



Iva Brinson and Collin Selking help lay a wreath during the Wreaths Across America ceremony. (Photos by Sydney Kent)

Generations of remembrance

Community members gather at Old Ossian Cemetery to pay tribute to fallen veterans

By SYDNEY KENT

Ernest Hemingway once wrote that a person dies twice: once when they take their final breath, and again the last time someone says their name.

These words resonated with Larry Heckber, his family, and friends as they gathered together at the Old Ossian Cemetery to place wreaths on the graves of fallen veterans.

Fourteen Civil War veterans' names, regiment, and company were read aloud during the heartfelt ceremony Saturday.

Heckber explained that the ceremony was a part of the Wreaths Across America Program, specifically created to remember Veterans during the Christmas season. Over 4,000 cemeteries participated in



Markle man wanted for murder arrested

By SYDNEY KENT According to the Huntington County Sheriff's Office, the 37-year-old man wanted for the murder of his grandmother, Bernice "Dianna" Eubank, 72, in Markle has been apprehended.

Anthony Joel Castleman was arrested by U.S. Marshalls in Georgia. The HCSD advised that family has been notified and further details are forthcoming. According to court documents, a



Anthony Joel Castleman

warrant was issued for Castleman's arrest on Nov. 12 after officers respond-

ed to a welfare check for Eubank and found her body hidden next to a barn on the property.

A \$1,000 reward was offered on Nov. 21 after Castleman had not been located by law enforcement. Billboards with photos of his face were also placed throughout the state.

The News-Banner will continue to follow this case for updates on Castleman's extradition to Indiana. sydney@news-banner.com

aney@news-banner.com

Media companies made \$11B in ad revenue from minors

By BARBARA ORTUTAY and HALELUYA HADERO AP Technology Writers

Social media companies collectively made over \$11 billion in U.S. advertising revenue from minors last year, according to a study from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health published on Wednesday.

The researchers say the findings show a need for government regulation of social media since the companies that stand to make money from children who use their platforms have failed to meaningfully self-regulate. They note such regulations, as well as greater transparency from tech companies, could help alleviate harms to youth mental health and curtail potentially harmful advertising practices that target children and adolescents.

To come up with the revenue figure, the researchers estimated the number of users under 18 on Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, X (formerly Twitter) and YouTube in 2022 based on population data from the U.S. Census and survey data from Common Sense Media and Pew Research. They then used data from research firm eMarketer, now called Insider Intelligence, and Qustodio, a parental control app, to estimate each platform's U.S. ad revenue in 2022 and the time children spent per day on each platform. After that, the researchers said they built a simulation model using the data to estimate how much ad revenue the platforms earned from minors in the U.S.

the program, with more than 2.2 million wreaths laid.

The mission of the nonprofit is to remember the fallen, honor those who served, and teach the next generation the true value of freedom.

(Continued on Page 2)

Iva Brinson was happy to help lay a wreath during the ceremony on Saturday at the Old Ossian Cemetery.

U.S. announces new aid for Ukraine

Funds dwindle and Congress is stalled on aid bill

By LOLITA C. BALDOR Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. on Wednesday announced what officials say could be the final package of military aid to Ukraine unless Congress approves supplemental funding legislation that is stalled on Capitol Hill.

The weapons, worth up to \$250 million, include an array of air muni-

tions and other missiles, artillery, antiarmor systems, ammunition, demolition and medical equipment and parts. The aid, provided through the Presidential Drawdown Authority, will be pulled from Pentagon stockpiles.

In a statement, Marine Lt. Col. Garron Garn, a Pentagon spokesman said there is no more funding to replace the weapons taken from department stocks. And the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative, which provides long-term funding for future weapons contracts, is also out of money.

As a result, Garn said Wednesday, "Without the supplemental funding, there will be a shortfall in replenishing U.S. military stocks, affecting American military readiness."

President Joe Biden is urging Congress to pass a \$110 billion aid package for Ukraine, Israel and other national security needs. It includes \$61.4 bil-(Continued on Page 2) Researchers and lawmakers have long focused on the negative effects stemming from social media platforms, whose personally-tailored algorithms can drive children towards excessive use. This year, lawmakers in states like New York and Utah introduced or passed legislation that would curb social media use among kids, citing harms to youth mental health and other concerns.

Meta, which owns Instagram and Facebook, is also being sued by dozens of states for allegedly contributing to the mental health crisis.

"Although social media platforms may claim that they can self-regulate their practices to reduce the harms to young people, they have yet to do so, and our study suggests they have overwhelming financial incentives to continue to delay taking meaningful steps to protect children," said Bryn Austin, a professor in the Department of Social and (Continued on Page 2)

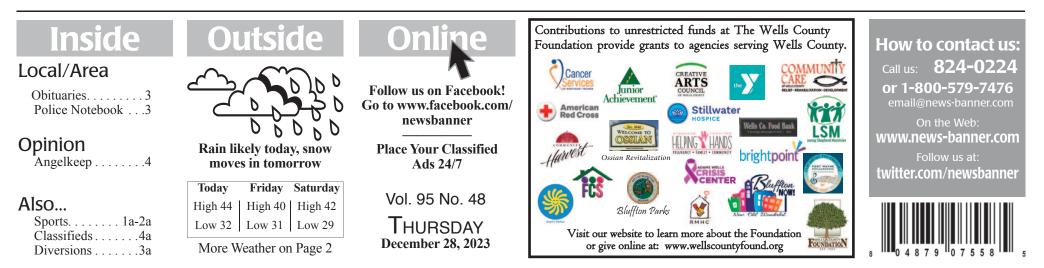
U.S. meets with Mexico's government on migrant influx

By MARIA VERZA and EDGAR H. CLEMENTE Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) – Mexican officials moved to clear a migrant encampment on the banks of the Rio Grande river Wednesday as U.S. officials met with Mexico's president to press for measures to limit a surge of migrants reaching the U.S. southwestern border. Mexico began clearing tents, both occupied and unoccupied, from the encampment in the border city of Matamoros, across from Brownsville, Texas, starting Tuesday. The effort, backed by bulldozers and workers with machetes, continued Wednesday as U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken talked with President Andrés Manuel López Obrador in Mexico City. López Obrador has said he is willing to help, but he wants to see progress in U.S. relations with Cuba and Venezuela, two of the top sources of migrants, along with more development aid for the region.

But Mexico's top priority appeared to be getting the United States to reopen border crossings that were closed because of the migrant surge. "We spoke about the importance of the border, and about the economic relationship ... the importance of reopening the border crossings, that is a priority for us," Foreign Relations Secretary Alicia Bárcena said following the meeting in Mexico City, which was also attended by U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas and homeland security adviser Liz Sherwood-Randall. This month, as many as 10,000 migrants were arrested daily on the southwest U.S. border. The U.S. has struggled to process thousands of migrants at the border, and house them once they reach northern cities.

Mexican industries were stung last week when the U.S. briefly closed two vital Texas railway crossings, arguing that border (Continued on Page 2)



Media companies

(Continued from Page 1)

Behavioral Sciences at Harvard and a senior author on the study.

The platforms themselves don't make public how much money they earn from minors.

Social media platforms are not the first to advertise to children, and parents and experts have long expressed concerns about marketing to kids online, on television and even in schools. But online ads can be especially insidious because they can be targeted to children and because the line between ads and the content kids seek out is often blurry.

In a 2020 policy paper, the American Academy of Pediatrics said children are "uniquely vulnerable to

Ukraine aid

(Continued from Page 1) lion for Ukraine, with about half to replenish Pentagon stocks. It also includes about \$14 billion for Israel as it fights Hamas and \$14 billion for U.S. border security. Other funds would go for security needs in the Asia-Pacific.

Due to an accounting error that overvalued some of the weapons sent to Ukraine over the past year or more, there is still about \$4.2 billion in restored drawdown authority. But since the Pentagon has no money to replenish inventory sent to Kyiv, the department will have

last week, Air Force Maj. to "rigorously assess" any future aid and its implications on the U.S. military's ability to protect America, Garn said.

paper noted.

skills and impulse inhibition."

"School-aged children and teenag-

ers may be able to recognize adver-

tising but often are not able to resist

it when it is embedded within trust-

ed social networks, encouraged by

celebrity influencers, or delivered

next to personalized content," the

and children's mental health grow, the

Federal Trade Commission earlier this

month proposed sweeping changes to

a decades-old law that regulates how

online companies can track and adver-

tise to children. The proposed changes

include turning off targeted ads to kids

vear.

Gen. Pat Ryder noted the

recent letter that the Defense

Department comptroller

sent to Congress warning

that the U.S. will be using

up the last of its replenish-

ment funds by the end of the

obligated, we will have

exhausted the funding avail-

able for us to provide secu-

rity assistance to Ukraine."

said Ryder, the Pentagon

press secretary. "We would,

again, continue to urge the

passage of the supplemental

that we've submitted. ... It is

imperative that we have the

funds needed to ensure that

"Once those funds are

As concerns about social media

This is the 54th tranche of military aid taken from department shelves and sent to Ukraine, and it is similar in size and contents to many of the other recent packages.

U.S. defense and government leaders have argued that the weapons are critical for Ukraine to maintain its defense and continue efforts to mount an offensive against Russian forces during the winter months.

In a Pentagon briefing

because of immature critical thinking notifications.

YouTube derived the greatest ad revenue from users 12 and under (\$959.1 million), followed by Instagram (\$801.1 million) and Facebook (\$137.2 million).

Instagram, meanwhile, derived the greatest ad revenue from users aged 13-17 (\$4 billion), followed by TikTok (\$2 billion) and YouTube (\$1.2 billion).

The researchers also estimate that Snapchat derived the greatest share of its overall 2022 ad revenue from users under 18 (41 percent), followed by TikTok (35 percent), YouTube (27 percent), and Instagram (16 percent).

require."

the persuasive effects of advertising under 13 by default and limiting push

According to the Harvard study,

they get the most urgent bat-

tlefield capabilities that they

age comes as the war in

Ukraine drags on into its

22nd month. Russia fired

almost 50 Shahed drones

at targets in Ukraine and

shelled a train station in

the southern city of Kher-

son where more than 100

civilians were gathered to

catch a train to Kyiv. And a

day earlier, Ukrainian war-

planes damaged a Russian

ship moored in the Black

Sea off Crimea as soldiers

on both sides are struggling

to make much progress

along the front lines.

The latest aid pack-

Weather

Thursday, December 28, 2023 (24-hour observations at 9:51 p.m. Wednesday) High: 47; Low: 30; Precipitation: None Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.32 feet at 9:45 p.m. Wednesday

Wells County forecast

Tonight: A 30 percent chance of rain, mainly before 10 a.m. Patchy fog before 11 a.m. Otherwise, cloudy, with a high near 44. North wind around 5 mph becoming west in the afternoon.

Thursday Night: A slight chance of rain before 4 a.m., then a slight chance of rain and snow between 4 a.m. and 5 a.m., then a slight chance of snow after 5 a.m. Cloudy, with a low around 32. South wind 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Friday: A slight chance of snow showers before 7 a.m., then a slight chance of rain and snow showers between 7 a.m. and 10 a.m., then a chance of rain showers after 10 a.m. Most-



ly cloudy, with a high near 40. South wind 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

Friday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers before 1 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 31. West wind around 10 mph.

Saturday: Partly sunny, with a high near 42.

Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 29. Sunday: A 20 percent chance of snow showers after 1 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 39.

Sunday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 26. New Year's Day: Partly sunny, with a high near 35. Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 23. Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 39. Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 26. Wednesday: Partly sunny, with a high near 40.

Ossian cemetery

(Continued from Page 1)

The Heckber family, with the help of the community, have given countless hours of time, labor, and research in order to restore the once dilapidated cemetery.

The children at the ceremony led the Pledge of Allegiance, and the

National Anthem was sung by Megan and Jason Poeppel. Traditional military "Taps" were also performed.

An additional ceremony will take place at the cemetery, located at 310 Young St., in May.

sydney@news-banner.com

U.S., Mexico meeting

(Continued from Page 1)

patrol agents had to be reassigned to deal with the surge. Another non-rail border crossing remained closed in Lukeville, Arizona, and operations were partially suspended in San Diego and Nogales, Arizona.

The dismantling of the migrant encampment in Matamoros appeared to be a good-will gesture toward the United States. Migrants set up the encampment in late 2022. It once held as many as 1,500 migrants, but many tents were vacated in recent months as migrants waded across the river to reach the United States.

Segismundo Doguín, the head of the local office of Mexico's immigration agency, said, "What we are doing is removing any tents that we see are empty.'

But one Honduran migrant who would give only his first name, José, claimed some of the 200 remaining migrants had been practically forced to leave the camp late Tuesday.

"They ran us out," he said, saying grants were given short notice to move their tents and belongings out of the way and felt intimidated by the bulldozer moving through the tents. "You had to run for your life to avoid an accident." Mexico has assigned over 32,000 soldiers and National Guard troopers - about 11 percent of its total forces - to enforce immigration laws, and the National Guard now detains far more migrants than criminals.

6,000 migrants, many from Central America and Venezuela, from walking through Mexico's main inland immigration inspection point in southern Chiapas state near the Guatemala border.

In the past, Mexico has let such caravans go through, trusting that they would tire themselves out walking along the highway.

By Wednesday, Lazara Padrón Molina, 46, from Cuba was sick and exhausted. The caravan set out Dec. 24 from the city of Tapachula and had walked about 45 miles through the heat to Escuintla in southern Chiapas state.

"The route is too long to continue walking. Why don't they just give us documents so that we could get a bus or a taxi?" Padrón Molina said. "Look at my feet," she said, showing blisters. "I can't go on anymore."

But wearing the migrants out - by obliging Venezuelans and others to hike through the jungle-clad Darien Gap between Colombia and Panama or corralling migrants off passenger buses in Mexico – no longer appears to work.

shelter at a church, gathering strength before continuing north.

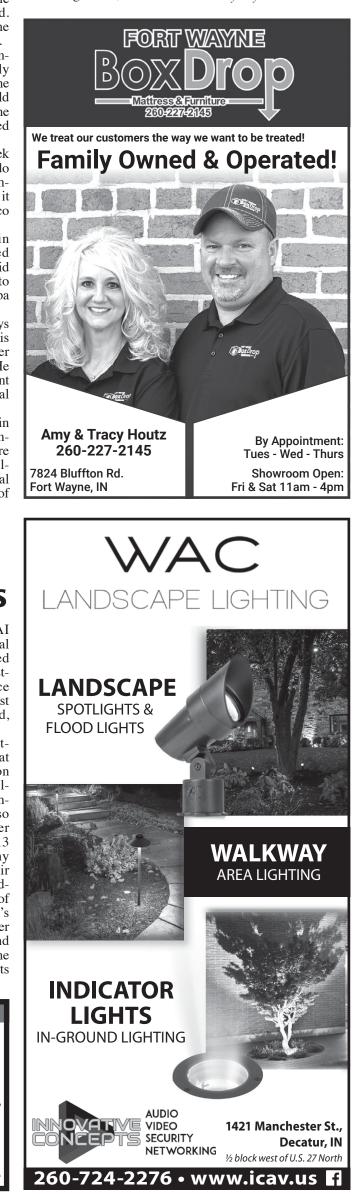
David Peña, his two daughters and his pregnant wife, Maryeris Zerpa, hoped to reach the United States before the child is born in about a month.

"The goal is to cross over so the baby will be born there," Peña said. But with no asylum appointment, he had no idea how the family will enter.

The U.S. has shown that one country's problems on the border quickly become both countries' problems. The Texas railway closures put a chokehold on freight moving from Mexico to the U.S. as well as grain needed to feed Mexican livestock moving south.

López Obrador confirmed last week that U.S. officials want Mexico to do more to block migrants at its southern border with Guatemala, or make it more difficult to move across Mexico by train or in trucks or buses.

But the president said that in exchange he wanted the United States to send more development aid to migrants' home countries and to duce or eliminate sanctions on Cuba and Venezuela.



But the shortcomings of Mexico's effort were on display Tuesday, when National Guard members made no attempt to stop a caravan of about

So many migrants have been hopping freight trains through Mexico that one of the country's two major railroad companies suspended trains in September because of safety concerns. Police raids to pull migrants off railway cars — the kind of action Mexico took a decade ago - might be one thing the American delegation would like to see.

A few blocks from Mexico City's main plaza, where Blinken met with López Obrador at the National Palace, migrants stayed at an improvised

'We are going to help, as we always do," López Obrador said. "Mexico is helping reach agreements with other countries, in this case Venezuela." He said Mexico has proposed to President Joe Biden that a U.S.-Cuba bilateral dialogue be opened.

In May, Mexico agreed to take in migrants from countries such as Venezuela, Nicaragua and Cuba who are turned away by the U.S. for not following rules that provided new legal pathways to asylum and other forms of migration.

The New York Times sues OpenAl and Microsoft for using its stories to train chatbots

NEW YORK (AP) -The New York Times is striking back against the threat that artificial intelligence poses to the news industry, filing a federal lawsuit Wednesday against OpenAI and Microsoft seeking to end the practice of using its stories to train chatbots.

The Times says the companies are threatening its livelihood by effectively stealing billions of dollars worth of work by its journalists, in some cases spitting out Times' material verbatim to people who seek answers from generative artificial intelligence like OpenAI's ChatGPT. The newspaper's lawsuit was filed in federal court in Manhattan and follows what appears to be a breakdown in talks between the newspaper and the two companies, which began in April.

The media has already been pummeled by a migration of readers to online platforms. While many publications - most notably the Times - have successfully carved out a digital space, the rapid development of AI threatens to significantly upend the publishing industry.

Web traffic is an important component of the paper's advertising revenue and helps drive subscriptions to its online site. But the outputs from AI chatbots divert that traffic away from the paper and other copyright holders, the Times says, making it less likely that users will visit the original source for the information.

"These bots compete with the content they are trained on," said Ian B. Crosby, partner and lead counsel at Susman Godfrey, which is representing The Times.

An OpenAI spokesperson said in a prepared statement that the company respects the rights of content creators and is "committed" to working with them to help them benefit from the technology and new revenue models.

Our ongoing conversations with the New York Times have been productive and moving forward constructively, so we are surprised and disappointed with this development," the spokesperson said. "We're hopeful that we will find a mutually beneficial way to work together, as we are doing with many other pub-

lishers."

Microsoft did not respond to requests for comment.

Artificial intelligence companies scrape information available online, including articles published by news organizations, to train generative AI chatbots. The large language models are also trained on a huge trove of other human-written materials, which helps them to build a strong command of language and grammar and to answer questions correctly.

But the technology is still under development and gets many things wrong. In its lawsuit, for example, the Times said OpenAI's GPT-4 falsely attributed product recommendations to Wirecutter, the paper's product reviews site, endangering its reputation.

OpenAI and other AI companies, including rival Anthropic, have attracted billions of dollars in investments very rapidly since public and business interest in the technology exploded, particularly this year.

Microsoft has a partnership with OpenAI that allows it to capitalize on the company's AI technology. The Redmond, Washington, tech giant is also OpenAI's biggest backer and has invested at least \$13 billion into the company since the two began their partnership in 2019, according to the lawsuit. As part of the agreement, Microsoft's supercomputers help power OpenAI's AI research and the tech giant integrates the startup's technology into its products.



LOCAL/AREA

OBITUARIES

Joy L. Cash, 63

Joy L. Cash, 63, passed away unexpectedly Saturday evening, Dec. 23, 2023, at her residence in Bluffton.

Joy was born Sept. 30, 1960, in Cincinnati, Ohio to Rev. Ed Johnson and Judy Anne (Tucker) Bradenton, Fla., both parents survive. Joy married Lonnie J. Cash in Bluffton on June 16, 1979, he survives in Bluffton.

She graduated with a Masters degree in Ministry Leader-

ship from Indiana Wesleyan University. Joy worked as a Hospice Chaplin with Heartland Hospice, former Hospice Chaplin coordinator at Stillwater Hospice and Ordained Worship Arts Pastor at Life Commu-nity Church in Bluffton. She attended Park Community Church. Joy was a director with Bluffton/Wells County Community Theater. Joy enjoyed spending time with her grandbabies, spending time at the beach, traveling with Lonnie on motorcycle trips, singing and loved socializing and being around people.

In addition to her husband and parents, she is survived by a daughter, Jeni Cash of Wales, UK; two sons, Josh (Emily) Cash of Warsaw, and Joel (Sandra) Cash of West Lafayette, Ind.; and a sister, Lisa (Denny) Cochran of Yorktown, Ind.; five grandbabies; Carter, Phoenix, Hudson, Jericho and Cooper Cash; and her mother-inlaw, Verma E. Cash of Portland.

Visitation will be held Friday, Dec. 29, 2023, from 2:00 until 7:00 p.m. at the Goodwin – Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton. A Celebration of Life service will be held Saturday, Dec. 30, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. at Life Community Church in the Gymnasium located at 428 South Oak Street, Bluffton, all attendees are asked to enter the main door #2 Oak Street entrance. Pastor Dennis Wood will officiate.

Memorials in Joy's memory can be made to the donor's "Local Ministry of Choice".

Online condolences can be made at www. goodwincaleharnish.com

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Goodwin - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel, Bluffton, IN.

Erin L. Pennington, 45

Erin L. Pennington, 45, of Linn Grove, passed away Tuesday evening, Dec. 26, 2023, surrounded by her family.

She was born March 1, 1978, in Fort Wayne to Leonard and Arlene (Leininger) Gallmeyer. A 1997 graduate of Norwell High School, Erin has worked at F.C.C. – Adams for the last 10 years.

Erin loved spending time with her family. She has always had a love for fishing and camping and

enjoyed collecting rocks. She would always make it a point to bring home a rock from every vacation or fishing trip!

On July 11, 2015, Erin and Jim Pennington were married at Ouabache State Park in Bluffton. He preceded her in death Aug. 5, 2019.

Survivors include her parents, Leonard and Arlene Gallmeyer of Roanoke; along with a daughter, Raven Ford of Linn Grove; and bonus children, Taya Pennington, Casey (John) Smith, Jimmy Pennington, Jr., Zach Pennington, Taylea (Rodney) McKean, Austin Pennington, Madison Pennington, Miles Ford, and Marcus Ford. She is also survived by a sister, Esther (Bruce) Smith of New Haven; and a niece, Madalyn Smith and companion, Tim Geesaman of Linn Grove.

Erin is preceded in death by her husband Jim and a bonus child, Taren Bauman.

Visitation will be held from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 29, 2023, at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton and for one hour prior to the service.

Funeral Services will take place at 1 p.m. Saturday,

detained.

disturbance.

for subject.

Walmart. Report of forbidden semi truck parking.

Wednesday, 10:41 a.m., Walmart. Report of an active theft.

County:

Police Notebook

Citv:

Sunday, 12:20 p.m., 2100

North Main St. Susan Gil-

bert was backing her Chev-

rolet Impala when she col-

lided with a parked Dodge

Grand caravan owned by

Tamera Mink. Damages did

124 and mile marker 282.9.

Madison Buckland was driv-

ing straight when her Ford

Escape struck the rear end of

Timothy Gregg's Jeep Patri-

ot, which was slowed in traf-

fic. Damages did not exceed

North Main Street. Michael

Michel advised he was turn-

ing left from the parking lot

Friday, 1:53 p.m., 941

Friday, 1:24 p.m., Ind.

not exceed \$2,500.

\$5,000.

INCIDENTS

City:

Tuesday, 5:52 p.m., Pine Grove Apartments. Welfare check requested for resident with door open. Subject was fine.

Tuesday, 6:16 p.m., Valley Park Apartments. Report of subject possibly dealing drugs. One subject

block of West Central Avenue. Report of a domestic

block of Creek Drive. Caller requested trespass warning

Wednesday, 6:59 a.m.,

Tuesday, 1:54 p.m., 1000 Ossian. Caller reported truck right. He backed his Chevro-North 300 West, Markle. driving recklessly. Driver Report of threatening text arrested for DUI. ACCIDENTS messages.

Tuesday, 3:11 p.m., 3900 South 400 West, Liberty Center. Report of an a rollover car accident with one vehicle, no injuries.

Tuesday, 4:55 p.m., 6300 South 200 East, Bluffton. Report of subject possibly spray painting road to slander the caller.

Tuesday, 6:08 p.m., 4800 East 300 North, Craigville. Caller requested trespass warning for subject. Instructed to follow process of eviction.

Ossian:

Tuesday, 11:34 p.m., 3700 East 1200 North,

Ossian. Report of a civil dispute. Wednesday, 12:02 a.m., Ind. 1 and East 1200 North, and changed his mind to turn

Pictured in the photo is Lane Sander with Renovate Counseling Services cutting the ribbon. (Photo submitted)

Renovate Counseling Services celebrates expansion

The Wells County Chamber of Commerce proudly announces that Renovate Counseling Ser-During Hours and Ribbon vate Counseling Services, founded by Lane Sander the past seven years and is marking this milestone

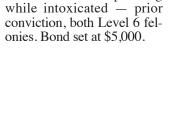
The groundbreaking for

ing a facility someday. As I was working at the church, I figured I would see a few people on Friday's and help some folks here in our community and see where it would go. Seven years ago, we opened our doors." The growth has been phenomenal, leading to the need for additional space and resources.

The newly expanded facility in Bluffton now spans 3700 square feet, boasting 17 offices to accommodate the increased demand for counseling services. Currently, Renovate Counseling Services employs 20 therapists across their Bluffton and Huntington locations, with plans for further expansion to Decatur by April 2024. The

stigma continues to be removed from the mental health side of things, people are willing to ask for help and take the steps forward seeking guidance." Renovate Counseling Services takes pride in offering an unbiased approach to helping individuals navigate life's

challenges. The organization is actively hiring to meet the growing demand for its services, with plans to add at least five to ten therapists and additional office staff in the coming year. Sander attributes the success and growth of Renovate Counseling Services to its dedicated team of therapists and



let Silverado into a Chevro-

let Equinox driven by Shelly Lehman. Damages did not exceed \$5,000.

ARRESTS

Portland, child molesting,

a Level 1 felony. No bond

39, Bluffton, dealing meth-

amphetamine, a Level 2

felony, possession of meth-

amphetamine, a Level 4

felony, dealing cocaine and

possession of cocaine, both

Level 5 felonies, and pos-

session of cocaine or nar-

cotic drug, a Level 6 felony.

23, Dunafee, operating while

intoxicated and operating

Randol Cole Mckenzie,

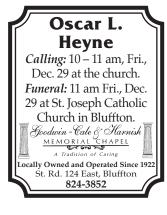
No bond set.

Joshua Craig Causey, 33,

Latonya Sue Caldwell,

talented office staff. For more informa-

tion about Renovate Counseling Services and their expanding services, please visit their website at www.renovatecounseling.org.







vices hosted a Business Cutting Celebration for the unveiling of their newly expanded facility. Renoin 2016, has experienced remarkable growth over

with a significant expan-

the expansion project, which added an impressive 1200 square feet to their facility, took place in May of 2023. Renovate Counseling Services, known for its commitment to providing highquality mental health counseling services, is situated at 105 West Cherry Street in Bluffton.

Lane Sander, the owner f Renovate Counseling Services, shared the journey of the organization, stating, "I had a dream of open-

Tuesday, 8:07 p.m., 1000

Tuesday, 9:47 p.m., 800

.30, 2023, at the funeral home with burial following at Stahl Cemetery in Bluffton.

Memorials may be made in Erin's memory to the Wells County Food Bank or to help the family at this time

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

Iris A. Stultz, 86

Iris A. Stultz, 86, died Wednesday morning, Dec. 27, 2023, at Ossian Healthcare and Rehabilitation.

Funeral arrangements are pending at this time with Goodwin – Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel 3220 East SE 124 Bluffton, IN.

Obituary Policy

The News-Banner and Ossian Journal publishes "basic" obituaries free of charge for "local" deaths. "Basic" obituaries will include the deceased's name, age, community of record, date and place of death, basic genealogical information, the date, time and location of calling hours and services and the name of the funeral home handling arrangements.

If additional information and/or a photo is desired to be included, or if the deceased does not meet the definitions of a "local" person, there is a charge

Area funeral homes will provide details on the policy and will coordinate obituary publication.

Trapped in his crashed truck, Indiana man is rescued after 6 days surviving on rainwater

PORTAGE, Ind. (AP) -A 27-year-old man survived for six days on only rainwater while pinned tightly inside his crashed pickup truck beneath a highway bridge in northwest Indiana, police said.

His ordeal ended when two men scouting for fishing spots Tuesday afternoon noticed the badly damaged vehicle, its white airbag deployed, and reached inside.

"They touched the body, and the person turned their head and started talking to them. So, that got a little rise out of them," Sgt. Glen Fifield of the Indiana State Police told local news outlets

The truck went off Interstate 94 ahead of a bridge over Salt Creek, missing the guardrail and likely rolling several times before landing on the other side of the creek, hidden out of sight from the road above, Fifield said at a news conference.

Mishawaka, Indiana, was freed from the wreckage Tuesday evening by first responders working under bright floodlights, then airlifted to a hospital in South Bend with life-threatening injuries, Fifield said.

"He made it through the night. He is alive," Fifield told The Associated Press. He said Reum remained in critical condition Wednesday morning.

South Bend Memorial Hospital released a statement on Reum's behalf thanking people for their support and well wishes, "including the good Samaritans who found him, the first responders and his caregivers."

"No matter how tough things get, there is a light at the end of the tunnel, sometimes in the least expected way," Reum said in the statement.

Mario Garcia, one of the fishermen who found

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK! www.news-banner.com or www.facebook.com/news-banner

Matthew R. Reum, of the wreck, said Reum was awake and "very happy to see us," after being exposed to the elements since Dec. 20.

> "It almost killed me there, because it was so shocking" to find him alive, Garcia said during a Tuesday news conference in the nearby city of Portage, The Times of Northwest Indiana reported.

> Garcia, of Hobart, said Reum told them he had screamed and yelled for help but only heard the 'quiet sound of water."

> Reum told them his cell phone had fallen out of reach and his body was trapped, preventing him from calling for aid.

> Fifield said Reum hadn't been reported missing. He said Reum drank rainwater to survive his ordeal.

"Had it not been for the two individuals that were walking the creek this afternoon, this incident more than likely would have had a different outcome,'

In the 1882 Building at Main & Market with the mural on the outside wall • 260-824-1618

OPINION

Here's a taste for hope in 2024

The first Advent candle is called the candle of hope, the hope of the faithful that God will fulfill His promises. Hope is also a theme for the new year, at least for those who make a list of New Year's resolutions with the expectation (read: hope) that they will conform to them for 366 days.

Maybe hope is what America needs now more than ever. Thirty minutes or less of watching cable news will challenge even the most optimistic among us. We are a nation at war with

itself; we obsess with any differences we can assert against "them."

It is hard to be an optimist these days. I avoid slipping into total pessimism by detouring into

skepticism, a belief system for me that expects bad but still hopes for good. I have to be careful, though; full cynicism is at the door awaiting its chance.

Is it reasonable to hold out hope that A.D. 2024 will be better than 2023? My discussion group talked this through at our December meeting. Even though America is bent on descending into woke hell, this group of conservatives still found reasons for hope.

Yes, we did spend some time bemoaning the state of affairs but our Socratic methodology, mildly enforced, led us to list what we thought were the reasons for our malaise. Only after clearly delineating with specificity could we see our way forward to a handful of changes we could make. Our ideas are ambitious but achievable . . . if we make the effort.

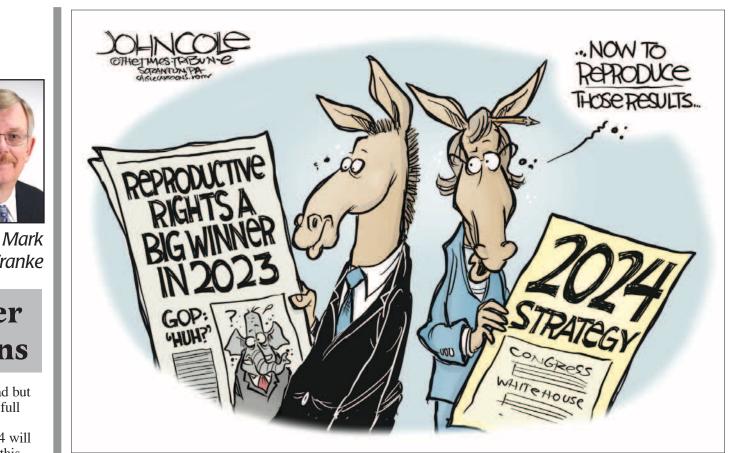
We decided the key to our solutions is to restore those American institutions which have declined due to conscious assaults by those who despise western civilization. Here is our list, ordered by organic level: the family, the neighborhood, religious and civic organizations and the larger community.

Even though I remember little from my high school biology, I can see a structural metaphor from that discipline. The atom is the most basic building block, followed by the molecule, then the cell and finally the organism. Simplistic, I admit, but I was never very good at science. The point is that one must care for the most elemental building blocks for the structure to remain strong.

No doubt that is why the family, the atom in my metaphor, has been subjected to such vicious attacks by those determined to recreate American society the image of their nihilistic philosophy. I don't need to rehearse the data about the number of children born out of wedlock, raised by a single parent or perhaps neither, and consigned to a life of poverty and little opportunity. Just compare outcomes of children raised in traditional, twoparent families. The data leave no room for intelligent debate.

Next, consider the neighborhood. One of our group commented that a drive down a residential street will find all garage doors closed. No one is sitting outside welcoming neighbors to stop to talk. Kids are not playing in back yards because they are inside playing video games. Good luck finding multi-family barbeques on Saturday evening. Granted, these are exaggerations but the thesis holds.

Now look at the status of our social institutions. One of our group reported that in my hometown of Fort Wayne weekly church attendance had dropped from 50 percent to nearly 10 percent. How active is your local Kiwanis or Lions club? Is the local school's PTA meetings well attended? You know the answers as well as I.



Having lost their flexibility, pro-lifers are losing their cause

The end of the year is a time to reflect on one's mistakes, including, for a columnist, the arguments you got wrong. I am ruminating on my utter misreading of the politics of a post-Roe world.

"The left is counting on an abortion backlash that may never come," I wrote in May 2022, after Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr.'s draft decision overturning Roe leaked to Politico. Polling suggested that most people were in what I once dubbed "the Muddle" — favoring neither total bans nor unfettered abortion access, and often conflicted about what should happen between the two poles.

Of course, hardcore minorities at either end of the spectrum had clear, strong preferences, but those people were already active voters, I pointed out, already strongly committed to one party or the other. The rest of the public cared, but not necessarily strongly enough to affect their voting behavior. As abortion law in every state settled down to something close to the median of public opinion, I thought the issue would probably cease to exert much political force.

I won't say this is the wrongest I have ever been; that would be ridiculous, given that I supported the Iraq War, and thought the collapse of Lehman Brothers would instill a bracing sense of moral responsibility in the financial sector. But I have not been this wrong since I decided in 2016 to go on holiday after the election, because I thought there would be little worth covering in Hillary Clinton's presidential transition.

Pro-lifers have been losing abortion referendums even in deep-red states, and abortion seems to have resulted in Republicans losing other elections, too. If you are a local Democratic official in a state that allows initiatives or referendums and you are not doing your best to put abortion somewhere on the 2024 ballot, then you are committing political malpractice.

So how did I get this one so wrong? Introspection suggests four reasons:

First, I was right that voter intensity on this issue mattered — but wrong about the distribution of intensity. A lot of people for whom this was a low priority as long as Roe was the law of the land apparently became a lot more intense once Roe fell — almost all of them on the pro-choice side. Relatedly, I suspect I underestimated how many people were giving pollsters symbolic answers, safe in the knowledge that Roe v. Wade made them moot. In abstract, many people were against abortion in all but the most sympathetic cases. But though they might not have admitted it to themselves, I'd bet that many of them also liked knowing women had the option — if not for themselves, than for their wives, daughters, sisters or girlfriends. When politicians threatened to take that option away, they voted pragmatically.

Third, I failed to understand just how badly legislators had drafted many of the "trigger laws" that banned abortion as soon as Roe fell. Operating under the shelter of Roe, politicians had also been thinking symbolically, giving pro-life groups ultra-strict laws that couldn't command support among even a majority of Republicans, with little concern for the practical details of carrying out those laws. The result has been a parade of horrifying stories as doctors refused to provide abortions to a 10-year-old rape victim, and to

adult women whose very-much-wanted pregnancies had gone horribly wrong. Which brings me to the fourth reason my prognostication failed: I underestimated how tactically inflex-

ible the pro-life movement would be. As a member of the Muddle, I'm sympathetic to those who feel that every life is sacred and must be protected at all costs. But this feeling has made prolifers obsessed with ensuring that no doctor ever performs a single unnecessary abortion. Unfortunately, the law is too blunt an instrument for such surgical precision. If you really want to make sure that no unwarranted abortion is performed, you will be forced to bar a lot of needed medical care.

Tell doctors they face severe sanction for any abortion deemed less than perfectly necessary, and they will respond by refusing to do abortions in all but the clearest cases — which means forcing a lot of grieving women to carry nonviable pregnancies to term, possibly impairing their future fertility. Even if you can justify this policy morally, it cannot be justified politically; the personal tragedies will only turn the public against your cause.

This has surprised me more than anything, because pro-life activists used to be good at picking strategic battles, at focusing on popular issues where they could win, such as parental consent or bans on particularly gruesome procedures. If they truly want to reduce the numbers of abortions, they'll need to return to those strategic roots. Otherwise — if I dare make another prediction — they will end up where I am now: watching pro-choice initiatives win in state after state, and wondering how they got it so wrong.



Megan McCardle



It is no wonder that our communities are wracked with rancorous divisions. How can a community be healthy if its structure is rotting? Perhaps we should spend less time worrying about elections and focus that time on repairing those things closest to us.

One member suggested something so simple that, if I were in a cartoon, a light bulb would have appeared over my head. He asked what is the common denominator among all of us, regardless of status or background?

Gathering together over food.

Even in the most dysfunctional families, they still eat. Social time with neighbors is enhanced by sharing a meal. Church potlucks are as American as baseball, and the service clubs meet around breakfast or lunch. We have to eat; why not make it a communal activity?

Bringing people together will strengthen the family, the neighborhood and our civic institutions. If that happens, how can our communities not recover as well?

Before I am accused of being a Pollyanna, I don't expect peace on earth and goodwill to men to prevail in 2024. But, if we can all make the effort to spend more time with our families, our neighbors and others of our acquaintance, how can things not improve?

Plus we all get to eat more while socializing with those we most treasure.

How can that be a bad thing? Happy New Year!

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

Submit your Letters to the Editor via: • Our website link (Submit your Letter) • E-Mail: email@news-banner. com • Fax: (260) 824-0700 • Mail: PO Box 436, Bluffton IN 46714 • Drop-off: 125 N. Johnson St., Bluffton. All letters must be signed and must include a phone number or address in case verification is desired. Letters are edited for brevity and clarity. Letters must be no more than 500 words.

The News-Banner

(USPS 059-200)

Evening News est. 1892 • Evening Banner est. 1899 • Consolidated 1929

News-Banner Publications, Inc.

George B. Witwer, Chairman of the Board Doug Brown, President, Publisher Dianne Witwer, Secretary/Treasurer

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

Holly Gaskill, Editor Mark Miller, Opinion Page Editor Follow Megan McArdle @asymmetricinfo on X

Angelkeep's top-five of 2023 Hia annutheir ng" in the up to New lews Ban-Mangelkeep Journals

Every media annually published their "top-something" in the days leading up to New Year's Eve. News Banner's award-winning staff

voted on stories to make the Banner's official selections. In getting in the spirit of ringing out the old, Angel-keep, being just one of many columns published in the Banner, decided to go smaller. Thus flowed the rationale behind the decision of selecting Angelkeep's "top-five" of 2023.

Picking a top-five proved easy enough. Ranking them against each other became impossible. After moving into a third year of research writing about Bluffton's world-famous dragonfly mastermind, E. B. Williamson, other critters outshined odonata features.

Two stories involved Angelpond inhabitants who breathed air but hunted food underwater. Angelkeep fell in love with a repetitively appearing hand-size painted turtle. Years ago one was spotted in the pond. Call it a heartwarming reunion. Macro turtle photos looked as delicious as a Turtles Caramel Pecan Cluster. Those were drooled over in a Bluffton's Murphy's Five and Dime candy case. A painted turtle was never caught nor boiled as a dining entrée.

One comparable critter came as a complete surprise to Angelkeep. Who knew prior to 2023 that a water fishing spider could walk on water, stand suspended over the crest, and when a fish larger than the spider itself swam by, the spider could dive and outswim a fish, capture it, and end up with a sushi meal? And who knew ahead of Angelkeep's discovery that a spider could hold bubbles of air with its legs and use them while swimming underwater in a manner akin to scuba divers of the human species variety?

Angelkeep was blown away, being a non-swimmer, as well as proven to have been outfished at Angelpond by a spider. Three addition-

al featured animals

were birds, noting Angelkeep's topfive were all fauna. Ranking proved unimportant as each shined in its own particular mode. A one-time-only visit of a great egret to Angelkeep appeared as though an avian angel had landed on the shores of Angelpond. At first the thought developed that it might be an albino great blue heron. Dozens of photos documented it.

The great egret displayed extremely long-flowing, wispily, mesmerizing feathers which nature designed specifically to attract a mate for a desired amorous encounter. It worked. Angelkeep fell passionately in love with this amazing white bird with coal black legs. It stayed about half a day, but it could not be left out of the top-five animal love affairs that occurred in 2023. Gwen love it too. The white egret love bird dressed in mating plumage, was loved by the two Angelkeep "love birds" watching from the very living room in which the humans married twenty-two years prior. How rare was the angelic great egret? Only one or two photos of a white egret in its mate-attracting plumage were located on the internet. The rare siting, a truly a unique gift in white, descended from the heavens for a lovely encounter.

As exciting as an angel-like bird

was a juvenile red-tailed hawk that first appeared on Angelpond's far shore. It decided to encounter humans and flew directly toward the house. Shortening the story from the earlier column, it remained for a couple of hours. It strutted the patio with only a screen door's separation. It watched us as interestingly as it received observation. Its closeness became the photo-op of a lifetime for a wild hawk not held in captivity. Few internet images compared to it. It was in its juvenile stage, strikingly different in a better way than what it would become as an adult red-tailed hawk. It perched among patio whiskey barrels filled with blooming color as though it desired to be on the cover of Birds and Bloom, or perhaps highlighted by Outdoor Indiana, Indiana DNR's publication.

Among the top-five came the ugliest bird of Angelkeep. Turkey buzzards accepted the task of cleaning up a rail collision left behind by Norfolk Southern. Deaths of three Angelkeep visiting deer, and the natural order of nature, became an extended lesson visually displayed in real time. Through that deer and locomotive mishap time, a 1907 story was discovered about Bluffton's Buzzard Lodge enjoying a New Year's Eve meal consisting of rabbit. Interurban engineers secured the main course through a clever method of enticing engine and bunny collisions using the train's whistle as rabbit suicide encouragement. Three toots caused bunnies on the track to freeze and stare at the oncoming lights.

Happy New Year to all from Angelkeep's Gwen and Alan.

May God's blessings pour throughout 2024.

Mr. Daugherty is a Wells County resident who, along with his wife Gwen, enjoy their backyard and have named it "Angelkeep."



Daugherty

Epsilon Zeta Chapter donates to local non-profits



Above left, the Epsilon Zeta Chapter donated paper products to Grace & Mercy Transitional Home. Above right, Jayde Brumbaugh from Sigma Phi Gamma Sorority presents a \$600 check to Yehoshua's Neil Ainsle to assist with the men's homeless shelter. The donation was the result of Epsilon Zeta Chapter's black raspberry pie sales. At left, a \$100 Pizza Hut gift card and gifts for the clients were donated from the Epsilon Zeta Chapter to Hanna's House. (Photos provided)





1,000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN



Several children recently completed the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Program at the Wells County Public Library by reading and listening to 1,000 books with the help of family members.

At left, Finn Bricker (holding his prize book "Baby Pets") is pictured with his mom, Jessica.



At right, Mateo Orozco is pictured with his parents Hugo Orozco and Karen Resendiz. He chose the book "The Twelve Days of Christmas in Indiana" as his prize book.

Preventing Alzheimer's through diet – one bite at a time *Also: ease osteoarthritis pain*

Question: My father (at age 78) and my aunt (at age 82) both developed Alzheimer's. I'm scared that I will too. Is there anything I can do to protect myself? — Felicia D., Coral Gables, Florida

Answer: Although there is some indication that the risk of developing Alzheimer's disease may have a genetic component, there is overwhelming evidence that it is often related to lifestyle choices — especially dietary choices. Now a study published in the Journal of Alzheimer's Disease reveals the particular culprits in a diet — and how they contribute to the cognitive decline of AD.

The researchers focus on the damage done by higher consumption of saturated fats in red and processed meats (especially hot dogs, hamburgers and barbeque) and ultraprocessed foods that are loaded with sugar and refined grains (snacks, breads, sugared beverages).

Meats, and other sources of saturated fats like whole dairy, boost the risk of AD because they cause inflammation and are associated with insulin resistance and oxidative stress (rusting out your innards). Ultra-processed foods are a risk factor because they boost your chances of developing obesity and diabetes, and fuel inflammation which additionally amplifies your risk for AD. In addition, red meats and sugary foods amp up your body's production of advanced glycation end products. That can lead to brain inflammation associated with AD and increase your risk for cardiovascular disease and renal failure.

The research also pinpoints foods that can protect you from AD (they can even modify genetic risk): green leafy vegetables, fruits and vegetables (especially colorful ones), legumes and beans, nuts (walnuts are numero uno), omega-3 fatty acids (salmon and sea trout deliver), and whole grains.

In addition, stress reduction, regular physical activity (they both reduce inflammation), and keeping your brain sharp with games and ongoing learning can protect you from cognitive decline. LongevityPlaybook.com presents 40 choices that have been shown in at least two studies each to help keep your brain functioning as if you were younger.

* * *

Question: I'm developing osteoarthritis in my hands, feet and shoulders. What can I do to prevent it from getting worse? I don't want to have to stop exercising. — Harold R., Omaha, Nebraska

Answer: Keep on keeping on! Johns Hopkins Arthritis Center says regular

Entertainment at Muncie's Emens Auditorium

Emens Auditorium on the campus of Ball State University in Muncie, offers entertainment for the public to enjoy.

Emens located on Riverside Ave. and seats 3,309 and host a variety of performing arts events through-

The Cher Show (a new musical): Jan. 23, 7:30 p.m. Featuring six decades of her music. Tickets \$34 to \$50.

Auditorium

Hairspray: Feb. 6, 7:30 p.m. Presented by a touring company. Tickets \$39 to



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

physical activity can "keep muscles around affected joints strong, decrease bone loss and may help control joint swelling and pain." It also helps keep cartilage around your joints lubricated, reducing stiffness and pain.

There are also pain management techniques that may help you feel better as you continue to be physically active. According to the Cleveland Clinic's Holistic Pain Management Program, acupuncture, physical therapy, yoga and improved nutrition (avoiding inflammatory red meats and ultraprocessed foods) may provide relief. One caveat: Relief from acupuncture may be more from the placebo effect than from any specific benefit of needling. But hey, if it makes pain lessen, that's a good thing, since there is no downside. And a supplement that has gained popularity in Europe stops or decreases osteoarthritis progression. It is called avocado-soybean unsappontafiable in the U.S. (Priscoline in Europe). Show your practitioner the research on it from the library at LongevityPlaybook.com and discuss if it is right for you.

More good news: There's been a breakthrough in understanding what causes osteoarthritis and a possible treatment that does more than ease symptoms (or replace worn out joints). Researchers at the University of Adelaide in Australia, experimenting on mice, have found a way to regenerate cartilage and reduce osteoarthritis (or prevent it). It's done by blocking certain stem cells that are responsible for progression of osteoarthritis by using what is called fibroblast growth factor 18 to stimulate the proliferation of a gene called Gremlin 1 (that's really its name) in joint cartilage.

So while we are waiting to see how this works in ongoing clinical trials on humans, embrace the very beneficial self-help techniques you can use to slow progression, ease pain and stay active.

> the Sounds of Zamar: Feb. v 16, 7 p.m. Featuring Gospel music. Free but ticket r required.

Johnny Cash—the official concert experience: March 15, 7:30 p.m. Music of the man in black with videos in the background



At left, Maverick Sander (holding his prize book "There's Nothing to Do") is pictured with his parents, Lane and Jennifer, and siblings, Auden, Winston, and Valor.

The 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program is sponsored by the United Way of Wells County, the Wells County Foundation, and the Friends of the Library. The program not only helps prepare children for school, but instills the value of reading and life-long learning. For more information visit the Wells County Public Library's website at www. wellscolibrary.org and click on the "Children" section.

Area Things to See and Do

ALL FOR ONE PRODUCTIONS, FORT WAYNE www.allforonefw.org ALLEN COUNTY WAR MEMORIAL COL-ISEUM www.memorialcoliseum. com ARENA DINNER THEATER, FORT WAYNE "*LMNOP," Jan. 19-28; "Funny Money," March 1-16; "A Delightful Quarantine," April 19-May 4; "The Drowsy Chaperone," June 14-29. www.arenadinnertheatre.org

CLYDE THEATRE, FORT WAYNE Tribute to Elton John/Billy Joel; Debutants & Friends: Jan. 20; Foy Vance, Jan 28. ClydeTheatre.com or at 1-800-514-3849.

EMBASSY THEATER, FORT WAYNE

"Napoleon Dynamite Live!," Jan. 18; Tim Allen: Ja. 26; Joy Koy cinmendy: Feb. 4; http://fwembassytheatre.org/events





Tony is an eight-monthold, domestic short hair, black, neutered male.



Kiwi is an eight-month-old, domestic short hair, tiger striped, neutered male.

Tego's Tips: Thank you to everyone who brought gifts and gave donations for the animals at the Wells County Animal Shelter. They all got a toy and treats!

These are just a few pets available for adoption at the Wells County Animal Shelter, 1613 W. Cherry St., Bluffton. For more information call 824-6063.



Inky is an eight-month-old, domestic short hair, black, neutered male.



Trey McLaughlin & Tickets \$33 to \$43. out the season. Emens **Check out these** websites of local & area companies rec of and businesses. K(0)0) TOTOTIOOT. **GROWS HERE** ion.purdue.edu/wells SGARAGE DOOR SALES & SERVICE Daniel's ABOWERBEYOND Genesis Pest Services IEWELERS genesispestservices.com KEULKS oodwin - Cale & Harnish MEMORIAL CHAPEL A Traduion of Caring RIVERS COLLISION CENTER, INC mcfamily.com MOSER & SON Bluffton juek s erstone Heating & Air 224-0228 Conditioning Tire DENTAL ARAGE DOORS **StateFarm** Edward **Jones** Erin Daugherty UTOMOTIVE GROUP myblufftonsfagent.com Ja Fontaine Genter erry Flack &Associates HOMECOUR A RHF Community lafontainecenter.org homecourthomecare.com Thoma/Rich, Still Waters NBDigita Lemler Bi-County Services AMILY DENTISTRY **Funeral Home** bi-countyservices.com Have a Website? Tell the World! Ask for our latest Website visitor statistics! The power of print and the Internet, working for you! Call 824-0224 for more information.

Endangered Species Act turns 50, those who enforced it reflect

By TRAVIS LOLLER Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) -On Dec. 28, 1973, President Richard Nixon signed the Endangered Species Act. "Nothing," he said, "is more priceless and more worthy of preservation than the rich array of animal life with which our country has been blessed." The powerful new law charged the federal government with saving every endangered plant and animal in America and enjoyed nearly unanimous bipartisan support.

The Act was so sweeping that, in retrospect, it was bound to become controversial, especially since it allowed species to be listed as endangered without consideration for the economic consequences. In that way it pitted two American values against each other: the idea that Americans should preserve their incredible natural resources (the United States invented the national park, after all) and the notion that capitalism was king and private property inviolate.

Left to navigate this minefield was a group of young biologists in Washington - the first Office of Endangered Species.

THE SNAIL DARTER

Ichthyologist Jim Williams, the office's first "fish guy," was hired in 1974. He describes his cohort as "a bunch of conservation-minded biologists that were all on a mis-

sion to save every last one of our chosen group of organisms come hell or high water, and, by the way, to hell with the bureaucrats and politicians.'

His unconventional attitude and methods soon became apparent with the listing of the snail darter, a little fish now so notorious it has become synonymous with government overreach. At the time, it was only known to exist in the Little Tennessee River — which the Tennessee Valley Authority was planning to dam.

"I started talking about listing it, and boy, oh boy, did the crap hit the fan," Williams says.

His boss told him the listing was so controversial it might spell the end of the Endangered Species Act. It didn't. But the law would never again enjoy the support of its earliest days. Whether the government should try to save all species from extinction, or if not, where to draw the line, became a point of conflict that has never been fully resolved.

'SAVE KEN DODD AND RAT-**TLESNAKES'**

Herpetologist Ken Dodd was recruited to the office in 1976.

"There was not a whole lot of conservation theory at the time to draw on," he says. "So we were really at the cutting edge of determining what is necessary for conservation."

Like Williams, Dodd regularly butted heads with administrators. He also followed the science where it led without thought for whom it might inconvenience. But the thing that actually got him fired — in 1979 — was not a listing but a letter.

A man named Dominique D'Ermo owned a Washington restaurant that was serving rattlesnake meat he said came from Pennsylvania. That would have violated a law called the Lacey Act. "So I wrote to the restaurant and said, 'Hey, Dominique, I think you need to get a better source,"" Dodd says.

It turned out Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus was a patron. When he learned what Dodd had done, "He fired me."

Dodd obtained an attorney. Meanwhile, according to Williams, "We all went down to a T-shirt shop, got shirts that said 'Save Ken Dodd and Rattlesnakes'.'

The ensuing publicity made an impact. Soon, Dodd was back at work.

GRAY WOLF SEASON

Mammologist Ron Nowak joined the office in 1973. The animals he was responsible for were often furry and charismatic, but he still had problems with his listings.

In the 1980s the gray wolf was coming back in Minnesota from "just a tiny remnant of a couple

hundred animals to maybe several hundred or a thousand" thanks to the Endangered Species Act. Wildlife officials wanted to open a hunting season. That would require a regulation showing it would benefit the wolves and was the only way to control their population.

They told me, 'You have to write the regulation," Nowak says. "And I said, 'It would be illegal.""

Someone else wrote the regulation. Conservation groups sued, calling Nowak as a witness. The conservation groups won.

Nowak's success may have made him overconfident, he said, because he then sought outside help that forced the agency to move on a stalled listing for the Louisiana black bear, the inspiration for the original teddy bear. By late 1987, his unit had been "dismembered" and he was reassigned.

Today, Nowak has nothing but praise for his colleagues.

"They wanted to show a true reflection of that part of the natural world that was in danger of disappearing," he says. "You could go there at night or on weekends, and they'd be there, not for any extra pay, but just because they believed in it.

"And you could find them out in the field, sometimes, actually going to just try to look for these animals and plants. Really, I think it was a unique place — one that we may never see again."

CLÍMATE CHĂNGE AND THE CALIFORNIA CONDOR

LaVerne Smith was hired in 1978 as a botanist, but her title and duties shifted over a long career.

When Smith started, "The agency was just getting hiring people, getting staffed up, trying to figure out what to do with this amazing new piece of legislation," she says. One of the early decisions was

whether to bring the last of the critically endangered California condor s into captivity for breeding. It was controversial, but it worked.

"They're out sailing around the Grand Canyon. And I think anyone who's seen one — the day Isaw one sail over the Grand Canyon, I was like, 'Oh my God! That was all worth it."

Smith later transferred to Alaska, where she led the listing for the polar bear, the first animal to be listed as endangered because of climate change.

"That is a whole new era of challenge for the agency," she says. Smith calls it "terrifying" but tries to remain hopeful.

"People were very worried that we would never be able to do anything for the condor," she says. 'Certainly it still requires a lot of protection and a lot of help, but it's still out there."

Michigan Supreme Court will keep Trump on 2024 primary ballot

By COREY WILLIAMS and NICHOLAS RICCARDI **Associated Press**

Michigan's Supreme Court is keeping former President Donald Trump on the state's primary election ballot.

The court said Wednesday it will not hear an appeal of a lower court's ruling from groups seeking to keep Trump from appearing on the ballot.

It said in an order that the application by parties to appeal a Dec. 14 Michigan appeals court judgment was considered, but denied "because we are not persuaded that the questions presented should be reviewed by this court."

The ruling contrasts with Dec. 19 decision by a divided Colorado Supreme Court which found Trump ineligible to be president because of his role in Trump under Section 3 of the 14th

the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol. That ruling was the first time in history that Section 3 of the 14th Amendment has been used to disqualify a presidential candidate.

The Michigan and Colorado cases are among dozens hoping to keep Trump's name off state ballots. They all point to the so-called insurrection clause that prevents anyone from holding office who "engaged in insurrection or rebellion" against the Constitution. Until the Colorado ruling, all had failed.

The Colorado ruling is likely to be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, which has never ruled on the rarely used Civil War-era provision.

The plaintiffs in Michigan can technically try again to disqualify

Amendment in the general election, though it's likely there will be a U.S. Supreme Court ruling on the issue by then. The state's high court on Wednesday upheld an appeals court ruling that the Republican Party could place anyone it wants on the primary ballot. But the court was silent on whether Section 3 of the 14th Amendment would disqualify Trump in November if he becomes the GOP nominee.

"We are disappointed by the Michigan Supreme Court's decision," said Ron Fein, legal director of Free Speech for People, the liberal group that filed the suit to disqualify Trump in the state. "The ruling conflicts with longstanding US Supreme Court precedent that makes clear that when political parties use the election machinery of the state to select, via the prima-

ry process, their candidates for the general election, they must comply with all constitutional requirements in that process."

Trump hailed the order, calling the effort to keep him off the ballot in multiple states a "pathetic gambit.'

Only one of the court's seven justices dissented. Justice Elizabeth M. Welch, a Democrat, wrote that she would have kept Trump on the primary ballot but the court should rule on the merits of the Section 3 challenge. The court has a 4-3 Democratic majority.

Trump pressed two election officials in Michigan's Wayne County not to certify 2020 vote totals, according to a recording of a post-election phone call disclosed in a Dec. 22 report by The Detroit News. The former president 's 2024 campaign has neither

confirmed nor denied the recording's legitimacy.

Attorneys for Free Speech for People, a liberal nonprofit group also involved in efforts to keep Trump's name off the primary ballot in Minnesota and Oregon, had asked Michigan's Supreme Court to render its decision by Christmas Day.

The group argued that time was "of the essence" due to "the pressing need to finalize and print the ballots for the presidential primary election."

Earlier this month, Michigan's high court refused to immediately hear an appeal, saying the case should remain before the appeals court.

Free Speech for People had sued to force Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson to bar Trump from Michigan's ballot.

Russell Hamler, thought to be last of WWII Merrill's Marauders, dies at 99

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) - The reputed last member of the famed American jungle fighting unit in World War II nicknamed the Mer-

ment's biography.

In 2022, the Marauders received the Congressional Gold Medal, Congress' highest honor. The Marauders Japanese-held airfield and open an Allied supply route between India and China.

They battled hunger and disease between firefights with Japanese forces during their secret mission, a grueling journey of roughly 1,000 miles on foot that killed almost all of them.

In 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt agreed to have the Army assemble a ground unit, the 5307th Composite Unit Provisional, for a long-range mission behind enemy lines into Japanese-occupied Burma, now Myanmar. Seasoned infantrymen and newly enlisted

soldiers alike volunteered for the mission, deemed so secret they weren't told where they were going. Merrill's Marauders –

and supply lines along their long march to the airfield at the occupied town of Myitkyina. Often outnumbered, they successfully fought Japanese troops in five major engagements, plus 30 minor ones, between February and August 1944, according to the department.

rill's Marauders has died.

Russell Hamler, 99, died on Tuesday, his son Jeffrey said. He did not give a cause of death.

Hamler was the last living Marauder, according to a biography published by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in January.

Hamler had been living in the Pittsburgh area, where he was born in 1924, and enlisted in the Army at 18, according to the departinspired a 1962 movie called "Merrill's Marauders," and dozens of Marauders were awarded individual decorations after the war, from the Distinguished Service Cross to the Silver Star. The Army also awarded the Bronze Star to every soldier in the unit.

The soldiers spent months behind enemy lines, marching hundreds of miles through the tangled jungles and steep mountains of Burma to capture a



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.

BIDDING ENDS JANUARY 1 - Online only auction - Various consignors, seller. Modeline 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. 28 from 3 p.m.-6 p.m., 102 South Jef-ferson, Ossian. Sale manager, Rod Fetters. *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.com. JANUARY 11 - 6 p.m. - Estate of Mary Lynn Lautzenheiser, seller. 4917 E. 100 N., Bluffton, IN. One-of-a-kind property w/ quick geogen to Bluffton. Depottur. Fort Wayno. Main home was

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.

JANUARY 12 - 10 a.m. - Secured creditors & various con-signors, owners. 815 Adams St., Decatur. Online only truck and equipment auction. Online bidding only. Offering 500+ lots! 2012-2014 Freightliner M2106 box trucks, dump trucks, day cabs, sleepers, utility trucks, bucket trucks, utility & semi trailers, SUV's, pickup trucks, 250+ various skid steer attachments, various truck parts, fencing, work benches, tool boxes and much more! Accepting consignments! Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC, 260-724-7402, Kjauction.com. BIDDING NOW OPEN AND STARTS CLOSING JANUARY

17 - 6 p.m. EST. - Gary Meyer, owner. Online only commercial real estate auction! 1,376 sq. feet building, 2 bay service area, 15'x16' office space, paved parking lot, .46 acre triangle lot located on N. Main Street, (Hwy. 27)! Zoned: Commercial. Year built: 1950. Wabash Township, Section 29, Adams County, Indiana, South Adams School Core Austrian proving Large 9, .45 South Adams School Corp. Auction preview Jan. 8, 4-5 p.m. or by appointment, 617 N. Main St., Geneva. Krueckeberg Auction

& Realty LLC, 260-724-7402, Kjauction.com. JANUARY 23 - 2-6 p.m. ET - Online - Farm: Susan Dunn Estate. Property Location: Three miles southeast of Markle, IN and Wells Co., Rockcreek Twp. 207,3+/- total acres, high quality farmland, mostly tillable. Tracts 1 & 2: Located on both sides of 200 N between 200 W and 300 W. Tract 3: Located at intersection of 300 N and 500 W. Tract 1: 19.83+/- acres. Tract 2: 110+/acres. Tract 3: 77.47+/- acres. Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management, 800-424-2324, halderman.com, Rick Johnloz, 260-827-8181.

nicknamed for the unit's commander, Brig. Gen. Frank Merrill – were tasked with cutting off Japanese communications





THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2023 · The News-Banner · Page 1a

Knights finish 1-1 at New Castle Holiday Tournament

Norwell bounced back to beat Triton Central after a loss to Decatur Central

By RYAN WALKER Game 1

NEW CASTLE - The Norwell boys couldn't carry its first half efforts into the second half in a 57-45 loss in Game 1 of the New Castle Holiday Tournament early Wednesday afternoon.

The Knights (5-3) held a 20-15 lead at the break over Decatur Central (5-2) before KC Berry and Melakih Cunningham willed the Hawks to a 12-point victory.

The two combined for 40 points, led by Berry's 22 points and six triples. Cunningham went 7-12 from the floor to go with his 18 points and four.

The three-point buckets made by Berry, who is shooting just 27 percent on the year, forced Norwell head coach Mike McBride to switch to a zone and try to extend his defense outside.

"Well, Berry was only shooting 27 percent from three coming in, so he had a really good shooting game and that was a big difference in the game," McBride said. "We weren't anticipating that."

"Cunningham, we knew he was a challenge," he continued. "He's been their leading scorer and he's real-

fourth quarter. The Knights were on top of or even with the Hawks for most of the contest.

The 20-15 lead in the first half was mostly due to their defense.

After a cold shooting performance from both groups in the first half, Norwell began to establish its inside game with Ashton Federspiel and Cade Shelton.

Federspiel and Shelton put up 18 of the team's points from underneath the basket and got to the freethrow line. Federspiel led the team with 12 points.

"We were really trying to get that and establish that, and they did a good job," McBride said. "We wanted to try to get Cade to that eight to 12-point range today. Ashton did a good job there once we got it going. Those are two guys we're trying to play inside out. We were trying to play through Ashton and Cade down low and trying to get Cohen (Bailey) down low on some penetration."

Other than Adam McBride and Owen Wallis' three, the Knights didn't have much going from midrange and beyond in the first half and in the third quarter. The two triples were

good Chesterton and Castle teams, all of which were close in score.

Regardless of the outcomes of these non-conference games, the goal for McBride and other schools is to face adversity through many different styles of play at this time of year. And despite the loss, the team was in the game with another solid basketball program in Decatur Central and learned a lot.

"I think Decatur Central deserves a lot of credit. I thought we battled really hard and competed really well. I think that was a good game for us to play today to help prepare us for some of the things we'll see in January," McBride said.

sports@news-banner.com

DECATUR CENTRAL 57, NORWELL

45 At New Castle High School NORWELL (5-3): Ashton Federspiel 3-9 8-8 15, Adam McBride 4-8 0-0 10, Cade Shelton 3-5 2-2 8, Cohen Bailey 2-10 909 5, Brady Smith 2-3 0-0 4, Owen Wallis 1-1 0-0 3, Kaedyn Quin-tanilla 0-0 0-0 0, Nick MBride 0-2 0-0 0. TOTALS: 15-40 10-10 45.

DECATUR CENTRAL (5-2): KC DECATUR CENTRAL (5-2): KC Berry 8-16 0-0 22, Melakih Cunning-ham7-12 3-4 18, Eric Hopson 2-3 1-2 6, Ayden Lawson 1-2 2-2 4, Ty'reese Burnett 0-2 3-4 3, Nash Sigmund 1-7 0-0 2, Antawn Price 1-1 0-0 2. TOTALS: 20-43 9-12 57. Norwell 8 12 12 13 — 45 Decatur C. 8 7 20 22 — 57 Three-point FG: Norwell: 5-14 (A. McBride 2-5, Wallis 1-1, Bailey 1-3, Federspiel 1-2, Quintanilla 0-1, N. McBride 0-2), Decatur Central: 8-24

Rederspiel 1-2, Quintanilla 0-1, N. McBride 0-2), Decatur Central: 8-24 (Berry 6-11, Cunningham 1-5, Hopson 1-2, Sigmund 0-6). Rebounds: Nor-well: 20 (Shelton 5, Bailey 4, Smith 4, A. McBride 3, Federspiel 2, Wallis 1), Decatur Central: 28 (Burnett 8, Lawson 7, TEAM 3, Price 3, Berry 2, Hopson 1), Turgenergy: Norwalls 7, Standard 1, Sta 2, Hopson 1). Turnovers: Norwell: 7 Decatur Central: 8. Fouls: Norwell: 10, Decatur Central: 10. Fouled Out: None. Technicals: None.

By RYAN WALKER Game 2

NEW CASTLE - With a 57-45 victory over Triton Central, the Norwell boys officially placed third overall at the New Castle Holiday Tournament.

McBride's emphasis in Game 1 on 2-point shooting percentage, which was just 39 percent against Decatur Central, jumped to 56 percent and helped keep the Tigers (7-3) from crawling back.



Norwell's Ashton Federspiel (middle) shoots through both Decatur Central defenders Eric Hopson (left) and Ayden Lawson during Game 1 of the New Castle Holiday Tournament. The Knights went 1-1 in the tournament, but fell to Decatur Central. (Photos by Ryan Walker)

it over guys. We passed it back out and we let the ball move until we got that shot."

Adam McBride and Ashton Federspiel had nine of the 17 shots from inside the arc and both led the way with 14 and 13 points.

It didn't necesarily click right away, as Triton Central took a 9-5 lead at the end of the first quarter, but a quick pair of turnovers were capitalized by Owen Wallis to get the Knights (6-3) right back on track.

Norwell ended up winning that second quarter 16-7 with just two threepoint attempts and hold

Knights a 5-point lead at the break and gave enough separation to draw only two more points more in the

final two quarters. Along with Norwell's recovery from a 2-10 showing in the first quarter to 18-27 in the rest of the game, the defense clamped down a normally high-scoring offense.

In 10 games, the Tigers have produced 54 points per contest and 49 percent from the field. Norwell got them down 14 points less than the average and eight percent off their mark.

Outside of leading scorer Eli Sego's 15 points and big

bench," McBride said. "He defensively he really made Sego work. I thought he did a nice job defensively for us - I thought he was. a big key in the game."

In the championship game, Decatur Central topped the host school New Castle 64-60.

Norwell's next game will be at Adams Central on Saturday, Dec. 30.

sports@news-banner.com

NORWELL 47, TRITON CENTRAL 40 At New Castle High School NORWELL (6-3): Adam McBride

6-9 0-0 14, Ashton Federspiel 5-11 3-3 13, Cohen Bailey 2-4 0-0 5, Cade Shelton 2-6 1-3 5, KAedyn Quintanilla 2-3 0-0 4, Owen Wallis 2-2 0-0 4, Brady Smith 1-1 0-1 2, Trace Moser 0-1 0-0 0, Nick McBride 0-0 0-0 0, Ryne Thornton 0-0 0-0 0, Caiden Petrie 0-0 0-0 0, Bary Riley 0-0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 20-37 4-7 47. TRITON CENTRAL (7-3): Eli Sego 6-12 1-1 15, Silar Blair 5-11 0-0 11, Max Crouse 2-4 0-0 5, Gavin Morgan Max Crouse 2-4 0-0 5, Gavin Morgan 2-3 0-0 5, Sam Collier 1-4 2-2 4, Henry Kemper 0-0 0-0 0, Taggart Goul 0-2 0-0 0, Sam Kemper 0-0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 16-39 3-3 40. Norwell 5 16 17 9 - 47 Tri Central 9 7 15 9 - 40 Three-point FG: Norwell: 3-7 (A. McBride 2-4, Bailey 1-2, Federspiel 0-1), Triton Central: 5-11 (Sego 2-5, Blair 1-3, Crouse 1-2, Morgan 1-1). Rebounds: Norwell: 23 (Federspiel 8, Smith 3, Bailey 3, Moser 2, Shelton 2 Smith 3, Bailey 3, Moser 2, Shelton 2, Quintanilla 1), Triton Central: 17 (Sego 4, Goul 3, TEAM 3, Collier 3, S. Kemper 1, Blair 1, Morgan 1, Crouse 1). Turnovers: Norwell: 9, Triton Central 9. Fouls: Norwell: 6. Triton Central: 7 Fouled Out: None. Technicals: None





Norwell's Cohen Bailey (left) tries to dribble through Triton Central's Eli Sego (right) during Game 2 of the New Castle Holiday Tournament Wednesday.

ly good around the basket. We knew he would present those challenges. I thought we did a decent job on his for most of the game, at least the first half. The second half he was a little more active.'

Decatur Central didn't have that far of a lead over Norwell until late in the the only ones hit until three more came in the fourth quarter, but the Knights were already down by nearly double digits by that time.

Last year, Norwell went 2-1 in a similar tournament during the Noblesville Holiday Tournament. The Knights fell to Columbus North, but defeated a

"We didn't force it. We didn't force anything," McBride said after the second game. "In the first game, we missed some easy ones right before the half. We had a layup we blew. This game, we didn't blow our layup opportunities and when we didn't have (a good look) we passed the ball back out. In the first half, a couple of times we tried to force it over guys. This time we didn't push ing the Tigers to 2-7 from the floor. The lone threepointer made was McBride nailing it with two seconds remaining before the buzzer and gave his squad the lead and much-needed momentum for the second half.

"A big, big boost for us at the end of the half was Adam hitting a three," Mike McBride said. "We go in instead of up two, we go in up five. I thought that was a big play for us."

The shot gave the

man Silar Blair's 11, Triton Central struggled to find anything offensively. The rest of the group made five total shots at 31 percent.

The 15 points from Sego also could have been much worse, as he had 19 in the loss to New Castle hours before.

McBride praised the efforts off the bench from his junior guard in containing him.

"I thought Kaedyn Quintanilla did a good job and gave us a good spark off the

High School Calendar

THURSDAY, DEC 28

BOYS BASKETBALL: (Union City Holiday Tournament) Southern Wells vs. Elwood, 12 p.m.; Bluffton vs. Eastern Greentown, 1:30 p.m.; Southern Wells vs. Union City, 3 p.m.; Bluffton vs. Randolph Southern, 7:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: (Noblesville Holiday Tournament) Norwell vs. Snider 11:30 a.m. & Norwell vs. TBD at 6 OR 7:30 p.m.; Randolph Southern at Southern Wells, 7:30 p.m.

WRESTLING: Southern Wells at Spartan Classic, 9 a.m.

FRIDAY, DEC 29

BOYS BASKETBALL: Bluffton, Southern Wells at 1st Annual Holiday Tournament (Union City High School), 4:30 p.m.

WRESTLING: Southern Wells at Spartan Classic. 9 a.m.

SATURDAY, DEC 30

BOYS BASKETBALL: Norwell at Adams Central, 7:45 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Bellmont at Bluffton,

- No events scheduled
- **TUESDAY, JAN 2**
- GIRLS BASKETBALL: Norwell at Carroll, 7:30 p.m.; Southern Wells at Daleville, 7 p.m. WEDNESDAY, JAN 3
- GIRLS BASKETBALL: Bluffton at North Miami, 7:30 p.m.

WRESTLING: Bluffton at Norwell, 6:30 p.m. THURSDAY, JAN 4 SWIMMING & DIVING (CO-ED): Norwell at

East Noble, 6 p.m.; Bluffton at South Adams, 5:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, JAN 5

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Bluffton at Jay County, 7:30 p.m.; South Adams at Southern Wells, 7:30 p.m.

SWIMMING & DIVING (CO-ED): Norwell, Bluffton at Jay County Dive Invite, 6 p.m.

Notre Dame hires Mike Denbrock as new offensive coordinator

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) - Mike Denbrock is back for a third coaching stint at Notre Dame, this time as offensive coordinator.

The school announced Denbrock's hiring on Wednesday. He spent the past two seasons as offensive coordinator and tight ends coach at LSU under former Notre Dame head coach Brian Kelly.

Denbrock also served as offensive tackles/tight ends coach with the Irish from 2002-04, then returned to coach tight ends and receivers from 2010-2016.

Denbrock and Notre Dame coach Marcus Freeman worked together at Cincinnati.

"He is a great leader, recruiter and developer, but what I love the most is his competitive spirit," Freeman said.

At LSU, Denbrock's attack led the nation in total offense (547.8 yards per game) and scoring offense (46.4 points per game) behind Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback Jayden Daniels.

At Cincinnati, Denbrock helped the Bearcats reach the College Football Playoffs in 2021. Cincinnati finished 13-1, setting school records with 70 touchdowns and 510 points scored.

The school said the hiring takes effect after the university's standard employment process.

Harrison with the Buckeyes at **Cotton, still no sign All-American** WR will play against Missouri

By STEPHEN HAWKINS AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Two-time AP All-America receiver Marvin Harrison Jr. is with Ohio State as the seventh-ranked Buckeyes prepare for the Cotton Bowl, though there are no indications that he will play Friday night against Missouri.

Harrison again wasn't a full participant and didn't have his helmet with him during the portion of practice that was open to reporters Wednesday, and didn't take part in interview sessions afterward with other top offensive players. A day earlier, Harrison rode a stationary bicycle on the sideline while the rest of the team stretched and began practice.

Offensive coordinator Brian Hartline didn't directly address whether Harrison will play, but talked about the possibility of a couple of other players being in different roles and doing different things. Harrison, the thirdyear Buckeye, is expected to be one of the top picks if he declares for the NFL draft.

"I'm excited to see some of these guys have different opportunities that maybe they haven't gotten through the year," he said. "We're on the edge of seeing some different opportunities, and I'm looking forward to some guys taking it and running with it."

There was no media availability Wednesday with head coach Ryan Day, who will take the podium Thursday with Missouri coach Eliah Drinkwitz.

While Harrison's status remained uncer-

tain, and starting quarterback Kyle McCord has departed for Syracuse, leading rusher TreVeyon Henderson said Wednesday that he would play when Buckeyes (11-1) play Missouri (10-2).

"Of course, you've got all of these worries that come up, what if I get injured, what if this happens But I gave all of those worries to God, and he led me to make that decision to play in this game, to glorify Him and be out there for my brothers," Henderson said. "Everyone's got to do what's best for them."

With McCord gone, sophomore Devin Brown will get his first career start in the Cotton Bowl. He will be the first Ohio State quarterback to make his first start in a bowl game.

Brown said it was chaotic at first in the aftermath of the regular season with some guys transferring, and not knowing who was staying or maybe leaving early for the draft. Since getting to North Texas before Christmas, he has sensed a different focus for the team.

"I feel like everybody's worried about this team right now and worried about winning this game," he said.

Fifth-year linebacker and leading tackler Tommy Eichenberg is questionable because of an arm injury that forced him to miss two games, though he returned for the regularseason finale against Michigan, which is in the four-team College Football Playoff.

The Buckeyes, for now, still expect to have most of their top defenders on the field against Missouri.

7:30 p.m. **MONDAY, JAN 1** 47. OT

News-Banner Scoreboard

BASKETBALL High School

Wednesday Boys' Scores Blue River Valley 65, Cambridge City Lincoln 39 Boone Grove 62, Rensselaer 58 Franklin 61, Shelbyville 40 Haviland Wayne Trace, Ohio 57, Woodlan 53 Indpls Washington 77, Eminence 37 New Albany 69, Seymour 67 Sheridan 71, Alexandria 59 Tri-Township 57, Attica 40 Bismarck-Henning (III.) Tournament Pool Play BHRA, III. 78, IMSA 18 Payson Seymour, III. 46, IMSA 34 Delta Tournament Consolition Consolation Columbia City 71, Winchester 50 Tippecanoe Valley 67, Ft. Wayne South 52 First Round Delta 71, Winchester 27 Ft. Wayne Concordia 52, Columbia City 47 Muncie Central 55, Tippecanoe Valley 53 Northeastern 55, Ft. Wayne South 46 Semifinal Delta 52, Ft. Wayne Concordia 33 Northeastern 55, Muncie Central 54 East Noble Tournament Championship E. Noble 56, Fremont 41 First Round E. Noble 63, Garrett 39 Fremont 64, Glenn 59 Third Place Glenn 55, Garrett 47 Edinburgh Tournament Consolation Borden 61, S. Decatur 52 Union Co. 64, Victory 17 First Round Austin 68, S. Decatur 48 Edinburgh 60, Victory 28 Hauser 50, Borden 46 Jac-Cen-Del 61, Union Co. 58 Semifinal Hauser 68, Austin 50 Jac-Cen-Del 53, Edinburgh 33 Hebron Tournament First Round Hebron 58, Tri-County 38 Highland Tournament Consolation Kankakee Valley 56, Andrean 54 First Round Griffith 51, Kankakee Valley 29 Lafayette Jeff 52, Andrean 46 Semifinal Lafayette Jeff 56, Griffith 48 Homestead Tournament Pool A Hamilton Southeastern 61, Valparaiso 45 Hamilton Southeastern 64, Mishawaka Marian 54 Mishawaka Marian 56. Homestead 43 Valparaiso 62, Homestead 51 Pool B Carroll (Ft. Wayne) 68, S. Bend St. Joseph's 65 Munster 61, Zionsville 42 Munster 63, Carroll (Ft. Wayne) 53 Zionsville 72, S. Bend St. Joseph's 70 LaPorte Tournament Consolation Lowell 61, Michigan City Marquette 57 First Round LaPorte 71, Lowell 47 Logansport 69, Michigan City Marquette 54 Semifinal LaPorte 65, Logansport 50 Miami County Invitational First Round Maconaquah 78, Caston 56 Peru 93, N. Miami 61 Mitchell Tournament Pool A Mitchell 51, White River Valley 44

Pool B Franklin Co. 31, Shoals 27 Franklin Co. 37, Salem 31 Shoals 51, Salem 34 Monrovia Tournament Championship S. Putnam 75, Monrovia 62 First Round Monrovia 75, Mooresville Christian 67 S. Putnam 53, Eastern (Greene) 49 Third Place Eastern (Greene) 64, Mooresville Christian 38 New Castle Tournament Championship Decatur Central 64, New Castle 60 First Round Decatur Central 57, Norwell 45 New Castle 48, Triton Central 44 Third Place Norwell 47, Triton Central 40 Noblesville Tournament Championship Noblesville 56, Crown Point 55, OT First Round Crown Point 70, Castle 60 Noblesville 54 McCutcheon 25 Third Place Castle 76, McCutcheon 41 Sevierville (Tenn.) Tournament First Round Monroe Co., Ky. 67, S. Dearborn 49 Wabash Valley Tournament Consolation Bloomfield 60, Northview 57 Casey-Westfield, Ill. 51, Shakamak 41 Greencastle 60, Cloverdale 47 W. Vigo 58, Robinson, III. 52 Quarterfinal Marshall, III. 67, Edgewood 55

Mitchell 56, New Washington 33 White River Valley 45, New Washing-

ton 32

Terre Haute South 63, Sullivan 38 Wednesday Girls' Scores Daleville 39, Elwood 29 Danville 54, Frankfort 10 Forest Park 47, Crawford Co. 46 Homestead 61, Indpls Pike 50 Indpls Tindley 51, Indpls Scecina 45 N. Decatur 53, Shenandoah 30 Tri-Township 49, Attica 12 Ben Davis Classic Jeffersonville 27, Indpls Ben Davis 26 Linton 38, Indpls Ben Davis 36 Warren Central 50, Linton 43 Warren Central 56, Jeffersonville 49 Carl Sandburg (III.) Tournament First Round Hammond Central 67, Plainfield East, III. 56 Carroll County (Ky.) Tournament Madison Shawe 57, Harrison Co., Ky 33 Walton-Verona, Ky. 68, Switzerland Co. 55 Hammond Morton Tournament Pool A Rocky River Magnificat, Ohio 82, Hammond Morton 41 Pool B Hammond Noll 58, Thornwood, III. 19 Hauser Tournament Consolation Eminence 59, Greenwood Christian 38 Lawrenceburg 56, S. Decatur 40 First Round Hauser 45, Greenwood Christian 29 Providence 67, Lawrenceburg 44 Seeger 45, Eminence 38 Triton Central 51, S. Decatur 22 Semifinal Providence 58, Triton Central 47 Seeger 39, Hauser 21 Lebanon Tournament Consolation Lebanon 65, Lafayette Jeff 25 First Round Bloomington North 59, Lowell 33 Evansville North 67, Lafayette Jeff 27 Indpls Perry Meridian 36, Lebanon 35 Mooresville 59, Greenfield 37 Semifinal Evansville North 57, Indpls Perry Meridian 29 Miami County Tournament First Round Caston 48, Maconaquah 40 N. Miami 66, Peru 44 Northeastern Tournament Consolation Wapahani 43, Salem 31 Winchester 72, Tipton 26 First Round E. Central 37, Salem 35 Ft. Wayne Wayne 60, Winchester 38 Northeastern 47, Wapahani 38 Tri 67, Tipton 18 Semifinal Ft. Wayne Wayne 61, Tri 58 Northeastern 47, E. Central 24 Robinson (III.) Tournament Pool A Sullivan 65, Oswego, Ill. 55 Pool B N. Central (Farmersburg) 64, Terre Haute South 26 Scottsburg Tournament First Round Borden 46, Kokomo 29 Columbus North 73, Eastern (Pekin) 43 Franklin Central 38, Charlestown 31 Scottsburg 55, Batesville 51 Semifinal Borden 64, Scottsburg 51 Franklin Central 59, Columbus North 48 Twin Lakes Tournament First Round Indpls Chatard 44, Crown Point 42 McCutcheon 61, Chesterton 50 Tri-County 45, Mt. Vernon (Fortville) 43 Twin Lakes 77, Faith Christian 50 Whitefield Academy Tournament Pool Play Whitefield Academy, Ky. 63, S. Central (Elizabeth) 33

College Men's Basketball Scores

Wednesday, Dec. 27 Virginia 79, Morgan St. 44 Grand Canyon 124, Bethesda 74

WESTERN CONFERENCE Southwest Division W L 13 GB Dallas 18 .581 17 15 .548 New Orleans 14 14 1 2 Houston .345 Memphis San Antonio 10 4 19 25 13 **Northwest Division** Pct GB W L 7 9 10 Minnesota 22 .759 2 1½ Oklahoma City20 .690 Denver 22 .688 .419 .276 13 8 18 21 10 14 Utah Portland Pacific Division W L P 12 12 Pct GB L.A. Clippers 18 Sacramento 17 .600 .586 1/2 A Lakers 16 15 .516 21/2 Phoenix 15 Golden State 15 15 15 .500 3 3

Tuesday's Games Orlando 127, Washington 119 Brooklyn 118, Detroit 112 Oklahoma City 129, Minnesota 106 Indiana 123, Houston 117 Utah 130, San Antonio 118 Chicago 118, Atlanta 113 Memphis 116, New Orleans 115, OT Portland 130, Sacramento 113 L.A. Clippers 113, Charlotte 104 Wednesday's Games Toronto 132, Washington 102 Philadelphia 112, Orlando 92 Milwaukee 144, Brooklyn 122 Phoenix 129, Houston 113 Oklahoma City 129, New York 120 Cleveland 113, Dallas 110 Thursday's Games Detroit at Boston, 7:30 p.m. Dallas at Minnesota, 8 p.m. Indiana at Chicago, 8 p.m. Utah at New Orleans, 8 p.m. Memphis at Denver, 9 p.m. Miami at Golden State, 10 p.m. San Antonio at Portland, 10 p.m. Charlotte at LA Lakers, 10:30 p. Charlotte at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m. Friday's Games Brooklyn at Washington, 7 p.m. Brooklyn at Washington, 7 p.m. New York at Orlando, 7 p.m. Milwaukee at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m. Sacramento at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m. Toronto at Boston, 7:30 p.m. Philadelphia at Houston, 8 p.m. Charlotte at Phoenix, 9 p.m. () Oklahoma City at Denver, 9 p.m. San Antonio at Portland, 10 p.m. Memphis at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

Saturday's Games Miami at Utah, 5 p.m. Toronto at Detroit, 6 p.m. New York at Indiana 7 p m L.A. Lakers at Minnesota, 8 p.m. Philadelphia at Chicago, 8 p.m. Dallas at Golden State, 8:30 p.m.

FOOTBALL

College 2023-24 Bowl Glance Tuesday, Dec 19 Frisco Bowl Frisco, Texas UTSA 35, Marshall 17 Thursday, Dec. 21 Boca Raton Bowl Boca Raton, Fla. USF 45, Syracuse 0 Friday, Dec. 22 Gasparilla Bowl Tampa, Fla. Georgia Tech 30, UCF 17 Saturday, Dec. 23 Camellia Bowl Montgomery, Ala. N. Illinois 21, Arkansas St. 19 Birmingham Bowl Birmingham, Ala. Duke 17, Troy 10 Armed Forces Bowl Fort Worth, Texas Air Force 31, No. 24 James Madison 21 Air Force 31, No. 24 James Ma Famous Idaho Potato Bowl Boise, Idaho Georgia St. 45, Utah St. 22 68 Ventures Bowl Mobile. Ala. South Alabama 59, Eastern Michigan 10 Las Vegas Bowl Las Vegas Northwestern 14, Utah 7 Hawaii Bowl

Honolulu, Hawaii Coastal Carolina 24, San Jose St. 14 Tuesday, Dec. 26 Quick Lane Bowl Detroit Minnesota 30, Bowling Green 24 First Responder Bowl Dallas Texas St. 45, Rice 21 Guaranteed Rate Bowl Phoenix Kansas vs. UNLV, 9:00 p.m. Military Bowl Presented Annapolis, Md. No. 23 Tulane vs. Virginia Tech, 2:00 p.m. Duke's Mavo Bowl Charlotte, N.C. North Carolina vs. West Virginia, 5:30 p.m. Holiday Bowl San Diego, Calif. No. 16 Louisville vs. Southern Cal, 8:00 p.m. Texas Bowl Houston . 22 Oklahoma St. vs. Texas A&M, 9:00 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 28 Fenway Bowl Boston No. 17 SMU vs. Boston College, 11:00 a.m.

Pinstripe Bowl New York Rutgers vs. Miami, 2:15 p.m. Pop-Tarts Bowl Orlando, Fla No. 19 NC State vs. Kansas St., 5:45 p.m. Alamo Bowl San Antonio, Texas No. 12 Oklahoma No. 14 Arizona, 9:15 p.m. Friday, Dec. 29 Gator Bowl Jacksonville, Fla. Clemson vs. Kentucky, 12:00 p.m. Sun Bowl El Paso, Texas No. 15 Notre Dame vs. No. 21 Oregon St., 2:00 p.m. Liberty Bowl Memphis, Tenn. Memphis vs. Iowa St., 3:30 p.m. Cotton Bowl Arlington, Texas No. 7 Ohio St. vs. No. 9 Missouri, 8:00 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 30 Peach Bowl Atlanta No. 10 Penn St. vs. No. 11 Mississippi, noon Music City Bowl Nashville, Tenn. Maryland vs. Auburn, 2:00 p.m. Orange Bowl Miami No. 4 Florida St. vs. No. 6 Georgia, 4:00 p.m. Arizona Bowl Tucson, Ariz. Toledo vs. Wyoming, 4:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 1 ReliaQuest Bowl Tampa, Fla. No. 13 LSU vs. Wisconsin, noon Citrus Bowl Orlando, Fla No. 20 Iowa vs. No. 25 Tennessee, 1:00 p.m. Fiesta Bowl Glendale Ariz No. 8 Oregon vs. No. 18 Liberty, 1:00 p.m. Rose Bowl College Football Playoff Semifinal Pasadena, Calif. No. 1 Michigan vs. No. 5 Alabama, 5:00 p.m. Allstate Sugar Bowl College Football Playoff Semifinal New Orleans No. 2 Washington vs. No. 3 Texas,

HOCKEY

8:45 p.m.

GP W L OTPts GF GA Vancouver 35 23 Vegas 35 21 3 49135 89 5 47122 100 9 9 Vegas 35 21 Los Angeles 3019 4 42107 74 5 33103 116 34 14 15 Calgary Seattle 35 12 14 Edmonton 31 15 15 9 33 96 113 1 31108 106 Anaheim 33 12 21 San Jose 34 9 22 0 24 90 111 3 21 74 140 NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs. Tuesday's Games No games scheduled Wednesday's Games N.Y. Rangers 5, Washington 1 Florida 3, Tampa Bay 2 New Jersey 4, Columbus 3, OT Ottawa 4, Toronto 2 Boston 4, Buffalo 1 Pittsburgh 7, N.Y. Islanders 0 Minnesota 6, Detroit 3 St. Louis 2, Dallas 1 Carolina 5, Nashville 2 Carolina 5, Nashville 2 Colorado at Arizona, 9 p.m. Winnipeg at Chicago, 9 p.m. Seattle at Calgary, 9:30 p.m. San Jose at Los Angeles, 10 p.m. Vegas at Anaheim, 10 p.m. **Thursday's Games** Montreal at Carolina, 7 p.m. Los Angeles at Vegas, 10 p.m. Philadelphia at Vancouver, 10 p.m. Edmonton at San Jose, 10:30 p.m. Friday's Games N.Y. Rangers at Florida, 7 p.m. Nashville at Detroit, 7 p.m. New Jersey at Ottawa, 7 p.m. Toronto at Columbus, 7 p.m. Washington at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30 p.m. Chicago at Dallas 8 p.m. Chicago at Dallas, 8 p.m. Colorado at St. Louis, 8 p.m. Arizona at Anaheim, 10 p.m. Philadelphia at Seattle, 10 p.m. Saturday's Games Minnesota at Winnipeg, 3 p.m. Columbus at Buffalo, 5 p.m. Cardina at Torconto Z p.m. Carolina at Toronto, 7 p.m. Montreal at Florida, 7 p.m. N.Y. Rangers at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m. N.Y. Kangers at rampa bas, Nashville at Washington, 7 p.m. New Jersey at Boston, 7 p.m. St. Louis at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m. Edmonton at Los Angeles, 10 p.m. **TRANSACTIONS**

Wednesday's Transactions BASEBALL Major League Baseball

American League MINNESOTA TWINS — Agreed to terms with RHP Josh Staumont on a terms with RHP Josh Staumont on a one-year contract. TEXAS RANGERS — Agreed to terms with RHPs Gerardo Carrillo, Diego Castillo and Jesus Tinoco, OFs Sandro Fabian, Elier Hernandez and Derek Hill and C Andrew Knapp on minor league contracts.

National League Agreed to terms with RHP Yoshinobu

Yamamoto on a 12-year contract. FOOTBALL National Football League ARIZONA CARDINALS — Signed DL Phil Hoskins to the practice squad. Designated DL Leki Fotu to return from injured reserve to practice. Placed DL Jonathan Ledbetter on injured reserve. Promoted LB Caleb Johnson from the practice squad to the active roster.

ATLANTA FALCONS — Signed OT Ryan Swoboda to the practice squad. BUFFALO BILLS — Reinstated CB Kaiir Elam from injured reserve. CAROLINA PANTHERS — Placed LB

Amare Barno on injured reserve. Rein-stated RB Tarik Cohen from the practice

stated RB Iank Cohen from the practice squad injured reserve. CINCINNATI BENGALS — Desig-nated CB Cam Taylor-Britt to return from injured reserve to practice. Signed DT Domenique Davis to the practice squad. DALLAS COWBOYS — Rein-stated OT Matt Waletzko from injured reserve Delacecet LB Rashaan

reserve. Released LB Rashaar

Evans

DENVER BRONCOS — Signed DB Keidron Smith to the practice squad. GREEN BAY PACKERS — Placed CB Jaire Alexander on the reserve/ suspended list for one game for conduct detrimental to the team

HOUSTON TEXANS — Signed CB Troy Pride to the practice squad. Released WR Davion Davis from the practice squad. JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS -

Designated LT Cam Robinson to return from injured reserve to practice. LAS VEGAS RAIDERS — Signed TE Zach Gentry from the Cincinnati practice squad. Placed TE Jesper Horsted on injured reserve. Waived T Justin Herron

LOS ANGELES CHARGERS Re-signed QB Maxx Duggan to the practice squad. MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Placed

TE T.J. Hockenson and OLB D.J. Wonnum on injured reserve. NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS —

Claimed CB Marco Wilson off waivers from Arizona. Placed RB Rhamondre Stevenson on injured reserve. Signed TE La'Michael Pettway to the practice squad. NEW YORK JETS — Placed OT

Duane Brown on injured reserve. Pro-moted TE Zack Kuntz from the practice squad to the active roster. Signed K Austin Seibert to the practice squad. PITTSBURGH STEELERS — Signed LB Jaylon Smith and S Nate Meadors to the practice squad. SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Signed DL Sebastian Joseph-Day and

OL Matt Pryor to one-year contracts. Waived RB Jeremy McNichols. Signed OL Sebastian Gutierrez and WR Willie Snead IV to the practice squad. Des-ignated WR Danny Gray to return from

injured reserve to practice. SEATTLE SEAHAWKS — Reinstated LB Levi Bell from the practice squad injured reserve. TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

Designated DL Mike Greene to return from injured reserve to practice. WASHINGTON COMMANDERS — Designated LB De Jon Harris to return

from injured reserve to practice. HOCKEY National Hockey League BOSTON BRUINS — Recalled C Patrick Brown, D Mason Lohrei and D

Parker Wotherspoon from Providence (AHL).

I OS ANGELES KINGS — Recalled D Jacob Moverare from Ontario (AHL) MINNESOTA WILD — Recalled D Daemon Hunt and LW Jake Lucchini from Iowa (AHL). Recalled F Maxim Cajkovic from Iowa (ECHL) to Iowa (AHL).

NASHVILLE PREDATORS Recalled G Yaroslav Askarov from Milwaukee (AHL). NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Recalled

G Nico Daws from Utica (AHL). NEW YORK ISLANDERS — Recalled D Grant Hutton from Bridge-

port (AHL).

PHILADELPHIA FLYERS Recalled C Rhett Gardner from Lehigh

Valley (AHL). ST. LOUIS BLUES — Recalled LW Mackenzie MacEachern from Spring-

field (AHL). SAN JOSE SHARKS — Recalled G Magnus Chrona from San Jose

(AHL) TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING Recalled D Sean Day from Syracuse

(AHL). WASHINGTON CAPITALS -Recalled D Hendrix Lapierre and LW Ivan Miroshnichenko from Hershey (AHL)

WINNIPEG JETS — Recalled C Dominic Toninato from Manitoba (AHL).

ECHL

FORT WAYNE KOMETS — Signed Ds Taylor Brierley and Jack Van Bokel and Fs Dalton Hunter and Benito Posa. Suspended D Matthew Sredl.



Women's Basketball Scores Wednesday, Dec. 27 Texas 97, Jackson St. 52 Grand Canyon 115, Arizona Chris-tian 41

NRΔ

	NB	A								
EASTER		NFE	RENCE							
Atlantic Divisio										
	W	L	Pct	GB						
Boston	23	6	.793							
Philadelphia	21	9	.700	21/2						
New York	17	13	.567	61⁄2						
Brooklyn	15	16	.484	9						
Toronto	12	_18	.400	11½						
Southeast Division										
	W	L	Pct	GB						
Miami	18	12	.600	—						
Orlando	18	12								
Atlanta	12	18	.400	6						
Charlotte	7	21	.250	10						
Washington	5	25	.167	13						
Cent	ral D									
	W	L	Pct	GB						
Milwaukee	23	8	.742	_						
Cleveland	18	13	.581	5						
Indiana	15	14	.517	7						
Chicago	14	18	.438	91⁄2						

Broncos bench QB Russell Wilson and will turn to Jarrett Stidham

BV ARNIE STAPLETON AP Pro Football Writer

Parke Heritage 56, Linton 36 Terre Haute North 57, S. Vermillion

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP) — The Denver Broncos are benching quarterback Russell Wilson in a move that could have major ramifications for both his future and theirs.

Although the move keeps open the team's options next year and could ultimately save the Broncos \$37 million, coach Sean Payton on Wednesday called the switch to journeyman Jarrett Stidham more of a football decision than a financial one.

"I understand all the speculation and everything that surrounds a move like that, and I can tell you we're desperately trying to win," Payton said. "Sure, in our game today there are economics and all those other things, but the No. 1 push behind this ... is to get a spark offensively.'

The Broncos (7-8) have a narrow path to the playoffs. They'd have to win out and Kansas City (9-5) would have to lose out for Denver to make the playoffs for the first time since the 2015 season.

Payton said the entire offensive operation, himself included, has been deficient and this move isn't meant as an indictment of Wilson alone.

"I can't replace the entire offensive line, I can't bring in five new receivers," Payton said, "and if it continues over a period of time, then there'll be another guy here talking to you, as well.'

Payton and Wilson have always been a clash of styles and two weeks ago Payton berated his QB on the sideline while Wilson patiently listened without response.

Going with a journeyman with two NFL starts in his five-year career over a Super Bowl champion who was the fastest QB in league history to 100 wins could backfire on Payton.

"There's always risk but as a head coach you've got to make some tough decisions and they're not always going to be right," Payton said. "So, you trust your instincts and you go by what you feel and those have been good for me over the years."

Stidham will start Sunday when the Broncos host

the Los Angeles Chargers (5-10) and in all likelihood start at Las Vegas in the season finale, too.

It's a remarkably similar situation to last year when Stidham started the Raiders' final two games after the team benched Derek Carr in a business decision and sent him home.

This circumstance in Denver differs from the Raiders' situation a year ago because the Broncos will dress Wilson, who could theoretically get into the game Sunday.

If Wilson doesn't play another down this season, however, the Broncos will have kept open their options in 2024 – although his five-year, \$242.6 million contract extension that kicks in next season carries massive dead money chargers over the next two years if Denver decides to part ways with Wilson.

Wilson's \$39 million salary for next season is already guaranteed but if he's on the roster March 17, his 2025 salary of \$37 million also becomes guaranteed.

HOF drag racer Paula Murphy, 1st woman licensed to drive a Funny Car, dies at 95

racer and the first woman licensed to drive a Funny Car, died Thursday. She was 95.



very well accepted not only by the tracks but by my fellow racers. Back then, there was a lot of camaraderie between the teams helping one another out. We were a big family."

the STP Dodge of Freddie Lorenzen, going 171.499 mph.

nationals in 1973. She suffered a broken neck in a crash in early 1974 at Sears Point Raceway when her car wouldn't shut down and flipped over and over after landing.

try before retiring.

Hall of Fame in 1992 and the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America in 2017.

NHRA. "I don't think many people have gotten the opportunity to do some of the things that I did.'



Paula Murphy

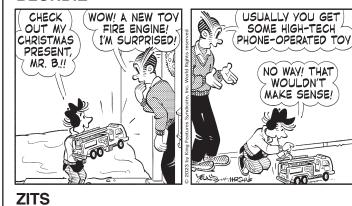


ERASE!

ERASE!

By Bil Keane

ERASE!



PENCILAND

ENGLISH

ASSIGN

MENT

SCOTTANA EXECTION

PAPER?





CRANKSHAFT

WHAT'S

THIS?







"How do you pronounce this word: RSVP?"



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer ACROSS 40 Farly 3 Author 23 Bygone 1 . A

Husband's slights are taking a toll

Dear Annie: My husband — who is loving, hardworking and helpful around the house – slights me from time to time. I believe he loves me, but these slights really hurt and began to become a pattern about 12 years ago.

It happened for the first time in our marriage when his ex-girlfriend from 35 years ago showed up in our social circle. He would sit right next to her at events "because I was talking to others" or "already sitting." When I told him I had saved him a seat and it would have been nice if we would have sat together and that I felt slighted and discounted, he said, "Well, I haven't seen her in years, and I wanted to catch up." Then, at several following events, it was the same way.

I trust my husband, so I didn't say much until the ex-girlfriend would come to talk to him, not even acknowledging me. It was then that I finally spoke up and said, "I'm not understanding why she's so important to you, and I feel disrespected.'

Then, during the pandemic, he was consistently over at his mother's doing projects and having meals whenever he wasn't at work. I even voiced that I was feeling isolated working from home so it would be nice if he could spend at least one day of the weekend with me and have an occasional meal together. We planned to have dinner together, and just before our scheduled dinner, he said he was going to his mother's for pizza.

Now one of my childhood friends has moved back to our state, and as we reconnected, my husband and her would get into discussions about outdoor activities. Next thing I know he is inviting her hunting (I don't hunt). The first time they went it was with another buddy. I learned about it after the invite, the day before they were going, so there was no discussion. The next week it was just the two of them. I asked that he not spend time with her alone, stating that, after all, I don't hang with other men alone. He did respect that request.

The most recent slight happened when we were going out on a double

date with another couple. They came to pick us up, and when the woman got out of the car (to allow my husband to sit up front), my husband said, "Wow,

get in. My hus-

doors for me. But



Dear

Annie

by Annie Lane

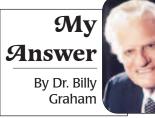
he made no mention of my appearance or outfit. When we were leaving dinner walking to the car, he didn't open the door for me; he proceeded to the other side of the car and opened her door instead. I just don't understand. Any advice/insight would be appreciated. -Feeling Slighted

Dear Feeling Slighted: It sounds like you have been an open, direct communicator throughout your marriage, which is always the first step. Voicing these types of feelings can feel scary or intimidating, so I commend you for speaking

Your husband may be the loving, trustworthy man that you feel he is but if he's not acting in a way that makes you feel loved and trusting, then you have an issue. You've already done the hardest part: communicating your feelings in an honest and constructive way. And it sounds like your upfront communication has led to some improvements.

It's very easy to become so comfortable in a relationship that you wind up taking each other for granted, which might explain why he holds the door open for another woman but not for you. Ôn the other hand, there might be more going on that should be explored. I recommend finding a couples therapist to help guide you both to rekindling your love for each other.

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



Q: I don't really know why I'm here in this life. All I do is work and pay my bills. Starting another year with the same old things happening stifles me, especially when I see all my friends living it up. -S.L.

A: Life is a journey, although we sometimes forget it. Life becomes so hectic. We become so pre-

We are not here by chance or by accident

God put us on this journey called life. We came from Him, and our greatest joy will come from giving ourselves back to Him and learning to walk with Him every day.

Some see their own life's journey as a series of unrelated events - some good, some bad, strung together like beads on a string. Others feel trapped like a leaf in a rushing stream, tossed about by

us as we make decisions and to give us hope for the future. Most of all, He desires to make this journey with us.

Sometimes we get tired of the burdens of life brought on by sickness, isolation, or despair in the midst of overwhelming problems. If you will believe in the Lord Jesus and follow Him, you will learn that He goes before you every step of the way. "A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps" (Proverbs 16:9, NKJV).

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



The LOCKHORNS



10BS18 12-28 REINER

"I FOUND YOUR LUGGAGE."

occupied with our immediate concerns that we don't step back and see the whole picture. For many people life is a constant struggle just to survive. Others have everything they could ever want, yet remain unfulfilled, though they may not admit it.

We are not here by chance or by accident;

circumstances beyond control. Many people may never have stopped to think about the road they are traveling.

But God didn't intend for our journey through life to be this way. Instead, He meant for it to be filled with purpose, whether in good times or bad times. He also wants to guide

(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.

12/28	М	Α	D1 D2		5:30	6 рм	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 рм	9:30	10 рм	10:30	11 рм	11:30	12 AM	12:30	17 (18 S	
INM (12	11	26	63	3D Woman	Julie & Friends	♥ Movie				TCT Today	Newsw- atch	Perry Stone	James Robison	Dr. Robert Jeffress	Jewish Jesus	Andrew Wommack	Ask the Pa	stor	Rabbi Lapin		eply
ANE 15	2	2	15 15			News at 6 (N)	CBS News (N)	Wheel of Fortune (N)		Young Sheldon	Ghosts	Ghosts	Ghosts UK (N)	SEAL Team	(N)	Nightcast (N)	(:35) Late Sh (N)	ow-Colbert	(:35) Comics Unleashed	20 "	'Pho
	2) 106	20		Chicago P.D		Chicago P.I	D. "Assets"	Chicago P.I		Chicago P.I Part III"	D. "Infection,	Chicago P. Keeper"	D. "Brother's	Chicago P.I Positive") . "False	Chicago P.I "Informant"		Chicago P.I Regrets"	D . "No	22	
C 21	4	3	21 21	ABC21 New	s at 5 (N)	ABC21 (N)	ABC World News (N)		Ent. Tonight (N)	Celebrity W Fortune	/heel of	Press Your	Luck	The \$100,0	00 Pyramid	ABC21 (N)	(:35) Jimmy Live! (N)		(:35) Nightline		esc
C A-2 (21.2	2) 7	8	14		25 Words or Less	News (N)	NBC News (N)	Family Feud	Family Feud	Law & Orde	er	Transplant	: (N)	Dateline N	BC (N)	News (N)	(:35) Tonigh	t Show (N)	(:35) Seth Meyers (N)	ې 26 F	oatr =ibł
7 (21.3		9	56 34	King "Wish	King "Icky	Modern Family	News (N)	Last Man	Last Man Standing	Dateline "D Intent"	eadly	Chicago P. Guard"	D. "New	Seinfeld "The Bris"	Seinfeld	Mom	Mom	The Goldbergs	Goldbergs "Cocoon"		adn
é 33	8	4	33 33	The Stove M			1)	Dish Nation (N)	TMZ (N)	Son of a	Children Ruin (N)	Whose Line	American Joke Off	Dish Nation (N)	TMZ (N)	Family Guy	Family Guy		Bob's Burgers	29]	
A 39	13	5	39 39	Kingdomc o	f the Sky:	PBS NewsH	lour (N)	BBC News	Arts In Focus (N)	This Old House	Ask This Old House	Creatures ' the Bell Toll	"For Whom	Creatures " Bloody Chris		Amanpour Company (I		This Old House	Ask This Old House	- 30	chu
49	3			Kingdoms o Rockies	f the Sky:	Context	BBC News America	PBS NewsH	our (N)	Now Entering	History Dear	Vienna Blo of the Night		Around the		Amanpour Company (I	and	This Old House	Ask This Old House		Frai
55 T	6	6	55 55	WFFT Fox No (N)	ews at 5	WFFT Fox N (N)		Big Bang	Big Bang	LEGO Specia		up with forme	er contestants	FOX 55 Nev 10 (N)	ws First at	Young Sheldon	Young Sheldon	Neighbor	Neighbor	31 (Эре
BLE C	HAN	NEL	s					Course Anno					Ŭ					C I A		32 /	
FE	_			Grey's Anat		Grey's Ana	•	Me Lose Cor	ntrol"	Deny, Deny"		the Pain"	tomy "Bring	"Into You Li	ke a Train"	(:05) Grey's		Grey's Ana Deny, Deny'		33 (
X				Andy	¥*★ The P Andy	roposal ('09 Andy) Ryan Reyno Andy						loe Keery, Rya Everybody				odie Comer, J The King	oe Keery, Rya The King	n Reynolds. The King	34 F	yea ⊃C
AND	25		106 304	Griffith	Griffith	Griffith	Griffith	Raymond	Raymond Dr. Seuss'	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond		Raymond	Raymond	of Queens			of Queens	35 3	
E!			114 236	of Gerard But	tler, America	Ferrera, Jay E	Baruchel.	Grinch	Grinch Yellowston	of Emma Sto	ne, Ryan Rey Yellowston	nolds, Nicola		Devine, Delr			♥ Movie	, _0.000	Christmas	36 3	
RMT	30		241 241	by Monday"					the Indian N	ow"	Trains and N	/lonsters"	Acceptable S	Surrender"	Back to Cali			40	(15)		Na
PN				Football	match up wit	th the No. 25	Wildcats (8-4	I) in the Pop-1	Farts Bowl. (L)) (N)		2) line up a	e Football Va gainst the No.	14 Wildcats (9-3) in the 20	23 Alamo Bo	wl. (L) (N)		(:45) SportCtr		on
PN2 MW	32		143 209 418 671	ESPN BET Li Focused	ve (L) (N) Live on the	SportsCent Line	er The Rally (M		Pregame	NBA Basket	tball Indiana	Pacers at Chi	isketball USC icago Bulls Fro		Postgame (sketball Ind		UFC (:45) World	37 (One con
	_				Law & Orde	er: SVU	Law & Orde	er: SVU	(L) (Ñ) Law & Orde		er in Chicago. Law & Orde		Law & Orde	er: SVU "A	at Chicago E Law & Orde		United Cent Law & Ord	er in Chicago. er: Special	Poker Law-SVU		ng
SA	34	133	105 242	(4:30) Law & Order: SVU Contraband	"Conversion	" Contraband	"Sanctuary"	Contraband	Victims Uni	it "Man Up"	"Man Down Caught!		Story of Mor Caught!		Victims Uni Caught!	t "Part 33" Contraban	Victims Un	it "Missing" Caught!	"Blackout" Caught!		nte
SC	35		182 278	"The \$8,000	Man"	"Crying Unc	le"	"All in the F		5	-	(N)	-	-	5	"You've Got	Meth"	-	-		
LC ST				(4:00) 90 Day Swamp Peo		90 Day Fiar Swamp Peo		Swamp Peo	ple "The		/len "Alaska:	1000-Lb. S Born to		1000-Lb. Si ain Men "Ala		1000-Lb. Si (:05) Mounta	in Men	1000-Lb. Si (:05) Mounta	ain Men	1	2
&E				Swamp Peo Ain't Easy" The First 48		and Dangero First 48 "De		Final Battle" The First 48	3	Run" (SF) (N The First 48	I) 3 "Innocents I	Lost" (N)	Run"	The First 48	3	"Alaska: Sn (:05) The Fir:		"Alaska: Bo (:05) The Fir:		12	+
				(4:00) 🛠 The S Christmas	Sweetest	😤 Christma	is on Cherry nnett, John B	Lane (2023, I	Drama)	🛠 My Chris	tmas Family ker, James Tu	Tree (2021,		🛠 A Cozy C	hristmas Inn 'ivica A. Fox, J	(2022, Roma	nce) David	Christma Plaza		15	╞
'FY				(:15) ¥ ★ ★ Th Walker, Mich	e Fast and t	the Furious	(2001, Action) Paul		t 2 Furious (Mendez, Pau		Tyrese		ast and the y Ty Bryan, Sh			(:35) ¥★★ F Walker, Vin	ast & Furiou	s ('09) Paul		
BS	43	130	139 243	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang		Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang		Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	🛠★★ Horri	ble Bosses ('11) Jason Ba		18	Τ
NT	44	131	138 24	ventura. re	t Detective	McDonald, J		dam Sandler		Reilly, Richa	rd Jenkins, W	ill Ferrell.		Reilly, Richa	Brothers (20 rd Jenkins, W	ll Ferrell.			Sandler.		
ИС	45		131 254	Stackson, Bruck	e Willis.	-			is, samuel L.	¥★★★ Gho Ramis, Bill N		984, Comedy	y) Dan Aykroy		Weaver, Bill	Murray.	989, Comedy	/) Dan Aykroy	u, sigourney		
DM	47		107 249	(1:30) To Be A (4:30) Speak (Announced P	5 5	to be annour Breaking		The Superstar	's of World Wre	stling	NHRA Drac	To Be Anno Racing NHR	ounced Progra A Nevada Na				NHRA In-N-	Out Burger	26	27
S1	48	64		The Hill (L) (I		Klatt Show Vargas Rep			t do battle in el	laborate, long-			ns Live (L) (N)			Cuomo		NHRA Finals	5	31	+
GN VE	53 57	$\left \right $		(4:30) 9-1-1			9-1-1 "Fallo		(N) 9-1-1		Love After	Brat Loves		Brat Loves		Love After	Lockup		Love After		
	59			Beat Bobby											Beat Bobby					34	
	60 68			(4:30) Below (4:30) ♥★★★			Below Decl		Below Deck g ('16) Matth	k ew McConau		к to the Fut	ture ('85) Mic SpongeBob		Friends	¥★★★ Bac Friends		ure Part II N Friends	lichael J. Fox. Friends		+
AVO				Ladybug	Ladybug	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	* ★★★ Toy	Story 3 ('10		. Wonderful	Marvel's	Marvel's	Villains	Villains	Bluey	Bluey	37	
AVO ICK	69	22	180 31 ⁻	of Kristen Wi	ig, Trey Parke	er, Steve Care	ell.	Close, Minni	e Driver, Tony	y Goldwyn.		Murphy, B.D	ilan (1998, Ar D. Wong, Ming	g-Na Wen.		The 700 Clu		The Simpsons	The Simpsons		
AVO ICK ISN		32		(4.95) 99 4 4 4	The Sum of		₩*** Par	anormal Act Katie Feathe			1en: Days of chael Fassben	ider, Hugh Ja	t ('14) James ckman.	Jason Clarke	, Gary Oldma	n, Andy Serki	s.		♥★★ Hannibal	45	46
AVO ICK ISN FORM			300 50'	('02) Morgan	Freeman, Be											In Trun					
AVO ICK ISN FORM BO	70		300 50 [.] 310 51!	('02) Morgan (3:55) ♀★★★ Never Again	Freeman, Be Never Say	(:10) **★★ Ir Alba, Scott (n to the Blue Caan, Paul Wa	(2005, Adven alker.	ture) Jessica	Watanabe, M	Matthew McC	onaughey.		d, Max Mingh				First Reform		40	40
DOD AAVO IICK ISN EFORM IBO IAX	70 301 325			('02) Morgan (3:55) **** Never Again	Freeman, Be Never Say Starling Girl	(:10) **★★ Ir Alba, Scott (n to the Blue Caan, Paul Wa	(2005, Adven alker. • Fabelmans	ture) Jessica	Watanabe, M	Matthew McC	onaughey. 	Rachel Woo la ('23) Liev So tin, Helen Mir	d, Max Mingh hreiber,	ella, Ellen Pa (:45) ♀★★★ Chapman, N	ge. 1917 (2019, ark Strong, C	Amanda Sey War) Dean-C	/fried, Ethan H Tharles		43 50	40

ACROSS	40 Early	3 Author	23 Bygone						
1 L.A.	TVs	Harte	Olds						
Sparks	41 Monte-	4 Niches	24 Writer						
org.	zuma's	5 Campus	Wiesel						
5 "Unh-unh"	people	org. for	25 Land-						
8 Tennis	45 Costa —	future	lord's						
great	47 "As I see	ensigns	due						
Arthur	it," in a	6 Okla-	26 Bagh-						
12 — Grey	text	homa	dad's						
tea	49 "Garfield"	city							
13 Vitamin			land						
	dog	7 Convert-	27 Hum-						
stat	50 Fan	ible alter-	dinger						
14 Raced	fave	native	28 School						
15 With (Fr.)	51 "Platoon"	8 Houston	sound						
16 Crew tool	locale	player	system						
17 Old salts	52 Merlot or	9 Crossing	32 Trail mix						
18 Snappy	Chianti	over	bits						
reply	53 — Bear	10 "Fight	33 Thornton						
20 "Phooey!"	54 "Nova"	for You"	Wilder						
22 Many a	subj.	singer	drama						
resort	55 Must	11 Cosmo	35 School						
patron	have	VIPs	org.						
26 Fibber's	nave	19 "Awe-	36 Dis-						
admission	DOWN								
		some,	pensed						
29 Texter's	1 Put on	dude!"	candy						
chuckle	2 Cathedral	21 Have	38 Milan's						
30 — -de-	area	the flu	La —						
France		04	39 Model						
31 Operates	Solution tin	ne: 24 mins.	Camp-						
32 Agent	RIM	ECO	bell						
33 Getting —		ABUTS	42 Actress						
years		DELTAS	Falco						
34 PC key		ORPOUND	43 Movie						
35 Standard									
			44 Feeder						
36 Sound of	PYR	E PECS	44 Feeder						
36 Sound of	P Y R P A B S T	E P E C S S P A R K	filler						
Washing-	P Y R P A B S T B A R S	E P E C S S P A R K D U E L	filler 45 Brink						
Washing- ton	P Y R P A B S T B A R S I A N C A I T E A R S F	E P E C S S P A R K D U E L R E R G A Y	filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert						
Washing- ton 37 One	P Y R P A B S T B A R S A N C A I T E A R S F	E P E C S S P A R K D U E L R E R G A Y	filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and						
Washing- ton 37 One conduct-	P Y R P A B S T B A R S T A N C A I T E A R S F S N I P E E	E P E C S S P A R K D U E L R E R G A Y O R F E A R S S U R I E L S M A T S	filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan						
Washing- ton 37 One conduct- ing an	P A B S T B A R S T A N C A I T E A R S F S N I P R S F	E P E C S S P A R K D U E L R E R G A Y O R F E A R S S U R I E L	filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess						
Washing- ton 37 One conduct-	P A B S T B A R S T A N C A I T E A R S F S N I P E E E P E E S N L S N I P E E	E P E C S S P A R K D U E L R E R G A Y O R F E A R S S U R I E L S M A T S	filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan						
Washing- ton 37 One conduct- ing an interview	P A B S T B A R S T A N C A I T E A R S T S N I P P I T E A R S F I S N I P E I I I S N I P E I	E F E C S S P A R K D U E L K R E R G A Y O R F E A R S O R F E A R S S U R I E L M A T S E S E S S S S S	filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess 48 Buddy						
Washing- ton 37 One conduct- ing an interview	P A B S T B A R S T A N C A I T E A R S F S N I P E E E P E E S N L S N I P E E	E F E C S S P A R K D U E L K R E R G A Y O R F E A R S O R F E A R S S U R I E L L M A T S S L L E S S S S S L E S S S S S S S A T S S S S	filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess						
Washing- ton 37 One conduct- ing an interview	P Y R P A B S T B A R S A N C A I T E A R S F S N I P E S N L Yesterday' 4 5 6	E F E C S S P A R K D U E L K R E R G A Y O R F E A R S U U U R I E I S U R I I E L S U R I I E L S M A T S I S S S S I I S S S S I S S S S I S S S S I S S S S I S S S S I S S S S I S S S S I S S S S I S S S S I S S S S I S S S S <td>filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess 48 Buddy</td>	filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess 48 Buddy						
Washing- ton 37 One conduct- ing an interview	P A B S T B A R S T A N C A I T E A R S T S N I P P I T E A R S F I S N I P E I I I S N I P E I	E F E C S S P A R K D U E L K R E R G A Y O R F E A R S O R F E A R S S U R I E L M A T S E S E S S S S S	filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess 48 Buddy						
Washing- ton 37 One conduct- ing an interview 1 2 3 12 1	P A B S T B A R S T A N C A I T E A R S T S N I I T E A R S Vesterday S N I I I I I I T E A R S N I	E V E C S S P A R K D U E L K R E R G A Y O R F E A R S U U I <td< td=""><td>filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess 48 Buddy</td></td<>	filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess 48 Buddy						
Washing- ton 37 One conduct- ing an interview	P Y R P A B S T B A R S A N C A I T E A R S F S N I P E S N L Yesterday' 4 5 6	E F E C S S P A R K D U E L K R E R G A Y O R F E A R S U U U R I E I S U R I I E L S U R I I E L S M A T S I S S S S I I S S S S I S S S S I S S S S I S S S S I S S S S I S S S S I S S S S I S S S S I S S S S I S S S S I S S S S <td>filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess 48 Buddy</td>	filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess 48 Buddy						
Washing- ton 37 One conduct- ing an interview 1 2 3 12 1	P A B S T B A R S T A N C A I T E A R S T S N I I T E A R S Vesterday S N I I I I I I T E A R S N I	E V E C S S P A R K D U E L K R E R G A Y O R F E A R S U U I <td< td=""><td>filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess 48 Buddy</td></td<>	filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess 48 Buddy						
Washing- ton 37 One conduct- ing an interview 1 2 3 12 15	P A B S T B A R S T B A R S T A N C A I I T E A R S F I T E A R S F I I T E A R S N I P E I <	E V P E C S S P A R K D U E L K R E R G A Y O R F E A R Y O R F E A R Y O R F E A R Y O R F E A R Y O R F E A R K U R I I E L S M A T S K S S S S S S T S S S S 14 T 20 21 17	filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess 48 Buddy						
Washing- ton 37 One conduct- ing an interview 1 2 3 12 15	P A B S T B A R S T A N C A I T E A R S F S N I P E P E E S N I P E S N L Yesterday' 4 5 6 13 16 16 16	E V P E C S S P A R K D U E L K R E R G A Y O R F E A R Y O R F E A R Y O R F E A R Y O R F E A R Y O R F E A R K U R I I E L S M A T S K S S S S S S T S S S S 14 T 20 21 17	filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess 48 Buddy						
Washing- ton 37 One conduct- ing an interview 1 2 3 12 1 15 1 18 1	P A B S T B A R S T A N C A I I T E A R S F I T E A R S F I I T E A R S F I <td< td=""><td>E V P E C S S P A R K D U E L K R E R G A Y O R F E A R K O R F E A R S V U R I E L R S U R I E L R S I E L R S I R I I L L I I I L I <tdi< td=""> <tdi< td=""> I</tdi<></tdi<></td><td>filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess 48 Buddy 9 10 11 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0</td></td<>	E V P E C S S P A R K D U E L K R E R G A Y O R F E A R K O R F E A R S V U R I E L R S U R I E L R S I E L R S I R I I L L I I I L I <tdi< td=""> <tdi< td=""> I</tdi<></tdi<>	filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess 48 Buddy 9 10 11 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0						
Washing- ton 37 One conduct- ing an interview 1 2 3 12 15	P A B S T B A R S T B A R S T A N C A I I T E A R S F I T E A R S F I I T E A R S N I P E I <	E V P E C S S P A R K D U E L K R E R G A Y O R F E A R K O R F E A R S V U R I E L R S U R I E L R S I E L R S I R I I L L I I I L I <tdi< td=""> <tdi< td=""> I</tdi<></tdi<>	filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess 48 Buddy 9 10 11 9 10 11						
Washing- ton 37 One conduct- ing an interview 1 2 3 12 1 15 1 18 1	P A B S T B A R S T A N C A I I T E A R S F I T E A R S F I I T E A R S F I <td< td=""><td>E V P E C S S P A R K D U E L K R E R G A Y O R F E A R K O R F E A R S V U R I E L R S U R I E L R S I E L R S I R I I L L I I I L I <tdi< td=""> <tdi< td=""> I</tdi<></tdi<></td><td>filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess 48 Buddy 9 10 11 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0</td></td<>	E V P E C S S P A R K D U E L K R E R G A Y O R F E A R K O R F E A R S V U R I E L R S U R I E L R S I E L R S I R I I L L I I I L I <tdi< td=""> <tdi< td=""> I</tdi<></tdi<>	filler 45 Brink 46 Gilbert and Sullivan princess 48 Buddy 9 10 11 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0						

39 41

47 48

51

54

42 43 44

49

52

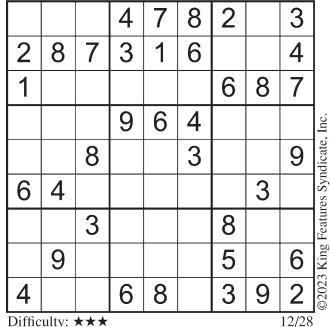
55

38

DOKU

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

King Classic Sudoku



Difficulty: $\star \star \star$

EMPLOYMENT Help Wanted

THE TOWN OF Warren is now accepting applications for Op-erations Manager to oversee all departments of the Town -Water, Sewer, Electric, Street, Park as well as any other duties which could/would be asthrough signed the Town Public Council related to Works operations. Prior Municipal Work Experience, Managerial Experience, and at least one License preferred but all three not required. based on experience Wage level. Applications can be found online at warrenindiana.us or picked up at Town Hall, 132 N. Wayne Street. Applications and resumes will be accepted until January 15. 2024. Call 260-375-2656 for further infor-Call mation. Town of Warren, Indiana, is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Lottery Numbers

Wednesday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY Cash 5 - 02-07-12-19-32

Lotto Plus — 10-21-27-28-32-36

Cash4Life — 01-07-10-25-32, Cash Ball: 03

Ouick Draw Midday — 01-06-15-19-21-22-34-36-37-45-47-50-52-55-61-70-

Help Wanted

THE TOWN OF Warren is now accepting applications for a general labor position serving all departments of the Town -Water, Electric, Sewer, Street, and Park as well as any other duties which could/would be assigned under Town operations. Prior Municipal work exbackground perience, electric work, and/or licensing preferred but not necessary to be considered. Applications be found online at can warrenindiana.us or picked up at Town Hall, 132 N. Wayne Street and will be accepted until January 15, 2024. Call 260-375-2656 for further information. Town of Warren, Indiana, is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

HELOISE HINT: If you want more work or assignments at vour job. Let your employer know that you would like to add extra assignments or stretch tasks. See if you can even get extra compensation for it. Avoid overflowing your schedule or getting burned-out, though. Fax Heloise @ 210-HELOISE (435-6473).

Public Notices

Town of Ossian. Indiana Notice of Receipt of Bids Project: North Collection Sys-tem Improvements

Summary: Along Davis Road between Metts St and SR 1, west across SR 1 to a planned subdivision, and south through existing easements and Town property to Maplewood Drive, Ossian, Indiana, the Project shall consist of a the construction of a regional sanitary lift station with 1,800 linear foot 8-inch diameter force main approximately 900 linear feet of 12-inch gravity interceptor installed by open cut, and approximately 150 linear feet of 12-inch gravity interceptor installed by trenchless technology below SR 1. The proj-ect shall include erosion control and surface restoration and surface restoration. General Plans and Specifications: Complete digital project bidding documents are available www.questcdn.com. Quest CDN will serve as the Issuing Office and maintain the plan holder list. Digital Bidding Documents may be downloaded for a non-refundable fee of \$22 by inputting Quest proj-ect number QuestCDN eBidDoc ect number QuestCDN eBidDoc #8899180 on the website's proj-ects search page. Please contact QuestCDN Customer Support at 952.233.1632 or info@questcdn. com for assistance in member-ship registration, downloading, and working with digital project informa-tion. No paper copies will be provided by the Owner. **Pre-Bid Meeting:** Beginning at 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, January 0000 a.m. 16, 2024, a pre-bid meeting will be held at the Ossian Town Hall, 507 N. Jefferson Street, Ossian, Indi-ana 46777. All prospective bidders ana 46/7/. All prospective bidders are encouraged to attend. **Bids:** All bids must be submit-ted to the Town of Ossian by 12:00 noon, Thursday, January 25, 2024, to be considered for the work. Bids submitted prior to 11:45 a.m. on January 25, 2024, shall be submit-ted at the Ossian Town Hall, 507 N. Jefferson Street, Ossian, IN 46777. Bids submitted after 11:45 a.m. on January 25, 2024, must be delivered to the Ossian Town Council meeting location at Collier's Comfort, 215 N. Jefferson St., Ossian, IN, between 11:45 a.m. and 12:00 noon. Bidders are responsible for the timely delivery of their bids. All bids shall be in sealed envelopes bearing the Project title, "Town of Ossian North Collection System Improvements" and include the name and address of the bidder. All bids shall include fully completed and executed Contractor's Bid for Public Work- Form 96 and E-Verify and Iran Investment Certification. Bids shall be accompanied by a bidder's bond or certified check equal to 5% of the bid amount. Bids arriving after the time set will be returned unopened and only complete bids with all required materials will be considered. Review and Consideration: All bids timely received shall be publicly opened and read aloud at Collier's Comfort, 215 N. Jeffer-son St., Ossian, IN at 12:00 noon, January 25, 2024. The Town of Ossian, Indiana, reserves the right to reject all bids, waive defects and amend the Project's scope. It is anticipated that the Ossian Town Council will take bids received under advisement and that a determination may be made by Febru-ary 12, 2024. By: Town Manager, Crystal Chapman Town of Ossian, Indiana nb 12/28, 1/4 hspaxlp

Help Wanted

K

CNC MACHINIST Hi, tired of working in a dead end job? Running the same machine, making the same part? Feel like you're not getting any better? Not learning any new ma-chining skills? Take this Take this opportunity to become a master machinist. Learn to operate multiple machines, make precision component parts, in our AS100 Certified Job Shop. Perhaps you retired too early and are looking for a part time position we are offering this too. Email:

jturnbull@dedricktool.com 260 824-3334

RENTALS

Office Space Rental GREAT LOCATION MAKE YOUR AD STAND OUT! Add a graphic or photo for an additional \$5. Contact the Bluffton News-Banner of-125 N. Johnson St. 824-0224, or submit online at www.news-banner.com and click on classifieds.

FOR SALE

Home Furnishings



ESTATE WASHER AND Roper dryer, excellent condition, \$75 each, 260-224-2685.

Read & recycle

ADVERTISEMENT TO BID RECONSTRUCTION OF CR 450 EAST FROM CR 1000N TO CR 1100N WELLS COUNTY, INDIANA

Sealed proposals will be received by the Wells County Board of Commissioners, Owner, at the Wells County Auditor's Office at 102 W Market St., Suite 205, Bluffton, IN 46714, until 1:00 P.M. (Local time) on January 24th, 2024 and then will be publicly opened and read aloud in Suite 104. Any bids received later than the above

time will be returned unopened. DESCRIPTION OF WORK: Work for which proposals are to be received is for the full depth reclamation and asphalt overlay of CR 450 East from the intersection of CR 1000N to CR 1100N in Wells County. The work consists of milling the existing roadway surface and base, compacting the base with a combination of cement and aggregate additive minimum roadway base and over-laying the entire roadway with a hot mix asphalt. Final work will be to tie all surfaces and roadway features including mailbox turnouts and driveways into the roadway. BID DOCUMENTS: Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 8 am and 4 pm, and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents as described below. The contract documents, verow. The contract documents, including plans, specifications are available in **print** or **digital** format from eastern Engineering Sup-ply Reprographics, 1239 Wells St., Fort Wayne. Indiana 46808 St., Fort Wayne, Indiana 46808 (telephone: 260-426-3119, fax: 260-426-3101). Printed plans and specifications may be purchased from Eastern Engineering for a non-refundable fee. Bids shall be properly and completely executed on Bid Forms and in the order as identified and contained in the Contract Docu-ments obtainable from the offices as stated above. Each bid shall be accompanied by a completely filled out Form No. 96 (latest revision) and acceptable Bid Security. Any bid not accompanied by the aboverequired items shall be deemed to be a non-responsive bid. No Bidder may withdraw his proposal within a period of 60 days following the date set for the receiving of bids. The Owner reserves the right to retain any and all bids for a period of not more than 60 days and said bid shall remain in full force and effect during said time. The Owner further reserves the right to waive informalities and to award the Contract to any Bidder all to the advantage of the Wells County or to reject all bids BID SECURITY: Each bid shall be accompanied by an acceptable certified check made payable to the Wells County Board of Com-missioners or an acceptable bid of the total bid price executed by an incorporated surety company in good standing and qualified to do business in the State of Indiana and whose name appears on the current Treasury Department Circular 570 BONDS: A Performance Bond and Payment Bond each in the amount of 100% of the Contract price will be required from the Contractor to whom the work is awarded INDIANA REQUIREMENTS: Standard Questionnaire Form 96 (latest revision), completely filled out and signed, including attach-ment of Contractor's Financial Statement as stipulated in Section

Miscellaneous

EVEREST VX3 ICE & WATER VENDING MACHINE This Everest VX3 water/ice vending machine is the perfect addition to any business looking to boost their profits. With the ability to dispense both water and ice, this unit is sure to be a hit with customers. The machine is in great working condition and has been slightly used, making it a cost-effective option for those looking to invest in a vending machine. This unit is made in the United States and comes with a unit quantity of 1. Included is an all season insulation package, ice shield ozone disinfection, and cold fusion energy recovery. It is perfect for placement in other beverage and snack vending locations, as well as in restaurant and food service settings. Don't miss out on the opportunity to make extra money with this Everest VX3 vending machine. \$45,000.00 260-273-7020

glacierpure@outlook.com

Follow us at... twitter.com/newsbanner

VEHICLES

Auto/Trucks

2010 CHEVROLET MALIBU White 4 door 4 cyl black interi-\$2,500.00 OBO 260-273-3393 rmoon1423@gmail.com



Services

MARV'S CONSTRUCTION Room additions, fix old saggy floors, all types remodeling Redo bathrooms, old foundation repairs. Marv Schwartz: 260-525-8877.



LPNs/RNs will be considered Full-Time status and are eligible for benefits including health, dental, vision, and life insurance, Paid Time Off (PTO), and 403(b) retirement plan participation. **\$5,000 Sign On Bonus!!**

Apply online at www.swissvillage.org or send Resume to: Taylor Lehman, VP of Human Resources Swiss Village | 1350 W. Main St. | Berne, IN 46711 or email: careers@swissvillage.org EOE



6-78-79-80, BE: 61 **Daily Three-Midday** 07-04-05, SB: 07 Daily Three-Evening

00-09-06, SB: 02

Daily Four-Midday — 03-05-01-01, SB: 07

Daily Four-Evening – 09-05-08-08, SB: 02

Quick Draw Evening – 01-06-11-12-17-20-26-27-30-31-33-39-48-50-51-52-58-61-63-69, BE: 06

Hoosier Lotto — 03-07-34-35-38-43

MEGA MILLIONS Estimated jackpot (for Friday): \$92 million **POWERBALL** 04-11-38-51-68 Powerball: 05; Power Play: 3X

NOTICE OF HEARING FOR AREA PLAN COMMISSION 12/22/23

Notice is hereby given that the AREA PLAN COMMISSION will hold a Public Hearing in Con-ference Room 105 in the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St., in the City of Bluffton, IN at 7:00 o'clock P.M. on the 4th day of January, 2024, for the purpose of reviewing and hearing comment on the request of Life Community Church Inc., 428 S Oak St., Bluffton, IN 46714 for the purpose of a Rezoning

Current Zoning: R-2 Proposed Rezoning: I-1 Common Location: The sub-

ject property is located at South Street, west of Jersey, Bluffton, Indiana, 46714

Brief Legal: The subject property is described as 0.99 ac, pro-posed vacated alley, & Townley West Lots 44-46 in Harrisson Township of Wells County.

Dated this 22nd day of December, 2023

WELLS COUNTY AREA PLAN COMMISSION Michael Lautzenheiser, Jr., Director oj, nb 12/28

hspaxlp

SUDOKU ANSWER

	15/58						***	. :Aim	Diffic
©202:	7	6	3	9	8	9	F	L	4
3 King	9	4	G	L	3	Z	2	6	8
©2023 King Features Syndicate, Inc.	ŀ	L	8	6	4	2	3	9	G
res Syı	G	3	٢	Z	2	8	6	4	9
ndicate	6	9	4	3	G	٢	8	7	L
, Inc.	8	2	L	4	9	6	ç	٢	3
	Z	8	9	2	6	G	4	3	٢
	4	ç	6	9	٢	3	L	8	2
	3	٢	7	8	L	7	9	G	6

FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WELLS COUNTY, INDIANA By: Shawn Bonar Wells County Highway Superintendent Attest:

By: Lisa McCormick, Auditor Date: December 21, 2023 oj, nb 12/28, 1/11 hspaxlp