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'Making a difference'

The Wells County Boys and Girls Club held its annual banquet and auction

By BARBARA BARBIERI

Twenty-one area sponsors assisted in presenting the Wells Community Boys and Girls Club 7th Annual "Making a Difference" Banquet and Auction at the club on Monday evening.

Pre-program musical entertainment was presented by Ben and Bret Beer and Eric Baker, after which Dan Pfister served as the emcee and Club President Dan Lipp greeted those attending.

Club member Robbie Yergler also welcomed attendees after which Gene Bell offered a prayer.

Board members of the club served as the wait staff for the buffet dinner catered by The Corner Depot. Decorations were by Fawn Gerber and Melinda Gilgen of A



Offering the "welcome" to the 7th annual "Making a Difference" banquet and auction Monday evening was club member Robbie Yergler. Dan Pfister served as the evening's emcee.

Perfect Blend.

Guest speaker Wayne Barker was introduced by Kole Meyer, who had been one of the teachers at Bluffton High School when Barker had been both a coach and also the superintendent of the Bluffton-Harrison School system.

Barker explained that he always felt like he was coming home when he returned to Bluffton after having spent 14 years as a coach and 10 years as the superintendent.

He reminded those in attendance about the importance of the school system working with the Boys and Girls Club and how he had discovered people here willing to go the extra mile for children. He cited examples of people willing to do so as

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Above, musical entertainment was provided by Ben and Bret Beer, at right, and Eric Baker, at left.

At left, an active auction was conducted by the Steffen Group, with Nick Huffman, at the left, and Issac Stoller, at the right. (Photos by Barbara Barbieri)



The Chandler family poses with the American flag at Ouabache State Park. (Photo by Jonathan Snyder)

Camping? In this weather?

A family reunion in cold temperatures.

By JONATHAN SNYDER

January weather, below freezing temperatures, high winds stinging the nose and snow draining the natural color from the land — a perfect time for staying inside with a cup of coffee or being huddled up next to an indoor fireplace while watching TV.

But for brothers Steve, Larry, Jim Chandler, and their family and friends, this is camping weather.

The Chandler men have a tradition of heading to Ouabache State Park in the middle of winter to enjoy each other's company and time in nature for a weekend.

The seeds of this convention were planted by their father, Donald Chandler, who was a tailgunner on a B-17 aircraft in WW2 and worked in aircraft maintenance for the military for 37 years. When the Chandler kids were younger, Donald used to bring home survival films about snow camping and how to stay alive in cold and snowy conditions.

The tradition started in the mid 1980s with just Jim, Steve and Larry. The kids camped with their father throughout winter and summer months, but after he passed away the tradition halted for a few

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NWCS considers 'What's Next' for the district

By HOLLY GASKILL

During Norwell's first strategic planning meeting of the year, members of the district's staff, administration and community members focused on growth.

Growth in two meanings — how the district has grown and developed its resources, and where it needs to grow and adapt.

The group started by revisiting a "SWOT" analysis from the 2021-22 school year, detailing the district's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. At the time, the district had found a lack of commitment to programming and marketing to be threats and opportunities, both of which those present found had made significant strides since. Strengths included the school's response to COVID-19, facilities and a welcoming community.

Since then, there have been some significant shifts. For example, the district embarked on a massive branding effort, including changing the district name and implementing districtwide colors. However, those present did find room for better marketing, particularly in making schools' accomplishments known.

The group also applauded the district's programming and dual-

credit opportunities but expressed a desire to grow the schools' fine arts opportunities, assess each school's individual needs, and continue to serve special education resources.

The goal list is a work in progress, Superintendent Mike Springer noted. He fielded feedback on a vision statement, "At Norwell, we seek opportunities for inquiry, improvement and innovation." Keeping the alliteration but refining the idea, the group also considered ideas like insight, inspiration and impact.

"Through everything we go through as an organization ... this is the kind of stuff we come back to — who do we want to be?" Springer summarized.

Norwell holds strategic planning meetings directly following their second monthly school board meeting.

The regular agenda items, in contrast, took roughly five minutes to get through, approving personnel matters and a contract with Nexus Therapy for speech pathologists.

The board accepted resignations from Lancaster Elementary School teaching assistant Elizabeth Mann, Norwell High

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One arrested, one facing charges after 911 hang-up

By SYDNEY KENT

A man from Bluffton was arrested in connection to a 911 hang-up call on Jan. 19.

Trey Allen O'Reilly, 23, Bluffton, was charged with domestic battery in the presence of a child and strangulation, both Level 6 felonies, and disorderly conduct — unreasonable noise, a Class A misdemeanor.

At approximately 11:13 p.m. on Friday, police responded to a call in the 100 block of Union Street. Upon arrival, officers overheard the sound of a woman crying and a man's voice inside

of the residence. Officers advised they spotted a male and female subject through the window, however, neither appeared to be in distress. After several attempts to ask the individuals to open the door, officers left.

Less than an hour later, units were

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Trey Allen O'Reilly

Bluffton car show hopes to bring city Christmas in July

By JONATHAN SNYDER

Christmas in July is coming to Bluffton after the Board of Public Works and Safety approved the closing of certain roads in its Tuesday meeting for a car show to raise funds for the city in July.

Eddie Ferguson presented the fundraising idea to Board of Works members Scott Mentzer and Josh Hunt. The car show is on July 28 and the funds raised will help the city purchase new Christmas decorations for downtown. When the 23-year-old lighting decorations were first purchased, they were expected to last five years.

Market Street up to Scott Street and going down to Williams Street will be closed for the event, along with Johnson and Marion streets from Wabash to Washington street.

Frauhiger Distributing is sponsoring the event and will be paying for award trophies and other expenses, so 100 percent of the money raised will go to the city. Door prizes and dash plaques will also be awarded.

"Thank you Eddie for stepping up," said Mentzer. "Always great to have Christmas in July."

In addition to the car show, the board also heard two bids for demolition work at 418 Hale St. and 228 East Market St. Kareh Excavating bid \$11,950 for the demolition work on Hale and \$15,750 for the East Market project. Longenberger Excavation also bid, but it was unclear what the final number for the projects were. On the bid sheet, some numbers were crossed out and mul-

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Outside

Rain today and tonight with wind gusts

Today	Thursday	Friday
High 47	High 50	High 44
Low 41	Low 38	Low 35

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Boys and Girls Club

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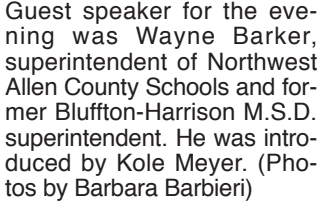
Bluffton High School Principal Steve Baker, Bluffton High School fan Edna Wenger and Kent Ringger, author of "The Up Life."

Barker also told of his encounters with former Indiana University basketball coach Bobby Knight and of the time when Adam Ballinger went to Michigan State to play basketball. As the evening was a fund raiser, he reminded everyone that they were "to serve those that need the most," and that included youngsters at the Boys and Girls Club.

The active auction was conducted by the Steffen group with the goal to be raised for the evening of \$100,000.

Club Information

The evening's printed program listed the club needs for five programs sponsored by the club and the costs. They included: Homework tutoring, \$9,000; STEM Club, \$8,500; Culinary Arts, \$6,300; Smart Girls, \$4,800; Passport to Manhood, \$4,800 and Furnace/AC Unit, \$38,000 (a needed replacement).



Guest speaker for the evening was Wayne Barker, superintendent of Northwest Allen County Schools and former Bluffton-Harrison M.S.D. superintendent. He was introduced by Kole Meyer. (Photos by Barbara Barbieri)

Currently the board members include Lipp, chair; Pete Humphrey, vice chair; Doug Lehman, treasurer; Pfister, president emeritus and members Ken Ballinger, Todd Reimschisel, Rachel Reinhard, Rick Singer, Sara Jones, Jim Westbrook, Danielle Thompson, Nick Huffman and Cyndee Fiechter.

The staff includes: Vicki Ball, executive director; Gene Ball, office of resource development; Veronica Garza, program director; Sue Campbell, director of finance; Renee Brown, kitchen chef; Margo Haiflich, operations assistant; Ryan Ferguson, youth development professional; Abigail Nusbaumer, Americorps; David Acuna, STEM coordinator; Simon Jones, academic coordinator; Orion Percy, Americorps; and Alicia Filchak, teen coordinator.

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A thank-you to those attending the banquet/ auction was given by club member Virginia Cummins with the encouragement of Vicki Bell, executive director of the club.

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Family reunion

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years. Now the trip is a way to honor Donald's legacy, both for his service as a dad and a military member.

But while the trip does honor the legacy of a veteran, the focus is on the camaraderie of men getting together and enjoying the elements away from technology and screens, according to Steve. As the group has expanded to brothers-in-law and other family members, the fervent passion for being in the elements and around each other has stayed.

"Sometimes we just sit by the fire and enjoy each other's company," said Steve.

This year's group consisted of 10 people, some who have traveled a long way to get here. The group plans the weekend around each others' schedule, which involves family members coming from as far as Cincinnati and Coldwater, Michigan.

The group does not use any technology for their sleeping or cooking, instead choosing to cook over an open fire while using hand warmers and lanterns among other items for heat. Steve stressed that their tents are not heated and there is no electricity used,

other than the Ouabache provided indoor bathrooms, which they only use to change clothes.

Some of the worst weather they have camped through was back in 1994 when temperatures hit 10 below.

While in the park, the group mainly sits by the fire and enjoys the time they have, but they do often go hiking among other activities. They have gone ice fishing in past years, but the yield can be unreliable, Steve said. The hiking trips allow them to see different animals and other wildlife that are normally hiding in the summer months due to the increased number of visitors.

"Just sitting around is when it gets really cold," said Gary Chandler. "Hiking around warms you up."

While there were some struggles in the early years of the tradition, practice has made for a more prepared group. During heavy snow, the group brings the equipment in on sleds. They have come a long way from sleeping with different ingredients, using their body heat to keep the food from freezing, a memory which still gets laughs from the group today.

"It's trepidation to start with, but it's

a family reunion without the holiday," said Jim.

While the snow is a challenge for camping, the group stressed that wet weather, not below freezing cold, is a real killer. Good sleeping bags, coats and planning can offset the cold temperatures, but muddy ground and rainfall can lead to unreliable campfires, unreliable paths for hiking, tough ground for setting up tents and the wetness of sleet leads to a much colder environment.

"Brutal dry cold is a better experience," said Larry Chandler.

Despite the weather, daily routine and life itself being brutally cold, the Chandler's have found a time and place where the warmth of family allows them to reset. The peace and quiet of a park with no one else around, no computer or phone screens and no lines is a backdrop for them to get together, share stories and get away from the bustle of life, even if the weather is below freezing.

"You have to be a little nutty in this world, but it's something we enjoy," said Gary.

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Bluffton car show

(Continued from Page 1)

pedestal that sits on the hydraulic pole of one of the trucks is no longer usable and needs to be replaced. The dealership that the city bought the truck from stated that there is value in replacing it and that welding the pedestal is not a viable option for safety concerns. The repairs are estimated to be completed in four months.

"This kind of snuck up on us," said Utility Director Jon Oman, who further commented that the repairs should extend the life of the truck beyond 2027.

Additionally, the board approved raises for two members of the 911 Dispatch Center. Deputy Director Andrea Garrett and Dispatcher Christine Bennett will be receiving \$1 hourly raises for the new year. Bennett is the most senior dispatcher of the group and is very good with training new dispatchers, according to 911 Supervisor Mike Miller.

Garrett is the second most experienced dispatcher and has helped with an internship program in the department.

"That's (part of) an all-star crew right there," said Hunt.

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Pentagon has no more money for Ukraine as it hosts a meeting of 50 allies on support for Kyiv

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States is out of money for Ukraine, unable to send the ammunition and missiles that the government in Kyiv needs to fend off Russia's invasion.

With the aid caught up in domestic politics, the Biden administration on Tuesday came empty-handed for the first time as host of the monthly meeting of about 50 nations that coordinate support for Ukraine. The group was established by Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin in April 2022.

While waiting for Congress to approve more money for Ukraine's fight, Washington will look to allies to keep bridging the gap.

"I urge this group to dig deep to provide Ukraine with more lifesaving ground-based air defense systems and interceptors," Austin said in opening remarks broadcast from his

home, where he is recuperating after prostate cancer surgery.

The opening statement by video was the first public appearance from Austin, 70, who appeared slightly gaunt. He was hospitalized for two weeks after complications from the surgery.

After the meeting, Celeste Wallander, assistant defense secretary for international affairs, told reporters that Ukraine's ministry of defense is getting reports from its front lines that "units are not do not have the stocks and the stores of ammunition that they require."

Wallander added, "That is one of the reasons we have been focusing on the need to answer Congress' questions, so that they are able to move forward on a decision to pass" legislation with the aid.

While Ukraine waits to see what Congress will do,

European allies are moving ahead with new measures to support Ukraine.

In Brussels, NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg announced a \$1.2 billion joint contract to buy more than 222,000 rounds of 155 mm ammunition. The rounds are some of the most heavily used munitions in the war, and the contract will be used to backfill allies that have pushed their own reserves to Kyiv.

While the conflict between Israel and Hamas has dominated headlines since October, Russia's onslaught against Ukraine has continued.

Russia on Tuesday launched a barrage of more than 40 ballistic, cruise, anti-

aircraft and guided missiles into Ukraine's two biggest cities, damaging apartment buildings and killing at least five people. The assault came a day after Moscow shunned any deal backed by Kyiv and its Western allies to end the almost two-year war.

Ukraine's air defenses were able to intercept at least 21 of the missiles. But the attacks injured at least 20 people in four districts of Kyiv, the capital.

The Pentagon announced its last security assistance for Ukraine on Dec. 27, a \$250 million package that included 155 mm rounds, Stinger anti-aircraft missiles and other high-demand items drawn from existing U.S. stockpiles.

Weather

Wednesday, January 24, 2024

(24-hour observations at 9:23 p.m. Tuesday)

High: 39; Low: 33; Precipitation: .40 inches of rain
Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.89 feet at 9:45 p.m. Tuesday

Wells County forecast

Today: Rain, mainly before 4 p.m. Areas of dense fog. High near 47. East wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90 percent. New precipitation amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible.

Tonight: A 40 percent chance of rain. Areas of fog. Otherwise, cloudy, with a low around 41. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Thursday: Rain. Patchy fog before 1 p.m. High near 50. East wind 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80 percent. New precipitation amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch possible.

Thursday Night: A 40 percent chance of rain before 1 a.m. Cloudy, with a low around 38. West wind around 10 mph.

Friday: Cloudy, with a high near 44.

Friday Night: Cloudy, with a low around 35.

Saturday: A 30 percent chance of rain, mainly after 1 p.m. Cloudy, with a high near 42.

Saturday Night: A 50 percent chance of rain. Cloudy, with a low around 34.

Sunday: A 20 percent chance of rain before 1 p.m. Cloudy, with a high near 39.

Sunday Night: Cloudy, with a low around 31.

Monday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 39.

Monday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 31.



NWCS

(Continued from Page 1)

School girls' assistant soccer coach Rob Fuess, and bus driver Judi Sonnigsen.

The following employment recommendations were also approved: Dylan Felger as NHS assistant track coach, Lex Hunter as NHS assistant baseball coach, Allyson Wireman as Ossian Elementary School teaching assistant,

Alex Howard as LES special education teacher and Shanna Snyder as OES teaching assistant.

The district also received donations of \$500 from Family Ford of Bluffton to the Norwell High School athletic program and several massagers from Peyton's Northern for athletic trainers' treatments.

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911 hang-up

(Continued from Page 1)

dispatched back to the residence in reference to three subjects running out of the building into a vehicle across the street. Officers found the door to the residence open with O'Reilly inside. He reportedly yelled and screamed that he was going to go to jail for defending himself.

A witness told officers that O'Reilly took the cell phone of his girlfriend, Madeline Shanks, as she attempted to call the police or her mother. O'Reilly then allegedly threw Shanks on the ground and strangled her. When officers arrived, he instructed Shanks and several others in the residence to stay silent. An additional witness confirmed the report and added that Shanks said

she could not breathe.

When officers placed O'Reilly in cuffs, he allegedly screamed for his mother until he was issued a charge for disorderly conduct.

Officers requested charges for Madeline Shanks, 20, for domestic battery with a child present, a Level 6 felony, and illegal possession or consumption of alcohol by a minor, a Class C misdemeanor. Shanks did not receive the count for domestic battery, but was charged with disorderly conduct, a Class B misdemeanor.

A no contact order was issued between O'Reilly and Shanks. O'Reilly's bond is set at \$31,000. A status hearing is scheduled for 1 p.m. on Feb. 9 in the Wells Superior Court.

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Contentious pet store, 'puppy mill' bill reemerges at the Indiana Statehouse

By LESLIE BONILLA MUÑOZ
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Tensions flared at the Statehouse on Monday as lawmakers revived — and advanced — a bill to block cities and towns from banning the retail sale of dogs. It was a win for puppy breeders and a national pet store chain but went against the wishes of animal welfare advocates and numerous local officials.

A similar bill failed to pass last year following an outcry. Lawmakers said at the time they had too little time to address “too many issues” with the contentious legislation.

Many who spoke out about the previous proposal returned to testify on Monday.

Up for debate is House Bill 1412, authored by Rep. Beau Baird, R-Greencastle. The bill passed out of the House agriculture committee in a 9-4 party line vote, sending it to the full chamber.

Baird maintained it's an “anti-puppy mill bill” that sets state regulations for dog sales and subjects pet stores to random inspections. He said, too, it ensures that pet stores can operate throughout the state.

“By implementing statewide regulations, we not only safeguard the wellbeing of dogs, but we also prevent the emergence of puppy mills in our rural areas where animal shelters are already struggling to manage their capacity,” he said. “House Bill 1412 is a proactive solution to address the root causes of the unethical breeding practices.”

But among the bill's most debated provisions is one that voids local restrictions on the sale of dogs at retail pet stores.

Ordinances in communities like Indianapolis, Crown Point, Carmel and Columbus prevent pet shops in those municipalities from selling dogs, and sometimes other animals, sourced from breeders and brokers. Instead, pet stores can only collaborate with animal care or rescue organizations to show adoptable pets.

Critics additionally said Baird's measure lacks necessary funding and proper enforcement mechanisms, as well as language to guarantee hobby breeders must comply with utmost care standards.

“This bill moves our state in the wrong direction, harms consumers, harms dogs and would undermine local authority,” said Sana Azem, senior legislative director for the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Midwest division. “The puppy mill industry has fought to keep Hoosiers in the dark about the inhumane practices of the breeders who supply puppies to pet stores. Now this industry is asking for more.”

Retail stores in support

Among the many provisions in Baird's bill are those that require retail pet stores, animal care facilities and animal rescue operations to register with the Indiana Board of Animal Health.

On Monday, the committee also unanimously advanced House Bill 1337, authored by Rep. Karen Engleman. The measure would allow an HOA to regulate — but not prohibit — privately-owned honeybee hives.

Starting July 1, 2025, commercial dog breeders, brokers and retail pet stores would be subject to random inspections by the BOAH.

“This proactive approach is crucial in identifying and addressing potential issues and violations, reinforcing our commitment to the humane treatment of animals,” Baird said.

The bill additionally establishes mandatory disclosures for retail sales of dogs — including those relating to vaccinations, pedigree information, microchipping and details about the commercial dog breeder or broker, if that's where the dog came from. Another provision seeks to carve out a warranty guarantee for customers if a pet is unfit due to illness or disease.

Evoking last year's bill, Baird's measure would not allow cities and towns to ban the retail sale of pets, effective July 1, 2024. Unlike the 2023 proposal, House Bill 1412 does not grandfather bans adopted earlier, though Baird said he would be open to pushing the effective date back to 2025.

Indiana lobbyist Mark Shublak spoke in support of the bill on behalf of Petland, the nation's largest chain of stores that sell pup-

pies and other pets. He said the Ohio-based company “took seriously” critiques from last year's bill and supports the new legislation “that substantially addresses” earlier concerns.

Even so, he doubled down that “there's no compelling reason why a local government should put a pet store out of business when we have established the best standards of care for the animal from breeder to pet store.”

Elizabeth Kunzelman, Petland's vice president of legislative and public affairs, also testified that the bill “is not about us — but it's necessary.”

Kunzelman told lawmakers in 2023 that such legislation offers “relief” from local bans and promotes a regulated market for pet stores to sell animals from reputable breeders.

She maintained the company only buys pets from breeders that are licensed, inspected and regulated by the USDA, and that the company regularly visits breeders to ensure animals are raised in good conditions.

“Unfortunately there's been a lot of focus on Petland, and I'm here to say this bill is not about Petland. It's about high standards of care,” Kunzelman said Monday, speaking about Baird's proposal. “It holds pet stores accountable, and it provides clear protections for Indiana consumers.”

John Troyer, an Amish puppy breeder in Topeka, Indiana, agreed, saying the bill helps “level the playing field.”

“I am hated and despised by members of my own community, and English guys, as well,” he said. “But there is a good way to breed dogs. America wants it. And if we don't do it, right, they're going to get it in the black market. So why not support good breeding practices?”

Baird further held that the bill does not eliminate local control and instead “represents a pivotal moment in Indiana, signaling our commitment to responsible dog breeding and ensuring the humane treatment of animals in a retail setting.”

“It sets a higher standard for the wellbeing of our four-legged friends, while allowing local authorities to take appropriate action against those who defy the law,” he said. “We are ushering in a new era of canine standards of care — providing a framework that ensures uniformity and consistency in the treatment of dogs across our state.”

If a retailer fails to abide by the law and “acts as a bad actor,” Baird continued, local units of government “are empowered and enabled to go after those individuals.”

Pushback mounts against second-attempt
But Jenna Bentley, representing Accelerate Indiana Municipalities, pointed to 21 Hoosier communities that have already passed local ordinances. She said some locals attempted to first pass ordinances “to essentially do what this bill does” and still allow pet stores to operate, as long as they sell cats or dogs sourced from breeders who meet certain standards.

“But unfortunately, that was very hard to enforce for them locally, which is why they had to do the total ban,” Bentley said. “Some of these issues can be vetted and addressed locally. They're more familiar with the pet stores in their communities, which is why we would like these decisions to be made there.”

Adam Aasen, vice president of Carmel's city council, said his community's existing ban helps “avoid the headache of trying to regulate pet stores, which can be difficult.”

He emphasized that Carmel's ordinance has been “incredibly popular” among those who live there, but admitted it might not be the best for every community: “But that's why we have local home rule.”

“This isn't like Beanie Babies. When you have too many Beanie Babies, you throw them in a landfill. You incinerate them,” Aasen continued. “When you have too much supply of an animal, it overflows the shelters — which costs the taxpayer money — or you have to kill the animal. We have too much supply as it is. We decided we did not want to add to the supply in our city.”

Others said the bill won't be effective without a funding mechanism and should instead be sent to a summer study committee.

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City:

Friday, 4:20 p.m., 1400 block of West South Street. Officer requested to give citation for non-immunized dog.

Friday, 7:51 p.m., 600 block of North Oak Street. Caller reported front windshield shattered, believed to be damage from trailer hitch.

Friday, 11:11 p.m., Premier Flats. Report of man and woman fighting since 5 p.m., subject was reportedly just gaming. Advised to keep it down.

Saturday, 12:41 p.m., 600 block of West Market Street. Caller reported someone was illegally dumping trash in his dumpster, subject left name on some items.

Monday, 1:04 a.m., East 100 North and North 100 East. Driver cited for speeding 63 in a 45 mph zone.

Monday, 1:05 a.m., Airplane Express. Report of employee seemingly on drugs, falling down, falling asleep.

Monday, 11:09 a.m., Dicky's. Caller reported that a customer assaulted an

employee.

Monday, 2:09 p.m., 700 block of West Horton Street. Caller reported gun on property. Gun was reportedly purchased for caller's mother who did not want the gun.

Monday, 4:41 p.m., River Terrace Estates. Driver warned for unsafe lane movement, advised he was sleepy from working thirds.

Monday, 5:59 p.m., Bluffton Police Department. Report of an iPhone located near Oak street. Returned to owner.

Tuesday, 6:34 a.m., 200 block of West Cherry Street. Caller reported back door open. Officer cleared the residence.

County:

Tuesday, 12:45 a.m., North Main and West Water streets, Bluffton. Driver warned for disregarding signal. Driver advised he didn't plan to stop due to freezing rain and the potential to slide. However, after he noticed the officer he hit the breaks and came to a complete stop in the center of the intersection.

Tuesday, 5:45 a.m., East 400 South and South Hoosier Highway, Bluffton. Officer checked on car stopped in road. School superintendent was assessing the roads to decide whether to delay school or not.

Ossian:
Monday, 12:06 p.m., 2100 East 700 North, Ossian. Report of a vehicle in ditch.

Monday, 7:02 p.m., 550 North and North 100 East, Ossian. Vehicle in ditch.

Tuesday, 6:24 a.m., East 900 North and North Meridian Road, Ossian. Report of a vehicle slide off, power lines hanging.

ACCIDENTS

City:
Tuesday, 12:04 p.m., Ind. 1 and Wiley Avenue. Cheryl Donaghy advised she had the green light when her Ford Edge collided with a Chevrolet Traverse driven by Amber Downing. Downing also advised she had the green light. There were no witnesses at the time of the accident, however, camera footage may be obtained. Damages did not exceed \$10,000.

Ossian extends water boil notice

The town of Ossian recently suffered a water main break on Monday, Jan. 22. Water was restored, however a town-wide boil notice has been issued and will remain in effect until Thursday, Jan. 25 at 6 p.m.

IDOH to withhold individual terminated pregnancy reports

By WHITNEY DOWNARD

Indiana Capital Chronicle
The Indiana Department of Health will no longer release individual terminated pregnancy reports following the state's near-total abortion ban, which sharply curtailed reproductive health care access. It will still release aggregated reports.

For the third quarter of 2023, which covers July through September, IDOH reported 764 abortions but only 17 of those occurred after the abortion ban went into effect in late August.

Due to the small number and increased reporting requirements, the agency had concerns about violating patient confidentiality by releasing full individual records — government agencies frequently suppress reporting on small groups to ensure that impacted people can't be identified. Following the ban's passage in 2022, terminated pregnancy reports must include demographic data and patient medical history.

IDOH sought an informal opinion from Public Access Counselor Luke Britt about releasing the information. Britt, who first took the position under former Indiana Gov. Mike Pence, makes rulings related to public access laws for state departments and advises on open door violations for the public.

“Given that the report is populated with information that could be reverse engineered to identify patients — especially in smaller communities — (IDOH argues) that the required quarterly reports should suffice in terms of satisfying any disclosure and transparency

considerations,” the December informal opinion said. “This office agrees,” it concluded.

The records, created by doctors, fall under the provider-patient relationship,

Britt ruled. “It follows that IDOH should treat the form with the same confidentiality considerations as any other patient medical record,” Britt said.

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Caution: higher education bills have significant ramifications

Lawmakers are throwing everything at the wall to see what sticks in their quest to educate more Hoosiers — whether through job training or traditional college.

But some of the discussions carry concerning consequences. Two major proposals this year deserve in-depth examination that a short session likely can't provide.

First up is an effort by House Republicans to allow key higher education scholarships and grants be used for job training instead of toward full-time college credits.

The legislation impacts the 21st Century Scholars program, Freedom of Choice Grant and the the Higher Education Award. Collectively, the current budget includes about \$330 million annually in state funding for that aid.

Each program has slightly different rules but generally there are GPA and credit completion requirements and all specify that students must be attending a two-year or four-year program on a full-time basis.

House Bill 1001 would allow intermediaries, employers, and labor organizations to receive money from the funds to train Hoosiers.

This would make employers who are frustrated with job openings and a lack of skilled workers happy. But the proposal doesn't increase the money available in the accounts and essentially pits higher education and job training interests against each other.

The 21st Century fund is already facing a massive increase in a few years due to a new automatic enrollment feature. And the fiscal note on the bill doesn't hazard a guess about the possible future costs of the move.

It's a fiscal unknown that treats Hoosiers using the funds differently with different requirements.

I guess it's a quick win to just point to an existing fund and say 'that solves the job training problem,' but I would wager we will be back next year "tweaking" the law after more information becomes available.

The second major proposal is Senate Bill 8, which will blur the line between two and four-year degree institutions that was set up two years ago.

At that time, under Gov. Mitch Daniels, a study by the Government Efficiency Commission recommended establishing Ivy Tech as a true community college system, and phasing out associate degree programs at other campuses.

That's because it would be cheaper to earn an associate degree at Ivy Tech the first two years and then transfer to a traditional four-year school for bachelor's and graduate degrees.

This so-called mission differentiation could be upended by Senate Bill 8, which calls for larger institutions like Indiana and Purdue to give associate degrees to students partway through seeking bachelor's. And it also seeks to create three-year degree paths.

This would be a big change to the overall structure of higher education in Indiana.

That's why Higher Education Commissioner Chris Lowery cautioned that the bill is a study — "We recognize this is a significant consideration. We won't know the potential without purposefully examining it."

While awarding associate degrees would help Indiana meet its higher education attainment goal, that doesn't mean those associate degrees will get you a job. Many careers require a bachelor's and nothing less.

I know it's frustrating for lawmakers that educational attainment — whether job training or four-year degrees — has been such a hard nut to crack.

But we can't let that frustration move bills that have wider implications without intense discussion.

Niki Kelly is the editor of the Indiana Capital Chronicle, a non-profit newsroom. nkelly@indianacapitalchronicle.com



Niki Kelly

Hoosier Opinions



What in the world was Fani Willis thinking?

As a legal matter, the allegations about a romantic relationship between Fulton County District Attorney Fani T. Willis and the chief prosecutor in the election interference case against former president Donald Trump are irrelevant. Even if all the claims are true, they wouldn't imperil the prosecution or justify dismissing the indictment, as one of Trump's co-defendants is seeking.

As a question of atmospherics, though, the situation is a disaster - an unexpected gift to Trump that he will exploit not only to discredit the Georgia prosecution but also to augment his broader claims of being unfairly persecuted. It would be advisable for special prosecutor Nathan Wade to step aside, as a group of legal ethics experts has suggested, but the harm has already been done and could get worse: On Monday, a judge ordered records unsealed in Wade's divorce case.

Assuming that the allegations are accurate, Willis displayed monumentally poor judgment by bringing in Wade, a former municipal court judge and lawyer in private practice with scant expertise in complex criminal cases; he has been paid some \$650,000, at an hourly rate of \$250. (That might sound like a lot, but it's reasonable and consistent with compensation for other outside attorneys.) Adding fuel to the fire are records, filed in Wade's divorce proceedings, indicating he paid for Willis's travel to San Francisco and Aruba.

What in the world was Willis thinking? She did not help herself after the allegations surfaced by insinuating that the criticism was racially motivated because there were no complaints about her hiring two other special counsels, who are White. "They only attacked one," Willis said. Um, she's only accused of having a romantic relationship with one.

And this is not complicated. In government or out, you don't hire your boyfriend. You know who knows this? Fani Willis. "I certainly will not be choosing people to date that work under me," she said in a 2020 campaign appearance helpfully recirculated by the Georgia GOP chairman.

I have not been a fan of the Georgia case, with its charge of a sprawling, multi-defendant racketeering conspiracy. But Willis and her team have racked up some notable successes, securing guilty pleas - albeit no jail time - from Trump lawyers Sidney Powell, Kenneth Chesebro and Jenna Ellis, who agreed to cooperate with prosecutors.

Now comes a motion filed by defendant Michael Roman, a former Trump campaign official, seeking to have the entire indictment dismissed as "invalid and unconstitutional" and Willis's office disqualified from further proceedings.

Roman's lawyer, Ashleigh Merchant, asserted that Willis and Wade have an "impermissible and irreparable conflict of interest" in the prosecution. "Willis has benefitted substantially and directly, and continues to benefit, from this litigation because Wade is being paid hundreds of thousands of dollars to prosecute this case on her behalf," Merchant argued. "In turn, Wade is taking Willis on, and paying for vacations across the world

with money he is being paid by the Fulton County taxpayers and authorized solely by Willis."

Not only does this violate Georgia's legal ethics rules, she suggested, but it also could constitute the federal crime of "honest services fraud," since Willis benefited from the hiring without disclosing it.

This is overblown and unlikely to succeed. As lawyers Norman Eisen, Joyce Vance and Richard Painter argue on the Just Security website, there is a critical distinction between whether Willis's conduct violated any ethical rules and whether it warrants dismissal of the criminal charges.

"Questions about gifts and related matters go to Willis's and Wade's obligations to the Fulton County District Attorney's office, and have no connection to assuring the defendants a fair trial," they write. "These allegations are as irrelevant to the trial as allegations in other situations that prosecutors took office supplies for personal use, drove county vehicles for personal errands, or plagiarized portions of their student law review notes."

A conflict of interest would be present in a situation where "conflicting loyalties" could harm the defendant. "We might question Willis's judgment in hiring Wade and the pair's other alleged conduct," Eisen, Vance and Painter write, "but under Georgia law that relationship and their alleged behavior do not impact her or his ability to continue on the case."

By contrast, at an earlier stage of the case, Willis was appropriately disqualified from pursuing charges against Burt Jones, a 2020 Trump elector and then the GOP candidate for Georgia lieutenant governor, after hosting a fundraiser for his Democratic opponent.

"This choice - which the District Attorney was within her rights as an elected official to make - has consequences," wrote Superior Court Judge Robert McBurney. "She has bestowed her office's imprimatur upon Senator Jones's opponent. And since then, she has publicly (in her pleadings) labeled Senator Jones a 'target' of the grand jury's investigation. This scenario creates a plain - and actual and untenable - conflict." There's no analogous conflict here.

But there is a problem. The arrangement stinks, and it plays right into Trump's hands. Trump has already called Willis and Wade "the lovebirds" - shades of his attacks on FBI officials Peter Strzok and Lisa Page - and accused them of going after him "to ENRICH themselves and to live the Lifestyle of the Rich and Famous."

We know Trump needs no evidence to launch baseless assaults; see his description of the law clerk for Justice Arthur Engoron in the New York civil fraud trial as "Schumer's girlfriend."

Now, Willis has offered him live ammunition. It might not damn her case in court, but the damage in the court of public opinion is immense.

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Ruth Marcus

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 24, the 24th day of 2024. There are 342 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 24, 1984, Apple Computer began selling its first Macintosh model, which boasted a built-in 9-inch monochrome display, a clock rate of 8 megahertz and 128k of RAM.

On this date:

In 1848, James W. Marshall discovered a gold nugget at Sutter's Mill in northern California, a discovery that led to the gold rush of '49.

In 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill concluded a wartime conference in Casablanca, Morocco.

In 1945, Associated Press war correspondent Joseph Morton was among a group of captives executed by the Germans at the Mauthausen-Gusen concentration camp in Austria.

In 1965, Winston Churchill died in London at age 90.

In 1978, a nuclear-powered Soviet satellite, Cosmos 954, plunged through Earth's atmosphere and disintegrated, scattering radioactive debris over parts of northern Canada.

In 1985, the space shuttle Discovery was launched from Cape Canaveral on the first secret, all-military shuttle mission.

In 1989, confessed serial killer Theodore Bundy was executed in Florida's electric chair.

In 2003, former Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge was sworn as the first secretary of the new Department of Homeland Security.

In 2011, a suicide bomber attacked Moscow's busiest airport, killing 37 people; Chechen separatists claimed responsibility.

In 2013, President Barack Obama's Defense Secretary Leon Panetta announced the lifting of a ban on women serving in combat.

Democrats and abortion: Bring it on

With the economy, the border and foreign policy not working for them in this election cycle, Democrats are counting on the abortion issue to save their hides in November.

Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL) has announced a "Winning Pro-Life Strategy" to counter their game plan. In a memo reported by The Washington Times, Rubio says Republicans

"need to develop and fight for a compassionate, pro-family agenda that counters caricatures of our beliefs and makes life easier for mothers and their children. Second, we need to put Democrats on the defensive about their extreme support for abortion. Third, we need to tell the truth about what abortion is - the taking of innocent life - and advocate for limits to the practice."

A fourth way could be approaching the issue from an angle rarely heard in the ongoing abortion debate. Melissa Ohden is doing that. Her new book, "Abortion Survivors Break Their Silence," tells the stories of several women and men who survived abortions, along with the backstories of who and what persuaded their mothers to terminate their pregnancies.

Ohden says she survived a saline abortion and was put aside to die but was saved by a nurse who took her to a neonatal intensive care unit. Now in her 40s, married with two daughters, she writes: "The truth has been swept so far under the rug that abor-



Cal Thomas

tion survivors are silenced, or just plain ignored. The same is true about almost anyone whose experience doesn't support the popular narrative that abortion is synonymous with women's empowerment."

The book is not a political screed, but personal accounts of healing and reconciliation between the women who at first wanted to get rid of "The Dreaded Complication," as some abortion doctors call those who survive, and their sons and daughters.

Ohden writes about her mother being pressured by her mother, an ob-gyn nurse, into having an abortion in 1977. Her grandmother, she says, was able to bypass normal procedures at a local hospital to fast track her abortion. Many years later after meeting her birth mother, she writes about their reconciliation.

When Ohden discovered she was not alone in her experience, she founded the Abortion Survivors Network.

Ohden quotes a 1981 story in the Philadelphia Inquirer: "(Abortion live births) are little known because organized medicine, from fear of public clamor and legal action, treats them more as an embarrassment to be hushed up than a problem to be solved."

The number of abortion survivors in the U.S. is unknown, but Canada and Australia are among countries that keep records. While their num-

bers are relatively small, Ohden notes every life is precious and none of those whose stories she tells regrets being given a chance at life.

One of the few abortion survival stories that made national news, because it was too grisly to ignore, was about Philadelphia abortion doctor Dr. Kenneth Gosnell, who was convicted of murdering babies that survived abortions in his rogue clinic by "snipping" their spinal cords. He was sentenced in 2013 to three life terms in prison.

Instead of cowering in fear or arguing about the number of gestational weeks after which abortions should be limited or outlawed, Republicans and pro-lifers should attach the left's favorite word "extreme" to pro-choice Democrats. Why don't they do more to support adoption? Why won't congressional Democrats vote for "The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act," which passed the Republican majority House a year ago, but has languished in the Democrat majority Senate?

During campaigns, Republicans - from their presidential nominee to House and Senate races - should feature abortion survivors. Polls show a large majority of Americans want some restrictions on abortion after viability. They would likely support protections for survivors of abortion if they were aware of them.

Republicans should follow Melissa Ohden's example and help her tell their stories.

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No. 2 Bishop Luers steals away win at The Castle

By RYAN WALKER

The No. 2 team in 2A Bishop Luers (13-1) continued its winning ways, but Norwell (8-7) gave everything it could in a 49-47 loss.

Bishop Luers' Drelyn Truesdale dropped a deep stepback jumper that was money with Adam McBride's hand in his face with only 2.3 seconds remaining.

It ended up being the dagger as a late homerun pass from the arm of Huntington University baseball commit Cade Shelton nearly dropped in the hands of Ashton Federspiel. But of course, there was Truesdale again tipping the rainbow pass to twin brother Deron Truesdale and juiced out the final seconds.



Norwell head coach (left) gives instruction to his team at the end of the first half, orchestrating a final shot.

"When you get right down to it at the end, they hit a really, really hard shot to win the game," Norwell head coach Mike McBride said after the game. "Couldn't have asked for better defense by our guys, and especially Adam on the ball at that time. Kid made a really hard shot and it went in. So, the game didn't go our way, but great effort by our guys tonight. It was just unfortunate we didn't get enough to win."

For a Norwell team that has had its hypes and crappies after a 22-4 season last year and graduating virtually everyone from this was a positive test for the team.

Both Knight squads traded the lead throughout the evening, having quick little spurts of offense but nothing more than that.

McBride's Knights though executed their gameplan and handed Bishop Luers how it wanted to — methodically.

"I thought we did a nice job tonight keeping the tempo of the game where we wanted it, keeping the pace at a place that it gave us the best opportunity to win at the end. The game's in the 40s, that's a team that comes in averaging round 66-68 points per game, and I thought our kids did a good job executing what we wanted to do. We put ourselves in an opportunity to win it at the end."

But on the back side of that style of play Tuesday night costed them.

With 4:44 left to go, Federspiel dished a backdoor cut to McBride for an easy two, and on the next possession nailed a three to nod the game up at 45. Then Federspiel took two Bishop Luers defenders to the cup and floated a tough shot from the left side of the basket to go through for two. That gave them the lead 47-45 with 3:11 to go.

Norwell earned the ball back after a missed shot and rebound, and motioned its offense around the three-point line over the next minute. Norwell's Cohen Bailey was trapped in the corner by two defenders, but McBride used a timeout to continue the game of keep away going.

Those antics would quickly be ruined by Dereon Truesdale, who swiped the ball away and marched down the floor and was fouled. He hit both shots and tied the game



Norwell's Adam McBride (middle) fights through two Bishop Luers defenders Tuesday night at The Castle. McBride would meet up later to guard Bishop Luers' Drelyn Truesdale (right) in a game-winning bucket to win 49-47. (Photos by Ryan Walker)

with 1:23 remaining.

Then, Bishop Luers got the ball back again with a minute left and held on to the ball before head coach Seth Coffing stopped the clock with 12 seconds left.

That was what set up the long jumper from Drelyn Truesdale, which was well defended by Norwell, but and even better make.

"They got nothing going to the rim. They didn't get a clean look. They got a very contested challenge 16-foot step-back fade-away shot," McBride said. "He made it, I mean, we tell our kids all the time 'if you make a shot like that, they earned it.' Give the Truesdale kid credit, he deserves it. He made a really hard shot."

Dereon Truesdale had a game-high 17 points in the game, while Carmani Davis' three triples in the first half tallied to 13 total points.

Bailey finished the game with 14 to lead Norwell, while McBride and Federspiel added 12.

Norwell's next game will be at East Noble starting at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27.

Norwell won the junior varsity game 53-35. Nick McBride led the Knights with 19 points, Drew Jolly 14 and Garry Riley 10.

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BISHOP LUERS 49, NORWELL 47

At Norwell
BISHOP LUERS (0-0): Dereon Truesdale 6-13 4-7 17, Carmani Davis 4-8 2-2 13, Drelyn Truesdale 5-12 0-2 11, Danny Kelley 3-7 0-0 6, Cameron Mitchell 1-2 0-0 2, Damium Jackson 0-0 0-0 0, Wesley Javins 0-2 0-0 0, Hunter Meek 0-0 0-2 0, Zach Calderon 0-1 0-0 0. **TOTALS:** 19-45 6-13 49.
NORWELL (0-0): Cohen Bailey 6-12 2-4 14, Adam McBride 4-7 1-2 12, Ashton Federspiel 5-16 2-4 12, Cade Shelton 3-4 1-2 7, Owen Wallis 1-1 0-0 2, Kaedyn Quintanilla 0-0 0-0 0. **TOTALS:** 19-40 6-12 47.
B. Luers 14 12 11 12 — 49
Norwell 17 9 10 11 — 47
 Three-point FG: Bishop Luers 5-19 (Davis 3-5, Dr. Truesdale 1-5, Da. Truesdale 1-4, Kelley 0-3, Mitchell 0-1, Calderon 0-1), Norwell 3-9 (McBride 3-6, Bailey 0-3). Rebounds: Bishop Luers 21 (Da. Truesdale 4, Dr. Truesdale 4, Kelley 4, Jackson 2, Mitchell 2, Meek 1), Norwell 25 (Chelton 9, Federspiel 6, Bailey 4, McBride 2, Wallis 2). Turnovers: Bishop Luers 4, Norwell 11. Fouls: Bishop Luers 12, Norwell 13. Fouled Out: None. Technicals: None.
 JV: 53-35 Norwell.

Tigers take care of future sectional opponent Squires

By RICK SPRUNGER

Bluffton's girls' team made Senior Night a happy night.

The Tigers routed Manchester 64-49 Tuesday evening while honoring graduating seniors Haley Gibson and Cayah King.



It was a big win for Bluffton because the Tigers (16-6) will meet this same Manchester team (14-7) next Tuesday night in the opening round of Class 2A sectional play at South Adams, with obviously a lot more riding on the outcome.

Bluffton used a big 13-0 run during the latter portion of the third quarter to put the one on ice.

Gibson rifled back-to-back three-pointers in the span of 33 seconds in the middle of the rally to increase a 37-31 margin to 44-31 and force the Squires to play catch-up from there.

The lead spiked at 47-31 after Konley Ault hit one of two free throws and then took a rebound coast to coast for two more.

Manchester never got closer than nine points after that.

"We watched a lot of film on (Manchester)," said Bluffton coach Doug Curtis after the game. "We wanted to speed the game up on them, and I felt like we were able to do that. We didn't press or trap them. That didn't work out so well for us last week. But we still wanted to push the tempo."

The defense also came up big during that spree as Manchester committed two turnovers and was limited to five one-and-done misses from the field. Curtis thought that was key.

"They are such a good

rebounding team, and we were a little concerned about that," he added. "Our goal is to be aggressive, and we tried to make a living off the offensive boards. Maryn Schreiber battled all night for rebounds, and she did a good job."

She finished with eight to lead her team to a 36-31 edge on the glass.

Schreiber actually started that big third quarter run with a rebound basket, and Gibson got the first of her two three-pointers after an offensive rebound by Isabella Stout.

Bluffton also never trailed in the contest.

The Tigers led by as much as eight points on three occasions in the first half and were up 30-23 at halftime.

Manchester was never out of range until that third quarter blitz.

The Squires cut a 16-8 deficit after one quarter down to 21-20 midway through the first half before Bluffton spurred back out to a 28-20 edge.

"We're getting better at mental toughness," noted Curtis of his team's ability to rise to the challenge.

Bluffton placed four players in double figures, including Gibson with 15 points, Schreiber and Ault with 13 apiece, and Stout with 10.

Gibson hit on four three-pointers in the contest and Madyson Sonnigsen on three while just missing double figures herself with nine points.

The Tigers hit on 19-49 shots from the field for a .387 shooting percentage.

They committed just 10 turnovers while pushing the tempo, and five of those were in the fourth quarter after the issue was pretty well settled.

Manchester, meanwhile, committed 15 ball-handling miscues, nine of which came during the middle two periods when the game was getting away from the Squires.

The visitors connected on 18 of 50 shots from the floor for a .360 shooting percentage and were led by Brookelynn Buzzard with 16 points and Emma Walker with 15.

However, 10 of Walker's 15 points came in the fourth quarter with the outcome already decided.

Manchester took the reserve game, 36-29.

Bluffton got eight points apiece from Shakyriana Eskridge and Isla Gibson, four from Sophie Eisenhut, three each from Addison Yates and Piper Morgan, two from Eve Corkwell, and one from Addison Kauffman.

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BLUFFTON 64, MANCHESTER 49
at Bluffton
MANCHESTER (14-7): Peyton Ream 1-4 2-2 4, Brookelynn Buzzard 6-18 2-2 16, Emma Walker 7-11 1-2 15, Gracie Lauer 1-3 1-2 3, Hadley West 1-7 2-4 5, Kim Schroll 1-1 0-0 2, Molly Schanep 0-1 0-0 0, Hanna Stout 0-1 0-0 0, Ava Sautter 1-2 1-2 4. **TOTAL:** 18-50 9-14 49.
BLUFFTON (16-6): Isabella Stout 2-11 5-8 10, Marly Drayer 0-3 2-2 2, Maryn Schreiber 6-12 1-3 13, Haley Gibson 4-8 3-4 15, Cayah King 0-0 2-2 2, Konley Ault 4-7 5-6 13, Madyson Sonnigsen 3-7 0-0 9, Tressa Renner 0-1 0-0 0. **TOTAL:** 19-49 18-25 64.
Manchester 8 15 11 15 — 49
Bluffton 16 14 17 17 — 64
Three-point shooting: Manchester 4-17 (Ream 0-1, Buzzard 2-10, Lauer 0-1, West 1-3, Stout 0-1, Sautter 1-1); Bluffton 8-17 (Stout 1-3, Gibson 4-6, Sonnigsen 3-7, Renner 0-1). Rebounds: Manchester 31, Bluffton 36 (Schreiber 8, Stout 7, Ault 6). Turnovers: Manchester 15, Bluffton 10. Personal fouls: Manchester 18, Bluffton 16. Fouled out: Walker. Technical fouls: None.
Junior Varsity: Manchester 36, Bluffton 29.

First-half flurry carries the Raiders over the Owls

By ANDREW FEEBACK

With a 17-point run to end the first half, the Southern Wells boys' basketball team picked up a 58-42 win over the visiting Muncie Burris Owls Tuesday evening.

The lead changed hands a few times in the early going, but the Raiders (3-10) found themselves down 20-16 after consecutive buckets by the Owls (1-10).

Over the last five minutes of the first half, the Raiders outscored the Owls 17-0 to gain a decisive edge, getting some help from their bench in the process.

"I think it was a nice combination of getting stops, turning the other team over, and turning that into transition baskets," coach Joel Roush said. "When a team has a hard time scoring, like we have in the past, those easy baskets are gold. We found some of that tonight, and it was just really nice for our guys to get some easy baskets."

Evan Pennington got it started with a fast-break bucket plus a foul. On the next possession, freshman Landon Johnson came off the bench and hit a three-pointer that gave the Raiders the lead for good.

Caleb Johnson also chipped in off the bench with a bucket, Chandler Oswald made a triple, Pennington made two free throws and Landon Johnson drilled a second trey to end the half, which saw the Raiders up 33-20.

The Owls gave the Raiders a different look defensively in the second half, and Southern Wells went into a bit of a lull.

"They changed defenses on us, and it was something we hadn't seen," Roush said. "We were just being too passive. We just weren't aggressive enough."

Muncie Burris used a 13-5 burst to pull within 38-33 after Cole Conaster sank a three-pointer while being fouled. He couldn't complete the four-point play, and the Raiders regained control after that.



Oswalt hit a corner three early in the fourth quarter and Caleb Johnson meshed in a short jumper to push the lead back to ten. Following a basket from Conaster, Perrin Gates put back his own miss, scored off a nice cut to the hoop, and got a transition layup that had the Raiders up 51-37 with 2:46 to play.

Two more layups from Oswald had the lead up to 15, and the Raiders cashed in at the foul line the rest of the way.

"Once we became aggressive again and started attacking, we were a lot more successful," Roush said.

Gates led the Raiders with 14 points, while Oswald had 13. Andrew Aker added nine, while Pennington and Landon Johnson both had eight.

Conaster's 16 topped the Owls, while Asher Donahue had 15.

Southern Wells will travel to South Adams Friday night starting at 7:30 p.m.

A two-quarter junior varsity game went to Burris, 33-21. Landon Johnson scored nine points, Trey Slusher had five, Joshua Aulbach had four and Wade Tappy added three.

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SOUTHERN WELLS 58, MUNCIE BURRIS 42
At Southern Wells
MUNCIE BURRIS (1-10): Hayden Evans 0-0 0-0 0, Jasper Oldfield 0-1 0-0 0, Leo Le 0-0 0-0 0, Drew Haney 2-8 0-0 4, Cole Conaster 7-16 1-1 16, Kalen Russell 0-1 0-0 0, Rees Cook 1-6 0-2 2, Timo Minnich 0-0 0-0 0, Moses Smith 1-4 0-2 2, Asher Donahue 6-16 0-1 15, Haoyang Zhang 1-1 1-2 3. **TOTALS:** 18-53 2-6 42.
SOUTHERN WELLS (3-10): Trey Slusher 0-0 0-0 0, Landon Johnson 3-4 0-0 8, Andrew Aker 3-9 0-2 9, Caleb Johnson 2-2 0-0 4, CJ Reber 1-5 0-1 2, Evan Pennington 2-6 4-10 8, Chandler Oswald 5-16 0-0 13, Joshua Aulbach 0-0 0-0 0, Perrin Gates 6-9 2-5 14. **TOTALS:** 22-51 6-18 58.
Muncie Burris 15 5 13 9 — 42
Southern Wells 13 20 7 18 — 58
Three-point shooting: Muncie Burris 4-23 (Donahue 3-8, Conaster 1-5, Haney 0-6, Cook 0-2, Smith 0-1, Russell 0-1), Southern Wells 8-25 (Oswalt 3-12, Aker 3-8, Landon Johnson 2-3, Reber 0-2). Rebounds: Muncie Burris 30 (Donahue 9, Cook 6, Conaster 6, Oldfield 5, Russell 2, Haney 1, Smith 1), Southern Wells 27 (Pennington 6, Gates 5, Aker 5, Oswald 5, Reber 4, Caleb Johnson 1, Landon Johnson 1). Turnovers: Muncie Burris 14, Southern Wells 12. Fouls: Muncie Burris 19, Southern Wells 15. Fouled out: None. Technicals: None.
 JV: Muncie Burris 33, Southern Wells 21.

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Trusting your instincts in dating

Dear Annie: I'm a divorced man in his mid-60s with no children, and I have a job that I'm very secure in.

I recently began dating a woman who I met at a work seminar. Our first few dates didn't give me much hope for anything serious or long-term. It took her at least a half-dozen dates before she felt comfortable kissing me good-night.

The date after our first kiss, it was back to square one. No kiss and a very quick hug.

Since then, her behavior has had me very puzzled. Any idea why her behavior is so inconsistent? — Mixed Signals

Dear Mixed Signals: Always trust your first instinct. After your first few dates, you knew that there was not much hope for anything serious. You sound like a straightforward person who knows what he wants, and if your date is not reciprocating any affection, then it's like trying to put a square peg into a round hole. You are wasting your time and hers. Move on and find someone who wants to kiss you back.

Dear Annie: What should I do about my marriage, which is becoming toxic?

I don't know if it's jealousy or anger that can't be controlled — without screaming and downright physical altercations at times. When we think we have solved our problems, one can't forget what the other says or does, and the fights start all over again. He says that he has changed his narcissistic ways, but I still feel controlled and almost afraid of him.

I feel like I am walking on eggshells. Am I reading too much into a bad relationship? — Walking on Eggshells

Dear Walking on Eggshells: You always have a choice. If you choose to stay in the marriage, then you must forgive the past because the only person you are hurting by not forgiving is yourself. You might try seeing a couples counselor before making a final decision about whether to stay or leave. If he is physically abusing you, please call

the domestic care hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) or visit their website at <https://www.thehotline.org>. There is help available for you.

Dear Annie: I am really bothered by the letter from "Sibbling" who was ghosted by her brother after he had to sleep on the couch when visiting because her son and children were also visiting and were in the guest room. I feel like this entitled sibling needs to be asked what HIS solution would have been.

Should the son have been told he had to give up the bedroom and sleep on the couch with his kids so the brother could have the bedroom? How would this be any more fair? I would love to know why this sibling feels he is more worthy than other family members.


Sometimes people are just so self-centered they don't think past their own feelings of being "put out." I would hope that after being asked about it, he would conclude that there was no easy solution and just let it go. Thoughts? — Riled Up

Dear Riled Up: You make a good argument, and the brother obviously was being inconsiderate. Thank you for sharing your thoughts.

"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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My Answer
By Dr. Billy Graham



We must rely on the Lord to guide us

Q: There are many churches posing as Christian but are really involved in cult practices and teachings. Until you get in there, it's not possible to know. How does a person find out before they're trapped? — F.R.

A: Many groups are vying for listening ears — many anxious to listen. This is nothing new. When there were only two beings on Earth, having heard directly from God, they chose instead to listen to Satan's deceptive voice. We must remember that a deceptive voice will always call God into question. This is the age-old story of Adam and Eve.

When looking for a

church home there are questions to ask. One: Is Christ worshiped as Lord and Savior? Some cults dismiss Christ completely or suggest that He was only a great teacher. Some claim salvation is not to be found in Christ. The Bible says that salvation is found in no one else (see Acts 4:12, 1 Peter 3:18).

Two: Is the Bible (God's Word) central as the one true guide to faith and practice? Cults and false religions often ignore or even deny the full inspiration and authority of the Bible as the Word of God. They often add or substitute a set of man-made teachings (doctrine) not found in Scripture. We must even be cautious of translations of Scripture

that twist the meaning of the Bible's clear teaching.

Three: Is involvement with other believers centered in a Bible-believing church where Jesus Christ is worshiped and obeyed? While the church is not perfect, it is important to belong to a church whose foundation is God's Word.

We also must rely on the Lord to guide us and ask Him to help us decipher between truth and lies. Jesus is the truth (see John 14:6); God will always lead people to His truth.

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

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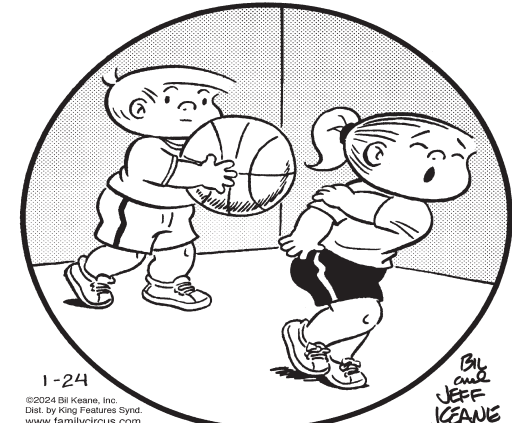


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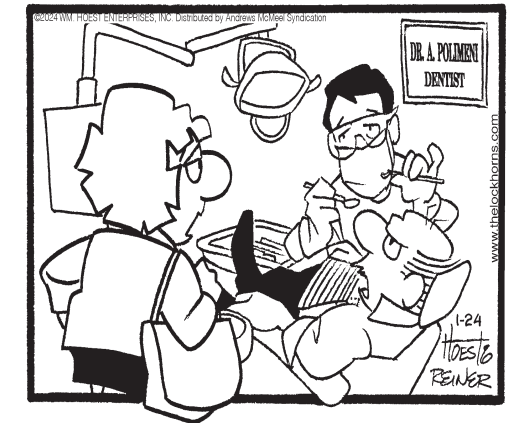
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"Billy committed a foul and it was a FRAGRANT foul!"

The LOCKHORNS



"I THINK LEROY IS AFRAID TO BRUSH HIS TEETH... CONSIDERING WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM AFTER HE BRUSHED HIS HAIR."

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 26 — and 12 Alpine

1 Speck call 1 Jazz air?

4 Telly 27 Univ. legend 14 Resign

network dorm Miles 15 Slangy

7 Dad super- 2 Oil cartel 19 Finale

8 Tennis visors 3 Alehouse 20 Noah's

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DOWN

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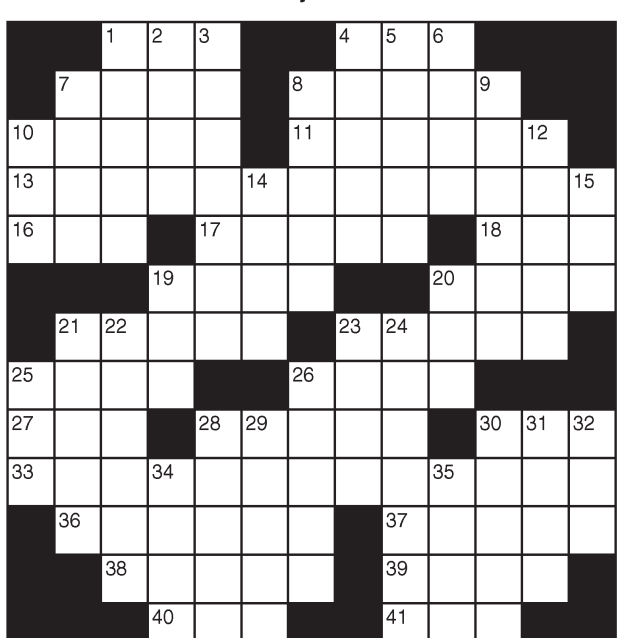
31 "Present!"

32 "All bets — off"

34 Legal document

35 Actor LaBeouf

Yesterday's answer 1-24



01/24	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		News	Washington Watch With Tony Perkins	Creflo Dollar	Joseph Prince	Morris	TCT Today	Joyce Meyer	Love Worth	James Robison	Dr. Robert Jeffress	Jewish Jesus	Andrew Womack	Ask the Pastor	Foundation			
CBS WANE (15)	2	15	15		News (N)	Inside Edition (N)	News at 6 (N)	CBS News (N)	Wheel of Fortune (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	The Price Is Right at Night (N)	Let's Make a Deal	FBI True (N)	Nightcast (N)	(35) Late Show-Colbert	(35) After Mid.					
Antenna WANE-2 (152)	106	20			Blue Bloods "In the Box"	Blue Bloods "Occupational Hazards"	Blue Bloods "Bad Company"	Blue Bloods "Through the Looking Glass"	Blue Bloods "Payback Rules"	Blue Bloods "New Rules"	Blue Bloods "The Art of War"	Blue Bloods "Worst Case Scenario"									
ABC WPTA (21)	4	3	21		ABC21 News at 5 (N)	ABC21 (N)	ABC World News (N)	ABC21 News (N)	Ent. Tonight (N)	NBA (L) (N)	NBA Basketball Phoenix Suns at Dallas Mavericks From American Airlines Center in Dallas. (L) (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)	Chicago Med (N)	Chicago Fire "Call Me McHolland" (N)	Chicago P.D. "Retread" (N)	News (N)	(35) Tonight Show (N)	(35) Seth Meyers (N)					
MNT WPTA-3 (213)	10	9	56	34	The King of Queens	King "Train Wreck"	Mod Fam	News (N)	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Dateline	Dateline	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Mom	Mom	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs			
FOX WISE (33)	8	4	33	33	The Steve Wilkos Show	TMZ Live (N)	Dish Nation (N)	TMZ (N)	Wild Cards (N)	Family Law (N)	Dish Nation (N)	TMZ (N)	Family Guy	Family Guy	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers					
PBS WFWA (38)	13	5	39	39	NOVA "Ultimate Space Scope"	PBS NewsHour (N)	BBC News America	LIFE Ahead	Nature "Big Little Journeys: Bloodlines" (N)	NOVA "Iceman Reborn"	Secrets of the Dead "Hamball in the Alps"	Amanpour and Company (N)	Nature "Big Little Journeys: Bloodlines" (N)								
PBS WFP (48)	3				Antiques Roadshow "New Orleans Hour 3"	PBS NewsHour (N)	Nature "Big Little Journeys: Bloodlines" (N)	NOVA "Iceman Reborn"	Secrets of the Dead "Hamball in the Alps"	Amanpour and Company (N)	Nature "Big Little Journeys: Bloodlines" (N)										
FOX WFFT (55)	6	5	55	55	WFFT Fox News at 5 (N)	Big Bang	Big Bang	I Can See Your Voice (N)	We Are Family	FOX 55 News First at 10 (N)			Young Sheldon	Young Sheldon	Neighbor	Neighbor					
CABLE CHANNELS																					
LIFE	23	113	108	252	Castle "The Lives of Others"	Castle "The Fast and the Furious"	Castle "The Squab and the Quail"	Married at First Sight "New Groom, Who Dis?" (N)	(35) Brides "I've Seen Him Naked Now" (N)	(35) Married	(05) Prison Brides "I've Seen Him Naked Now" (N)	Married at First Sight "New Groom, Who Dis?" (N)									
FX	24	132	136	148	(330) Spider-Man: Int.	*** The Bob's Burgers Movie	*** Ghostbusters: Afterlife (21) Carrie Coon.	*** Ghostbusters: Afterlife (21) Finn Wolfhard, Carrie Coon.													
TVLAND	25		106	304	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	The King of Queens	The King of Queens	The King of Queens	The King of Queens					
E!	26	142	114	236	*** It's a Bad Moms Christmas	*** It's Complicated Baldwin, Meryl Streep.	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
PARMT	30	241	241		Around (N)	Pardon (L) (N)	SportsCenter	NBA (L) (N)	College Basketball Auburn at Alabama From Coleman Coliseum in Tuscaloosa, Ala. (L) (N)	NBA Basketball Oklahoma City Thunder at San Antonio Spurs From Frost Bank Center in San Antonio. (L) (N)	NBA Basketball Teams TBA (L) (N)	SportsCenter (L) (N)	NFL Live (N)								
ESPN2	32	54	143	209	NFL Live (N)	Around (N)	Pardon	College Basketball Davidson at Saint Louis From Chafee Arena in St. Louis. (L) (N)	Life Midwest	Pregame (L) (N)	NHL Hockey St. Louis Blues at Vancouver Canucks From Rogers Arena in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. (L) (N)	Blues Post. (L) (N)									
FSMW	33		418	671	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Conned"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Beef"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Torch"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Ace"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Wannabe"	Law & Order: SVU "Merchandise"	Law & Order: SVU "Merchandise"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Wet"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Wet"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Branded"	Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown	
DISC	35	72	182	278	Dr. Pimple Popper	My 600-Lb. Life (N)	My 600-Lb. Life (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Tammy's Journey"	Hoarding: Buried Alive	Hoarding: Buried Alive	My 600-Lb. Life	My 600-Lb. Life									
TLC	36	73	183	280	American Pickers "Racy Relics"	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	
HST	38	77	120	269	The Blessing	The Story of Us (2019, Romance) Sam Page, Marco Grazzini, Maggie Lawson.	Pinball Jack	Pinball Jack	Pinball Jack	Pinball Jack	Pinball Jack	Pinball Jack	Pinball Jack	Pinball Jack	Pinball Jack	Pinball Jack	Pinball Jack	Pinball Jack	Pinball Jack	Pinball Jack	
ABC	39	134	118	265	*** The Blessing	*** The Blessing	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	
HALL	40	117	185	312	*** The Blessing	*** The Blessing	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	
SYFY	41	135	122	244	*** The Blessing	*** The Blessing	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	*** Demolition Man (1993, Sci-Fi) Wesley Snipes, Sandra Bullock, Sylvester Stallone.	
TBS	43	130	139	247	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	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	
TNT	44	131	138	245	Lucifer	Lucifer	Lucifer	Lucifer	Lucifer	Lucifer	Lucifer	Lucifer	Lucifer	Lucifer	Lucifer	Lucifer	Lucifer	Lucifer	Lucifer	Lucifer	
AMC	45		131	254	*** Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls	*** Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls	*** Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls	*** Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls	*** Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls	*** Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls	*** Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls	*** Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls	*** Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls	*** Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls	*** Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls	*** Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls	*** Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls	*** Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls	*** Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls	*** Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls	
COM	47	107	249		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	
FS1	48	64	150	219	(4:30) Speak (L) (N)	NFL Films	College Basketball Providence at Seton Hall From Prudential Center in Newark, N.J. (L) (N)	College Basketball Villanova at St. John's From Madison Square Garden in New York. (L) (N)	College Basketball Villanova at St. John's From Madison Square Garden in New York. (L) (N)	College Basketball Villanova at St. John's From Madison Square Garden in New York. (L) (N)	College Basketball Villanova at St. John's From Madison Square Garden in New York. (L) (N)	College Basketball Villanova at St. John's From Madison Square Garden in New York. (L) (N)	College Basketball Villanova at St. John's From Madison Square Garden in New York. (L) (N)	College Basketball Villanova at St. John's From Madison Square Garden in New York. (L) (N)	College Basketball Villanova at St. John's From Madison Square Garden in New York. (L) (N)	College Basketball Villanova at St. John's From Madison Square Garden in New York. (L) (N)	College Basketball Villanova at St. John's From Madison Square Garden in New York. (L) (N)	College Basketball Villanova at St. John's From Madison Square Garden in New York. (L) (N)	College Basketball Villanova at St. John's From Madison Square Garden in New York. (L) (N)	College Basketball Villanova at St. John's From Madison Square Garden in New York. (L) (N)	
WGN	53		307		The Hill (L) (N)	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	
WE	57		128	260	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	NBCIS "Restless"	
FOOD	59	153	110	231	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	Guy's Grocery Games	
BRavo	60	140	129	237	Vanderpump Rules	Vanderpump Rules	Vanderpump Rules	Vanderpump Rules	Vanderpump Rules	Vanderpump Rules	Vanderpump Rules	Vanderpump Rules	Vanderpump Rules	Vanderpump Rules	Vanderpump Rules	Vanderpump Rules	Vanderpump Rules	Vanderpump Rules	Vanderpump Rules	Vanderpump Rules	
NICK	68		170	299	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	S														

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

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Difficulty: ★★★

1/24

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.

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.

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Lottery Numbers

Tuesday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY
Cash 5 — 08-15-19-38-44
Cash4Life — 06-21-42-43-54, Cash Ball: 02
Quick Draw Midday — 02-03-06-07-14-18-24-25-28-29-37-38-44-51-52-59-61-73-77-79, BE: 44
Daily Three-Midday — 06-04-08, SB: 09
Daily Three-Evening — 07-02-05, SB: 02
Daily Four-Midday — 04-03-07-04, SB: 09
Daily Four-Evening — 07-02-02-04, SB: 02
Quick Draw Evening — 04-06-09-10-16-24-30-37-44-45-46-53-54-55-64-68-71-75-78-79, BE: 30
Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$3.4 million
MEGA MILLIONS 21-28-58-69-70; Mega Ball: 20; Megaplier: 2X.
POWERBALL Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$145 million

FOR SALE

Miscellaneous

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

Pets

HELOISE HINT: If your dog is pawing its eyes or shaking its head a lot. This may indicate underlying eye problems. Check for redness or swelling and get your pooch to the vet ASAP. Email HELOISE@Heloise.com.

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted



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

Public Sale Calendar

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. MeritAuctions.com, 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. soybeans. Additional information, drone flight, photos available at halderman.com. [Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management](http://HaldermanRealEstate&FarmManagement.com), 800-424-2324, Rick Johnloz: 260-827-8181, Neal Wolheter: 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](http://KrueckebergAuction&RealtyLLC.com), 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](http://KrueckebergAuction&RealtyLLC.com), 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.](http://SchraderRealEstateandAuctionCompany.com), 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.](http://SchraderRealEstateandAuctionCompany.com), 800-451-2709, schraderauction.com.

Public Notice

NOTICE OF UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
IN THE WELLS CIRCUIT COURT OF WELLS COUNTY, INDIANA
DOCKET NO. 90C01-2401-EU-000003
Notice is hereby given that ELISE R. DUNN was on the 18th day of January, 2024, appointed personal representative of the estate of CONSTANCE S. VIDRINE, deceased, who died on the 4th day of January, 2024, and was authorized to administer her estate without Court supervision.
All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file those claims in the office of the Clerk of the Wells Circuit Court within three (3) months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or those claims will be forever barred.

Dated at Bluffton, Indiana, this 18th day of January, 2024.
Beth Davis
Clerk, Wells Circuit Court
Michelle L. Adler
Attorney for Personal Representative
Attorney No. 31367-53
GORDON & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
119 East Oak Forest Drive
Bluffton, IN 46714
(260) 824-9377

nb 1/24, 1/31 hsp/klp

SUDOKU ANSWER

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

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