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Bobcat season in Indiana? Lawmakers renew push to permit hunting, trapping

**By CASEY SMITH
Indiana Capital Chronicle**
For years, efforts to allow hunting and trapping of bobcats in Indiana have proved unsuccessful. But a bill moving through the General Assembly could soon require the state's Department of Natural Resources to establish a hunting season for bobcats not later than July 1, 2025. Sen. Scott Baldwin, R-Noblesville, who authored Senate Bill 241, said populations of bobcats — Indiana's only native wild cat — have "significantly increased" in the southern and southwestern areas of the state. The senator, who owns 150 acres in southern Indiana and is a self-described outdoorsman, said he wants to prevent the bobcat population from growing out of hand and threatening other animals, like wild Cottontail rabbits, as well as dogs, cats and other pets.

"I think they're a majestic creature that I want to see continue in Indiana, but they are 100 percent an apex predator," said Baldwin, noting that bobcats will prey on deer, turkeys, cottontails and other small game. "In the interest of maintaining biological and ecological homeostasis, I think it's important that we determine how we do this responsibly, and who better than our scientists and biologists at the DNR?" The state agency contemplated a hunting and trapping season for bobcats in 2018 but withdrew the proposed rule after it drew widespread public opposition. A similar bill was filed in 2019 to open hunting for bobcats but never got a hearing. Baldwin's bill has so far found more success, advancing 7-1 from the Senate Natural Resources Committee to full chamber. **Farmers, rural Hoosiers call out bobcat 'problem'** Once an endangered species in Indiana, bobcats were removed from the state's endangered species list in 2018.



A bill advancing in the Indiana General Assembly could lead the state Department of Natural Resources to approve a hunting and trapping season for bobcats. (Photo courtesy of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Since then, the bobcat population has grown — especially in recent years, according to the DNR. The animals are most common in southern Indiana, although their numbers north of I-70 are growing, too. Under Baldwin's proposal, it would be up to the DNR to determine rules, season

dates, what counties would be open, how many bobcats a hunter could take, and the method of killing bobcats. But even if DNR officials approve bobcat hunting, Baldwin said he doesn't foresee the DNR would open the season in every (Continued on Page 2)



Frozensgreenway
Extremely low temperatures froze portions of the Wabash River last week. Pictured is a section of along the Rivergreenway where the ice began to crack and split. (Photo by Holly Gaskill)

Much of U.S. is still gripped by harsh arctic weather

**By TRAVIS LOLLER
Associated Press**
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Subfreezing conditions and treacherous roadways have contributed to dozens of deaths this month across the U.S., where states as far south as Texas and Florida remain gripped by deadly arctic weather Sunday. But the numbing cold is expected to ease up in the coming days. Nationally, winter storms have claimed at least 72 lives around the U.S. this January, many involving hypothermia or road accidents. On Sunday, crews in Memphis, Tennessee, continued to work around the clock to find and fix broken pipes that were causing low water pressure throughout the system. Memphis Light, Gas and Water President and CEO Doug McGowen told reporters Sunday afternoon that crews are making progress and he expects most of the 700,000 people the utility services to have water restored over the next 24 hours.

"If we remain on this very positive path, and we are on a positive path, I believe that by Wednesday we will have pressure sufficient for us to take samples of our water system," he said. "Assuming good results, we think that means a Thursday for lifting of the boil water advisory." McGowen also asked people to stop dripping their faucets to help build pressure in the system. Memphis Light, Gas and Water was repairing 10 water main breaks on Sunday afternoon, and McGowen said he expects to see more as the ground continues to thaw. The utility said it previously repaired 41 broken water mains and located more than 4,000 leaks at homes and businesses.

Rhodes College, in Memphis, began sending students living there home on Saturday and moving those who could not return home to hotels. The school was planning virtual classes on Monday and Tuesday. "We ask that you NOT come to campus either day due to the ongoing water situation and the hazards that creates," the school announcement said. Sam Roth is a junior majoring in politics, philosophy and economics who drove back home to Nashville rather than staying in a hotel where he would still be required to boil water. "Our faucets stopped working, and they said not to use any of the restrooms on our floor, and our showers were not working very well either," he said of the situation in his dormitory. Restaurants and bars were using bottled water to serve customers on Sunday. Some restaurants remained closed, citing the water issue, while others had a modified menu. Memphis was the largest, but not the only, water system in Tennessee to experience problems from the unusually cold weather. The Tennessee Emergency Management Agency said on Saturday night that 28 water systems have issued boil water notices. In Tipton County, the fire department in Mason warned residents on Saturday to be prepared for a multiday water outage. Fire officials said in a Facebook post that water crews were working at all hours to try to isolate and repair leaks. The mayor acknowledged in an interview with WMC-TV that the town has had water issues in the past due to a system that "nobody took care of for a long time" and is (Continued on Page 2)

Palestinian death toll in Gaza surpasses 25K in Israel-Hamas war

**By NAJIB JOBAIN and SAMY MAGDY
Associated Press**
RAFAH, Gaza Strip (AP) — The Palestinian death toll from the war between Israel and Hamas has soared past 25,000, the Health Ministry in the Gaza Strip said Sunday, while Israel announced the death of another hostage and appeared far from achieving its goals of freeing more than 100 others and crushing the militant group. The war's deaths, destruction and displacement are without

precedent in the decades-old Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The war has divided Israelis while the offensive threatens to ignite a wider conflict involving Iran-backed groups in Lebanon, Syria, Iraq and Yemen that support the Palestinians. Furious with the Israeli government and demanding the release of remaining hostages, relatives and others set up a tent camp outside Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's residence in Jerusalem and vowed to stay until a deal is reached. Netanyahu, in a defiant new

statement, said he stressed in his conversation Friday with U.S. President Joe Biden that he rejects Hamas demands for a cease-fire, Israeli forces' withdrawal and the release of Palestinians held by Israel in exchange for the remaining hostages. He said that agreeing means another devastating Hamas attack "would only be a matter of time." Netanyahu also rejects calls from U.S., its closest ally, for postwar plans that would include a path to Palestinian statehood. U.N. Secretary-General Anto-

nio Guterres called the refusal to accept a two-state solution unacceptable. "The Middle East is a tinderbox. We must do all we can to prevent conflict igniting across the region," Guterres added. "And that starts with an immediate humanitarian cease-fire to relieve the suffering in Gaza." **GAZA DEATH TOLL CLIMBS** The war began with Hamas' attack in southern Israel on Oct. 7. Palestinian militants killed some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and took about 250 hostages back to

Gaza. Israel's military announced the death of 19-year-old Sgt. Shay Levinson, who was among the hostages. His date of death was given as Oct. 7, but there were no further details. According to Israeli media, his body is still in Gaza. Israel has responded to the Oct. 7 attack with a bombing campaign and ground invasion that laid waste to entire neighborhoods in northern Gaza and spread south, striking some areas where it told civilians to seek refuge. Ground (Continued on Page 2)

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Outside

Cloudy and windy today, freezing rain tonight

Today	Tuesday	Wed.
High 32	High 38	High 45
Low 30	Low 35	Low 41

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Bobcat season

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county: "I'm just not sure that's necessary yet."

Emily Black, Indiana DNR's legislative and public policy director, said the agency is currently neutral on the bill. The DNR has not made any efforts — legislatively or through rulemaking — to revisit a proposed bobcat season since the last effort failed in 2018.

Most surrounding Indiana — including Iowa, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania — already have hunting seasons for bobcats.

A 2022 Purdue University survey of Hoosier hunters and trappers indicated some support for a bobcat hunting season, but less were in favor of a trapping season.

Still, Charlie Masheck with Hoosier Trapper Supply said "there's not a day that goes by that I'm not hearing about some sort of encounter with a bobcat."

"Whether they're seeing it from a trail cam, from a

tree stand, releasing it from their trap, I mean it's just continuous," he continued. "We probably needed this season six or seven years ago."

Owen County farmer Jonathan McDaniel attributed bobcats to "a big decline" in turkeys around his property. He said a peacock on his farm was also killed in a bobcat attack.

Ed Talucci, who lives in Marion County but also owns property in Owen County, said the bill "makes perfect sense to get ahead of the problem."

"If you see a bobcat, that's an indication there are too many of them around, and I see them squashed on the road," Talucci said. "That tells me that there's something wrong, and they are sustaining themselves. Being the predator that they are — the apex predator — there will come a time when they run out of something to eat. And then that's when it really becomes a problem."

Opposition against bobcat

hunting continues
Although wildlife and environmental groups agree that bobcat numbers are on the rise, they argued that the DNR does not have specific data to support opening a season, given that the animal is hard to count and much of the existing tracking is based on reported sightings. They fear, too, that hunting and trapping will threaten the recovery that's been made.

Erin Huang, a senior specialist for state affairs at the Humane Society of the United States, said the bobcat proposal was "wildly unpopular before," and that it "goes against the public trust doctrine."

"The natural resources are held in trust for all the public to enjoy, and it's the government's duty to maintain and protect the natural resources," Huang said.

Samantha Chapman, Indiana director for the Humane Society of the United States, additionally pointed to a citizen petition recently submitted to the

state's Natural Resources Commission.

"These are wildlife professionals that will consider that (petition) ... and they'll have the data and science," she said. "I think we just need to be very thoughtful and keep in mind not only the opinions of trappers and hunters in this state, but also those who love to go out and in nature and love to see wildlife."

It's not clear if or when the petition will be considered by the commission, though.

Sen. Fady Qaddoura, D-Indianapolis, was the only committee member to vote against the bill. Qaddoura said he did so to ensure that those who spoke in opposition to the proposal were represented.

"If this bill moves unanimously from here, it will send the wrong signal to my fellow colleagues on the Senate floor — that it passed unanimously, and there were no concerns with the bill," he said.

Harsh arctic weather

(Continued from Page 1)
need of updates.

"The whole town has been without water for five days," said exasperated Mason resident Christina Ray. The fire department is handing out water throughout the town of 1,300 residents, but is limiting it to one case per day, per household. That's not enough for her family, which was collecting snow to flush the toilets.

"It's hard to cook. It's hard to flush toilets. It's hard to do dishes. We can't wash laundry," she said.

With warmer temperatures predicted this week, Ray now says she's faced with another worry: the potential of bursting pipes.

The continued cold weather is also responsible for at least 27 deaths in Tennessee, according to the Tennessee Department of Health.

Just south in Mississippi, the state's Emergency Management Agency said Sunday that 11 people have died of causes related to frigid weather since Jan. 14.

Elsewhere, freezing rain, sleet and

high wind gusts later Sunday would make traveling in parts of Kansas and Oklahoma particularly treacherous, the National Weather Service said. Wind chills in Iowa made it feel like minus 20 degrees Fahrenheit in some parts.

But the end of subzero temperatures — which blasted into the U.S. on Friday — was in sight for parts of the country. The daily high temperatures in Iowa's capital of Des Moines, for example, were expected to stay above freezing starting Monday.

"With no additional replenishment of arctic air from Canada, a steady warm-up is in store for the mid-section of the country," the weather service said.

In western New York, Buffalo Bills fans were getting ready for another home playoff game Sunday evening against the Kansas City Chiefs, with temperatures forecast around 20 degrees Fahrenheit, winds around 10 mph and a slight chance of snow showers. On Friday and Saturday, hundreds of people showed up at Highmark Stadium in Orchard Park to help shovel

snow out of the stands for the second week in a row, earning \$20 an hour.

The Erie County Sheriff's Office was urging fans Sunday to not throw snowballs in the stadium or trespass on the new stadium construction site.

In Vermont, temperatures in the single digits to low teens didn't stop ice anglers and snowmobilers from their sport, and young ski jumpers braved the cold as they competed in northern New Hampshire. But 23 skiers and snowboarders had to be rescued in frigid temperatures on Saturday after becoming lost in the backcountry in Killington, Vermont, police said.

On the West Coast, more freezing rain was forecast in the Columbia River Gorge and the area was expected to remain near or below freezing through at least Sunday night. Trees and power lines already coated with ice could topple if they get more, the National Weather Service warned.

"Stay safe out there over the next several days as our region tries to thaw out," the weather service said. "Chunks of falling ice will remain a hazard as well."

911 calls from Maui capture pleas for the stranded, the missing and those caught in fire's chaos

By REBECCA BOONE,
CLAUDIA LAUER
and LINDSAY
WHITEHURST
Associated Press

The day after the deadliest U.S. wildfire in a century destroyed a seaside community on Maui, the barrage of 911 calls didn't stop: Reports of missing people, stranded family members and confused tourists trapped without food or water lit up the emergency lines every few minutes, interspersed with reports of new fires starting and older ones flaring back up.

The 911 recordings from the morning and early afternoon of Aug. 9 were the third batch of calls released by the Maui Police Department in response to a public record request. They show how first responders and emergency dispatchers — many of whom had already worked long hours during what was likely the most harrowing experience of their lives — continued to be hindered by limited staffing and widespread communication failures.

Several callers reached out to 911 throughout the morning asking for wellness checks for relatives or friends they couldn't reach. Cell communications were still down in some areas. Authorities told people to call the nonemergency police number to file missing person reports or so that police could check with the Red Cross and other volunteers who had registered evacuees at the shelters.

But callers who couldn't get through on the non-emergency line, turned to 911.

"My house is in Lahaina, in the fire area. And I have not been able to contact my husband. Is there any way that I can get someone to drive by the house?" a woman asked just after 1:30 p.m.

Another caller at about 9:45 a.m. called to report that his wife was missing.

"She should be in Lahaina. She went to work yesterday," the caller told a dispatcher.

In one case, a 911 caller reported that a family missing their 15-year-old son had been "ignored."

The operator answers were the same each time. Emergency responders weren't able to help find missing people because they were still trying to get everyone to safety, still working hotspots and responding to fires. There weren't enough officers to do house checks or wellness checks, but most of the town had been evacuated to the shelters.

They told callers to wait for cellphone communications to return and to keep trying the non-emergency line.

"I'm really sorry, that's all I can give you right now," one operator said.

Maui County and police officials did not immediately respond to messages seeking comment on Saturday.

One hundred people died because of the Lahaina fire, and thousands of survivors remain displaced because

their homes were destroyed or badly damaged.

Callers turned to 911 when information was scarce or when they heard contradicting information.

A handful of residents called to ask if the Lahaina Bypass had reopened, saying they had heard an announcement on the radio that it had opened for traffic. Emergency dispatchers repeatedly batted down the misinformation.

Early in the morning dispatchers rebuked some callers asking how to get to the airport, or what roads would be open, saying the line was for emergencies only.

One caller retold how he and his family while evacuating had grabbed an elderly couple to help them also get out of Lahaina. But he said the husband had gone with him and the wife had gone with his uncle, and they could not contact each other to reunite the couple.

"We don't know what to do with him," the caller said.

"You can bring him to one of the emergency shelters so he can rest and get something to drink," the dispatcher told him, adding that once communications were back up, the volunteers there could help find his wife.

Dispatchers were forced to deal with sometimes impossible situations, try-

ing to reassure people while also knowing resources were scarce.

An exhausted Lahaina survivor, walking along the highway south of town, called asking for help just before 1 p.m.

"Our house is all burned down and everyone is just passing us by. We're dying out here. There's like 12 of us, all like walking along the Pali," he said, using a nickname for a coastal, cliffside portion of the Honoapiilani Highway. He asked for someone to pick the group up, saying he feared dying of heat exhaustion.

The dispatcher said there were no buses to come get them, but they could send ambulances if they needed.

Just before 11 a.m., someone from another island called on behalf of some Lahaina residents who lost their home and vehicles but had fled up the mountain, away from the burning town.

"She's got her husband and their two children and then some neighbors," the caller said. The group was safe from the fire, but had no food and water and no way to evacuate.

"I'm going to let the fire department know," the dispatcher said, "but we are really short on resources. And they're going to see what they can do."

Weather

Monday, January 22, 2024

(24-hour observations at 9:49 p.m. Sunday)

High: 20; Low: -1; Precipitation: None
Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.63 feet at 8:45 p.m. Sunday

Wells County forecast

Today: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 32. Southwest wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Tonight: Freezing rain before 4 a.m., then rain. Low around 30. Southwest wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100 percent. New ice accumulation of less than a 0.1 of an inch possible.

Tuesday: Rain, mainly before 1 p.m. High near 38. South wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90 percent. New precipitation amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch possible.

Tuesday Night: Rain likely. Cloudy, with a low around 35. South wind 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70 percent.

Wednesday: Rain likely. Cloudy, with a high near 45. Chance of precipitation is 70 percent. New precipitation amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch possible.

Wednesday Night: Rain likely. Cloudy, with a low around 41. Chance of precipitation is 70 percent.

Thursday: Rain likely, mainly before 1 p.m. Cloudy, with a high near 53. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent.

Thursday Night: A 30 percent chance of rain, mainly before 1 a.m. Cloudy, with a low around 39.

Friday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 44.

Friday Night: Cloudy, with a low around 35.

Saturday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 42.

Saturday Night: Cloudy, with a low around 32.

Sunday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 38.

Israel-Hamas war

(Continued from Page 1)

operations are now focused on the southern city of Khan Younis and built-up refugee camps in central Gaza dating to the 1948 war surrounding Israel's creation.

"The plumes of smoke from tanks, artillery and the planes of the air force will continue to cover the sky over the Gaza Strip until we will achieve our goals," Defense Minister Yoav Gallant said.

Since the war started, 25,105 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza, while another 62,681 have been wounded, the Health Ministry said. The toll included the 178 bodies brought to Gaza's hospitals since Saturday, Health Ministry spokesperson Ashraf al-Qidra said.

The overall toll is thought to be higher because many casualties remain buried under rubble or in areas that medics cannot reach, Al-Qidra said.

The Health Ministry does not differentiate between civilians and combatants in its figures but says about two-thirds of the people killed in Gaza were women and minors. The ministry is part of the Hamas-run government, but its casualty figures from previous wars were largely consistent with those of U.N. agencies and even the Israeli military.

The Israeli military says it has killed around 9,000 militants, without providing evidence, and blames the high civilian death toll on Hamas because it positions fighters, tunnels and other militant infrastructure in dense neighborhoods. The military released footage of a tunnel under a residential neighborhood in Khan Younis where the army believes at least 20 hostages were kept at different times.

Israel's military said the demolition last week of a key building at Israa University in Gaza was under review, and asserted that preliminary findings indicated Hamas had used the compound for military purposes. The university has said the "attack" came weeks after Israeli forces occupied the building.

The war has displaced some 85 percent of Gaza's residents, with hundreds of thousands packing U.N.-run shelters and camps in the south. U.N. officials say a quarter of the population of

2.3 million is starving as a trickle of humanitarian aid reaches them because of the fighting and Israeli restrictions.

Israel said 260 trucks of aid entered Gaza on Sunday, the highest number since the war began. About 500 entered daily before that, according to the U.N.

"Bread does not suffice for one hour," said Ahmad Al-Nashawi, who accepted donated food at a tent camp in the southern city of Rafah. "You can see how many children we have other than women and men. What matters most for a child is to eat."

ISRAEL IS INCREASINGLY DIVIDED

At the new protest camp outside Netanyahu's Jerusalem residence, hostages' families urged the government to act.

"It's not logical that you're telling us the war must continue, and you keep saying that because of military pressure we will release them, but we don't see a single one released because of this pressure," said Gilad Korengold, the father of hostage Tal Shoham.

Some top Israeli officials have begun to acknowledge that Netanyahu's goals of "complete victory" over Hamas and returning the remaining hostages might be mutually exclusive.

A member of Israel's War Cabinet, former army chief Gadi Eisenkot, said last week that the only way to free the hostages was through a cease-fire.

But Netanyahu's far-right coalition partners push him to step up the offensive, with some calling for the "voluntary" emigration of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians from Gaza and the re-establishment of Jewish settlements there.

Hamas is believed to be using the hostages as shields for its top leaders. Israel has rescued one hostage, and Hamas says several have been killed in Israeli airstrikes or during failed rescue operations.

Hostages' families want an exchange like the one during a weeklong November cease-fire. Other Israelis are frustrated by the security failures ahead of the Oct. 7 attack and by Netanyahu's handling of the war.

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OBITUARIES

Michael R. Luley, 69

Michael "Mike" R. Luley, 69, of rural Huntington, passed away Saturday evening, Jan. 20, 2024, at Markle Health and Rehabilitation.

Mike was born in Fort Wayne on Sept. 27, 1954, to Raymond J. and Joan M. (Laux) Luley. He married Belinda A. (Davis) Tobias in Fort Wayne on March 13, 1981; she survives.

Mike attended North Side High School in Fort Wayne and worked at Phelps Dodge in New Haven for 22 years, spending 13 of those years a foreman. He then worked as a dock employee at Genova Products in Fort Wayne for 13 years before retiring. He enjoyed fishing and also collecting and refurbishing cast-iron skillets.

In addition to his wife, Mike is survived by three daughters, Jennifer (Thad) Warble of Goshen, Heather (David) Vogel of Ossian, and Lana (Mandy) Tobias of Pleasant Garden, N.C.; a son, Jason Luley of Cromwell; three sisters, Christine Luley of Fort Wayne, Mary Ann (Kevin) Barwiler of Fort Wayne, and Kathleen Leiner of Huntington; a brother, Daniel (Norene) Luley of Fort Wayne; along with 11 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be Friday, Jan. 26, 2024, from 4:00 until 6:00 p.m., at Goodwin - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton, followed by a memorial service at 6:00 p.m., with Rev. Dan Eckelbarger officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family, in care of the funeral home, or the Wells County Friends of the Shelter.

Online condolences may be made at www.goodwin-cale-harnish.com.



House panel hears gun advocate support, banker concerns on privacy bill

By **LESLIE BONILLA MUÑIZ**
Indiana Capital Chronicle

A House committee on Thursday heard testimony — but delayed a vote — for a bill that some said would preserve gun owner privacy but that financial institutions feared could burden them with hefty compliance costs.

"This bill is in response to activism by large corporations and global organizations who sought to institute new merchant category codes to track firearm purchases," Rep. Jake Teshka, R-North Liberty, told the committee.

An international standards organization — of which the U.S. is a member — approved a code specific to firearm sellers in 2022.

That decision followed advocacy from prominent Democrats like U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts, and was spearheaded by the self-described "socially responsible" Amalgamated Bank of New York, Reuters reports. At the time, advocates said the code could help track suspicious purchase activity linked to mass shootings.

Major payment networks like Mastercard and Visa announced in 2023 that they'd paused implementation work, citing pushback, according to Reuters. And several states have blocked use of the code.

Teshka and his bill's supporters want Indiana to be the next.

House Bill 1084 would prohibit any governmental entities or others from keeping lists of privately owned firearms or their owners.

To that end, the bill seeks to prevent payment processors from labeling purchases with a firearm merchant-specific merchant category code. It

would empower the attorney general to enforce that ban, laying out a legal process that could end in civil penalties of up to \$10,000 per violation.

Such codes mark the retailer type but don't indicate what was purchased. They're often used for category-based credit card rewards or by consumers to budget.

Gun rights advocates call out 'discrimination'

Guy Relford, the founder of a gun-rights group and Second Amendment attorney, asserted that mobile payment company Square had refused to do business with him because of his links to firearms. He also said he knew gun sellers whose banks had closed their accounts.

"The discrimination is real," he said. "It's not imagined."

Some Democrat lawmakers suggested retailers and customers could still use cash, but Relford and other gun-rights advocates said that's not realistic.

Relford noted that it's infeasible to run a cash-only gun shop that doesn't interact with financial institutions, and that some businesses have stopped accepting cash payments.

Rep. Kyle Pierce, R-Anderson, remarked that firearms cost thousands of dollars, and paying in cash could require keeping large sums of money on one's person.

National Shooting Sports Foundation Government Relations Director Christopher Lee said he didn't think the code would improve safety because it wouldn't catch what's purchased and could result in innocuous purchases being flagged.

"I don't want my lawful purchases

to be tracked and profiled," he said.

Lee also suggested people trying to circumvent the new code would buy firearms at big box stores like Walmart — which would keep a general retailer code — instead of local gun shops.

Financial institutions worry

While no anti-gun witnesses testified on the bill, credit unions and banks said the bill stood to punish them for something outside their control.

"As credit unions in particular, most of us are small, local community institutions. We're not Citibank, we're not Chase. We're not in Switzerland, or whatever," said Chris Beaumont, the executive vice president of the Indiana Credit Union League. "And we're trying to survive in a really competitive, really highly regulated industry and not get dragged into these kinds of conversations."

Beaumont said it's the payment networks that control whether the code gets used.

He and the Indiana Bankers Association's Ross Teare said the networks pass the codes down to payment processors and depository institutions, which house the codes and other information "on the back end."

They said the bill would require them to keep watch for codes on every transaction, then root out those that pop up.

Beaumont said that's a "really high regulatory burden, particularly for a lot of smaller credit unions that just don't have the manpower and technology."

He went on to call the bill's enforcement mechanism a "dream for lawyers."

The bill is expected to be amended next week — to allay concerns from financial institutions — and then voted on.

Court News

Wells Superior Court Criminal Cases

Destine Angel Martinez, 25, Poneto, appeared in the Wells Superior Court on Wednesday for a hearing to revoke her suspended sentence hearing. Martinez was ordered to serve an additional six months on probation. The sentence was issued after Martinez admitted to the violation.

In December of 2022, Martinez was sentenced to 363 days in the Indiana Department of Corrections with all but two days suspended after she pled guilty to pointing a firearm, a Level 6 felony. Martinez is also required to pay court costs and filing fees in the amount of \$840.

Joshua J. Aber, 28, Bluffton, was sentenced to 365 days in the Wells County

Jail with all but two days suspended. The sentence was issued after Aber pled guilty to one county of domestic battery resulting in bodily injury, a Class A misdemeanor. Aber is also ordered to serve 363 days on probation.

Jennifer J. Griffin appeared in the Wells Superior Court for a hearing to revoke her suspended sentence. Griffin denied the allegations and a hearing is scheduled for 9 a.m. on Feb. 26 in the Wells Superior Court.

In June of 2022, Griffin was sentenced to 548 days in the Indiana Department of Corrections with 542 days suspended. Griffin was also ordered to spend 542 days on probation. A petition to revoke the suspended sentence was filed on Nov. 8.

Holcomb takes economic development trip to Canada

By **WHITNEY DOWNARD, Indiana Capital Chronicle**

Gov. Eric Holcomb and a delegation from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation will visit Canada next week on an economic development trip with a focus on energy transition, generation and storage. It will be Holcomb's second trade mission to Canada as governor.

"Indiana's growing economy continues to gain recognition on both the national and global stage," said Holcomb in a release. "As industries adapt, evolve and innovate their way into the future, Indiana is proving to be a valued strategic partner in overcoming any challenge that may develop along the way. Our vision and mission are aligned as we partner and enthusiastically power our way forward together. Indiana's proud to reinforce our important partnerships with regions like Ontario as we work together to create an even higher quality of life and place for all those who call our regions home."

The group will travel to Ontario on Monday, Jan. 22 to meet with provincial officials, including Premier Doug Ford. Next, the Indiana delegation will visit the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station, which generates more than 20 percent of Ontario's electricity needs — equal to powering roughly 2 million homes.

On Tuesday, Holcomb will pitch Indiana as a potential location for development to energy industry stakeholders at a roundtable hosted by the American Chamber of Commerce in Canada and at a reception hosted by U.S. Consul General Baxter Hunt.

The group returns to Indiana on Wednesday. The release did not specify who would pay for the trip but the Indiana Economic Development Foundation has funded previous travels.

Protestors disrupt antisemitism bill

Critique lack of recognition for Islamophobia

By **WHITNEY DOWNARD**
Indiana Capital Chronicle

House lawmakers unanimously passed a bill defining antisemitism in educational settings with little discussion, even as protestors interrupted proceedings and chanted outside.

At the top of the bill's discussion, House Speaker Todd Huston reminded the crowded gallery that signs were not permitted and Indiana State Police removed one person from the House Chamber after they shouted, "Resistance is now antisemitism."

Rep. Chris Jeter, R-Fishers, introduced his bill by asking the body "to send a message to all of our Jewish students, all over the country that we've seen them and hear them. We love them," Jeter said. "This continues a long history of unity and solidarity."

The bill is identical to a bill Jeter got through the House in 2023 but that died when it didn't receive a hearing in the Senate.

Jeter specifically mentioned Oct. 7 — the day terror group Hamas invaded Israel, killed an estimated 1,200 people and kidnapped roughly 250 others. In response, Israel launched an assault on Hamas, beginning a ground invasion in Gaza that has killed tens of thousands of Palestinians.

No other sitting member spoke on the bill, which passed 81-0. But 17 members were excused, including 13 Democrats.

In response to the vote, the crowd outside of the chamber started chant-

ing, "Free Palestine" and "Shame on you."

Protestors appeared to be mostly college students, including Indiana University — Purdue University Indianapolis junior Sarah Ahmed, who said she was part of a group that also testified against the bill in committee.

Like others, she noted that Jewish Hoosiers are already a protected class under the state's anti-discrimination ban. House Bill 1002 adds antisemitism specifically to the state's public policy regarding educational institutions.

"They are saying that this bill is only going to affect what is taught and that is absolutely not true," said Ahmed. "(It) covers scholarships, student contracts, teacher contracts for colleges and teacher contracts for high schools."

The bill explicitly states that antisemitism "does not include criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country." Several other protestors held signs explicitly saying that criticizing Israel wasn't antisemitic.

Senate Minority Leader Greg Taylor also had concerns about whether the bill would have an unintended impact on free speech.

"The First Amendment right is one of the things that we cherish the most. And I can say something bad about the United States, but I'm not anti-American," Taylor, D-Indianapolis, said. "But if I say something bad about Israel, I'm anti-Israel or I'm anti-semitic? Those are questions that we need

time to flush through."

Senate President Pro Tem Rodric Bray called the bill a "really, really important issue," especially following October's events but didn't commit to whether his caucus would advance the measure.

"We'll discuss it in light of that and see if it's something that the Senate wants to move forward with," said Bray, R-Martinsville.

Antisemitism has spiked in the months following the Oct. 7 attack — but so too has Islamophobia. Democrats filed an amendment adding Islamophobia to the bill but didn't call the amendment down earlier this week.

Rep. Victoria Garcia Wilburn, D-Fishers, released a lengthy statement following her yes vote, saying she hoped it was "the first step to addressing hate in all of its forms."

Huston, R-Fishers, said lawmakers could still file a bill on Islamophobia before the filing deadline but didn't discuss adding it to Jeter's bill, which is a priority for the Republican House caucus.

Financial Focus

Treasury bonds: Still safe for investors

You may have read reports about an impending "debt crisis" in the U.S. Should you be worried about investing in Treasury securities?

The upward trend of federal debt could prove problematic down the road — but the claims of a current crisis may be overblown. And Treasury securities are still considered among the safest investments in the world, as they are secured by the United States' full faith and credit — that is, the ability to borrow and tax.

You can purchase Treasuries as notes, bills or bonds, all of which have different maturities. When you buy Treasury notes or bonds, you receive semiannual interest payments, but when you purchase a Treasury bill — a T-bill — you generally buy it at a discount, and when the bill matures, you receive its face value.

There are also Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities, or TIPS, in which the value of the principal is indexed for inflation.

Don't let scary or gloomy predictions discourage you from considering Treasuries — they remain a secure option as part of the fixed-income side of your portfolio.

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Compromise is hard

Well, another Republican Speaker of the House of Representatives is in trouble with the most extreme of his own party. The bipartisan budget deal reached by Speaker Mike Johnson and Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer, presumably with White House blessing, is too repugnant for these true believers to swallow.

In the interest of fair disclosure, I admit to agreeing with the Freedom Caucus' principles. Something has to be done about the annual multi-trillion-dollar federal deficits and the ever increasing national debt load. It is simply unsustainable, the voodoo economics of the new monetary theory notwithstanding.

It is the Freedom Caucus' tactics I disagree with, and the political strategy informing these tactics. Their calculus must be based on the razor slim majority the Republicans hold in the House and the need for their acquiescence on any deals. Fine, except that the Democrat controlled Senate and the Democrat White House also must be parties to any agreement.

Speaker Johnson finds himself on the horns of the same dilemma as his predecessor: Satisfy the Freedom Caucus and lose any hope of Senate passage or negotiate something passable within the Senate and be stymied by parliamentary maneuvers on the House floor. You need to be half crazy to want that job.

Not that the Democrats aren't equally responsible for Congress's systemic inability to pass a budget. Since their party colleagues on the Senate side appear willing to pass the compromise, they could vote for it in the House and put the Freedom Caucus on the irrelevancy shelf.

One must assume that they would rather score potential political points by letting the Republicans dangle from a very breakable limb. They know their history. If it comes to another government shutdown due to a failed budget, the Republicans will get all the blame. A national media hostile to the Republicans will see to it.

So what can we do? My answer to that is to look backward in order to see the way forward, and there is no better time in the past than the Founding Fathers era to be instructed on how to make democracy work.

The Constitutional Convention should be studied by all elected officials as a prerequisite for taking office. It will be informative and humbling, even given our 21st century egoism. The convention can be summed up with this verdict: We have a constitution because 39 men saw compromise as a reachable path to a higher good.

Nearly every issue contained a fault line that threatened to open an unbridgeable chasm. Yet somehow these determined and opinionated men found enough common ground to reach agreement. A lot of horse trading went on, both openly and privately. What I wouldn't give to have been there as a fly on the wall while these debates occurred.

Sometimes the compromise reached seemed to antagonize everyone. Consider the Great Compromise, the one which still arouses righteous anger among our current day presentists who judge all past actions by present standards and biases. It involved slavery, of course.

New England, the commercial center of the nation, wanted federal sovereignty on trade issues both internal and external. Trade wars between the states were just one of the failures of the Articles of Confederation. These states were also home to some of the most anti-slavery sentiments in the land.

Southern states, all based on agricultural economies dependent on slave labor, didn't want federal interference with their agricultural exports and their importation of foreign goods. But they wanted federal hands-off slavery even more.

Why would these incompatible viewpoints find reconciliation in any kind of agreement? The New Englanders agreed to a 20-year period of no federal regulation of the slave trade, something that had to be obnoxious to many of them. In return they gained assurance of uniform trade legislation and tariffs across and among all the states.

Should New England have refused such a compromise as abhorrent to their moral philosophy? If they had, would the southern states have left the convention and formed their own confederacy 70 years earlier than what actually happened? Is tolerating a current wrong to mitigate its future evil impact a moral thing to do or is it just a deal with the Devil? The question of moral agency has occupied philosophers for centuries and I don't presume to have anything original to add.

The on-going budget contretemps in Congress is an important issue but it hardly rises to the level faced by our founders in 1787. We can only speculate what would have happened in Philadelphia back then absent the Great Compromise but it is not unreasonable to posit a breakup of the constitutional convention and no United States of united states. They saw it through to the end, and we all benefit from their perseverance.

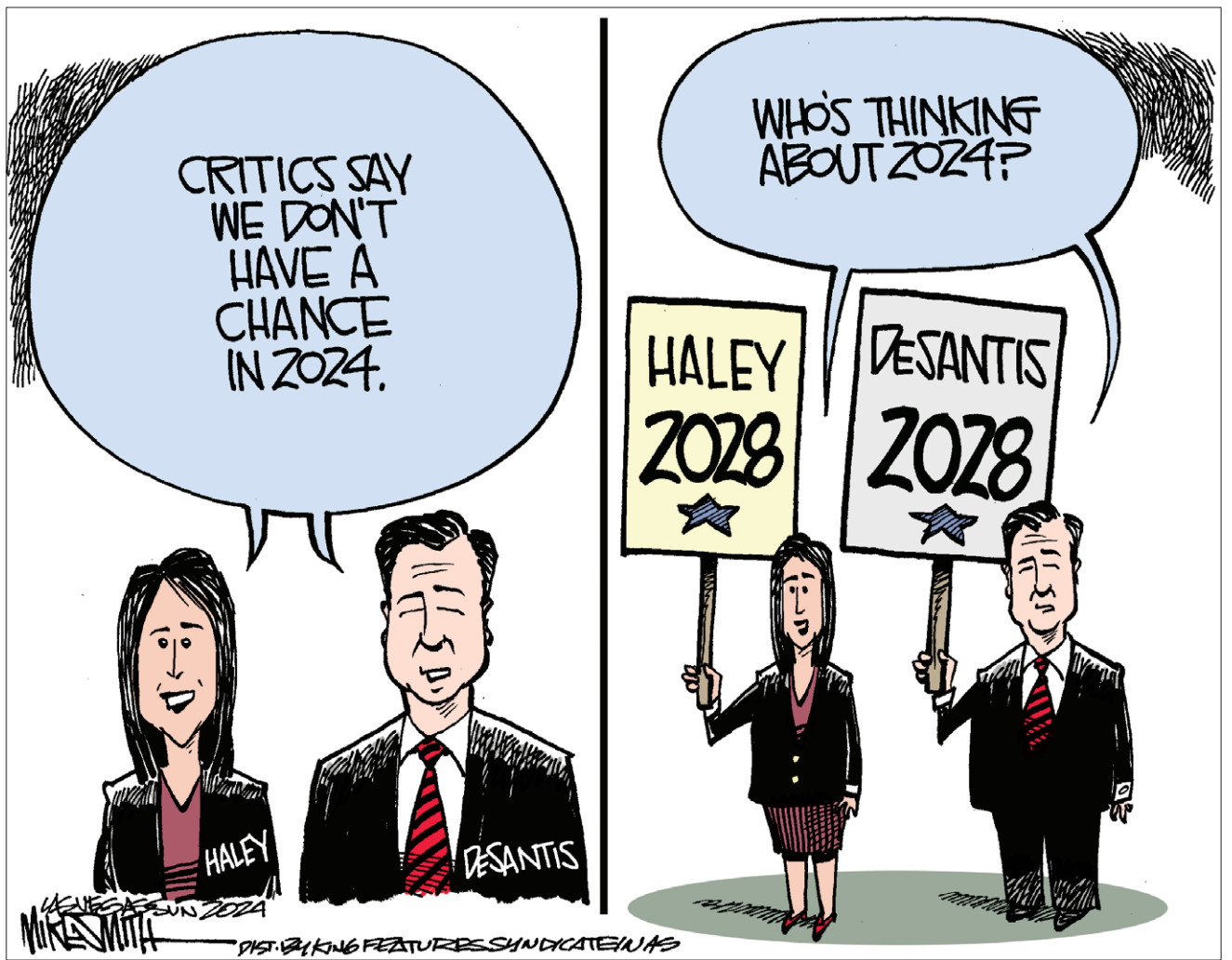
We Lilliputians might learn much at the feet of those Brobdingnagians.

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



Mark Franke

Hoosier Opinions



No Gary Hart bounce for DeSantis or Haley

Forty years ago, when Walter Mondale won 49% in Iowa's Democratic caucuses, far ahead of Gary Hart's 16%, the media spotlight nonetheless immediately focused. With the help of a brilliant spot by consultant Ray Strother showing him tossing a hatchet into a tree, Hart went on to win the New Hampshire primary eight days later, 37% to 28%, and he suddenly became the favorite.

At the time, I thought Mondale's performance was a more significant story than Hart's. But only when Mondale, in debate, lampooned Hart's platform as flimsy by echoing a Wendy's "where's the beef?" ad did the former vice president turn the race around, and he cinched the nomination only in the last primaries that June.

If the Hart precedent held this year, Ron DeSantis, with 21% of the vote, and Nikki Haley, with 19%, should be the focus of media attention in the seven days until the New Hampshire primary and the several weeks until the Nevada caucuses and South Carolina primary. Each trailed Donald Trump by slightly smaller margins than Hart trailed Mondale.

But unlike Hart, neither outpolled the polls. This cycle's final iteration of Ann Selzer's Des Moines Register/NBC News poll showed Trump leading with 48% to 16% for DeSantis and 20% for Haley.

Taking into account the data showing Haley voters with low levels of commitment and the weather forecast of subzero blizzards, Selzer got the numbers and order of finish right: "If turnout is low, it seems to me that a disproportionate share of [Haley's] supporters might stay at home." In retrospect, the Associated Press and the networks who were so eager to call the contest early could have done so on the release of Selzer's poll.

Nonetheless, the prospects for DeSantis and Haley seem dismal compared to those of Hart in 1984.

One reason is that Democratic voters' ties to Mondale then were not nearly so strong or emotional as Republican voters' ties to Trump today. As Jimmy Carter's in-the-loop vice president, Mondale was universally recognized as experienced (Reagan's debate line promising not to exploit his "youth and inexperience" wouldn't have worked otherwise). His impeccable loyalty to Carter impressed moderate Democrats, and his background as a Hubert Humphrey acolyte impressed liberals.

Contemporary Republicans' responses to Trump are more visceral and emotional. Supporters praise him for keeping all his promises, though he failed to build his big and beautiful wall, and for upholding traditional values that he has famously flouted in his personal life.

They see him as a protector of traditional American values against aggressive liberal assaults, against Black Lives Matter followers who would defund police, against transgender advocates who would allow men in women's bathrooms, against Biden policies that amount to an open southern border.

The record is clear that Trump's support among Republicans skyrocketed when Democratic prosecutors brought flimsy criminal actions against him. His lead over DeSantis in national polls rose from 15 points when Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg last March 30 brought a charge of fraud (on which no one was defrauded) to 32 points three weeks later, Trump's exact margin over DeSantis in Iowa this week.

Trump has been criminally charged for contesting the 2020 election results, something not usually considered criminal, and the Mar-a-Lago prosecution for illegally retaining presidential records in Mar-a-Lago stands in contrast with Democratic prosecutors' nonindictment of Hillary Clinton for acts far more likely to have exposed American secrets to enemies.

It should not be hard to understand, even for those who find Trump's persona distasteful, his varying stands on issues mistaken, and his conduct on Jan. 6, 2021, indefensible, why many of his co-partisans believe he is being unfairly treated.

DeSantis' prospects going forward look dismal. He carried only a handful of precincts in Iowa after campaigning indefatigably in all 99 counties. Many Trump voters have positive feelings toward him, but not as positive as their feelings toward Trump. His threat to challenge Haley in her home state of South Carolina, which doesn't vote until Feb. 24, seems hollow. DeSantis' campaign has been based on steely logic and the facts of his accomplishments in Florida. But in politics, prose can be beaten by even dreadful poetry.

Haley's prospects don't look much better. She may well win in New Hampshire, the primary electorate of which includes many non-Republicans and few evangelicals, but her appeal in Iowa was limited to upscale college graduates -- the "wine track" Republicans that just barely eked out primary victories for John McCain and Mitt Romney in 2008 and 2012.

But the party is now dominated by "beer track" Republicans, as pollster Patrick Ruffini argues persuasively in his 2023 book "Party of the People: Inside the Multiracial Populist Coalition Remaking the GOP." And no one back in 1984 paid much attention to the candidate who finished third in Iowa. (I had to look it up: It was George McGovern.)

In 1984, Democrats were vying for the nomination to face Ronald Reagan, who turned 73 two weeks before the Iowa caucuses, whose chief vulnerability seemed to be his unprecedentedly advanced age. Now we have a 77-year-old Republican former president apparently on the way to face the 81-year-old Democratic incumbent. Twenty two days into the new year, the vicissitudes of age seem the only serious threat to the two presidents' renominations.

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Michael Barone

Abortion, sacred truths and politics

Speaking in Blue Bell, Pennsylvania, on Jan. 6, President Biden said that the 2024 election is about whether "democracy" is "still America's sacred cause."

But is democracy "sacred"?

Is the process by which we make choices "sacred," or is what we choose "sacred"?

This is the time of year we think about sanctity of life. Although Roe v. Wade is no longer law of the land, the abortion issue is still very much before us as the U.S. Congress and as states across the nation work to crystallize what the next chapter will look like regarding abortion policy in our country.

March for Life events will take place across the nation, as every year, noting the Jan. 22, 1973, Roe v. Wade decision that opened the door for more than 63 million unborn children destroyed in the womb.

The abortion policy debate is defined by those who call themselves "pro-choice" and those who define their view as "pro-life."

"Pro-choice" basically says that what is most important is the process -- that women are free to choose whether to abort. What is most important, in this view, is not what is chosen, but that there is choice.

Those who are "pro-life" focus on what is chosen as the key. The issue is sanctity of life. Life is what is



Star Parker

sacred.

I often note the parallel to slavery.

Sen. Stephen Douglas of Illinois, in the 1850s, championed democracy as the answer to how the nation would deal with the issue of slavery for new states entering the union. New states would decide whether slavery would be permitted in their state by voting.

Again, the importance was given to process -- how the choice is made -- and not to what is chosen.

Abraham Lincoln's response to Douglas's proposition was: "God did not place good and evil before man, telling him to make his choice. On the contrary, he did tell him there was one tree, of the fruit of which he should not eat, upon pain of certain death. I should scarcely wish so strong a prohibition against slavery in Nebraska."

For Lincoln, the focus of importance was on what is chosen -- that good be chosen over evil. And, for Lincoln, slavery was clearly evil.

Democracy was not the answer. Making the correct moral choice was the answer.

In Biden's remarks on Jan. 6, he cited Gen. George Washington's leadership during the American war of independence, and Washington's calling the values for which they were struggling "sacred."

Was Washington talking about a

struggle for a political process or a struggle for sacred truths?

We can answer this by noting Washington's famous remarks in his farewell address to the nation in 1796.

"It is substantially true that virtue or morality is a necessary spring of popular government," said Washington. "Where is the security for property, for reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation desert the oaths, which are the instruments of investigation in courts of justice? And let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion."

Latest Gallup polling says 28% are satisfied with the way democracy is working in our country -- an all-time low. Only 22% are satisfied with the direction of the country.

I think what is really bothering Americans is not about the state of our political processes but that we have lost touch with the core principles and truths that define our country.

Slow economic growth, inflation, breakdown of the American family, massive government spending and debt all point to a breakdown of sacred truths, not political processes.

It's not about how we choose but what we choose.

And to return to the abortion issue, I don't see how a nation can see itself as free, with control over its destiny, without appreciation for the sanctity of life.

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At the conclusion of the program Alan Daugherty, seated, signed copies of his book while book purchaser Pam Oleson, at left looked on. At the right is Marcia Hotopp, who was selling books about Wells County Schools, which she helped author. (Photo by Barbara Barbieri)

A Bluffton history lesson Alan Daugherty talks about E.B. Williamson

By BARBARA BARBIERI

Folks attending the history talk presented by Alan Daugherty on Tuesday evening at the Wells County Public Library learned about the three reasons that E.B. Williamson was so important to Wells County's history.

(Daugherty is the author of a book about Edward Bruce Williamson.)

Though Williamson first was a banker his other two fields of expertise brought fame to him and Bluffton in the early 1900s. He was an expert on hybridizing Iris flowers and his Iris farm, just west of Bluffton (now the old Columbian School area) had visitors from all over the world.

One of his flowers was named the Lent A Williamson in 1918, after his father who also was a banker at the Wells County Bank.

E.B.'s research and his collection of Dragonflies also brought visitors to his "Bug Room" in Bluffton. The only larger collection of the insects was claimed by Queen Elizabeth of England.

One of the dragonflies was identi-

fied as found along the Wabash River just east of the Main Street bridge.

E.B., called Bruce by his family, also was a buddy of Charles Deam and it was E.B. and his father Lent who actually discovered the Deam Oak tree. When Deam purchased the property to save the tree the Williamson named the find after "Charlie."

Another interesting fact unveiled by Daugherty was that concerts were being presented at the Kehoe Park area in June of 1906 as the area was then called Studabaker Grove.

Also present for the program was Beth Steury, who had researched the Williamson family tree and E.B.'s three adopted children (Dorothea, Jane and Mary). This information also is included in Daugherty's book.

Also of interest is that one of the sites where the book is being sold (A Harvest of Health Nutrition & Wellness Center on St. Rd. 1) is a former home of the Williamson family.

Daugherty also showed photos of some of the sites he talked about.

barb@news-banner.com

Zanesville News

by Melba Edwards

Some things coming up you may be interested in:

The Mizpah Shrine Circus will be coming to Fort Wayne at the Coliseum Jan. 26-28. Shows are Friday at 7 p.m., Saturday at 10 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. The price per tickets start at \$16 per person with other information at allcaccess@memorial-coliseum.com.

Saturday, Jan. 27, the Zanesville United Brethren on Broadway will be hosting a free movie night. Bingo begins at 4 p.m., pizza at 5:30 p.m., and popcorn plus movie at 6 p.m. All are welcome to attend. A history note: 100 years ago in the summer of 1924 Knights store hosted free moving pictures!

Winter Jam is an annual Christian rock concert at the Coliseum on Thursday, Feb. 15.

Tuesday, April 9, is the Tin Caps opening day at Parkview Field.

The Fort Wayne Chil-

dren's Zoo opening day is April 27.

The Allen County Fair is June 18-23 at the fairgrounds.

Three River's Festival is July 12-20.

The Zanesville Lions annual festival/car show is Saturday, July 27.

The Auburn Cord Duesenberg Festival in Auburn is Aug. 29-31.

Johnny Appleseed Festival is Sept. 21 and 22.

Now your calendar is full but there are lots more things to do around Zanesville in 2024.

Applications for the local BBB's Students of Integrity Scholarship program are due on Feb. 15. You have a chance to win one of six scholarships amounting to \$2,000 each for the tuition and educational expenses of your 2024-2025 academic year. Go to scholarship northern-indiana.bbb.org for information. The contact person there is Steve Stepp. Resi-

dents who live or attend high school or college in the BBB's service area can apply. This includes all of Zanesville.

A note from Terry Weidman of the Zanesville Post Office. Lobby hours are Monday through Friday, 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Our post office building has been standing for 25 years. Time has worn on the structure and it is long over due for some TLC. You will be happy to know that it has been approved for the interior walls to be painted and the flooring to be replaced. There are other repairs that have been submitted and will add to the functionality of the post office in the months to come. With these improvements there will inevitably be a few days where the post office will be closed in order to get these improvements accomplished. I thank you in advance for your patience once the demolition begins.

Students named to Trine University Dean's List

Trine University students were named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2023 semester. To earn Dean's List honors, students must complete a minimum of 12 hours and have a grade point average of 3.500-3.749.

The following area students were named to the Dean's List:

Savanna Jessup of Bluffton, majoring in Communication.

Dalton Robinson of Decatur, majoring in Sport Management.

Jacob Saylor of Fort Wayne, majoring in Health & Physical Education.

Kaleb Searles of Bluffton,

majoring in Biology.

Halle St John of Roanoke, majoring in Dual Enrollment.

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

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

Noir Suspicions

Friday, February 16 at 7 PM
Saturday, February 17 at 3 PM

Attention all mystery enthusiasts! We cordially invite you to join Creative Arts Theater for an evening of intrigue and suspense with Creative Arts Theater's newest production: *Noir Suspicions!* Get ready to put on your detective hats and solve a thrilling crime

Two ticket options are available:
\$30 for show, charcuterie & dessert from the Charcuterie Shop; \$15 for Show only.

Tickets are now available at <https://www.wellscreativearts.com/other-yearly-productions>

Synopsis: In this hard-boiled comic mystery sequel to the ever-popular *Murder at Cafe Noir*, ex-private eye Rick Archer is now the confused manager of *Cafe Noir* on the island of Mustique. He is confronted with a corpse on the dock, a mysterious femme fatale, a French blackmailer and a businessman who wants both the cafe and the woman. Rick is arrested after the blackmailer is murdered in his club. It is up to the audience to convince the magistrate that he is innocent. A tribute to *Casablanca* with many references to the classic movie, *Noir*



Suspicions is guaranteed to delight audiences whether or not they are familiar with *Murder at Cafe Noir*.

Creative Arts Summer Camp
Registration Opens — March 1. Summer Theater Intensive, Summer Dance Intensive, and Summer Art Academy

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

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

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

Norwell Internship Spotlight award Ali Riley

Senior Ali Riley has been selected to receive the Norwell High School Internship Spotlight award. She has been doing her experience at the Bluffton Animal Clinic with mentor Devan Isch. Ali is the daughter of Rob and Kandi Riley of Zanesville.

Ali has been allowed to be involved with sur-

gery preparation in the form of sterilization and the restraining of animals. She has also observed surgeries such as c-sections and neutering's. This experience has enhanced Ali's desire to study animal science and veterinarian nursing at Huntington University. Ali's ultimate career plan is to become a veterinarian technician.



Ali Riley

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Bailey's late heroics lift Knights over Bulldogs

By RICK SPRUNGER

You would had to have seen it to believe it.

But if you weren't there and haven't heard by now, Norwell edged New Haven, 50-49, at The Castle Saturday night on the unlikely four-point play you'll ever see with 0:01.9 left.

With Norwell trailing 49-46 and time running rapidly out, Cohen Bailey banked home a 28-footer from the volleyball line and was fouled in the act of shooting.

His free throw gave Norwell the lead, and Ajani Washington's three-quarter court prayer went unanswered at the buzzer.

The win enabled Norwell (8-6) to maintain a share of first place in the Northeast Eight Conference along with Belmont and Columbia City, all with 3-1 marks.

East Noble also has just one loss but had an earlier game with DeKalb postponed and so is 2-1.

Norwell had struggled all night prior to Bailey's shot. It had trailed for virtually the entire game.

"We stayed in there," smiled a giddy Norwell coach Mike McBride. "We didn't play very well. We missed layups, we missed easy shots we should have hit, we gave up some offensive rebounds. But we hung around and battled and stayed in there. I'll tell you what, I'm not giving it back."

Norwell trailed at halftime, 26-22, and that deficit became 31-22 in the first 90 Wright buried a three-pointer and Washington followed with a pickpocket steal at mid-court and a layup.

That drew an immediate timeout from McBride.

"All I really said was that if you don't bring it now you'll have no chance to win the conference."

That apparently lit a charge under the Knights, and they started the long, uphill climb back.

It was still 38-32 before Norwell got what McBride called a "good end to the quarter."

"I'm really big on end-of-quarters," he explained.

Ashton Federspiel scored off a sweet pass from Bailey on the baseline with 0:02 left in the period, and Norwell started the fourth quarter with the ball.

"We put an emphasis on having good end-of-quarters in practice," continued McBride. "We didn't have one last week against Belmont, but tonight we did. What that does is give you two straight opportunities to score."

Federspiel took another feed from Bailey 19 seconds into the fourth period for an easy bunny inside, and Bailey followed with a steal and layup to tie the game.

There followed three golden opportunities for Norwell to take the lead, once at 38-38 and twice at 40-40, but inside shots by Cade Shelton and Bailey lipped out, and a traveling violation nullified the third.

Norwell never was able to get over the top until the very end. That very nearly didn't happen.

A three-pointer by Devin White gave New Haven a 49-46 lead with 0:48 remaining.

Bailey missed a shot for Norwell, and the Knights were left to foul and hope for the best.

James Hardy missed two free throws with 0:27 to play, however, and Norwell was still alive.

When Adam McBride and Bailey both missed three-point attempts and Washington broke away from the pack with a long rebound, Norwell was an easy layup away from its second conference loss. But Jadrien Ezell was whistled for an offensive foul away from the ball, negating the layup.

"He pushed our defender out of the way," said McBride of the play. "I have to give the official a lot of credit for seeing it. A lot of times, that will go unnoticed in a situation like that. If we don't get that call, we're down five, and the game is over."

That left the Knights 0:10 to get the ball into the basket from more than 19'9" away.

The first option, McBride, had two Bulldogs draped all over him.

That left Bailey out at the volleyball line with Washington on him and no one else behind the arc to pass it to.

Bailey had hit just two of 12 shots on the night, but got the bank on this one despite being rapped across the arm.

The gym exploded when the ball ricocheted off the glass and through the net.

He still had to hit the free throw, however, he had airballed his last one.

A time out was then used by New Haven.

"I have to credit (Bailey's) ability to get himself focused and settled down enough in all of the excitement," said the elder McBride. "Usually, timeouts in that situation are to ice the shooter, but in this case, I think the timeout may have helped him. He would have had a lot of adrenaline after hitting that shot, and the extra time in the huddle may have allowed him to settle down."

He hit the free throw, and Norwell, after trailing for virtually the entire contest, was ahead when it mattered.

Federspiel finished with 25 points, 17 of them in the second half after that earlier timeout, and McBride added 13.

Bailey finished with nine points, six rebounds, six assists and four steals.

Norwell connected on 19-45 shots from the field for a .422 shooting percentage.

(Continued from Page 6)



Norwell senior Cohen Bailey (right) goes up for a layup in the first half of Saturday night's game against New Haven in the Castle. Bailey's three-point basket and subsequent free-throw in the closing seconds of the game gave the Knight's a 50-49 conference win over the Bulldogs. (Photo by Chad Kline)

Tigers bounce back on the road

By ANDREW FEEBACK

MONROEVILLE — After a few setbacks recently, Saturday night proved to be a good time for the Bluffton basketball team to regain its form, as the Tigers routed the host Heritage Patriots 60-26.

The Tigers (15-6) were a bit sloppy in the game's opening minutes, but settled in and had a comfortable lead by halftime.

"A slow start, but after we got going, we were fine," coach Doug Curtis said. "We tried to press and trap a bit early, which we haven't been doing in games, and you could definitely tell we hadn't been doing that in games. We went to our matchup zone, and we were in pretty good shape then."

Bluffton struggled to make shots early on, but got to the foul line 10 times in the opening quarter.

Heritage (1-17) made three of its five field goal attempts, but turned the ball over 10 times.

Back-to-back threes from Haley Gibson had Bluffton up 23-6, and her third triple of the quarter later pushed the lead to 20.

The Tigers blew it open early in the second half with a 10-0 run that resulted in a 44-12 advantage.

Gibson's fourth from

long range made it 53-17 early in the fourth quarter, and the clock ran the rest of the way.

The inside play of Maryn Schreiber was key for the Tigers in this one. She led all scorers with 24 points on 11 of 16 shooting.

Outside of Schreiber's field goals, the Tigers didn't shoot particularly well (10-37, 27 percent), especially near the basket. Curtis wants to see that change with sectionals quickly approaching.

"We'd like to finish those short shots a little better. It might be this floor, because we did the same thing last Friday. I'm glad we're not playing the sectional here," he said with a laugh, referring to the Tigers' loss to Woodlan in the conference tournament a week ago.

"We've got to finish better, but we've worked on that all year," Curtis continued. "I thought Maryn did a really good job after we started getting the ball moving on the perimeter and got her some easier shots. We got more movement on the perimeter which freed her up a little more."

The Tigers also took better care of the ball after some early miscues. They had six turnovers in the first quarter, but only six more the rest of the way.

Following Schreiber's

team-leading 24 points were Gibson with 14 and Isabella Stout with 13.

Grace Guenther led the Patriots with eight.

Bluffton will play its final regular season game Tuesday night when the Tigers host Manchester, whom they drew in the sectional pairing announced Sunday night.

The Tiger junior varsity team picked up a 45-10 win. Madelyn Funk scored 11 points, Addison Yates had eight and Sophie Eisenhut had seven.

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BLUFFTON 60, HERITAGE 26
At Heritage

BLUFFTON (15-6): Isabella Stout 4-10 5-6 13, Konley Ault 0-3 4-6 4, Marly Drayer 0-4 3-4 3, Maryn Schreiber 11-16 2-2 24, Haley Gibson 5-14 0-2 14, Tressa Renner 0-1 0-0 0, Madyson Sonnigsen 1-3 0-0 2, Cayah King 0-0 0-0 0, Sophie Eisenhut 0-2 0-0 0. **TOTALS:** 21-53 14-20 60.

HERITAGE (1-17): Trinitee Brown 2-6 2-3 6, Olivia Lybarger 1-2 0-2 2, Danica Fuller 0-5 0-0 0, Natalie Otte 3-8 0-7, Audra Bickel 0-0 0-0 0, Isabella Martin 0-0 0-0 0, Grace Guenther 3-7 2-2 8, Elise Hissong 0-0 0-0 0, Addison Meyer 0-0 0-0 0, Kayden Wallace 1-6 1-2 3. **TOTALS:** 10-34 5-9 26.

Bluffton 17 15 18 10 - 60
Heritage 6 4 7 9 - 26

Three-point Field Goals: Bluffton 4-12 (Gibson 4-8, Sonnigsen 0-2, Drayer 0-2), Heritage 1-10 (Otte 1-4, Fuller 0-4, Brown 0-2). **Rebounds:** Bluffton 32 (Schreiber 10, Stout 9, Renner 3, Drayer 3, Gibson 3, Ault 1, Sonnigsen 1, King 1, Eisenhut 1), Heritage 15 (Guenther 4, Brown 4, Fuller 2, Otte 2, Bickel 2, Wallace 1). **Turnovers:** Bluffton 12, Heritage 21. **Fouls:** Bluffton 12, Heritage 14. **Fouled out:** None. **Technical:** None. **JV:** Bluffton 45, Heritage 10.



Haley Gibson launches a three-point shot over Heritage's Danica Fuller in the second quarter Saturday at Heritage. (Photo by Glen Werling)

High School Calendar

MONDAY, JAN 22
No events scheduled.
TUESDAY, JAN 23
BOYS BASKETBALL: Bishop Luers at Norwell, 7:45 p.m.; Muncie Burriss at Southern Wells, 7:30 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL: Manchester at Bluffton, 7:30 p.m.; Southern Wells at Southwood, 7:30 p.m.

SWIMMING & DIVING (CO-ED): Norwell at Delta, 6 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, JAN 24
GIRLS BASKETBALL: Cowan at Southern Wells, 7:30 p.m.
THURSDAY, JAN 25
SWIMMING & DIVING (CO-ED): Belmont at Bluffton, 5:30 p.m.
FRIDAY, JAN 26

BOYS BASKETBALL: Jay County at Bluffton, 7:30 p.m.; Southern Wells at South Adams, 7:30 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL: East Noble at Norwell, 7:45 p.m.
SATURDAY, JAN 27
BOYS BASKETBALL: Norwell at East Noble, 1:30 p.m.; Bluffton at Madison-Grant, 7:30 p.m.; Lakeland Christian at Southern

Wells, 7 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL: Southern Wells at Southwood, 4 p.m. (JV 2 quarters).
WRESTLING: (sectional): Norwell, Bluffton, Southern Wells at Jay County, 8:30 a.m.
MONDAY, JAN 28
SWIMMING & DIVING (CO-ED): Norwell at Blackford, 6 p.m.

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Kings, queens of the pool

Bluffton's boys and Norwell's girls won their respective conference crowns over the weekend. Above, the Tigersharks pose with the Allen County Athletic Conference trophy, their 10th in a row. Bottom, the Knights pose with their third consecutive Northeast 8 Conference trophy. (Photos provided)

Bailey's heroics

(Continued from Page 6)

New Haven was 17-37 from the floor for a .459 percentage and got 13 points and 11 rebounds from Hardy and 10 points from Jeremiah Cottrell.

New Haven took the junior varsity contest, 33-30. Norwell got 13 points from Nick McBride, seven from Garry Riley, five from Brady Smith, three from Caiden Petrie, and two from Ryne Thornton.

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NORWELL 50, NEW HAVEN 49
At Norwell

NEW HAVEN (2-13, 0-4 NE8): Jadrien Ezell 1-1 0-0 3,

Jeremiah Cottrell 4-7 2-2 10, Tarvar Baskerville 1-5 2-2 4, DaMarcus Wright 2-3 0-0 6, James Hardy 4-10 5-10 13, Ajani Washington 2-6 0-0 4, Devin White 3-4 0-0 9, Chris Stewart 0-1 0-0 0, Lavell Ledbetter 0-0 0-0 0. TOTAL: 17-37 9-14 49.

NORWELL (8-6, 3-1 NE8): Cade Shelton 1-5 1-2 3, Kaedyn Quintanilla 0-2 0-0 0, Adam McBride 5-8 0-0 13, Cohen Bailey 3-13 2-3 9, Ashton Federspiel 10-16 5-9 25, Owen Wallis 0-1 0-0 0. TOTAL: 19-45 8-14 50.

New Haven 16 10 12 11 — 49
Norwell 13 9 12 16 — 50

Three-point Field Goals: New Haven 6-11 (Ezell 1-1, Baskerville 0-1, Wright 2-3, Washington 0-2, White 3-3, Stewart 0-1), Norwell 4-15 (Quintanilla 0-2, McBride 3-6, Bailey 1-5, Federspiel 0-1, Wallis 0-1). Rebounds: New Haven 28 (Hardy 11), Norwell 22 (McBride 8, Bailey 6). Turnovers: New Haven 13, Norwell 8. Personal fouls: New Haven 10, Norwell 9. Fouled Out: None. Technical fouls: None.

Junior Varsity: New Haven 33, Norwell 30.

News-Banner Scoreboard

FOOTBALL

NFL

Divisional Round

Monday, Jan. 15
Buffalo 31, Pittsburgh 17
Tampa Bay 32, Philadelphia 9
Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 20
Baltimore 34, Houston 10
San Francisco 24, Green Bay 21
Sunday, Jan. 21
Detroit 31, Tampa Bay 23
Kansas City 27, Buffalo 24
Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 28

AFC
Kansas City at Baltimore, 3 p.m.
(CBS)
NFC
Detroit at San Francisco, 6:30 p.m.
(FOX)

Super Bowl

Sunday, Feb. 11
At Las Vegas
TBD, 6:30 p.m. (CBS)

BASKETBALL

High School

Saturday Boys' Scores

Anderson 49, Tippecanoe Valley 40
Andean 63, Highland 48
Barr-Reeve 39, N. Daviess 26
Bedford N. Lawrence 55, Edge-wood 43
Bellmont 62, Huntington North 50
Bethany Christian 65, Hamilton 32
Bethesda Christian 56, Waldron 37
Blackford 65, Monroe Central 55
Bloomington Lighthouse 71, Can-nelton 55
Bloomington North 77, Terre Haute South 70
Bloomington South 74, Martinsville 56

Borden 58, Henryville 46
Carmel 41, Brownsburg 39
Carroll (Flora) 74, Faith Christian 60
Cass 51, Taylor 36
Center Grove 47, Indpls Roncalli 33
Charlestown 60, Corydon 54
Christian Academy 62, Paoli 59
Clarksville 59, Lanesville 38
Clay City 67, Cloverdale 46
Clinton Prairie 73, Fountain Central 61

Columbia City 35, DeKalb 31
Columbus North 54, Indpls Perry Meridian 46
Community Christian (Paducah), Ky. 48, Madison Shawe 41
Connersville 50, Batesville 46
Crawford Co. 35, Tell City 31
Crown Point 59, Chesterton 53
DeMotte Christian 54, N. White 34
Delphi 57, Winamac 53
Dubois 70, Springs Valley 59
E. Noble 69, Leo 54
Eastern Hancock 69, Shenandoah 46

Edinburgh 57, Cambridge City Lincoln 40
Elkhart Christian 64, South Bend Career Academy 43
Evansville Bosse 57, Gibson South-em 37
Evansville Christian 56, Southridge 47

Evansville Harrison 62, Jasper 47
Fishers 66, Carroll (Ft. Wayne) 50
Forest Park 88, Tecumseh 58
Frankfort 67, Clinton Central 52
Franklin 81, New Palestine 67
Frankton 61, Wes-Del 38
Ft. Wayne Blackhawk 68, Lake-wood Park 34
Ft. Wayne Northrop 60, Central Noble 41
Ft. Wayne Wayne 80, Saginaw Arthur Hill, Mich. 66
Hamilton Southeastern 48, Mt. Ver-non (Fortville) 44
Hammond Noll 81, Whiting 31
Harrison, Ohio 52, E. Central 48, OT Hauser 83, Rising Sun 37
Indpls N. Central 63, Muncie Cen-tral 52
Indpls Park Tudor 80, Indpls Irving-ton 30

Indpls Pike 62, Danville 57
Jay Co. 58, Hagerstown 37
Jeffersonville 77, Columbus East 43
Kankakee Valley 70, Lowell 50
Kokomo 70, Tipton 51
Lapel 73, Daleville 53
Lawrenceburg 55, Jac-Cen-Del 38
Maconaquah 62, Hamilton Hts. 54
Madison 62, New Washington 40
Manchester 65, Adams Central 62
Medora 59, Crothersville 37
Mississinewa 55, Western 54
Mooresville 53, Parke Heritage 37
N. Posey 51, Washington 50
N. Putnam 79, Brown Co. 57
New Albany 86, Evansville Reitz 72
Northeastern 54, Blue River Val-ley 35

Northridge 40, Mishawaka 31
Northside 63, Kalamazoo Home-school, Mich. 39
Northwestern 66, Peru 65
Norwell 50, New Haven 49
Providence 54, Rock Creek Acad-emy 27
Richmond 71, Centerville 30
Rochester 60, Caston 43
S. Adams 57, Muncie Burris 47
S. Putnam 54, Union (Dugger) 36
S. Ripley 70, Milan 58
Scottsburg 45, Seymour 39
Seeger 58, Rossville 55
Seton Catholic 73, Cowan 69
South Knox 52, Eastern (Greene) 31
Triton Central 63, Indpls Lutheran 54

Twin Lakes 64, W. Lafayette 44
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Wapahani 64, New Castle 39

Warsaw 61, Goshen 41
Westfield 68, Tri-West 27
Westview 59, Garrett 39
Whitko 12, Prairie Heights 8
Wood Memorial 38, Shoals 36
Bi-County Tournament Championship
Glenn 59, LaVille 52, OT Carmi (Ill.) Classic
Carmi-White County, Ill. 58, Mt. Ver-non (Posey) 53
Mt. Vernon (Fortville) 64, Ev. Day 37
Culver Academy Classic
Ft. Wayne Canterbury 43, Culver Academy 36
Ft. Wayne Canterbury 68, L.F. Acad-emy, Ill. 48
Indianapolis City Tournament Semifinal
Indpls Attacks 89, Indpls Washing-ton 56
Indpls Cathedral 75, Heritage Chris-tian 35
Porter County Conference Tourna-ment Semifinal
Hebron 60, Boone Grove 40
Morgan Twp. 57, Westville 45

Indpls Park Tudor 80, Indpls Irving-ton 30
Indpls Pike 62, Danville 57
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Union (Modoc) 41, Seven Oaks Classical 29
Union Co. 60, Southwestern (Shelby) 50
Valparaiso 66, S. Bend Washington 57
W. Vigo 58, Indian Creek 54

Twin Lakes 64, W. Lafayette 44
Union (Modoc) 41, Seven Oaks Classical 29
Union Co. 60, Southwestern (Shelby) 50
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Twin Lakes 64, W. Lafayette 44
Union (Modoc) 41, Seven Oaks Classical 29
Union Co. 60, Southwestern (Shelby) 50
Valparaiso 66, S. Bend Washington 57
W. Vigo 58, Indian Creek 54

Knight girls win 3rd straight NE8 title, boys finish runner-up

Norwell's girls won the Northeast 8 Conference Saturday afternoon in a blow-out at The Moat.

The Knights have now won three straight conference titles and will aim for the sectional title on Feb. 3.

Norwell had a team score of 339 with Huntington North in second at 285. Columbia City followed in third at 250, East Noble fourth (143), Belmont fifth (133) and DeKalb (71).

The boys' team earned second place with 251 points, falling behind Huntington North at 269. Columbia City was third at 214.5, Belmont fourth (132.), DeKalb fifth (132.5) and East Noble sixth (128).

Top-3 Individual placers:

Boys
• Rylan Heyerly second in the 200-yard freestyle and in the 100-yard freestyle.

• Kale Meredith first in the 200-yard IM and in the 100-yard breaststroke.

• Colten Strunk first in the 100-yard butterfly.

• Ethan Williamson third in the 500-yard freestyle.

• Gage Reinhard, Meredith, Strunk and Heyerly first in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

• Williamson, Reinard, Braden Hoag and Heyerly in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

Girls
• Emerson Meredith first in the diving events, Jacquelyn Meyer third.

• Jillian Melcher, Ella Krug, Haleigh Reinhard and Emerson Meredith third in the 200-yard medley relay.

• Cassie Coyne third in the 200-yard freestyle.

• Krug in the 200-yard IM and third in the 100-yard butterfly.

• Melcher in the 50-yard freestyle.

• Emerson Meredith first in the 100-yard freestyle.

• Olivia Daniel second, Coyne third in the 500-yard freestyle.

• Sawyer Peterson, Daniel, Renee Frazee and Emerson Meredith second in the 200-yard freestyle relay

• Melcher second in the 100-yard backstroke.

• Marlee Meredith second in the 100-yard breaststroke.

• Daniel, Coyne, Krug and Melcher in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

Norwell will be at Delta at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 23.

Girls' basketball sectional pairings, matchups released

The 2023-24 girls' basketball sectional pairings were released by the IHSAA Sunday night.

Below are the results for the three schools in the County:

Norwell (17-4): Last year's champion Knights received the only bye in the seven-team field and will play the winner of the Mississinewa (11-9) vs. Maconaquah (9-9) game at 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2 at Maconaquah High School.

The rest of the field in order is Peru (2-19) vs. Northwestern (5-15) and Belmont (14-6) vs. Oak Hill (10-10).

Bluffton (15-6): The Tigers drew Manchester (14-6), who they will see in the regular season finale at The Tiger Den. The

postseason matchup will take place at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30, hosted by South Adams.

The winner of the Bluffton/Manchester game will then play Bishop Luers at 6 p.m. Friday night.

The rest of the field in order is Adams Central (6-14) and South Adams (6-14) with the winner facing Whitko (16-3).

Southern Wells (5-14): The Raiders got a favorable matchup with Lakeland Christian (9-12), who they beat earlier in the season by 21 points. The game will start at 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2, at Northfield High School.

Canterbury did not have a team this season, therefore, the field is only four teams long. On the other side, Southwood (6-12) plays Northfield (8-12).

Knights place 5th at NE8 wrestling

Norwell finished fifth out of eight teams at the Northeast 8 Conference wrestling championship at Huntington North on Saturday.

Gifting gone wrong

Dear Annie: On Dec. 19 of 2022, I gave birth to a beautiful baby girl. Ahead of time, my husband and I talked with both sets of our parents and we all agreed that we would not be exchanging Christmas gifts that year. I wanted for Christmas to be quiet so that I could focus on my newborn and healing my body. Everyone said they understood.

Christmas came and went. We Face-Timed all the new grandparents and set dates for them to come visit their new grandchild. When my dad and his wife visited, they brought us gifts. I felt embarrassed telling them that I appreciated it, but I didn't have anything for them in return. They assured me it was fine.

My dad texted me a few days later extremely upset that I did not get him anything. He said it was very thoughtless of me and made him feel like he didn't matter. I was baffled. I explained that we had already talked about not exchanging gifts, so I truly thought it was OK to stand by our no-gift-giving plan. No matter what I said, he was insistent I had ruined Christmas for him. I felt extremely guilty.

Since then, he has never mentioned it. I haven't either. This past Christmas, I made sure to buy my dad a few things, but only because I felt obligated, not because I wanted to. It's completely changed the meaning of Christmas for me.

I still feel very hurt by his reaction, and I wonder if I should have said or done something differently. Please help me move past this. — New Mom

Dear New Mom: First off, congratulations on the birth of your now 1-year-old baby girl. The only one that is acting like a baby in this matter is your father. It makes sense that you would feel a little bit pushed into buying your father a gift. Since you still

are carrying hurt about your dad's reaction, why not speak with him about it and tell him how you feel? Most times an open and honest conversation has the power to transform your feelings from being hurt to and understood.

Dear Annie: Your recent column recommended the "golden rule" for dealing with a tricky relationship. May I suggest the golden rule nurses practice: "Do unto others as THEY wish to be done to." One person's wishes for how they want to be treated don't always work for someone else. This means finding out what that person needs.

Nurses are experts at interviewing and communicating with patients to make an assessment and plan for individualized care. This works for personal relationships that are "other-centered" rather than self-centered. — RN

Dear RN: Thank you for your letter. I love the Nurses Golden Rule! Thank you for your work of service. Nursing is one of the most important professions in the world.

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

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Dear Annie

by Annie Lane



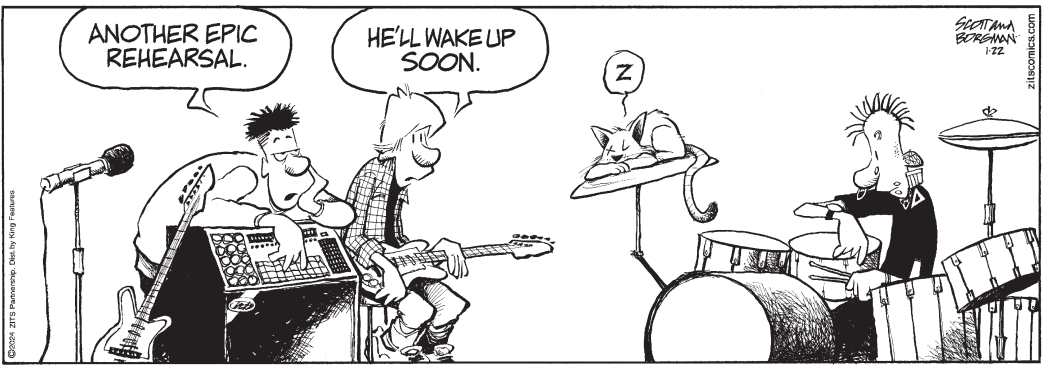
BEETLE BAILEY



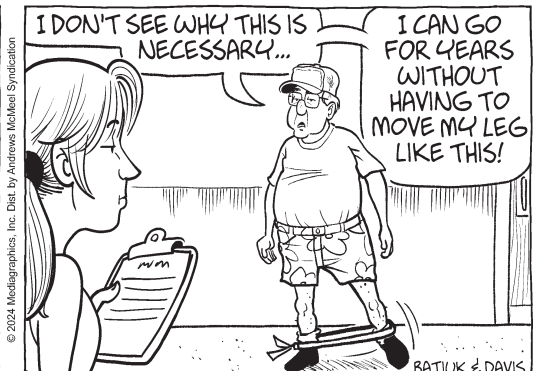
BLONDIE



ZITS



CRANKSHAFT



My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



Life is not meant to be lived according to man's ways, but God's ways

Q: When I feel depression coming on I sometimes think of taking my life and being done with it all. However, I am more of a coward than gutsy. I haven't really found a way out of this vicious cycle of up and down emotions, and I do wonder how a person can find God's help for the soul. — S.W.

A: More and more people are committing suicide; some because of depression, others disappointed that life hasn't turned out the way they had hoped. Then there are those who turn to drugs and alcohol to escape and it leads them down tragic paths. Others attempt to quiet the longings of their souls in other ways.

Nothing but God ever completely satisfies, because the soul is made for God.

So many people believe that if things would go their way they would live happily. Others believe that when a war is won, problems of the world go away. But other wars come along and hate never ceases. War, poverty, disease, loneliness, boredom, racism, and starvation still run rampant.

Life is not meant to be lived according to man's ways, but God's ways. The Bible teaches that every person has a soul, the part of us that lives forever. Those who commit suicide are not ending who they are. Suicide only ends the life of the body, but the soul lives on

forever.

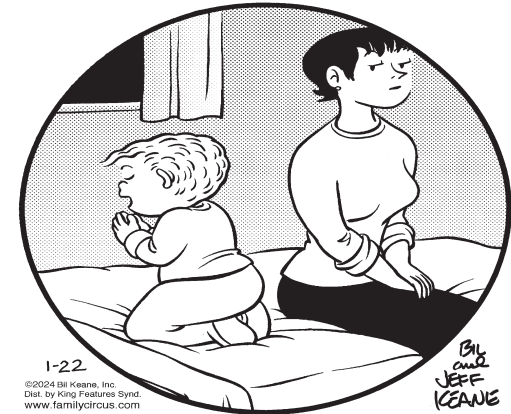
God is a holy God and the Lord is righteous in all His ways, loving toward all He has made (see Psalm 145:17). When we trust Him with our lives by seeking Him and calling on His Name, He meets our needs according to His word. He helps the fainthearted learn from disappointments and gives strength to overcome hopelessness. "By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches and honor and life" (Proverbs 22:4, NKJV).

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

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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



The LOCKHORNS



01/22	M	A	D1	D2	5 PM	5:30	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM	12:30	
WINM (12)	11	26	63		Sue Thomas F.B. Eye	Unapologetic	Creflo Dollar	Joseph Prince	Morris	TCT Today	Joyce Meyer	Prop. Com James Robison	Dr. Robert Jeffrey	Jewish Jesus	Andrew Womack	Ask the Pastor	CrossTalk				
CBS WANE (15)	2	15	15		News (N)	Inside Edition (N)	News at 6 (N)	CBS News (N)	Wheel of Fortune (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	Neighbor	Bob Hearts Abishola	NCIS "Kompromat"	Nightcast (N)	(35) Late Show-Colbert	(35) After Mid.					
Antenna WANE-2 (152)	106	20			Criminal Minds "No. 6"	Criminal Minds "Brothers Hotchner"	FBI "Payback"	FBI "Studio Gangster"	FBI "Legacy"	FBI "Safe Room"	FBI "Broken Promises"	FBI "American Dreams"									
ABC WPTA (21)	4	3	21	21	ABC21 News at 5 (N)	ABC21 (N)	ABC World News (N)	ABC21 News (N)	Ent. Tonight (N)	Bachelor	Thirty-two extraordinary women prepare to open their hearts to Joey Graziadei. (SP) (N)	20/20 (N)	ABC21 (N)	(35) Jimmy Kimmel Live! (N)	(35) Nightline						
NBC WPTA-2 (212)	7	8	14		Family Feud	25 Words or Less	News (N)	NBC News (N)	Family Feud (N)	Family Feud (N)	GoT Talent: The qualifiers conclude; live acts move on to the semifinals; one act receives the golden buzzer.	The Traitors	"The Game is Afoot" (N)	News (N)	(35) Tonight Show (N)	(35) Seth Meyers (N)					
MNT WPTA-3 (213)	10	9	56	34	King "Dog Shelter"	The King of Queens	Modern Family	News (N)	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	Dish Nation (N)	TMZ (N)	Family Guy	Family Guy	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs			
CW WISE (38)	8	4	33	33	The Steve Wilkos Show	TMZ Live (N)	Dish Nation (N)	TMZ (N)	Ride "Legend of the Fall" (P) (N)	Wild Cards "The Infinity Thief"	Independent Lens "Racist Trees" (N)	Amanpour and Company (N)	Antiques Roadshow	Antiques Roadshow	Antiques Roadshow	Antiques Roadshow	Antiques Roadshow	Antiques Roadshow			
PBS WFWA (38)	13	5	39	39	Antiques "Celebrating Black Americana"	PBS NewsHour (N)	BBC News America	Matters of Mind	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Antiques Roadshow (N)			
PBS WFPB (48)	3				Antiques "Celebrating Black Americana"	PBS NewsHour (N)	Antiques Roadshow "New Orleans Hour 1"	WFF Fox News at 5 (N)	WFF Fox News at 6 (N)	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang		
FOX WFFT (55)	6	5	55	55	WFF Fox News at 5 (N)	WFF Fox News at 6 (N)	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang		
CABLE CHANNELS																					
LIFE	23	113	108	252	Castle "Probable Cause"	Castle "The Final Frontier"	Castle "Swan Song"	Castle "After Hours"	Castle "Secret Santa"	(05) Castle "Significant Others"	(05) Castle "Under the Influence"	Castle "After Hours"									
FX	24	132	136	148	*** The Waterbury	*** Daddy's Home 2	(17) Will Ferrell.	*** Baywatch (17) Zac Efron, Dwayne Johnson.	*** Baywatch (17) Zac Efron, Dwayne Johnson.	*** Baywatch (17) Zac Efron, Dwayne Johnson.	*** Baywatch (17) Zac Efron, Dwayne Johnson.	*** Baywatch (17) Zac Efron, Dwayne Johnson.	*** Baywatch (17) Zac Efron, Dwayne Johnson.	*** Baywatch (17) Zac Efron, Dwayne Johnson.	*** Baywatch (17) Zac Efron, Dwayne Johnson.	*** Baywatch (17) Zac Efron, Dwayne Johnson.	*** Baywatch (17) Zac Efron, Dwayne Johnson.	*** Baywatch (17) Zac Efron, Dwayne Johnson.	*** Baywatch (17) Zac Efron, Dwayne Johnson.	*** Baywatch (17) Zac Efron, Dwayne Johnson.	
TVLAND	25		106	304	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	
E!	26	142	114	236	*** Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Zac Efron, Rose Byrne, Seth Rogen.	*** Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Zac Efron, Rose Byrne, Seth Rogen.	*** Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Zac Efron, Rose Byrne, Seth Rogen.	*** Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Zac Efron, Rose Byrne, Seth Rogen.	*** Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Zac Efron, Rose Byrne, Seth Rogen.	*** Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Zac Efron, Rose Byrne, Seth Rogen.	*** Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Zac Efron, Rose Byrne, Seth Rogen.	*** Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Zac Efron, Rose Byrne, Seth Rogen.	*** Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Zac Efron, Rose Byrne, Seth Rogen.	*** Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Zac Efron, Rose Byrne, Seth Rogen.	*** Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Zac Efron, Rose Byrne, Seth Rogen.	*** Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Zac Efron, Rose Byrne, Seth Rogen.	*** Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Zac Efron, Rose Byrne, Seth Rogen.	*** Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Zac Efron, Rose Byrne, Seth Rogen.	*** Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Zac Efron, Rose Byrne, Seth Rogen.	*** Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Zac Efron, Rose Byrne, Seth Rogen.	
PARMT	30		241	241	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	
ESPN	31	50	140	206	Around (N)	Pardon (L)	SportsCenter	Basketball Wake Forest at North Carolina From the Dean E. Smith Center in Chapel Hill, N.C. (L) (N)	College Basketball Cincinnati at Kansas From the Allen Fieldhouse in Lawrence, Kan. (L) (N)	College Basketball Cincinnati at Kansas From the Allen Fieldhouse in Lawrence, Kan. (L) (N)	College Basketball Cincinnati at Kansas From the Allen Fieldhouse in Lawrence, Kan. (L) (N)	College Basketball Cincinnati at Kansas From the Allen Fieldhouse in Lawrence, Kan. (L) (N)	College Basketball Cincinnati at Kansas From the Allen Fieldhouse in Lawrence, Kan. (L) (N)	College Basketball Cincinnati at Kansas From the Allen Fieldhouse in Lawrence, Kan. (L) (N)	College Basketball Cincinnati at Kansas From the Allen Fieldhouse in Lawrence, Kan. (L) (N)	College Basketball Cincinnati at Kansas From the Allen Fieldhouse in Lawrence, Kan. (L) (N)	College Basketball Cincinnati at Kansas From the Allen Fieldhouse in Lawrence, Kan. (L) (N)	College Basketball Cincinnati at Kansas From the Allen Fieldhouse in Lawrence, Kan. (L) (N)	College Basketball Cincinnati at Kansas From the Allen Fieldhouse in Lawrence, Kan. (L) (N)	College Basketball Cincinnati at Kansas From the Allen Fieldhouse in Lawrence, Kan. (L) (N)	
ESPN2	32	54	143	209	NFL Live (N)	ESPN BET Live	Wm. Basketball UCLA at Utah (L) (N)	Aust. Open Men's & Women's Quarterfinals From Melbourne Park in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. (N)	Aust. Open Men's & Women's Quarterfinals From Melbourne Park in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. (N)	Aust. Open Men's & Women's Quarterfinals From Melbourne Park in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. (N)	Aust. Open Men's & Women's Quarterfinals From Melbourne Park in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. (N)	Aust. Open Men's & Women's Quarterfinals From Melbourne Park in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. (N)	Aust. Open Men's & Women's Quarterfinals From Melbourne Park in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. (N)	Aust. Open Men's & Women's Quarterfinals From Melbourne Park in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. (N)	Aust. Open Men's & Women's Quarterfinals From Melbourne Park in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. (N)	Aust. Open Men's & Women's Quarterfinals From Melbourne Park in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. (N)	Aust. Open Men's & Women's Quarterfinals From Melbourne Park in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. (N)	Aust. Open Men's & Women's Quarterfinals From Melbourne Park in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. (N)	Aust. Open Men's & Women's Quarterfinals From Melbourne Park in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. (N)	Aust. Open Men's & Women's Quarterfinals From Melbourne Park in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. (N)	
FSMW	33		418	671	Live on the Line	NASCAR Race Revisit 2022: Daytona 500	Pregame	NBA Basketball Memphis Grizzlies at Toronto Raptors From Scotiabank Arena in Toronto. (L) (N)	Grizzlies Live (L) (N)	Grizzlies Live (L) (N)	Grizzlies Live (L) (N)	Grizzlies Live (L) (N)	Grizzlies Live (L) (N)	Grizzlies Live (L) (N)	Grizzlies Live (L) (N)	Grizzlies Live (L) (N)	Grizzlies Live (L) (N)	Grizzlies Live (L) (N)	Grizzlies Live (L) (N)	Grizzlies Live (L) (N)	
USA	34	133	105	242	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Liberties"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Unstable"	Law & Order: SVU "Hardwired"	WWE Monday Night RAW The superstars of the WWE square off in the ring and behind the scenes. (L) (N)	Bar "Lauren Alaina vs. Blake Shelton" (N)	Chicago Fire "The Right Thing"	Chicago Fire "The Right Thing"	Chicago Fire "The Right Thing"	Chicago Fire "The Right Thing"	Chicago Fire "The Right Thing"	Chicago Fire "The Right Thing"	Chicago Fire "The Right Thing"	Chicago Fire "The Right Thing"	Chicago Fire "The Right Thing"	Chicago Fire "The Right Thing"	Chicago Fire "The Right Thing"	
DISC	35	72	182	278	Contraband: Seized at the Border "Yes, Deer?"	90 Day Mamma Mia!	Mysteries "Gardner Museum Robbery"	The First 48	*** Sand Dollar Cove (2021, Romance) Chad Michael Murray, Claire Bowen, Aly Michalka.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	
TLC	36	73	183	280	90 Day Mamma Mia!	Mysteries "Gardner Museum Robbery"	The First 48	*** Sand Dollar Cove (2021, Romance) Chad Michael Murray, Claire Bowen, Aly Michalka.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	*** The Equalizer (2014, Action) Denzel Washington.	
A&E	39	134	118	265	*** A Country Wedding Jesse Metcalfe.	*** I Am Number Four (11)	*** Spider-Man 3 (2007, Action) Kirsten Dunst, James Franco, Tobey Maguire.	*** Empire of Light (2022, Romance) Michael Fassbender, Colin Firth, Olivia Colman.	*** Election (2019, Comedy) Reese Witherspoon, Chris Klein, Matthew Broderick.	*** The Godfather, Part II: The Death of Michael Corleone (1973, Crime Story) Al Pacino.	*** Infinite Storm Naomi Watts.	*** Empire of Light (2022, Romance) Michael Fassbender, Colin Firth, Olivia Colman.	*** Election (2019, Comedy) Reese Witherspoon, Chris Klein, Matthew Broderick.	*** The Godfather, Part II: The Death of Michael Corleone (1973, Crime Story) Al Pacino.	*** Infinite Storm Naomi Watts.	*** Empire of Light (2022, Romance) Michael Fassbender, Colin Firth, Olivia Colman.	*** Election (2019, Comedy) Reese Witherspoon, Chris Klein, Matthew Broderick.	*** The Godfather, Part II: The Death of Michael Corleone (1973, Crime Story) Al Pacino.	*** Infinite Storm Naomi Watts.	*** Empire of Light (2022, Romance) Michael Fassbender, Colin Firth, Olivia Colman.	
HALL	40	117	185	312	*** I Am Number Four (11)	*** Spider-Man 3 (2007, Action) Kirsten Dunst, James Franco, Tobey Maguire.	*** Empire of Light (2022, Romance) Michael Fassbender, Colin Firth, Olivia Colman.	*** Election (2019, Comedy) Reese Witherspoon, Chris Klein, Matthew Broderick.	*** The Godfather, Part II: The Death of Michael Corleone (1973, Crime Story) Al Pacino.	*** Infinite Storm Naomi Watts.	*** Empire of Light (2022, Romance) Michael Fassbender, Colin Firth, Olivia Colman.	*** Election (2019, Comedy) Reese Witherspoon, Chris Klein, Matthew Broderick.	*** The Godfather, Part II: The Death of Michael Corleone (1973, Crime Story) Al Pacino.	*** Infinite Storm Naomi Watts.	*** Empire of Light (2022, Romance) Michael Fassbender, Colin Firth, Olivia Colman.	*** Election (2019, Comedy) Reese Witherspoon, Chris Klein, Matthew Broderick.	*** The Godfather, Part II: The Death of Michael Corleone (1973, Crime Story) Al Pacino.	*** Infinite Storm Naomi Watts.	*** Empire of Light (2022, Romance) Michael Fassbender, Colin Firth, Olivia Colman.		
SYFY	41	135	122	244	*** I Am Number Four (11)	*** Spider-Man 3 (2007, Action) Kirsten Dunst, James Franco, Tobey Maguire.	*** Empire of Light (2022, Romance) Michael Fassbender, Colin Firth, Olivia Colman.	*** Election (2019, Comedy) Reese Witherspoon, Chris Klein, Matthew Broderick.	*** The Godfather, Part II: The Death of Michael Corleone (1973, Crime Story) Al Pacino.	*** Infinite Storm Naomi Watts.	*** Empire of Light (2022, Romance) Michael Fassbender, Colin Firth, Olivia Colman.	*** Election (2019, Comedy) Reese Witherspoon, Chris Klein, Matthew Broderick.	*** The Godfather, Part II: The Death of Michael Corleone (1973, Crime Story) Al Pacino.	*** Infinite Storm Naomi Watts.	*** Empire of Light (2022, Romance) Michael Fassbender, Colin Firth, Olivia Colman.	*** Election (2019, Comedy) Reese Witherspoon, Chris Klein, Matthew Broderick.	*** The Godfather, Part II: The Death of Michael Corleone (1973, Crime Story) Al Pacino.	*** Infinite Storm Naomi Watts.	*** Empire of Light (2022, Romance) Michael Fassbender, Colin Firth, Olivia Colman.		
TBS	43	130	139	247	*** White House Down (2013, Action) Jamie Foxx, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Channing Tatum.	*** Groundhog Day (1993, Romance) Andie MacDowell, Bill Murray.	*** Sixteen Candles (1984, Comedy) Anthony Michael Hall, Michael Schochell, Molly Ringwald.	*** Dirty Dancing (1987, Romance) Patrick Swayze, Jerry O'Connell, Jennifer Grey.	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	
AMC	45	131	138	245	*** White House Down (2013, Action) Jamie Foxx, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Channing Tatum.	*** Groundhog Day (1993, Romance) Andie MacDowell, Bill Murray.	*** Sixteen Candles (1984, Comedy) Anthony Michael Hall, Michael Schochell, Molly Ringwald.	*** Dirty Dancing (1987, Romance) Patrick Swayze, Jerry O'Connell, Jennifer Grey.	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	*** Killing Them Softly (12)	
COM	47	107	249		Seinfeld	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	
FS1	48	64	150	219	*** Speak (L) (N)	Inside the Big East	Vargas Report (N)	Bones	Bones	Bones	Bones	Bones	Bones	Bones	Bones	Bones	Bones	Bones	Bones	Bones	
WE	57		128	260	Bones	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	
FOOD	59	153	110	231	Guy's Grocery Games	Below Deck	SpongeBob	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	
BRAVO	60	140	129	237	Below Deck	SpongeBob	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	
NICK	68		170	299	SpongeBob	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	Below Deck	
DISC	69	30	172	290	Hamster & Hamster	Kiff	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	
FREEFORM	70	32	180	311	*** Spider-Man 3 (2007, Action) Kirsten Dunst, James Franco, Tobey Maguire.																

SUDOKU

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

King Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty: ★

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Lottery Numbers

Saturday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY

Cash 5 — 02-22-24-30-35
Cash4Life — 08-34-36-51-52, Cash Ball: 02
Lotto Plus — 05-06-26-27-35-42
Quick Draw Midday — 06-09-10-14-15-16-21-24-26-38-44-59-60-65-71-72-76-77-79-80, BE: 59
Daily Three-Midday — 07-09-02, SB: 05
Daily Three-Evening — 08-06-09, SB: 04
Daily Four-Midday — 03-08-05-09, SB: 05
Daily Four-Evening — 01-07-08-00, SB: 04
Quick Draw Evening — 04-07-12-13-18-20-24-26-30-37-38-40-43-49-50-55-63-64-69-75, BE: 37
Hoosier Lotto — 02-04-13-23-29-42
POWERBALL
16-31-34-47-65; Powerball: 10; Power Play: 2X

Sunday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY

Cash 5 — 06-11-21-27-35
Cash4Life — 12-26-34-51-55, Cash Ball: 03
Quick Draw Midday — 04-09-12-20-27-34-39-40-41-45-46-48-49-57-58-65-66-69-71-75, BE: 09
Daily Three-Midday — 01-04-08, SB: 03
Daily Three-Evening — 00-08-04, SB: 07
Daily Four-Midday — 00-09-06-04, SB: 03
Daily Four-Evening — 05-02-06-03, SB: 07
Quick Draw Evening — 07-08-09-16-19-22-26-35-39-43-45-49-54-60-61-63-70-71-74-78, BE: 09
Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$3.4 million

MEGA MILLIONS

Estimated jackpot (for Tuesday): \$262 million
POWERBALL
Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$133 million

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Help Wanted

THE WELLS COUNTY Prosecutor's Office is looking to hire a person for an Investigator position. The position is a part-time county-paid position making \$21/hour. The investigator would be responsible for conducting criminal investigations and assisting the Prosecutor in preparing cases for trial. The investigator must be an effective communicator, be proficient with a computer, be able to work independently, and have the ability to be on 24-hour call for assistance at crime scenes. Interested persons should go to wellscounty.org/prosecutor/ for a more detailed description of this position. Send any resumes to the Wells County Prosecutor's Office, 102 West Market Street, Suite 405, Bluffton, IN 46714 or submit them by email to prosecutor@wellscounty.org.

Help Wanted

WELLS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE is currently seeking applicants for the position of Maintenance/Custodian. Applicants must have general knowledge of heating/cooling, plumbing, electrical with the ability to make minor repairs and/or adjustments. Additional responsibilities include building maintenance and ground keeping. 20-year matrix salary range for the position is \$43,682 - \$52,774. Years of service and experience will be honored for a starting salary up to five years in the pay matrix. Apply at www.wellscountysheriff.com under "Job Opportunities". Deadline for Pre-application submission is no later than February 5, 2024. A full job description is also listed on the website for review.

Read & recycle

Public Sale Calendar

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.

JANUARY 30 - 10 a.m. EDT - Stetzel Farm LLC. Farm machinery retirement auction. Tractors, planters, harvest equipment, tillage, miscellaneous and farm related, trucks and trailers. Timed online. No reserve. Inspection Jan. 29 from noon to 4 p.m., 7204 S 200 E, Warren. Contact Mike Stetzel, 260-450-2370, with equipment questions or to set up an inspection appointment. **Merit Auctions**, 833-273-9300, www.meritauctions.com, auction manager: Zach Hiner, 260-437-2771.

JANUARY 30 - 2 p.m.-6 p.m. ET - Online - Farm: Mann Farm. Property Location: Three miles northwest of Craigville, IN; 1/4 mile south of US 224 along 500 E in Lancaster Township, Wells County. 36.75+/- total acres, 34.5+/- tillable, 2.25+/- non-tillable, high quality farmland, Wells Co. Soil Types: Pewamo silty clay loam, Bount Del-Rey silt loam; WAPI: 140.6 bu. corn, 43.8 bu. soy-

beans. Additional information, drone flight, photos available at halderman.com. **Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management**, 800-424-2324, Rick Johnloz: 260-827-8181, Neal Wolhuter: 260-336-2219.

FEBRUARY 2 - 10 a.m. - Secured creditors & various consignors, owners. 815 Adams St., Decatur. Online only truck & equipment auction. 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 & much more! Accepting consignments! **Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC**, 260-724-7402, Kjauction.com.

FEBRUARY 4 - 6 p.m. - Reida Zezula, owner. 2221 Lower Huntington Rd., Fort Wayne. Online only personal property auction. Furniture, vacuum, name brand purses, Sentry safe, bedroom sets, vintage picnic baskets, costume jewelry, kitchen items, wicker swing, Star Wars collectibles, Fiesta ware, Barbies, household items, etc. Preview: Jan. 31, 5-6 p.m. **Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC**, 260-724-7402, Kjauction.com.

FEBRUARY 12 - 6 p.m. - Daniel E. Schloss, Elizabeth L. Burchfield (f/k/a Elizabeth L.

Schloss), Estate of Meshell L. Schloss. Wells County 4-H Community Center, Bluffton. Online bidding available. 164+/-A offered in 8 Tracts or combination. Productive tillable land, professionally designed and stocked pond, recreational woods, newer tree plantings w/conservation grasses, potential country building sites, Huntington County, Salamonie Township. Inspection Feb. 5, 3-5p.m., call for private showing. Auction managers: Jerry Ehle, 260-410-1996, Steven C. Coil, 260-446-2037, **Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc.**, schraderauction.com, 800-451-2709.

FEBRUARY 13 - 6 p.m. - Keith L. Gilbert estate. Markle Volunteer Fire Department, 150 W. Sparks St., Markle. Property: From Town of Markle, travel northeast on Marzane Road 4 miles. 67.5+/-A offered in 4 tracts or any combination, Wells County, Union Township. Tract 1: 18+/-A w/16.44+/-A tillable. Tract 2: 9.5+/-A w/7.26+/-A tillable. Tract 3: 20+/-A, mostly tillable. Tract 4: 20+/-A, mostly tillable. All tracts have road access! Online bidding available. Inspection: Feb. 3, 10 a.m.-noon. Auction manager Al Pfister, 260-760-8922, **Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc.**, schraderauction.com, 800-451-2709.

Public Notices

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS
Notice is hereby given to the Taxpayers of the City of Bluffton, Wells County, Indiana, that the Common Council of said City will, at the Council Chambers, 128 East Market Street, Bluffton, Indiana, meet on of February 20th, 2024 at 5:30 o'clock P.M., to consider the following additional appropriations in excess of the 2024 budget.

OPIOID Abatement Fund	APPROPRIATE TO:	\$5,000.00
Opioid Abatement Budget	431.020 Prevention Progs/Restricted	\$5,000.00

Taxpayers appearing at said meeting shall have the right to be heard. The additional appropriations as finally made will be automatically referred to the Department of Local Government Finance. The Department will make a written determination as to the sufficiency of funds to support the appropriations made within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a Certified Copy of the action taken.
Michelle Simon
City Clerk Treasurer

nb 1/22
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Uniondale Civil Town, Wells County, Indiana Cash & Investments Combined Statement - 2023

Local Fund Number	Local Fund Name	Beg Cash & Inv Bal Jan 1, 2023	Receipts	Disbursements	End Cash & Inv Bal Dec 31, 2023
0	Governmental Activities				
0	General	\$61,449.28	\$93,269.19	\$97,538.00	\$57,180.47
0	Motor Vehicle Highway	\$44,874.54	\$11,671.12	\$26,329.55	\$30,216.11
0	Local Road And Street	\$31,583.09	\$2,956.99	\$20,151.00	\$14,389.08
0	Riverboat	\$33,110.88	\$1,523.93	\$0.00	\$34,634.81
0	Rainy Day	\$9,299.65	\$0.00	\$3,384.00	\$5,915.65
0	Cumulative Capital	\$6,057.60	\$2,520.43	\$3,500.00	\$5,078.03
0	Development				
0	Credit Capital Projects	\$24,906.93	\$5,419.96	\$2,803.98	\$27,522.91
0	Gift	\$2,511.85	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,511.85
012	Community Capital Improvement	\$5,551.81	\$491.92	\$2,000.00	\$4,043.73
999	Community Crossing	\$0.00	\$61,132.50	\$61,132.50	\$0.00
0001	Wastewater- Utility Operating	\$155,928.73	\$107,825.94	\$89,430.84	\$174,323.83
002	Bond & Interest (Sinking) Fund	\$26,791.79	\$14,925.33	\$13,531.18	\$28,185.94
4	Wastewater Debt Reserve	\$15,928.15	\$2,368.78	\$0.00	\$18,296.93
	Total All Funds	\$417,994.30	\$304,106.09	\$319,801.05	\$402,299.34

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Feb. deadline is Tues., Jan. 23!

DeSantis ends his struggling presidential bid before New Hampshire

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP) — Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis suspended his Republican presidential campaign on Sunday, ending his 2024 White House bid just before the New Hampshire primary while endorsing his bitter rival Donald Trump.

The decision leaves Trump and former U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley as the last major candidates remaining in the race ahead of Tuesday's New Hampshire primary. This is the scenario Trump's foes in the GOP have long sought, raising the stakes for this week's contest as the party's last chance to stop the former president who has so far dominated the race.

But as some Trump critics cheered, DeSantis nodded toward Trump's primary dominance — and attacked Haley — in an exit video he posted on social media.

"It's clear to me that a majority of Republican primary voters want to give Donald Trump another chance," DeSantis said in the straight-to-camera video, delivered in a cheerful tone.

He continued: "I signed a pledge to support the Republican nominee and I will honor

that pledge. He has my endorsement because we can't go back to the old Republican guard of yesteryear, a repackaged form of warmed-over corporatism that Nikki Haley represents."

Haley spoke at a campaigning stop in Seabrook, New Hampshire, just as DeSantis announced his decision.

"He ran a great race, he's been a good governor, and we wish him well," she told a room packed with supporters and media. "Having said that, it's now one fella and one lady left."

DeSantis' decision, while perhaps not surprising given his 30-point blowout loss last week in Iowa, marks the end of an extraordinary decline for a high-profile governor once thought to be a legitimate threat to Trump's supremacy in the Republican Party. After months of contentious exchanges, Trump struck a more conciliatory tone late Sunday during a rally in Rochester, New Hampshire, calling DeSantis a "really terrific person."

"I also look forward to working with Ron" to win the general election, Trump said.

His record wasn't enough to overcome Trump

DeSantis entered the 2024 presidential contest with major advantages in his quest to take on Trump, and early primary polls suggested DeSantis was in a strong position to do just that. He and his allies amassed a political fortune well in excess of \$130 million, and he boasted a significant legislative record on issues important to many conservatives, like abortion and the teaching of race and gender issues in schools.

Such advantages did not survive the reality of presidential politics in 2024. From a high-profile announcement that was plagued by technical glitches to constant upheavals to his staff and campaign strategy, DeSantis struggled to find his footing in the primary. He lost the Iowa caucuses — which he had vowed to win — by 30 percentage points to Trump.

His departure was days in the making

DeSantis' allies said that private discussions began shortly after Iowa to decide how to bow out of the race gracefully.

The Florida governor notified

top donors and supporters of his decision through a series of phone conversations and text messages between senior campaign officials to top donors and supporters on Sunday afternoon, according to two people who received such communications. They spoke on the condition of anonymity to disclose the private conversations.

DeSantis had returned to Florida by then after a roller-coaster weekend that included stops in South Carolina ahead of an event in New Hampshire Sunday evening that was ultimately canceled. The campaign also canceled a series of national television appearances earlier in the day, blaming the cancellation on a miscommunication with DeSantis' super PAC.

DeSantis was physically worn after spending weeks on the campaign with little, if any, time off, even as he stormed across frigid Iowa and New Hampshire, often without a winter coat.

A bitter rivalry comes to a meek end

He ultimately decided that he needed to endorse Trump given his popularity in the party despite the deeply personal feud between them.

"While I've had disagreements with Donald Trump, such as on the coronavirus pandemic and his elevation of Anthony Fauci, Trump is superior to the current incumbent, Joe Biden. That is clear," said DeSantis, who is in his second and final term as Florida's governor, which ends in January 2027.

The endorsement was a stunning tail-between-his-legs moment for DeSantis, whom Trump has mercilessly and relentlessly taunted in deeply personal terms for the better part of a year now.

For Trump, whose team includes many former DeSantis staffers, the attacks have often felt more like sport than political strategy. Trump and his aides have blasted the governor as disloyal for running in the first place, mocked his eating habits and his personality, and accused him of wearing high heels to boost his height.

DeSantis' team joined Trump in attacking Haley as news of his departure rippled across the political landscape. Some doubt Haley, who was seen as splitting Republican votes and preventing a head-to-head matchup between Trump, would benefit from DeSantis' decision.

EPA assessment shows almost no improvement in river, stream nitrogen pollution

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The nation's rivers and streams remain stubbornly polluted with nutrients that contaminate drinking water and fuel a gigantic dead zone for aquatic life in the Gulf of Mexico, according to a recently released Environmental Protection Agency assessment.

It's a difficult problem that's concentrated in agricultural regions that drain into the Mississippi River. More than half of the basin's miles of rivers and streams were in poor condition for nitrogen and phosphorus from fertilizer that drains into waterways, the agency found. For decades, federal and state officials have struggled to control farm runoff, the biggest source of nutrient pollution that is not typically federally regulated.

It's a problem only expected to get harder to control as climate change produces more intense storms that dump rain on the Midwest and South. Those heavy rains flood farm fields, pick up commercial fertilizers and carry them

into nearby rivers.

"It's really worrying that we are clearly not meeting the goals that we've set for ourselves," said Olivia Dorothy, director of river restoration with the conservation group American Rivers.

The assessment is based on samples collected in 2018 and 2019 and it allows experts to compare river conditions from previous rounds of sampling, although different sampling sites were used. It takes years for the agency to compile the results and release the report, which is the most comprehensive assessment of the nation's river and stream health. Phosphorus levels dipped slightly while nitrogen levels remained almost exactly the same.

About half of all river miles were found to be in poor condition for snails, worms, beetles and other bottom dwelling species that are an important indicator of biological health of the river. About a third were also rated as having poor conditions for fish based on

species diversity.

"Controlling pollution is a big job. It is hard work," said Tom Wall, director of watershed restoration, assessment and protection division at EPA. "Things are not getting worse, despite the tremendous pressures on our waterways. And we would like to see more progress."

Water pollution from factories and industry is typically federally regulated. The Biden administration recently proposed toughening regulations on meat and poultry processing plants to reduce pollution, Wall said.

When nutrient pollution flows into the Gulf of Mexico, it spurs growth of bacteria that consume oxygen. That creates a so-called "dead zone," a vast area where it's difficult or impossible for marine animals to survive, fluctuating from about the size of Rhode Island to the size of New Jersey, according to Nancy Rabalais, professor of oceanography and wetland studies

at Louisiana State University.

That affects the productivity of commercial fisheries and marine life in general, but nutrient pollution is also damaging upstream. Too much nitrate in drinking water can affect how blood carries oxygen, causing human health problems like headaches, nausea and abdominal cramps. It can especially affect infants, sometimes inducing "blue baby syndrome," which causes the skin to take on a bluish hue.

The EPA established the hypoxia task force in the late 1990s to reduce nutrient pollution and shrink the dead zone, but it relies on voluntary efforts to reduce farm runoff and hasn't significantly reduced the dead zone.

Anne Schechinger, Midwest director with the Environmental Working Group, said new regulations are needed, not voluntary efforts. She said the Biden administration has done a lot to improve drinking water, but not enough to reduce agricultural runoff.

Methods to prevent runoff include building buffers between farmland and waterways, creating new wetlands to filter pollutants and applying less fertilizer.

It's a politically fraught issue, especially in major Midwest farming states that significantly contribute to the problem. Many of those states cite their voluntary conservation programs as evidence they're taking on the problem, yet the new EPA data shows little progress.

Minnesota is one of the few states that has a so-called "buffer law" that requires vegetation to be planted along rivers, streams and public drainage ditches. But because groundwater and surface water are closely connected in much of the Upper Midwest, nutrient pollution can end up leaching underground through farm fields and eventually bypass those buffers, ending up in streams anyway, said Gregory Klinger, who works for the Olmsted County, Minnesota soil and water conservation district.

Special Feature

Your MONEY \$ Your TAXES

Tips to build a nest egg in a time marked by a high cost of living

A rise in the cost of living has presented challenges to millions of households across the globe. As the cost of everything from food to natural gas to fuel for vehicles has risen, many people have struggled to find ways to save money, especially for their long-term goals like retirement.

The term "nest egg" has long been associated with long-term financial goals like retirement savings or college tuition. But what are individuals to do if short-term costs get in the way of their long-term goals? There's no magic formula for building a nest egg, but these tips can help anyone grow their savings despite the high cost of living.

- Identify a specific, achievable goal. Simply resolving to save "more" without attaching a figure that defines what "more" is can make it hard to build a substantial nest egg. Examine your finances, including what's coming in each month (i.e., take-home wages) and what has to go out each month (i.e., housing and automotive costs, etc.). Document these expenses and then identify an achievable goal to build

your nest egg. If necessary, trim some fat related to monthly expenses that are not necessities so you can redirect funds to your nest egg. Cancel streaming services or cut back on dining out so those funds can be redirected to building a nest egg.

- Take advantage of pre-tax opportunities to save. Pre-tax opportunities to build a nest include retirement vehicles like a 401(k). With these plans, money is deducted from a paycheck before taxes, thus lowering workers' immediate tax burdens (taxes are paid when funds are withdrawn) and enabling them to save more now. Some employers even match contributions up to a predetermined percentage, so enrolling in plans that offer employer match contributions can be an especially effective way to build a nest egg.

- Begin living on a budget, and stick to it. The idea of living on a budget may seem simple, but it's less common than some may recognize. A 2023 survey from the online financial resource NerdWallet found that 83 percent of the more than 2,000 adults 18 and

over who participated acknowledged they overspend. Perhaps more telling is that 84 percent of respondents indicate they have a monthly budget but exceed it anyway. Individuals who want to build a sizable nest egg are urged to work with a financial advisor to devise a monthly budget and then stick to it.

- Save for emergencies. A lack of emergency funds can quickly jeopardize a nest egg. Without a somewhat sizable savings account, individuals could be forced to borrow from their retirement accounts in emergency situations. That strategy hurts in



more ways than one, as it both reduces the amount in the nest egg and also affects how much the nest egg can grow, as gains are greater when balances are higher. The NerdWallet

survey found that 48 percent of respondents want to prioritize emergency savings, and that strategy can be vital to building a nest egg.

A sizable nest egg can

help anyone live comfortably in retirement, and various strategies can help people grow their nest egg even as the cost of living remains high.

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