

# The News - Banner

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BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection

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## Living recovery

Trever Sebring recounts his battle with addiction and hopes for the future

By SYDNEY KENT

One year ago today, Trever Sebring overdosed.

Sebring sat in his living room at his grandparents' home surrounded by family members, mere feet away from the location where he almost lost his life to his addiction. Together, they recounted the details from the day.

His mother, Nicole Dodane, said she initially received a call from her neighbor. When she arrived, police cars, emergency medical services and firetrucks filled the cul-de-sac that led up to her parents' home. She did not know her eldest son had overdosed at the time.

"I came up and he wasn't breathing on his own," Dodane said tearfully. "You know, you can't get upset. You're not thinking straight. You kind of go into survival mode. As a mom, I've been in that mode a lot over the years. There's been more than one occasion that I didn't think Trever was going to make it."

The friend that was with him at the time ultimately saved his

life, Sebring said. He contacted 911 and stayed with him until help arrived.

"That day, I was drinking and I had done Xanax," Sebring recalled. "My buddy wanted to come over but I really didn't want him to. I had bad social anxiety. I also really didn't want to bring heat to my grandparents' house. We were in the garage at the time hanging out and obviously using. I remember that I had bad anxiety and wanted him to leave, and then I woke up and I was in the hospital."

Because his friend was in possession of marijuana, he was arrested and charged. The case is still pending. Sebring was charged with multiple felonies for possession of methamphetamine and marijuana. He did not learn of the charges until after he entered rehab, a decision he made shortly after he overdosed.

In the initial hours, however, Sebring said he wanted to die.

"I was so upset," Sebring said. "I knew I had just made the biggest mistake of my life and it was



Several of Trever Sebring's family members proudly stood alongside him in his grandparents' back yard on a cool December day. Pictured from left to right are Steve and Emma More, Trever, Addie, Nicole Dodane, and Emily Sebring. (Photo by Sydney Kent)

actually over. I had been homeless before, it was wintertime. I could not bear the thought of going back to the street."

Sebring later learned he overdosed on fentanyl, a drug he was

not aware he was consuming. Though he cannot quite explain it, he said in the hours following his overdose, something changed. He watched the snow fall from the window of Parkview Behavioral

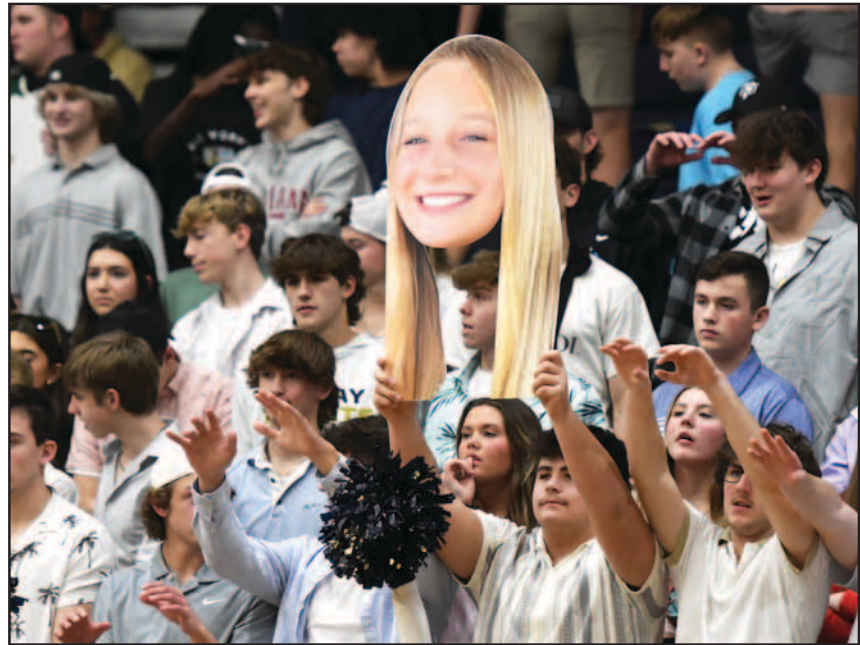
Health as he waited for 8 a.m. to arrive. As it did, he contacted a family member who worked at Avenues Recovery. He went to the rehab facility the next day.

(Continued on Page 2)



### A Knight to remember

Above right, Dekota Hubble hugs head coach Eric Thornton on Senior Night at Norwell as her dad, Darin, looks on. Hubble was one of seven seniors to play on The Castle floor for the final time Friday night. Above left, cheerleader Jordan Markley flips for the Knights. At right, an enlarged cutout head of senior Kennedy Fuelling is held up by Logan Cotton in the student pep block while Fuelling was at the free throw line. Bottom, all the Knight girls' basketball teams join in the photo after the Knight girls beat East Noble 72-33 to claim the NE8 championship with a perfect 7-0 conference slate. Story and game photo on Page 6. (Photos by Glen Werling)



## Inflation slowed further in December

Economic 'soft landing' moves into sharper focus

By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER, AP Economics Writer  
WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve's preferred inflation gauge cooled further last month even as the economy kept growing briskly, a trend sure to be welcomed at the White House as President Joe Biden seeks re-election in a race that could pivot on his economic stewardship.

Friday's government report showed that prices rose just 0.2 percent from November to December, a pace consistent with pre-pandemic levels and barely above the Fed's 2 percent annual target. Measured from a year earlier, prices increased 2.6 percent.

Excluding volatile food and energy costs, so-called "core" prices rose just 0.2 percent from month to month and 2.9 percent from a year earlier — the smallest such rise since March 2021. Economists consider core prices a better gauge of the likely path of inflation.

The latest data suggests that the economy is achieving an elusive "soft landing," in which inflation falls back to the Fed's target without a recession. That outcome could make it easier for the Fed to consider cutting its key interest rate, which it raised 11 times since March 2022 to attack inflation. Higher interest rates have throttled home sales by raising the cost of borrowing. Businesses have also chafed under the higher borrowing costs.

On Thursday, a government report showed that the economy expanded at a surprisingly strong 3.3 percent annual pace in the final three months of last year. Solid consumer spending propelled the growth, capping a year that had begun with widespread expectations of a recession but instead produced a healthy expansion.

Biden's Republican critics have sought to highlight what had been the biggest inflation spike in four decades, for which they have largely blamed the president's spending policies. But with inflation having dropped sharply after an extended period of gloomy consumer sentiment, Americans are starting to show signs of feeling better about the economy. A measure of consumer confidence by the University of Michigan, for example, has jumped in the past two months by the most since 1991.

The details in Friday's report all point to inflation being in check: Measured over the past six months, prices are up just 1.9 percent, which is actually below the Fed's 2 percent target. Over the past three months, the figure is even lower: 1.5 percent.

Grocery prices, after nearly two years of sharp increases, were unchanged in December and were just 1.3 percent higher than a year earlier. Chicken prices actually dipped 0.4 percent from November to December; they're up 1.2 percent compared to a year ago. Beef and veal prices, though, climbed 0.3 percent in December and are still 8.7 percent higher than 12 months earlier.

The report arrives less than week before the Fed will hold its latest policy meeting. The central bank is considered

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### Outside



Foggy and rainy and windy oh my

Today	Sunday	Monday
High 42	High 40	High 39
Low 34	Low 31	Low 31

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### Online

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January 27, 2024

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# Hopeful future

(Continued from Page 1)  
 “I was scared deep down,” Sebring admitted. “I thought that it wouldn’t hold up, that I would get bored and complacent. They say if you make it past six months, the odds are in your favor. I’m way past the six months and I could never imagine going back. I know if I ever did, it would be a conscious decision to have a miserable life.”

Sebring said he feels that Avenues gave him a solid foundation to move forward and start a life in recovery.

Sebring’s grandmother read from a letter he wrote to her during his time at the facility: “This is the most authentic place I have ever experienced. I’m two days in and already feel like a different person. I have never been more positive in my life. I have a long way to go, but I’m excited about the future. Thank you guys for never giving up on me. I’m not coming back on my hands and knees, but with my head held high.”

His mother also recalled a letter she received from Sebring during his time in rehab where he stated what was most impactful: peer recovery specialists. The people who helped Sebring in the early days of recovery had a unique understanding of the battle of addiction. Their presence was a warm welcome on the road to recovery.

Judge Kenton Kiracofe commended him on his growth during his sentencing hearing last December. As Sebring sat on the stand, he explained that after rehab, he obtained a new job and went to the Department of Child Services to seek visitation with his two children.

“Mr. Sebring appears to be someone who dug himself into a very deep hole,” Kiracofe said before his ruling. “There were a lot of corners, especially in the paternity cases where he had to prove himself and battle back in those cases. I think his motivation and what appears to be the change here is sincere. I recognize it is probably

every day he has to make some hard decisions. In short, you’re doing a good job.”

Sebring received a fully suspended sentence for the charges. Before he learned this, he acknowledged his past with the addiction. He then chose to issue a statement for the first time.

“I’ve never said anything (at a hearing), because I’ve never had anything to say,” Sebring said. “If you take alcohol and drugs out of the equation, I never would have been in this room. I am excited to move on with hope and possibility — regardless of the outcome here today.”

Not a stranger to the criminal justice system, Sebring received his first criminal charge in 2011 for possession of an alcoholic beverage as a minor. However, he said his addiction began even earlier when he was prescribed Vicodin for a broken hand in high school. The medication sat in a cabinet in his house for quite some time until a friend told him it could make him feel “high.”

“I took a couple of them,” Sebring said. “From that moment until the beginning of (last) year, that was it. I had to have some kind of a buzz. I cannot stress this enough — sober was not an option. I would drink a bottle of cough syrup if I had to.”

In fact, the same evening he was crowned homecoming king at Norwell High School, he had just been released from the hospital for a near overdose from Xanax. Sebring said most people in his life were not aware, however, they knew of his use of alcohol. He explained that it was not until 2018 that he quit drinking.

“I was an alcoholic hardcore until I started using meth full time,” Sebring explained. “For that reason, I was able to justify it. I felt like I had to get on dope to get off alcohol.”

Sebring said this is a common occurrence among people addicted to alcohol, a reflection of how addiction can often be progressive. Though he has found

success in his recovery over the last year, this is not the first time Sebring has experienced sobriety. He explained that he was off of substances for nearly 15 months while he was incarcerated for driving while under the influence. He had planned to stay sober.

“When you get clean like that, you think that’s what you want to do,” Sebring said. “The fact is that I still had a lot of lessons to learn. At that time, I always thought that if I was going to be sober it’s because I had to be for legal reasons or someone would find out. It’s taken me a long time to figure out why I need to be sober. Every day I see it more.”

Sebring noted that the proper diagnosis and medication were instrumental to his recovery. In fact, without treatment, he believes it would be far more difficult to stay sober. Like many in addiction, Sebring’s anxiety was a chair under the knob on the door to recovery.

He also acknowledged that a significant amount of addicts do not have family or support to assist with resources in getting and staying sober. He said that he doesn’t know where he would be without the support that he has, however, he does believe rehab can work.

“When you’re on drugs, you talk about what you need to do to get clean,” Sebring said. “But when that high wears off — it’s over. That’s all out the window. When I got to rehab, they taught me that they’re not there to teach you not to do drugs. They’re there to teach you a different way to think. You see a transformation of every person in there, including yourself if that’s what you want to do.”

He holds deep gratitude for his family. Dodane recounted how his sisters would make him a sandwich and set it outside of the house for him to pick up. As the mother of an addict, she provided what he needed, but did not give him money to support his addiction. She struggled to draw lines in the

sand. “I took that the wrong way,” Sebring said. “For years, I knew in my heart that my parents don’t care about me. I would hype up how miserable I am, and how hopeless and pointless everything is. That’s just how I was for so long. It’s like a spiral, a domino effect of things that happen in your mind and in your life. The more you use, the more out of sorts you get with reality and the fact that you are destroying yourself.”

“If you’re not sober, I’m not fighting the fight for you,” Dodane declared. “If you’re sober, I will fight tooth and nail. I will go to battle for you every time.”

“The day you start using drugs is the day you stop maturing,” Sebring added. “I don’t even know where to start sometimes because I feel like I am starting my adulthood. I have stunted my growth and taken a 12-year delay. I feel like now I’m finally living. It’s just so different in a good way. The worst part about it all is that you can’t really help anybody. But I hope people in this place will read this and know they can recover.”

Since the beginning of 2024, Sebring has gone on to earn his Welding License at Perma Column in Ossian. He also earned his license back after 12 years of suspension. In addition, he was awarded unsupervised parenting time with his son. He said he has hope for his future, a reflection of how recovery can often be progressive.

“Overdosing was the best thing that ever happened to me,” Sebring concluded. “Even if I would have gone to jail, I would still go back and do it all over again the same way. I’ve never heard anyone get clean and say they don’t like it. I have never heard anyone that is addicted say they like it.”

Confidential and free resources are available by calling the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration hotline at 1-800-662-4357.

sydney@news-banner.com

# Weather

Saturday, January 27, 2024

(24-hour observations at 10:05 p.m. Friday)  
**High:** 39; **Low:** 36; **Precipitation:** .29 inches of rain  
**Wabash River Level** (at the Main Street bridge): 4.25 feet at 9:45 p.m. Friday

## Wells County forecast

**Today:** A 30 percent chance of rain after 4 p.m. Areas of dense fog before 11 a.m. Otherwise, cloudy, with a high near 42. Light and variable wind becoming northeast 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon.

**Tonight:** Rain before 1 a.m., then rain and snow likely. Low around 34. Northeast wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80 percent. Little or no snow accumulation expected.

**Sunday:** Snow likely, possibly mixed with rain, mainly before 7 a.m. Cloudy, with a high near 40. North wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent. Little or no snow accumulation expected.

**Sunday Night:** Cloudy, with a low around 31. Northwest wind around 10 mph.

**Monday:** Mostly cloudy, with a high near 39.

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

**Tuesday:** A 50 percent chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 40.

**Tuesday Night:** A 20 percent chance of rain before 1 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 31.

**Wednesday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 40.


**Wednesday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 32.

**PRISTINE LAND Auction**  
HUNTINGTON COUNTY, IN SALAMONIE TOWNSHIP

**Monday, February 12 at 6:00pm**  
*held at Wells County 4-H Community Center Bluffton, IN*  
*Online Bidding Available*

**164± acres**  
Offered in 8 Tracts or Combinations

- Productive Tillable Land
- Professionally Designed and Stocked Pond
- Recreational Woods
- Newer Tree Plantings with Conservation Grasses
- Potential Country Building Sites



INSPECTIONS: Jan 13, 10am-1pm & Feb 5, 3-5pm  
*Meet on site or call auction manager for a private showing.*

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# Inflation slows

(Continued from Page 1)  
 sure to keep interest rates unchanged, but attention will be focused on Chair Jerome Powell’s news conference for any clues about when the Fed might begin to cut rates.

“The Fed will be welcoming the inflation data,” said Lydia Boussour, senior economist at consulting firm EY. “It does suggest that inflation is on track and the Fed is well-positioned to start (cutting rates) in a few months.”

During 2023, inflation fell steadily as global supply chains recovered from pandemic-era disruptions and more Americans came off the sidelines to take jobs, which helped slow wage growth. Slower-rising pay eases the pressure on businesses to raise prices to offset higher labor costs. According to the Fed’s preferred measure, inflation peaked at 7.1 percent in June 2022.

More Americans now appear to be pushing back against the price spikes of the past two years. In response, there are signs that some companies are forgoing price hikes or implementing smaller increases.

The Fed’s most recent beige book report, a collection of anecdotes mostly

from businesses around the country, found many examples of companies finding that they now have less ability to raise prices.

That trend appears particularly evident at auto dealerships. Car dealers now have many more vehicles on their lots than in the depths of the pandemic, when factory shutdowns left consumers desperate to find a new or used car. David Kelleher, for example, who owns a Chrysler-Jeep dealership just outside Philadelphia, said his profit margins have plunged 70 percent since 2021 now that consumers have more options and can haggle again.

Kelleher is offering enhanced discounts to try to attract buyers. “There’s less appetite to absorb the higher cost,” he said.

In the aftermath of the pandemic, Kelleher said, he might have had five Jeep Wranglers on his lot and 25 customers who wanted one, giving him significant pricing power. Now, he has 78 Wranglers, and many of his competitors are well-stocked as well.

“That’s good for the consumer,” who can play the dealers off each other, Kelleher conceded.

In December, the Fed’s policymakers had projected that they would carry out three quarter-point rate cuts this year. Yet they provided little hint of when the first cut might occur. Late last year, Wall Street traders had bet that the first rate cut would occur in March.

Several Fed officials, though, have pushed back against such assumptions. Christopher Waller, an influential figure on the Fed’s Board of Governors, last week reiterated his view that inflation is on track to return to the Fed’s 2 percent goal. But Waller cautioned that any decision to cut rates should be “carefully calibrated and not rushed” — remarks that were widely interpreted as downgrading the likelihood of a March cut.

Friday’s price data showed a lower level of inflation than did the most recent consumer price index, released earlier this month, which showed inflation at 3.4 percent in December. The more widely known CPI shows higher inflation than the Fed’s preferred measure partly because it puts greater weight on housing and rents, whose prices are higher than for many other goods and services.

**Wells County • Union Township, IN**

## LAND AUCTION

**Tuesday, February 13 • 6pm**

**67.5± acres**  
offered in 4 Tracts or in any combination

AUCTION LOCATION: Markle Volunteer Fire Department, 150 W. Sparks St., Markle, IN 46770.  
 PROPERTY DIRECTIONS: From the town of Markle, travel northeast on Marzane Road 4 miles to the property.

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TRACT #1: 18± ACRES with 16.44± acres tillable. Soils are mainly Glynwood & Blount-Del Rey	TRACT #3: 20± ACRES, mostly tillable. Soils are mainly Glynwood & Pewamo.
TRACT #2: 9.5± ACRES with 7.26± acres tillable. Soils are mainly Saranac & Glynwood.	TRACT #4: 20± ACRES, mostly tillable. Soils are mainly Blount & Pewamo.

(All Tracts have Road Access)



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Will publish Feb. 14 News-Banner!


WELLS COUNTY



Soil & Water Conservation District's  
68th Annual Meeting



Purdue Extension Service's  
Annual Meeting




Rock Creek Conservancy District's  
57th Annual Meeting

Please Join Us!

Thursday, Feb. 15, 2024 @ 6 P.M.

Wells County Community Center  
 1240 4-H Park Road, Bluffton, IN 46714  
**Annual Business Meetings and Award Presentations**  
 Dinner will be provided by Corner Depot

To receive a complimentary ticket, please reserve by Feb. 9th



**Featuring Dr. Fred Whitford**  
 —Farming in Wells County in the Old Days

Fred Whitford, Professor of Clinical Engagement, Purdue University, will share an entertaining and informative program on the early history of agriculture in Wells County. Please join us in recognizing the contributions of thousands of individuals who have contributed their talents to the betterment of agriculture in rural Indiana.

Contact the SWCD or Purdue Extension Office for more information or to reserve tickets.  
 EMAIL: lynne.huffman@in.nacdn.net | PHONE: 824-1930 ext. 3  
 EMAIL: mcorle1@purdue.edu | PHONE: 824-6412

**OBITUARIES**

**Sue Cabbage, 68**

Sue H. (Swartz) Cabbage, 68, formerly of Bluffton, passed away Thursday morning, Jan. 25, 2024, at her daughter's residence in Columbia City.

Sue was born in Bluffton on Jan. 28, 1955, to Robert L. and Martha R. "Rosie" (Lautzenheiser) Swartz. She married Richard "Dick" Cabbage and have been married together for 35 years; he survives in Clarkson, Ky.

Sue attended Bluffton High School and later worked at Bummie's Drive-In restaurant in Bluffton for over 10 years. She also worked as a dispatcher for American Red Ball in Indianapolis. She enjoyed watching I.U. basketball, listening to Michael Buble, and sewing.

In addition to her husband, Sue is survived by her mother, Martha; a daughter, Kimberly (Bill) Fish of Columbia City; two step-sons, Timothy (Jennifer) Cabbage of Orlando, Fla., and Brandon Cabbage of Fort Thomas, Ky.; a step-daughter, Ramona (Steve) Barbee of Ewing, Ky.; a brother, Terry (Mary Lynn) Swartz of Ocala, Fla.; a sister, Jo Ellen (Barry) Crosbie of Bluffton; two grandsons, James

Curran of Portland, and Dylan Curran of Bluffton; three step-grandchildren, Anna Barbee, Josh Cabbage and Samantha Cabbage; and one great-granddaughter, Annsley Curran. She is also survived by four nieces, Elizabeth (Norman) Jordan, Whitney (Ariel) Rodrigez, Jessica (Hector) Biarnes, and Nicole (Brook Coratti) Bustos; and a nephew, Tyler (Stephanie) Williams.

Visitation will be 2-7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024, at Goodwin - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton. Services will be held 10 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024, at the funeral home, with one hour of visitation prior to the service. Pastor Gary Aupperle will officiate. Burial will follow at Fairview Cemetery in Bluffton.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation. Online condolences may be made at [www.goodwincaleharnish.com](http://www.goodwincaleharnish.com).



**Bluffton Parks Rec News Notes**



By Brandy Fiechter

**Destination Recreation**

It seems like the weather has been all over the place lately, and at times, it has been icy outside. If you want to keep on track with your fitness goals this year, don't forget that we offer free weekday walking in the city gym from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Monday to Friday.

We also have lots of opportunities for anyone interested in **YOGA** at the Washington Park Pavilion — We recently partnered up with Glow Up Wellness and are now offering classes on Monday and Wednesday from 6-7 p.m. and Wednesday from 7:15-8:15 p.m. You can buy a 10-class punch card for all yoga classes for \$60 (good for two months). Payable at the door.

Monday: 6:00-7:00 p.m. — Vinyasa Yoga

Wednesday: 6:00-7:00 p.m. — 30/30 CLASS — Thirty minutes of strength training set to fun music. Using hand weights to build strength, tone muscle, shred fat, and burn calories. Then, thirty minutes of pure relaxation. Using props, like blocks, bolsters and straps are used to support you in your gentle pose comfortably. You will then hold the pose for an extended period. Set to beautiful music and yummy aromatherapy. All levels.

Wednesday 7:15-8:15 p.m. Restorative Yoga — This class will combine gentle yoga stretches and postures to stretch and strengthen the body, reduce stress, and make you feel more balanced. All levels.

A look ahead at the forecast for the **Chilly Chili Trail Run** on Saturday, Feb. 3, and it might not be that chilly out. Right now, they are calling for 53°. This event will be held at 10 a.m. at Ouabache State Park. Choose from 3 or 5-mile events and enjoy hot chili after your run. There will be overall and age group awards. A long-sleeved event t-shirt is included with registration. Sign up now at <http://tinyurl.com/5fkpykdx> for a pre-

registration discount of \$25. Race day registration will be \$30.

We had a full class for **Hooked on Crochet** in January, so if you missed out on classes this month or want to continue lessons next month, it's time to register. Learning to crochet will give you a lifetime of pleasure and relaxation. You can learn to create handmade items for yourself and those you love. Classes will be taught by Kathy Gehrett at Washington Park Indoor Pavilion (710 S. Mulberry St.) from 5:30-6:30 p.m. on Thursdays, Feb. 8, 15 and 22. Three one-hour group lessons cost \$20 due the first day. Yarn and instructions will be provided, and you will need to bring a size H hook. Call the park office to pre-register at 824-6069 or email [events@blufftonindiana.gov](mailto:events@blufftonindiana.gov). Class size is limited and open to beginners and advanced students.

Can you believe that we are already booking Pool Rentals for this summer? If your church group, organization, or kids' birthday party usually rents the pool, you may want to get on the calendar. Week-end dates tend to fill up quickly, so now is your chance to get on the calendar. If you are interested in booking your party, please call 824-6069 or e-mail us with the day and time you have in mind.

Applications are open for summer employment with the Parks Department. These job opportunities are great for teachers looking to fill their summer, retired adults looking for extra income, or those with a child at least 15 years old. Positions include maintenance workers, concession stand employees, tennis instructors, lifeguards, and managers. Applications can be picked up in the Clerk Treasurer's office at City Hall or printed off the city's website at <http://tinyurl.com/4vv8npuj>. Applications are due back by Feb. 29 at 4:15 p.m.

Have a great week!

**Local Roundup**

**Bluffton Board of Works to meet Tuesday afternoon**

The Bluffton Board of Public Works and Safety will meet at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30, in the meeting room on the first floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St.

- Topics on the agenda include:
- Financial and personnel matters.
  - Awarding of demolition bids.
  - Opening of bids for street materials and sidewalks.
  - Road closure request.
  - Handicap parking request.

**SWCS board will hold executive session**

The board of the Southern Wells Community Schools will meet in an executive session at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30, at the SWCS campus for discussion of an employee's job performance.

**PSAP Advisory Board will meet Wednesday morning**

The Wells County Commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government

Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

- Topics on the agenda include:
- Discussion and approval of Executive Committee
  - Report from Director Mike Miller
  - Discussion of meeting dates
  - Announcements

A policy committee meeting will follow the regular agenda at 8:30 a.m. The only item on the agenda is the review of new policies.

**Area Plan Commission will meet Thursday evening**

The Wells County Area Plan Commission will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 1, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

- Topics on the agenda include:
- Review of rules of procedure, zoning and overlay districts and Solar Development Plan procedure.
  - Discussion regarding a special meeting.
  - Other business, including a setback violation from 409 N Highland Ave. in Ossian, and junk accumulation at 5926 N Main St. in Uniondale.
  - Comprehensive plan and revitalization updates.

**Meta to bring \$800 million data center to Indiana**

By NIKI KELLY  
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Gov. Eric Holcomb on Thursday announced that Meta Platforms Inc. will establish a new \$800 million data center campus in Indiana. The new facility in Jeffersonville will support approximately 100 operational jobs and hundreds of construction jobs in the coming years.

"Today is a great day for Indiana and for our southeast region as we welcome another major investment to the River Ridge Commerce Center," Holcomb said. "Indiana's efforts to cultivate industries of the future are already paying dividends for Hoosiers, attracting growth in critical sectors like data storage, semiconductors, energy and electric vehicles. We're excited to welcome Meta to Indiana and look forward to the company's partnership in growing Jeffersonville and the southeast Indiana region."

Meta, which powers products like Facebook, Messenger, Instagram and WhatsApp, will establish a nearly 700,000-square-foot facility at the River Ridge Commerce Center in Jeffersonville. The facility, which will be the company's 18th in the U.S. and 22nd in the world, will be an important part of the global infrastructure that brings Meta technologies and services to billions of people around the world, a news release said.

Construction is expected to begin this month and the center could be operational in

2026. The center is expected to create 100 permanent jobs as well as support more than 1,250 jobs at peak construction.

"We are thrilled to make Indiana and Jeffersonville our new home. We are committed to playing a positive role here and investing in the community's long-term vitality," said Brad Davis, director of data center community and economic development at Meta. "Jeffersonville stood out as an outstanding location for our newest data center thanks to its great access to infrastructure, deep pool of talent, and amazing community partners. Thank you to everyone who has helped us get here."

The Jeffersonville Data Center will be supported by 100 percent renewable energy, and the campus will achieve LEED Gold certification once operational. Updates on the Jeffersonville Data Center can be found here.

The Indiana Economic Development Corporation provided incentives to Meta in the form of a 35-year sales tax exemption for a minimum \$800 million in eligible capital. For each additional \$800 million of eligible investment made at the site within that time period, the company will be eligible for tax exemptions for an additional 5-year period, up to a total term of 50 years.

These incentives are performance-based, meaning the company is eligible to claim state benefits once investments are made.

**Judge grants class action certification in child transition ban lawsuit**

By LESLIE BONILLA MUÑIZ  
Indiana Capital Chronicle

A federal judge this week granted class action certification in a lawsuit challenging Indiana's recent ban on transition-related care for Hoosier youth diagnosed with gender dysphoria.

U.S. District Court Judge James Patrick Hanlon certified three classes — for minor patients, their parents and their medical providers — plus two subclasses for patients and providers using Medicaid.

Hanlon, of the Southern District of Indiana, issued a preliminary injunction in June mostly blocking enforcement of the ban. He upheld a prohibition on surgical procedures, but court filings and public testimony at the Statehouse last year indicated Hoosier children aren't receiving such operations.

Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb approved Senate Enrolled Act 480 in April 2023. The American Civil Liberties Union of Indiana filed suit almost immediately.

The plaintiffs include four transgender children, their parents, Goshen-based family practice physician Dr. Catherine Bast and her employer Mosaic Health

and Healing Arts. The defendants are Indiana's Medical Licensing Board and a variety of state officials.

Hanlon applied a four-part case law test in making his decision.

There's another test: a rule requiring that legal relief would actually benefit all the members of the class. The defendants argued that the classes didn't pass because final relief would involve highly individualized medical decisions. Hanlon, however, wrote that the plaintiffs are bringing a broad challenge and are seeking broad relief.

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## Saluting those who aspire to public office

Abraham Lincoln, whose birthday we celebrate next month, put an exclamation point on what he viewed as the heart of our democratic government when he intoned the famous words “of the people, by the people, for the people” in the climactic sentence of his immortal Gettysburg Address.

Lincoln understood that in order for the American experiment in self-governance to succeed and endure, “the people” must be its central focus. He recognized that the power of leadership was dependent on the will of “the people,” and that without it, no government could stand the test of time.

### Hoosier Opinions

Effective government is, indeed, dependent on the willingness of good citizens to do their part through active civic participation. First, they must exercise the precious right to vote. But they must also be willing to offer themselves as candidates for elective office, to fulfill the people’s will, advance the collective interest, and protect the rights of all.

On Jan. 10, the candidate filing period opened for the May 7 primary elections. Between then and Feb. 9, citizens can declare candidacy for a variety of state and local government offices on the ballot in their party primary.

Holding an elective office is an esteemed position in a community, as it should be. Elected officials serve a vital role in carrying out the many duties and services of government. They set county budgets, conduct elections, direct departments that build and maintain key infrastructure, and administer all phases of the criminal justice system. There are thousands of elective positions that depend on citizens to step forward and become candidates for those offices.

Running for office is not a trivial exercise. It takes time, energy, and a thick skin. Putting yourself out there makes you a public figure, and that status subjects you to pressure and stress. That is especially true today when communities are intensely divided along partisan lines and elected officials are too often targeted, unfairly, as a source of people’s angst. Undeniably, elected jobs are hard jobs.

But seeking and holding public office have rewards as well. An elected official who takes an oath to serve the public, uphold the law and defend state and federal constitutions is embracing a civic ideal that is foundational in the American system of democracy. Fulfilling responsibilities and advancing the civic cause is a high calling to be recognized and applauded.

Those who aspire to seek and serve in elective office are deserving of our gratitude and support.

We salute those who step into the fray. And we encourage more citizens to consider becoming candidates in the future and contributing their time and talents for the good of all.

TERRE HAUTE TRIBUNE-STAR

## Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Saturday, Jan. 27, the 27th day of 2024. There are 339 days left in the year.

Today’s Highlight in History: On Jan. 27, 1967, astronauts Virgil I. “Gus” Grissom, Edward H. White and Roger B. Chaffee died in a flash fire during a test aboard their Apollo spacecraft.

On this date: In 1756, composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in Salzburg, Austria.

In 1880, Thomas Edison received a patent for his electric incandescent lamp.

In 1888, the National Geographic Society was incorporated in Washington, D.C.

In 1944, during World War II, the Soviet Union announced the complete end of the deadly German siege of Leningrad, which had lasted for more than two years.

In 1945, during World War II, Soviet troops liberated the Nazi concentration camps Auschwitz and Birkenau in Poland.

In 1973, the Vietnam peace accords were signed in Paris.

In 1981, President Ronald Reagan and his wife,

Nancy, greeted at the White House the 52 former American hostages released by Iran.

In 1984, singer Michael Jackson suffered serious burns to his scalp when pyrotechnics set his hair on fire during the filming of a Pepsi-Cola TV commercial at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles.

In 2006, Western Union delivered its last telegram.

In 2010, Apple CEO Steve Jobs unveiled the iPad tablet during a presentation in San Francisco, and J.D. Salinger, the reclusive author of “The Catcher in the Rye,” died in Cornish, New Hampshire, at age 91.

In 2013, Flames raced through a crowded nightclub in southern Brazil, killing 242 people.

In 2017, President Donald Trump barred all refugees from entering the United States for four months, declaring the ban necessary to prevent “radical Islamic terrorists” from entering the nation.

In 2018, comic strip artist Mort Walker, a World War II veteran who satirized the Army with the antics of the lazy private “Beetle Bailey,” died in Connecticut at age 94.

Submit your Letters to the Editor via: • Our website link (Submit your Letter) • E-Mail: email@news-banner.com • Fax: (260) 824-0700 • Mail: PO Box 436, Bluffton IN 46714 • Drop-off: 125 N. Johnson St., Bluffton. All letters must be signed and must include a phone number or address in case verification is desired. Letters are edited for brevity and clarity. **Letters must be no more than 500 words.** Please mark your correspondence as a “Letter to the Editor,” or if you wish to express an opinion to us but do not want it published, please mark as “Not for Publication.”

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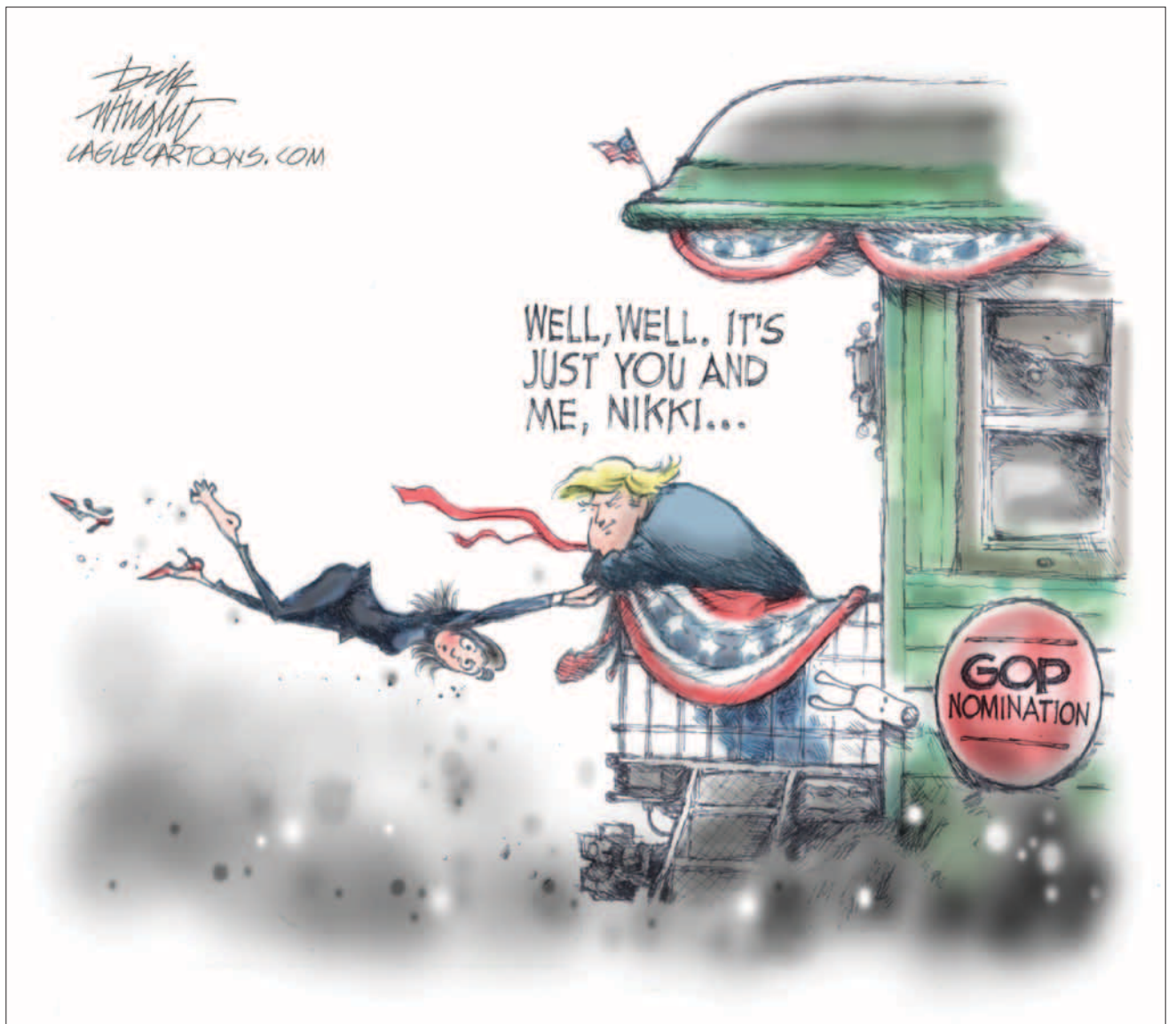
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## Trump would drain the South Carolina wallets that Haley helped fill

When Donald Trump won 20 of Iowa’s 40 nominating delegates - 20 of the 2,429 who will be allocated nationally; 20 of the 1,215 needed to nominate - he declared the game over. Enlarging his emotional repertoire - leavening a barrel of petulance with a pinch of synthetic magnanimity - he said it is “time now for everybody, our country, to come together.” Presumably, he was not inviting to this group hug those Americans he calls “vermin.”

After winning less than 8 percent of Iowa’s registered Republicans, he received less than five percentage points more than a majority in New Hampshire. There, flanked Tuesday night by grinning, ring-kissing, cringeworthy toadies (Vivek Ramaswamy and Tim Scott, you are the sum of your choices), he declared the game over.

As the game enters the bottom of the first inning - 62 delegates allocated; 2,367 not yet - the nomination is his to lose. However, he, who despises “losers,” is one.

He, and the cult-cum-party under his tutelage, has lost the national popular vote twice, the presidency, the Senate and the House. His party spectacularly underperformed in the 2022 elections. And in numerous court challenges to the 2020 election results, he has compiled 20 fewer wins than the famously futile 1899 Cleveland Spiders baseball team, which went 20-134.

Trump’s wisdom makes him flinch from debating Nikki Haley. Readers who did not see her combative, soaring Tuesday night speech can do so on YouTube. They will then recognize that his wisdom is a coward’s caution.

On Feb. 24, South Carolinians can extend the nomination process into the middle innings - into March, giving voters elsewhere time to consider the following.

Trump’s inversion of conservatism is complete. His prospective program features higher taxes at home and retreat abroad.

To be fair to him, it is simply beyond his poor powers of comprehension to understand that tariffs - he vows 10 percent on *all* imports from *everywhere* - are taxes paid by American consumers and producers. So, to a nation furious about inflation, he promises to raise the cost of living, especially for his lower-income idolaters, who necessarily devote disproportionate shares of their incomes to consumption.

A reelected Trump could keep this promise because Congress has abandoned to presidents (who cite spurious “national security” and other “emergencies”) its constitutional power to “regulate commerce

with foreign nations” (Article I, Section 8). This should especially interest South Carolina - and other exporting and importing states, in the Southeast and elsewhere - that will vote on March 5, Super Tuesday, when more than half the number of delegates needed for the nomination will be selected.

The Port of Charleston is one reason South Carolina’s population is burgeoning. And one reason South Carolina has changed more, and more for the better, in the past 50 years than any other state. Upward of 400,000 South Carolinians have arrived since Haley left the governorship in January 2017, and the state was the country’s fastest-growing by percentage in 2023. They might not know this, but many have become residents because of her.

Haley - like some other South Carolina governors, but she more than any other - has made her state an economic dynamo, where unemployment is 3 percent. Trump, whose understanding of wealth creation is, like his wealth, wildly exaggerated, will dump sand in the dynamo’s gears.

In foreign policy, Trump, a leader obedient to his base, promises to ensure that Ukraine loses the war that he was sure would not occur. (In 2016, of Vladimir Putin: “He’s not going into Ukraine, okay? ... You can mark it down. You can put it down. You can take it anywhere you want.”) Trump, obsessing about the cost of U.S. assistance (a rounding error on the federal budget), is oblivious of the fact that almost 90 percent of U.S. dollars devoted to arming Ukraine are spent in the United States. His blinkered parsimony is ludicrous from someone who blithely presided over an \$8.4 trillion increase in the national debt.

South Carolinians should contemplate the deluge of measures likely if Trump, who has never had and never will have 50 percent approval, is a lame duck president in 2026, when Republicans will be defending 20 Senate seats, Democrats only 13. A Democratic Senate majority’s agenda in 2027 might include ending the filibuster, packing the Supreme Court, instituting card-check procedures to vitiate unionization elections (and the South’s attraction of investments), pursuing statehood for D.C., and much more.

Haley’s gallant “game on” message on Tuesday night might ultimately be unavailing. She is, however, standing alone against Trump possibly becoming the most valuable president progressivism has ever had.

georgewill@washpost.com.



George Will

## Supreme Court allows the invasion to continue

By a vote of 5-4, with two conservative justices joining the liberals, the Supreme Court has ruled that federal agents can cut razor wire installed along the Texas-Mexico border while a lawsuit over the wire continues. The Border Patrol Union and its agents who have spoken to reporters favor the razor wire installation because it is working in that section of the state in keeping migrants, criminals, and fentanyl out, but that apparently doesn’t matter to the court.

While the emergency appeal of a lower court ruling upholding the action by Texas did not require an explanation for their votes, it likely is because the majority felt the Constitution grants power to the federal government over individual states when it comes to border control. The obvious question, which the court did not address: why is the federal government not enforcing immigration laws which migrants are breaking to enter the country?

Suppose a Mexican army - no, forget an army - suppose a ragtag bunch of drug dealers decided to invade Texas, the governor acted to stop them - including installing more razor wire - and the Biden adminis-



Cal Thomas

tration did nothing to stop them? Would the court be OK with that? The effect is the same as if an army of any kind was crossing the border.

How many more murders, rapes and drug deaths are to be tolerated before the administration begins to enforce laws passed by Congress and signed by presidents of both parties? If this is not a violation of Biden’s Oath of Office, what would qualify?

A statement from White House spokesperson Angelo Fernandez Hernandez is laughable: “Texas’ political stunts, like placing razor wire near the border, simply makes it harder and more dangerous for frontline personnel to do their jobs.” Except, as anyone can plainly see from watching pictures of tens of thousands of migrants streaming across the border, they are not doing their jobs because the Biden administration won’t let them.

Even President Biden recently stated the obvious when he said after months of denials by himself and his Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas that the border is not secure. If his previous statements weren’t lies, we need a new definition of the word.

Texas Republican Governor Greg Abbott said in response to the court ruling that the razor wire is an “effective deterrent” to the illegal crossings and “I will continue to defend Texas’ constitutional authority to secure the border.” Local police and the Department of Public Safety officers have been arresting migrants on trespassing charges, but ultimately they will be turned over to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) which is likely to continue releasing them into the country. From there they will likely head to already overcrowded cities seeking low-paying jobs, taking playground and other spaces from school children and in the case of New York, depositing human waste in parks, in the streets and in some cases in cups they leave on the doorsteps of local residents.

That this will - and already is - a major issue in this year’s presidential race is clear. According to a new Harvard CAPS-Harris poll” More voters pointed to immigration than to inflation as a top policy concern. The survey found that 35 percent of respondents listed immigration as their paramount concern among an array of issues, with inflation in a close second, named by 32 percent of respondents.”

Beware Democrats. You are on the wrong side of this issue.

tcaeditors@tribpub.com



# Call to Worship

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1970 S.-800E., Bluffton  
9:45 & 11:45 a.m. - Worship.

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH - NORTH**  
630 E. Dustman Rd.  
9:45 & 11:45 a.m. - Worship.

**ASBURY CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST**  
8013 W.-1100S.-90, Montpelier  
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.

**BETHEL**  
(Independent Bible)  
4500E-300S, Bluffton  
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

**BETHEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMS**  
6114E-750N, Ossian  
bethlehemossian.org  
9 a.m. - Divine Service. 10:15 - Adult Bible Class, Youth Bible Class & Sunday School. 11:30 - Voice of Bethlehem on 92.7 FM.

**BLUFFTON CHURCH OF GOD**  
327 W. Cherry St.  
10 a.m. - Sunday School. 11 a.m. - Worship. 6 p.m. - Service.

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8888S-1100W-90, Warren  
9 a.m. - Worship. 10 a.m. - Sunday School.

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(Independent Holiness Church)  
1309 W. Washington St.  
blufftonwesleyan.net  
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 & 6:30 p.m. - Worship.

**BOEHMER UNITED METHODIST**  
3467 S 600 W, Liberty Center  
boehmerumc.org  
9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:45 - Sunday School.

**CALVARY LUTHERAN, ELCA**  
1532 N. Main St.  
9 a.m. - Worship.

**CHESTER CENTER**  
900S-300W, Poneto  
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.

**CHRISTIAN NEW LIGHT**  
1011 W. Washington St.  
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship. 6 p.m. - Praise & worship.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
735 S. Marion St.  
10 a.m. - Bible Study. 10:45 - Worship.

**COVENANT CHAPEL**  
3550 S. SR 1  
mycovenantchapel.org  
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:15 - Worship. (Children's Church for ages 6-12).

**DOMESTIC CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
9 a.m. - Sunday school. 10 a.m. - Church service.

**EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST**  
1204 W. Cherry St.  
9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:40 a.m. - Sunday School.

**FAIRVIEW CHURCH OF GOD**  
5511 W. Yoder Rd., Yoder  
fairviewlife.com  
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF OSSIAN**  
1001 Dehner Dr.  
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. - Worship. 6:30 - Service.

**FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
909 W. Spring St.  
FCCfamily.com  
9:30 & 11 a.m. - Worship.

**FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
1515 Clark Ave.  
blufftonnazarene.org  
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 9-10 a.m. - Free ESL classes. 10:15 - Worship. 6 p.m. - Service.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**  
215 E. Dustman Rd.  
firstpcbbluffton.org  
9:30 a.m. - Children/youth & Adult Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN (EVANGELICAL)**  
123 S. Jefferson St., Ossian  
www.OssianChurch.com  
8:45 a.m. - Adult Sunday school. 10 a.m. - Worship.

**FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF BLUFFTON**  
301 W. Cherry St.  
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST**  
325 W. Washington St.  
blufftonfirstumc.com  
9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:45 - Sunday School.

## Time to Take a Devotional Break

### ENCOUNTER WITH GOD

While family members can build strong bonds of love, it is also possible to destroy those same relationships through misunderstandings, jealousy, or bitterness. The Old Testament patriarch Jacob was part of such a family. Because of a deception he perpetrated on his father and brother, Jacob spent many years alienated from his family (Genesis 32:24-32).

Returning home years later, Jacob recognized that meeting up with a still-resentful brother was more than likely. After making elaborate plans to move his family and acquired wealth for protect, Jacob rested alone before facing Esau.

During his solitary night, a strange man attacked and wrestled with Jacob. Evenly matched, the two men fought for hours until his opponent struck Jacob's thigh, causing a permanent limp. Only a few hours earlier, Jacob had reminded Jehovah of His promise to build a great nation through his descendents (Genesis 32:9-12). Now, realizing the identify of his antagonist, Jacob begged for protection and deliverance from a possibly vengeful brother as well as a heavenly blessing.

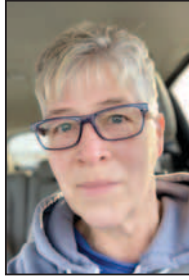
Few of us are likely to experience such an encounter with God, but there are lessons to learn from Jacob's confrontation.

Any true encounter with God is **personal** — you must meet Him alone. Corporate worship is beneficial, but every major life problem is one that must ultimately be addressed only between you and the Creator.

An encounter with God involves **prolonged spiritual wrestling** — while you may ask questions of God and challenge life circumstances, you must also allow Him to question and contradict your assumptions. Telling God what you want Him to say will not lead to peace.

An encounter with God means that you will **win through losing**. When his thigh was disabled, Jacob realized that the ultimate battle was not with his brother, but within himself. He discovered that both the battle AND the blessing can only be found in God — not through power or possessions.

Have you encountered God through similar times of deep soul-searching? Or do you, instead, only accept a limited version of Who He is? Be willing to wrestle your way through doubts to complete faith.



by Martha Paxson

mpaxson99@yahoo.com

**FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST**  
210 W. Townley  
fbc-bluffton.com  
10 a.m. - Worship. 11 a.m. - Discipleship.

**FIRST BAPTIST**  
202 W. Cherry St.  
fbcbluffton.com  
10:15 - Worship.

**FORGIVEN CHURCH**  
1409 S. Main St.  
forgivenonline.org  
9 a.m. - Worship.

**GRACE BAPTIST**  
1621 S. 350 E.  
Stogdill Rd. Ext.  
gbcbluffton.com  
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. & 6 p.m. - Worship.

**HARVEST TIME BIBLE**  
11015S-600E, Keystone  
9:10 a.m. - Prayer. 10 a.m. - Worship.

**HOPE MISSIONARY**  
429 E. Dustman Rd.  
hope4thefamily.com  
8 a.m., 9:30 & 11 a.m. - Service at Main Campus. 9:30 & 11 a.m. - Service, north campus, Ossian.

**LANCASTER CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST**  
4510 E 400N, Craigville  
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 9:40 - Fellowship. 10 a.m. - Worship.

**LIBERTY CENTER BAPTIST**  
3071 W. Cherry St.  
8:30 a.m. - Pastor/Deacon's Prayer. 9 - Sunday School. 9:55 - Fellowship. 10:15 - Worship.

**MARKLE CHAPEL HILL SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**  
470 E. Morse St.  
Saturday: 9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:45 - Sabbath School (Bible study).

**LIBERTY CENTER COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
8:45 a.m. - Choir practice. 9 a.m. - Coffee, donuts, conversation. 9:30 - Worship w/infant nursery & children's church. 10:45 - Sunday School.

**KEYSTONE CHURCH**  
10556S-200W  
9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:30 - Sunday School.

**KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES**  
2803 N. Main St.  
jw.org  
10 a.m. - Worship.

**LIFE COMMUNITY**  
428 S. Oak St.  
lifecommunity.net  
10:30 a.m. - Service (Children's programs available).

**LIVING FAITH MISSIONARY**  
17718 Bluffton Rd., Yoder  
10 a.m. - Worship. 11:30 - Sunday School.

**LIVING WATER UNITED CHURCH**  
6486 S 700E, Bluffton  
8:45-9 a.m. - Prayer. 9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

**MARKLE CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
455 E. Morse St.  
marklechurch.org  
9 a.m. - Adult Bible study groups. 10:30 - Worship. Children's & student programming both hours.

**MARKLE RIVERSIDE 316**  
145 W. Morse St.  
10 a.m. - Worship.

**NEW BEGINNING**  
2187 W. SR 218  
10 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.

**ST. MARK EV. LUTHERAN**  
16933 Thiele Rd.  
stmarkfw.org  
8:45 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

**NEW HOPE LUTHERAN**  
(Missouri Synod)  
8824 N. SR 1, Ossian  
newhopelutheran-ossian.webs.com  
9 a.m. - Sunday School & Adult Bible study. 10 a.m. - Worship.

**MURRAY MISSIONARY**  
1117 N. Washington St., Murray  
murraymc.org  
9:30 a.m. - Worship. 11 a.m. - Sunday School.

**NOTTINGHAM**  
1100 S. SR 1  
9:30 - Sunday School. 10:30 & 6 p.m. - Worship.

**OSSIAN CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
302 N. Metts St.  
ossiannaz.org  
9:15 a.m. - Bible study. 10:30 - Service.

**OSSIAN UNITED METHODIST**  
201 W. Mill St.  
ossianumc.org  
9 a.m. - Worship, Worship child care nurse. 10 a.m. - Fellowship. 10:15 - Adult Sunday School.

**PARK COMMUNITY**  
617 S. Bennett St.  
blog.parkub.org  
10 a.m. - Connection. 11 a.m. - Worship.

**PETROLEUM COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
3625 E. 2nd St.  
9 a.m. - Worship. 10:30 - Sunday School.

**PONETO BAPTIST**  
Grape Street  
8:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 9 a.m. - Worship.

**PONETO FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
36 E. Walnut St.  
9 a.m. - Worship. 10 a.m. - Fellowship. 10:15 - Sunday School.

**RIVER OF HOPE**  
1224 W. Central  
11 a.m. - Worship & the Word.

**RIVER OF LIFE**  
122 Lamar St.  
Suite 108, 110  
riveroflifebluffton.com  
10:30 a.m. - Worship.

**SIX MILE**  
4790 SE SR 116  
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

**SONLIGHT WESLEYAN**  
2350 S. SR 1  
sonlightwesleyan.org  
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship. Nursery & Children's classes available during Sunday School & Worship.

**SOUTHERN WELLS COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
9450 S 300 W, Poneto  
9 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship.

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**ST. LUKE CHURCH**  
4960W-100N, Decatur  
stlukechurch.in  
9 a.m. - Worship. 10:15 - Sunday School.

**ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN (NALC)**  
5912 N. Sugar St., Uniondale  
10 a.m. - Worship. 10:15 - Children's Sunday School.

**THE CHURCH AT MCNATT**  
9221 W 800 S-90, Montpelier  
8:30 a.m. - Coffee fellowship. 9:15 - Worship.

**UNIONTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
11419 N-200W, Ossian  
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

**THE MEETING PLACE**  
115 E. Market St.  
6:30 p.m. - Bible study.

**TOWER LIFE CENTER**  
11811 N. Wayne St., Zanesville  
towerlifecenter.com  
9:30 a.m. - TLC Groups. 10:30 - Worship.

**TURNPOINTE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**  
500 W. Logan, Markle  
turnpointechurch.com  
9:30 a.m. - Fellowship. 10 a.m. - Adult & Children's Worship.

**UNIONDALE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
5867 N. Main St.  
9 a.m. - Worship.

**VERA CRUZ FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER CCCU**  
2771 SE Mulberry St., Vera Cruz  
9-10 a.m. - Sunday School. 10-10:30 - Fellowship. 10:30 - Worship.

**WESTSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
205 S. Adams St., Monroe  
9 a.m. - Worship. 10:15 - Discipleship for adults & children.

**ZANESVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF GOD**  
11984 N. Marzane Rd.  
9 a.m. - Bible Class. 10 a.m. - Worship.

**ZANESVILLE UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST**  
3092 W. Broadway  
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

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# Norwell routs East Noble, wins 5th NE8 title in 6 years

By RYAN WALKER

There was no chance East Noble was going to spoil Norwell's night to clinch the Northeast 8 Conference championship outright in a 72-33 rout.

It was the final home game, seven seniors honored on Senior Night playing their final game at The Castle and the conference title all on the line — and they played like their life depended on it.

"I don't know what was different. I just know that they were ready. They were ready to play," Norwell head coach Eric Thornton said after the game.

That senior group played the biggest role, as they have over their last four seasons in the blue and gold. Makenzie Fuess picked off the opening tipoff for a steal and layup seven seconds in and then nailed her first three-point attempt 20 seconds later.

After Fuess drilled another triple, Kennedy Fuelling entered the scoreboard and produced 12 points in the first quarter to add to Fuess' 11. It was 27-9 by the end of it.

The scoring ramped up and never simmered down. The Norwell Knights (18-4, 7-0 NE8) followed the first with a 24-point second quarter. Fuess' five triples led to 22 points in the half alone, while Fuelling tallied 16.

Some of that scoring magic even rubbed off of senior Lilly Norris, who sunk two of her four three-balls in the first half.

"We just keep moving it until we get it and they know when that moment is there. They can feel it that that's the shot right there," Thornton said of his team's red-hot shooting. "They're just relentless."

With the score being so far out of reach, one wouldn't even notice that the East Noble Knights had quite a good season this year, improving its 5-18 record and 7th in the Northeast 8 Conference to a 13-8, (3-4 NE8) record this year. But Norwell drowned that success out with a 51-19 edge by halftime.

There was a running clock by the third quarter that helped translate the 39-point victory for Norwell.

The win encapsulates everything the team has done this season — grueling schedule that featured multiple state-ranked teams, and the team came out with only four losses.

They also went unbeaten in a conference that had only one team without a winning record in it — one that Norwell wasn't even the favorite in, but the reigning champion Columbia City was. But when the chips were down, the Knights slayed the dragon at their own barn earlier in the season and

boosted its quest to take back the crown.

"In a year where the conference was very, very good, this group did an awful lot by going 7-0. It's super hard to do," Thornton said, now winning fifth NE8 title in the past six years. "And with that experience, and how they've handled the schedule strength this year in and out of the conference, they've really been through a lot of battles, and that's paying off right now."

Thornton made it clear as he has all season: the conference is just the first step.

Even with the rich history of Norwell's girls' basketball team, getting past the semi-state has been tough to get out of. They've won just one of them ever, according to the John Harrel website, and just two regional titles since class basketball began.

Thornton and his team knows that this accomplishment doesn't finish any business it wants to take care of.

"It's hard for me to say everything that I want to say because I know it's not over yet but we have just a short time left together and you feel that," Thornton said. "You want to experience what their goals are. Our goals are to win a state championship, and that's so hard to do. But this is where we wanted to start."

Norwell's postseason journey begins next Friday against the host school Maconaquah or Mississinewa at 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2.

After the game, the varsity team posed for a photo with their new Northeast 8 Conference t-shirts. They took the photo with the junior varsity team, who completed back-to-back undefeated seasons, along with both the eighth and seventh grade girls teams, who both won the Northeast 8 Conference tournament earlier this week.

### NORWELL 72, EAST NOBLE 33

**At Norwell**  
**EAST NOBLE (13-8, 3-4 NE8):** Elli Will 4-9 1-1 11, Rian David 3-5 1-1 8, Averi Amstutz 2-5 2-2 6, Payton Quake 2-3 0-0 4, Addison Deming 2-9 0-0 4, Bailea Bortner 0-4 0-0 0, Brianna Bortner 0-1 0-0 0, Megan Seymour 0-0 0-0 0, Kate David 0-0 0-0 0, Makenna Strohm 0-0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 13-36 6-7 33.  
**NORWELL (18-4, 7-0 NE8):** Kennedy Fuelling 10-25 4-5 27, Makenzie Fuess 7-17 5-11 22, Lilly Norris 4-6 0-0 12, Dekota Hubble 2-2 0-0 4, Vanessa Rosswurm 2-6 0-0 4, Addie Norris 0-2 2-3 2, Alivia Green 0-3 1-2 1, Ryland Graft 0-2 0-0 0, Haley Green 0-0 0-0 0, Annabelle Johnson 0-1 0-0 0, Ali Riley 0-1 0-0 0, Jaada Dale 0-2 0-0 0, Ashley Waldman 0-4 0-0 0. TOTALS: 25-71 10-17 72.  
**E. Noble 9 10 5 9 — 33**  
**Norwell 27 24 19 2 — 72**  
 Three-point FG: East Noble: 1-8 (R. David 1-3, Deming 0-1, B. Bortner 0-4), Norwell: 12-33 (Fuess 5-11, Norris 4-5, Fuelling 3-10, Graft 0-1, A. Norris 0-1, Johnson 0-1, Waldman 0-2, Dale 0-1, Riley 0-1). Rebounds: East Noble: 32 (Will 9, Quake 5, R. Daid 4, K. David 3, Amstutz 2, Deming 1, B. Bortner 1), Norwell: 24 (Green 4, Norris 4, Hubble 3, Rosswurm 2, A. Green 2, Fuelling 2, Graft 2, Johnson 1, Fuess 1). Turnovers: East Noble 30, Norwell 9. Fouls: East Noble: 11, Norwell 9. Fouled Out: None. Technicals: None. JV: 59-21 Norwell.



Makenzie Fuess saves the ball from going out of bounds, passing around East Noble's Bailea Bortner in the second quarter Friday night at The Castle. (Photo by Glen Werling)

## High School Calendar

**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.

# Raiders earn ACAC win over Starfires on the road

By RICK SPRUNGER

**BERNE** — Southern Wells rode a big third quarter and then survived a wild finish to post a 37-36 come-from-behind win at South Adams Friday night.

South Adams' Owen Wanner missed an open three-pointer from the right wing with 0:01 left to allow the Raiders to sneak out of town with their second straight win and first in Allen County Athletic Conference competition.

Southern Wells is now

1-3 in the ACAC and 4-10 overall.

South Adams fell to 2-12 in all games and to 0-4 in the conference.

"Winning close games is a process, and we haven't been in very many this year," said Southern Wells coach Joel Roush outside a happy Raider locker room after the game.

They had to do this one the hard way.

The Raiders spotted the Starfires a 23-13 halftime lead but came charging

back, outscoring their hosts 16-3 in the third quarter on their way to a seven-point lead with 1:25 left in the game.

South Adams, showing some resiliency of its own, scored six points in the remaining time and had a very makeable three-pointer in the air for the win at the end.

Southern Wells did it by shutting down South Adams' highly-touted sophomore Tytus Lehman on defense.

Lehman scored 11 of his 13 points in the first quarter to stake his team to an early 15-5 lead, but only managed two more points the rest of the way — none in the second half.

"Lehman is obviously a big part of what they do," explained Roush of his team's game plan. "We wanted to load our defense in his direction, not allow him to drive, and get a hand in his face. We wanted to know where he was at all times, and we did a really good job with that."

With Lehman largely out of commission, the South Adams offense came to a halt and Southern Wells made its move.

The Raiders scored 13 unanswered points to start



Southern Wells' senior Andrew Aker (left) drives toward the hoop near the baseline against South Adams' Jax Wanner in the second half of Friday night's conference game in Berne. The Raiders held on for a 37-36 win over their conference foes. (Photos By Chad Kline)

the third quarter to vault on top 26-23.

Chandler Oswald started things with a fadeaway from the lane, then stole the ball and launched an upcourt pass to Evan Pennington for a layup.

Pennington then got a spin move on the baseline for two more and followed that up with a nice assist inside to Perrin Gates for a three-point play.

Andrew Aker got his second straight steal and

fed Pennington for another fast-break layup to give the Raiders the lead, and Gates got a bucket inside off a feed from Oswald.

Meanwhile, South Adams was getting nothing against a fired-up Raider defense.

"We're playing a little more zone because teams like to drive and then kick it out for a three," said Roush. "If we take away the drive, we take away the three."

South Adams missed its first six shots of the quarter

(Continued on Page 7)



Southern Wells head coach Joel Roush, center, gives guidance to the team during a timeout in the closing minutes of Friday night's conference game against South Adams in Berne.

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Norwell sideline and competitive cheerleader Reghan Plunkett (middle) signs her national letter of intent with Bowling Green State University Friday morning at the high school. (Photo by Ryan Walker)

## Norwell's Plunkett inks with BGSU for cheer

By RYAN WALKER  
Norwell's Reghan Plunkett officially signed her letter of intent to Bowling Green State University for cheer Friday morning at the high school. Plunkett will be doing both sideline and competitive cheer for the Falcons, joining a Division I program. On the sideline, she will be at football and basketball games and some for the volleyball team. In the competitive field, she looks forward to going to nationals every January. Of many reasons, Plunkett made

the choice to be closer to family and because the campus feels like home, but also the chance to be a part of big moments in athletics. "I'm super excited," Plunkett said. "It's giving me a lot of opportunities and doing competitive cheer; I'm excited to go to nationals, see all the big games junior and senior year, and hopefully travel." According to Bowling Green State's university website, the competitive cheer team consists of 20 members on the mat and 6-8 alternates. There are two music

performances and one for cheering. Some of the recent accomplishments the Falcons have recently achieved include the UCA All-Girl Gameday Division 1A Silver Medalist and UCA Small Division 1A Silver Medalist in 2023. The Norwell senior plans to study exercise science and eventually become a sports physical therapist. She said that the campus is compact and easy to navigate, and her classes would be all in the same area.

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## Tigers fall to Patriots in low-scoring tussle

By ANDREW FEEBACK  
When a team holds its opponent to 31 points on 33 percent shooting, keeps it from scoring for an entire quarter, and only sends it to the free throw line twice, the end result is probably favorable much more often than not.

Bluffton (6-8) went nearly six minutes until its next points came on a Tucker Jenkins layup. That came after 13 straight from the Patriots (5-9), but the Tigers were still very much in the game, down just six at the break.

Jay County was 13 of 38, but knocked down four more from long range. As Teagle mentioned, his team's execution was poor, and the dearth of fast-break opportunities in this game didn't help.

with Max White scoring 16 points and Abram Gehrett adding 11.

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But that was far from the case for the Bluffton boys' basketball team Friday night as a brutally ineffective offense resulted in a 31-14 loss to the visiting Jay County Patriots. "Our execution was awful," coach Craig Teagle said. "We spent four days working on how we were going to attack (the zone). We didn't put it in those spots very often, we didn't cut hard enough, didn't screen well enough, didn't coach well enough. It's my job to have us ready to execute against something like that, and we weren't ready, obviously. That's on me." Axton Beste made a three-pointer for the game's only points of the first quarter, and

The Patriots opened with a triple from Liam Garringer before Jenkins got back to back buckets to bring the Tigers within 16-11. They entered the fourth quarter down 20-12, but managed only two points the rest of the way, courtesy of a fast-break lay-in from Jenkins following a Patriot turnover near mid-court. But with only 2:14 to play and the score 27-14, the Patriots were long gone by then. Jenkins led the Tigers with eight points while Beste had five. For the Patriots, Gradin Swoveland had 12 while Garringer added seven. Bluffton finished just 6 of 25 from the field and one

of 14 beyond the arc. Jay County was 13 of 38, but knocked down four more from long range. As Teagle mentioned, his team's execution was poor, and the dearth of fast-break opportunities in this game didn't help. "We couldn't find shots against their 1-2-2 zone," Teagle said. "They struggled to find shots against us for awhile, then (Swoveland) got hot, and that hurt us. We just weren't very good offensively. We knew going into this game it would be low-scoring; it was going to be which team wins the most possessions, and we didn't." Bluffton will travel to Madison-Grant tonight. In the junior varsity game, Nolan Lambert hit a three-pointer at the buzzer to give the Tigers a 38-37 win. He finished with 19 points, while Eli Bertsch had eight and Marshall Gerber had four. Bluffton also took the freshman game 38-35,

**JAY COUNTY 31, BLUFFTON 14**  
At Bluffton  
**JAY COUNTY (5-9):** Parker Nichols 0-1 0-0 0, Levi Muhlenkamp 2-3 0-0 5, Jackson Edwards 0-0 0-0 0, Carter Fugiett 0-0 0-0 0, Liam Garringer 2-7 2-2 7, Trevin Dunnington 1-8 0-0 3, Ben Crouch 1-2 0-0 2, Eli Dirksen 0-1 0-0 0, Cole Forthofer 0-0 0-0 0, Aiden Phillips 0-0 0-0 0, Wesley Bihn 1-3 0-0 2, Gradin Swoveland 5-12 0-0 12. TOTALS: 13-38 2-2 31.

**BLUFFTON (6-8):** Nolan Lambert 0-0 0-0 0, Andrew Hunt 0-4 0-0 0, Elijah Garrett 0-0 0-0 0, Hunter Wenger 0-2 0-0 0, Cameron Williams 0-4 0-0 0, Tucker Jenkins 4-5 0-0 8, Jude Baumgartner 0-0 0-0 0, Axton Beste 2-9 0-0 5, Declan Grieser 0-1 1-2 1, Jared Moser 0-0 0-0 0, Caleb Green 0-0 0-2 0, Benjamin Maggard 0-0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 6-25 1-14 7.

**Jay County 13 7 11 — 31**  
**Bluffton 3 4 5 2 — 14**

**Three-point Goals:** Jay County 5-19 (Swoveland 2-6, Dunnington 1-5, Garringer 1-3, Muhlenkamp 1-2, Dirksen 0-1, Nichols 0-1, Crouch 0-1), Bluffton 1-4 (Beste 1-5, Hunt 0-4, Wenger 0-2, Williams 0-3).  
**Rebounds:** Jay County 19 (Dunnington 9, Bihn 4, Swoveland 3, Phillips 1, Dirksen 1, Crouch 1), Bluffton 16 (Jenkins 5, Green 3, Grieser 2, Beste 2, Williams 2, Hunt 2). Turnovers: Jay County 10, Bluffton 15. Fouls: Jay County 10, Bluffton 6. Fouled out: None. Technicals: None.  
**JV:** Bluffton 38, Jay County 37. Freshman: Bluffton 38, Jay County 35.

## Raiders earn ACAC win

(Continued from Page 6)  
while committing six turnovers, three of them of the live-ball variety that led to breakaway Southern Wells scores. The Starfires finally got off the goose-egg when Wanner converted a three-point play to earn his team a 26-26 tie with 0:38 left.

"We hung in there and battled," said Roush. "I'm a firm believer that if you do the right thing often enough, good things will happen. We did an awful lot right tonight." That they did. After committing six first-quarter turnovers and falling into that early 10-point hole, the Raiders only committed four more the rest of the game. After connecting on just five of 18 first-half shots (.278), they drilled nine of 17 in the second half (.529). Reber was the only Southern Wells player in double figures with 10 points, but Pennington, Oswalt and Gates each finished with eight. Wanner and Lehman each scored 13 points for South Adams, which hit on 15 of 36 shots for a .417 shooting percentage while turning the ball over 16 times. Southern Wells also won the junior varsity contest, 23-18, in a game reduced to two quarters. Trey Slusher scored eight points, Landon Johnson seven, Joshua Aulbach five, and Wade Tappy three for the Raiders.

**Three-point shooting:** Southern Wells 3-10 (Aker 1-3, Reber 2-4, Oswalt 0-3), South Adams 5-15 (J. Wanner 0-1, O. Wanner 2-6, Lehman 3-7, Dee 0-1). Rebounds: Southern Wells 19 (Gates 6, Reber 5), South Adams 27 (Lehman 9, O. Wanner 7). Turnovers: Southern Wells 10, South Adams 16. Personal fouls: Southern Wells 5, South Adams 14. Fouled Out: None. Technical fouls: None.  
**Southern Wells 5 8 16 8 — 37**  
**South Adams 15 8 3 10 — 36**

Perrin Gates 3-11 2-4 8, Caleb Johnson 0-0 0-0 0. TOTAL: 14-35 8-14 37.  
**SOUTH ADAMS (2-12, 0-4 ACAC):** Jax Wanner 2-5 0-0 4, Owen Wanner 5-9 1-1 13, Tytus Lehman 5-15 0-1 13, Noah Hunley 1-3 0-0 2, Conner Fear 0-0 0-0 0, Derek McKean 1-1 0-0 2, Oscar Vasquez 0-0 0-0 0, Diesel Ziegler 0-0 0-0 0, Isaac Dee 1-3 0-0 2. TOTAL: 15-36 1-2 36.

A three-pointer by C.J. Reber just ahead of the buzzer restored the lead back to Southern Wells, and the Raiders never trailed again. Not that it didn't get mighty interesting at the end. Two free throws by Oswalt at 1:25 seemed to put the game away for Southern Wells at 37-30 against the offensively challenged Starfires.

Then Wanner suddenly got hot. He immediately ripped a three-pointer, then stole the ball on defense and hit another to slice the margin to 37-36 with still 0:51 left. Pennington missed two free throws at 0:34, and South Adams had a chance. Lehman got inside the Southern Wells defense for a five-footer but missed. The rebound went out of bounds to South Adams under the basket with 0:04 left, and Wanner got off an open 20-footer from the right wing. The shot missed, and Southern Wells had its second straight win.

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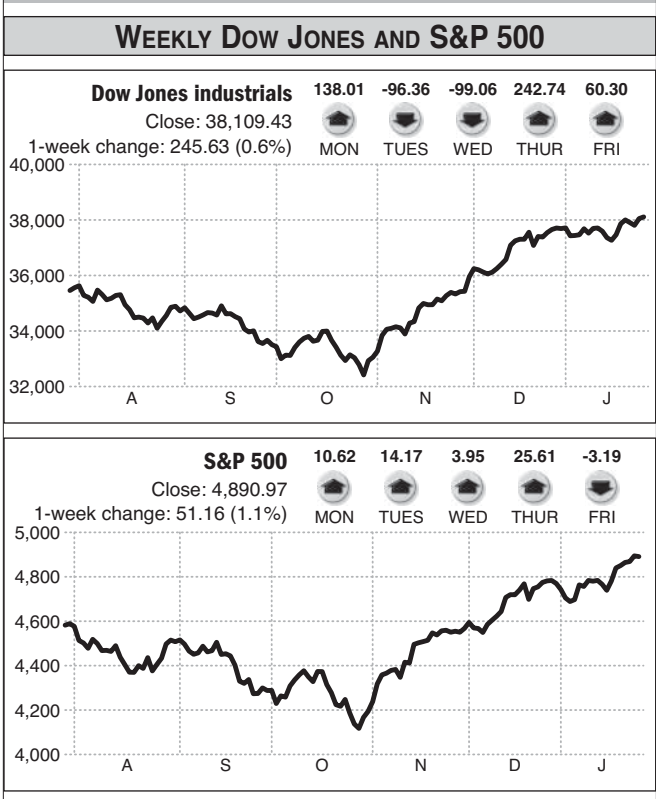
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## THE WEEK IN REVIEW



**STOCK MARKET INDEXES**

High	Low	Name	Last	Wk Chg	Wk %Chg	YTD %Chg	12-mo %Chg
38,215.31	31,429.82	Dow Jones Industrials	38,109.43	+245.63	+0.6%	+1.1%	+12.1%
16,717.04	13,400.45	Dow Jones Transportation	15,901.12	+308.78	+1.9%	+0.1%	+9.7%
987.02	765.47	Dow Jones Utilities	849.68	-2.86	-0.3%	-3.6%	-12.2%
16,970.90	14,471.08	NYSE Composite	16,949.11	+219.55	+1.3%	+1.1%	+6.1%
15,629.07	10,982.80	Nasdaq Composite	15,455.36	+144.40	+0.9%	+2.9%	+32.9%
4,906.69	3,808.86	S&P 500	4,890.97	+51.16	+1.0%	+2.5%	+20.1%
2,817.96	2,322.38	S&P MidCap	2,763.77	+22.81	+0.8%	-0.4%	+5.1%
49,414.72	37,776.71	Wilshire 5000	49,249.17	+523.55	+1.0%	+1.9%	+21.9%
2,071.78	1,633.67	Russell 2000	1,978.33	+33.94	+1.7%	-2.4%	+3.5%
16,634.24	12,426.88	Lipper Growth Index	16,633.88	+116.35	+0.7%	+2.5%	+26.2%

**STOCK EXCHANGE HIGHLIGHTS**

NYSE GAINERS (\$2 OR MORE)	NYSE LOSERS (\$2 OR MORE)	NYSE ACTIVES (\$1 OR MORE)
<b>Name Last Chg %Chg</b>	<b>Name Last Chg %Chg</b>	<b>Name Vol (00) Last Chg</b>
BrightHill 16.35 +4.82 +11.8%	NavMH pH 4.00 -9.50 -70.4%	AT&T Inc 2788340 17.29 +6.2
NuScale 2.75 +7.76 +38.2%	Navios pIG 5.48 -7.02 -56.2%	Foldam 2387463 11.39 +1.9
CanOhI 2.66 +6.66 +33.0%	ArchDan 52.05 -16.14 -23.7%	Palatini 2387163 16.35 +4.3
W&T Off 3.26 +6.44 +24.4%	MarineMx 28.01 -5.67 -16.8%	Ptizer 227510 27.47 -3.9
Alice 2.68 +4.48 +21.8%	BlackBerry 2.92 -5.14 -41.9%	SpiritAir 2239847 6.25 -3.3
NustarEn 21.56 +3.53 +16.6%	Pinstrld 3.90 -6.84 -41.9%	Carnival 2110522 15.83 -1.50
ChinGrm 2.51 +3.99 +18.4%	CharHld 110.53 -15.33 -12.2%	BioAm 1933391 33.43 +1.21
MediaAp 12.77 +1.92 +17.7%	DuPont 64.67 -9.01 -12.2%	Nu Hldg 1572826 9.50 +3.3
BooMacro 33.62 +5.01 +17.5%	Owlet S 5.98 -7.74 -11.2%	Vale SA 1658727 14.17 +3.7
BreadFnl 35.47 +5.26 +17.4%	3M Co 95.99 -11.77 -10.9%	Alibaba 1655313 74.01 +4.59

NASDAQ GAINERS (\$2 OR MORE)	NASDAQ LOSERS (\$2 OR MORE)	NASDAQ ACTIVES (\$1 OR MORE)
<b>Name Last Chg %Chg</b>	<b>Name Last Chg %Chg</b>	<b>Name Vol (00) Last Chg</b>
CorbusP rs 29.49 +22.44 +318.3%	Panaba rs 4.27 -2.60 -37.8%	Tesla 6494820 183.25-28.94
CCSC Tch n19 48 +10.48 +116.4%	ChSoup25 5.11 -2.60 -33.7%	AMD 5627470 177.25 +3.02
OculusHl wt 2.50 +1.31 +110.1%	Kaival rs 2.63 -1.30 -33.0%	PLM 4080130 3.40 +0.72
Nyxoa 9.41 +4.91 +108.9%	ChkSxp 3.83 -1.72 -31.0%	MarathDig 3505129 17.85 +1.72
VeriTh A 30.18 +15.25 +102.1%	ImMixBio 3.05 -1.33 -30.4%	Intel 3502007 43.65 -4.50
MeiwTu rs 10.30 +5.11 +98.5%	HongHGr n 2.38 -0.92 -27.9%	SoFiTech 2765930 7.62 +1.3
Solowin n 5.92 +2.84 +92.2%	Bremill rs 4.43 -1.55 -25.9%	AmAirLines 2719093 15.13 +1.47
Bajjiayn 5.90 +2.76 +87.9%	ZurBio n 3.20 -1.10 -25.6%	Apple Inc 2552852 192.42 +8.6
BoneBio wt 10.50 +4.81 +84.5%	InovioPh rs 6.15 -1.95 -24.1%	Amax 2245400 159.12 +3.78
ChXiang rs 4.58 +2.08 +83.3%	VastRenw n 2.42 -0.75 -23.7%	Nvidia 2174008 610.31 +15.40

**STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST**

Name	Div	Last	Wk Chg	Wk %Chg	YTD %Chg	Name	Div	Last	Wk Chg	Wk %Chg	YTD %Chg
AFLAC	2.00	85.31	+9.4	+1.1%	+3.4%	Intel	.50	43.65	-4.50	-9.3%	-13.1%
AT&T Inc	1.11	177.29	+6.2	+3.7%	+3.0%	IBM	6.64	187.42	+15.94	+9.3%	+14.6%
AMD	1.60	172.25	+3.02	+1.7%	+20.2%	INV QQQ	1.16	423.81	+4.80	+0.6%	+3.5%
Amazon	...	159.12	+3.78	+2.4%	+4.7%	Kroger	1.16	46.30	+3.6	+0.8%	+1.3%
AmAirlines	4.0	15.13	+1.47	+10.8%	+10.1%	LinNat	1.80	28.39	+8.9	+3.2%	+5.3%
AEP	3.52	77.84	+1.4	+0.2%	-4.2%	Lowe's	4.40	211.98	-6.93	-3.2%	-4.7%
Apple Inc s	.96	192.42	+8.6	+4.4%	-1%	LucidGrp	...	2.65	-0.6	-2.2%	-37.1%
ApplMatl	1.28	166.80	-1.04	-0.6%	+3.0%	MarathDig	...	17.85	+1.72	+10.7%	-24.0%
BP PLC	1.74	35.63	+1.78	+5.3%	+6.0%	McDnisd	6.88	292.26	-8.27	-2.8%	-1.4%
BKofAm	.96	33.43	+1.21	+3.8%	-7%	Microsoft	3.00	403.93	+5.26	+1.3%	+7.4%
BluWtrWt	...	23	+0.36	+3.7%	+16.2%	NL Inds	.28	5.37	+0.5	+0.9%	-4.3%
BrMySq	2.40	49.70	-4.1	-8.3%	-3.1%	NISource	1.00	25.82	+2.2	+9.9%	-2.7%
C3is hn	...	13	-0.0	-2.2%	-7.5%	Nikola	...	.71	+0.6	+8.6%	-19.1%
CampSp	1.48	44.50	+1.35	+3.1%	+2.9%	NorfolkSo	5.40	234.26	+2.1	+0.1%	-9.9%
Canoo Inc	...	16	-0.1	-6.1%	-39.7%	Nu Hldg	...	9.50	+3.3	+3.6%	+14.0%
Carnival	...	15.83	-1.50	-8.7%	-14.6%	Nucor	2.16	175.10	+8.31	+5.0%	+6%
Caterpillar	5.02	299.43	+14.5	+5.0%	+1.3%	Palantir	.16	610.31	+15.40	+2.6%	+23.2%
Chevron	6.04	149.14	+6.90	+4.9%	+9.0%	Nvidia	...	16.35	+4.3	+2.6%	-4.8%
Cisco	1.56	52.14	+8.7	+1.7%	+3.2%	PepsiCo	5.06	167.86	+2.08	+1.3%	-1.2%
Citigroup	2.12	53.67	+2.15	+4.2%	+4.3%	Pfizer	1.68	27.47	-3.9	-1.4%	-4.6%
CocaCola	1.84	59.37	-4.6	-0.8%	-7.7%	PlugPowr h	...	3.40	+7.2	+26.9%	-24.4%
Cyngn h	...	27	+14.11	+111.1%	+83.4%	PRUInc	...	55.44	+9.0	+17.7%	+9.3%
DxSOXBr	...	5.06	+0.8	+1.6%	-13.1%	PShIQQQ	...	12.19	-1.9	-1.5%	-9.4%
DxSOXBl	...	34.01	-8.5	-2.4%	+8.3%	RivivaAu A	...	15.29	-1.9	-1.2%	-3.8%
Disney	.30	95.36	+2.30	+2.5%	+5.6%	Rumble A	...	6.04	+2.45	+68.2%	+34.5%
Eaton	2.92	245.89	+1.29	+0.5%	+2.1%	SprDJIA	3.98	381.09	+2.49	+0.7%	+1.1%
EliLilly	5.20	639.25	+10.67	+1.7%	+9.7%	S&P500ETF	4.13	487.41	+4.98	+1.0%	+2.5%
ExxonMbl	3.80	103.00	+6.05	+6.2%	+3.0%	SoFiTech	...	7.62	+1.3	+1.7%	-23.4%
FaZeHld	...	25	+0.9	+58.5%	+40.0%	SpiritAir	...	6.25	-3.3	-5.0%	-61.9%
FordM	.60	11.39	+1.9	+1.7%	-6.6%	SPDR Fnd	...	48.36	+7.2	+1.9%	+2.8%
FrankElec	.90	95.86	+1.29	+1.4%	-8.1%	SplDynam	1.70	116.00	+1.14	+2.8%	-1.8%
FrpMcm	.30	39.59	+8.2	+2.1%	-7.0%	Tesla	...	183.25	-28.94	-13.6%	-26.3%
GenElec	.32	131.19	+1.38	+1.1%	+2.8%	Vale SA	3.08	14.17	+3.7	+2.7%	+10.7%
HPC Inc	1.02	30.00	+8.8	+3.0%	-3.3%	VerizonCo	2.66	42.40	+3.07	+7.8%	+12.5%
HomeDp	8.36	355.30	-7.11	-2.0%	+2.5%	WalmMart	2.28	164.27	+1.89	+1.2%	+4.2%
ShChinaLc	.87	22.60	+9.2	+4.2%	-6.0%	WalBoots	1.00	22.85	+8.5	+3.9%	-12.5%
Sh20 yrT	3.05	93.78	-3.1	-0.3%	-5.2%						

Trying to keep faith in love

Dear Annie: My mother-in-law is 96 years old, and her daughter lives with her. She has been in the nursing homes and hospitals, and has had a nurse assistant to help take care of her. Her daughter refuses to let anybody come to her brother's house where she is staying.

My husband has been having many problems with his sister. She told him to call before he comes to see his mother and that anybody who wants to see her has to call and make an appointment. The sister's children are the only ones allowed to see her or come as they please.

My husband worries so much that he can't see his mother when he wants to. His mother had to have both legs amputated and is not getting proper care. Is there anything we can do for him to see her? All of the grandchildren can't see him either. — Worried in Louisiana

Dear Worried: Your sister-in-law's controlling, cagey behavior feels like a red flag to me, too. You'd think she'd feel relieved that your family's so willing to help with their mother's care and would encourage as many visits as possible, considering your mother-in-law's age and serious health conditions.

There is strength in numbers. Your husband and his other shut-out siblings should communicate firmly and directly with this sister about their worries and figure out a plan that incorporates them more in their mother's life and care. If this sister's intentions are pure — as she seems to think they are — she should be open to something that would so clearly benefit their mother.

Dear Annie: In my dating life, I am often disappointed. I'll ask a guy to go on a date and he'll agree to. Then we plan a date, and he doesn't show up, so I end up by myself. I keep finding guys who don't have the same values that I

do. I believe what the Bible says, that you shouldn't have sex before marriage. I even wear a purity ring on my finger and tell others why it's there. I want a man who works, doesn't do drugs, believes in God and will take me out, not the other way around. Yes, I have high standards, but I believe this is not asking a lot from anyone. How is one to stay pure in an impure world? I'm not lowering my standards for anyone, nor meeting them halfway. They are what they are, but I'm tired of being alone. — High Standards

Dear High Standards: I commend you for having such strong convictions and for sticking to them unashamedly. Special people need special people. While that might mean having to wait, remember it's not time wasted to find that person who so perfectly aligns with you. Your faith seems to be of the utmost importance in your life. Perhaps your local church or a religion-focused dating app would be a good place to seek your next relationship.

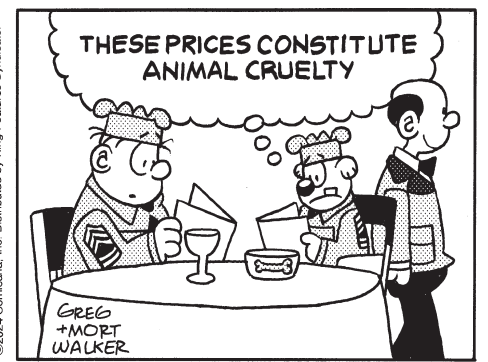
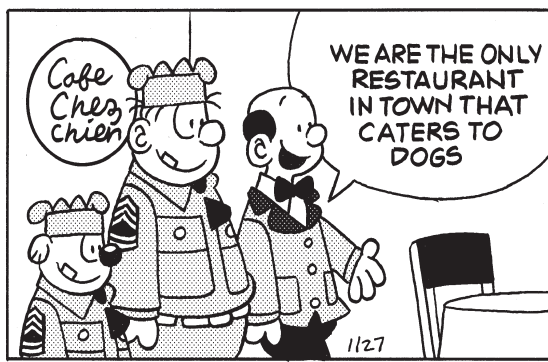
"How Can I Forgive My Cheating Partner?" is out now! Annie Lane's second anthology — featuring favorite columns on marriage, infidelity, communication and reconciliation — is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit http://www.creatorspublishing.com for more information. Send your questions for Annie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

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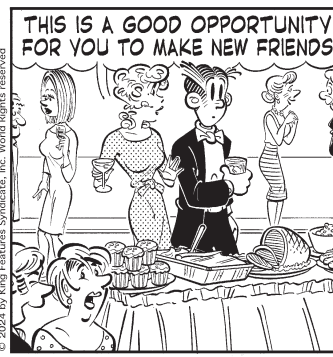
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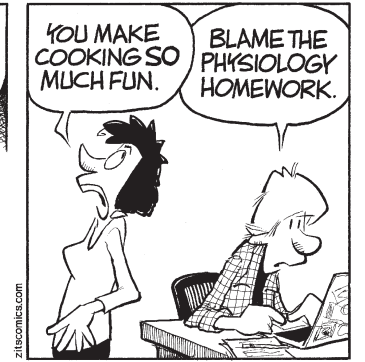
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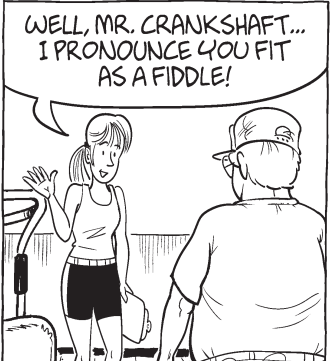
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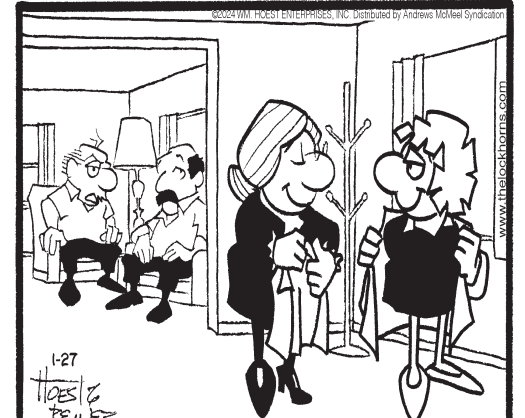
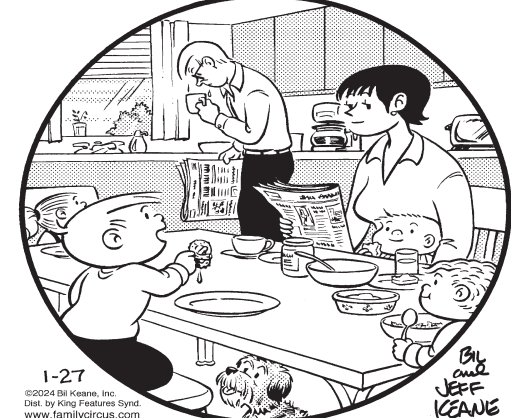
CRANKSHAFT



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

The LOCKHORNS



My Answer



By Dr. Billy Graham

Only the Holy Spirit can give us peace

Question: My husband lost our retirement savings by putting it under the care of a friend's son trying to start his investment business. This has been devastating to us, particularly him, as he feels foolish and taken advantage of. However, he also helped mentor this young man and doesn't want to put a black mark on his own integrity by retaliating. Is there a word of encouragement not to throw in the towel? — B.I.

Answer: Individuals can be stripped of power and possessions quickly. Often such an experience causes feelings of devastation. In that moment, the Holy Spirit may cause

the spiritual bandages to fall from their eyes, helping them to see clearly for the first time their greater need.

People respond differently to crises depending on temperament, emotional balance, environment, and lifestyle. But regardless, it is a jolt in life. When great disappointment has been experienced, when one has lost the sense of power through material possessions, feeling alone is common.

The most important thing anyone can do for those in despair is to focus on the Lord Jesus Christ. Only the Holy Spirit can give us peace in the midst of the storms of restlessness and despair. The very goodness of God leads people to lean

from bad decisions and lean on Him for guidance.

The One who owns everything and possesses all power in Heaven and on Earth will speak to us and help us know that in spite of difficulties, the Lord will help us through. Often for the Christian, God calls His people to be faithful in pointing others to Him. The way in which we react to hurts and disappointments influences the shaping of our personalities and can be used of God as a powerful testimony.

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

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

Solution time: 26 mins. Yesterday's answer 1-27. Includes a crossword grid with the previous day's solution.

TV schedule table with columns for time slots (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) and rows for various channels (WINM, CBS, Antenna, ABC, NBC, MNT, CW, PBS, FOX, etc.).

Continuation of the TV schedule table for channels like ESPN, FSMMW, USA, DISC, HLC, TST, ABE, HALL, SYFY, TBS, TNT, AMC, COM, FS1, WGN, WE, FOOD, BRAVO, NICK, DISN, FREEFORM, HBO, MAX, SHOW, TMC.



# The Classifieds

## SUDOKU

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

### King Classic Sudoku

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

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Difficulty: ★★★★★

1/27

## EMPLOYMENT

### 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/](http://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](mailto: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](http://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

## Help Wanted



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**TEMPORARY CLERICAL POSITION** not to exceed September 30, 2024, at the Wells County USDA-FSA Office. Apply at 117 W. Harvest Rd., Bluffton, IN 46714 from January 25th to January 31st. USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## FOR SALE

### Miscellaneous

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## VEHICLES

### Auto/Trucks

**INDIANA AUTO AUCTION, INC.** Huge Repo Sale February 1, 2024. Over 100 repossessed units for sale. Money order or cashier's check only. \$500 cashier's check or money order deposit per person required. Register 8 am-9:30 am. No public entry after 9:30 am. All vehicles sold AS IS! 4425 W. Washington Center Road, Fort Wayne. (A)

**HELOISE HINT:** When your teens start to drive. Explain to them that there are four kinds of collisions that cause the most highway crashes: intersections; lane changes and merging; rear-ending; and road departures. They should stay alert for these while driving. Fax Heloise @ 210-HELOISE (435-6473).

## SERVICES

### Services

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## January

# GOODS & SERVICES DIRECTORY

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Feb. deadline is Tues., Jan. 23!

## 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. **Merit Auctions**, 833-273-9300, [www.meritauctions.com](http://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**, 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](http://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](http://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](http://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.**, 800-451-2709, [schraderauction.com](http://schraderauction.com).  
**FEBRUARY 18-FEBRUARY 25 - (Online Only Auction) - Thomas and Mary Woodward and others, sellers.** Outstanding collection of antique pickle casters and brides baskets, Victorian condiment sets, large glassware collection including Carnival, Fenton, cut and pressed glass, Indiana glass, sterling silver, antique and modern furniture, primitives, vintage toys, outstanding line of shop tools, much more. Open house: Feb. 15 and 22 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 102 S. Jefferson St., Ossian, IN. **The Steffen Group Inc.**, 260-824-3006, [www.steffengrp.com](http://www.steffengrp.com).  
**BIDDING NOW OPEN AND STARTS CLOSING FEBRUARY 21 - 6 p.m. EST - Dean Stoppenhagen, owner.** 3877

E 900 N, Ossian, IN (located just east of Aviation Dr. on 900 N, north side of road). Online only land auction! 69.588 tillable acres! Zoned: agricultural, residential development potential! Jefferson Township, Northern Wells School Corporation. **Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC**, 260-724-7402, [Kjauction.com](http://Kjauction.com).  
**FEBRUARY 25-MARCH 3 - (Online Only Auction) - The Estate of Alan Johnson.** 2021 Jeep Grand Cherokee with 3,600 miles, 2 completely restored 1967 and 1969 Vintage Triumph motorcycles, 2017 Grasshopper zero turn mower, 2018 Sur-Trac enclosed trailer, tools, modern furniture, household. Open house: Feb. 25 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and Feb. 29 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., 3651 E. 1000 N., Ossian, IN. **The Steffen Group Inc.**, [www.steffengrp.com](http://www.steffengrp.com), 260-824-3006.  
**FEBRUARY 27-MARCH 5 - (Online Only Auction) - The Estate of Alan Johnson.** Three bedroom ranch home on full finished basement located in prime Northern Wells location. This home sits on a half acre lot with mature trees and an asphalt driveway. Open houses: Feb. 25 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and Feb. 29 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., 3651 E. 1000 N., Ossian, IN. **The Steffen Group Inc.**, [www.steffengrp.com](http://www.steffengrp.com), 260-824-3006.

**Alcohol & Tobacco Commission LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
The Alcohol Beverage Board of Wells County, Indiana will hold a public hearing at 9:00 am on February 06, 2024 at the Wells Carnegie Govt Annex Multi Purpose Room 105, 223 W Washington St in the city of Bluffton in said county, to investigate the propriety of holding an alcoholic beverage permit by the applicants listed herein to wit:  
RR9037486 Beer Wine & Liquor - Restaurant (209) RENEW-AL  
IMEL GROUP LLC 2330 E 250 N Bluffton IN  
D/B/A Timber Ridge Golf Course  
nb 1/27  
hspaxlp

## Public Notices

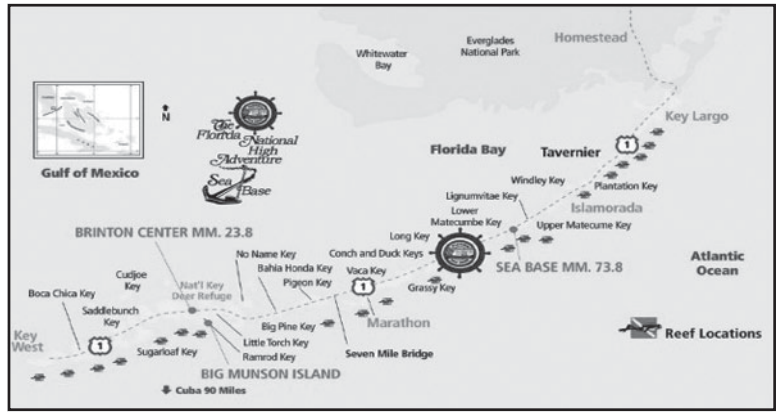
STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF WELLS  
IN THE WELLS COUNTY  
Circuit COURT  
CASE NO.  
90C01-2401-MI-000005  
IN RE THE MATTER OF:  
Melissa Ann Haffner  
Petitioner  
**NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
Melissa Ann Haffner, whose mailing address is: 4245 East Elm Grove Road Bluffton, Indiana 46714, and if different, whose residential address is N/A in the Wells County, Indiana, hereby gives notice that Melissa Ann Haffner has filed a petition in the Wells County SUPERIOR Court requesting that their name be changed to Melissa Ann Nolan.  
Notice is further given that the hearing will be held on said Petition on MARCH 27, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. - Melissa Ann Haffner  
Petitioner  
January 22, 2024  
Date  
Beth Davis  
RG County Clerk  
nb 1/27, 2/3, 2/10  
hspaxlp

## SUDOKU ANSWER

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



# #ADVENTURE ON



Boy Scout Troop 149 at Calvary Lutheran Church began planning their high adventure trip to the BSA Sea Base in January 2022...15 months in advance of the Spring Break 2023 departure. The scouts, with the guidance of their adult leaders, planned, fundraised, trained, practiced and planned some more for their trip to be a Once in a Lifetime experience!!

The Boy Scouts of America own 4 High Adventure Bases where scouts can test their outdoor skills and prove their physical and mental moxie. Opportunities to Hike/Backpack New Mexico Mountain trails, Canoe Boundary Waters lakes in Minnesota, Whitewater Raft, Rock Climb & Zip Line at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in W. Virginia, Snorkel, Sail, Deep Sea Fish and SCUBA Dive at Sea Base in Islamorada Florida.

Scout troops do High Adventure trips every 2 to 3 years to reward older scouts and give younger scouts something to look forward to. Scouts who participate in high adventure trips leave Bluffton a young boy/girl but return a more mature, more confident, more grown-up version of themselves.

Finally, the planning and preparation was complete and departure day was quickly approaching. Bags were packed and double checked to ensure nothing had been forgotten!

On Friday morning March 17, 2023, ten scouts and four adults departed Bluffton for a 10-day adventure of a lifetime.

Night #1 was spent sleeping on the floor at New Bethel Freewill Baptist Church in Sylvester, Georgia

Night #2 camping at Camp Sawyer, Islamorada, Florida...a BSA Camp in the Florida Keys.

Sunday March 19, arrived at Sea Base and trained with First Mate Jonah on snorkel, mask, fin, PFD (Personal Flotation Device).

Monday March 20, our Wells County group loaded a couple of BSA shuttle vans with food and gear and departed for a beautiful 90-minute drive down Florida Keys Scenic Highway #1 to Key West where they boarded...The Bloody Pirate...a twin mast schooner sailboat in the Florida Keys, contracted by BSA Sea Base.

Imagine...for a minute...14 Midwestern, Indiana, boys operating a 75-foot twin masted schooner (sailboat) on the open ocean? Nowhere in Indiana would they get an opportunity like that. It's Scouting Adventures like trips to Sea Base that move kids out of their comfort zone and into brand new experiences. These kids will remember this trip for the rest of their lives and share their experiences with family, friends and one-day their children.

The group spent 5 days and 4 nights in the Gulf of Mexico aboard The Bloody Pirate sailing along the southern edge of the Florida Keys after departing from Key West. The captain and crew instructed the scouts and adults on how to operate the ship and gave them hands-on experience rigging sails and navigating. Each scout took a turn serving as Grubmaster (prepping & cooking food) and trolling for fish off the stern. They also enjoyed time snorkeling along a reef and watching magnificent sunsets.

Scouting offers young men and women opportunities to see and experience new places. Make new friends and life-long memories. Young people learn how to persevere in difficult times and work together to be successful. All in all, they are becoming tomorrow's Leaders.

### Why Today's Youth and Families Need Scouting...

With the world as it is...today...our youth are in crisis. Anxiety and depression are preventing our young people from excelling. Social Media usage is squelching self-confidence, destroying self-image... enough that kids have no drive to succeed.

Scouting allows young people to make life-long friendships. Scouts learn to function as a team and work together to succeed. Scouting provides opportunities for young men and women to develop leadership skills. Camping, Backpacking and Canoeing trips teach scouts to prepare for the adventure, to be self-reliant and perseverant. Scouts know what to do in emergency situations...Stay Calm, Administer First Aid & Use CPR/AED. A merit badge has piqued an interest in a career path. The culmination of these experiences is earning Eagle. Universities, The U.S. Military and Corporate America give special recognition to Eagle Scouts because they know what it takes to earn the Eagle Rank and that these young people are leaders and prepared to succeed.

*"An invaluable step in character training is to put responsibility on the individual."* - Sir Robert Baden-Powell - Founder of Scouting

*"We must change boys from a 'what can I get' to a 'what can I give' attitude."* - Sir Robert Baden-Powell - Founder of Scouting



**Cub Scouts**  
Grades K-5



**Scouts BSA**  
Ages 11-17



**Venturing**  
Ages 14-20



**Sea Scouts**  
Ages 14-20



**Exploring**  
Ages 10-20



MIKE ROWE  
SCOUTS BSA

**Quotable**  
*"Scouting forces you to deal with you discomfort. It trains you to do the thing you don't want to do. And over time I realized it does something else, too. It trains you to like it."*  
-Eagle scout Mike Rowe, Star of 'Dirty Jobs'

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Find Scouting near you, go to [www.BEASCOUT.org](http://www.BEASCOUT.org).

Scouting also offers adults leadership opportunities in Cub Scout packs and Scouts BSA Troops to help mentor and guide our young people. Contact Steve Higgins at 260 710-5637 or [steven.higgins@scouting.org](mailto:steven.higgins@scouting.org) for more information.

Find a Pack or Troop Near You @BeAScout.org

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**#ADVENTURE ON**  
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Wabash Valley District Director - Steve Higgins  
260-710-5637 • [steven.higgins@scouting.org](mailto:steven.higgins@scouting.org)

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