

Events listed at FW botanical gardens

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Raiders top Cougars in girls basketball

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14. 2023

Police continue search for suspect of Markle murder

By HOLLY GASKILL & SYDNEY KENT

A Huntington County man is wanted by the police for the suspected murder of his grandmother.

The warrant for Anthony J. Castleman, 37, was filed Monday afternoon by the Huntington County Sheriff's Office. As of print, no arrest had been made.

In a Facebook post on Monday, Huntington County Sheriff Chris Newton announced that the body of 72-year-old Markle resident Bernice D. Eubank had been discovered Sunday afternoon. Law enforcement had been dispatched to the woman's residence on Huntington County Road E 300 South after her family requested a wellness check. The family had reportedly not heard from her in days.

The post also revealed officers had learned that Castleman, who reportedly lived with Eubank, had fled Huntington County and was "trying to get out of the state." Subsequently, the investigation has also involved other local agencies, the Indiana State Police and U.S. marshals, the post stated.

Wells County Sheriff Scott Holliday advised local law enforcement has helped with the investigation, but no action had been requested by the HCSO. Castleman

has been previously convicted on charges related to substance abuse, physical violence and theft, including several cases in Wells County

In a press release, the Huntington County Sheriff's Office stated Eubank's body had been discovered at her residence, with

evidence indicating she had been deceased "for a period of time prior to discovery." The cause of death was stated as "multiple sharp force injuries" and ruled a homicide.

The sheriff's office filed a probable cause affidavit in the Huntington County Circuit Court Monday afternoon, after which a warrant for Castleman's arrest was granted. Additional reporting from The News-Banner will follow in the coming days.

Law enforcement has advised the public not to approach Castleman if he's seen, and instead call 911 or Huntington County detectives at 260-356-2520

> hollv@news-banner.com sydney@news-banner.com



Anthony Castleman



Honoring veterans

Ossian Elementary School held its Veterans Day program Monday afternoon, with multiple grades featured in musical ensembles, pictured above. The students also acted out a play sharing the importance of honoring veterans and those in service. At right, Elissa Rosswurm hugs her grandpa, Robert Cooper, and hands him a sack lunch, which were given to all veterans present. (Photos by Holly Gaskill)



Ossian receives \$650K INDOT award; Council supports new developments

By SYDNEY KENT a motion to adopt section two of the Cross- was \$128,000. Breckler said there is an

be asphalt with a concrete curb and gutter. The town of Ossian unanimously approved The total cost submitted for the two streets winds Lakes Addition Monday evening. The expected bid date of Feb. 15 for the project. Breckler also stated that 75 percent of eligible costs would be paid for by INDOT, with the town responsible for the remaining 25 percent. The council also discussed openings in town committees, such as the Ossian Board of Police Commissioners. The town is accepting letters of interest for all committees and boards until noon on Dec. 11.



Council President Josh Barkley signing the blueprint for section two of the Crosswinds Lakes housing addition. (Photo by Sydney Kent)

motion — brought to the council by Executive Director of the Wells County Area Plan Commission Mike Lauzenheiser - will allow the development of new lots.

Additionally, Jim Breckler with Engineering Resources congratulated the town on a recent INDOT award in the amount of \$651,096.25. The funds, which are for the reconstruction of Melching Court and Millside Court, were applied for in July and approved earlier this month.

Breckler explained the history of the two streets, which demonstrated the need for the project, and advised the streets would soon

In other business the council approved:

• The 2024 Holiday calendar that added Good Friday and Veterans Day as official holidays, which was in line with neighbor-(Continued on Page 2)

Possible new funding available to RSD

By DAVE SCHULTZ

There are some problems here and there, but the driving factor during Monday night's meeting of the Wells County Regional Sewer District was progress.

In fact, Ryan Lefeld of Choice One Engineering even gave the board a preview for 2024. He said the Indiana Finance Authority and the State Revolving Fund have been notified that the RSD will be getting in line for funding for next year, and he indicated the message had been received.

And looking ahead, Lewis Brown, the RSD's superintendent, noted that there have been several requests for connection at Kingsland.

Meanwhile, the board heard reports on current operations, such as a change going on with the RSD's billing process.

The district is moving to a new contractor to print and send out its monthly bills, as a company named Ampstun will take over that task. It will charge 79 cents per bill that is sent out.

Mark Burry, who serves as the RSD's attorney, said a letter will be going out soon to explain the changes to the district's customers.

The RSD board members -Andy Stoller, Leon Berning, Jon Oman, Bruce Stinson, and Richard Jackson - also voted to keep the RSD meetings at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each (Continued on Page 2)



Saving a life

Last Wednesday, Markle Firefighter and Assistant Chief, Mike Grant, was awarded the Life Saving Award from the IVFA. Grant saved a life during a structure fire Markle was dispatched to over the summer. Also receiving the award was James Ormiston (not pictured). Pictured from left to right Richard Sorg (IVFA), Grant, and Sam Bisel (IVFA). (Photo provided by Markle Fire Department.)

Inside	Outside	Online	Contributions to unrestricted funds at The Wells County Foundation provide grants to agencies serving Wells County.	How to contact us:
Local/Area				Call us: 824-0224
Obituaries	A B	Follow us on Facebook! Go to www.facebook.com/		or 1-800-579-7476 email@news-banner.com
Police Notebook3		newsbanner	American Red Cross Stillwater Hospice Wells Co. Food Bank	On the Web:
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Also	TodayWed.ThursdayHigh 57High 62High 64	Vol. 95 No. 12	Bluffton Parks	
Sports6-7 Classifieds4a	Low 32 Low 39 Low 46	TUESDAY	Here's Refer to and the second s	
Diversions 3a	More Weather on Page 2	November 14, 2023	Visit our website to learn more about the Foundation or give online at: www.wellscountyfound.org	8 110 04879 1 07558 101 5

Ossian Town Council

(Continued from Page 1)

ing municipalities.

• A motion to increase the pay of all city employees by 3 percent in order to account for the cost of living.

• A request from the Ossian Fire Department to purchase up to three sets of turnout gear, the protective clothing

worn by Firefighters, in the amount of \$12,014.01. • A motion to enroll six officers in

an online street survival seminar for \$1,000.

• A motion to sign a contract with Dickey's Car Wash in Bluffton for the four regular police cars in use.

• A motion to continue the tradition of giving a gift of ham or turkey to town employees during the month of December.

The next monthly scheduled board meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Dec. 11.

sydney@news-banner.com

Regional Sewer District

(Continued from Page 1)

month through 2025. The only exception to that schedule will be in October, when the meeting will be delayed a week. The second Monday of October will be a federal holiday and the county offices — including the Wells County Government Annex – will be closed.

A member of the public asked about website upgrade and Stoller said it а was not in the district's budget for this year. Stoller said the matter was being explored.

Also Monday, Roger Cash took exception to the fact that someone notified the state that his septic system is failing. He also expressed his irritation

that RSD contractors have been making access to his property without his permission.

"I will remind your people that under state law, they can not enter a property," Cash said, and noted that the RSD does not have an agreement with him.

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Arson likely caused fire that damaged vital artery of LA freeway, governor says

By JOHN ANTCZAK, JULIE WATSON and JEFF McMURRAY **Associated Press**

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Arson was the cause of a massive weekend fire that charred and indefinitely closed a vital section of a Los Angeles freeway, causing major traffic headaches for hundreds of thousands of commuters, California authorities said Monday.

Gov. Gavin Newsom said investigators were trving to determine if one person or more were involved. He gave no other details.

"I have to stress that we have determined what started the fire," Newsom told reporters.

The fire erupted Saturday in two storage lots under Interstate 10. Construction materials combusted quickly and the fire grew. It left many columns charred and chipped and the deck guardrails twisted. Crews shored up the most damaged section for the safety of workers clearing the debris. It's still unclear what structural damage, if any, the blaze caused to the freeway.

Beyond a massive traffic headache, the closure is expected to be felt well beyond the metropolis, including possibly slowing the transport of goods from the twin ports of LA and Long Beach, federal officials have said. The ports handle more than half the

"It's disrupting in every way, whether you are talking about traveling to and from work or your child care plans and the flow of goods and commerce, this will disrupt the lives of Angelenos," LA Mayor Karen Bass said.

Los Angeles residents were urged to avoid travel to the area Monday and to work from home if possible.

"Our streets cannot handle 300,000 cars," Bass said, referring to how many vehicles use the I-10 stretch daily.

Officials have said the damage is reminiscent of the 1994 Northridge earthquake that flattened thoroughfares. After the quake, it took more than two months to repair Interstate 10 — and that was considered significantly fast.

Newsom said early tests show that the deck "appears to be much stronger than originally assessed." Concrete and rebar samples taken Monday from the superstructure, decks and columns will help determine "whether or not we're tearing this down and replacing it, or we're continuing the recovery and repairs," he said.

"This isn't going to be resolved in a couple of days, and it's not going to take a couple years," Federal Highway Administrator Shailen Bhatt told The Associated Press. "But whether it's weeks or months, we're still too early to tell."

delphia that collapsed an elevated section of Interstate 95, snarling traffic and hurting area businesses, highlights the impact of such disasters not only on a city but on the nation.

'The ports are still open and the goods will still flow, but when you remove a section of the interstate that carries 300,000 vehicles a day, there's going to be spillover impacts," Bhatt said. "The concern there is the quicker we can get this open, the faster we can remove an impediment.'

Drivers were tested Monday during the first weekday commute since the raging fire. Some freeway exits backed up as drivers were forced to use crowded surface streets to bypass the damaged freeway stretch south of downtown.

Some routes, however, had lighter traffic, suggesting drivers heeded warnings from the city to make alternate plans. Cellphones blasted Monday with a predawn reminder for residents to plan different routes or expect significant delays.

'Our businesses are just bouncing back from the Covid shutdowns. Business was just getting good," said Blair Besten, director of LA's Historic Core business improvement district. She's worried about the lingering effects of this closure.

Flames reported around 12:20 a.m. Saturday ripped Bhatt said the fiery June through two storage lots in time, that's why we're going 11 crash of a tractor-trailer an industrial area beneath to court" early next year, he hauling gasoline in Phila- I-10, burning parked cars, said.

stacks of wooden pallets and support poles for hightension power lines, city fire Chief Kristin Crowley said. No injuries were reported.

At least 16 homeless people, including a pregnant woman, living underneath the freeway were brought to shelters. More than 160 firefighters responded to the blaze, which spread across 8 acres and burned for three hours

California Fire Marshal Daniel Berlant said investigators have identified where the fire started and what the cause was after sorting through the rubble for evidence but did not specify what they found. He said there is no suspect information yet. He said they are talking to witnesses, including homeless people and nearby business owners.

Storage yards under highways are common statewide, with the money from the leases going to public transit. Newsom said the practice would be reevaluated following the fire.

The governor said California has been in litigation with Apex Development, Inc., the owner of the business leasing the storage property where the fire started. The lease is expired. Newsom said, and the business had been in arrears while illegally subleasing the space to five or six other entities. "They've been out of compliance for some



LOCAL/NATION

Tuesday, November 14, 2023 (24-hour observations at 9:37 p.m. Monday) High: 67; Low: 37; Precipitation: None Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.16 feet at 9:45 p.m. Monday

Wells County forecast

Today: Sunny, with a high near 57. Calm wind becoming south around 5 mph in the afternoon.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 32. South wind 5 to 10 mph.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 62. Southwest wind around 10 mph.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 39. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 64.

Thursday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers after 1 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 46.

Friday: Showers likely, mainly before 1 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 54. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

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

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 50.

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

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 50.

Sunday Night: A slight chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 35.

Monday: A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 51.

Biden-Xi summit has better foundation

But South China Sea and Taiwan risks won't go away

By KEN MORITSUGU

Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — The course of events in the year since the last meeting between Presidents Joe Biden and Xi Jinping offers cautious hope that they will have better luck this time around. But it also shows how easily any agreement they reach could once again veer off course.

The U.S. and Chinese leaders meet Wednesday while attending the annual Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in San Francisco.

They go into the meeting on the back of five months of government-to-government talks that have accelerated in recent weeks and expanded to cultural and business exchanges. In contrast, the November 2022 meeting in Bali, Indonesia, took place after China had suspended talks to express anger over a visit by then-U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to Taiwan.

'This rests on a stronger foundation than the Bali meeting did," said Jude Blanchette, a China expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "Substantively and contextually this meeting is taking place in a moderately better environment."

But tensions over Taiwan and flare-ups between China and the Philippines in the South China Sea are a sobering reminder that an unexpected incident could set back efforts to improve ties, just as an apparently errant Chinese balloon did early this year.

Talk also only goes so far with the two governments fundamentally at odds over technology, defense, trade and Taiwan. Last month, the Biden administration expanded restrictions on technology exports to China.

Recent experience has shown that more frequent communication "does not exclude the continued expansion and escalation of America's preparations for war and high-tech deterrence against China, nor does it exclude China's corre

goods coming into the country. President Joe Biden had been briefed on the fire.

U.S., World News Roundup

2024 GOP presidential field is shrinking. But is it too late to stop Trump?

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) - The Republican Party's once-crowded 2024 presidential primary field has suddenly shrunk to just a handful of viable candidates.

But a day after Sen. Tim Scott of South Carolina stunned many of his own staff by suspending his campaign, it's unclear whether the GOP is any closer to coalescing behind a clear alternative to former President Donald Trump. Instead, the fight between Nikki Haley and Ron DeSantis for a distant second place appears to be intensifying. And some lower-tier candidates insist on battling for relevance, despite growing pressure to bow out of the race altogether.

Meanwhile, Trump's team is cheering on the muddle for second place with Iowa's Jan. 15 kickoff caucuses just two months away.

Still, there were new positive signs on Monday for Haley, Scott's South Carolina rival, who had been rising in the Republican contest even before the senator's sudden announcement.

Billionaire investor Stanley Druckenmillier, who had given money to Scott, pledged his support for Haley during a Monday interview as he spoke publicly about the 2024 race for the first time. He emphasized the need for the GOP to coalesce behind the former United Nations ambassador before primary voting begins.

Trump Jr. lauds dad's real estate exploits as civil fraud trial begins defense

NEW YORK (AP) - Donald Trump Jr. returned to court Monday as something of a character witness for his father's real estate empire, waxing exuberantly about the former president's "incredible vision" and portfolio of "great, iconic projects" at the New York civil fraud trial now threatening his company's future.

The namesake son made an encore appearance at the Manhattan trial as defense lawyers started calling their own witnesses. Trump Jr. first testified two weeks ago, called in by New York State Attorney General Letitia James' office, which is suing the Trump family business.

"I'd say it's good to be here, your honor, but I have a feeling that the attorney general would sue me for perjury if I said that," he joked Monday before embarking on a detailed and rosy history of the family's Trump Organization.

James, a Democrat, alleges Donald Trump, his company and top executives, including sons Eric and Donald Trump Jr., exaggerated his wealth by billions of dollars on his annual financial statements. The documents were given to banks, insurers and others to secure loans and make deals. James is seeking more than \$300 million in what she says were ill-gotten gains, and she wants the defendants banned from doing business in New York.

The defendants deny any wrongdoing, and the former president and current Republican front-runner insisted in fiery testimony last week that his company is "the opposite of fraud." Eric Trump and his sister Ivanka Trump, a former Trump Organization executive and White House adviser, also took the stand.

Maryanne Trump Barry, and a retired federal judge, dies at 86

NEW YORK (AP) - Maryanne Trump Barry, a retired federal judge and former President Donald Trump 's oldest sister, has died at age 86 at her home in New York.

Until her retirement in 2019, Barry was a senior judge on the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, a level below the Supreme Court.

The NYPD confirmed that officers were sent to Barry's Manhattan home just before 4:30 a.m. and discovered a deceased 86-year-old woman. The cause of death was not immediately clear. Her death was confirmed by a judicial official who spoke on condition of anonymity because the news hadn't been announced publicly by either the court or Trump's family.

Trump's campaign did not immediately respond to a request for comment, but the former president's eldest son, Donald Trump Jr., spoke briefly about his aunt as he exited a Manhattan courthouse Monday, calling it a "rough day for myself and my family,"

F1 learns it overestimated fan demand for Las Vegas,

LAS VEGAS (AP) - There is no such thing as a flawless first-year event, so go ahead and accept that there will be bumps and bruises in Formula One's \$500 million Las Vegas Grand Prix.

The warning signs were as bright as The Sphere when early pricing opened for this week's extravaganza, the most expensive grand prix to attend on this year's 24-race calendar.

With multimillion-dollar hospitality packages, exorbitant hotel rates and an initial average "get-in price" of about \$2,000, this race was never about attracting new fans to the global motorsports series or growing the American audience. F1 owner Liberty Media clearly viewed a race in Las Vegas as an international showstopper for the highest of the high rollers.

Renee Wilm, CEO of the grand prix, vowed "we will be sold out by the time of the event" on a Nov. 3 earnings call by Formula One Group.

Well, the big race has finally arrived and t ickets are still available, both directly and on a dramatically reduced secondary market. Hotel prices along the Strip have plummeted and all signs suggest first-time F1 race promoter Liberty appears to have grossly overshot the price point for drawing in new fans and spenders.

sponding countermeasures, protests and preparations," said Shi Yinhong, an international relations professor at Renmin University of China,

Rather than achieving major breakthroughs, the hope is that the leaders will set the tone for meaningful dialogue on a range of issues in the coming months, Blanchette said. "The more probable reality is it's going to be a little bit of that but we have a lot of speed bumps that can trip up the two at any point."





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OBITUARIES

Martha Ellen Foughty, 92

Martha Ellen Foughty, 92, of Ossian, passed away on Saturday evening, Nov. 11, 2023 at Ossian Health & Rehab.

She was a 1948 graduate of Markle High School. She was a member of the Markle Church of Christ most of her life and also a member of the Pythian Sisters. Martha was an avid bowler and bowled at Bluffton Bowling Center and Quimby Village Bowling for many years. She attended

Ravenscroft Beauty College after her children were all in school and was a beautician in Ossian for 36 years. Martha loved her dogs and had many golden retrievers and boxers throughout her life. She loved to roller skate and her and Herm went skating together often in their younger years. She was also a co-owner of the Ossian Subway for a time.

Martha was born on Jan. 20, 1931, a daughter of the late W. Ray and Dolores E. (Paul) Jennings

She was united in marriage to Herman L. Foughty on May 6, 1949, at the Markle Church of Christ. They celebrated 50 years of marriage together. He preceded her in death on Oct. 20, 1999.

Survivors include two sons: Clifford (Diane) Foughty of Rome City, and Curtis (Karen) Foughty of Ossian; three daughters, Teresa (Chester) Prater of Murray, Michelle (Dennis) Qualkenbush of Shoals, Ind., and Valarie (Alan) Foughty-Killion of Paoli, Ind.; a sister, Marjorie (Harold) Arnold of Bluffton, and a brother: James (Martha) Jennings of Huntington. She also leaves behind 19 grandchildren, 41 great-grandchildren and one great-greatgrandchild, and a daughter-in-law Diane S. Foughty.

She was preceded in death by her husband, par-ents and two sons, Gregory (Carol) Foughty and Geoffrey Foughty; two sisters, Mary Louise Brown and Jean Cook; and a grandchild, Jordan Foughty.

Visitation will be held from 4-7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2023, at the Myers Funeral Home Markle Chapel, 415 N. Lee St. in Markle.

Funeral service will be held at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 16, 2023, at the Myers Funeral Home, Markle Chapel, with one hour of visitation prior. Interment will take place at Markle Cemetery.

Memorial donations can be made out to the Markle Church of Christ sent in care of Myers Funeral Home, P.O. Box 403, Markle, IN 46770.

To sign Martha's on-line guest registry visit www. myersfuneralhomes.com.

Tommie Johnson, 61

Tommie M. Johnson, 61, of Ossian, passed away on Sunday, Nov. 12, 2023.

Tommie was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana on Jan. 11, 1962. She worked at TI for over 20 years, the co-owner of Lynn's donut shop, and currently worked at the BP in Ossian. Tommie enjoyed being with her dogs, yard work, and most of all going fishing.

She is survived by her mother,

Judy Johnson; brother, Billy (Cindy) Johnson Jr.; nieces, Allison (Derek) Fisher, Kaitlyn (Corbin Gentis) Roby, and Kirsten Scheiman; 10 great-nieces and great-nephews; aunt, Debra Ables; cousins, Judy (Bryan) Mathieson and Donna (Tim) Britton O' Grady; and her dogs, Rosie and Sophia.

Tommie was preceded in passing by her father, Billy Johnson Sr.

Visitation will be held from 2-4 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 17, 2023, at Elzey-Patterson-Rodak Funeral Home, 120 West Mill St. in Ossian. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Tommie's memory may be made to the Family C/O Judy Johnson. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at

INCIDENTS City:

Friday, 3:02 p.m., Walmart. Caller reported he lost his wallet.

Friday, 5:05 p.m., West Wiley Avenue and South Morgan Street. Caller reported children in road, officer spoke to kids and parent about why that's not great.

Friday, 5:58 p.m., East River Road and Orchard Ridge Drive, Officer assisted driver with jump starting dead battery.

Friday, 6:36 p.m., Premier Apartments. Report of man and woman fighting, subjects advised it was verbal dispute over breakup.

Friday, 11:22 p.m., Save On Liquor South. Report of pool of blood in parking lot, believed to be from deer.

Friday, 11:23 a.m., 300 block of West Central Avenue. Report of a dog in area. Owners contacted.

Saturday, 1:23 p.m., Kroger. Welfare check requested for woman slumped over in vehicle with other woman in passenger seat, caller suspected drug use.

Šaturday, 8:20 p.m., 500 block of East Arnold Street. Caller reported constant, never-ending barking from a dog with probably an incredible larynx. Saturday, 9:47 p.m., El

Camino Real. Report of man complaining about food and being verbally aggressive. "Bad burrito, sad burrito" was noted in the report.

Sunday, 2:54 a.m., 1400 block of South Ellingham Pike. Caller requested assistance retrieving belongings.

Sunday, 2:07 p.m., Walmart. Report of subject using ticket switching and skip scanning techniques on five occasions. Charges to be filed on suspect.

Sunday, 5:52 p.m., 300 block of East Central Avenue. Caller reported issues with juveniles.

Sunday, 6:41 p.m., Walmart. Report of theft.

Sunday, 10:42 p.m., 80 block of Sunset Drive. Officers assisted Indiana State Police detectives in an

Police Notebook

attempt to locate a person of interest in an active investigation they are working.

Monday, 5:13 a.m., South Meridian Road and West 2nd Street. Car versus deer.

County:

Thursday, 1:11 p.m., Wells County Jail. Warrant served to Jonathon Jiron Pastran.

Thursday, 2:37 p.m., 1900 East 100 North, Bluffton. Caller reported subject on property without permission, subjects advised they were looking for a lost dog. Advised to leave.

Thursday, 5:41 p.m., Silo Farms. Report of multiple gunshot sounds in the area. Unable to locate source.

Thursday, 5:58 p.m., South 100 East and East 900 South, Keystone. Car versus deer.

Thursday, 8:11 p.m., South Meridian Road and West 900 South, Keystone. Car versus deer.

Friday, 11:22 a.m., near 6000 Southeast Willow Road, Warren. Report of a dog unable to walk after it was hit by vehicle.

Friday, 11:58 a.m., Wells County Jail. Subject served protection order, told officers birth date was incorrect and the first name of the petitioner listed on the order was also incorrect.

Friday, 12:38 p.m., Apostolic Church Vera Cruz. Report of a motion-detecting alarm set off, representative advised the culprit was an automatic vacuum. The suspect was turned off.

Friday, 5:44 p.m., 9000 South Main Street, Petroleum. Caller reported her adult son with significant mental disability was missing for one hour, family is new to the area. Caller advised recent purchases were made at Dollar General in Ossian. Officer spoke to employees who advised the man was in the store earlier and began walking along the highway. Officers with **Bluffton Police Department** as well as Deputy Conrad searched the city of Bluffton and surrounding areas, town of Petroleum and the span of

Ind. 1 through Ossian. Officers located the man and returned him safely to his family without incident.

Friday, 7:52 p.m., 6300 East Ind. 224, Craigville. Report of a dog bite to an 11-month-old.

Saturday, 10:22 a.m., Ind. 1 and East 450 South, Bluffton. Officer transported man and daughter to Kroger, man cited for speeding, warned for unrestrained child in vehicle, no drivers license in possession, and failure to update his drivers license despite moving from Wisconsin two years ago.

Sunday, 12:58 a.m., 200 block of Countryside Drive, Markle. Caller reported hearing man and woman yelling and things being broken, children in the home, man has history of drinking issues. The screaming man advised he had been drinking and arguing with the mother of his children about being more established and mature in his life. Woman advised nothing physical occurred. Advised to sepa-

rate for the evening. Sunday, 8:36 a.m., 2700 South Hoosier Highway, Bluffton. Caller requested welfare check for 8-yearold child. Wanted documentation child was not with mother and living in house, however, no child was found in the home.

Sunday, 10 p.m., 3100 South Main Street, Liberty Center. Report of a consistently annoying dog barking.

Sunday, 6:39 a.m., Ind. 116 and East 150 North, Bluffton. Car versus deer. Significant damage to vehicle, towed by Pemberton's.

Sunday, 8:41 a.m., Wells County Jail. Subject reported two written grievance forms with claims he was being threatened with rape by other inmates due to the fact that he was charged with rape. Subject was moved to single cell near intake. No crimes had occurred.

Monday, 9:30 a.m., Wells County Jail. Subject served protection order.

Monday, 11:10 a.m.,

1000 South and Ind. 3, Warren. Driver cited for speeding 71 in a 55 mph zone.

Ossian:

Saturday, 6:36 p.m., 4000 East 900 North, Ossian. Caller reported neighbors "having sexual behaviors" in the yard, and wanted them to go inside. Subjects were shocked to learn about these behaviors and advised they simply exchanged a hug and kiss.

ACCIDENTS

City:

Wednesday, 7:45 a.m., 1100 East Spring Street. Angela Harris went to the police station to report an accident in the elementary pickup line the day prior. Harris's vehicle was rear ended by Amber Hurych's vehicle. Hurych advised her foot slipped from the brake pedal and both parties left the scene after stating no damage was done. Damages did not exceed \$2,500.

County:

Saturday, 4:41 p.m., Ind 1 and Ind. 124. Lewis A. Brown was driving Westbound on Ind. 124 and attempted to turn left at a green light to head Southbound on Ind. 1. Sean M. Shultz was talking on his cell phone and disregarded a red light at an intersection, causing his Chevy Equinox to collide with the driver side of Lewis's Dodge Ram. No injuries reported. Shultz was cited for no valid license, disregarding a lighted signal, and distracted driving. Damages did not exceed \$25,000.

ARRESTS

Clint Joseph Dankson, 40, Bluffton; operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 or more, a Class A misdemeanor.

Zackary Scott Price, 27. Bluffton; operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 or more and operating a vehicle while intoxicated endangerment, both Class A misdemeanors. Bond set at \$1,500.

Marissa Jean Castano, 28, Bluffton; two counts of operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class C misdemeanor. Bond set at \$500.

Indiana's public colleges and universities are slowly – but surely – moving to e-transcripts



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2 men charged in **October shooting that** killed 12-year-old boy

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) - Two men have been charged in an October shooting that killed a 12-year-old boy and wounded a second youth in South Bend, authorities said Monday

The St. Joseph County Prosecutor's Office announced that Nagomba White Jr., 21, and Amarion Cutler, 18, were charged in the Oct. 27 shooting in South Bend that killed Josiah Small.

Prosecutors said Small, an injured juvenile and two other boys had a confrontation with two men in a vehicle before those men exited that vehicle and fired their weapons.

Small was pronounced dead at the scene while a 14-yearold boy was wounded. The two other youths were not injured in the shooting.

White was taken into custody last week in Indianapolis. He is charged with murder, conspiracy to commit murder, attempted murder and attempted battery by means of a deadly weapon.

By CASEY SMITH Indiana Capital Chronicle

Hoosier students at both the high school and college levels will soon have their academic transcripts converted into a common digital file as part of a yearslong initiative to better manage and share - educational records.

Indiana's Commission for Higher Education met Thursday to discuss the effort that has been ongoing since 2005

The Indiana e-Transcript Program, which is administered by CHE, was initially focused on sending high school transcripts electronically to colleges and universities in Indiana and other states. It has since evolved to include the sending and receiving of college transcripts, too.

More than 90 percent of

the state's high schools are already on board. Upwards of 200,000 transcripts are sent by secondary schools each year, of which about 75 percent are being sent as data files.

A recent survey of the state's colleges and universities shows headway in the transition to digital, but some postsecondary schools still lag behind.

"The exchange of college transcripts is so critical in many ways," said Ken Sauer, CHE's senior associate commissioner and chief academic officer.

He said that's especially true for students earning the Indiana College Core in high school, where it's typical for those students to take dual credit courses from multiple institutions. Without a cohesive transcript, students and administrators are forced to request and process a variety of different documents.

Ditching paper Prior to 2005, all transcripts in Indiana were printed on paper and sent through the mail. That process is expensive, timeconsuming and increases the chance of human error, CHE officials said.

The General Assembly

responded with the e-transcript program in 2013, creating a standardized, electronic transcript that high school students send to schools and employers.

Lawmakers emphasized that individual high schools that have their own transcript program can cause confusion for students applying to higher education or employment.





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ΟΡΙΝΙΟ

Who knew it would be so hard to buy Christmas decorations

"You might say it was a Christmas miracle."

Longtime friend and News-Banner colleague Chet Baumgartner summed up our conversation quite well a few weeks ago after I shared with him a short tale of my efforts to buy a couple of Christmas decorations for our home.

There might have been a hint of sarcasm with the word miracle, as the whole story is a bit humorous as I think about it.

My wife Jen would say the same,

as she's mocked me a few times for my valiant efforts to stock an area home improvement retail store in search of the two decorations that I say display as much Christmas spirit as Bob Cratchit and Tiny Tim in Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol."

How could you not get excited about decorating your home with such decor that inspires the Christmas spirit?

First, however, a bit of background.

I have long been a dog person. My parents bought my sister and I a golden retriever when we were in elementary school, and I became a canine lover at first sight.

Jen and I brought home our first pup in 2020 just four months after we got married. We both had golden retrievers growing up and decided at the beginning of the global pandemic that it would be the perfect time to get a puppy.

Our golden retriever Santiago will turn 4 in February. Earlier this year we started talking about getting a second dog. In February, we adopted a 5-year-old Bernese mountain dog from a rescue organization in northeast Indiana. Alicia will be 6 in January.

We can't imagine how boring life would be without Alicia's and Santiago's daily shenanigans that keep us on our toes as we try to keep up with two 100-pound pooches that for the past couple of months have been shedding more hair in a day than I have on my head. If I could grow hair the way they shed their fur, my receding hairline would be a thing of the past, but I digress.

One way I have tried to learn more about each breed is to join some social media groups for owners of golden retrievers and Bernese mountain dogs. I try to read through the posts every couple of days as people from around the world post about everything from pet insurance to potty training.

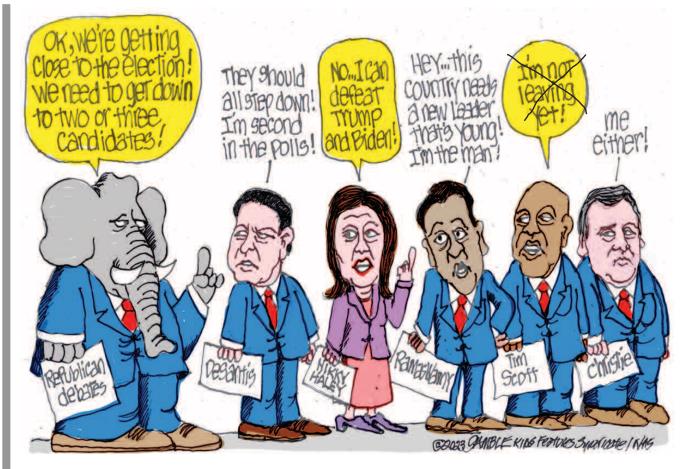
In October some folks from out east posted pictures in each group of canine Christmas decor items they had bought at their local Home Depot.

One was a 2.5-foot tall Christmas golden retriever plastic statue with LED lights, and the other was of a 2.5-foot Christmas Bernese mountain dog plastic statue with LED lights. The former is clad in earmuffs and a red zip-up vest while the later is wearing a red stocking cap with a red and white scarf.

Within a day of the post showing up in the social media groups, hundreds of fellow golden retriever and Bernese mountain dog lovers had posted questions asking where to get them.

The craze had started and it wasn't even Halloween yet. In fact, it was still September.

As soon as I saw both, I told Jen that we had to get them to add to our Christmas decorations. We made an impromptu trip to the Home Depot in northwest Fort Wayne only to discover they had not put out their Christmas decorations yet and that it wasn't possible to order the dog decorations online.



Keep Nikki Haley and Ron DeSantis and cut the rest of the GOP field

The third Republican primary debate made one thing clear: It's time to cull the GOP field. Yes, five candidates onstage made for a much better debate than seven or eight. But it was still too many. After nine months of campaigning and three nationally televised debates, only two not-Trump candidates have emerged with double-digit support in national polls and the early primary states: Nikki Haley and Ron DeSantis. It's time for the rest of the candidates to get out of the way and let them fight it out for the chance to take on former president Donald Trump.

Right now, the Republican Party is failing its voters by treating this as a normal primary season — keeping the threshold for debate participation low and waiting for voters to winnow the pool of candidates when they start casting ballots. Sorry, but this is not a normal primary season. In truth, there are two GOP primaries: The first is to determine the sole credible challenger to Trump. The second will be to challenge Trump for the GOP nomination. These must take place sequentially. If the first primary is not resolved conclusively with one candidate emerging as the clear alternative to Trump — then the second contest will be over before it begins.

To make the stage at Wednesday's debate, candidates needed just 4 percent support in at least two national polls. For the next debate, next month, the threshold will rise to 6 percent. That's still too low. A candidate who has not broken into double-digit support by now has zero chance of winning the nomination. To make the next debate, candidates should have to demonstrate at least 10 percent support in two national polls. That metric would leave just DeSantis and Haley (and Trump, if he decides to show up) on the stage in December. Anyone who can't meet that threshold is wasting voters' time.

Former vice president Mike Pence did the honorable thing and stepped aside when his campaign didn't catch fire - putting his country ahead of his own ambitions once again. But others keep running long

after it is clear they can't win. Perhaps they want a platform to make a point, or they think that one more debate performance will boost their vice-presidential prospects, or they simply crave attention and don't want to give up the campaign spotlight. Well, the time for point-making, attentionseeking and using the race to pursue other offices is over.

Former New Jersey governor Chris Christie should drop out and challenge Sen. Bob Menendez (D-N.J.), who has been indicted on federal bribery charges.



Marc Thiessen

Christie could better serve his party by putting New Jersey's Senate seat in play. Sen. Tim Scott (S.C.) is a good man with a bright future, but this is not his year (which he acknowledged in a surprise announcement over the weeknd). And Vivek Ramaswamy's attack on Nikki Haley's daughter in Wednesday's debate was disgraceful and disqualifying. His campaign, which is little more than a tryout to inherit the Infowars anchor chair of Sandy Hook truther Alex Jones, should be brought to an ignominious conclusion

By staying in the race long after their campaigns are clearly unviable, the other contenders are helping Trump prevail over a divided field. In Iowa and New Hampshire, Trump is leading with a plurality of about 47 percent, which means that a majority of Republicans support someone else. In South Carolina, an early-voting state, Trump has 49 percent support, which is again not a majority. There is a non-Trump majority to be had, but only if the candidates with no viable path step aside.

If they won't step aside, then they should be pushed aside by losing their places on the debate stage. Because here is the bottom line: It's either a Haley-DeSantis race to take on Trump, or the entire Republican primary process is little more than a sideshow.

Follow Marc A. Thiessen @marcthiessen on X



Peeper

We had to travel to Evansville that weekend to attend a wedding, and it just so happened that there was a Home Depot a few miles from the reception.

We had a few hours between the wedding and reception and just happened to drive right past the store. Clad in our wedding attire, we stopped to see if this store might have the Christmas dogs. The sales associates made some calls and even checked with a near-by store, but we struck out again.

I called the Fort Wayne store a couple of days later only to learn their Christmas decorations were still not out and they had no idea what I was talking about as I described the dogs.

A few days later, however, a social media post appeared in the Bernese mountain dog group saying the Fort Wayne store had them on the shelves.

We rushed up to the store that evening only to discover there were none on the shelves. A kind sales associate made a call to the back of the store to see if there might be any left for the crazy guy who he had been in the store a week earlier looking for Christmas decorations the last week of September.

A few minutes later, I walked out of the store with a 30-inch Christmas golden retriever in one hand and a 30-inch Christmas Bernese mountain dog in the other.

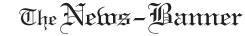
You might just say it was a Christmas miracle ... or something like that.

In the next week or two, we'll put up our Christmas decorations and hope that Santiago and Alicia will leave them alone this year and not try to chew up their doppelgängers.

The Christmas spirit, however, wasn't with everyone who bought the dog decorations. Jen and I saw online that some folks tried to take advantage of the craze by buying up as many of the plastic canine Christmas decorations as possible and then reselling them for three times as much.

I suppose every Christmas story must have its Ebenezer Scrooge.

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At third GOP debate, Haley's comet again shone brightest

Nikki Haley was not especially kind to the babbling badger Vivek Ramaswamy – who, if no one has thought of this yet, would make an excellent comic-book villain — when she called him "scum."

But Ramaswamy earned the appellation with unsettling ease.

Moderator Hugh Hewitt had asked him how he could justify banning TikTok in the United States, as he has vowed to do as president, when he himself uses the platform. Rather than answer, the youngest candidate swiveled toward Haley and screamed that Haley's own daughter had used TikTok "for a long time.'

Okay, maybe it just felt like a scream. Haley fired back in the politest way possible: "Leave my daughter out of your voice!"

Allow me to translate. "Voice" came out of her mouth before she could stop it. What she was really saying was: If your filthy mouth ever mentions my daughter again, a cow's

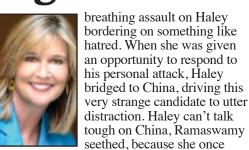
tongue in a Tiffany box will be delivered to your door. That will be a warning. (Please see Carrie Fisher.)

Then Haley really did say, "You're just scum."

The audience, which had begun loudly booing, apparently agreed. Is Ramaswamy just insane? This is a serious ques-

tion. At best, his opposition research staff needs to grow up. The worst they could come up with about Haley was that her daughter, like millions of other daughters around the world, once joined TikTok. Weak, cheap, immature — the list of derogatory adjectives could fill the rest of this column.

But Ramaswamy was just getting warmed up. Something tells me he's always getting warmed up. The man seemed possessed, his fire-



referred to our greatest enemy Kathleen Parker

as a "great friend." Haley's overture apparently was made during her tenure

as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. She was recognizing China's and Russia's cooperation in negotiating with her to create "the largest set of sanctions against North Korea in a generation," which, she said, led to the rogue nation's cessation of ballistic-missile testing.

Sometimes one's enemy is one's friend. Sometimes not. But all things geopolitical are subject to change, which even Ramaswamy ought to know. In another zinger, Haley fired back: "You would never have been able to get that negotiation done." I feel safe in saying that no one in the audience doubted it.

Talk about exhausting. Can you imagine having an everyday marital disagreement with Ramaswamy? If he didn't pound you to death with his highvelocity verbiage, you'd play dead to shut him up.

I'll refrain from further mention of tongues, unless, obviously, Sen.

Tim Scott (S.C.) succumbs to glossolalia, which is always possible when he has the floor. Scott was at his evangelical best during the debate when he signaled to Iowa voters that he and Jesus are tight. This is the Tim Scott we know and love - an unapologetic Christian who often acknowledges God and Jesus for grace in his life. Not that there's anything wrong with that. But it does seem, given the war between Gaza and Israel and the rise of antisemitism here at home, that now might be a good time to hit the pause button on America as a Christian nation.

Honorable mention goes to Chris Christie, who should begin thinking about which Cabinet seat he wants. Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis delivered his best debate performance thus far. He seemed less a deer in the headlights and more confident, especially when telling Israel to "finish the job." He's still in second place among GOP voters, waaaaay behind Donald Trump nationally (14.4 percent to 58.5 percent, according to RealClear-Politics), but Haley is closing in at 9.0. Scott barely registers.

In a general election, however, it's a toss-up between Trump (45.6), Biden (45.1) and Haley (45.5). Come on, Republicans. Debate-wise, Haley outdid the competition – again.

On foreign policy, she's plainly the strongest Republican candidate. In another swipe at Ramaswamy - do I sense a drinking game in the making? - she said of his foreign policy bona fides: "I'm telling you Putin and President Xi are salivating at the thought that someone like that could become president."

On the key Democratic issue, abortion, she managed to thread a microscopic needle. Though pro-life, Haley said she doesn't want to judge pro-choice women or be judged for her position. She urged letting states determine their own destinies while the country works toward consensus.

Once again, she reminded voters that a federal ban on abortion is impossible — for now.

Consensus is a word we don't often hear these days. On abortion, consensus is probably a pipe dream — for now. But the sentiment is a welcome shift from some of the hardened, draconian positions that have surfaced since Roe v. Wade was overturned. My bet is women are hearing her loud and clear.

Men, well, you know how they are. A woman's voice, if they can hear it, drives some of them crazy. Just ask Vivek Ramaswamy.

kathleenparker@washpost.com.



LIFESTYLES

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www.allforonefw.org

ALLEN COUNTY WAR MEMORIAL COLISEUM

Old Dominion, Nov. 16: TobyMac, MercyMe and Zach Williams, Nov. 17: Le Chic Holiday Market, Dec. 1 & 2. www.memorialcoliseum.com

ARENA DINNER THEATER, FORT WAYNE

"One Christmas Eve at Evergreen Mall," Dec. 1-17; "*LMNOP," Jan. 19-28; "Funny Money," March 1-16; "A Delightful Quarantine," April 19-May 4; "The Drowsy Chaperone," June 14-29. www.arenadinnertheatre.org

CLYDE THEATRE, FORT WAYNE

Brian Regan (comedy), Dec. 7; Tribute to Elton John/Billy Joel; Foy Vance, Jan 28. ClydeTheatre.com or at 1-800-514-3849.

EMBASSY THEATER, FORT WAYNE

Joe Bonamassa, Nov. 17; "The Hip Hop Nutcracker (Touring)," Dec. 5; Cirque Dream Holidaze: Dec. 7; Phil Holiday Pops: Dec. 14-17; "Sleighin It Tour": Dec. 20; Straight No Chaser: Dec. 20; "Napoleon Dynamite Live!," Jan. 18; Tim Allen: Ja. 26; Joy Koy cinmendy: Feb. 4; http://fwembassytheatre.org/events

FIRE AND LIGHT PRODUCTIONS

PPG Arts Lab, 300 E. Main St., Fort Wayne; "Elf Jr.," Dec. 14-16, Arts United Center, 303 E. Main St., Fort Wayne; "The Sound of Music," Jan. 18-20, Arts United Center, 303 E. Main St.. Fort Wayne; "Finding Nemo Jr., April 11-13, Arts United enter, 303 E. Main St., Fort Wayne. Tickets at fireandlightproductions.com.

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Almost Maine: Jan. 26-27; firstpresfortwayne.org/theater/

BOTANICAL CONSERVATORY www.botanicalconservatory.org

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Info: (260) 427-6715 or Fort-WayneParks.org

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"Shrek: The Musical," Through Nov. 19; "The Color Purple," Feb. 9-18, 2024; "Six Degrees of Separation," March 15-24; "Jer-sey Boys," May 4-19; "Something Rotten," July 21-30. Arts United Center box office 260-424-5220; info at www.fwcivic.org.

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Open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (until 8 p.m. on Thursdays, noon to

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Honeywell Center: Chris Janson: Nov. 16; Bored Teachers Comedy Tour, Nov. 17; Prairie Home Holiday, Nov. 29; Cirque Dreams Holidaze: Dec. 5; Four Horsemen: Dec. 7; Pam Tillis/Phil Vasser: FDec. 13; American Girl Live Concert, Dec. 15; Thunderstruck Wizards of Winter: Dec. 16; , Jan. 20; Dinosaur World Live: Jan. 26; Little River Band, Feb. 2; 360 Allstars, Feb. 3; Princess Bride/Cary Elwes; 1954 The Tribute: March. 2; Tommy Jones/The Shondells: March 30; Eagles Theatre: A Bing Crosy Christmas: Dec. 12; Nelson, Jan, 18; Sons of Mystro, Feb. 8; Michael Palascak: Feb. 14; https://www.boxofficeticketsales.com/ honeywell-center

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WAGON WHEEL, WARSAW

""A Christmas Carol,: Dec. 1-17. Tickets 866-923-2618 or wagonwheelcenter.org

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'Timeless Tradition-40 years' at FW's Botanical Conservatory

"Timeless Tradition: 40 *PFW Holiday Carolers: 1 to 3 p.m. (Open during Friday, Dec. 15, 5:30 p.m. regular hours and included Carolers from Purdue Uniwith admission fee.)

Area Things to See and Do Solutions to treat loneliness Also: Lifestyle habits that fuel depression

Question: Since I retired, I am feeling lonelier and lonelier. My kids live on the other side of the country, and many friends have died or moved away. What can I do to break this cycle? – Karen B., Richmond, Virginia

Answer: You're not alone in your feelings of loneliness. Surgeon The General, Vivek H. Murthy, Dr. recently issued a report on loneliness, explaining that half of American adults say they feel lonely at least some of the time. This is both an emotional and a physical health issue. Folks who experience chronic loneliness increase their risk for dementia, depression, anxiety, and their risk of heart disease goes up by 29 percent, stroke by 32 percent.

There are solutions. Some come from outside resources and some from within each individual. To make the most of their combined benefits. experts say you should think about being lonely like you would any health challenge: It's something to be treated.

So, step 1: Recognize that you're feeling lonely. Then make an inventory of things that provide you with pleasure. You can lessen loneliness by doing activities that stimulate your mind and keep you occupied like painting or reading or gardening.

Step 2: Reach out to friends and acquaintances. Call three friends, or even associates, each week ... schedule it.

Step 3: Explore local resources that will help you interact with others and find a purpose through other people. helping Online, volunteermatch.org identifies local options for all zip codes. Organizations like United Way also offer opportunities.

Step 4: Talk to your doctor about any symptoms of chronic loneliness you have, from depression to high blood pressure and take steps to improve your physical health. At the Cleveland Clinic, primary care doctors have adopted the program called "social prescribing." We write that order and it connects you with activities and groups that you express interest in. Ask your doctor about "social prescribing" resources and connecting with classes and volunteer activities in your area.



Mehmet Oz, M.D. and Mike Roizen, M.D.

Question: What can I do to lower my risk of feeling depressed? – Gina R., Chicago

Answer: Chronic severe depression needs to be treated by a combination of talk therapy and medication. The good news is that for many folks it responds to intervention, especially when combined with depressionfighting lifestyle choices.

Aerobic exercise has been shown to reduce (and prevent) depression significantly. One metastudy in the British Journal of Sports Medicine found that when someone who is depressed exercises, it can raise their spirits as much as or more than taking medication. Group and supervised exercise is the most effective.

Diet also has a large impact. A study by researchers at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health found that people who eat highly processed, packaged foods are prone to depression -

November 18 and 19



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especially if they eat the equivalent of nine or more portions a day, not hard to do if you have a "drivethru" and a fresh-from-thebox meal plan. Artificial sweeteners were also found to fuel depression. On top of that, another study found that when over 20 percent of your daily calories come from ultra-processed foods, your risk of cognitive decline goes up 28 percent. A plant-based diet that eliminates red and

> sugars reduces those risks significantly. Solutions? A new study by an international team researchers published of in Nature Mental Health looked at data on around 290,000 people - 13,000 with depression - for nine years and found that seven lifestyle habits lower the risk of depression. Between seven and nine hours of sleep nightly reduced the risk of depression by 22 percent; frequent social connections reduced it by 18 percent; moderate alcohol

processed meats and added

consumption, by 11 percent; a healthy diet, by 6 percent; regular physical activity, by 14 percent; never smoking, by 20 percent; and lack of sedentary behavior, by 13 percent.

If your depression is chronic and/or severe, get medical help and try these lifestyle mood-boosters. For occasional blues, tune up your diet, exercise and other daily habits. You will trade in the blues for blue skies.

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years" will be the theme for the Fort Wayne Botanical Gardens holiday display this year from Nov. 18 to Jan. 7.

Special programs during this time will include:

*Those 2 guys in Suits & Ties. Musical entertainment with om Didier and Todd Frymier: Friday, Nov. 24, 5:30 p.m. Admission is \$1 during the Night of Lights display.

*String Jams Holiday Concert: Thursday, Dec. 7, 6:30 p.m. String players of all ages in concert. Admission is \$1 during the Night of Lights display.

*Suzuki Strings Performance: Sunday, Dec. 10, 2 p.m. Regular conservatory admission.

versity Fort Wayne. Admission is \$1.

*Santa & Reindeer Saturday: Dec. 2, 8, 16, 12, noon to 4 p.m. (Santa takes a break from 1-2:30 p.m.) Regular admission fees

apply. *Breakfast With Santa: \$32 per person with those under 2 free. Registration deadline Nov. 22.

*Holly Shopping at the Conservatory: Saturday, Nov. 23, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission to the Conservatory not required to shop.

*Art Display: Nov. 28-Jan. 5 with works of art by Julia Meeks. Public reception on Dec. 10 from

*Holiday Decorating will be offered by two classes-Succulent Christmas Tree and Evergreen Centerpiece. Creating a tree will be held on Dec. 3, 1 to 3 p.m., \$57 and Evergreen Centerpiece will be held on Dec. 14, 6-7:30 p.m. and again on Dec. 16, 9:30 to 11 a.m., \$49. Reservations need to 260-427-6440.

Regular hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday (until 8 p.m. on Thursdays) and noon to 4 p.m. on Sundays, closed Mondays. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$5 for youth (3-17) and free to those 2 and under. Thursday Dollar Nights are \$1.

Hospital invites area residents to remember lost loved ones at Lights to Remember event

Parkview Huntington Hospital and the Parkview Huntington Foundation will host an event to offer comfort for people who are missing loved ones who have passed away on Sunday, Dec. 3, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. "Lights to Remember" will take place in the hospital's main lobby at 2001 Stults Road in Huntington.

This is the second year for the event, which will include light snacks and refreshments, music, and words from Doug Selig, vice president, patient care services, Parkview Huntington Hospital and Parkview Wabash Hospital. At the beginning of the event, there will be a moment of silence with the lighting of candles to remember guests' loved ones

"The holiday season is a time for light-hearted gatherings with family and friends," says Selig. "But it is also a time for reflection. We created this event to support those who are feeling the absence of lost loved ones and offer them a way to remember and honor those special people while experiencing the warmth of community. We hope many folks will join us, and if they attended last year, they are certainly welcome to participate again."

For \$10, individuals can have their loved one's name displayed during the event and receive a special keepsake: a memorial ornament in the shape of a star. The ceramic ornaments will be hand-crafted by hospital and foundation volunteers.

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'Our plan is to create a different ornament each year so people who continue to find this event meaningful for them year after year may choose to create a keepsake collection for themselves," said Sonya Foraker, finance manager, Parkview Huntington Hospital.

Registration is required for this event. Visit http:// www.parkview.com/lightstoremember to register and donate by Wed., Nov. 22.







Raiders defeat Cougars for first win of the season

By ANDREW FEEBACK

After a tight opening quarter, the Southern Wells Lady Raiders quickly turned the tide with a dominant second quarter on their way to a 42-21 win over the visiting Lakeland Christian Cougars.

The teams traded baskets early and played to an 8-8 stalemate after the opening frame. Over the next eight minutes, the Raiders (1-3) kept the Cougars (1-1) off the scoreboard and took an 11-point lead into halftime.

Coach Jessica Killingbeck felt her team took control by playing harder and executing plays.

'Energy and execution offensively," she said. "Honestly, that's all it comes down to."

Kenzie Paxson led the Raiders with 10 points, and her basket early in the second half capped off a run of 17 consecutive Raider points for a 23-8 spread.

The Cougars' only field goal of the period came from Dayton Sibert, who was the only Cougar to make a shot from the field in the second half.

Kaylea Coffel's fast-break three-pointer in the closing seconds of the third quarter put the Raiders up 29-13.

Killingbeck liked how her team continued to get after it on the defensive end, even with the game pretty well out of reach at that point.

'We were really good defensively tonight," she said. "We kept them out of the paint for the most part, limited our fouls, and it was just a team effort defensively."

That defense contributed to 29 Cougar turnovers, and the Raiders finished the game, committing only four fouls.

The Raiders outscored the Cougars in every quarter and got into the win column after a tough three games to start the season. Killingbeck felt this was a much-needed win that came at a good time.

"We played two really good teams with Union City and Eastbrook, and we talked about how we really needed this win, moving forward from this week and getting ready to go into conference play," she said. "The girls have a little more confidence after that win tonight, and everybody from starters through the bench contributed, and so that only helps us feel a little bit better about ourselves.'

The Raiders also got nine points each from Ashlie Needler and Gracie Reeves.

For Lakeland Christian, Sibert and Katie Reimink both had nine.

No JV game was played.

Southern Wells will host Whitko on Saturday night.

sports@news-banner.com

SOUTHERN WELLS 42

SOUTHERN WELLS 42, LAKELAND CHRISTIAN 21 At Southern Wells LAKELAND CHRISTIAN (1-1): Katie Reimink 2-8 4-4 9, Ellie Martinez 0-0 0-0 0, Lani Calizo 0-1 0-0 0, Abbie Wire-baugh 0-6 0-0 0, Anna Robertson 1-2 1-3 3, Emma Fick 0-1 0-0 0, Olivia Stenoish 0-1 0-0 0, Madison Wobrock 0-2 0-0 0, Kelly-Rose Banadzem 0-1 0-0 0, Dayton Siebert 4-9 1-2 9, TOTAL 5: 7-31 6-9 21 TOTALS: 7-31 6-9 21. SOUTHERN WELLS (1-3): Erika Beavens 2-4 0-0 4,

Kaylea Coffel 1-1 0-0 3, Aubree Meyer 0-1 0-0 0, Collena Reeves 1-7 0-0 2, Gracie Reeves 4-8 0-0 9, Kenzie Paxson 3-3 4-4 10, Breanna Leidig 0-2 0-0 0, Kyah Thomas 2-8 0-0 5, Karlee Warner 0-3 0-0 0, Ashlie Needler 4-9 1-1 9. TOTALS: 17-46 5-5 42.

TOTALS: 17-46 5-5 42. Lakeland Christian 8 0 5 8 – 21 Southern Wells 8 11 10 13 – 42 Three-point Field Goals: Lakeland Christian 1-12 (Reim-ink 1-4, Wirebaugh 0-4, Fick 0-1, Stenoish 0-1, Sibert 0-1, Banadzem 0-1), Southern Wells 3-13 (Thomas 1-5, Coffel 1-1, Gracie Reeves 1-2, Collena Reeves 0-3, Warner 0-1, Needler 0-1). Rebounds: Lakeland Christian 22 (Robertson 7, Calizo 4, Fick 3, Stenoish 3, Reimink 3, Wobrock 1, Wire-baugh 1), Southern Wells 23 (Needler 5, Gracie Reeves 4, Collena Reeves 4, Thomas 3, Paxson 3, Beavans 2, Leidig 2). Turnovers: Lakeland Christian 29, Southern Wells 19. Fouls: Lakeland Christian 4, Southern Wells 5. Fouled out: None. Technicals: None.

Purdue bumps up to No. 2, James Madison ranked for the first time

By JOHN MARSHALL **AP Sports Writer**

The first Associated Press men's basketball poll of the regular season is typically a jumble of teams swapping positions as preseason expectations meet the real-

ity of playing actual games. The first poll of the 2023-24 is no different.

Kansas remained at No. 1 and received 51 first-place votes from a 62-person media panel in the poll released Monday, but the rest of the AP Top 25 was filled with teams moving up and down.

No. 2 Purdue moved up a spot with two easy opening wins and received seven firstplace votes. No. 3 Arizona took a giant leap from 12 after beating Duke and had three first-place votes.

No. 4 Marguette moved up a spot as did



ton has gradually strengthened James Madison's program from 13 wins in his first season in 2020-

The Dukes appear to still be on the rise after pulling off the biggest upset

Unfazed by playing the nation's No. 4 team on the road, James Madison went to East Lansing and knocked off Michigan State 79-76 in overtime.

down 14 spots to No. 18.

"We go hard."

STEADY OWLS

Florida Atlantic had its highest ranking at No. 10 in the preseason poll after last year's surprising run to the Final Four. The Owls returned nearly everyone from that team and got this season off to a solid start with a 75-62 win over Loyola Chicago to remain in the top 10 this week.

Tigers go 3-1 in middle school basketball over Riverview

Bluffton's middle school girls basketball teams swept Riverview Monday night.

The eighth-grade team won by a score of 53-2. Grace Fry and Khloe Dick led the Tigers with 13 points each. Bridget Steffen added 12 points, Kamryn Ault had (8) points, Ava Trexler added (5) points, and Krista Blair and Macy Lemler each had (2) points.

The seventh-grade team won 28-3. Audrey Mechling was the top scorer with eight points, followed by Grace Jellison (6), Josie Nash, Averie Patton, Khloe Gehrett (4), and Luci Jenkins (2).

Bluffton boys' basketball teams went 1-1 over Riverview on Monday night.

The eighth-grade team lost 31-23. Gibby Grieser led the way with 12 points, Gavin Grieser (7), and Dawson Lee (4).

The seventh-grade team won 43-26. Chase Kistler had 11 points to lead the team, Maddox White (10), Vince Lamber (7), Parker Christal (4), Wyatt Holmes (4), Kamdyn Shuman (3), Éthan Ribich (2), and Croy Stout (2).

High School Calendar

TUESDAY, NOV 14

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Homestead at Norwell, 7:45 p.m.; Mississinewa at Bluffton, 7:30 p.m

SWIMMING & DIVING: (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, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOV 17

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

SATURDAY, NOV 18 GIRLS BASKETBALL: Norwell at Oak Hill, 7:30 p.m.; Bluffton at Madison-Grant, 7:30 p.m.; Whitko at Southern Wells, 7:30 p.m.

WRESTLING: Bluffton Super Duals, 9 a.m.; Southern Wells at Bronco Super Duals (Wapahani high School), 9 a.m.

MONDAY, NOV 20

- No events scheduled
- **TUESDAY, NOV 21**
- GIRLS BASKETBALL: Norwell at Concordia,

7:30 p.m.; Bluffton at New Haven, 7:30 p.m. SWIMMING & DIVING (CO-ED): Columbia City at Norwell, 5:30 p.m.

Defensive makeover puts Colts in position to make playoff push

By MICHAEL MAROT **AP Sports Writer** INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The Indianapolis Colts' defense is in the midst of a midseason makeover.

Two weeks ago, it was allowing a leagueworst 28.6 points per game and flirting with a historically bad season. During a three-game

losing streak, the Colts yielded 114 points their highest three-game total since 2011.

Since then, the Colts' defense has looked dramatically different. Cornerback Kenny Moore II has scored more touchdowns (two) over the past two weeks than Indy's opponents (one), and the 20 points allowed dur-ing that span has Indy (5-5) back at .500 and in position to make a playoff push.

"I think you start playing your best football in November and December," coach Shane Steichen said after Sunday's 10-6 victory over New England in Germany. "You kind of find out about teams in the second half of the season. So to be 2-0 (in November) and finding different ways to win and our defense has obviously stepped up the last two weeks."

The two straight wins have rebuilt the

ing into this season was whether Indy could consistently pressure opposing quarterbacks. After 10 games, the Colts are tied for fourth with 30 sacks. They had five against the Pats, including three by Dayo Odeybingbo, who doubled his previous season total.

WHAT NEEDS HELP

Finishing drives. Indy's nine-game streak of scoring 20 or more points ended

Sunday, though the struggles were evident earlier. The 14 points from Moore's two touchdowns against Carolina exceeded the scoring total from the entire Indy offense (13 points) in that game. The Colts have two offensive TDs in two weeks and three in the last five halves

STOCK UP

Odeyingbo and WR Isaiah McKenzie. Odeyingbo has 4 1/2 sacks and a fumble recovery over the last four games. McKenzie's numbers haven't been quite as impressive, but Indy wouldn't be .500 without him. He's filled in nicely while rookie WR Josh Downs battles a knee injury. McKenzie caught four passes for 31 yards Sunday and set up the decisive field goal with a 42-yard kickoff return.

STOCK DOWN

RB Zack Moss. He began this week as

Mark Bying-

21 to 22 last year.

of the early season.

The win earned the Dukes their first AP Top 25 ranking since transitioning to Division I in 1976 and knocked the Spartans

"We're not scared of names," T.J. Bickerstaff said after scoring 21 points, including a tying shot with 30 seconds left in regulation.

defending national champion Connecticut, which received a first-place vote to round out the top five. No. 24 James Madison moved into the poll for the first time ever after taking down Michigan State in overtime.

Arizona's rapid rise stemmed from a successful trip to Cameron Indoor Stadium.

The Wildcats were a bit of an unknown entity in coach Tommy Lloyd's third season with several new players replacing key losses from a team that lost to Princeton in the first round of the 2023 NCAA Tournament.

Arizona answered some of the questions with an impressive road performance, knocking off Duke 78-73 after blowing out Morgan State in its opener. The Blue Devils dropped to No. 9 after the loss.

'I said play with poise because you're the better team," Lloyd said. "Trust that you're the better team over the course of 40 minutes. I knew that it would be a small margin but I feel like that. I love this group of guys and feel like we're going to be as good a ball club as anybody in the country.'

"New team, new season, new chapter," Owls coach Dusty May said.

UPAND DOWN

Michigan State had the biggest drop from the preseason and Duke was next after dropping seven spots. Arizona had the biggest jump, followed by No. 15 Baylor and No. 16 Southern California, which both climbed five places.

IN AND OUT

James Madison was joined by No. 25 Colorado in moving into the AP Top 25 this week. The Buffaloes easily beat Towson and Grambling State to open the season.

San Diego State had a quick fall after finishing as the national runner-up last season. The Aztecs dropped out of the poll from No. 17 following a nine-point loss to BYU. Saint Mary's fell out from No. 23 after a home loss to Weber State.

Colts' confidence heading into a bye week. They trail AFC South-leading Jacksonville by 1 1/2 games.

Yes, Indy has beaten up on two of the league's four lowest-scoring teams and the worst teams in their respective conferences, Carolina and New England. Still, this trend could continue.

Indy faces five of the NFL's 10 worst scoring offenses over its final seven games and plays only one team that's currently more than one game above .500. With a defense ranked among the league's top six in strip sacks (six), takeaways (16), sacks (30) and tackles for losses (61), the Colts figure they're in better shape to reach the postseason than many believe.

"There was a big emphasis the past two weeks in getting to .500 going into the bye,' two-time Pro Bowl defensive tackle DeForest Buckner said. "I'm excited. The guys know we have an actual chance to make a (playoff) push."

WHAT'S WORKING

The pass rush. One question com-

the NFL's No. 2 rusher. But as Jonathan Taylor's workload has increased, Moss' has decreased. Steichen likes to go with the hot hand, which was Taylor early against New England, and the result was Moss got only one carry for 2 yards.

INJURIES

The most significant addition to the injury list is three-time Pro Bowl C Ryan Kelly, who entered the concussion protocol and didn't play in the second half. He's had two concussions this season. McKenzie also appeared to have an ice pack covering his left hand after the game. DEs Kwity Paye (hamstring) and Tyquan Lewis (calf) left briefly Sunday but finished the game.

NEXT STEPS

Everyone enjoys the bye week whenever it comes. But the timing seems optimal after an overseas trip and a physical game in which the offense struggled again. Steichen and his staff will surely consider how they can make their ground game more consistently effective over the final seven weeks.

DESERVING DUKES

Henderson and Carroll unanimous Rookie of the Year winners

By DAVID BRANDT AP Baseball Writer

PHOENIX (AP) - Baltimore's Gunnar Henderson and Arizona's Corbin Carroll were the types of exciting players Major League Baseball hoped for when it tweaked its rules to encourage athleticism.

The young stars were rewarded Monday by being voted unanimous winners of the sport's Rookie of the Year awards.

Henderson won the American League honor and Carroll the National League award after they both used used power, speed and defense to help their teams reach the playoffs just two years after 110-loss seasons.

MLB made a series of rules changes during the offseason, including a pitch clock, bans on extreme infield defensive shifts and limits on the number of times a pitcher can disengage from the rubber. Henderson and Carroll were among several young players who took advantage of the emphasis on athleticism, providing value all over the field.

Some big-league players were skeptical of the rules changes

before the season. Carroll and Henderson — who had played with them in the minors embraced them.

"My perspective, having played with them, was just let people see," Carroll said. "I think people are going to enjoy it. I think this athletic brand of baseball is going to be good for the game. And it was.

It was just the fifth time both the AL and NL selections were unanimous, the first since the New York Yankees' Aaron Judge and the Los Angeles Dodgers' Cody Bellinger in 2017.

The 22-year-old Henderson split time between third base and shortstop, providing above-average defense at both spots, while batting .255 with 28 homers, 82 RBIs, 100 runs, 29 doubles and 10 stolen bases. The numbers were strikingly similar to Orioles Hall of Famer Cal Ripken Jr.'s first full season — another shortstop who won the award in 1982.

"I just tried to go out there and play as hard as I can," Henderson said. "And I felt like that showed."

Henderson received all 30



Corbin Carroll

first-place votes and 150 points. Cleveland pitcher Tanner Bibee was second with 20 second-place votes and 67 points. Boston slugger Triston Casas was third with 25 points.

Gunnar

Henderson

Texas third baseman Josh Jung finished fourth while Houston catcher Yainer Diaz was fifth.

Carroll's season ended with a surprise appearance in the World Series, where the Diamondbacks fell to the Rangers in five games. The 23-year-old hit .285 with 25 homers and 54 stolen bases during the regular season, making the All-Star team and becoming the first rookie to join the 25-50 club.

The D-backs had been the last of the current 30 teams without a Rookie of the Year winner. He was pegged as a future star by the organization even before this season started, signing a \$111 million, eight-year deal during spring training.

Mets pitcher Kodai Senga finished second with 22 second-place votes and 71 points. Dodgers outfielder James Outman was third, Colorado slugger Nolan Jones was fourth and Cincinnati infielder Matt McLain was fifth.

Henderson and Carroll both earned \$750,000 from the prearbitration bonus pool for their wins. Bibee and Senga both get \$500,000 for finishing in second.

The Baseball Writers' Association of American votes on its awards before the postseason begins.

Henderson and Carroll were part of a superb MLB rookie class - particularly for hitters. According to FanGraphs data, the advanced metric Wins Above Replacement total for all rookie hitters in 2023 (68.5) was the second-best since 1900, behind only the 2015 group (75.1) headlined by Kris Bryant, Francisco Lindor, Carlos Correa and others.

The Orioles and D-backs both get an extra selection after the first round of July's amateur draft, part the prospect promotion incentive added to the collective bargaining agreement that began last year. The provision was included to discourage teams from delaying arbitration and free-agent eligibility.

Bibee, 24, was 10-4 with a 2.98 ERA over 25 starts.

The 23-year-old Casas shook off a slow start to the season, hitting .263 with 24 homers. The 6-foot-5, 244-pounder was much better after the All-Star break, batting .317 with 15 homers and 38 RBIs, giving the Red Sox hope that they have a future star.

Outman hit .248 with 23 homers and 16 stolen bases while playing center field for the NL West champion Dodgers. The 30-year-old Senga — who pitched in Japan for 11 seasons before coming to MLB - had a 12-7 record with a 2.98 ERA, providing a bright spot in a rough season for the disappointing Mets.



SPORTS

News-Banner Scoreboard

FOOTBALL NFL

AMERIC				FERENCE
	w	Eas	st T	Pct PF PA
Miami	6	3	0	.667 285 225
Buffalo	5	5	0	.500 262 186
N.Y. Jets	4	5	ŏ	.500 144 172
New Engla	nd2		Ō	.200 141 238
5	5	Sou	th	
	W	L	т	Pct PF PA
Jacksonville		3	0	.667 196 190
Houston	5	4	0	.556 217 192
Indianapolis	55	5	0	.500 242 248
Tennessee	3	6 Nor	0 * b	.333 154 180
	w	Ľ	Ť	Pct PF PA
Baltimore	7	3	Ō	.700 270 157
Cleveland	6	3	Ō	.667 214 170
Pittsburgh	6	3	0	.667 156 182
Cincinnati	5	4	0	.556 182 192
		We		
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Kansas City L.A. Charge	y I broA	2	0	.444 239 215
Las Vegas	5	5	0	.500 172 201
Denver	4	5	ŏ	.444 198 249
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Tampa Bay		5	0	.444 178 173
Atlanta	4	6 8	0 0	.400 189 217 .111 153 242
Carolina		Nor		.111 105 242
	w	Ľ	Т	Pct PF PA
Detroit	7	2	0	.778 241 203
Minnesota	6	4	Ō	.600 233 209
Green Bay	3	6	0	.333 179 182
Chicago	3	7	0	.300 204 255
	w	We: L	st T	Pct PF PA
San Francis			0	.667 252 143
San Francis Seattle	6	3	ŏ	.667 200 201
L.A. Rams	3	6	ŏ	.333 178 204
Arizona	2	8	0	.200 176 263
				iames
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Minnesota 2 Pittsburgh 2	27,	Ne	w C	Orleans 19
Pittsburgh 2	23,	Gre	en	Bay 19
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Seattle 29.	Wa	shi	nat	on 26
Seattle 29, Las Vegas	16,	N.)	ſ. J	ets 12
Open: Kans	sas	Cit	y, N	/liami, L.A.
Rams, Philad			~	
Denver 24,	Bu	ffalo	22	ames 2
Thu	rsc	lay,	N	ov. 16
Cincinnati a	at B	altir	moi	re, 8:15 p.m. v. 19
Su Arizona at l	naa Hou	ay, i isto	n '	V. 19 1 n m
Chicago at	Det	troit	1	n m
Dallas at Ca	aro	lina	, 1	p.m.
L.A. Charge	ers	at C	Gre	1 p.m. p.m. p.m. en Bay, 1 p.m.
Las vegas	ali	/liai	ш,	i p.m.
N.Y. Giants	at	Wa	shii	ngton, 1 p.m.
Pittsburgh a	at C	lev	ela	nd, 1 p.m.
Iennessee	at	Jacl	KSO	nville, 1 p.m.
татра вау p.m.	dl	Jac		ancisco, 4:05
N.Y. Jets at	Bu	ffal	0, 4	4:25 p.m.
Seattle at L	.A.	Ra	ms	, 4:25 p.m.
Maria a state	- 4 10	1000	vor	, 8:20 p.m.

Open: Indianapolis, New England, Atlanta, New Orleans

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

<u>BASKETBALL</u> **High School**

Monday's Scores Christel House Manual 41, Indpls Washington 33 Covington 39, Riverton Parke 33 N. Knox 74, Washington Catholic 2 North Vigo 51, Charleston, III. 35 Pendleton Hts. 62, Heritage Chris-

tian 42 South Bend Career Academy 23, Michiana 18

Southern Wells 42, Lakeland Christian 21

Ν	IB	Α		
EASTERN				
Atlant	W	IVISIO	n Pct	GB
Philadelphia	8	1	.889	_
Boston	8	2	.800	1/2
Brooklyn	5	5	.500	3½ 3½
New York	5	5	.500	
Toronto Southe	5	5 Divici	.500	31⁄2
Southe	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	6	4	.600	_
Atlanta	5	4	.556	1/2
Orlando	5	4	.556	1/2
Charlotte	3	6	.333	21/2
Washington Centr	2	8	.200	4
Centr	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	6	4	.600	_
Milwaukee	6	4	.600	_
Cleveland	4	5	.444	11⁄2
Chicago	4	7	.364	21/2
Detroit WESTERN	2	9	.182	41⁄2
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oouum	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	8	2	.800	_
Houston	6	3	.667	11⁄2
New Orleans	4	6	.400	4
San Antonio	3	7	.300	5
Memphis Northw	2	8 Divic	.200	6
NOTUIW	W	L	Pct	GB
Denver	8	2	.800	_
Minnesota	7	2	.778	1/2
Oklahoma City	6	4	.600	2
Portland	3 3	6	.333	41/2
Utah Pacifi		7 Iviolo	.300	5
Facili	w	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	6	5	.545	_
Sacramento	4	4	.500	1/2
L.A. Lakers	5	5	.500	1/2
Phoenix	4	6	.400	11/2
L.A. Clippers	3	6	.333	2
L.A. Clippers Sunda New York 129, 1 Brooklyn 102, V Memphis 105, L Philadelphia 13 Miami 118, San	l y 5 Cha	rlotte	107	
Brooklyn 102. V	Vasł	ninato	n 94	
Memphis 105, L	A.	Clippe	ers 101	
Philadelphia 13	7, In	idiana	126	
Miami 118, San	Ant	onio 1	13	
Dallas 136, Nev	v Or	ieans	124	
Chicago 110 D	otro	H 104	t	
Oklahoma City	111.	Phoe	nix 99	
Minnesota 116,	Gol	den S	tate 110	
Miadelprila 13 Miami 118, San Dallas 136, Nev Houston 107, D Chicago 119, D Oklahoma City Minnesota 116, L.A. Lakers 116	, Po	rtland	110	
Monda	ıy's	Gam	es	
Monda Boston 114, Ne Toronto 111, Wa Milwaukee 118,	W YO	ork 98	107	
	asrill Chi	igion	107	
Cleveland at Sa	ICTAI	nento	10 n m	
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Tuesda Atlanta at Detro	it, 7	p.m.	-	
Indiana at Phila	deln	nhia 7	nm	
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Orlando at Broc	Klyr	1, 7:30	p.m.	20
San Antonio at	OKIa	anoma	a Uity, 7:3	50

Dallas at New Orleans, 8 p.m. Portland at Utah, 9 p.m. L.A. Clippers at Denver, 10 p.m.

Minnesota at Golden State, 10 p.m. Memphis at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m. Wednesday's Games Dallas at Washington, 7 p.m. Boston at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m. Milwaukee at Toronto, 7:30 p.m. New York at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m. Orlando at Chicago, 8 p.m. Minnesota at Phoenix, 9 p.m. Cleveland at Portland, 10 p.m. Sacramento at L.A. Lakers, 10 p.m. **Thursday's Games** Brooklyn at Miami, 7:30 p.m. Oklahoma City at Golden State, 10 p.m.

College

Men's Basketball Scores Monday, Nov. 13 EAST Michigan 89, St. John's 73 Penn 76, Villanova 72

Pittsburgh 86, Florida Gulf Coast 74 SOUTH SOUTH Florida St. 94, Cent. Michigan 67 Miami 86, FIU 80 South Carolina 74, VMI 64 Stephen F. Austin 96, Northwestern St. 70

MIDWEST Butler 81, ETSU 47 Kansas St. 91, S. Dakota St. 68 Lindenwood (Mo.) 83, Hannibal-LaGrange 52 Missouri 68, SIU-Edwardsville 50 Missouri St. 84, Oral Roberts 69 N. Illinois 107, Illinois Tech 55 Nebraska 64, Rider 50 Purdue 83, Xavier 71 Youngstown St. 99, Ohio Christian

71 SOUTHWEST

Arkansas 86, Old Dominion 77 Houston 79, Stetson 48 FAR WEST Arizona 97, Southern U. 59

Women's Basketball Scores Monday, Nov. 13 EAST

Penn St. 91, Kansas 85 SOUTH FAU 84, North Florida 75, OT Florida 92, Florida A&M 54 Georgia 85, Georgia Southern 59 Tennessee 84, Memphis 74, OT FAR WEST

FAR WEST Boise St. 76, Weber St. 47 California 74, Cal Poly 60 San Diego St. 77, UC Davis 68 Southern Cal 93, Le Moyne 42

<u>HOCKEY</u>

NHL										
EASTERN CO										
Atlantic E										
GP W	L OTPts GF GA									
Boston 14 11	1 2 24 46 28									
Florida 14 9										
Detroit 15 8										
Toronto 15 8	5 2 18 55 54									
Tampa Bay15 6	5 4 16 53 54									
Montreal 15 7	6 2 16 44 53									
Buffalo 15 7	7 1 15 44 47									
Ottawa 13 6	7 0 12 50 44									
Metropolita	n Division									
ĠP W	L OTPts GF GA									
N.Y. Rangers1411	2 1 23 47 31									
Carolina 15 9	6 0 18 51 49									
Washington13 7										
New Jersey13 7	5 1 15 48 49									
Philadelphia15 7	7 1 15 48 46									
Pittsburgh 13 7	6 0 14 46 34									
N.Y. Islanders135	5 3 13 32 40									

Columbus 15 4 7 4 12 41 53 WESTERN CONFERENCE Gentral Division GP W L OTPts GF GA 14 10 3 1 21 48 36 10 13 8 5 0 16 43 43 12 14 7 5 2 16 49 47 15 13 7 5 1 15 37 36 14 7 6 1 15 49 42 15 13 7 5 1 25 49 Dallas Colorado Winnipeg St. Louis Arizona Minnesota 15 5 8 Chicago 13 5 8 Nashville 14 5 9 12 50 10 34 64 45 2 0 Nashville 0 10 42 49 Pacific Division Pacific Division GP W L OTPts GF GA Vegas 15 12 2 1 25 58 32 Vancouver 15 11 3 1 23 66 33 Los Angeles 14 8 3 19 56 42 Anaheim 14 8 6 0 16 44 41 Seattle 15 5 7 3 13 39 53 Calgary 14 4 8 2 10 37 52 Edmonton 13 9 1 7 35 51 San Jose 15 2 12 1 5 18 67 NOTE: Two points for a win, one 50 15 2 win, one 50 50 NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild

cards per conference advance to playoffs. Sunday's Games Florida 4, Chicago 3 Dallas 8, Minnesota 3 Vancouver 5, Montreal 2 N.Y. Rangers 4, Columbus 3, SO Anaheim 4, San Jose 1 Monday's Games

N.Y. Islanders at Edmonton, 8:30 p.m Colorado at Seattle. 10 n m

Colorado at Seattle, 10 p.m. Tuesday's Games Boston at Buffalo, 7 p.m. Calgary at Montreal, 7 p.m. Pittsburgh at Columbus, 7 p.m. Vegas at Washington, 7 p.m. Anaheim at Nashville, 8 p.m. Arizona at Dallas, 8 p.m. New Jersey at Winnipeg, 8 p.m. Tampa Bay at St. Louis, 8 p.m. Florida at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

Wednesday's Games Philadelphia at Carolina, 7:30 p.m. Seattle at Edmonton, 8:30 p.m. Anaheim at Colorado, 9 p.m N.Y. Islanders at Vancouver, 10 p.m Thursday's Games

Detroit vs. Ottawa at Avicii Arena,

2 p.m. Arizona at Columbus, 7 p.m. New Jersey at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m. Vegas at Montreal, 7 p.m. Tampa Bay at Chicago, 8 p.m. Vancouver at Calgary, 9 p.m. N.Y. Islanders at Seattle, 10 p.m. Florida at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m. St. Louis at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

Monday's Transactions BASEBALL

Major League Baseball CHICAGO CUBS — Named Craig Counsel manager. CINCINNATI REDS — Agreed to terms with C P.J. Higgins on a minor league contract. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Sent RHP

Wilking Rodriguez outright to Memphis (IL). FOOTBALL National Football League PITTSBURGH STEELERS — Waived

DT Braiden Fehoko HOCKEY National Hockey League ARIZONA COYOTES — Recalled LW

Milos Kelemen from Tucson (AHL). BOSTON BRUINS — Recalled D Ian Mitchell and D Oskar Steen from Providence (AHL). BUFFALO SABRES — Assigned C Brandon Biro to Rochester (AHL).

Zach Edey and Braden Smith help Purdue pass first real test with win over Xavier

By MICHAEL MAROT AP Sports Writer

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. (AP) -Zach Edey finished with 28 points and 11 rebounds while Braden Smith added 12 points and seven assists to give No. 2 Purdue an 83-71 victory over Xavier

Xavier (2-1) was led by Desmond Claude with 15 points and six assists. Three players had 10 points.

But, as most teams do, the Musketeers struggled to contend with Edey, the 7-foot-4 center and last season's national player of the year. Abou Ousof the first half to take a 37-29 lead and still couldn't pull away after extending the margin to 46-35 early in the second half. But an 11-5 spurt allowed the Boilermakers to open up a 71-57 cushion with 6:28 to go. Xavier never seriously challenged again.

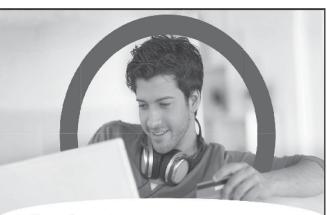
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in Monday night's Gavitt Tipoff game.

The Boilermakers (3-0) extended their school record for consecutive regular-season wins against non-conference opponents to 27. They also snapped a five-game losing streak to the Musketeers by winning their first game in the series since December 2001. The schools last met in 2012.

mane, a 6-10 forward, drew the defensive assignment on Edey and spent most of the night in foul trouble before drawing his fifth foul with 8:04 to play.

Still, Xavier made life more difficult for the Boilermakers than last week when they won two games by more than 30 points each.

Purdue scored the final four points

BIG PICTURE

Purdue: Instead of jumping out to a big, early lead and pulling away, the Boilermakers passed their first real test of the season – and just in time for next week's Maui Invitational.

UP NEXT

Purdue: Faces No. 11 Gonzaga next Monday in Honolulu.



For Craig Counsell, the chance to manage the Cubs was one he couldn't pass up

By ANDREW SELIGMAN AP Sports Writer

CHICAGO (AP) - Craig Counsell didn't answer the phone when the Chicago Cubs called about their manager job. Once he realized the number belonged to President of Baseball Operations Jed Hoyer, he quickly got in touch.

After that, things unfolded in a hurry.

The Cubs introduced Counsell as their 56th manager on Monday, one week after they lured him away from the Milwaukee Brewers with a record contract and fired David Ross in a pair of surprising moves. He became the majors' highest paid manager with a five-year deal worth more than \$40 million.

"I called him back," Counsell said. "And he indicated the Cubs had interest, discussed some generalities of what was going on, my schedule. I was interested, but cautious. I suggested we get together that day because I was going to New York the next day. My process was getting very fast, so we got together later that day.²

The interview took place at Hoyer's home. The only other Cubs personnel who knew about it were chairman Tom Ricketts and general manager Carter Hawkins.

"It was a little bit of a shot in the dark and I didn't think it was very likely," Hoyer said. "And therefore, I wanted to make sure I kept a really small circle.'

Having the interview at his home was a first for Hoyer. But then again, this was a rare opportunity to land one of the top managers, though the circumstances were familiar. The Cubs hired Joe Maddon and fired Rick Renteria following the 2014 season, when

they thought they were on the cusp of contending.

Hoyer was the general manager back then, with Theo Epstein running baseball operations. Maddon led the Cubs to four straight playoff appearances, including a World Series championship in 2016 that ended a 108-year drought, and a 471-339 record in five seasons.

Ross was 262-284 in four seasons and led the Cubs to the NL Central title in 2020 — his first year. They were in contention for a wild card this year and finished 83-79 after back-to-back losing seasons. Ross was also a popular member of the 2016 team as a backup catcher.

Now, Counsell takes over.

He led the budget-conscious Brewers to five playoff appearances in the past six years, including three NL Central titles, and a 707-625 record in nine seasons. His contract expired, making him one of the biggest managerial free agents in recent years.

Counsell holds the franchise record for wins and games managed. The one mark against him was Milwaukee's inability to perform as well in the playoffs. The Brewers have lost nine of their last 10 postseason games.

"The 162 games is a marathon and there are ... decisions you make that are rewarded over the marathon and players are rewarded over the marathon," Counsell said. "In short playoff series, we have luck in our game. And we have misfortune in our game. You control less in really short stints in this game. It forces aggressiveness on managers, I think.'

Brewers principal owner Mark Attanasio said last week the team offered a deal that would have made Counsel the highest paid manager per year and in total package. Counsel said he wasn't sure if there was more the team could have done to keep him. He had been thinking of managing elsewhere the past two years.

"I wanted to give myself time to be in that place, to see what was in front of me, to see what was going on with my family and give myself time to make a decision that I felt was best for all of us," Counsell said.

Counsell grew up a Brewers fan in the Milwaukee suburb of Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin, and still lives there. His father, John Counsell, is the Brewers' former director of community affairs.

An infielder, Counsell's 16-year run as a major league player included two stints with the Brewers - in 2004 and from 2007 to 2011. He played on championship teams with the Florida Marlins in 1997 and Diamondbacks in 2001, and he was part of the 2008 Brewers team that earned Milwaukee its first playoff appearance since its 1982 World Series berth.

As much as Counsell's decision to leave stung fans in Milwaukee, taking the Cubs job was like pouring a packet of salt on the wound. Someone sprayed the word "ass" on the sign at the Little League field bearing his name in Whitefish Bay.

"That's been part of the ride that's been a hard week for me, for sure," Counsell said. "It has. And I underestimated that. I underestimated that. That was my miscalculation there, a little bit. As time moves forward, I'm very proud of what happened in Milwaukee. ... I think time will look favorably on what was accomplished during those nine years that I was the manager there. It's there and it's real and I understand it. I do. But I think time will help."



The Supreme Court says it is adopting a code of ethics

The Supreme Court says it is adopting a code of ethics, but it has no means of enforcement

By MARK SHERMAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) The Supreme Court on Monday adopted its first code of ethics, in the face of sustained criticism over undisclosed trips and gifts from wealthy benefactors to some justices, but the code lacks a means of enforcement.

The policy, agreed to by all nine justices, does not appear to impose any significant new requirements and leaves compliance entirely to each justice.

Indeed, the justices said they have long adhered to ethics standards and suggested that criticism of the court over ethics was the product of misunderstanding, rather than any missteps by the justices.

"The absence of a Code, however, has led in recent years to the misunderstanding that the Justices of this Court, unlike all other jurists in this country, regard themselves as unrestricted by any ethics rules," the justices wrote in an unsigned statement that accompanied the code. "To dispel this misunderstanding, we are issuing this

Code, which largely represents a codification of principles that we have long regarded as governing our conduct.'

The ethics issue has vexed the court for several months, over a series of stories questioning the ethical practices of the justices. Many of those stories focused on Justice Clarence Thomas and his failure to disclose travel, other hospitality and additional financial ties with wealthy conservative donors including Harlan Crow and the Koch brothers. But Justices Samuel Alito and Sonia Sotomayor also have been under scrutiny.

In September, Justice Elena Kagan acknowledged that there were disagreements among the justices over the contents of an ethics code, but did not specify what they were. The justices achieved unanimity Monday, but predictably offered no explanation for how they got there.

Liberal critics of the court were not satisfied, with one group saying the code "reads a lot more like a friendly suggestion than a binding, enforceable guideline.'

Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse,

D-R.I., one of the loudest voices complaining about the court's ethical shortcomings, was among several leading Democrats who mixed praise for the court with a call to do more.

"This is a long-overdue step by the justices, but a code of ethics is not binding unless there is a mechanism to investigate possible violations and enforce the rules. The honor system has not worked for members of the Roberts Court," Whitehouse said.

A court ethics code proposed by Whitehouse that cleared the Senate Judiciary Committee without any Republican support would allow for complaints and investigation by lower-court judges. Three justices, Amy Coney Barrett, Brett Kavanaugh and Kagan have voiced support for an ethics code in recent months. In May, Chief Justice John Roberts said there was more the court could do to "adhere to the highest ethical standards," without providing any specifics.

Public trust in and approval of the court is hovering near record lows, according to a Gallup Poll released just before the court's new term began on Oct. 2.

As recently as last week, Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., chairman of

the Senate Judiciary Committee, said the justices could quiet some of the criticism and a Democratic push to impose an ethics code on the court by putting in place their own policy.

Durbin said Monday that the code appears to fall short of what is needed.

Durbin's panel, which has been investigating the court's ethics, has been planning to subpoena Crow and conservative activist Leonard Leo about their roles in organizing and paying for justices' luxury travel. The committee has scheduled a vote on the subpoenas for Thursday.

Republicans complained that Democrats were mostly reacting to decisions they didn't like from the conservative-dominated court, including overturning the nationwide right to an abortion.

The Democratic-backed ethics bill also would require that justices provide more information about potential conflicts of interest and written explanations about their decisions not to recuse. It would also seek to improve transparency around gifts received by iustices. The Democratic bill had little prospect of becoming law in the Republican-controlled House, much less the closely divided Sen-

ate.

The push for an ethics code was jump-started by a series of stories by the investigative news site Pro-Publica detailing the relationship between Crow and Thomas. Crow has for more than two decades paid for nearly annual vacations, purchased from Thomas and others the Georgia home in which the justice's mother still lives and helped pay for the private schooling for a relative.

ProPublica also reported on Alito's Alaskan fishing trip with a GOP donor, travel that Leo helped arrange. The Associated Press reported that Sotomayor, aided by her staff, has advanced sales of her books through college visits over the past decade. The AP also reported that universities have used trips by justices as a lure for financial contributions by placing them in event rooms with wealthy donors.

The court's initial step on ethics, in the spring, also did not mollify critics. Roberts declined an invitation from Durbin to testify before the Judiciary panel, but the chief justice provided a "Statement on Ethics Principles and Practices' signed by all nine justices that described the ethical rules they follow about travel, gifts and outside income

Paul Pelosi testifies about being attacked with a hammer at home

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - Paul Pelosi recounted publicly for the first time Monday what happened the night he was attacked by a man in the San Francisco home he shares with former U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, recalling how shocking it was to see a man standing at his bedroom door, then how the man whacked him in the head with a hammer.

"It was a tremendous sense of shock to recognize that somebody had broken into the house and looking at him and looking at the hammer and the ties, I recognized that I was in serious danger, so I tried to stay as calm as possible," Pelosi told jurors as he testified in the trial of David DePape, who is shown on video carrying out the attack.

Prosecutors say DePape bludgeoned Pelosi in the early hours of Oct. 28, 2022, just days before the midterm elections, and that he had rope and zip ties with him. DePape has pleaded not guilty to attempted kidnapping of a federal official and assault on the immediate family member of a federal official with intent to retaliate against the official for performance of their duties.

Defense attorney Jodi Linker told jurors last week that she won't dispute that DePape attacked Pelosi. Instead, she will argue that DePape believed "with every ounce of his being" that he was taking action to stop government corruption, the erosion of freedom in the United States, and the abuse of children by politicians and actors. She said that means the government's charges that DePape was trying to retaliate or interfere with Nancy Pelosi's official duties don't fit.

Paul Pelosi's testimony came on the trial's second day, after prosecutors brought forward FBI agents who collected the electronics DePape was carrying and searched the room he lives in, a U.S. Capitol police officer who watches the surveillance cameras at the Pelosis' home and another who has protected Nancy Pelosi since 2006, a Bay Area Rapid Transit police sergeant, and a digital forensics expert.

Pelosi said he has not discussed the attack with anyone and has encouraged his family not to as well "because it has been too traumatic.'

The Pelosis' home has an alarm system with motion detectors, but Pelosi said he never put it on when he was home alone because his movements would trigger it.

He recalled being awakened by a man bursting into the bedroom door asking, "Where's Nancy?" He said that when he responded that his wife was in Washington, DePape said he would tie him up while they waited for her.

"We had some conversation with him saying she was the leader of the pack, he had to take her out, and that he was going to wait for her," Paul Pelosi said.

Earlier, prosecutors played police body camera footage showing Pelosi facedown on the floor as paramedics help him. One holds a white towel against Pelosi's head as another puts a neck and head brace on him before several first responders help him onto a stretcher chair. Pelosi's face and hands are covered in blood.

He later underwent surgery to repair a skull fracture and injuries to his right arm and hands.

Some witnesses helped verify time stamps on footage from surveillance cameras at the Pelosis' home, which are set to Eastern Time, and on BART trains, which were an hour behind Pacific Time.

FBI Special Agent Stephanie Minor, who was in charge of the investigation, testified that video showed DePape hit Paul Pelosi at least three times.



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Travels for the

Jewish protesters, allies block Israeli consulate in Chicago

The protestors convened at a train station to demand a cease-fire in Gaza

By CLAIRE SAVAGE Associated Press/ Report for America

CHICAGO (AP) — Hundreds of Jewish peace activists and their allies converged at a major train station in downtown Chicago during rush hour Monday morning, blocking the entrance to the Israeli consulate and demanding U.S. support for an Israel ceasefire as battles rage in northern Gaza.

Midwestern Jews and allies traveled to Chicago from Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota, Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin and Illinois for the demonstration, organizers said.

The Israeli consulate in Chicago is in a building connected to the Ogilvie Transportation Center, a major commuter rail station.

Over 100 protesters who had blocked escalators leading to the consulate were arrested for misdemeanor trespassing and escorted out of the building, according to Ben Lorber, who helped organize the protest led by Chicago chapters of Jewish Voice for Peace, IfNot-Now, and Never Again Action. That information was not confirmed by Chicago police, who could not immediately provide information on the number and reasons for arrests, and how many demonstrators participated.

The fighting was triggered by Hamas' Oct. 7 surprise attack on Israel, whose response has led to thousands of deaths — and much destruction — across Gaza.

Advocacy group Jewish Voice for Peace led a similar sit-in in New York City's Grand Central Station on Oct. 27, where a sea of protesters filled the main concourse during evening rush hour, chanting slogans and unfurling banners demanding a cease-fire as Israel intensified its bombardment of the Gaza Strip. At least 200 demonstrators were detained by New York police officers.

And more than 300 people were arrested in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 19 for illegally demonstrating, and three people were charged with assaulting police after protesters descended on Capitol Hill to call for a cease-fire between Israel and Hamas.

The Chicago rally is unique from the previous Jewish Voice demonstrations because in the Midwest, "progressive Jewish communities are far smaller and separated by distance," according to an emailed press release from organizers.

Chicago protesters cheered Monday as police led demonstrators from the building with hands zip-tied behind their backs, many in black T-shirts that read, "Not in our name."

"We will not let a genocide happen in our name," said Clara Belitz of IfNot-Now Chicago during an Instagram livestream of the protest. "Our Jewish values compel us to speak out." IfNotNow describes itself as a movement of American Jews organizing to end U.S. support of "the Israeli government's apartheid system."

A spokesperson for Metra, the city's commuter rail system, said that trains continued to run normally, but protesters blocked the southern exit and commuters were forced to leave the station through other doors.

"They shut down access to our platforms from the 500 West Madison building," where the consulate is located, said Meg Reile, a spokesperson for Metra. "Trains continued to run throughout."

The Israeli consulate in Chicago did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Medics and patients, babies, stranded as battles rage around Gaza hospitals

KHAN YOUNIS, Gaza Strip (AP) — Battles between Israel and Hamas around hospitals forced thousands of Palestinians to flee from some of the last perceived safe places in northern Gaza, stranding critically wounded patients, newborns and their caregivers with dwindling supplies and no electricity, health officials said Monday.

With Israeli forces fighting in the center of Gaza City, the territory's main city, both sides have seized on the plight of hospitals as a symbol of the larger war, now in its sixth week. The fighting was triggered by Hamas' Oct. 7 surprise attack into Israel, whose response has led to thousands of deaths — and much destruction — across Gaza.

Israel accuses Hamas of using hospitals as cover for its fighters. On Monday, the military released footage of a children's hospital that its forces moved into over the weekend, showing weapons it said it found inside, as well as rooms in the basement where it believes the militants were holding some of the around 240 hostages they abducted during the initial attack.

"Hamas uses hospitals as an instrument of war," said Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari, the army's chief spokesperson, standing in a room of the Rantisi Children's Hospital decorated with a colorful children's drawing of a tree. Explosive vests, grenades and RPGs were displayed on the floor.

Meanwhile, gunfire and explosions raged Monday around Gaza City's main

hospital, Shifa, which has been encircled by Israeli troops for days. Tens of thousands of people have fled the hospital in the past few days and headed to the southern Gaza Strip, including large numbers of displaced people who had taken shelter there, as well as patients who could move.

For Palestinians, Shifa evokes the suffering of civilians. For weeks, staff members running low on supplies have performed surgery there on war-wounded patients, including children, without anesthesia. After the weekend's mass exodus, about 650 patients and 500 staff remain in the hospital, which can no longer function, along with around 2,500 displaced Palestinians sheltering inside with little food or water.

After power for Shifa's incubators went out days ago, the Health Ministry in Hamas-ruled Gaza on Monday released a photo it says shows about a dozen premature babies wrapped in blankets together on a bed to keep them at a proper temperature. Otherwise, "they immediately die," said the Health Ministry's director general, Medhat Abbas, who added that four of the babies had been delivered by cesarean section after their mothers died.

The Israeli military says Hamas has set up its main command center in and beneath the Shifa compound, though it has provided little evidence. Both Hamas and Shifa Hospital staff deny the Israeli allegations.

U.S. President Joe Biden said Monday that Shifa "must be protected."

Military training efforts for Ukraine hit major milestones

By JOHN LEICESTER Associated Press

A FRENCH ARMY BASE, France (AP) — Battle cries pierce the smoke and rat-a-tat-tat of gunfire as Ukrainian soldiers fight through and take enemy trenches and dugouts that hide gruesome, bloody remains.

"Grenade!" one screams in Ukrainian. Another yells: "Let's go, let's go, let's go!"

This time, no lives or limbs were lost. Because this time, the rounds fired were blanks and the "enemy" troops were, in fact, French soldiers whose intention was not to kill the Ukrainians but instead to help shape them into better, more lethal warriors.

But soon, the war games these troops played in the mud in France will become all too real, when the Ukrainians return home and are sent to the front lines against Russia's forces.

As the Dynamican improving swinds

bat training programs provided by Ukraine's allies are helping it hold out and its odds of eventual victory. By continuing to prepare Ukrainian troops for battle even as the Israel-Hamas war diverts global attention, Ukraine's backers also are making concrete their promises to stick with it for the long haul.

France is on course to have trained 7,000 Ukrainians this year — some in Poland, others at French bases — as part of a European Union military assistance mission for Ukraine that launched a year ago this week. The French army granted The Associated Press access to a training base in rural France last week to observe the latest class of Ukrainian infantrymen being put through its paces at the tail end of a four-week course.

The EU mission's initial goal was to train 15,000 soldiers, but it has far exceeded that target and now expects to hit 35,000 by the end of this year. All but three of the EU's 27 member countries, plus non-member Norway, have provided training courses or instructors, the EU Commission says. The United States has trained about 18,000, mostly in Germany, with an additional 1,000 in the pipeline, the Pentagon says.

In Britain, 30,000 have learned soldiering in the past 17 months, a training program the U.K. government says is unprecedented since World War II.

As well as basic training with weapons, battlefield first aid and other skills, instructors are also imparting specialized military know-how, ranging from clearing mines and launching waterborne attacks aboard small boats to equipment repair, officer training and even help for Ukrainian military chaplains.

With their return to Ukraine just days away, the grimness of the future that awaits the trainees at the French base was perceptible in the men's determined, unsmiling looks. Civilians not long ago, they now carried themselves like soldiers. They addressed each other with nicknames. There was liberal swearing as the men caught their breaths after storming trenches with fake grenades and blank rounds. French instructors left animal remains in the complex of dugouts and ditches to harden the troops to battlefield bloodshed. Only the officers had previous front-line experience, the chief French training officer said.

He said Ukraine is looking to France for tactics and knowhow that could help its forces bust through Russian defenses. Because of French military concerns for the base's security, the officer, Lt. Col. Even, could only be identified by his rank and first name.

"One can clearly see in Ukraine that the front line is relatively frozen, with two belligerents who employ very similar doctrines," he said. "So today, one of the keys being sought in an attempt to break this inertia is to try to develop maneuvering schemes that can bother and even shake up the adversary."

As well as seeing their assault on freshly dug trenches, the AP also observed Ukrainians vigorously defending a mock-up village against a French "enemy" attack and concealing themselves in raindrenched woodlands. Translators bridged the language gap between the soldiers and their French hosts.

French trainers said they've learned through experience that it's unwise to get too friendly with the trainees — because some of them are sure to be killed back home. Despite sharing the bonding discomforts of long days and nights in the French wilds, they sever ties when the training is done, with soldiers under orders not to swap phone numbers or other contacts.

"You have to burn bridges because otherwise you ask yourselves too many questions. When you find out that this or that person is dead, you're bound to ask yourself what you did wrong: 'Did we work enough on this or that tactic? Should I have insisted more on this point?'" said one of the instructors, Capt. Xavier.

As the Russian invasion grinds into a second winter and casualties — already estimated in the hundreds of thousands — continue to mount on both sides, com"We're doing our utmost," he said. "Asking yourself afterward what you did wrong or could have done better is torturing yourself for nothing."



AGRICULTURE/FARMING

Farmers' Almanac winter 2023-24 forecast says the 'brrrrr' is back

By AGDAILY

After last winter's strange weather anomalies, the Farmers' Almanac forecasts a return to traditional winter weather for 2023-24, predicting cold temperatures and plenty of snow to come.

Although winter officially starts on Dec. 21, the almanac explains that the cold conditions likely won't hold off until then. The meteorological winter starts on December 1, and December 2023's forecast is quite stormy with the Farmers' Almanac calling for blizzard conditions blowing snow into areas over northern New England, the North Central states, and northern and central areas of New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Arkansas.

For those in the Great Lakes, Midwest, Central, and New England areas, get out your snowblowers, extra sweaters, and skis as the January and February forecast calls for below-average temps, snowstorms, ice, and rain.

To find out when the snow may fly in your part of the country, take a look at the weather forecast zones in these Farmers' Almanac maps.

Why is the "brrrrrr" coming back? El Niño may be to blame

If an El Niño materializes in the latter half of 2023, it's predicted that the unusually high water temperature off the Pacific Coast of South America will account for cold temperatures throughout the country, including snow, sleet, and ice.

With an El Niño possible, expect copious amounts of moisture across the entire Northwest. Even Texas should plan to bundle up with unseasonably cold and big storms predicted in mid-January.

An unusually snowy and wet winter is also predicted for the Pacific Northwest. Should an El Niño materialize, it could direct the subtropical jet stream into California, translating into copious amounts of rain and snow across the Southwest.

Winter in the Great Plains and Rockies will usher in plenty of cold temperatures and occasional bouts of storminess, bringing widespread rains and snows.

The Southeast and Florida will see a wetter-than-normal winter, with average winter temperatures overall, but a few frosts may send many shivers to snowbirds trying to avoid the cold and snow back home.

For those of you living along the Interstate 95 corridor from Washington to Boston, who saw a lack of wintry precipitation last winter, you should experience quite the opposite, with lots of rain/sleet and snowstorms to contend with.

When does winter end? With a myriad of winter weather advi-



Image provided by Farmer's Almanac.

sories across the country through January and February and some possible late snowstorms predicted in March and April, it looks like the "brrrr" won't let go very easily. March's forecast calls for swings in the thermometer, especially in the east, with March possibly going out like a lion, with stormy conditions nationwide.

The Farmers' Almanac weather predictions are based on a formula originally developed in 1818 by the publication's foundering editor, David Young. This formula incorporates many of the various techniques as well as sunspot activity, tidal action of the moon, the position of the planets, and more.

The 2024 Farmers' Almanac, with its

orange and green cover, is now available in bookstores and retail stores, as well as on Amazon and FarmersAlmanac.com. Not just for farmers, the Almanac reaches a broader audience with husbandry tips, days to cut your hair or mow your lawn (that you won't see for a while), quit bad habits, brew beer, and grow basil.

You may notice as you review the Farmers' Almanac forecast that wintry forecasts are similar to what was put out in the Old Farmer's Almanac forecast. However, the former varies by predicting 16 months in advance for seven U.S. climate zones, and five Canadian, versus 18 months predicted by the Old Farmers' Alamanac in 18 U.S. regions and seven in Canada.

60 fire crews get life-saving grain rescue tools from Nationwide

By AGDAILY

Nationwide's Grain Bin Safety campaign has awarded grain rescue tubes and training to 332 fire departments across 32 states.

Rural communities continue to face hazards associated with working in and around grain structures. In 2022 alone, there were at least 42 grain entrapments — the highest number in over a decade — resulting in 15 fatalities.

To help prevent tragic accidents and deaths, Nationwide and its partners are providing life-saving grain rescue tubes and training to 60 fire departments across rural America through its 2023 Grain Bin Safety campaign.

In partnership with the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety, Nationwide and its partners have now supplied grain rescue equipment and training to 332 first responders across 32 states to help pre-

"Grain bin accidents continue to be a critical issue facing the agriculture industry," said Brad Liggett, president of Agribusiness at Nationwide. "We are proud to have supplied these important resources to 60 more rural fire departments in partnership with the many sponsors involved in our grain bin safety efforts. However, the work will not be complete until we can put a stop to these needless accidents altogether. Thank you to the first responders who play such an important role in supporting the agriculture community."

After receiving thousands of nominations in the 2023 Nominate Your Fire Department Contest, an annual component of Nationwide's Grain Bin Safety advocacy campaign, the insurer and its partners are proud to have awarded grain rescue tubes and

including 12 located in Indiana:

• Clarksburg Volunteer Fire Department, Clarksburg

• Dunreith Volunteer Fire Department, Dunreith

• Harrison Township Volunteer Fire Department, Monroe City

Lakeville Fire Department, La Paz
LaPaz North Volunteer

Fire Department, La Paz

• New Washington Volunteer Fire Department, New Washington

• Perry County EMA Fire & Rescue — North Station, Leopold

• Perry County EMA Fire & Rescue — South Station, Tell City

• Poland Volunteer Fire Department, Poland

• Redding Township Volunteer Fire Department, Seymore

• Huntington County Fire Department, Huntington re-training

• Muncie Convention

NECAS, based out of Peosta, Iowa, delivered the rescue tubes and training to 60 fire departments and conducted re-training for six additional fire departments throughout 2023, traveling to each location with state-of-the-art grain entrapment simulators. The comprehensive training sessions included classroom education and rescue simulations using the entrapment tools, which are loaded onto 20-foot trailers and able to hold about 100 bushels of grain each. Since beginning the

Grain Bin Safety campaign in 2014, at least seven fire departments have utilized their rescue tubes and training to successfully rescue entrapped individuals, including a recent Ohio rescue of a worker trapped up to his armpits in March 2023.

"With entrapments and accidents on the rise, it's as important as ever to be ing a bin," said Liggett. "Visit our Grain Bin Safety page to find educational resources and tools to help maintain grain quality and prevent accidents. Thank you to our generous partners who have supported this cause."

ing to work with partners throughout the year to provide additional grain rescue tubes and training sessions to fire departments in need. To learn how to get involved or sponsor a rescue tube for your local fire department, visit the Partner With Us webpage.

Nationwide is continu-



pare them when local grain entrapments occur.

training to the following 60 fire departments this year,

Center, Muncie, IN – retraining following proper safety precautions before enter-

USDA projects record year for Indiana corn, soybean yields

By ERIC PFEIFFER Hoosier Ag Today

200 bushel per acre corn and 61 bushel per acre soybeans- that's what USDA projected for Indiana yields in their Crop Production report last Thursday. Purdue Extension's Dan 'Corn' Quinn and 'Soybean' Shaun Casteel say both would be record breaking if realized. The guys discuss how we got here in the latest Purdue Crop Chat podcast, available now below or wherever you listen to podcasts.

"I've talked to multiple farmers that say this is the best they've ever seen," says Quinn, who adds that he's been seeing some

300-bushel corn in spots around the state. "It's just unbelievable. The genetics we have, and I think the planting progress was very timely this year. We got really well-established crops. We accumulated heat units early, we got the root establishment, that crop just got off to a really good start and we caught the rainfall when we needed it in really critical periods. It resulted in just phenomenal yields all around the state.'

Casteel says disease pressure was low this season, helping boost soybean yields.

"A little bit of white mold

surprised us here and there, but we didn't have a widespread disease issue per se. So, we got a nice healthy crop. That goes back to compact plants, so you don't have a lot of biomass that's got this environment that's harboring all those pathogens and all that. So, that was really a great spot for us."

Quinn and Casteel are both playing the same "What if?" game that farmers are playing after prolonged dryness at the beginning of the season that everyone kept saying took the top off these yields.

"We did lose out on some," says Casteel.

"Which is crazy to say in a year that is a state record and farms and fields are running 75-85 bpa averages. I had plenty of fields, plenty of farmers that said, 'I'm running mid 80s for my field average.' Dan talked about seeing the 300-bushel mark on corn, well there were spots going over the 100-bushel mark on soybeans. I've got a few treatments that were, flat out, 101-bushel average."

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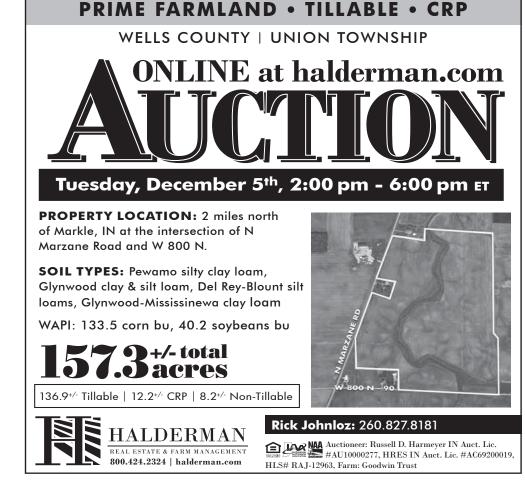
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DIVERSIONS

Get your quality time by pitching in

Dear Annie: We reside only six miles from one of our children and 25 miles from the other. If we don't go to their house to help with something, we hardly see them. They have full-time jobs, which require a lot of overtime, and they volunteer, run kids all over for sporting events and do their best to keep up with daily life requirements. Yes, I'd love for them to visit, but in reality, they are running on fumes.

So we do our best to help them out by driving kids to practices, tossing a load of dishes in the dishwasher, walking the dog, sitting on the mower with the tunes on and cutting the lawn, weed whacking, bringing trash cans up, or just being there for them if they need it. — Understanding Grandparents

Dear Understanding: I am so impressed with the level of understanding and empathy you have toward the phase that your children are at in their lives. You sound like wonderful grandparents who are very understanding, and I very much appreciate your telling your story. Hopefully, it will inspire other grandparents.

Dear Annie: This letter is regarding the concerned brother whose sister in her 80s still cared for horses and livestock, which she did without her hearing aid or cellphone.

I'm in my 70s and do the exact same thing. My hearing aids irritate me, so I don't use them at home, and I don't carry a cellphone when caring for the animals because I'm afraid it will fall out of my pocket and fall in water or mud or get stepped on.

May I suggest he look at a med alert system? They usually have a device you wear on a chain around the neck, and if you get in trouble, you just press a button. It is non-intrusive and will get help on a timely basis if an emergency

occurs. - Love My Animals

Dear Love My Animals: A med alert system is a great idea. Thank you for writing

Dear Annie: I just read the letter about cleaning an

air-conditioning unit.

It made me think of advice a pediatrician gave me almost 40 years ago when I had two toddlers. She said that in the fall, when you turn the heat on for the first time, open a few windows and then leave the house for a few hours. This lets the dust settle and helps prevent allergic reactions, which compromise children's immune systems and cause them to pick up every germ circulating throughout the fall and winter.

Dear

Annie

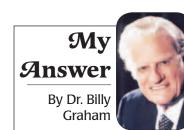
by Annie Lane

This really works and it was me, the mom, who always got the upper respiratory stuff within days of turning the heat on. I went as far as completely dusting the house before following her advice when I turned the heat on for the first time every fall. I still do it for myself! Here's to a healthier winter. -Healthier Winters

Dear Healthier Winters: Thank you for these great tips.

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

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Q: I've excelled in academia and would like to teach Scripture in some capacity, though I'm devoted to my career in education. But I get scared to think that I won't be able to substantiate spiritual teachings when the Bible says that faith is greater than knowledge. I am used to teaching by way of factual substantiation. – E.F.

A: We must not put

There are mysteries about God we will never understand

the creating power. By divine fiat, He brought form out of shapelessness, order out of disorder, and light out of darkness

Trying to rationalize God will bring confusion. There are mysteries about God that we will never understand in this life. We should not think it strange that it is impossible to comprehend God intellectually, when it is equally impossible to explain many mysteries in the realm of matter. Who can fathom the law of gravity? Newton discovered it, but he could not explain it.

the power that comes through faith in Him. We see objects that have no intellect, such as stars and planets, moving in a consistent pattern, cooperating with one another. Hence, it is evident that they achieve their movements not by accident but by design. If God can be fully proved by the human mind, then He is no greater than the mind that proves Him. Cry out to God, "Lord ... help my unbelief!" (Mark 9:24, NKJV).



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"I CAN'T GO TO SLEEP UNTIL THERE'S A TRACKING NUMBER."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer ACROSS 33 Actress 53 Venetian 21 Rowboat 1 Honey

our faith in education or experience. The Bible begins with the simple words: "In the beginning God...." These four words are the cornerstone of all existence and of all human history. Without God, there could have been no beginning and no continuing. God was

There are many arguments we could marshal to give evidence of the existence of God and

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

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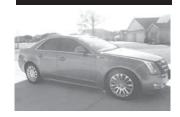
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THE BLUFFTON POLICE Department is seeking applica-tions to fill the position of Ordinance Compliance Officer. This full-time civilian position is responsible for ensuring compliance with all city ordinances and is based in the police department working M-F 8a-4p. Duties include downtown parking 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 responsible driving history and clean criminal background. Knowledge of law procedures preferred. Application is available the city's website www.blufftonindiana.net. For more information contact Chief of Police Kyle Randall at 824-3320 or kyle.randall@bluff tonindiana.gov. Applications are due back December 22, 2023 by 4:30 p.m.

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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 information.

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. **Cash 5** — 04-19-23-27-37

Cash4Life — 05-16-21-50-57, Cash Ball: 01

Quick Draw Midday — 05-08-14-16-18-20-29-30-33-42-45-55-56-61-63-64-68-72-74-76-77, BE: 18

Daily Three-Midday – 06-05-04, SB: 04

Daily Three-Evening – 09-00-01, SB: 05

Daily Four-Midday – 08-03-02-01, SB: 04

Daily Four-Evening — 01-09-09.09, SB: 05

Quick Draw Evening - 02-05-06-15-17-18-25-27-32-33-35-39-45-47-50-57-61-63-75-80, BE: 35

Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$42.8 million

MEGA MILLIONS Estimated jackpot (for Tuesday): \$245 million POWERBALL 24-33-35-37-42; Powerball: 21; Power Play: 2X



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.com.

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 consignors, owners. 815 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.