

# The News - Banner

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2023

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### Parlor City Christmas

Christmas came to Parlor City on Saturday with dozens of activities. Above, a group of carolers sang an assortment of songs as they stood on the corner of Market and Johnson streets during the event. At right, Lillian Ritchie, along with a long line of children, participated in the ax-throwing portion of the festivities Saturday. (Photos by Sydney Kent)

Below, Holiday crafts were offered in the Children's room at the Library. At one table reindeer name tags were under construction. (Photo by Barbara Barbieri)

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## Battles rage across Gaza; Israel willing to fight months against Hamas

By WAFIA SHURFAFA, NAJIB JOBAIN and SAMY MAGDY  
Associated Press

DEIR AL-BALAH, Gaza Strip (AP) — Battles raged across Gaza on Sunday as Israel indicated it was prepared to fight for months or longer to defeat the territory's Hamas rulers, and a key mediator said willingness to discuss a cease-fire was fading.

Israel faces international outrage after its military offensive, with diplomatic support and arms from close ally the United States, has killed thousands of Palestinian civilians. About 90 percent of Gaza's 2.3 million people have been displaced within the besieged territory, where U.N. agencies say there is no safe place to flee.

The United States has lent vital support in recent days by vetoing a United Nations Security Council resolution to end the fighting and pushing through an emergency sale of over \$100 million worth of tank ammunition to Israel.

Russia backed the resolution. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday spoke to Russian President Vladimir Putin and expressed dissatisfaction with "anti-Israel positions" taken by Moscow's envoys at the U.N. and elsewhere, an Israeli statement said.

Netanyahu told Putin that any country assaulted the way Israel was "would have reacted with no less force than Israel is using," the statement added.

The U.N. General Assembly scheduled an emergency meeting Tuesday to vote on a draft resolution demanding an immediate humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza. Riyadh Mansour, the Palestinian ambassador to the U.N., told The Associated Press that it's similar to the Security Council resolution the U.S. vetoed Friday.

There are no vetoes in the General Assembly but unlike the Security Council its resolutions are not legally binding. They are important nonetheless as a

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## Tennessee residents clean up after storms killed 6 over weekend

By KRISTIN M. HALL, PATRICK WHITTLE and GARY D. ROBERTSON  
Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Residents of central Tennessee communities slammed by deadly tornadoes this weekend described tragic and terrifying scenes in which one mobile home landed on top of another, roofs were ripped from houses and an entire church collapsed during a string of powerful storms that killed six people.

Emergency workers and community members cleaned up Sunday from the severe weekend storms and tornadoes that also sent dozens more to the hospital while damaging buildings, turning over vehicles and knocking out power to tens of thousands.

Marco Tulio Gabriel Pérez came to Nashville from Atlanta after hearing that his sister and 2-year-old nephew were killed in the tornado. He said two other children in the family survived with minor injuries.

Family members were crying as they looked through the rubble of the trailers on Sunday morning.

"Regrettably, a tragedy happened here. Since it's a tornado, it came through like you can see here. She lived in this trailer. The other trailer overturned on top of my deceased sister. She remained

underneath, the other trailer went on top," Pérez told The Associated Press in Spanish.

The Metropolitan Nashville Police Department identified the victims killed north of downtown as Joseph Dalton, 37; Floridema Gabriel Pérez, 31; and her son, Anthony Elmer Mendez, 2. Dalton was inside his mobile home when the storm tossed it on top of Pérez's residence. Two other children were taken to a hospital with injuries that were not life-threatening, the department said in a statement.

Officials elsewhere confirmed that three people, including a child, died after a tornado struck Montgomery County 50 miles northwest of Nashville near the Kentucky state line on Saturday afternoon. They did not immediately provide names. About 60 people were treated for injuries at area medical facilities, including nine transferred in critical condition to a Nashville hospital, said Jimmie Edwards, Montgomery County's director of emergency services.

Twenty-one total injuries were reported in Nashville, city officials said. A church north of downtown collapsed during the storm, resulting in 13 people being treated at hospitals, Nashville emergency

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## Zelenskyy will meet Biden amid push for Congress to OK aid

By MARK SHERMAN  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden and Ukraine's leader, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, will meet at the White House on Tuesday as the U.S. administration steps up the pressure on Congress to provide billions more in aid to Kyiv in its war with Russia.

The visit is intended "to underscore the United States' unshakable commitment to supporting the people of Ukraine as they defend themselves against Russia's brutal invasion," the White House said in a statement Sunday. "As Russia ramps up its missile and drone strikes against Ukraine, the leaders will discuss Ukraine's urgent needs and the vital importance of the United States' continued support at this critical moment."

Zelenskyy's office confirmed that he had accepted Biden's invitation. He also has been asked to speak to a meeting of all senators.

Biden has asked Congress for a \$110 billion package of wartime funding for Ukraine (\$61.4 billion) and Israel, along with other national security priorities. But the request is caught up in a debate over U.S. immigration policy and border security.

Zelenskyy traveled to Buenos Aires to witness the swearing-in on Sunday of Argentina's new president, Javier Milei. The Ukrainian leader had been scheduled to address U.S. senators by video last week, but had to cancel the appearance, according to Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer

of New York.

Congress already has allocated \$111 billion to assist Ukraine, and Biden's budget director, Shalanda Young, said in a letter this past week to House and Senate leaders that the U.S. will run out of funding to send weapons and assistance to Ukraine by the end of the year, which would "kneecap" Ukraine on the battlefield.

"It's time to cut a deal that both sides can agree to," Young said Sunday.

The stakes are especially high for Ukraine, Secretary of State Antony Blinken said during two television interviews Sunday, given that "we are running out of funding" for the Ukrainians. "This is a time to really step up because if we don't, we know what happens. (Russian President Vladimir) Putin will be able to move forward with impunity and we know he won't stop in Ukraine."

Earlier, he defended the emergency sale to Israel of nearly 14,000 rounds of tank ammunition and also called for quick congressional approval of the foreign assistance. Blinken said the needs of Israel's military operations in Gaza justify the rare decision to bypass Congress. "Israel is in combat right now with Hamas," he said. "And we want to make sure that Israel has what it needs to defend itself against Hamas."

The tank ammunition and related support constitute only a small portion of military sales to Israel, Blinken said, and that the

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**Outside**

Partly sunny and cold, clear and windy tonight

Today	Tuesday	Wed.
High 38	High 44	High 39
Low 26	Low 23	Low 21

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## Tennessee storms

(Continued from Page 1)

officials said in a news release. They were later listed in stable condition.

The sanctuary and activities building at Community Baptist Church in Nashville were totally demolished, Donella Johnson, the wife of the church's pastor, said in a Facebook video. Several members caught by the damage had emergency surgeries for broken hips and legs, she said.

The church website had publicized an appreciation banquet for the Johnsons for late Saturday afternoon.

"Though we have experienced devastation beyond measure, we did not lose life," the pastor, the Rev. Vincent Johnson said. "God took brick and wood and metal and it was mangled in a tornado ... yet God preserved us."

At least six tornado tracks were reported Saturday in central Tennessee, according to the National Weather Service. Agency meteorologist Cory Mueller in Nashville said it was sending out tornado tracking teams on Sunday to attempt to confirm these potential tornadoes and calculate their severity.

Mueller said it wasn't uncommon for tornadoes to be generated during this time of year.

Joe Pitts, mayor of the Montgomery County city of Clarksville, said it could be a couple of weeks before power is restored to everyone. Residents of the city of about 166,000 spent Sunday helping one another dig out from the devastating storms, he said.

"We know we have people who are suffering because of loss of life, loss of property," Pitts said. "One thing I love about this city is that when someone

has a need, we rally around that need."

At a news conference with Metropolitan Nashville leaders, Mayor Freddie O'Connell said that over 20 structures had collapsed there as a result of Saturday's storm and that "countless others have sustained significant damage."

Nashville Electric Service executive Teresa Broyles-Aplin said electric substations in north Nashville and in nearby Hendersonville suffered significant damage and that outages could last days in some areas.

She said it was possible that a widely distributed video showing a fireball in the Saturday evening sky could have been caused by Nashville Electric equipment.

"That gives you a good idea of the extent of damage that we're dealing with at some of these substations," she said.

Residents in the region are familiar with severe weather in late fall. Saturday's storm came nearly two years to the day after the National Weather Service recorded 41 tornadoes through a handful of states, including 16 in Tennessee and eight in Kentucky. A total of 81 people died in Kentucky alone.

Ellen Schlavach and Robyn Robichaud said that a tree fell on their house in the Madison neighborhood of Nashville, and many of their neighbors' homes were damaged worse. They had been out running errands on Saturday and had seen some warnings that a thunderstorm was coming. They realized things were serious after they got back home and received emergency alerts on their phones.

"We very quickly realized that we had to gather up all the pets and hide in the bathroom," Schlavach said. "The house was shaking. A tree fell on the house. Very loud. Very scary."

Greg Chance of Nashville said that he was watching the news on Saturday with his wife and daughter and knew there was bad weather coming. Within minutes, they went to their safe place at a spot in the kitchen where there were no windows nearby and sat on the floor.

"And then the next thing we know, it just sounded like an explosion went off. You could hear stuff flying everywhere. It was crazy. It's crazy. It is terrifying," he said, emotion rising in his voice as he described the three of them holding onto each other.

He said he worked with Dalton, one of those killed in the storm, at a company that makes fasteners for construction. Chance said he couldn't sleep knowing that his coworker lost his life and left behind a son. He said the boy and his mother were taken to the hospital with injuries.

About 35,000 electricity customers were without power in Tennessee on Sunday evening, according to PowerOutage.us, down from more than 80,000 on Saturday night. School would be closed in Clarksville through Tuesday, officials said.

Recovery continued as areas east faced severe weather Sunday. Tornado warnings were posted in the afternoon in the Raleigh, North Carolina, area and points in counties toward the Virginia border. Some homes were damaged by storms in Garner, a suburb of Raleigh.

## Weather

Monday, December 11, 2023

(24-hour observations at 9:57 p.m. Sunday)

High: 44; Low: 32; Precipitation: None

Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.22 feet at 9:45 p.m. Sunday

## Wells County forecast

**Today:** Partly sunny, with a high near 38. Southwest wind around 10 mph.

**Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around 26. South wind 5 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Tuesday:** Sunny, with a high near 44. West wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

**Tuesday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 23. West wind around 10 mph.

**Wednesday:** Sunny, with a high near 39.

**Wednesday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 21.

**Thursday:** Sunny, with a high near 44.

**Thursday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 26.

**Friday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 48.

**Friday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 31.

**Saturday:** Mostly cloudy, with a high near 48.

**Saturday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 33.

**Sunday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 50.

## Smugglers bring migrants to Arizona border crossing, overwhelming U.S. agents

By ANITA SNOW

Associated Press

LUKEVILLE, Ariz. (AP) — Gerston Miranda and his wife were among thousands of migrants recently arriving at this remote area on Arizona's southern border with Mexico, squeezing into the United States through a gap in the wall and walking overnight about 14 miles with two school-aged daughters to surrender to Border Patrol agents.

"There is no security in my country," said the 28-year-old from Ecuador, who lost work when his employer closed due to extortion by criminals. "Without security you cannot work. You cannot live."

A shift in smuggling routes has brought an influx of migrants here from countries as diverse as Senegal, Bangladesh and China, prompting the Border Patrol to seek help from other federal agencies and drawing scrutiny to an issue critical in next year's presidential elections.

With hundreds of migrants crossing daily in the area, the U.S. government on Monday indefinitely shut down the nearby international crossing between Lukeville, Arizona, and Sonoyta, Mexico, to free Customs and Border Protection officers assigned to the port of entry to help with transportation and other support. The agency also has partially closed a few other border ports of entry in recent months, including a pedestrian crossing in San Diego and a bridge in Eagle Pass, Texas.

Customs and Border Protection "continues to surge personnel and resources to the Border Patrol's Tucson Sector to expeditiously take migrants into custody," the agency said Sunday. "The fact is we are enforcing the law, and there are consequences for those who fail to use lawful pathways."

"Individuals encountered at the border are screened and vetted, and those without a legal basis to stay are removed," it said, adding that consequences can include a minimum five-year bar on re-entry. The agency said it is also focusing efforts on smugglers and transportation networks like bus lines that bring the migrants through northern Mexico.

Critics of closing the Lukeville crossing, including Arizona Democratic Gov. Katie Hobbs; the state's two U.S. senators, the governor of Mexico's Sonora state and the leadership of the nearby Tohono O'odham Nation, said it could harm trade and tourism. Hobbs urged President Joe Biden to reassign the 243 National Guard members already in the Tucson sector to help reopen the Lukeville crossing.

The morning after it was closed, about a dozen Border Patrol agents in olive green uniforms watched over some 400 migrants who had spent the night by the towering wall of steel bollards, wrapped in shiny Mylar blankets they later discarded among saguaro cactus and Palo Verde trees.

Three or four times as many CBP field operations officers in navy blue uniforms helped the migrants into white vans for a short drive to a canopied field intake center. From there, agents took migrants for processing to the Border Patrol's Ajo station, a half-hour north, or to other locations such as Tucson.

## Zelensky to meet Biden

(Continued from Page 1)

rest remains subject to congressional review. "It's very important that Congress' voice be heard in this," he said.

The decision to proceed with the sale of more than \$106 million for tank shells came as the administration's larger aid package is caught up in a larger immigration debate.

Blinken noted that Biden has said he is willing to make significant compromises to get the aid package moving. "It's something the president is fully prepared to engage on," Blinken said.

Sen. Mitt Romney,

R-Utah, said there is bipartisan agreement that something has to be done to address record numbers of migrants crossing into the United States from Mexico.

"We want to solve that, to secure the border. I just saw the president of the United States say that we've got to secure the border. He's right. So, any effort that doesn't do that will be rejected by Republicans," Romney said.

Sen. JD Vance, R-Ohio, said the administration has yet to justify additional aid to Ukraine. "So what we're saying to the president and

really to the entire world is, you need to articulate what the ambition is. What is \$61 billion going to accomplish that \$100 billion hasn't?" Vance said.

Sen. Chris Murphy, D-Conn., said the money would make a difference because Russia is struggling to fund its war effort. "It can change the outcome of this war," Murphy said. "Because at the very same time that we are making a renewed commitment to Ukraine, Russia's ability to continue to fight this war is in jeopardy."

Romney said he also supports the aid to

Ukraine. "My own view is that it's very much in America's interest to see Ukraine successful and to provide the weapons that Ukraine needs to defend itself. Anything other than that would be a huge dereliction of our responsibility, I believe, to the world of democracy but also to our own national interest," he said.

Blinken appeared on ABC's "This Week" and CNN's "State of the Union." Romney and Murphy were on NBC's "Meet the Press." Vance was on CNN. Young was on CBS' "Face the Nation."

## Israel-Hamas war

(Continued from Page 1)

barometer of global opinion.

Israel's air and ground war has killed thousands of Palestinians, mostly civilians, since the Oct. 7 attack by Hamas and other militants killed 1,200 people and captured around 240. Over 100 of them were released during a weeklong cease-fire last month.

With very little aid allowed in, Palestinians face severe shortages of food, water and other basic goods. Some observers openly worry that Palestinians will be forced out of Gaza altogether.

"Expect public order to completely break down soon, and an even worse situation could unfold including epidemic diseases and increased pressure for mass displacement into Egypt," U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres told a forum in Qatar, a key intermediary.

Eylon Levy, an Israeli government spokesman, called allegations of mass displacement from Gaza "outrageous and false."

Qatar's prime minister, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, told the forum that mediation efforts seeking to stop the war and have all hostages released will continue, but "unfortunately, we are not seeing the same willingness that we had seen in the weeks before."

Israel's national security adviser, Tzachi Hanegbi, told Israel's Channel 12 TV that the U.S. has set no deadline for Israel to achieve its goals. "The evaluation that this can't be measured in weeks is correct, and I'm

not sure it can be measured in months," he said.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken told CNN that as far as the duration and the conduct of the fighting, "these are decisions for Israel to make."

This is a war that cannot be won, Jordan's foreign minister, Ayman Safadi, asserted to the Qatar forum, warning that "Israel has created an amount of hatred that will haunt this region that will define generations to come."

### FIGHTING AND ARRESTS IN THE NORTH

Israeli forces face heavy resistance, including in northern Gaza, where neighborhoods have been flattened by air strikes and where ground troops have operated for over six weeks.

Israel's Channel 13 TV broadcast footage showing dozens of detainees stripped to their underwear, hands in the air. Several held assault rifles above their heads, and one man walked forward and placed a gun on the ground.

Other videos have shown groups of unarmed men held in similar conditions, without clothes, bound and blindfolded. Detainees from a group released Saturday told The Associated Press they had been beaten and denied food and water.

Israeli military spokesperson Daniel Hagari said dozens of arrests took place in two Hamas strongholds and that people are undressed to make sure they are not hiding explosives.

Residents said there was

still heavy fighting in the Gaza City neighborhood of Shijaiyah and the Jabaliya refugee camp, a dense urban area housing Palestinian families who fled or were driven out of what is now Israel during the 1948 war.

"They are attacking anything that moves," said Hamza Abu Fatouh, a Shijaiyah resident. He said the dead and wounded were left in the streets as ambulances could not reach the area.

Israel ordered the evacuation of the northern third of the territory, including Gaza City, early in the war, but tens of thousands of people have remained.

Heavy fighting also was underway in and around the southern city of Khan Younis.

### WAITING DAYS FOR FOOD

The price of dwindling food in Gaza has soared. Abdulsalam al-Majdalawi said he had come every day for nearly two weeks to a U.N. distribution center, hoping to get supplies for his family of seven.

"Thank God, today they drew our name," he said.

One hundred trucks with humanitarian aid entered Sunday, said Wael Abu

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**OBITUARIES**

**Lizzie L. Clark, 87**

Lizzie L. Clark, 87, of Huntington and formerly of Markle, passed away Friday evening, Dec. 8, 2023, at Heritage Pointe of Huntington.



Liz was a homemaker and had helped on the farm and babysat for many years. She was a 1955 graduate of Tipton High School. Liz was a longtime member of the Union Church and was involved in their Women's Ministry over the years. She loved to garden, camp, travel and go to farm shows with her husband Harold and they spent over ten years wintering in Florida. One of her greatest joys was being a grandma. Liz loved spending time with the grand and great grandchildren following them in all of their endeavors.

She was born Sept. 9, 1936 in Celina, Tenn., a daughter of the late Luke and Nardie (Butler) Atchley.

She was united in marriage to Harold D. Clark on March 2, 1958 in Tipton, Ind. Harold preceded her in death June 9, 2016.

Survivors include two daughters, Nancy (Tim) Kline of Marion and Deb (Kevin) James of Markle; a son, Dan (Kim) Clark of Roanoke; six grandchildren, Christin (Derek) Carpenter, Whitney (Branden) Roberts, Addison Clark, Makayla (Sean) James, Kayci (Luke) Pulver and Erika James; seven great-grandchildren; and a brother, Will (Betty) Atchley of Tipton.

She was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Emily James; three brothers, Lonell Atchley, Lonnie Atchley and Luke Atchley; and five sisters, Sis Small, Janie Straley, Mattie Horton, Mary Hensley and Sharon Grimes.

Visitation will take place Thursday, Dec. 14, 2023, from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Myers Funeral Home, Markle Chapel, 415 N. Lee St. Markle, IN.

Funeral Services will take place Friday, Dec. 15, 2023, at 11:00 a.m., at the Funeral Home; there will be one hour of visitation prior to the service.

Interment will take place in the Union Cemetery in rural Huntington County.

Preferred Memorials are to the Union Church Camp Scholarship Fund and can be sent in care of Myers Funeral Home, P.O. Box 403, Markle, IN 46770.

To sign Liz's online guest registry log onto [www.myersfuneralhomes.com](http://www.myersfuneralhomes.com).

**Aileen Jeanette (Smith) Nelson, 85**

Aileen Jeanette (Smith) Nelson, 85, of rural Decatur, passed away Saturday morning, Dec. 9, 2023, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.



Born Apr. 8, 1938, in Jackson, Mich., to Homer and Helen (McCoy) Smith, Aileen married Gerald Junior "J.R." Nelson on Nov. 23, 1958, at the Redeemer Lutheran Church in Bryant. They celebrated 59 years of marriage before Junior passed away Dec. 11, 2017.

Aileen graduated from Bryant High School in Jay County in 1956. After high school she went to work at Lincoln Life Insurance Company until she decided to stay at home to raise her four children. After her children were in school, Aileen worked as a secretary for Adams Central Schools for 13 years before retiring.

After marrying, Aileen and Junior settled in Bryant, but later raised their children in Monroe. They moved to Bluffton in 1999, and following Junior's death in 2017, Aileen moved into her daughter's home, where she enjoyed regular visits from many of her great-grandchildren.

Aileen was a member of the Christian faith, and a former member of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Bryant. She later attended Pleasant Dale Church of the Brethren of rural Decatur. She loved God, her family, reading, crossword puzzles, coffee, playing (winning) euchre, holding babies, and eating pie. She was an excellent cook and would spoil her family with her pies (the secret is the homemade crust).

Survivors include a daughter, Julie (David) Soldner of Decatur; three sons, David (Teresa) Nelson of Metamora, Ill., Daniel (Laura) Nelson of Bluffton, and Michael (Laura) Nelson of Bluffton; eight grandchildren, Caleb (Allison) Soldner of Fort Wayne, Joshua (Elizabeth) Soldner of Parker, Colo., Sarah (Jordan) Grandlienard of Decatur, Isaac Soldner of Decatur, Alex (Samantha) Nelson of South Elgin, Ill., Audrey (Jeremiah) Moser of Washington, Ill., and Amber and Autumn Nelson of Bluffton; two step-granddaughters, Ashley (Conor) Jackson of Bluffton and Jennifer (Michael) Schaffner of Fort Wayne; eight great-grandchildren, Claire, Gabriel, Annie, and Emily Soldner, Eli and Ivy Grandlienard, Quinn Soldner, and Elizabeth Nelson; a step great-granddaughter, Isobel Jackson; and a brother, Alan (Joan) Smith of Portland.

Aileen was preceded in death by her husband and parents.

Visitation will be Monday, Dec. 11, 2023, from 4:00 until 8:00 p.m., at Goodwin - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton. Services will be held Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., at Pleasant Dale Church of the Brethren in Adams County, with one hour of visitation prior to the service at the church. Pastor Jay Carter will officiate. Burial will follow at Pleasant Dale Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Adams Central Youth for Christ or LifeWise Academy of Adams Central.

Online condolences may be made at [www.goodwin-caleharnish.com](http://www.goodwin-caleharnish.com).



Pictured in the photo from left are Casey Robbins of F&M Bank, Jessica Beste of Stockton Mortgage, Alyssa Brown of Archbold & Lewis Insurance, Stacey Duncan of WEG Commercial Motors, Tammy Moore, Tera Nuttle and Don Nuttle of Timber Ridge Catering, Erica Lehman of Coldwell Banker-Holloway, Cyndee Fiechter of North Eastern Group Realty, Kevin Pritchard of Ruoff Mortgage and Wells County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Erin Prible. (Photo submitted)

**Timber Ridge Catering recognized as member of the month**

The Wells County Chamber of Commerce proudly announces Timber Ridge Catering, owned by Don and Tera Nuttle, as the December Member of the Month. This prestigious recognition highlights the dedication, resilience, and outstanding contributions of Timber Ridge Catering to the local community.

Located at Timber Ridge Golf Course, 2330 E 250 N in Bluffton, Timber Ridge Catering has emerged as a thriving business under the leadership of Don and Tera Nuttle. The Chamber's staff and Ambassadors surprised the Nuttles with this well-deserved honor, acknowledging their hard work and commitment to excellence.

Tera Nuttle, owner of Timber Ridge Catering, reflected on the challenges faced in the early days of taking over the business. "It was definitely a challenge in the beginning when we took over the catering and business. We had to start from scratch booking events. We quit our day jobs to run the business, and it has been a roller coaster ride along the way."

The journey began with

Tera and Don Nuttle's venture into food meal preparation through their fitness business, Flex Fitness. Starting small, the couple witnessed significant growth as word spread about their quality offerings. The decision to explore the catering opportunity at Timber Ridge Golf Course proved pivotal, leading to the eventual takeover of catering operations.

"On July 1, 2019, it was ours, and we had zero events on the books. We thought to ourselves, what did we just do? I had already quit my job, and Don was still working another job and running the gym at that time. Don decided to quit his job after working 20 years for another company, and then Covid hit. We are so glad we took a chance and tried," shared Tera Nuttle.

Despite facing the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Timber Ridge Catering persevered. The Nuttles utilized the time during the pandemic to enhance the venue, making it more spacious and versatile. The venue has evolved into a turnkey venue, accommodating up to 300 people,

offering comprehensive services including DJ services, a full-service bar, ceremony, and reception packages, set up and tear down, in-house centerpieces, linens, a full-service menu, and even officiant services. The venue is now equipped to host weddings, class reunions, corporate Christmas dinners, graduation parties, and various other events.

Tera Nuttle, drawing from years of experience in the food industry, emphasized the natural progression of Timber Ridge Catering's services. "I have had a lot of experience cooking for large numbers of people, so this is pretty natural to me."

New additions to their services include off-site full-service weddings, complete with decorating, set up, DJ services, and food services. Don Nuttle is expanding their offerings to include photography services, further establishing Timber Ridge Catering as an all-inclusive one-stop shop for event needs.

Tera Nuttle expressed her gratitude for the recognition, stating, "This honor is certainly very surreal to

me. We are still learning and growing and trying to figure things out. It's very humbling."

For more information about Timber Ridge Catering and its services, please visit [www.timberidgecatering.com](http://www.timberidgecatering.com).

**Financial Focus**

**Know the key benefits of Roth IRA**

One of the most popular retirement savings vehicles available is the Roth IRA — but what sets it apart?

First of all, when you invest in a Roth IRA, your earnings can grow tax free, provided you don't withdraw them until you're 59½ and you've had your account at least five years.

Second, you can withdraw contributions — not earnings — at any time, without incurring taxes or penalties. So, you could use the money for purposes other than retirement.

And third, unlike a traditional IRA or 401(k), you don't have to start withdrawing from a Roth IRA when you turn 73.

Your income level might keep you from contributing the maximum amounts to a Roth IRA. Even if you're not eligible, though, you could eventually convert some of your traditional IRA or 401(k) funds to a Roth IRA. This move could result in a sizable tax bill, though, so, before undertaking a conversion, you may want to consult with your tax advisor.

If you can contribute to a Roth IRA, either directly or through a conversion, consider it carefully — you'll find a lot of upsides to this investment account.

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**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

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**Wells Court Docket**

**Wells Superior Court Criminal Cases**

Avery Bodwell, 33, Ossian, appeared in the Wells Superior Court for a hearing to reinstate his bond. The motion was granted with the condition that Bodwell be placed on home detention. Bodwell was charged with five counts of possession of child pornography, all Level 6 felonies, in November. During the investigation for the case, Bodwell was also charged with resisting law enforcement, a Class A misdemeanor. The next hearing for both of Bodwell's cases are scheduled at 8:30 a.m. Feb. 9 in the Wells Superior Court.

Jose S. Guzman, 21, Fort Wayne, appeared in court for a probation violation hearing. Guzman was ordered to serve 130 days of his suspended sentence in the Indiana Department of Correction with no time suspended. Guzman will not be required to continue

probation upon release from incarceration.

In February, Guzman was sentenced to 545 days at the Indiana Department of Correction with 180 days suspended and 230 days of jail credit towards his sentence. The sentence was issued after he pled guilty to auto theft, a Level 6 felony, passing a school bus when an arm signal is extended, a Class A misdemeanor, and knowingly operating a vehicle without ever receiving a license, a Class C misdemeanor, were dismissed as part of the plea agreement.

Santos Lopez-Ramos, 30, Bluffton, was scheduled to appear in court for a change of plea hearing on Friday. In August, Ramos was charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated, endangering a person and operating a vehicle with alcohol concentration equivalent to .15 or more, both Class A misdemeanors, and knowingly operating a vehicle without

ever receiving a license and operating while intoxicated, both Class C misdemeanors. A warrant has been issued for his arrest.

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## How to restore the gift of giving

Here's an unpleasant holiday statistic: Average Americans are giving significantly less to their favorite charities this year than they did just four or five years ago.

Average Americans have long been among the most generous people on Earth.

But this year, thanks to an economy disrupted by COVID, soaring interest rates and three years of high inflation, many are unable to give.

Americans are hurting in their pocketbooks.

This past year credit-card debt jumped faster than ever before in history, reports Business Insider, as more Americans are borrowing at high interest rates just to meet their daily living needs.

An increasing number of people are taking hardship withdrawals out of their 401K savings accounts, reports CNBC — tapping their future retirement funds to pay bills they are unable to afford today.

As a result of these financial troubles, a regrettable shift in charitable giving has occurred.

When I last wrote about giving in America in 2017, the people who gave the most, as a percentage of their wealth, weren't the richest Americans.

They weren't even middle-class Americans.

They were the people on the lower end of the economic scale — people who gave almost 30 percent more of their income to charity than any other income bracket.

That changed in 2020 when COVID lockdowns wreaked havoc on the economy.

Before that, according to Gallup, more than 80% of U.S. adults said they donated money to a religious or other type of charity.

But in 2023, regrettably, individual giving has dipped to about 70% — and the biggest drop-off has happened among America's lowest earners.

About 73% of people who earned under \$40,000 in 2017 gave what they could to charities.

During the peak of COVID in 2020, that percentage fell to 53% and still remains low — which is heartbreaking, because no group of people understands the joy of giving to others better than America's most humble earners.

While our lowest earners are struggling the hardest in a difficult economy — and therefore are giving less — another group is making up the shortfall: America's extremely well off.

Americans with a household net worth of more than \$1 million, or those who make more than \$200,000 per year, are giving 19% more now than before the COVID-19 pandemic, according to the AP.

Barrons reports that the landscape of philanthropy has shifted from average individuals giving, say, to The Salvation Army, to wealthy nonprofits and corporations that may be more interested in using their sizable funds to promote the latest popular cause or “systemic societal change.”

Private charity in all its forms is welcome.

But if we want more of the kind that helps the less-fortunate individuals and families who need it most, we need to reverse the incredible damage government policy has done to our economy.

A good start would be to end the spendthrift fiscal and monetary policies that cause inflation and interest rates to spike.

Let's help our lowest earners get their heads back above water so they can experience the joy of giving again every Christmas.

After all, they know how to spread the joy of giving better than anyone — by helping a needy neighbor pay their utility bills or making sure the neediest children have presents to open on Christmas morning.

Merry Christmas!

Tom Purcell is a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review humor columnist. [tom@TomPurcell.com](mailto:tom@TomPurcell.com)



Tom Purcell

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KIRK



## The coming showdown over American democracy

On Tuesday evening, Fox News host Sean Hannity lobbed a softball question at Donald J. Trump. He tried to get Trump to tamp down fears he would install an authoritarian dictatorship if he wins a second term in 2024.

Did Trump have “any plans whatsoever, if reelected president, to abuse power? To break the law? To use the government to go after people?” he asked. Trump deflected. Hannity tried again: “You are promising America tonight, you would never abuse this power as retribution against anybody?”

“Except for Day 1,” Trump replied. He added later, “I said, ‘No, no, no — other than Day 1.’”

That underscored what President Biden had said earlier in the day. “Trump's not even hiding the ball anymore,” he said. “He's telling us exactly what he wants to do.”

Trump is “determined to destroy American democracy.”

The 81-year-old Biden made news himself that day, saying at a Massachusetts fundraiser that the only reason he's seeking reelection is because Trump is seeking a comeback. “If Trump wasn't running, I'm not sure I'd be running,” Biden said.

For the third consecutive presidential election, Americans will most likely be choosing from two wildly unpopular nominees in Biden and Trump. President Biden is vastly unpopular, with ABC News/FiveThirtyEight's polling composite revealing 55.2% disapprove of his job performance while 38% approve. But Donald Trump is just as unpopular, with FiveThirtyEight on Tuesday showing that 57.9% disapprove and 38.6% approve.

Biden, multiple public opinion surveys suggest, is too old to continue in the world's toughest job, which has been constantly stressful due to wars in Ukraine, Israel/Gaza, and as well as the porous southern border. His vice president, Kamala Harris, is even more unpopular than he is.

The 78-year-old Trump is facing 91 criminal indictments — self-inflicted offenses that he is now using to discredit the American rule of law. When you hoard top secret documents detailing Iran invasion plans and U.S. nukes near your resort toilets, you're going to face charges.

By the time Trump is expected to be nominated at the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee next July, he could be the first former president to be convicted of a felony.

The oft-lament of voters in 2023 strikes a similar refrain I heard in 2016, which was: Out of 330 million Americans, are these really the best two candidates we have to choose from?

When Trump launched his third Republican presidential campaign last March, he chose Waco, Tex., as his backdrop. It was loaded with fringe right significance, coming 30 years after the siege between the U.S. government and the Branch Davidian religious cult that resulted in 86 deaths.

“In 2024 is the final battle — that's going to be the big one,” Trump said in Waco. “I am your warrior, I am your

justice. I am your retribution.”

In a November “War Room” podcast, Trump advisor and self-described “Leninist” Steve Bannon declared, “We are the Trump Davidians.”

Stuart Stevens, a Republican media consultant who has in the past advised the Indiana campaigns of U.S. Sen. Dan Coats and Secretary of State Sue Anne Gilroy, has written a book published in October, “The Conspiracy to End America: Five Ways My Old Party is Driving Our Democracy to Autocracy.”

Stevens claims that Donald Trump has changed the GOP, in a way that Republican National Committeeman John Hammond III suggested to me in 2015 that there was an appetite in some GOP quarters for a “strong-man.”

“In Ronald Reagan's America, conservatives believed that to be born in the United States was to win life's lottery,” Stevens writes. “The Reagan optimism was defined by opposition to the bleak totalitarianism of the Soviet Union. In Donald Trump's world, to be an American was to be a victim of powerful forces, globalist conspiracies and wealthier countries,” he continued. “In the Republican view, the long trek from Ronald Reagan to Donald Trump traveled from a ‘shining city on the hill’ to a dark and frightening place of ‘carnage.’ Electing Donald Trump was an act of grievance, a way to settle the score.”

“Americans have long possessed innate optimism, the conviction that they live in the greatest country in the world, and it will always be such,” Stevens writes. “In Russia, as in the Soviet Union, any hope for positive change has proven illusory. Do not expect your leaders to make your life better because this is your fate.”

“It is exactly that shared sense of victimhood that has defined the MAGA movement and driven the Republican Party toward autocracy,” Stevens continues. “It reflects a complete collapse of the values that the Republican Party once espoused.”

“In Trump world, the domestic terrorists of Jan. 6 are heroes,” Stevens adds, with Trump saying in 2022, “I mean full pardons with an apology to many.” Trump has described the nearly 600 Jan. 6 insurrection convicts as “hostages.”

“Autocrats win when they master the freedoms of a democratic society to kill democracy. That is the path we are on today,” Stevens said.

“The collapse of American democracy is like the pandemic: Whatever you say at the beginning will sound alarmist but likely prove inadequate by the end. In 1864, (President Abraham) Lincoln wrote, ‘You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today.’” Stevens adds, “We should listen and act accordingly.”

The columnist publishes at [www.howeypolitics.com](http://www.howeypolitics.com). Find him on Facebook and X @hwypol.



Brian Howey

## Politicking

## Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Dec. 11, the 345th day of 2023. There are 20 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Dec. 11, 1936, Britain's King Edward VIII abdicated the throne so he could marry American divorcee Wallis Warfield Simpson; his brother, Prince Albert, became King George VI.

On this date: In 1816, Indiana became the 19th state.

In 1941, Germany and Italy declared war on the United States; the U.S. responded in kind.

In 1946, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) was established.

In 1972, Apollo 17's lunar module landed on the moon with astronauts Eugene Cernan and Harrison Schmitt aboard; they became the last two men to date to step onto the lunar

surface.

In 1980, President Jimmy Carter signed legislation creating a \$1.6 billion environmental “superfund” to pay for cleaning up chemical spills and toxic waste dumps.

In 1997, more than 150 countries agreed at a global warming conference in Kyoto, Japan, to control the Earth's greenhouse gases.

In 1998, majority Republicans on the House Judiciary Committee pushed through three articles of impeachment against President Bill Clinton, over Democratic objections.

In 2001, in the first criminal indictment stemming from 9/11, federal prosecutors charged Zacarias Moussaoui, a French citizen of Moroccan descent, with conspiring to murder thousands in the suicide hijackings. (Moussaoui pleaded guilty to conspiracy in 2005 and was sentenced to life in prison.)

It's possible that Congress can't find a way, despite the support of bipartisan majorities, to continue funding Ukraine in its fight against Vladimir Putin's Russia.

This would have to rank, not necessarily as the worst, but perhaps the stupidest, most senseless abandonment of a U.S. ally ever. We've pulled the rug out from under allied countries desperately fighting to save themselves from communist gulags and killing fields (Indochina), thrown away hard-won military gains (Iraq), deserted vulnerable translators and other allies on the ground (Afghanistan), but these betrayals came after long, costly conflicts.

Ukraine hasn't been long or, by any reasonable standard, particularly costly. The roughly \$100 billion we've spent so far is a fraction of the defense budget and, one would think, the kind of money we're willing to spend to check a hostile power's revanchist designs in Europe.

To dump Ukraine now would be completely gratuitous.

Congress kneecapped our allies in Indochina -- and our air campaign to prevent complete communist victory -- by cutting off all military operations in 1973. This made for a dishonorable and disastrous end to the war, but it had been a long time coming.

We were in Vietnam for roughly a dozen years. We suffered more than 58,000 fatalities, and the war



Rich Lowry

cost about \$170 billion, or something like \$1 trillion in today's terms. It deranged our politics and led to protests in the streets, creating a constant sense of crisis.

There is no crisis over Ukraine funding, besides support for it sagging somewhat. (A Reuters poll found that 46% of people supported sending arms to Ukraine in May, whereas only 41% supported it in October.)

President Barack Obama paved the way for the rise of ISIS when he pulled forces out of Iraq in 2011 after we had imposed a semblance of order at great cost in blood and treasure. But we'd been in Iraq since 2003, in a war premised on WMDs that didn't exist. A lightning-fast victory transformed into a grinding war of counterinsurgency. We lost 4,400 men and women.

Not one U.S. service-member has died in Ukraine.

President Joe Biden pulled out of Afghanistan in 2021, a decision that nearly instantly handed the country over to the Taliban. We'd been in the country for 20 years, though, without an end in sight and without being able to set up a self-sustaining Afghan government or military.

The current iteration of the Ukraine conflict has been going on since February 2022.

In Ukraine, we have a committed and capable ally that is fighting hard without the direct assistance of U.S.

troops. It is battling an unambiguous enemy of the West whose leader is open about his anti-Americanism. Russia's military has been significantly degraded by Ukraine's resistance. The support we are giving Kyiv is taxing our supplies of weapons, yes, but it is also being used to catalyze a long overdue revitalization of the U.S. defense industrial base.

This doesn't add up to a picture that demands the immediate cessation of U.S. aid. Americans are infamously impatient; still, we have to have more staying power than a little less than two years. It's true that the Ukraine counteroffensive has been a disappointment, yet the Russians remain bottled up in the Eastern part of the country, again without direct Western involvement in combat.

The critics say there's no plan for victory. It's true that Ukraine is unlikely ever to vanquish the Russian threat once and for all, and the best that can probably be hoped for is an eventual armistice. Sometimes geopolitics doesn't offer neat, easy solutions. Does Israel have a plan for total victory against Islamic extremism -- not just Hamas, but Hezbollah, Iran and other enemies? Does South Korea have a plan to finally defeat North Korea?

That the answer is “no” doesn't make these allies less worthy of support. The same is true of Ukraine. To cut it off now wouldn't be a crime, but an incredibly self-defeating blunder.

Rich Lowry is on Twitter @RichLowry

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Pictured in the photo from left are Bluffton-Harrison Middle School Principal Rick Mettler, Social Studies Academic Team members Madieson Surbaugh and Quinton Saige, Carla Alspaugh, Social Studies Academic Team member Abigail Ramseyer, Jill Slinker of the Indiana Association of School Principals, and BHMS Assistant Principal Stacy Herrold. (Photo submitted)

## Carla Alspaugh earns Indiana Academic Coach of the Year award for Middle Level Division

Carla Alspaugh, sixth grade Social Studies teacher at Bluffton-Harrison Middle School, has been named the Indiana Academic Coach of the Year for the Middle Level Division.

Mrs. Alspaugh has been with BHMSD for 13 years with 19 years of teaching experience. Since the Academic Super Bowl teams began at BHMS in 2018, Mrs. Alspaugh has led the Social Studies team to three state championships (2018, 2021, 2023) and one state runner-up title (2019).

"Mrs. Alspaugh has tremendous command of her classroom and as a result, her students perform well and have a high level of respect for her," BHMS Assistant Principal Stacy Herrold wrote in his nomination letter. "She runs well planned academic practices and is a great motivational coach. Her ability to positively communicate, encourage and inspire students to succeed is second to none."

Jill Slinker, director of student programs for the Indiana Association of School Principals, was on hand Thursday afternoon for the surprise announcement at BHMS. IASP sponsors the Academic Super Bowl Team state contests.

"It's very impressive that a coach can take a program and finish in the top positions multiple years in a row with such diverse topics," Ms. Slinker says, "and

her success is testament to her ability as a coach."

Mrs. Alspaugh credits the success to her hardworking students.

"I love coaching Academic teams," Mrs. Alspaugh says. "You learn so much because the topics change every year. But a lot of credit goes to the students. Each year I've had some really good students with which to work and they have put in the effort and have worked hard and we've been able, as a team, to pull it off."

BHMS Principal Rick Mettler has witnessed the success of the BHMS Academic Super Bowl Teams year after year.

"Mrs. Alspaugh was one of the first teachers recruited to help establish an academic team at Bluffton Middle School," Mr. Mettler says. "Her competitiveness and willingness to prepare has instilled a successful culture within her Social Studies teams over these past 6 years. Our kids are very fortunate to have someone as dedicated as Mrs. Alspaugh preparing them for competition."

Within BHMSD, Mrs. Alspaugh is a leader, role model and a previous BHMSD Educator of the Year recipient.

"She is an individual who takes tremendous pride in her work," Mr. Herrold says. "Mrs. Alspaugh is very disciplined in her work and continually strives for excellence in all that she does."

# Events at the Creative Arts Council of Wells County

428 S. Oak St. in Bluffton  
260-824-5222  
www.wellscocreativearts.com  
creativeartscouncil@gmail.com  
Facebook: www.facebook.com/wellscocreativearts

Instagram: @creativeartscouncil  
Creative Arts office hours — Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday (by appointment only).

Encouraging, presenting and promoting the arts for the benefit of the entire community.

**The Joyful Sounds of Christmas**  
Saturday, Dec. 16 from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Music beginning at 2:30 and again at 5:00  
We are delighted to invite you and your family to our Christmas Open House with a special music program by local vocalists. Here are some highlights of what you can look forward to: Live musical performances featuring our local talented vocalists, a visit from Santa Claus himself, photo opportunity with Santa and his Elves, and a selection of holiday treats and beverages.

\*\*\*new class\*\*\*

**Children's Choir Winter Camp**

Creative Arts is excited to introduce our Children's Choir Winter Camp, where kids can explore their love for music and singing in a joyful and supportive environment. Our Children's Choir Winter Camp is a 2-week program designed for 3-8 grade students passionate about singing. Led by experienced and enthusiastic director Alyssa Plisco, this camp aims to foster a love of music, develop vocal skills, and build confidence in young singers.

The Children's Choir Winter Camp will occur from Monday, Jan. 8, 2024 through Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024, at Creative Arts, 428 S. Oak St, Bluffton. Registration ends Jan. 3, 2024.

To register or for more information, please visit our website <https://www.wellscocreativearts.com/childrens-choir> or contact us at 260-824-5222. Tuition: \$85 Give your child a memorable and enriching winter experience by joining our Children's Choir Winter Camp. We look forward to welcoming them into our musical commu-



nity and fostering their love for singing!

**Noir Suspicions**  
Friday, Feb. 16 at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 17 at 3 p.m.  
Attention all mystery enthusiasts! We cordially invite you to join us for an evening of intrigue and suspense with Creative Arts Theater newest production: *Noir Suspicions!* Get ready to put on your detective hats and solve a thrilling crime.

Tickets: \$30 for show, charcuterie & dessert

Show Only: \$15 for Adults and \$10 for children 12 and under

**Ongoing Activities**

**Creative Crew:** Tuesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All forms of creativity welcome: painting, drawing, needlework and more – spend the morning working on your craft and socialize with other artists. Enter Door 1 or Door 10 at Life Community Church, the creative crew meets in the cafe.

**Readers' Brown Bag Luncheon:** Meeting the last Tuesday of the month at noon at Life Community Church, enter door 10. All readers are welcome. Call the CAC office for more information.

*Creative Arts Council activities are supported by memberships, sponsors and grants from funders including Arts United, a regional agency; the Indiana Arts Commission, a state agency; and the National Endowment for the Arts, a national agency.*

## Philharmonic's A440 Strings in concert Dec. 17th

It will be a return engagement for the Fort Wayne Philharmonic's A440 Strings as they present traditional holiday music at the Bluffton First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, Dec. 17, beginning at 10 a.m.

They also will play special music and for carol singing during the worship service that will be begin at 10:30 a.m.

Members of the quartet are violinists Pablo Vasquez and Alexandra Tsilibes, violist Kistin Westover and cellist Brian Klickman. They

have provided music for countless occasions throughout northeast Indiana, northwest Ohio and Michigan.

The public is invited to attend the concert and worship service. The church is located at 215 East Dustman Rd. in Bluffton.

## Cast chosen for comedy/mystery CAC Theater

The cast has been selected for the February production of "Murder at Cafe Noir," to be presented in February by the Creative Arts Theatre group at the Auditorium Theatre, South Oak St. in Bluffton.

Cast members and their role will include: David Shepherd (Richard Archer), Johanne Lichtsinn (Sheila Wonderly), Ralph Tuttle (Anthony Cairo), Steve Stef-

fey (Deputy Inspector Rigfield), Kinlee Taylor (Ingrid Laszlo), Tim Bryan (Sidney Ferrari), Heathery Barkley (Claudette Ponte), Amanda Baldauf (Judge Koch), Matthew Elwell (Renault), Jon Webber (Bartender) and April Smith (Cigarette Girl).

Otto "Tank" Lowe will be directing. Performance dates are Feb. 16-17.

## Norwell Internship Spotlight award Reghan Plunkett

Senior Reghan Plunkett has been selected to receive the Norwell High School Internship Spotlight award. She has been doing her experience at IPT (Indiana Physical Therapy) of Bluffton with mentors Abby Ault and William Ford, who are both physical therapists.

She is the daughter of Shawn and Chasity Plunkett of Ossian.

A huge part of Reghan's internship has been observing the PT's as they go about their

work. She has learned valuable techniques and procedures by watching the professions first hand. The PT's have encouraged Reghan to help distract the patients as they experience painful therapy. She now understands the importance of building relationships with the patrons.

After graduation, Reghan plans to attend Bowling Green State University to study exercise science and to hopefully be a cheerleader there.



Reghan Plunkett

Her ultimate career goal is to become a sports physical therapist.

by Melba Edwards

## Zanesville News

Is it really December? Where did the year go?

There are still lots of happenings going on in the Zanesville area that you may want to know about so here is a list:

Coffee Cafe at the Zanesville Church of God week-day mornings from 7:30 to 10 a.m.

All of December the Living Lights at Tower Life Center Church.

Wonderland of Lights at Ouabache State Park all of December.

Zanesville Lions light judging and community Christmas party Dec. 18.

Zanesville Town Council meeting Tuesday, Dec. 19 at

6:30 p.m.

Zanesville Lions still have available apple dumpings and wreaths to sell to fund the cash prizes for the lighting contest.

For more information on any of these happenings call me at 260-638-4327. There is an answering machine there and if I am not at home I will call you back as soon as I get there.

If you called me just before Thanksgiving for 16 apple dumpings I have tried the number that you left and have not been able to get hold of you. If you still need them call again.

We currently have 19 members of the Zanesville

Lions Club. We need more to carry on this work so if you are interested in becoming a member let me know or come to a meeting. Meetings are once a month and are held at the clubhouse on the second Monday. A light supper is served and then we usually have a program along with business.

Our condolences to the family, friends and classmates of Robert Hammer who passed away on Nov. 13 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Robert was 83 at the time of his death and was a member of the 1960 graduating class of Lafayette Central High School.

Thank you for reading your local newspaper

The News-Banner

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- 3rd/4th
- 5th/6th
- 7th/8th

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Phone/In-Person: Saturday, December 23, 2023, 04:00pm

### REGULAR REGISTRATION

Pre-K/K: Members \$45, Non-members \$85  
1st/2nd, 3rd/4th, 5th/6th, 7th/8th: Members \$55, Non-members \$95

Register online at [fwymca.org](http://fwymca.org) or at the Front Desk!  
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Parlor City Christmas



Alyssa Linder, a seasonal Interpretive Naturalist at Salamonie Lake State Park, wowed the crowd during her demonstration in downtown Bluffton — with some help from her furry friend. (Photo by Sydney Kent)



A live Nativity was set up at the Dutch Mill Plaza so folks could pose with the actors as well as with two camels. (Photos By Barbara Barbieri)



Cards and journals, made of handmade papers were offered by Billy Kreigh as she chatted with a customer at the Wells County Commerce & Visitors Center. (Photo by Barbara Barbieri)



Musical entertainment was offered at the library during the morning hours Saturday with the piano students from Studio 88 starting off the parade of musicians. Emily Maggard was at the piano while teacher Amy Chaplin served as page turner.



Pictured from left to right are Rachel Reinhard, Kimi Elzey, Cindy Marshall, Renee Shearrer, Gina Hon, Deb Monce, Christine Walker, and Twyla Bice with the remaining cookies from the Community Care Cookie Walk fundraiser. The walk was scheduled to continue until mid afternoon, however, the group sold out of cookies around noon. (Photo by Sydney Kent)



A live reindeer and the Nativity Scene at Bluffton's Parlor City Plaza found lots of visitors checking the area out.



At the Masonic Lodge Santa was available for consultations after youngsters had enjoyed breakfast with family members. Mowgli Herber's family waited as he checked Santa out before going to chat with him. (Photo by Barbara Barbieri)



Joe Leman (pictured) plays a game of giant Connect Four with three of his best playmates. (Photo by Sydney Kent)



Horse-drawn wagon rides began at the Wells County Public Library and were offered by Sentimental Journeys. (Photo by Barbara Barbieri)

<p><b>2011 Avalanche</b></p> <p><b>\$7,900</b> 204K miles • Trailing Package, 4WD Vortec</p>	<p><b>2014 Grand Caravan</b></p> <p><b>\$10,000</b> 101K miles • FWD, 2nd Row Bench Seat with Rear Stow 'N Go</p>	<p><b>2015 Focus</b></p> <p><b>\$10,992</b> 66K miles • 5 Door, HB, SE</p>
<p><b>2015 Encore</b></p> <p><b>\$11,391</b> 128K miles • Leather, AWD, Sunroof, Navigation, Heated Seats &amp; Wheel</p>	<p><b>2017 Sonic</b></p> <p><b>\$12,875</b> 81K miles Backup Cam and Keyless Entry</p>	<p><b>2017 Equinox</b></p> <p><b>\$11,994</b> 125K miles • LT, Heated Seats, Power Tailgate • Climate Control</p>
<p><b>2014 Encore</b></p> <p><b>\$12,533</b> 94K miles • Leather, AWD, Heated Power Seats</p>	<p><b>2018 Forte</b></p> <p><b>\$14,633</b> 67K miles • LX, Automatic</p>	<p><b>2015 Edge</b></p> <p><b>SOLD</b> <b>\$14,596</b> 92K miles • SEL, FWD, 3.5L, Local Trade</p>
<p><b>2015 Verano</b></p> <p><b>\$14,764</b> 51K miles • Heated Seats, Collision Alert, Blind Zone Alert</p>	<p><b>2020 Spark LS</b></p> <p><b>*SPECIAL*</b> <b>\$14,908</b> 31K miles • Automatic, Back Up Camera, Gas Sipper!</p>	

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## Blackhawk's offensive attack drowns Norwell in boys hoops

**By RICK SPRUNGER**  
Blackhawk Christian came calling on Norwell Saturday night, and stayed long enough to deliver a convincing demonstration on why it is the defending Class 2A champion and currently ranked No. 2 in that class.

The Braves overwhelmed Norwell by a startling 72-36 margin in a game that was largely over two minutes into the second quarter.

It was the most one-sided margin of defeat suffered by a Norwell team since Marion laid a 100-64 smackdown on the Knights during the 1998 season some 26 years ago.

Blackhawk, of course, is an exceptionally talented team.

The Braves have size, speed, and shooting ability to burn, and they showed the Knights all of those things in spades Saturday night.

The size comes in the form of Kellen Pickett, a 6-9 junior, who averages 22 points and 12 rebounds per game and was the leading scorer in last year's Class 2A championship game win over Linton.

He has reportedly already been offered by Central Florida, Toledo, Purdue-Fort Wayne, and Valparaiso, and he still has another year to play at this level.

"If you've ever wondered what a Division 1 kid looks like, this is it," said a wowed Norwell coach Mike McBride of Blackhawk's heart and soul. "He does every-

thing well."

Against Norwell, he only scored 12 points but grabbed 18 rebounds, blocked at least one shot, and altered countless others.

"He is so talented that he is able to make his teammates better just by his presence on the floor," continued McBride. "We were having to collapse our defense down on him."

And that just left his sniper teammates free to roam at will in undefended territory.

"They shot really well from outside early, much better than what we saw in their game films," said McBride.

Blackhawk connected on an eye-popping 13 of 29 three-point shots for the game, seven of them in a blistering first-half attack that saw the Braves hit on 13 of 24 shots overall (.542) in surging to a 34-19 advantage.

Bryce Sefton was the author of four of those long-range bullseyes in his first four tries, all of them in the first half.

Blackhawk made an authoritative good-morning, good-afternoon, good-night statement right off the bat in the game's first four minutes.

Will Guthrie started things off with a 17-foot jumper just 16 seconds into the contest. And then came back-to-back midcourt steals by Sefton and Aiden Muldoon on Norwell's first two possessions.

"They came at us with a lot of energy," observed McBride later.

Then it was Muldoon's turn to shine.

He nailed a three-pointer, got another midcourt steal with an upcourt feed to Pickett for a fast-break basket, then dropped a 15-footer.

Sefton hit his first three-pointer moments later, driving McBride to a timeout with 4:06 left in the quarter.

What his team had to show for those first four minutes were three live-ball turnovers, five one-and-done misses from the field, and a 12-0 deficit.

The Knights emerged from the huddle and made a counter-rally, scoring seven straight points on a Cade Shelton bucket over Pickett underneath; a steal, layup, and three-point play by Kaedyn Quintanilla; and a Shelton drive through the lane.

But another Sefton three-pointer gave Blackhawk a 15-7 lead at the break.

And the Braves then started the second quarter the same way they had started the first, with back-to-back midcourt steals in the first 30 seconds of the period.

Sefton got the first one and fed Pickett upcourt for a one-on-nobody two-handed slam; Muldoon got the other and fired an outlet pass to a speeding Isaac Smith for another uncontested bunny.

That earned another timeout from a fired-up McBride.

"We didn't handle their defen-

sive intensity very well," said the coach in clipped tones. "We weren't sprinting back on defense, and we can't have that."

It got worse. Three consecutive three-pointers, the first two by Sefton and the third by Smith sandwiched around a lone pair of free throws by Adam McBride ballooned the margin to 28-9.

Norwell was never closer than 11 points after that, trailed by that 15-point margin at halftime, and played the second half with mostly bench reserves.

As impressed as the elder McBride was with Blackhawk, he was decidedly less than that with his own band of warriors.

"We did not have three good days of practice this week (since the Dwenger game on Tuesday), which is surprising since we were coming off of three straight wins," he said evenly, choosing his words carefully. "We did not have good energy; we did not have good execution."

Blackhawk placed four players in double figures paced by Smith with 21 points, including five three-pointers; Muldoon with 15 on 6-for-8 shooting and three treys; Sefton with 14; and Pickett's 12.

The Braves were 26-for-51 for a .51 shooting percentage for the game, outrebounded the Knights, 36-26, and committed just eight turnovers despite playing race-horse basketball all night, two of

them by subs in the game's final minute.

Adam McBride was the only Norwell player in double figures with 13 points. No one else scored more than six.

The Knights were 13-for-50 from the floor for a chilly .260.

Norwell won the junior varsity scrap, 46-33.

Nick McBride scored 18 points to lead the Knights. Brady Smith added seven, Garry Riley six, Caiden Petrie and Drew Jolly five each, Noah Comer three, and Will Case two.

sports@news-banner.com

**BLACKHAWK CHRISTIAN 72, NORWELL 36**

**at Norwell**  
**BLACKHAWK CHRISTIAN (2-1):** Aiden Muldoon 6-8 0-0 15, Kellen Pickett 4-9 3-4 12, Isaac Smith 8-14 0-0 21, Bryce Sefton 4-7 2-2 14, Will Guthrie 2-2 0-0 4, Jackson Hauser 0-5 2-2 2, Luke Mansfield 0-1 0-0 0, Christian Webster 1-3 0-0 2, Brennan Miller 0-0 0-0 0, Ben Gray 0-1 0-0 0, Sam Schwartz 0-0 0-0 0, Jaeden O'Neal 1-1 0-0 2. TOTAL: 26-51 7-8 72.

**NORWELL (3-2):** Cade Shelton 2-6 0-0 4, Adam McBride 4-13 2-3 13, Owen Wallis 2-5 0-0 5, Cohen Bailey 0-3 0-0 0, Ashton Feder-spiel 1-5 0-0 2, Kaedyn Quintanilla 2-8 1-1 6, Trace Moser 1-2 1-2 3, Brady Smith 0-3 0-0 0, Caiden Petrie 0-1 0-0 0, Garry Riley 0-0 0-0 0, Nick McBride 1-4 0-0 3, Ryne Thornton 0-0 0-0 0. TOTAL: 13-50 4-6 36.

**Blackhawk 15 19 18 20 — 72**  
**Norwell 7 12 11 6 — 36**

**Three-point shooting:** Blackhawk Christian 13-29 (Muldoon 3-4, Pickett 1-4, Smith 5-9, Sefton 4-7, Hauser 0-2, Mansfield 0-1, Webster 0-2), Norwell 6-25 (Shelton 0-1, A. McBride 3-9, Wallis 1-4, Bailey 0-3, Quintanilla 1-2, Smith 0-2, Petrie 0-1, N. McBride 1-3). Rebounds: Blackhawk Christian 36 (Pickett 18, Muldoon 7), Norwell 26 (Shelton 5, A. McBride 5). Turnovers: Blackhawk Christian 8, Norwell 12. Personal fouls: Blackhawk Christian 9, Norwell 9. Fouled Out: None. Technical fouls: None. Junior Varsity: Norwell 46, Blackhawk Christian 33.



Bluffton's Jedidiah Logan (top) gets in position to attempt to pin Southern Wells' Ryan Raber during the 120 pound match in the ACAC Duals at Jay County on Saturday. Logan won the patch with the pin on Raber. (Photos by Chad Kline)



Southern Wells' Bradon Enochs (top) works to get Bluffton's Lukas Gehrett in position for a pin during Saturday's ACAC Duals at Jay County. Enochs bested Gehrett with a pin in the 215 pound match.



Norwell's Ethan Williamson swims in the backstroke event at the Norwell Boys Invitational on Saturday. The Knights placed third overall out of eight schools. (Photo by Ryan Walker)

## Sports Roundup

### Tigers finish fourth, Raiders fifth in ACAC team duals

Bluffton and Southern Wells wrapped up the ACAC team duals over the weekend. The entire conference each wrestled one another round-robin style in six matches. Adams Central was the top team going 6-0. Jay County was second at 5-1, South Adams third at 4-2, Bluffton fourth at 3-3, Southern Wells fifth at 2-4, Woodlan sixth at 1-5, and Heritage seventh at 0-6.

Bluffton's first two matches were split, winning over Woodlan 60-19 and losing 72-11 to Adams Central.

On Saturday, Bluffton finished with another split with a 2-2 record. The two wins game against Heritage 72-9 and Southern Wells 53-28. The Tigers lost 66-12 to Jay County and 60-20 to South Adams.

Southern Wells began the weekend with two wins, defeating Heritage 60-18 and Woodlan 48-32.

The Raiders lost all four matches on Saturday, falling to Bluffton 53-28, Adams Central 78-0, Jay County 72-12, and South Adams 53-28.

Bluffton's next match will be at home against Churubusco at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 13.

Southern Wells will be at home against Mississinewa at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 14.

### Knights place sixth in Norwell Boys' swim Invite

Norwell finished third out of eight teams in its own Boys Invitational on Saturday. The Knights scored a 220 in the event

behind Oak Hill with 323 points and Huntington North with 232 points.

#### Top-three places:

- Rylan Heyerly second in the 200-yard freestyle and second in the 100-yard freestyle.
- Kale Meredith second in the 200-yard IM and in the 100-yard breaststroke.
- Colten Strunk second in the 100-yard butterfly.
- Ethan Williamson third in the 500-yard freestyle.
- Strunk, Meredith, Gage Reinhard and Heyerly second in the 200-yard freestyle relay.
- Williamson, Reinhard, Strunk and Heyerly in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

Norwell will host Snider/Wayne at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 12.

### Knight girls move to No. 14 in latest IBCA hoops poll

The Norwell girls' basketball team jumped up two spots in the latest IBCA poll this week.

With the Knights (9-2) win over No. 1 Columbia City, the team moved from No. 16 to No. 14. The rankings are based on all four classes and as a state.

The Eagles fell to No. 3 with their first loss of the season.

The rest of the rankings are as follows: 1. Lawrence Central, 2. Hamilton Southeastern, 3. Columbia City, 4. Snider and 5. Lawrence North.

The boys' poll features Lawrence North at the top at No. 1, followed by 2. Fishers, 3. Westfield, 4. Indianapolis Cathedral and 5. Noblesville.

## High School Calendar

**MONDAY, DEC 11**  
No events scheduled

**TUESDAY, DEC 12**  
BOYS BASKETBALL: Northfield at Southern Wells, 7:30 p.m.  
GIRLS BASKETBALL: Woodlan at Norwell, 7:45 p.m.; Southwood at Bluffton, 7:30 p.m.; Southern Wells at Elwood, 7:30 p.m.  
SWIMMING & DIVING (CO-ED): Snider/Wayne at Norwell, 6 p.m.  
WRESTLING: Jay County at Norwell, 6 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, DEC 13**  
WRESTLING: Churubusco at Bluffton, 6:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, DEC 14**  
GIRLS BASKETBALL: Southern Wells at Woodlan, 7:30 p.m.  
SWIMMING & DIVING (CO-ED): Norwell at South Adams, 5:30 p.m.; South Side at Bluffton, 5:30 p.m.  
WRESTLING: Mississinewa at Southern

Wells, 6 p.m.

**FRIDAY, DEC 15**  
BOYS BASKETBALL: DeKalb at Norwell, 7:45 p.m.; Bluffton at Southern Wells, 7:30 p.m.

**SATURDAY, DEC 16**  
BOYS BASKETBALL: Bluffton at Garrett, 7:30 p.m.; Southern Wells at Smith Academy, 2 p.m.  
GIRLS BASKETBALL: Adams Central at Bluffton, 1:30 p.m. Norwell at DeKalb, 7:30 p.m.  
WRESTLING: Norwell at Wawasee Super Duals, 9 a.m.; Bluffton at New Haven Super 10, 9 a.m.

**MONDAY, DEC 18**  
No events scheduled

**TUESDAY, DEC 19**  
BOYS BASKETBALL: Southwood at Southern Wells, 7:30 p.m.  
GIRLS BASKETBALL: Bluffton at Churubusco, 7:30 p.m.

## Backup QB Jake Browning shines again as Bengals pound the Colts

**By MITCH STACY**  
AP Sports Writer

CINCINNATI (AP) — In a span of six days, Jake Browning has gone from Joe Burrow's little-known backup to the potential savior of the Bengals' season.

Making his third NFL start, the 27-year-old Browning was outstanding again on Sunday, throwing two touchdown passes and rushing for a score as Cincinnati beat the Indianapolis Colts 34-14.

With Burrow out for the season with a wrist injury, the Bengals seemed in danger

of slipping into irrelevance before Browning threw for 354 yards and a touchdown in a win at Jacksonville last Monday night.

Browning's follow-up performance was just as good, and it kept the Bengals (7-6) in the mix for a playoff spot. He completed 18 of 24 passes for 275 yards with an interception against the playoff-contending Colts (7-6), whose four-game winning streak ended.

"He's playing his butt off," said Cincinnati receiver Tee Higgins, who caught two

(Continued on Page 1A)

# News-Banner Scoreboard

## FOOTBALL

### NFL

#### AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East					
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Miami	9	3	0	.750	384 266
Buffalo	7	6	0	.538	348 244
N.Y. Jets	5	8	0	.385	201 257
New England	3	10	0	.231	169 272
South					
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Jacksonville	8	5	0	.615	312 290
Houston	7	6	0	.538	287 279
Indianapolis	7	6	0	.538	314 330
Tennessee	4	8	0	.333	213 255

North					
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Baltimore	10	3	0	.769	361 218
Cleveland	8	5	0	.615	289 272
Cincinnati	7	6	0	.538	280 287
Pittsburgh	7	6	0	.538	210 250

West					
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Kansas City	8	5	0	.615	292 228
Denver	7	6	0	.538	287 309
L.A. Chargers	5	8	0	.385	282 282
Las Vegas	5	8	0	.385	202 259

#### NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East					
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	10	3	0	.769	342 308
Dallas	10	3	0	.769	408 233
N.Y. Giants	4	8	0	.333	159 292
Washington	4	9	0	.308	261 395

South					
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Atlanta	6	7	0	.462	251 269
New Orleans	6	7	0	.462	285 261
Tampa Bay	6	7	0	.462	262 270
e-Carolina	1	12	0	.077	197 341

North					
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Detroit	9	4	0	.692	340 314
Minnesota	7	6	0	.538	266 242
Green Bay	6	7	0	.462	258 243
Chicago	5	8	0	.385	270 309

West					
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
San Francisco	10	3	0	.769	380 205
L.A. Rams	6	7	0	.462	299 290
Seattle	6	7	0	.462	280 318
Arizona	3	10	0	.231	230 331

e-Eliminated from playoffs  
**Thursday's Games**  
 New England 21, Pittsburgh 18  
**Sunday's Games**  
 Baltimore 37, L.A. Rams 31, OT  
 Chicago 28, Detroit 13  
 Cincinnati 34, Indianapolis 14  
 Cleveland 31, Jacksonville 27  
 N.Y. Jets 30, Houston 6  
 New Orleans 28, Carolina 6  
 Tampa Bay 29, Atlanta 25  
 Minnesota 3, Las Vegas 0  
 San Francisco 28, Seattle 16  
 Buffalo 20, Kansas City 17  
 Denver 24, L.A. Chargers 7  
 Dallas 33, Philadelphia 13  
 Open: Arizona, Washington

**Monday's Games**  
 Green Bay at N.Y. Giants, 8:15 p.m.  
 Tennessee at Miami, 8:15 p.m.  
**Thursday, Dec. 14**  
 L.A. Chargers at Las Vegas, 8:15 p.m.

**Saturday, Dec. 16**  
 Minnesota at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.  
 Pittsburgh at Indianapolis, 4:30 p.m.  
 Denver at Detroit, 8:15 p.m.  
**Sunday, Dec. 17**  
 Atlanta at Carolina, 1 p.m.  
 Chicago at Cleveland, 1 p.m.  
 Houston at Tennessee, 1 p.m.  
 Kansas City at New England, 1 p.m.  
 N.Y. Giants at New Orleans, 1 p.m.  
 N.Y. Jets at Miami, 1 p.m.  
 Tampa Bay at Green Bay, 1 p.m.  
 San Francisco at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.  
 Washington at L.A. Rams, 4:05 p.m.  
 Dallas at Buffalo, 4:25 p.m.  
 Baltimore at Jacksonville, 8:20 p.m.

**Monday, Dec. 18**  
 Philadelphia at Seattle, 8:15 p.m.

## College

Army 17, Navy 11

## BASKETBALL

### High School

**Saturday Boys' Scores**  
 Barr-Reeve 56, Robinson, Ill. 39  
 Belmont 63, Heritage 38  
 Benton Central 72, Delphi 56  
 Borden 78, Crothersville 47  
 Brownsburg 36, Chesterton 33  
 Castle 75, Floyd Central 65  
 Clarksville 56, Eastern (Pekin) 36  
 Clay City 72, Montrovia 49  
 Clinton Christian 37, Ft. Wayne Smith Academy 27  
 Clinton Prairie 64, Western Boone 39  
 Columbia City 68, Carroll (Ft. Wayne) 66  
 Columbus North 44, Greenwood 39  
 Covenant Christian 87, Traders Point Christian 43  
 Crown Point 36, Carmel 33  
 Culver Academy 61, South Bend Career Academy 32  
 Daleville 59, Eastern Hancock 57

Danville 59, Lafayette Harrison 57  
 DeKalb 72, Fremont 43  
 Dubois 48, Tell City 33  
 Eastern (Greentown) 56, Southwood 52  
 Eastside 48, Prairie Heights 34  
 Edgewood 67, Bloomfield 50  
 Edinburg 69, Milan 60  
 Edon, Ohio 55, Lakewood Park 51  
 Elwood 57, Providence Cristo Rey 23  
 Fishers 77, Kokomo 55  
 Franklin 53, Columbus East 46  
 Franklin Central 60, Bloomington North 43

Frontier 32, Caston 29  
 Ft. Wayne Blackhawk 72, Norwell 36  
 Ft. Wayne North 57, Warsaw 56  
 Ft. Wayne Snider 62, Mooresville 59  
 Goshen 63, S. Bend St. Joseph's 55  
 Greencastle 64, Southmont 48  
 Greenfield 71, Southport 56  
 Greenwood Christian 55, Indpls Lutheran 47  
 Guerin Catholic 52, Heritage Hills 42  
 Hauser 65, Union Co. 41  
 Hobart 58, River Forest 51  
 Homestead 59, New Haven 49  
 Indiana Deaf 52, Cambridge City Lincoln 50  
 Indpls Cathedral 71, Indpls N. Central 56

Indpls Pike 55, Yorktown 48  
 Indpls Tech 55, Evansville Reitz 44  
 Indy Brebeuf 66, Lafayette Catholic 34  
 Knox 66, Culver 50  
 Lafayette Jeff 65, East Chicago Central 55  
 Lakeland 51, Bethany Christian 47  
 Lapel 61, Muncie Burris 23  
 Lawrence North 72, Ft. Wayne Wayne 51

Leo 60, Woodlan 46  
 Logansport 56, Rochester 43  
 Loogootee 56, Shoals 30  
 Maconaquah 88, Oak Hill 60  
 Manchester 62, Huntington North 55  
 Marion 72, Wabash 46  
 McCutcheon 46, Covington 44  
 McLean Co., Ky. 63, Ev. Day 53  
 Merrillville 62, Andean 58  
 Michigan City 70, Hammond Central 34

Michigan City Marquette 49, Kouts 34  
 Mitchell 60, Salem 32  
 Monroe Central 49, Wes-Del 39  
 Mt. Vernon (Posey) 55, Mt. Carmel, Ill. 36  
 Muncie Central 53, Hamilton Hts. 34  
 N. Daviess 45, Rock Creek Academy 29  
 N. Decatur 68, Oldenburg 48  
 N. Judson 55, S. Central (Union Mills) 31  
 N. Knox 51, Eastern (Greene) 48  
 N. Newton 46, DeMotte Christian 43  
 N. Vermillion 60, Union (Dugger) 52  
 N. White 45, Tri-Township 38  
 New Castle 56, Jay Co. 44  
 Noblesville 51, Indpls Attucks 46  
 NorthWood 36, Fairfield 21  
 Northridge 72, Angola 64  
 Northwestern 50, Frankfort 43  
 Parke Heritage 60, N. Putnam 54  
 Pendleton Hts. 69, Connersville 40  
 Peru 62, Northfield 22  
 Pioneer 41, N. Miami 38  
 Plainfield 64, Zionsville 46  
 Portage 77, Westville 59  
 Providence 57, Scottsburg 51, OT  
 Richmond 77, Oxford Talawanda, Ohio 29

S. Bend Washington 68, LaPorte 65  
 S. Decatur 45, Jac-Cen-Del 40  
 S. Putnam 68, Eminence 24  
 S. Ripley 50, Franklin Co. 31  
 S. Spencer 60, Crawford Co. 42  
 Seeger 46, Tri-County 37  
 Seton Catholic 61, Anderson Prep Academy 31  
 Shakamak 80, Washington Catholic 22  
 Shenandoah 48, Frankton 39  
 Silver Creek 73, Jennings Co. 54  
 Southridge 46, Pike Central 44  
 Southwestern (Hanover) 85, Batesville 52  
 Springs Valley 76, Lanesville 51  
 Tippecanoe Valley 52, Glenn 46  
 Tipton 65, Delta 61, OT  
 Tri-Central 54, Morrystown 41  
 Tri-West 55, W. Lafayette 51  
 Trinity Lutheran 58, W. Washington 46  
 Twin Lakes 65, Rensselaer 37  
 Union City 62, Knightstown 37  
 Union City 68, Liberty Christian 52  
 Valparaiso 69, Kankakee Valley 59  
 Vincennes Rivet 56, Medora 44  
 W. Noble 48, Churubusco 40  
 Wapahani 85, Hagerstown 50  
 Warren Central 60, Center Grove 44  
 Washington 52, Forest Park 46  
 Watska, Ill. 49, S. Newton 43  
 Western 64, Rossville 48  
 Westfield 50, Bethesda Christian 25  
 Westview 59, Central Noble 43  
 Whiteland 65, Shelbyville 53  
 Whitko 58, Wawasee 53  
 Wood Memorial 53, White River Valley 35  
 Wayne City (Ill.) Tournament  
 Cisne, Ill. 67, Linton 64

**Saturday Girls' Scores**  
 Andean 44, Griffith 11  
 Austin 50, Brownstown 40

Barr-Reeve 47, Bloomfield 17  
 Bedford N. Lawrence 46, Brownsburg 42  
 Benton Central 63, Northwestern 29  
 Bethany Christian 59, Lakeland 23  
 Bethesda Christian 59, Indpls Shortridge 27  
 Boonville 53, Mt. Vernon (Posey) 18  
 Borden 52, Providence 46  
 Carroll (Flora) 60, Culver Academy 48  
 Cascade 67, Indpls Lutheran 36  
 Caston 50, Triton 20  
 Central Noble 56, Westview 31  
 Chicago (Butler), Ill. 69, LaPorte LaLumiere 29  
 Clinton Central 55, Attica 23  
 Covenant Christian 51, Indpls Scocinia 20  
 Eastern Hancock 56, Indpls Cathedral 53  
 Elkhart Christian 59, Clinton Christian 22  
 Eminence 48, S. Putnam 44  
 Ft. Wayne Snider 70, Carmel 45  
 Greensburg 72, Rushville 25  
 Guerin Catholic 53, Peru 36  
 Hamilton Hts. 72, Ft. Wayne Concor- dia 41  
 Hammond Noll 57, Gary West 16  
 Hanover Central 47, River Forest 29  
 Homestead 64, Notre Dame Academy, Ohio 36

Huntington North 61, Marion 12  
 Jac-Cen-Del 54, New Washington 32  
 Jeffersonville 63, Columbus East 47  
 Jennings Co. 83, New Albany 22  
 Knox 55, Culver 30  
 Lafayette Harrison 53, Lafayette Jeff 32  
 Lake Central 49, Fremd, Ill. 38  
 Lakeland Christian 26, S. Bend Trinity 20  
 Lapel 72, Tipton 13  
 Lawrenceburg 45, Connersville 42  
 Logansport 32, LaVie 26  
 Madison-Grant 62, Elwood 28  
 Merrillville 52, Penn 51  
 Michigan City Marquette 41, East Chicago Central 29  
 Milan 50, Edinburg 35  
 Mississinewa 39, Oak Hill 36  
 Mooresville 59, Bloomington North 38  
 Morgan Twp. 47, Kouts 28  
 N. Knox 57, North Vigo 19  
 N. Vermillion 50, Union (Dugger) 7  
 Noblesville 64, Plainfield 48  
 Northridge 64, Concord 22  
 Oldenburg 41, Indiana Deaf 23  
 Orleans 64, Trinity Lutheran 51  
 Paoli 48, Edgewood 18  
 Parke Heritage 66, N. Putnam 17  
 Pike Central 31, Evansville Bosse 19  
 Pioneer 42, LaPorte 24  
 Rochester 36, Wabash 14  
 Rock Creek Academy 73, Crothersville 31  
 Rockford Parkway, Ohio 50, S. Adams 45

S. Bend Adams 63, Edwardsburg, Mich. 50  
 S. Bend Washington 61, Kenwood, Ill. 58  
 S. Dearborn 42, Hauser 26  
 Seymour 57, Madison 47  
 Shenandoah 60, Muncie Burris 20  
 Southwestern (Hanover) 58, S. Central (Elizabeth) 55  
 Southwood 30, Eastern (Greentown) 26  
 Sullivan 62, Brown Co. 53  
 Switzerland Co. 53, Madison Shawe 40  
 Tri-County 43, Rossville 38  
 Tri-Township 54, N. White 24  
 Triton Central 55, Southwestern (Shelby) 14  
 Union City 47, Knightstown 39  
 Valparaiso 62, Whiting 22  
 Vincennes 43, Evansville Harrison 21  
 Warsaw 66, Plymouth 31  
 Washington 60, Tell City 13  
 Western 59, Twin Lakes 45  
 White River Valley 53, Shoals 38  
 Whiteland 50, Martinsville 36  
 Winamac 64, DeMotte Christian 34  
 Winchester 61, Cambridge City Lincoln 17  
 Winchester 61, Tri 17  
 Yorktown 41, Mt. Vernon (Fortville) 39  
 Marion County Tournament  
 Championship  
 Lawrence Central 68, Indpls N. Central 32  
 Semifinal  
 Indpls N. Central 52, Indy Brebeuf 38  
 Lawrence Central 69, Indpls Pike 64  
 Southern Roads Tournament  
 Championship  
 Bloomington Lighthouse 55, Medora 41

Consolation  
 Christian Academy of Madison 46  
 Pleasant View Christian 12  
 First Round  
 Bloomington Lighthouse 60, Cannellton 29  
 Columbus Christian 48, Christian Academy of Madison 47  
 Seven Oaks Classical 62, Pleasant View Christian 7  
 Semifinal  
 Bloomington Lighthouse 65, Seven Oaks Classical 34  
 Medora 42, Columbus Christian 37

## College

### Men's Basketball Scores

**Sunday, Dec. 10**  
**EAST**  
 Boston College 86, St. John's 80  
 Temple 78, Albany (NY) 73  
**SOUTH**  
 Colorado 90, Miami 63  
 E. Kentucky 121, Bethany (WV) 56  
 Lipscomb 78, Tennessee St. 71  
 Mississippi 70, UCF 68  
 VCU 86, Alcorn St. 58  
**MIDWEST**  
 Ball St. 83, SIU-Edwardsville 71  
 Bowling Green 97, Ohio Dominican 49

Cent. Arkansas 73, E. Illinois 70  
 Iowa St. 107, Prairie View 56  
 Michigan 90, Iowa 80  
 N. Dakota St. 108, Oak Hills 14  
 Nebraska 77, Michigan St. 70  
 Northwestern 91, Detroit 59  
**SOUTHWEST**  
 Memphis 81, Texas A&M 75  
 Oklahoma St. 72, Tulsa 57  
**FAR WEST**  
 Long Beach St. 84, Southern Cal 79, OT

**Saturday, Dec. 9**  
**EAST**  
 Colgate 77, Vermont 71  
 George Washington 76, Coppin St. 45  
 Kentucky 81, Penn 66  
 Lehigh 88, Cairn 33  
 Penn St. 83, Ohio St. 80  
 Pittsburgh 82, Canisius 71  
 Rutgers 70, Seton Hall 63  
 St. Bonaventure 89, Siena 56  
 Syracuse 80, Georgetown 68  
 Towson 89, UMB 73  
 UConn 101, Ark.-Pine Bluff 63  
 UMass 91, Mass.-Lowell 77  
 Villanova 65, UCLA 56  
 W. Kentucky 82, Buffalo 65  
 West Virginia 66, Drexel 60

**SOUTH**  
 Akron 77, N. Kentucky 76  
 Clemson 74, TCU 66  
 Davidson 79, Miami (Ohio) 61  
 Duke 80, Charlotte 56  
 Florida 87, Richmond 76  
 Georgia Tech 70, Alabama A&M 49  
 Grand Canyon 69, Liberty 64  
 James Madison 84, Old Dominion 69  
 Kansas St. 75, LSU 60  
 Louisiana Tech 72, Louisiana-Lafayette 67  
 Mississippi St. 106, Tulane 76  
 Purdue 92, Alabama 86  
 South Carolina 68, East Carolina 62  
 South Florida 88, Florida St. 72  
 Southern Miss. 83, Northwestern St. 74

Tennessee 86, Illinois 79  
 Virginia Tech 71, Valparaiso 50  
 W. Carolina 78, UNC-Asheville 63  
 Wake Forest 83, NJIT 59  
 Wofford 89, Coastal Carolina 80  
**MIDWEST**  
 Auburn 104, Indiana 76  
 Butler 97, California 90, 2OT  
 Creighton 109, Cent. Michigan 64  
 Dayton 82, Troy 70  
 DePaul 75, Louisville 68  
 Fort Wayne 89, SE Missouri 80  
 Indiana St. 98, S. Indiana 54  
 Kansas 73, Missouri 64  
 Kent St. 83, Cleveland St. 77  
 Loyola Chicago 115, Goshen 64  
 Marquette 78, Notre Dame 59  
 Marshall 74, Ohio 69  
 Minnesota 77, Florida Gulf Coast 57  
 Missouri St. 69, Sam Houston St. 60

Norfolk St. 64, Illinois St. 58  
 Oral Roberts 110, Ambassadors 51  
 Portland 83, North Dakota 72  
 S. Dakota St. 79, Wichita St. 69  
 Saint Louis 71, Hofstra 68  
 South Dakota 78, CS Bakersfield 73  
 Toledo 84, N. Iowa 80  
 UMKC 72, Lindenwood (Mo.) 67  
 W. Illinois 68, Green Bay 59  
 Xavier 84, Cincinnati 79  
 Youngstown St. 72, W. Michigan 68  
**SOUTHWEST**  
 Arkansas St. 87, UAB 68  
 Houston 89, Jackson St. 55  
 Oklahoma 79, Arkansas 70  
 Texas 77, Houston Christian 50  
 Texas A&M-CC 62, Omaha 58  
**FAR WEST**  
 Arizona 98, Wisconsin 73  
 Boise St. 109, W. Oregon 70  
 Drake 72, Nevada 53  
 Fresno St. 89, Pacific 56  
 Idaho 63, Utah Tech 62  
 Milwaukee 81, UC Davis 79  
 Montana 88, Montana Tech 67  
 New Mexico 93, Santa Clara 76  
 Oregon 71, UTEP 49  
 Oregon St. 74, Utah Valley St. 71  
 Saint Mary's (Cal.) 64, Colorado St. 61  
 San Diego 89, Arizona St. 84  
 San Diego St. 63, UC Irvine 62  
 Utah 73, BYU 69  
 Utah St. 84, NW Nazarene 53  
 Washington 78, Gonzaga 73  
 Wyoming 78, Stephen F. Austin 70

## Women's Basketball Scores

### Sunday, Dec. 10

**EAST**  
 Boston College 88, Siena 59  
 Maryland 71, Northwestern 58  
 Pittsburgh 94, Lehigh 82  
 Quinnipiac 66, Holy Cross 63  
 St. John's 55, Rhode Island 44  
 Temple 61, Penn 47  
 West Virginia 107, Delaware St. 43

**SOUTH**  
 Alabama 69, Samford 39  
 Alabama A&M 62, SC State 44  
 Ball St. 67, W. Kentucky 59  
 Coastal Carolina 73, UNC-Pembroke 49  
 Duke 82, Florida Gulf Coast 63  
 Georgia Tech 94, Georgia St. 70  
 LSU 83, Louisiana-Lafayette 53  
 Louisville 73, Kentucky 61  
 Memphis 69, Southern Miss. 67  
 NC State 80, Liberty 67  
 Richmond 80, Appalachian St. 77, OT  
 Tennessee 72, E. Kentucky 63  
 Tulane 67, Howard 52  
 UConn 76, North Carolina 64  
 Virginia Tech 85, Radford 40  
 Wake Forest 51, Norfolk St. 46

**MIDWEST**  
 Butler 84, Chicago St. 51  
 Cincinnati 69, Xavier 47  
 Cleveland St. 71, Akron 62  
 Indiana St. 65, SE Missouri 57  
 Iowa 87, Wisconsin 65  
 Iowa St. 89, N. Dakota St. 59  
 Kansas 76, Wichita St. 56  
 Marquette 64, Illinois St. 62  
 Michigan 84, Illinois 48  
 Minnesota 60, Purdue 58  
 N. Illinois 75, Detroit 66  
 Ohio St. 94, Penn St. 84, OT  
 Omaha 92, Peru St. 70  
 South Dakota 108, Dickinson St. 46

Toledo 65, Loyola (Md.) 35  
 UMKC 68, W. Illinois 60  
**SOUTHWEST**  
 Auburn 58, UALR 45  
 TCU 85, Prairie View 41  
 Tulsa 72, Florida 64  
**FAR WEST**  
 Creighton 73, Wyoming 61  
 South Carolina 78, Utah 69  
 Southern Cal 85, UC Riverside 53  
 UCLA 95, Florida St. 78  
 Washington 60, Washington St. 55

**Sunday, Dec. 10**  
**EAST**  
 Boston College 88, Siena 59  
 Iowa 60, Sacred Heart 50  
 UMass 64, Mass.-Lowell 52  
**SOUTH**  
 Duke 82, Florida Gulf Coast 63  
**FAR WEST**  
 UCLA 95, Florida St. 78

## NBA

### EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division					
W	L	Pct	GB		
Boston	16	5	.762	—	
Philadelphia	14	7	.667	2	
New York	12	9	.571	4	
Brooklyn	12	9	.571	4	
Toronto	9	13	.409	7½	
Southeast Division					
W	L	Pct	GB		
Orlando	15	7	.682	—	
Miami	12	10	.545	3	
Atlanta	9	12	.429	5½	
Charlotte	7	13	.350	7	
Washington	3	18	.143	11½	

Central Division					
W	L	Pct	GB		
Milwaukee	15	7	.682	—	
Indiana	12	8	.600	2	
Cleveland	13	9	.591	2	
Chicago	9	14	.391	6½	
Detroit	2	20	.091	13	

Western Conference					
Southwest Division					
W	L	Pct	GB		
Dallas	13	8	.619	—	
Houston	10	9	.526	2	
New Orleans	12	11	.522	2	
Memphis	6	15	.286	7	
San Antonio	3	18	.143	10	

Northwest Division					
W	L	Pct	GB		
Minnesota	17	4	.810	—	
Oklahoma City	14	7	.667	3	
Denver	14	9	.609	4	
Utah	7	15	.318	10½	
Portland	6	15	.286	11	

Pacific Division					
W	L	Pct	GB		
L.A. Lakers	14	9	.609	—	
Sacramento	12	8	.600	½	
Phoenix	12	10	.545	1½	
L.A. Clippers	11	10	.524	2	



Letting go of anger to let love in

Dear Annie: My mother separated from my father when I was 3. She left my father, who never came looking for us. She later married a wonderful man who loves me more than anything.

When I was 15, a family member was able to get in touch with my biological father. The next day, he changed his phone number.

Recently, I did a DNA test and was able to connect with a cousin. I've been told that my biological father has since remarried and has two children. She gave him my number, and he has reached out to me.

I'm hanging onto this hatred and wondering if that is why, at the age of 40, I still can't see past the worst in men. Do I live with this anger or do I move on? — Stuck in Anger

Dear Annie: Living in anger is like drinking poison and waiting for the other person to die. It is understandable that you are angry with your biological father. He sounds like he was an unhappy man. Forgiveness is a gift you give yourself, not the other person.

As for your anger with men, try putting your attention on the wonderful men in your life instead of those who aren't present. Case in point: the man your mother married. You said that he loves you more than anything.

Dear Annie: The letter from "Shepherd With a Lost Sheep," who feels that his adult daughter is not making good life decisions, reminded me of my own daughter, "Jane." Jane easily graduated with honors from college, but like "Shep-

herd's" daughter, she has never been employed in her educational field and worked only at fairly menial jobs. In addition, she has been divorced twice and had several questionable live-in relationships.

What I didn't know for many years, and what "Shepherd" may not realize about his daughter, is that Jane had a mental illness. She was able to function marginally OK for daily life, but she could not make the best life decisions.

Even though she took the initiative to see numerous mental health counselors, and did her own exhaustive self-study, it wasn't until 25 years after college that her mental illness finally reached a crisis that resulted in getting the help she needed.

NAMI and my counselor have helped me to understand and cope with Jane's illness and how to properly assist in ensuring she gets the help she needs. I now accept that Jane is doing the best she can, and we maintain a wonderful relationship.

Dear Dad at Peace: Thank you very much for your letter. I am delighted that you are able to maintain a wonderful relationship with your daughter. So much of having a good relationship with others stems from understanding where they are coming from or what they are going through.

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

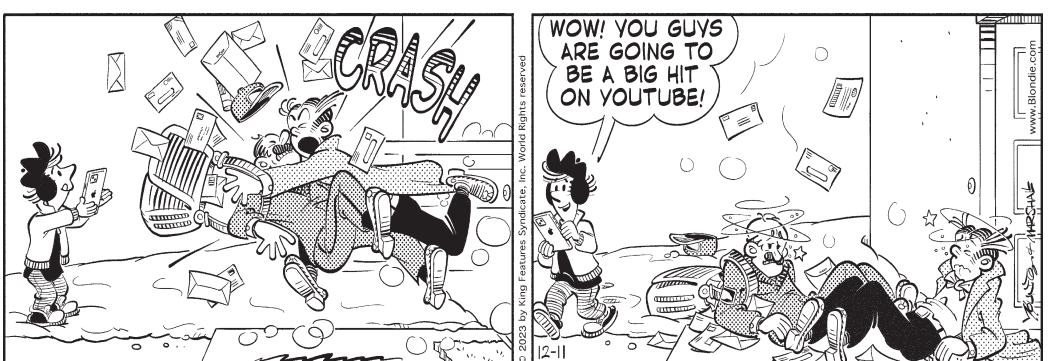
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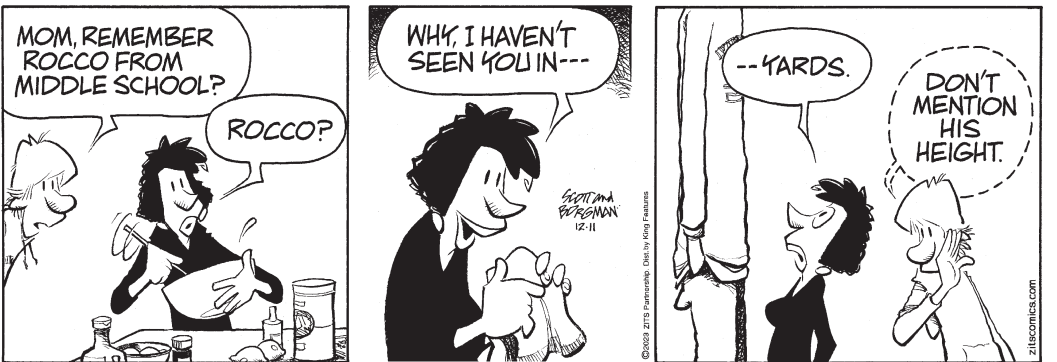
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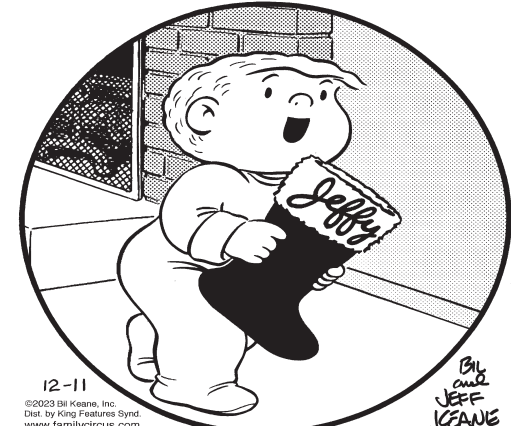
CRANKSHAFT



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

The LOCKHORNS



My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



Seeking approval of others means we aren't pleasing God

Q: I like being popular but in order to have a lot of friends, I have to consent to doing things I really don't want to do. My grandma tells me that the Bible has all the answers. Where are they? — F.C.

A: Many Christians would prefer to hear the crowd say about them, "What a great guy or gal," rather than Jesus say, "Well done, good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:23, NKJV).

The Bible does give us the answers to life's problems and God Himself provides strength to walk away

from temptation. The story of Joseph in Genesis 39 gives us a clear demonstration of this. We may experience some persecution from others but it will teach us that those who tempt us to do wrong are not true friends.

Seeking approval of others means we aren't pleasing God. Wanting to be liked can lead to serious problems. We must make it our goal to live for Christ and be faithful

to Him, regardless of what the crowd demands. When we confess our sins to God, ask His forgiveness, and obey Him, we have this promise: "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17, NKJV).

Our lives are intricately woven into the lives of others and we should consider the variety of people that we can influence for good.

(This column is based on the words and writings of the late Rev. Billy Graham.) ©2023 Billy Graham Literary Trust. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Saturday's answer 12-11

Television schedule table with columns for time slots (12:11, 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 12:30) and rows for various channels (WIMM, CBS, Antenna, ABC, NBC, etc.)

Continuation of the crossword puzzle grid and answers.

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## SUDOKU

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

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

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Difficulty: ★

12/11

## EMPLOYMENT

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**THE BLUFFTON POLICE** Department is seeking applications 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 on the city's website [www.blufftonindiana.net](http://www.blufftonindiana.net). For more information contact Chief of Police Kyle Randall at 824-3320 or [kyle.randall@blufftonindiana.gov](mailto:kyle.randall@blufftonindiana.gov). Applications are due back December 22, 2023 by 4:30 p.m.

**HELOISE HINT:** If you are having problems with finding a job. Contact former work colleagues, friends, family members and even people at companies you'd like to work for. This can help you find leads or info on which positions might be available. Fax Heloise @ 210-HELOISE (435-6473).

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## SALES & AUCTIONS

### Auctions

**414 N MERIDIAN ST 3 RING AUCTION!** BRICKER AUCTION DECEMBER 16TH @ 9:00 Ring 1 @ 9:00 AM - LIVE ONLY! farm items, tools, garage items, household, cages, and misc.  
Ring 2 @ 10:00 AM - Live & Simulcast - Large estate that includes firearms, ammo, antique toys, antique glassware, oil lamps, McCoy pottery, pocket knives, Ball jars, Hoosier cabinet, hutch, bedroom suit, appliances, kitchen table and chairs, sewing machine, jewelry, cedar chest, Coca-Cola coolers, cast iron, furniture, records, fishing, musical instruments of all sorts, knives and much more!  
Ring 3 @ 11:00 AM - Live & Simulcast - baby turtles, tree frogs, African green bush snake, chameleon, gecko, iguana, sugar gliders, parakeets, chickens, ducks, turkeys, rabbits and more!  
Dec. 16 9:00 AM-5:00 PM Rain or Shine Go to [bidbricker.com](http://bidbricker.com) to start bidding!  
Auctioneer - Chad Bricker 260-703-0839 AU11600027

**Line Classified Ad Deadlines:**  
Monday editions: Friday by 4 p.m.  
Tuesday-Friday editions: day-before by 4 p.m.  
Saturdays: Friday by noon.

## Public Sale Calendar

**BIDDING ENDS DECEMBER 14 - Soft close at 6 p.m. - Joyce (Gale) Baumgartner, sellers.** Online personal property auction. Baumgartner Hatchery memorabilia, Muensterberg clock tower globe, glass, Echo equipment, primitives, granite, cookware, furniture, and much more! Pick up Dec. 15, 3-6 p.m. at 113 Northwood Drive, Bluffton, IN. *Heartland Auction & Realty, Inc.*, [heartlandauctionrealty.com](http://heartlandauctionrealty.com), 260-724-3499.

**BIDDING NOW OPEN AND STARTS ENDING DECEMBER 17 - 6 p.m. EST - Ronald H. Jackson estate, owner.** Online only personal property auction! 300 lots featuring: household, antiques, furniture, glassware, collectible Bossom chalkware, tools, long & hand guns & much more! Auction preview: Dec. 13, 4:30-5:30 p.m., 3934 Summersworth Run, Fort Wayne, IN. Auction pick up: Dec. 18, 2-6 p.m. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, 260-724-7402, [Kjauction.com](http://Kjauction.com).

**DECEMBER 23-JANUARY 1 - Online only auction - Vari-ous consignors, seller.** Mod-eline MCM floor & table lamps and Art Nuevo, Presidential collection, advertising, toys, early Moxie thermometer, 25+ Nativity scenes, antiques, vintage primitives, artifacts, trains, Fenton, Haviland & Franciscan china, antique furniture, military items, salesman samples and miniatures, coins & currency. Preview: Dec. 26 from 3 p.m.-6 p.m. and Dec. 28 from 3 p.m.-6 p.m., 102 South Jefferson, Ossian. Sale manager, Rod Fetters. *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-824-3006, [www.steffengrp.com](http://www.steffengrp.com).

**DECEMBER 31-JANUARY 7 - Estate of Mary Lynn Lautzenheiser, seller.** Personal property online only auction. John Deere mower, lawn & garden, furniture, Christmas, books, household. Open houses: Jan.

4 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Jan. 6 from 10 a.m. to noon, 4917 E. 100 N., Bluffton, IN. *Isaac Stoller, sale manager, The Steffen Group Inc.*, <http://www.steffengrp.com>, 260-824-3006.

**JANUARY 11 - 6 p.m. - Estate of Mary Lynn Lautzenheiser, seller.** 4917 E. 100 N., Bluffton, IN. One-of-a-kind property w/quick access to Bluffton, Decatur, Fort Wayne. Main home was once township school building, and has covered porch walk through to previous dance studio that has potential to be fourth living unit. Property also offers detached two car garage and two-unit apartment building. Open houses: Jan. 4 from 4-6 p.m., Jan. 6 from 10 a.m.-noon. *Isaac Stoller, sale manager, The Steffen Group Inc.*, <http://www.steffengrp.com>, 260-824-3006.

## Public Notices

STATE OF INDIANA )  
                                  )SS  
COUNTY OF WELLS )  
                                  )IN THE WELLS COURT  
                                  )CAUSE NO.  
                                  )90C01-2309-MI-000021  
IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF: )  
SHELBY KATHRYN CRUMP )  
                                  )Petitioner  
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR )  
CHANGE OF NAME )  
Shelby Kathryn Crump, whose )  
mailing address is: 769 Clark )  
Avenue, Bluffton, Indiana, and )  
if different, my residence address )  
is: , Wells County, Indiana, hereby )  
gives notice that Shelby Kathryn )  
Crump has filed a petition in the )  
Court requesting that her name be )  
changed to Shelby Kathryn Esma- )  
rae Albion Jellison. )  
Notice is further given that the )  
hearing will be held on said Petition )  
on February 15, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. )  
Shelby Kathryn Crump )  
Petitioner )  
November 22, 2023 )  
Date: )  
Honorable Kenton W. Kiracofe )  
Judge, Wells Circuit Court )  
nb 11/27, 12/4, 12/11 )  
hspaxlp )

## Miscellaneous

### THIS OUT!

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## Lottery Numbers

**Saturday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY**  
Cash 5 — 01-04-27-37-43

**Cash4Life** — 21-30-34-42-52, Cash Ball: 01

**Lotto Plus** — 12-22-23-34-36-46

**Quick Draw Midday** — 07-08-11-19-22-23-29-33-37-47-56-58-59-61-62-67-70-71-73-78, BE: 67

**Daily Three-Midday** — 03-09-08, SB: 00

**Daily Three-Evening** — 09-06-02, SB: 05

**Daily Four-Midday** — 03-01-04-07, SB: 00

**Daily Four-Evening** — 04-07-05-09, SB: 05

**Quick Draw Evening** — 01-02-06-07-10-13-17-21-25-43-47-51-52-55-63-64-71-76-78-79, BE: 13

**Hoosier Lotto** — 05-20-22-24-32-39

**POWERBALL**  
05-25-26-40-60; Powerball: 01; Power Play: 2X

## Sunday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY

Cash 5 — 03-05-13-18-22

**Cash4Life** — 02-04-18-32-40, Cash Ball: 03

**Quick Draw Midday** — 01-02-03-04-07-09-15-17-21-22-23-25-30-32-36-42-46-54-68-78, BE: 67

**Daily Three-Midday** — 07-08-08, SB: 06

**Daily Three-Evening** — 00-04-06, SB: 08

**Daily Four-Midday** — 00-06-04-02, SB: 06

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

**Quick Draw Evening** — 01-03-06-11-18-28-29-31-35-40-46-51-54-57-60-61-63-68-70-71, BE: 46

**Hoosier Lotto** — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$1 million

**MEGA MILLIONS**  
Estimated jackpot (for Tuesday): \$20 million

**POWERBALL**  
Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$477 million

## SUDOKU ANSWER

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