74	4.78

.58

+.34+139.8

-85.6

WellsFargo

IntelBiSol rs

CURRENCIES						
	Last	Pvs Day				
Australia	1.5734	1.5702				
Britain	1.2217	1.2220				
Canada	1.3810	1.3812				
Euro	.9364	.9374				
Japan	151.60	151.33				
Mexico	17.6482	17.8075				
SwitzerInd	.9027	.9037				
	pressed in U.S.					

MUTUAL FUNDS								
	To	Total Assets			Total Return/Rank			
Name	Obj	(\$MIns)	NAV	4-wk	12-mo	5-year	Load	
American Funds AmrcnBalA m	MA	89,536	30.13	+1.2	+5.6/C	+6.1/B	5.75	
American Funds EuroPacGrA m	FG	18,067	51.66	+0.8	+6.7/C	+4.5/C	5.75	
American Funds FdmtllnvsA m	LB	57,400	67.97	+2.4	+13.2/B	+9.3/D	5.75	
American Funds GrfAmrcA m	LG	106,859	61.19	+2.6	+18.8/D	+10.2/D	5.75	
American Funds IncAmrcA m	ΑL	69,226	21.93	0.0	+0.3/E	+5.3/D	5.75	
American Funds InvCAmrcA m	LB	69,438	47.89	+3.1	+16.9/A	+9.8/C	5.75	
American Funds NwPrspctvA m	WG	49,329	53.87	+1.3	+12.7/C	+9.8/A	5.75	
American Funds WAMtInvsA m	LB	70,419	54.29	+1.4	+7.3/D	+9.5/D	5.75	
Davis NYVentureA m	LB	3,968	25.19	+1.9	+16.0/A	+7.1/E	4.75	
Dodge & Cox Stkl	LV	57,189	225.36	+0.1	+5.1/A	+8.9/A	NL	
Fidelity 500ldxInsPrm	LB	407,601	153.45	+2.1	+13.5/B	+11.2/A	NL	
Fidelity Contrafund	LG	96,175	15.64	+3.0	+27.6/B	+12.6/B	NL	
Fidelity TtlMktldxInsPrm	LB	72,105	121.70	+1.8	+11.6/C	+10.3/C	NL	
Fidelity Advisor EquityGrowthA m	LG	1,642	15.89	+3.7	+20.8/C	+14.7/A	5.75	
Fidelity Advisor GrowthOppsA m	LG	3,004	116.25	+3.7	+23.4/B	+15.3/A	5.75	
George Putnam BalA m	MA	1,150	21.41	+1.9	+10.1/A	+7.6/A	5.75	
INVESCO MnStrA m	LB	7,377	49.37	+2.6	+12.4/C	+9.1/D	5.50	
PIMCO Inclnstl	MU	74,495	10.16	+1.9	+7.3	+2.6	NL	
Putnam DiversIncA m	NT	532	5.28	+0.9	+0.2/D	-0.8/E	4.00	
Putnam SustLeadersA m	LG	4,586	103.14	+4.0	+11.7/E	+11.9/B	5.75	
Putnam TEIncA m	ML	505	7.38	+2.4	+5.4/B	+1.1/C	4.00	
Schwab SP500ldx	LB	70,047	68.50	+2.1	+13.4	+11.2	NL	
Thornburg IntermMnA m	MI	259	12.83	+0.9	+3.2/D	+1.2/C	2.00	
Thornburg LtdTrmUSGvtA m	GS	42	11.47	+0.4	+0.2/D	-0.3/E	2.25	
Vanguard 500ldxAdmrl	LB	401,334	407.93	+2.1	+13.4/B	+11.2/A	NL	
Vanguard GrldxAdmrl	LG	57,872	148.51	+3.7	+28.8/A	+14.5/A	NL	
Vanguard InTrTEAdmrl	MI	63,978	13.15	+1.2	+3.6/B	+1.8/A	NL	
Vanguard PrmCpAdmrl	LB	58,026	154.22	-0.4	+15.2/A	+10.4/B	NL	
Vanguard TrgtRtr2025Fd	TG	70,149	17.74	+1.1	+6.2/A	+5.0/A	NL	
Vanguard TrgtRtr2030Fd	TH	79,533	33.62	+1.1	+6.8/A	+5.4/B	NL	
Vanguard TrgtRtr2035Fd	ΤI	80,427	20.89	+1.2	+7.6/B	+6.0/C	NL	
Vanguard TrgtRtr2040Fd	TJ	70,443	36.98	+1.3	+8.3/C	+6.6/C	NL	
Vanguard TrgtRtr2045Fd	TK	67,072	25.00	+1.3	+9.1/B	+7.1/B	NL	
Vanguard TtBMldxAdmrl	CI	92,068	9.18	+0.6	+0.6/C	+0.3/C	NL	
Vanguard TtlnSldxAdmrl	FB	64,479	28.78	+0.9	+8.4/D	+4.2/C	NL	
Vanguard TtlnSldxInv	FB	163,565	17.20	+0.9	+8.3/D	+4.1/C	NL	
Vanguard TtlSMldxAdmrl		296,586	105.86	+1.8	+11.5/C	+10.4/C	NL	
Vanguard WingtnAdmrl	MA		69.70	+1.4	+7.2/B	+6.9/A	NL	
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CA -Conservative Allocation, CI -Intermediate-Term Bond, FB -Foreign Large Blend, GS -Short Government, IB -World Bond, IH -World Allocation, LB -Large Blend, LG -Large Growth, LV -Large Value, MA -Moderate Allocation, MI -Muni National Intermediate, Mi -Muni National Long, NT -Nontraditional Bond, WS -World Stock, Total Return: Chng in NAV with dividends reinvested. Rank: How fund performed vs. others with same objective: A is in top 20%, E in bottom 20%. Source: Morningstar.

Stock Footnotes: g = Dividends and earnings in Canadian dollars. h = Does not meet continued listing standards. If = Late filing with SEC. n = New in past 52 weeks. pf = Preferred. rs = Stock has undergone a reverse stock split of at least 50 percent within the past year. rt = Right to buy security at a specified price. s = Stock has split by at least 20 percent within the last year. un = Units. vj = In bankruptcy or receivership, wd = When distributed. wi = When issued. wt = Warrants. Units. $v_j = \ln bankruptcy$ or receivership. $v_j = \ln bankruptcy$ or redemption fee. $v_j = \ln bankruptcy$ from fund assets. $v_j = \ln bankruptcy$ or redemption fee. $v_j = \ln bankruptcy$ or available. $v_j = \ln bankruptcy$ or reverse from the value of the second solution of the velocity of the value of the v