

# The News - Banner

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2024

BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection

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## A recipe for success

Education Program helps women in recovery learn fundamentals of nutrition, wellness

By SYDNEY KENT  
Delicious, accessible and nutritious meals are a basic need for



Jane Hemmick (pictured) as she walks through the recipe on Tuesday.

everyone, but not a guaranteed fixture in everyone's lives.

The Purdue Extension Nutrition Education Program works to improve the nutrition and health of people with limited resources in Indiana. The program, which began in 1994, focuses on five core areas: nutrition, food safety, food security, physical activity and food resource management.

Jane Hemmick has served as an adviser in the NEP program for almost 10 years.

Last week, Hemmick spent the afternoon with a few women at Hannah's House, a local recovery home in Bluffton. The women learned different ways to read labels, the importance of

(Continued on Page 2)



Hemmick explains the importance of reading a food label during the lesson last week. (Photos by Sydney Kent)

## Primary will have contests for county commissioners, council

By HOLLY GASKILL  
Candidate filing for the May primary election closed at noon Friday, and the Wells County ballot has been set.

Clerk Beth Davis said county candidates were determined Friday afternoon, but candidates for state-wide and federal offices may continue to change as the state enters that information. Wells will have two Republican primary contests for county seats.

Incumbent Commissioner Jeff Stringer is being challenged by Tamra Boucher for District 3. Blake Gerber, current commissioner in District 2, is unopposed.

Republican candidates for the three At-Large seats on Wells County Council are Vicki Andrews, Scott Elzey and Seth Whicker, all incumbents, and Heath Schlagenhauf. Brian Hollingsworth, a Democrat, has also filed.

Republicans running in the primary for county

offices without opposition are Surveyor Jarrod Hahn, Circuit Court Judge Kenton Kiracofe, Rina Stuck for recorder, Pam Gregory for treasurer and Cliff Thomas for coroner. Recorder Carolyn Bertsch, Treasurer Kathy Peeper and Coroner Hillarie Gaskill have met their term limits.

Three precincts also have contested races for committeemen — Brandon Harnish and Tamara Runyon are filed for Bluffton 5, Mike Lautzenheiser Jr. and Preston Wright for Bluffton Lancaster East, and Peeper and Ashley Peterson for Lancaster East.

The following individuals have filed for 12 Republican convention delegate seats: Ethan Bailey, Heather Barkley, Joshua Barkley, Boucher, Case Ferree, Sandra Garcia, Hamish, Rebecca Holdman, Travis Holdman, Joshua Hunt, Scott Mentzer, Daphne Mygrant, Peterson, Kerry Roberts, Laura Roberts, Zach Rodgers, Joan Whicker and Wright.

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## State officials want more information about school fees

Textbooks are covered by the state. But Hoosier education leaders say "hidden fees" are still being billed to parents.

By CASEY SMITH, Indiana Capital Chronicle

Indiana's K-12 schools are spending more than state leaders expected on student textbooks — and some are still sending bills to students' families — prompting lawmakers to request additional information about what's being expensed.

The questioning comes a year after the General Assembly dedicated \$160 million in the current state budget to eliminate textbook and curriculum fees for Hoosier families, starting with the 2023-24 academic year.

Based on the funds available in May 2023, the Indiana Department of Education estimated the per student reimbursement amount to schools would be approximately \$151.88. Based on spending in the current academic year, however, the actual per student reimbursement amount came out to \$158.21.

Still, IDOE data obtained by the Indiana Capital Chronicle shows the state reimbursed 395 traditional K-12 districts and charter schools a total of about \$159 million for the current academic year — about a million dollars below what was appropriated.

What's not clear, though, is the amount each school actually spent on textbooks and other materials overall, or how much individual districts requested in reimbursements from the state.

Indiana Secretary of Education Katie Jenner said IDOE "gave some schools more than they asked for," while other schools "significantly increased their asks."

After seeing those reimbursement numbers, Jenner emphasized that state officials want to "better understand what we are spending on," and whether schools should make more efficient decisions" on curricular materials moving forward.

She said, too, there needs to be more investigation around other fees schools are still charging parents — like for certain college-level course materials and school management software like Skyward.

"All around, we need a better understanding of what we're charging for," Jenner said, adding that a deeper analysis into longitudinal curricular materials spending data is also underway.

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## Ed Dwight was to be the first Black astronaut. At 90, he's getting his due

By JAKE COYLE  
AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Ed Dwight grew up in segregated 1930s Kansas on a farm on the edge of town. An airfield was within walking distance, and, as a boy, he'd often go to marvel at the planes and gawk at the pilots. Most were flying back from hunting trips and their cabins were messy with blood and empty beers cans on the floor.

"They'd say to me, 'Hey kid, would you clean my airplane? I'll give you a dime,'" Dwight, 90, recalls. But when he was 8 or 9, Dwight asked for more than a

dime. He wanted to fly. "My first flight was the most exhilarating thing in the world," says Dwight, smiling. "There were no streets or stop signs up there. You were free as a bird."

It would be years before Dwight entertained the idea of himself becoming a pilot. "It was the white man's domain," he says. But while in college, he saw in a newspaper, above the fold, an image of a downed Black pilot in Korea.

"I said, 'Oh my God, they're letting Black people fly,'" Dwight says. "I went straight to the recruitment office and said, 'I want to fly.'"

With that decision, Dwight set in motion a series of events that would very nearly lead to him being among the first astronauts. As Dwight progressed through the Air Force, he was handpicked by President John F. Kennedy's White House to join Chuck Yeager's test pilot program at Edwards Air Force Base in California's Mojave Desert.

That fabled astronaut breeding ground, site of "The Right Stuff," might have turned Dwight into one of the most famous Americans and the first Black man in space. But at Edwards, Dwight was discriminated against even with Kennedy

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## Magnitude 5.7 earthquake strikes Mauna Loa volcano in Hawaii

By AUDREY McAVOY and JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER  
Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — A magnitude 5.7 earthquake struck the world's largest active volcano on Friday — Mauna Loa on the Big Island of Hawaii — knocking items off shelves and cutting power in a nearby town but not immediately prompting reports of

serious damage.

The earthquake, which didn't cause a tsunami and which the U.S. Geological Survey initially reported as magnitude 6.3, was centered on Mauna Loa's southern flank at a depth of 23 miles, 1.3 miles southwest of Pahala.

"It shook us bad to where it wobbled some knees a little bit," said Derek Nelson, the manager of the Kona Canoe Club restaurant in the

oceanside community of Kona, on the island's western side. "It shook all the windows in the village."

There was a power outage affecting about 300 customers in Naalehu that appeared to be related to the earthquake, said Darren Pai, spokesperson for Hawaiian Electric Company.

The earthquake struck after 10 a.m. local time, less than two hours before an unrelated quake

with a preliminary magnitude of 4.6 shook Southern California.

Mauna Loa last erupted in late 2022. It's one of five volcanoes that make up the Big Island, which is the southernmost in the Hawaiian archipelago.

Earthquakes can occur in Hawaii for a variety of reasons, including magma moving under the surface. In Friday's case, the Hawaiian Volcano Observa-

tory said the likely cause was the weight of the Hawaiian Islands bending and stressing the Earth's crust and upper mantle.

That's what caused a magnitude 6.9 earthquake that struck off Kiholo Bay on the Big Island's northwest coast in 2006. That temblor damaged roads and buildings and knocked out power as far away as Honolulu, on the island

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**Outside**

Small chance of morning rain, breezy all day

Today	Sunday	Monday
High 49	High 43	High 42
Low 30	Low 28	Low 26

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# Recipe of success

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 physical activity, and how to make a delicious adaptation of traditional lasagna.  
 “It tastes good,” Hemmick said. “When you’re talking about coming home from work with three children and need to have supper on the table, it’s manageable.”  
 Hemmick said her version allows for the same great flavor with less of the time consuming, mess-making process the dish typically requires.  
 Hemmick has taught classes in numerous place across the three counties she serves. In Wells County, she has worked with WIC, the Wells County Food Bank, the Boys and Girls Club, Grace and Mercy and Com-

munity and Family Services to name a few. Along with individual meals, part of the four-week curriculum includes lessons on how to plan for meals and how to shop for budget-friendly groceries.  
 “We give them skills to keep them healthy and make sure food is accessible,” Hemmick said. “We serve a demographic of clients that may have limited resources or very little experience in the kitchen. We have recipes that are delicious, budget friendly, nutritious and easy for everyone.”  
 Every lesson includes a recipe, a lesson with handouts, and a physical activity at various levels of difficulty, though all are fairly simple. For example, Hemmick

stood around the kitchen island at Hannah’s House and waved her arm in fluid circles along with the ladies in the house as a movement break.  
 When each class in the program has been completed, Hemmick said participants earn a certificate of completion, a cookbook and a cutting board or similar kitchen gadgets to encourage people to try new recipes.  
 “The lesson is that the more they cook at home, the more nutritious it is,” Hemmick emphasized. “You can teach your children how to be successful in the kitchen as well when you cook at home. And ultimately, it’s not less expensive to eat out when you factor in the cost it has

on your health.”  
 Hemmick referenced a recent visit at Hannah’s House when asked about what she loves about the job. During a lesson about potato soup, one of the women realized they did not have an ingredient and asked if they could substitute other vegetables instead.  
 “It was a cool experience,” Hemmick recalled, the pride evident in her voice. “I was like OK, you are understanding that the recipe is just a guideline. You can tweak it to use what you have. They made this beautiful pot of potato soup and it had so many colors. That’s what it’s all about. When you see someone understand that they can do this.”  
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# School fees

(Continued from Page 1)  
 “How are we best determining what to charge our families ... and make sure we’re very aware of any additional fees beyond what the state is reimbursing.”  
 As such, Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb included in his 2024 agenda a statewide review of curricular materials expenses, following the state’s 2023 commitment to cover textbook fees in K-12 schools.  
 Language in House Bill 1243 so far requires all public schools to participate in an annual statewide survey concerning school fees charged to students or parents. Local officials would have to complete the survey to be eligible to receive a distribution from the statewide curricular materials fund.  
 “I think that it’s a legitimate concern. ... It’s so important to be very transparent about costs, especially. You’ve got to be transparent about quality, and you’ve got to be transparent about access, but costs need to be reported,” the governor said. “And so this is what (the state education department) is working on — making sure that they’re working with schools, and then reporting out, so parents know when it comes to the curriculum that they’re not paying twice.”  
**Indiana tax dollars footing the bill**  
 Until the current school year, Indiana was one of seven states that still allowed districts to charge parents of K-12 students for textbooks.  
 In recent academic years, annual textbook fees for a single Hoosier student averaged from \$80 to \$200. The amount billed varied significantly, however, depending on a student’s grade level and what district they attended.  
 Fees at some schools escalated into the hundreds of dollars per student as course materials transitioned from tra-

ditional books to technology-centered resources like iPads and Chromebook tablets, for example. On top of that, many families continue to dish out additional dollars for school supplies, calculators, sports fees and band rentals.  
 Holcomb’s 2023 agenda called on the legislature to prohibit families from being on the hook for curricular fees and instead require public schools to provide those materials to all students at no cost. Taxpayer dollars already covered the cost of textbooks for students who qualify for free and reduced-price meals.  
 Lawmakers signed on, appropriating \$160 million for the initiative’s inaugural year, based on an estimate of \$150 per student for the state’s 1 million pupils.  
 Under the new process, schools send their curricular expenses to the IDOE. Officials there then take the total and divide it by the number of students statewide. That gives an amount per student that is multiplied by how many students each district has. Then, that amount was sent in one lump sum to individual school districts in December.  
 While the new law was championed by state officials, school districts have since been left trying to figure out what they have to cover and what they don’t — especially when it comes to advanced classes and career development courses.  
 Multiple district administrators told the Capital Chronicle that families have long been charged those added fees, and billing for such continues to be within the realm of the law.  
 As part of its 2024 agenda, the Indiana State Teachers Association has also called for the legislature to earmark more money in the second year of the biennium to “fully fund” the cost of

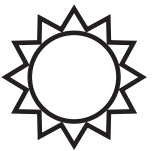
textbooks and curricular materials.  
 Keith Gambill, ISTA’s president, said the union is aware of “several” school districts that are already concerned about their ability to pay for textbooks in the upcoming 2024-25 school year. Gambill said more data needs to be collected before ISTA can recommend an exact dollar for curricular fees.  
 “If schools are forced to either make changes in staffing or other programming in order to fully fund the textbooks, then we’re not getting the best for our students,” he said. “It shouldn’t be upon them — and not born on the backs of school employees — to make that happen.”  
 Gambill said while charter and voucher schools benefited from significant funding boosts in the 2023 session, traditional public schools still lack “appropriate” appropriations.  
**Is spending up?**  
 The curricular materials law itself is somewhat vague, saying public schools must “provide curricular materials to students at no cost,” but that parents can be charged “a reasonable fee for lost or significantly damaged curricular materials.”  
 Last year, IDOE issued guidance to local school officials about what counts as “curriculum materials.”  
 The department defines those as “books; hardware that will be consumed, accessed, or used by a single student during a semester or school year; computer software; and digital content.”  
 That includes one-to-one laptops or tablets given to students in some districts. Materials for advanced placement, dual credit, and career technical education courses — but not dual enrollment courses — also count as curricular materials, according to IDOE.

# Weather

**Saturday, February 10, 2024**  
**(24-hour observations at 10:09 p.m. Friday)**  
**High: 63; Low: 51; Precipitation: None**  
**Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.69 feet at 9:45 p.m. Friday**

## Wells County forecast

**Today:** A 10% chance of showers before 7 a.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 49. Northwest wind 10 to 15 mph.  
**Tonight:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 30. North wind 5 to 10 mph.  
**Sunday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 43. North wind around 5 mph.  
**Sunday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 28. North wind around 5 mph.  
**Monday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 42.  
**Monday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 26.  
**Tuesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 42.  
**Tuesday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 29.  
**Wednesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 41.  
**Wednesday Night:** A chance of rain and snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 29. Chance of precipitation is 30%.  
**Thursday:** A chance of rain and snow. Partly sunny, with a high near 41. Chance of precipitation is 30%.  
**Thursday Night:** A slight chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 27.  
**Friday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 39.



# Primary ballot

(Continued from Page 1)  
 Early voting begins April 9 during the clerk’s office’s regular hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The primary election is on May 7.  
 As of 1:46 p.m. Friday, the following were listed as candidates for state or federal offices in the Wells County Clerk’s Office:  
 • State Representative, District 79 (R): Matthew S. Lehman  
 • State Representative, District 50 (R): Lorissa Sweet and Rob Miller  
 • State Representative, District 50 (D): Joe Swisher  
 • U.S. Representative, District 3 (R): Grant Bucher, Wendy Davis, Mike Felker, Jon Kenworthy, Tim Smith,  
 Marlin A. Stutzman, Eric Whalen and Andy Zay  
 • U.S. Representative, District 3 (D): Kiley M. Adolph, Phil Goss and Thomas A. Schrader  
 • U.S. Senator (R): Jim Banks and John Rust  
 • U.S. Senator (D): Marc Carmichael and Valerie McCray  
 • Governor (R): Mike Braun, Brad Chambers, Suzanne Crouch, Eric Doden, Curtis Hill and Jamie Reitenour  
 • Governor (D): Tamie Dixon-Tatum and Jennifer G. McCormick  
 • U.S. President (R): Nikki R. Haley and Donald J. Trump  
 • U.S. President (D): Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
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# First Black astronaut

(Continued from Page 1)  
 championing him. Dwight eventually departed for civilian life and largely receded from history.  
 But in recent years, Dwight is finally being celebrated. The new National Geographic documentary “The Space Race,” which premieres Monday on National Geographic Channel and streams Tuesday on Disney+ and Hulu, chronicles the stories of Black astronauts — and their first pioneer, Dwight.  
 “When I left, everyone said, ‘Well, that’s over. We got rid of that dude. He’s off the map,’” Dwight said in an interview by Zoom from his home in Denver. “Now it comes back full force as one of these I-didn’t-know stories.”  
 It wasn’t until 1983 that the first African American, Guion Bluford, reached space. But two decades earlier, Dwight found himself at a fulcrum of 20th Century America, where the space race and the struggle for

social justice converged.  
 In “The Space Race,” astronaut Bernard Harris, who became the first Black man to walk in space in 1995, contemplates what a difference it might have made if Dwight had become an astronaut in the tumultuous ‘60s.  
 “Space really allows us to realize the hope that’s within all of us as human beings,” Harris says. “So to see a Black man in space during that period in time, it would have changed things.”  
 “Ed is so important for everyone who’s followed after, to recognize and embrace the shoulders they stand on,” says Lisa Cortés, who directed the film with Diego Hurtado de Mendoza.  
 In 1957, when the Soviet Union launched Sputnik into orbit, it jolted its Cold War rival into action.  
 As the U.S. began pursuing a space program, political leaders were conscious of the image its astronauts could project of American democracy. The first astronauts, the Mercury Seven,

were all male and white.  
 When the Aerospace Research Pilot School was established that November, the White House urged the Air Force to select a Black officer. Only Dwight met the criteria.  
 That November, Dwight received a letter out of the blue inviting him to train to be an astronaut. Kennedy called his parents to congratulate them.  
 Despite reservations, Dwight joined up. He was celebrated on the covers of Black magazines like Jet and Sepia. Hundred of letters hailing him as a hero poured in. But in training, he was treated with hostility by officers.  
 “They were all instructed to give me the cold shoulder,” Dwight says. “Yeager had a meeting with the students and the staff in the auditorium and announced it — that Washington was trying to shove this N-word down our throats.”  
 Yeager, who died in 2020, maintained Dwight

simply wasn’t as good as the other pilots.  
 Dwight was among the 26 potential astronauts recommended to NASA by the Air Force. But in 1963, he wasn’t among the 14 selected. Dwight astronaut future took a more drastic turn when Kennedy was assassinated on Nov. 22, 1963.  
 Ultimately, Dwight was stationed at Wright-Patterson in Ohio in January of 1964. He graduated the program and totaled some 9,000 hours of air time, but never became an astronaut. He left the Air Force in 1966.  
 Asked if he was bitter about his experience, Dwight exclaims, “God no!”

# Earthquake

(Continued from Page 1)  
 of Oahu, about 200 miles to the north.  
 Helen Janiszewski, an assistant professor in the University of Hawaii at Manoa’s Department of Earth Sciences, said the Hawaiian Islands lie on the Pacific oceanic tectonic plate and have some of the world’s biggest volcanoes.  
 “So there’s a huge amount of mass of rock associated with the islands and because of that, it’s actually enough to slightly displace the Pacific oceanic plate beneath the islands,” she said. “And that force causes earthquakes sometimes.”

This type of earthquake tends to occur several tens of kilometers beneath the Earth’s surface in the mantle, Janiszewski said. Quakes caused by moving magma tend to hit more shallow depths.  
 The observatory said Friday’s earthquake didn’t affect either Mauna Loa or a neighboring volcano, Kilauea.  
 There were no immediate reports of damage to telescopes on the summit of Mauna Kea, another nearby volcano that has some of the world’s most advanced observatories for studying the night sky.

Jessica Ferracane, a spokesperson at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, said there was no apparent damage to its roads or visitor centers. Earthquakes are not uncommon, she said, but this one was “much more intense” than usual.  
 The Hawaiian Islands have been built by successive volcanic eruptions over millions of years. The vast majority of earthquakes in Hawaii occur on and around the Big Island. About once every 1.5 years, there is an earthquake in the state that is magnitude 5 or greater, according to the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory.



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OBITUARIES

Hannah Mari Davis, 18

Hannah Mari Davis, 18, of Ossian, passed away on Wednesday morning, Feb. 7, 2024, at her home.

She was born on Aug. 18, 2005, in Fort Wayne to Harbert "Jim" M. Davis, IV, and Mayumi (Hamano) Davis. Hannah was a sophomore at Bluffton High School. Her laughter and huge smile were contagious, and she always shared them with everyone around her. She loved being around people, listening to music, and going for walks.

She is survived by her parents Harbert "Jim" and Mayumi Davis, IV, of Ossian, along with her siblings, Jessica Davis, Mary Davis, Emily Davis and Harbert "Jimmy" M. Davis, V. She is also survived by her grandparents, Hideo and Yoshie Hamano of Japan, aunts and cousins.

She is preceded in death by her grandparents, Harbert M. and Mary Davis, III.



Visitation will take place from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 12, 2024, at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.

Funeral services will take place at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2024, at the funeral home with the Rev. Lyle Breeding officiating, with visitation for one hour prior to the service.

Burial will take place on Tuesday afternoon at Elm Ridge Memorial Park located in Muncie.

Memorials may be made in Hannah's memory to Easter Seals ARC of Northeast Indiana and can be directed to the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can share online condolences with Hannah's family at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com).

Holcomb deploys Indiana National Guard to Texas border

By LESLIE BONILLA MUÑIZ  
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Under pressure from fellow Republicans, Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb on Friday announced he would deploy 50 Indiana National Guard soldiers to Texas' border with Mexico, "effective immediately."

He previously joined a dozen other governors at the border for a news conference, during which Texas Gov. Greg Abbott promised to expand his border strategy.

"Federal negligence enforcing immigration law and the failure to secure our country's border jeopardizes national and economic security, affecting every state, including Indiana," Holcomb said in a news release.

"We've worked too hard in Indiana attacking the drug epidemic for more Hoosier lives to be put at risk by a constant supply of killer drugs spilled over an open U.S. border," he added. "The only way to resolve this is to stop the historically high flow of illegal immigrants crossing the border."

Abbott and a growing number of Republican governors say President Joe Biden's administration isn't doing enough to stem the flow of unauthorized migrants. Texas and the federal government are clashing over a recent U.S. Supreme Court order on razor wire, access to a park along the border and more.

States like Arkansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Virginia previously or currently had their own guard soldiers deployed in Texas, according to a recent Newsweek article.

Holcomb noted he was sending 50 soldiers after a "recent direct request" from Abbott.

The soldiers are mobilizing now, he said, and will have a week of training at Camp Atterbury on the "operations of the mission." They're expected to arrive in Texas in mid-March and will deploy for 10 months.

Holcomb added that he's had about 300 soldiers collectively deployed to Texas multiple times during his time in office for "various federal missions."

Indiana Capital Chronicle requested projected costs of the mission, from salary of the guardsmen to housing and food costs. But Major V. Gino Georgetti, director of Strategic Communications/Public Affairs of the Indiana National Guard, didn't answer the question.

"The Indiana National Guard is uniquely trained, equipped and capable of mobilizing whenever and wherever called upon. As directed by the Governor, Hoosier Guardsmen are preparing immediately to mobilize to support the Texas National Guard on their border mission. The state has sufficient funds to support the mobilization. Additional details are not available at this time."

The move came after pressure from other Republicans, including a "demand" from gubernatorial candidate Curtis Hill, a former state attorney general. Holcomb is term-limited and is not in the race.

Others lauded his decision on Friday.

"I fully support Governor Holcomb's decision to send members of our state's committed and hardworking National Guard to support Texas and their efforts to stop the wave of illegal immigration and drugs into their state and ultimately to the rest of our country," powerful Indiana House Speaker Todd Huston said in a statement. "The men and women in our guard are always ready to answer the call of duty, and I'm proud that Indiana is among the states to stand up against the Biden Administration's dangerous and open border policies."

Senate President Pro Tempore Rodric Bray similarly said he was "supportive" of the move, calling out a "profound lack of leadership" within the federal government and asserting gratefulness to guard soldiers.

State companies band together on health care reform

By WHITNEY DOWNARD  
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Fifteen Indiana businesses, including major employers and health care entities, announced a coalition Thursday to tackle health care reform, reduce costs and bolster the workforce.

Dubbed the Indiana Business Health Collaborative, the partnership has five guiding principles: collaboration, competition, education, commitment and results. Former U.S. Rep. Luke Messer, a longtime politician, will lead the group as its chief executive.

"Hoosier businesses, colleges and universities, and the health care industry have spoken: driving better health outcomes for our state will require open collaboration between all stakeholders," said Messer in a statement. "Successfully addressing health care affordability in Indiana, without compromising quality or access to critical services that countless Hoosiers depend on, will require a market-based approach.

The Indiana Business Health Collaborative will unite businesses and health care industry stakeholders to craft market solutions geared towards maintaining a healthy workforce and bolstering the state's economic competitiveness."

Currently, the IBHC includes the following: Eli Lilly and Company, Indy Chamber, Beacon Health System, Zotec Partners, Community Health Systems, University of Notre Dame, Community Health Network, Good Samaritan, Ivy Tech Community College, Baptist Health Floyd, Cummins Inc., Suburban Health Organization, Indiana Farm Bureau, The Horton Group, and Managed Health Services.

Eli Lilly, one of the state's largest employers, emphasized the need to increase affordability without sacrificing quality.

Various health systems noted the need to make sure health care reform was sustainable for local hospitals, many of which are the largest employers in their communities.

Bluffton Parks & Rec News & Notes



By Brandy Fiechter

Destination Recreation

Attention, fellas, if you haven't checked the calendar lately, Wednesday is Valentine's Day! Next week is also National Random Acts of Kindness Week, which encourages us to put kindness first and share it everywhere we go. Not only does being kind to someone else lift them up but there are also benefits for you. Being kind makes you happier, is good for your heart, increases your self-esteem, and helps you live longer. Be the unexpected gift to someone this coming week with your kind words and gestures.

If you want to do something fun with the kids, next weekend is the annual Daddy-Daughter Dance and the Mother-Son Nerf War event. Admission prices go up the day of the event, so be sure to stop by the Park office next week or sign up online at either <https://raceroster.com/events/2024/82662/daddy-daughter-dance> or <https://raceroster.com/events/2024/83337/mother-son-nerf-wars>. The Nerf War will be from 2-3:30 p.m., and the Daddy-Daughter Dance is scheduled for 6-8 p.m. Both events are being held at the 4-H community building. Details about the programs are on the Bluffton Parks Facebook page.

If winter seems long and you want something fun to look forward to, I'm happy to announce that the Kehoe Concert Committee has selected this season's performers. This year, we will mark our 33rd year of this series. We are still in the process of working out the contracts, but we wanted to give you a quick view of what to look forward to. Drum roll, please...

- Friday Concerts from 8-10 p.m.
- June 7 — Bayou County — CCR Tribute — <http://tinyurl.com/bderfww7>
- June 14 — Mellencougar — A John Mellencamp Tribute <https://mellencougarband.com/video>

- June 28 — Def Leggend—Def Leppard Tribute <http://tinyurl.com/3t6vr8us>
- July 12 — Hotel California — Eagles Tribute <https://hotelcalifornia.ca/>
- July 26 — The Insiders — Tom Petty Tribute <http://tinyurl.com/3d457tte>
- Aug. 2 — Woomblies Rock Orchestra — <http://tinyurl.com/3rt9uf2r>
- Sunday TBA — Community Worship Celebration (Southern Wells Community Church)

This concert series has established itself as a top-rated attraction, drawing visitors from surrounding areas to Bluffton to enjoy an evening show along the banks of the Wabash. This highly anticipated program also has a reputation for featuring quality bands with expert musicianship. We enjoy bringing talent from across the country and even internationally.

Our department is diligently seeking sponsors and donations for the 2024 series. These high-quality tribute band entertainers require a substantial fee to travel to Bluffton. If your business, club, or organization would like to donate to this fantastic event, please get in touch with us at [parks@blufftonindiana.gov](mailto:parks@blufftonindiana.gov).

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!

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

County:

Thursday, 5:47 p.m., East Main Street and South Meridian Road, Poneto. Driver cited for speeding 72 in a 55 mph zone.

Thursday, 7:16 p.m., 7000 East Market Street, Craigville. Report of people trespassing.

Friday, 5:15 a.m., Silo Farms. Subject gave officer consent to search residence for girlfriend. Drugs

and paraphernalia in plain view, subject tested positive for methamphetamine and amphetamines.

Friday, 9:25 a.m., 5300 East 300 North, Craigville. Caller reported fraudulent charges on debit card.

Ossian: Thursday, 2:18 p.m., 1600 East 400 North, Ossian. Officer requested to stand by for property retrieval.

Thursday, 4:52 p.m., North 450 East and East

1200 North, Ossian. Report of a man walking and throwing clothes in roadway.

ARRESTS

Destine Angel Martinez, 26, Poneto; possession of a hypodermic needle and possession of cocaine or narcotic drug, both Level 6 felonies, and possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia, both misdemeanors. Bond set at \$11,500.

Aunt Millie's Bakeries office relocates

Aunt Millie's Bakeries is pleased to announce the relocation of their corporate headquarters to the former Star Bank headquarters building located at 6230 Bluffton Rd. in Fort Wayne by the end of April 2024.

"It is a little bittersweet in that we've been at 350 Pearl St. in Fort Wayne since I was eight years old, but Aunt Millie's is not a building — it's our people that make our company," President and CEO John F. Popp said.

The new building will better fit the needs of Aunt

Millie's as it continues to grow.

"The building is 47,000 square feet, almost twice our current office space, and will allow us to build a state-of-the-art innovation lab that is three times the size of our current R&D lab," Executive Vice President Bohm Popp said.

"Of course, many people ask about the Sunbeam billboard on the building," John F. Popp said. "Aunt Millie's has retained ownership of the sign, and Surak Real Estate has graciously agreed to let it remain on the cur-

rent building for a period of time. At some point, if they decide it no longer fits their plans, we will gladly remove it and relocate it to a place that is permitted by the city and zoning officials."

VISITATION & SERVICES

Steven A. Wagner

Calling: 11 a.m. — 5 p.m., Sunday, February 11 at the funeral home and one hour prior to the service at the church.

Rosary Service: 5 p.m. Sunday, February 11 at the funeral home.

Mass of Christian Burial: 11 a.m. Monday, February 12 at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home

308 W. Washington St. 824-3850 [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com)

Corrections and clarifications

Wells County Briefs in Friday's edition contained a typo — the Wells County Commissioners heard a request about Zanesville Lions Club Park, not Zionsville, on Monday.

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## Dinner with a rock star

Larisa and I were on vacation last week with our best friends. I hadn't planned to write about it — 10 people hanging around a pool with drinks in hand isn't all that interesting — it was, however, exactly what we needed.

Our group is full of outgoing, friendly people. One person from each couple graduated high school with me. We have been friends as far back as second grade. Knowing each other for so long, we've heard most of each other's stories. Probably more than once. Fortunately, this group is great at creating new memories.

We've had some amazing experiences along the way. At the top of our list — we witnessed baby sea turtles hatch, crawl out of their beach nest and instinctively head toward the sea. You can't plan to watch something like that. It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. A lot of our new stories come from the people we meet on vacation.

Last week was no different.

We usually gravitate toward people our own age but Jack and Rhonda, a couple in their mid-80s, stole our hearts early in the week. Jack struggled physically, his legs gave out long ago, but they were both witty with sharp, young minds. We befriended them immediately and included them in our shenanigans as much as possible.

Jack and Rhonda aren't the rock stars mentioned above, but they deserved to be mentioned.

Late in the week, new people started showing up at the resort. One of them was obviously different from the rest. He wore all black. His hair was long and dyed jet black. He wore a black hat and dark shades everywhere. He had more rings than he had fingers, many were gaudy. He had tattoos everywhere. He was unmistakably from the 80's hair band era. My era.

He and his much younger female companion kept to themselves. They obviously weren't there to make new friends.

Challenge accepted.

For no apparent reason we had to know what his story was and began working on him immediately.

The first day he barely spoke to us despite our best efforts. We tried again. And again.

On our last full day we noticed he was wearing what looked to be a Super Bowl ring so we asked about it.

The flood gates broke open.

Johnny started talking.

He was more than happy to talk about the ring. It was a gift from his friend, Rod Martin, a linebacker for the Raiders during Super Bowl XV. He passed the ring around. Super Bowl rings are surprisingly heavy. Martin had three interceptions in that 1981 game. Johnny argued that his friend had been robbed of the MVP by Jim Plunkett. I vaguely remembered the game but my friend John, a football savant, dove headfirst into the MVP discussion.

Johnny has a house in Las Vegas — his weekend place. 5,800 square feet. He is staying there this weekend to hang out with his Raider friends, including Mark Davis, who owns the club. He name dropped NFL legend Franco Harris for good measure.

It was obvious that he wasn't bragging or making any of it up.

Johnny unintentionally let it slip that he had been in a band and had toured all over the world.

We knew there was a story in there somewhere.

Johnny and I ended up talking one-on-one for 30 minutes. I still had no idea who he was.

We talked about the grind of touring and he filled me in on a typical day on the road. Other than the actual concert, it was much less glamorous than you'd think.

There were also plenty of sordid details that I promised not to share in print.

We had conquered our challenge and moved on to making plans for dinner.

Unexpectedly, Johnny and Monique wanted to join us. Who would've guessed they were interested in hanging out with us?

Our new friend Johnny Lucas isn't anyone you've likely heard of. I know I hadn't. He played lead guitar for the band Kottak, whose founder, James Kottak, died unexpectedly early this year. Kottak had also been the drummer for the Scorpions, a band I am very familiar with, and was married to Athena Lee, sister of Mötley Crüe drummer Tommy Lee.

Look who's name dropping now.

Johnny repeatedly told us that the Rock and Roll lifestyle isn't easy. He told us early on that he was in his 70s before admitting that he was only 56, roughly the same age as us. It was easier to believe that he was 70 by appearances.

Each night at dinner the group discussion includes deep questions about our marriages, hopes and dreams. Despite the vastly different lives we lead compared to Johnny and Monique, they were active participants in the conversation.

Dinner lasted nearly two hours. The longer we talked the more we realized that our vastly different lives really weren't all that different.

Except I don't have Ozzy Osbourne's phone number in my contacts.

After dinner we all walked back to our rooms. Johnny and Monique's room was right next to one of ours so we ducked around a corner to get away. As nice as he was, a little bit of Johnny was plenty for us. Our detour led us right by our friends Jack and Rhonda, who were eating a late dinner. They shared with us how much we had meant to them that week. The feeling was mutual.

We stopped nearby to be sure the coast was clear from Johnny.

It was then we learned that Rhonda had confided to our doctor friend that Jack has terminal cancer. He has months left to live. She wanted to tell us but didn't want Jack to know. We stood in silence, tears rolled down a few faces. A few went back for one last goodbye.

On our way home we reflected on the week. Baby sea turtles will always be at the top of our list but we added a brand new number two.

It wasn't Johnny.

Jack and Rhonda were special. Knowing that we were a small part of their remaining days during was precious to all of us. We pray for them and the terrifying journey these upcoming months will bring.

We learned a lot about ourselves and who we want to be last week.

I never wanted to be rock star.

Today I am reassured that my path has been the right one for me. I'll take a lifetime Jack and Rhonda over the alternative.

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Doug Brown



## Forget about a second term. Is Biden fit to be president right now?

Special counsel Robert K. Hur, in a devastating 345-page report on his investigation into President Biden's mishandling of classified documents, concludes that Biden "willfully retained and disclosed classified materials." But that is not his report's real bombshell. Far more damaging is the picture it paints, in explaining Hur's decision not to prosecute, of Biden as suffering from "diminished faculties" and "significant limitations" on his memory. So much so, the report says, that jurors would be unlikely to convict Biden because they would find him "a sympathetic, well-meaning, elderly man with a poor memory."

Most of us can judge Biden's mental fitness only by his many struggles in public appearances - most recently forgetting the name "Hamas" while trying for about 30 painful seconds to articulate the state of hostage negotiations, referring to his recent meeting with a French president who died in 1996, and claiming to have discussed the Capitol riot with German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who died nearly four years before it took place.

We are left to wonder: If the president is this diminished in public, what is he like behind closed doors?

Well, the special counsel office's report draws back the curtain and shows us. Based on its review of dozens of hours of recorded conversations between Biden, his ghostwriter, Mark Zwonitzer, and "on our direct interactions with and observations of him" during interviews with Justice Department lawyers, a deeply troubling picture emerges a man who at times seems incapable of conducting basic conversations.

"Mr. Biden's memory ... appeared to have significant limitations," Hur writes, "both at the time he spoke to Zwonitzer in 2017, as evidenced by their recorded conversations, and today, as evidenced by his recorded interview with our office." The recorded conversations with the ghostwriter "are often painfully slow, with Mr. Biden struggling to remember events and straining at times to read and relay his own notebook entries."

"In his interview with our office, Mr. Biden's memory was worse," Hur continues. Biden "did not remember when he was vice president, forgetting on the first day of the interview when his term ended ('if it was 2013 - when did I stop being Vice President?'), and forgetting on the second day of the interview when his term began ('in 2009, am I still Vice President?'). He did not remember, even within several years, when his son Beau died."

The report adds that Biden's "memory appeared hazy when describing the Afghanistan debate that was once so important to him," adding that "among other things, he mistakenly said he 'had a real difference' of opinion with General Karl Eikenberry, when, in fact, Eikenberry was an ally whom Mr. Biden cited approvingly in his Thanksgiving memo to President Obama."

Hur concludes that jurors would likely find "Mr. Biden's apparent lapses and failures" in sharing classified information with his ghostwriter in 2017 "consistent with the diminished faculties and faulty memory he showed in Zwonitzer's interview recordings and in our interview of him."

As a columnist without a medical degree, I am in no position to diagnose Biden, and neither are most Americans. But we see what we see - how his gait has stiffened and his ability to answer simple questions

has declined. Which is why multiple polls show that 76 percent of American voters believe Biden is too old to effectively serve another term as president and 54 percent say he no longer has "the competence to carry out the job of president."

That was based on his public appearances. But the special counsel's description of his private interactions raises these concerns to Defcon 1. If the president is this confused in his meetings with Justice Department lawyers, how bad are his interactions with world leaders or his meetings with his own national security officials in the Situation Room? During the disastrous U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan in August 2021, Biden falsely claimed that none of his military advisers had recommended leaving a residual force of 2,500 troops, only to have those military leaders testify that they had in fact given him that advice. Did he lie, or did he simply not recall what they had told him? Which is worse?

A few weeks ago, much of Washington was outraged by a defense secretary who failed to disclose a serious medical condition and undermined the military chain of command. Well, now we have reason to be concerned about the man at the top of that chain of command.

Biden's news conference Thursday, in which he angrily defended his mental acuity ("I'm well-meaning, and I'm an elderly man, and I know what the hell I'm doing") only made things worse. He referred to President Abdel Fatah El-Sisi of Egypt as the "president of Mexico" and claimed the special counsel never said that he shared classified information when Hur's report said he "disclosed classified materials."

In trying to rebut the report's assertions, Biden pointed out that his five hours of interviews with the Justice Department across two days came as he was "managing an international crisis." The first of the interviews came one day after Hamas's Oct. 7 terrorist attack on Israel - and the special counsel's report said Biden displayed "diminished faculties and faulty memory." Can Americans afford to have a president with diminished faculties managing an international crisis?

The president's closest aides protect him, and foreign leaders wouldn't publicly reveal any concerns about their discussions with him, for fear of damaging relations with the United States. But the special counsel has shown us Biden behind the scenes. If the president is "struggling to remember events" during his "painfully slow" interactions with others, how can he effectively conduct diplomacy or make decisions on matters of peace and security?

There are wars raging in Europe and the Middle East; U.S. forces are under attack in Iraq, Syria and the Red Sea; the risk of war in the Pacific is growing; and rising numbers of people on the FBI's terrorist watch list are trying to slip into the United States by illegally crossing the southern border. And apparently the commander in chief dealing with these overlapping crises is a "well-meaning, elderly man with a poor memory."

We're now beyond concern about whether Biden is fit to serve a second term; we should be concerned about whether he is fit to finish his first.

Follow Marc A. Thiessen @marcthiessen on X



Marc Thiessen

## ... because his deterioration should be off stage

Videos of Joe Biden not knowing where he is or saying he just met with a French president who died 25 years ago are not so funny anymore.

They're tragic. And I can't help feeling embarrassed and sorry for the president.

It angers me to see him dodder out in public almost every other day and make a mumbling and confused fool of himself.

Biden's clearly been in the early stages of dementia for several years and there's no pill or treatment he can take that will ever make him better.

In the 1990s I watched my father's mental decline for years, but I never had to feel embarrassed for him because it happened entirely in private.

After my father told the country in a letter in 1994 that he had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease, Nancy brought him home where he was surrounded for the rest of his life by family and friends — and no media.

She was wise enough to know when to take my father off the world stage. She didn't put him into a rest home where people might see him or take his photo.

She wanted to protect his mem-



Michael Reagan

ory. She wanted him to be remembered the way he was when he was a vital and witty world leader, not the way he was when he was sliding into mental and physical decline.

Biden's wife Jill, the rest of the Biden family and the Democrat Party people who supposedly love and care for him ought to be ashamed of themselves.

They are allowing the whole world — including the leaders of countries that do not like us — to watch the daily deterioration of our president.

Joe Biden is already on the road to Alzheimer's. Nearly 7 million Americans already have it. It's a terrible disease that has no cure.

But his wife Jill, his Democrat Party handlers and the major media who ignore or downplay it have only one thing on their mind — defeating Trump and the MAGA Republicans in the fall.

He faked his way through the 2020 election by hiding in his basement, but Democrats know he'll never be able to pull off that trick again, even with the help of liberal media again.

So to protect Biden from betraying how much he has declined, Demo-

crats have made sure there are no primaries or debates he has to participate in.

They aren't even going to let him give the traditional three-minute Super Bowl interview this weekend because they're so afraid someone in the media might ask him a question about Hamas.

They just hope they can keep shoving an old man with a broken memory on stage to read words that no longer make much sense to him — and then whisking him off before he gives an embarrassing answer to any question he's asked.

You'd think Joe's wife would want him to be remembered as he was when he was a senator or the vice president. But it's too late for that.

People are going to remember him as he is now — an elderly man with a poor memory and confused mind.

My father was honest enough to write us a letter and tell us he had Alzheimer's. He knew when it was time to get off the stage.

Nancy protected my father to the end so people would remember him the way we do now, the way he was — as a great president and as a human being.

God bless Nancy. Too bad Jill didn't take a lesson from her.

Reagan@caglecartoons.com

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1970 S.-800E., Bluffton  
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630 E. Dustman Rd.  
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**ASBURY CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST**  
8013 W.-1100S.-90, Montpelier  
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.

**BETHEL**  
(Independent Bible)  
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**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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3467 S 600 W, Liberty Center  
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**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).

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

**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.

**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.

**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, Communion. 11 a.m. - Valentines lunch.

**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

**FAITHFUL FRIENDS**  
Depending on age, interests, and your place along this journey called "life," friendship very likely means something different to every reader.

For some, friendship means shared interests or hobbies. Others are unconcerned that the connection between a fellow human being has similarities and instead relish the differences which create fascinating conversations and times together.

And on the flip side, what makes YOU a good candidate for friendship with a colleague, classmate, or neighbor?

This pondering of friendship comes after the unexpected passing of a long-time friend and beloved former colleague this week. As I considered the impact of our relationship through the years, I remembered some of the habits he modeled.

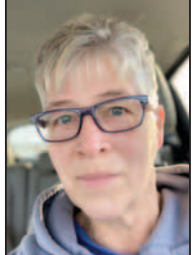
**THE KITCHEN TIMER:** Building faithful friendships requires intentionality. Jesus told His followers that loving others is a command (John 15:12-15) and expectation for those who claim to love God (1 John 4:20). My former colleague often began meetings by setting a timer to remind both of us that we had other commitments. He valued and respected the gift of time, making a point to reach out with intentionality.

**THE BOOMING VOICE:** Building faithful friendships requires forgiveness. Colossians 3:12-14 reminds believers that we above all others should realize the necessity of offering forgiveness. After all, God — in Christ — has forgiven us far more wrongs that are done to us. My sweet friend was always ready to welcome new staff and students to the building, sometimes with a shouted, "HELLO!" down the hallway. If he held unkind thoughts from previous behaviors, it was never evident in the thoughtful, kind words he shared.

**THE WELL-TIMED PHONE CALL:** Building faithful friendships requires patience. Lasting trust is built over time. True love and friendship cannot be forced. Even with daily interactions at work, occasionally a timely message found its way to my cell phone, asking for a response. Although he disliked many of the modern technological "gadgets," my respected friend was willing to leave a message about a shared responsibility.

Consider your own friendships. Determine to be patient, intentional, and forgiving. These are the hallmarks of our most faithful friends.

*mpaxson99@yahoo.com*



by Martha Paxson

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

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

**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.

**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.

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

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

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

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

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

**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.

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

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

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

**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  
riverofflifebluffton.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.

**ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC**  
1300 N. Main St.  
Saturday: 7:45 a.m. - Prayer. 8 a.m. - Mass. 8:30 - Rosary. 4 p.m. or by appointment - Confessions. 5 p.m. - Mass. Sunday: 7:30 & 10 a.m. - Mass.

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

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

**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.

**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.

**UNIONTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
11419 N-200W, Ossian  
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 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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# Green lifts Bluffton to win over Norseman

By ANDREW FEEBACK

Kaleb Green gave the Bluffton Tigers the spark they needed Friday night, and his play down the stretch helped the home team pick up a 45-38 win over the Northfield Norsemen.

Bluffton (10-9) started strong, but became a bit stagnant toward the middle of the game.

An eight-point early lead was still five at the half, but three-pointers from Northfield's Carter Rodgers and Jaden Baer allowed the Norsemen (5-14) to hang around.

It was 27-24 at the 2:54 mark when Bluffton coach Craig Teagle, clearly frustrated, called a timeout.

"I felt like they had outplayed us and out-toughed us for about three quarters," he said. "They were getting loose balls, they were getting offensive rebounds, and I felt on the offensive end, we were doing too much one-on-one stuff. We weren't playing together, making the extra pass, doing the things that we have to do to be successful. I thought we did a pretty good job from that point of settling in and playing better."

Northfield came within a point when Baer stepped inside the arc for a jumper moments later.

A bucket from Declan Grieser had the Tigers up

29-26, and then Green began to make his impact.

He hit a three-pointer from the wing as the third quarter ended to push the lead to six, then threw down a one-handed dunk on a breakaway early in the fourth quarter that got the attention of everyone.

"Huge in the second half," Teagle said. "I thought he played outstanding. He made some nice moves in the post, and hit a really big three for us too. He let the game come to him. We had three guys in double figures, with (Axton), Tucker and Kaleb. That's what we need; if you have three guys in double figures, you're a lot harder to guard."

Green hit another three later on to push the lead to 39-29, and the Tigers kept it around the 10-point mark for the remainder of the contest.

Northfield made 8-18 from deep to keep it interesting late with Rodgers and Baer both hitting four. They each made two in the fourth quarter.

"Our gameplan was to key on (number) one and (number) two," Teagle said, referring to Rodgers and Baer, who finished with 14 and 16 points, respectively. "We didn't execute the game plan as well as we needed to, but give them credit too, they ran good offense, and they hit shots."

Bluffton also got 10

points each from Axton Beste and Tucker Jenkins.

The Tigers will travel to Belmont next Friday night.

The junior varsity game went to Bluffton, 45-26. Nolan Lambert and Eli Bertsch both scored 11 points while Ben Maggard had eight.

The freshman Tigers won 50-4, with Heath Johnson scoring 12 points, Chanley Shaw adding 10 and Max White chipping in eight.

sports@news-banner.com

## BLUFFTON 45, NORTHFIELD 38 At Bluffton

**NORTHFIELD (5-14):** Carter Rodgers 5-7 0-1 14, Jaden Baer 6-10 0-0 16, Ryder Schram 0-1 0-0 0, Jake Perny 1-3 0-2 2, Tyson Baer 0-2 0-0 0, Ty Leming 1-7 0-2 2, Blake Aderman 0-0 0-0 0, Parker Oswald 0-2 0-2 0, Eli Shoue 0-0 0-0 0, Caleb DuBois 0-0 0-0 0, Josh Boring 0-0 0-0 0, Isaac Burkhardt 2-2 0-1 4. TOTALS: 15-34 0-8 38.

**BLUFFTON (10-9):** Nolan Lambert 0-1 0-0 0, Andrew Hunt 1-3 0-0 3, Elijah Garrett 0-2 0-0 0, Hunter Wenger 0-0 0-0 0, Cameron Williams 0-0 0-0 0, Tucker Jenkins 4-8 2-4 10, Jude Baumgartner 0-0 0-0 0, Axton Beste 3-6 2-2 10, Declan Grieser 2-2 1-1 5, Jared Moser 0-0 0-0 0, Kaleb Green 7-9 1-2 17, Benjamin Maggard 0-0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 17-31 6-9 45.

Northfield 8 8 10 12 — 38  
Bluffton 13 8 11 13 — 45

**Three-point Field Goals:** Northfield 8-18 (Rodgers 4-4, Jaden Baer 4-7, Leming 0-3, Tyson Baer 0-2, Oswald 0-1, Schram 0-1), Bluffton 5-12 (Green 2-2, Beste 2-4, Hunt 1-2, Jenkins 0-2, Lambert 0-1, Garrett 0-1). Rebounds: Northfield 13 (Perny 4, Burkhardt 2, Oswald 2, Rodgers 2, Leming 2, Jaden Baer 1), Bluffton 21 (Beste 7, Green 7, Jenkins 2, Hunt 2, Williams 1, Garrett 1, Wenger 1). Turnovers: Northfield 8, Bluffton 9. Fouls: Northfield 14, Bluffton 11. Fouled out: None. Technicals: None. JV: Bluffton 45, Northfield 26. Freshman: Bluffton 50, Northfield 4.

## High School Calendar

### SATURDAY, FEB. 10

**GIRLS BASKETBALL:** (Regional final) Norwell vs. Benton Central at Caston High School, 4 p.m.

**WRESTLING:** (Semi-State) Norwell, Bluffton, Southern Wells at War Memorial Coliseum (Fort Wayne), 8:30 a.m.

### MONDAY, FEB. 12

No events scheduled.

### TUESDAY, FEB. 13

**BOYS BASKETBALL:** Southern Wells at North Miami, 7:30 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, FEB. 14

No events scheduled.

### THURSDAY, FEB. 15

**SWIMMING & DIVING:** (Sectional, boys

only) preliminary rounds, Norwell and Bluffton at Jay County, 5:30 p.m.

### FRIDAY, FEB. 16

**BOYS BASKETBALL:** Jay County at Norwell, 7:45 p.m.; Bluffton at Belmont, 7:30 p.m.

### SATURDAY, FEB. 17

**BOYS BASKETBALL:** Norwell at Concordia, 7:30 p.m.; Mississinewa at Bluffton, 7:30 p.m.

**SWIMMING & DIVING:** (Sectional, boys only) Norwell and Bluffton at Jay County, 1 p.m.

### MONDAY, FEB. 19

No events scheduled.

### TUESDAY, FEB. 20

**BOYS BASKETBALL:** Southern Wells at Wes-Del, 7:30 p.m.



Bluffton junior Kaleb Green slams the ball through the hoop during the second half of Friday night's non-conference game against Northfield. The Tigers defeated the Norseman 45-38. (Photo by Chad Kline)

# Knights' big scoring run leads them over Vikings

By RYAN WALKER

**HUNTINGTON** — Norwell had to sweat out another game, but prevailed in a 48-46 nail-bitter at Huntington North Friday night.

This was the Knights' (11-8, 5-2 NE8) 10th game decided by single digits, and the fifth of their last seven games. But this one and Tuesday against Heritage resulted in victories, finishing the Northeast 8 Conference with a 5-2 record.

"We've been pretty good at closing out close games — we were able to close this one out," Norwell head coach Mike McBride said after the game. "It would have been nice to find a way to do it a little bit more sharply, but we're not going to give it back or anything to take it."

The two-point win was aided by a wake-up call timeout in the second half. Norwell went down 31-19 following the Vikings (5-14, 2-5 NE8) back-to-back threes by Zach Nash, his third, and Titus Schultz, his second only 45 seconds in the third quarter.

McBride's timeout, according to him, was to make two things clear — One, to clear out the paints with the Vikings' stellar help defense, and two, better face-guarding

on their guards.

Those words worked like a charm instantly. Asthon Federspiel on the possession after the timeout, then Kaedyn Quintanilla picked off his third steal of the night for an easy two.

This time, it was Huntington North's head coach using the timeout, and he had to blow another one shortly after when the Knights went on an 8-0 run.

On the other side of the floor, the Vikings were stumped offensively, turning the ball over and giving the Knights seven points off turnovers in the half.

"I really challenged him to step up their defensive intensity on-ball pressure, and they get a lot better job of that they contested shots a lot better," McBride said. "So I thought defensively, we amped that up, and then we tried to push some things in transition. I thought that those were the biggest changes that we made."

What once was a double-digit lead 6:43 left in the third quarter became a tie game with 1:51 left.

Schultz's three-ball at the end of the period gave the Vikings a very uncomfortable

(Continued on Page 7)



Norwell's Kaedyn Quintanilla (middle) drives to the cup past Huntington North defenders Dalton Husband (left) and Zach Nash Friday night at Huntington North. Quintanilla's three steals and spark plug on offense led the Knights to a 48-46 win over the Vikings, finishing the Northeast 8 Conference season at 5-2. (Photo by Ryan Walker)

# Warriors top Raiders to finish out ACAC season

By RICK SPRUNGER

A strong second half led visiting Woodlan to a 66-44 win over Southern Wells in the final Allen County Athletic Conference game of the season for both clubs Friday night.

An 11-0 Warrior run midway through the third quarter turned a precarious 29-26 Warrior advantage into 40-26 control.

The win upped Woodlan's record to 11-7 in all games and 4-2 in conference play. Southern Wells fell to 6-12 overall and 1-5 in the league.

Woodlan used its inside-outside combination of 6-6 Trey Yoder and 6-2 Braden Smith to perfection against Southern Wells.

Yoder scored 27 points on 12-for-18 shooting from the field while pulling down 12 rebounds, and Smith added 18 points on 7-for-10

shooting to pace the Warriors.

"They (Woodlan) present problems with their athleticism that not many other teams can," said Southern Wells coach Joel Roush after the game. "They have length, they have height, and they're just really, really good. They would isolate two guys on a side and make us choose to defend either a layup or a three-pointer."

Woodlan's two big guns each scored four points in that third-quarter surge that gave the Warriors separation.

Chandler Oswald had just hit a three-pointer from the top of the key to keep Southern Wells close at 29-26.

Oliver Adams then canned one of two free throws, and Yoder and Smith went to work.

Smith drove the left side for a bucket, and Yoder knifed through the lane for another.

Luke Meyer got into the act with another drive before Yoder scored from underneath and Smith was perfect on two more free throws.

Southern Wells, meanwhile, was coming up empty on six straight possessions, three of them turnovers.

The Raiders still were not done, however. They crept back to within 44-36 at the outset of the fourth quarter to stay in it.

But another 12-0 Warrior burst proved to be the crusher as they extended their lead to 56-36. And right in the middle of that run was Yoder, who stepped behind the arc and drilled a pair of three-pointers on consecutive possessions.

Smith also penetrated the Southern Wells zone for two buckets of his own during that spree.

After C.J. Reber finally broke a string of four straight scoreless possession for the Raiders with a five-footer in the lane, Yoder hit his third straight triple to make it 59-38 with 4:50 left.

Southern Wells had stayed right with Woodlan through the first half and into the second. The Raiders battled back from early deficits of 12-2 and 14-4 to earn a 20-20 tie on a three-pointer by Andrew Aker.

Moments later, another three, this one from Caleb Johnson, gave Southern Wells its only lead of the game, 23-22.

Woodlan scored the last four points of the first half and the first three of the second to go in front 29-23

the last two of those points coming on a steal and layup by Smith.

"I thought for two and a half quarters we played some of the best defense we've played all year," said Roush later. "But we started losing guys in the second half. When you play a zone against a team with that kind of size and athleticism, if you turn your head for just a second, that size and athleticism can really work against you."

It also didn't help that Woodlan shot the ball as well as it did.

The Warriors were 28-44 from the field for an uncanny .636 accuracy rate, a figure that included a white-hot 9-11 in the fourth quarter when they were pulling away. They also turned the ball over just 10 times.

(Continued on Page 7)



Southern Wells senior Chandler Oswald (middle) sends the ball to the basket over Woodlan's Braden Smith during Friday night's conference game in the Raider Dome. The Raiders fell 44-66 to the Warriors. (Photo by Chad Kline)





Norwell senior centerfielder (middle) signs with Bethel University with her family and coach Friday morning at the high school. (Photo by Ryan Walker)

# Knights' Markley signs with Bethel for softball

Norwell's senior centerfielder Jordan Markley signed to Bethel University Friday morning at the high school. "It just felt like it was home," Markley said. "It felt like something that meant a lot to me and the atmosphere is an amazing feeling."

was second in RBIs (22). The speedster also snagged 20 bases while fielding a near-perfect .947 as a centerfielder. Her experience goes back to when she was younger, playing softball her whole life. Friday, it all came full circle to extend the career. "I think playing softball my whole life helped me wanting to be a college athlete for softball," she said. Bethel struggled last season under head coach Natalie Newell, who

also played for the Pilots. The team wrapped up 2023 with a 6-40 record and 5-29 in the Crossroads League. Looking forward to better things in 2024, Bethel opens this season just one day after Markley signed. The Pilots travel to Rosemont, Illinois, to play Oakland City, Concordia (MI) and Trinity Christian College. Markley said she will be continuing her softball career in the outfield and will be studying elementary education. ryan@news-banner.com

# Warriors top Raiders

Oswalt was on fire for Southern Wells. The 5-11 senior sniper scored a team-high 21 points on 6-for-10 shooting from the field, including four three-pointers. "Chandler not only shot the ball well; he played the game well," praised his coach. "He rebounded well, he passed the ball well. Earlier in his career, he was all about shooting, but now he's playing all aspects of the game, plus he scored for us tonight." As a team, Southern Wells connected on 15-39 shots from the floor for a .385 percentage, one that cooled considerably in the second half.

After hitting on nine of 18 first-half shots, the Raiders hit on just four of 10 in the third quarter and a mere two of 11 in the fourth. With the 6-6 Yoder and 6-7, 250-pound Oliver Adams standing a full head over Southern Wells' tallest regulars, Woodlan won the boards by a 25-17 margin. "We've been playing pretty well lately," said Roush of a team that had won four of its last five games coming into the contest. "We don't play (Fort Wayne) Canterbury, but we've been really competitive with all of the other teams in the sectional. sports@news-banner.com

**WOODLAN 66, SOUTHERN WELLS 44** (at Southern Wells) WOODLAN (11-7, 4-2 ACAC): Luke Meyer 2-2 0-0 4, Braden Smith 7-7 2-2 18, Trey Yoder 12-18 0-2 27, Oliver Adams 3-4 2-4 8, Jordan Halsey 2-4 0-2 5, Lincoln Sparks 1-1 0-0 2, Mason Moore 0-3 0-0 0, Jayse Kuntz 1-1 0-0 2, Keaton Delagrange 0-1 0-0 0, Ashton Jacquou 0-0 0-0 0. TOTAL: 28-44 4-10 66. SOUTHERN WELLS (6-12, 1-5 ACAC): Andrew Aker 1-4 0-0 3, C.J. Reber 2-6 0-0 5, Evan Pennington 3-6 0-0 6, Chandler Oswalt 6-10 5-6 21, Perrin Gates 1-5 2-2 4, Caleb Johnson 1-2 0-0 3, Landon Johnson 0-2 0-0 0, Trey Slusher 0-2 0-0 0, Joshua Aulbach 1-2 0-0 2. TOTAL: 15-39 7-8 44. Woodlan 14 12 18 22 — 66 So. Wells 6 17 12 9 — 44 Three-point Field Goals: Woodlan 6-13 (Smith 2-3, Yoder 3-6, Halsey 0-1, Moore 0-3), Southern Wells 7-14 (Aker 1-3, Reber 1-3, Oswalt 4-6, C. Johnson 1-1, L. Johnson 0-1). Rebounds: Woodlan 25 (Yoder 12), Southern Wells 17 (Gates 7). Turnovers: Woodlan 10, Southern Wells 16. Fouled Out: None. Technical fouls: None. JV: No game.

# Knights' big scoring run

three-point lead in the fourth. All due to Norwell's 14-5 run in six minutes and ready for more. The fourth quarter was certainly that, for the most part. Both team's exchanged leads and ties for half of the fourth, but the Knights caught fire. Quintanilla drilled a three to spark the entire thing after Federspiel made two free throws. Cohen Bailey dropped his 16th point of the night stealing an entry pass in for a breakaway layup, and Federspiel made one of two at the line to cap off the 8-0 spurt. Norwell spotted a 47-41 lead with under a minute to play, seemingly sealing the deal. The Senior Night packed crowd went silent, but their Vikings never gave in.

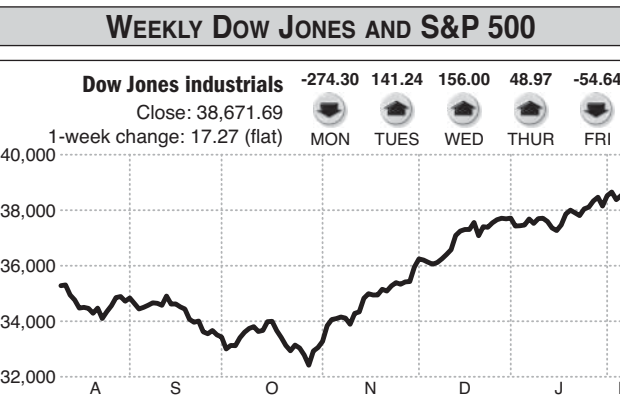
Nash drove the middle of the lane for a layup with 16 seconds left. McBride talked it over with his squad in a full timeout, but his guys didn't execute the inbounds play, stepping on the line in front of their bench. On the turnover possession, Nash hit his fourth three with five seconds to go to make it 47-46. The clock, however, still ran after the make. Norwell didn't realize it, so it threw the ball into Bailey and he was fouled with 0.4 left. He made the first, but missed the second one. Off of the rebound, Viking big man Blaine Freiburger launched a one-handed prayer that doinked off of the left glass. It is unclear whether the officials would have allowed it had it gone in, but it didn't matter, — Norwell got the win. "We struggled a little bit there with turnovers," McBride said of the final minute. "We've got to do a better job in that situation. We've got to get layups or get to the free-throw line. And then even we got to free throw line, we missed a couple."

at 7:45 p.m. Friday, Feb. 16. ryan@news-banner.com

**NORWELL 48, HUNTINGTON NORTH 46** At Huntington North NORWELL (11-8, 5-2 NEB): Cohen Bailey 7-11 1-2 17, Ashton Federspiel 5-13 5-7 15, Kaedyn Quintanilla 2-5 1-4 6, Adam McBride 1-6 3-4 6, Cade Shelton 1-1 2-2 4, Owen Wallis 0-0 0-0 0, Nick McBride 0-0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 16-36 12-19 48. HUNTINGTON NORTH (5-14, 2-5 NEB): Zach Nash 7-11 0-0 18, Titus Schultz 3-7 0-0 9, Ethan Zahn 3-11 1-3 7, Blaine Freiburger 3-5 0-0 6, Dalton Husband 3-5 0-0 6, Sam Double 0-1 0-0 0, Blake Sheward 0-0 0-0 0.

Asher Chipchosky 0-0 0-0 0. TOTALS: 19-42 2-4 46. Norwell 11 8 14 15 — 48 H. North 14 11 11 10 — 42 Three-point FG: Norwell 4-12 (Bailey 2-4, Quintanilla 1-2, McBride 1-5, Federspiel 0-1), Huntington North 6-20 (Nash 4-6, Schultz 3-5, Zahn 0-6, Double 0-1, Husband 0-1, Freiburger 0-1). Rebounds: Norwell 26 (Quintanilla 8, Federspiel 6, A. McBride 8, Bailey 2, Shelton 2, Wallis 1), Huntington North 19 (Husband 6, Nash 4, Zahn 3, Freiburger 3, Double 1, Schultz 1). Turnovers: Norwell 10, Huntington North 10. Fouls: Norwell 8, Huntington North 13. Fouled Out: None. Technicals: None. JV: 47-37 Norwell.

# THE WEEK IN REVIEW



### STOCK MARKET INDEXES

52-Week High	Low	Name	Last	Wk Chg	Wk %Chg	YTD %Chg	12-mo %Chg
38,783.62	31,429.82	Dow Jones Industrials	38,671.69	+17.27	+0.04	+2.61	+14.18
16,717.04	13,400.45	Dow Jones Transportation	16,215.50	+415.91	+2.63	+1.99	+7.79
979.98	765.47	Dow Jones Utilities	834.43	-17.05	-2.00	-5.36	-11.77
17,286.47	14,471.08	NYSE Composite	17,275.87	+173.90	+1.02	+2.51	+8.58
16,007.29	10,982.80	Nasdaq Composite	15,990.66	+361.71	+2.31	+6.52	+36.46
5,030.06	3,808.86	S&P 500	5,026.61	+68.00	+1.37	+5.38	+22.89
2,817.96	2,322.38	S&P MidCap	2,808.47	+41.32	+1.49	+9.7	+6.41
50,619.13	37,776.71	Wilshire 5000	50,577.91	+740.84	+1.49	+4.73	+23.99
2,071.78	1,633.67	Russell 2000	2,009.99	+47.26	+2.41	-.84	+4.75
17,556.57	12,426.88	Lipper Growth Index	17,556.57	+543.07	+3.19	+8.26	+33.35

### STOCK EXCHANGE HIGHLIGHTS

NYSE GAINERS (\$2 OR MORE)				NYSE LOSERS (\$2 OR MORE)				NYSE ACTIVES (\$1 OR MORE)			
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Glattfelter	2.26	+90	+68.2	Snapple A	11.11	-5.94	-34.8	Palantir	11996414	24.38	+7.36
Spiral	10.44	+3.42	+48.7	GrifAjax	4.62	-1.19	-20.5	NY CmtyB	6225347	4.90	-1.14
Palantir	24.38	+7.36	+43.2	KKR RE	9.52	-2.44	-20.4	Snapple A	4522149	11.11	-5.94
Masonite	130.51	+37.45	+40.2	tubOTV	2.06	-5.0	-19.5	FordM	4379479	12.68	+5.4
OscrHl	17.68	+4.04	+29.6	NY CmtyB	4.90	-1.14	-18.9	Pfizer	2097993	27.56	+6.3
DHI Grp	2.67	+5.47	+27.1	NY Cmty	28.24	-6.10	-17.8	AT&T	205486	16.84	-9.9
Coherent	62.35	+13.22	+26.9	Bill cmHl	65.46	-14.12	-17.7	BooBrad	1810611	2.73	-3.8
SonSenL	11.79	+2.50	+26.9	MeridLk	18.96	-3.79	-16.7	BkofAm	1794593	33.07	-4.0
XPO	120.84	+25.50	+26.7	GpSuprv	3.94	-7.8	-16.5	Alibaba	1788126	72.02	+17
TAL Educ	13.59	+2.48	+22.3	CrownHold	74.79	-14.25	-16.0	ItauUnH	1605558	6.91	+3.5

NASDAQ GAINERS (\$2 OR MORE)				NASDAQ LOSERS (\$2 OR MORE)				NASDAQ ACTIVES (\$1 OR MORE)			
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
McCloud rs	21.30	+19.47	+103.9	BoneBio wt	7.50	-9.39	-55.6	Tesla	5350870	193.57	+5.66
1063.9				FibroBio n	6.89	-8.11	-54.1	MarathDg	3652349	23.89	+5.69
SyrahI A n	2.92	+1.79	+158.4	TenaxTh rs	4.96	-4.99	-50.1	AMID	3021147	172.48	-5.18
FoghtnTh	5.95	+2.99	+101.0	ChXiang rs	5.15	-4.20	-44.9	Nvidia	2699071	721.33	+59.73
TOP Finl	5.39	+2.65	+96.7	SempPr ng	6.10	-4.95	-44.8	Apple Inc s	2510913	188.85	+3.24
MedSpa	13.95	+5.67	+68.5	PhnxBio A	6.33	-4.99	-44.1	Amazon	2437985	174.45	+2.64
MedAvail rs	3.03	+1.23	+68.3	RebornCof	2.32	-1.77	-43.3	McCloud rs	2202918	21.30	+19.47
4D Molec	28.63	+11.14	+63.7	ChildPlace	12.51	-8.89	-41.5	MicroF	2126702	8.13	+2.5
Arm Hldg n	115.21	+44.21	+62.3	Lantronix	3.92	-2.65	-40.3	PlugPowr h	2046856	4.33	-33
HlthcTr rs	3.15	+1.14	+56.7	PixieDust n	4.72	-3.17	-40.2	GorillaTc	2014157	1.02	+4.7
risEnrgy	5.94	+2.15	+56.7								

### 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	78.23	+1.41	+1.8	-5.2	InVivo	...	49	+1.8	+55.9	-33.2
AT&T Inc	1.11	16.84	-0.99	-5.6	+4	Kroger	1.16	45.41	-0.73	-1.6	-7.1
AMID	1.60	172.48	-5.18	-2.9	+17.0	LincNat	1.80	25.64	-1.05	-3.9	-4.9
Amazon	...	174.45	+2.64	+1.5	+44.8	Lowes	4.40	222.26	+2.77	+1.3	-1.1
AEP	3.52	76.66	-1.09	-1.4	-5.6	MarathDg	...	23.89	+5.69	+31.3	+7.7
Apple Inc s	96	188.85	+3.24	+1.7	+1.9	McDnls	6.68	289.47	-7.58	-2.6	-2.4
ApdMal	1.28	185.84	+17.66	+10.5	+14.7	MicroAlgo	...	63	+21	+49.8	-31.4
Arm Hldg n	...	115.21	+44.21	+62.3	+53.3	McCloud rs	...	21.30	+19.47	+103.9	...
BP PLC	1.74	36.36	+1.72	+5.0	+2.7	Microsoft	3.00	420.55	+9.33	+2.3	+11.8
BrMySq	2.40	49.81	+1.10	+2.3	-2.9	NL Inds	...	28	5.27	+0.5	+1.0
CampSp	1.48	41.99	-2.83	-6.3	-2.9	NanoStrng	...	23	-2.4	-50.9	-69.3
Canoo Inc	...	16	-0.1	-8.8	-39.7	NY CmtyB	...	20	4.90	-1.14	-18.9
Caterpillar	5.20	317.16	+2.07	+0.7	+7.3	MarathDg	...	23.89	+5.69	+31.3	+7.7
Chevron	6.52	151.04	-1.20	-0.8	+1.3	NISource	1.06	25.25	-3.5	-1.4	-4.9
Cisco	1.56	50.13	-0.5	-0.1	-8	Nikola	...	72	-0.1	-1.1	-17.7
Citigroup	2.12	53.99	-1.55	-2.8	+5.0	NorfolkSo	5.40	254.83	+3.75	+1.5	+7.8
CocaCola	1.84	59.96	-0.98	-1.6	+1.1	Nucor	2.16	186.54	+3.15	+1.7	+7.2
DxSOXB	...	4.31	-7.8	-15.3	-25.9	Nvidia	16.71	721.33	+63.79	+10.0	+45.7
DxSOXB	...	39.32	+5.67	+16.8	+25.2	Palantir	...	24.38	+7.36	+43.2	+42.0
Disney	30	108.39	+11.26	+11.6	+20.0	PepsiCo	5.06	167.67	-3.30	-1.9	-1.3
Disney	2.92	277.96	+7.86	+2.9	+15.4	Pfizer	1.68	27.56	+6.3	+2.3	-4.3
ElLilly	5.20	740.16	+72.51	+10.9	+27.0	PlugPowr h	...	4.33	-3.3	-7.1	-3.8
ExxonMbl	3.80	101.77	-2.0	-2.1	+1.8	PRUPPO	...	60.27	+3.03	+5.3	+18.9
FordM	6.0	12.68	+5.4	+4.4	+4.0	PSHQOO	...	11.12	-6.0	-5.1	-17.3
FrankElec	90	99.48	+2.97	+3.1	+2.9	SpdDJIA	3.98	398.72	+3.0	+0.1	+2.6
FrpMcm	30	37.36	-2.74	-6.8	-12.2	S&P500ETF	4.13	501.20	+6.85	+1.4	+5.4
GenElec	32	139.28	+2.74	+2.0	+9.1	Snapple A	...	11.11	-5.94	-34.8	-34.4
GorillaTc	...	1.02	+4.7	+83.8	+89.2	SoFTech	...	8.13	+2.5	+3.2	-18.3
GmGiant h	...	0.4	+0.1	+26.5	-17.3	SPDR Fnd	...	46	39.08	+1.0	+3.3
HP Inc	1.02	28.42	-0.26	-0.9	-5.6	StlDynam	1.70	124.99	+4.83	+4.0	+5.8
HomeDp	8.36	363.15	+5.92	+1.7	+4.8	Sunwks	...	10	-1.2	-53.6	-56.6
ShChinaLC	87	22.36	+9.5	+4.4	-6.9	Tellurian	...	65	+2.3	+53.6	-14.1
Sh20 yrT	3.05	93.85	-2.22	-2.3	-5.1	Tesla	...	193.57	+5.66	+6.0	-22.3
ShiHxHYB	5.09	77.36	+1.7	+0.2	...	U Power n	...	0.9	+0.1	+6.0	-51.6
ShR2K	1.77	199.34	+4.93	+2.5	-7	VerizonCm	2.66	39.72	-2.41	-5.7	+5.4
Intel	50	43.31	+8.4	+2.0	-13.8	WalMart	2.28	169.28	-0.29	-0.2	-7.4
IBM	6.64	186.34	+2.21	+1.2	+3.9	WalBoots	1.00	22.4	-0.4	-1.8	-14.8
Inv QQQ	1.16	437.05	+8.04	+1.9	+6.7	WsteMinc	2.80	188.86	+6.5	+0.3	+5.4

### MONEY RATES

	Last	Pvs Day
Prime Rate	8.50	8.50
Discount Rate	6.00	6.00
Federal Funds Rate	5.33	5.33
Treasuries		
1-year	4.86	4.83
2-year	4.48	4.45
5-year	4.14	4.12
10-year	4.18	4.15
30-year	4.37	4.35

### CURRENCIES

	Last	Pvs Day
Australia	1.5336	1.5411
Britain	1.2629	1.2616
Canada	1.3462	1.3456
Euro	.9272	.9281
Japan	149.37	149.40
Mexico	17.0866	17.1658
Switzerland	.8753	.8745

British pound expressed in U.S. dollars. All others show dollar in foreign currency.

### MUTUAL FUNDS

Name	Total Assets Obj (\$Mln)	NAV	Total Return/4-wk	12-mo	5-year	Pct Load
American Funds AmrcnBaIa m	MA 99,357	32.76	+3.0	+13.2/B	+8.4/B	5.75
American Funds EuroPacGrA m	FG 19,927	55.70	+3.9	+8.5/C	+6.6/C	5.75
American Funds FdmllInvS m	LB 65,830	75.07	+5.8	+24.6/B	+12.9/D	5.75
American Funds GrlAmrcA m	LG 126,062	67.64	+8.0	+32.8/D	+14.5/D	5.75
American Funds IncAmrcA m	AL 74,181	23.31	0.0	+4.9/E	+7.0/D	5.75
American Funds InvCAMrcA m	LB 79,697	52.73	+5.2	+27.4/A	+13.9/C	5.75
American Funds NwPrspctA m	WG 55,841	58.06	+5.2	+19.1/C	+12.7/B	5.75
American Funds WAMInvS m	LB 78,759	59.27	+4.1	+19.1/D	+12.7/D	5.75
Davis NYVentureA m	LB 4,433	27.81	+5.1	+22.2/C	+11.1/E	4.75
Fidelity 500IxdxPrrm	LB 484,415	174.82	+5.8	+25.2/A	+15.1/A	NL
Fidelity Contrafund	LG 111,669	18.07	+11.7	+44.9/A	+	



# Depressed and desiring love

Dear Annie: I've been in a nursing home since I was 60. I would love to find someone to fall in love with, but I have a problem socializing. I can't wrap my head around the fact that I'm in a nursing home. I'm depressed and see myself not having much time to live with my several health issues. I can't walk and I'm wheelchair-bound. I've tried spending time with other residents, but they hardly talk to me. I feel like they don't like me. As a result, I stay in my room except to go to physical therapy.

I've tried playing bingo, but the prizes they give are junk, which I don't want, so I don't play anymore. The recreation around here is boring, so I don't really participate. I'm lonely. I don't have a very high opinion of myself. I'm thinking of going to another nursing home close to my sister, as she tries to come once a week. My son lives in the city, which is about an hour's drive from me, and comes whenever he can. I have a daughter who lives about eight miles away. I haven't seen her since late July. We text each other, but she won't talk to me on the phone. She has a boyfriend she sees. She says she's always tired and has Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. It just hurts me that she has time and energy to see her boyfriend but not me. She says she wants to, but she's either too busy or tired. When I ask her to come, it turns into an argument. I tell my daughter I love and miss her and how much I'd like to see her, to no avail.

I cry a lot and sometimes wish I were dead. I really don't want to die, but I just can't bear the emotional pain sometimes. I'm on antidepressants. I don't see the psychiatrist very often, but I see a psychologist once a week. I tried hanging out at the nurses station like some residents do. Like I said, no one talks to me. I smile at people when I see them and try to appear friendly. I get along well with my roommate, but I need a man to love. A lot of them here are married. There was a man in PT that I liked, and we talked a little bit, but he's married.

I don't know what to do anymore. I break down and cry while I'm in PT

sometimes. I keep thinking of the things I used to be able to do. I can't go out to a senior community because there is no one to take care of me. I need 24-hour care. I'm presently looking for another nursing home to go to, but a lot of the reviews are bad.

The aides here are nice, but the food is awful. Like I said, the recreation is bad. Nothing they do interests me.

I think if I met a guy to love, I'd feel better about myself. I have a good sense of humor. I'm compassionate and caring, and I love to make people laugh. I used to be a nursing assistant but never thought I would ever be in this position. Please help me, Annie. — Old and Alone

*Dear Old and Alone: Big picture, you should absolutely try to make the switch from your current nursing home to the one by your sister. This will likely take time and money, though, so while you're working on making the switch, do try to make the best of your current situation. Is it possible to see your psychologist more than once a week? Or try a new medication? Can you confide in your roommate about how lonely you're feeling and take part in more activities, the two of you together?*

*I know it's easier said than done to keep putting yourself out there and attempting companionship when you feel as if you've tried without getting anything in return. But isolating yourself and staying shut behind closed doors won't get you any closer to friendships or a romantic relationship. And do remember to show yourself kindness. We attract what we put out into the world — it's vital that you love yourself the way you want to love another person.*

Send your questions for Annie Lane to [dearannie@creators.com](mailto:dearannie@creators.com). © 2024 CREATORS.COM

## My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



## The Holy Spirit indwells the Christian

*Question: I am trying to learn about the Holy Spirit. Is it part of God and is it essentially the personality of God? — P.S.*

**Answer:** The Holy Spirit is God Himself. We should never refer to the Holy Spirit as "it," for the Holy Spirit is a Person. He speaks to us, commands us, intercedes for us, and He hears and guides us. Those who fail to recognize this are robbed of the joy and power the Holy Spirit gives. Jesus said, "The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things" (John 14:26, NKJV).

God the Father, God the

Son, and God the Holy Spirit have all existed from eternity. In time, the Son of God came into the world as a man, to redeem the world that He had created. After His death on the cross, and His resurrection, He went back to the Father in Heaven and sent His Holy Spirit to bring about a worldwide ministry of proclaiming the Gospel.

Still today, the Holy Spirit illuminates the minds of Christ's followers and causes us to yearn for God. He convicts of sin but also convinces people that Jesus is the righteousness of God.

The Holy Spirit indwells the Christian. It's through the Holy Spirit that work in us that all truth becomes living and opera-

tive in our lives. This is what it means to walk in the Spirit — to be led and directed by Him. The Holy Spirit gives liberty to the Christian, direction to the worker, discernment to the teacher, power to the Word, and fruit to faithful service. He reveals the things of Christ. He is not limited by time or space. He can be everywhere at once. He's in the midst of the largest galaxy — and the smallest atom. What a marvelous gift God has given.

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

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## BEETLE BAILEY



## BLONDIE



## ZITS



## CRANKSHAFT



## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

## The LOCKHORNS



02/10	M	A	D1	D2	5 PM	5:30	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM	12:30
WINM (12)	11	26	63		Swan's Place	Let's Take It Outside	A Fishing Story	Life's Highway	Living the Dream	Divine	Life	Sue Thomas F.B. Eye "The Actor"	Founda-		Pacific Garden Mission		CURE America		BillyGraham.TV	The Listen
CBS WANE (15)	2	2	15	15	(4:00) Basketball Gonzaga at Kentucky (N)	WANE 15 News (N)	CBS News (N)	Big Game Tailgate	Game Legends	The Super Bowl Soufflé	48 Hours (N)				48 Hours (N)		Nightcast (3:55) Big Game	(3:55) IN Focus (N)	(3:55) The Equalizer	
Antenna WANE-2 (152)	106	20			Law & Order: SVU "Manhattan Vigil"	Law & Order: SVU "Friending Emily"	Law & Order: SVU "Vanity's Bonfire"	Law & Order: SVU "Lessons Learned"	Law & Order: SVU "Dreams Deferred"	Law & Order: SVU "Presumed Guilty"	Law & Order: SVU "Beautiful Frame"	Law & Order: SVU "Criminal Hatred"	Law & Order: SVU "Criminal Hatred"	Law & Order: SVU "Criminal Hatred"	Law & Order: SVU "Criminal Hatred"	Law & Order: SVU "Criminal Hatred"	Law & Order: SVU "Criminal Hatred"	Law & Order: SVU "Criminal Hatred"	Law & Order: SVU "Criminal Hatred"	Law & Order: SVU "Criminal Hatred"
ABC WPTA (21)	4	3	21	21	(3:00) NHL Hockey	ABC21 (N)	ABC World News (N)	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	NBA (L) (N)	NBA Basketball Phoenix Suns at Golden State Warriors From Chase Center in San Francisco. (L) (N)				ABC21 (N)	InvestigativeTV	Seinfeld	Modern Family		
NBC WPTA-2 (212)	7	8	14		(3:00) PGA Tour Golf	News (N)	NBC News (N)	Family Feud	Family Feud	The Wall "Jakob and Yvonne"	Weakest Link "Class is Officially in Session"				Saturday Night Live	News (N)	Saturday Night Live			
MNT WPTA-3 (213)	10	9	56	34	World Chase Tag	Chicago Fire "A Closer Eye"	Chicago Fire "Going to War"	Chicago Fire "Going to War"	Chicago Fire "Going to War"	Chicago Fire "Going to War"	Chicago Fire "Going to War"	Chicago Fire "Going to War"	Chicago Fire "Going to War"	Chicago Fire "Going to War"	Chicago Fire "Going to War"	Chicago Fire "Going to War"	Chicago Fire "Going to War"	Chicago Fire "Going to War"	Chicago Fire "Going to War"	Chicago Fire "Going to War"
CW WISE (38)	8	4	33	33	(12:30) LIV Golf League Las Vegas, Day 3 (N)	College Basketball Virginia Tech at Notre Dame From Purcell Pavilion in Notre Dame, Ind. (L) (N)	College Basketball Virginia Tech at Notre Dame From Purcell Pavilion in Notre Dame, Ind. (L) (N)	College Basketball Virginia Tech at Notre Dame From Purcell Pavilion in Notre Dame, Ind. (L) (N)	College Basketball Virginia Tech at Notre Dame From Purcell Pavilion in Notre Dame, Ind. (L) (N)	College Basketball Virginia Tech at Notre Dame From Purcell Pavilion in Notre Dame, Ind. (L) (N)	College Basketball Virginia Tech at Notre Dame From Purcell Pavilion in Notre Dame, Ind. (L) (N)	College Basketball Virginia Tech at Notre Dame From Purcell Pavilion in Notre Dame, Ind. (L) (N)	College Basketball Virginia Tech at Notre Dame From Purcell Pavilion in Notre Dame, Ind. (L) (N)	College Basketball Virginia Tech at Notre Dame From Purcell Pavilion in Notre Dame, Ind. (L) (N)	College Basketball Virginia Tech at Notre Dame From Purcell Pavilion in Notre Dame, Ind. (L) (N)	College Basketball Virginia Tech at Notre Dame From Purcell Pavilion in Notre Dame, Ind. (L) (N)	College Basketball Virginia Tech at Notre Dame From Purcell Pavilion in Notre Dame, Ind. (L) (N)	College Basketball Virginia Tech at Notre Dame From Purcell Pavilion in Notre Dame, Ind. (L) (N)	College Basketball Virginia Tech at Notre Dame From Purcell Pavilion in Notre Dame, Ind. (L) (N)	College Basketball Virginia Tech at Notre Dame From Purcell Pavilion in Notre Dame, Ind. (L) (N)
FBS WFWA (38)	13	5	39	39	Weekend Plan	Antiques Roadshow	The Lawrence Welk Show	Doc Martin "Last Christmas in Portvenant"	Keep-As Time Goes By	Mr. Bean "Mr. Bean"	Songs at the Center	Austin "Noah Kahan; Flor de Toloache" (N)	NOVA "Easter Islands Origins"	NOVA "Easter Islands Origins"	NOVA "Easter Islands Origins"	NOVA "Easter Islands Origins"	NOVA "Easter Islands Origins"	NOVA "Easter Islands Origins"	NOVA "Easter Islands Origins"	NOVA "Easter Islands Origins"
FBS WFP (48)	3				Woods-woodshop (N)	Weekend Joy/Painting (N)	Woodsongs	Anisfield-Wolf	The House on Jonathan Street	Fannie Lou Hamer	Loss River Sessions	Austin "Noah Kahan; Flor de Toloache" (N)	NOVA "Easter Islands Origins"	NOVA "Easter Islands Origins"	NOVA "Easter Islands Origins"	NOVA "Easter Islands Origins"	NOVA "Easter Islands Origins"	NOVA "Easter Islands Origins"	NOVA "Easter Islands Origins"	NOVA "Easter Islands Origins"
FOX WFFT (55)	6	5	55	55	Hoops (L) (N)	College Basketball UCLA at California From Haas Pavilion in Berkeley, Calif. (L) (N)	College Basketball UCLA at California From Haas Pavilion in Berkeley, Calif. (L) (N)	College Basketball UCLA at California From Haas Pavilion in Berkeley, Calif. (L) (N)	College Basketball UCLA at California From Haas Pavilion in Berkeley, Calif. (L) (N)	College Basketball UCLA at California From Haas Pavilion in Berkeley, Calif. (L) (N)	College Basketball UCLA at California From Haas Pavilion in Berkeley, Calif. (L) (N)	College Basketball UCLA at California From Haas Pavilion in Berkeley, Calif. (L) (N)	College Basketball UCLA at California From Haas Pavilion in Berkeley, Calif. (L) (N)	College Basketball UCLA at California From Haas Pavilion in Berkeley, Calif. (L) (N)	College Basketball UCLA at California From Haas Pavilion in Berkeley, Calif. (L) (N)	College Basketball UCLA at California From Haas Pavilion in Berkeley, Calif. (L) (N)	College Basketball UCLA at California From Haas Pavilion in Berkeley, Calif. (L) (N)	College Basketball UCLA at California From Haas Pavilion in Berkeley, Calif. (L) (N)	College Basketball UCLA at California From Haas Pavilion in Berkeley, Calif. (L) (N)	College Basketball UCLA at California From Haas Pavilion in Berkeley, Calif. (L) (N)

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Caravan beast

6 Laugh track sounds

11 Malay island

12 Apple music service

14 Snicket of kid-lit

15 Assault berry

16 Globe recipe

17 Skewered Thai dish

19 "7 Faces of Dr. —"

20 "Super-food"

22 Vegas opener

23 Fizzy drink

24 — Haute

26 Dakar's country

28 Decks in the ring

30 Zilch

31 "Out of Africa" author

35 Gather

39 Saharan

40 Opposite of paleo-

42 Queens stadium name

43 Arcing tennis shot

44 Messing on TV

46 Cowboy moniker

47 As a whole

49 Main dish

51 Pop star Gomez

52 Rings on a pizza

53 French painter

54 Zesty dip

55 Toaster's word

**DOWN**

18 Prof's helpers

21 Ticked off

23 Alabama city

25 Dawn goddess

27 Long of "Soul Food"

29 Five Nations members

31 Valleys Pressed

33 Weed bite

34 Kan. neighbor

36 Houston team

37 Pop singer

38 Easton

41 Two-tone cookies

44 Lady of Spain

45 Editor

48 Pants part

50 Up to

**Solution time: 26 mins.**

ATBAY TAR GAB  
AMUSE AGE LOA  
SIFTS BUFFERS  
FINALE LATE  
DIE ORE LUNAR  
AGTS ETHER  
MASHUP AIRBED  
AMATI YUMA  
USURP URL FIB  
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## SUDOKU

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

### King Classic Sudoku

8						9	1	2
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2								
7		4						5
		9	2		8			

Difficulty: ★★★★★

2/10

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### Help Wanted

**THE WELLS COUNTY** Prosecutor's Office is looking to hire a person for an Investigator position. The position is a part-time county-paid position making \$21/hour. The investigator would be responsible for conducting criminal investigations and assisting the Prosecutor in preparing cases for trial. The investigator must be an effective communicator, be proficient with a computer, be able to work independently, and have the ability to be on 24-hour call for assistance at crime scenes. Interested persons should go to [wellscounty.org/prosecutor/](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).



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### Lottery Numbers

**Friday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY**  
Cash 5 — 19-23-24-25-30  
Cash4Life — 22-27-33-44-59, Cash Ball: 01  
Quick Draw Midday — 07-08-09-13-18-26-32-36-37-38-44-47-48-49-50-52-56-72-74-79, BE: 18  
Daily Three-Midday — 08-02-01, SB: 09  
Daily Three-Evening — 02-01-06, SB: 06  
Daily Four-Midday — 07-07-01-03, SB: 09  
Daily Four-Evening — 02-06-07-08, SB: 06  
Quick Draw Evening — 03-04-19-24-27-29-31-32-33-39-42-46-56-62-63-64-65-69-74-78, BE: 69  
Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$4.4 million  
MEGA MILLIONS 17-22-29-46-69, Mega Ball: 01, Megaplier: 3X  
POWERBALL Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$248 million

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Attorney  
Gerret J. Swearingen

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## Public Sale Calendar

**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: Call for private showing. Auction managers: Jerry Ehle, 260-410-1996, Steven C. Coil, 260-446-2037, Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc., 800-451-2709, [schraderauction.com](http://schraderauction.com).

**BIDDING NOW OPEN AND STARTS CLOSING FEBRUARY 13 - 10 a.m. EST - Creative Industries, Inc., Mark Clark, president.** Toyota 424FG25 forklift, band, chop & table saws, SSC sheet board saw, multiple Delta drill press, 4 Delta dust collectors, hand & power tools, work benches & shop carts, large amount of aluminum channeling & much more! Pick up Feb. 15, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. EST, 1024 Western Dr., Indianapolis, IN. Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC, 260-724-7402, [Kjauction.com](http://Kjauction.com).

**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. Auction manager Al Pfister, 260-760-8922, Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc., 800-451-2709, [schraderauction.com](http://schraderauction.com).

**FEBRUARY 18 - 2 p.m.** - Multiple consignors, owners. Online only consignment auction. Furniture, freezers, Pokemon items, sports cards, G.I. Joe figurines, china, 4 wheeler, riding mower, fishing lures, upholstery fabric, household items, vintage toys, light fixtures, etc. Preview Feb. 15, 3-5 p.m., 812 Elm Street, Decatur. Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC, 260-724-7402, [Kjauction.com](http://Kjauction.com).

& modern furniture, vintage toys, primitives, shop tools, generator. Preview: Feb. 15 from 3 p.m.-6 p.m. and Feb. 22 from 3 p.m.-6 p.m., 102 South Jefferson, Ossian. Sale manager, Patrick Carter, The Steffen Group Inc., 260-824-3006, [www.steffengrp.com](http://www.steffengrp.com).

**FEBRUARY 20 - 9 a.m. EST - Online Only - JW Jones, Co., owner.** Quarry equipment, rock crushers, stackers, heavy trucks, trailers, light duty trucks, forklifts, excavators, wheel loaders, dozers, haul trucks, shop equipment, power units, & much, much more! Preview Feb. 16, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Pick up Feb. 22-23, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. EST, Feb. 27, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Feb. 28, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Items located mostly in Parago, IN, and Gosport, IN, with some in Martinsville, IN. Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC, 260-724-7402, [Kjauction.com](http://Kjauction.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, seller.** 2021 Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited w/3,600 miles, (2) Vintage Triumph motorcycles, modern furniture, antiques, beer signs, model ships, quality tools, Schwinn Airdyne exercise bike, household, 2017 Grasshopper zero turn mower, 2018 Sure-Trac enclosed trailer. Preview: Feb. 25 from 2 p.m.-4 p.m. and Feb. 29 from 4 p.m.-6 p.m., 3651 E. 1000 N., Ossian. Sale manager, Brandon Steffen, 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, seller.** Northern Wells, 3 bedroom ranch home on 1/2 acre with 2,384 square feet and 1 full bathroom. Preview: Feb. 25 from 2 p.m.-4 p.m. and Feb. 29 from 4 p.m.-6 p.m., 3651 E. 1000 N., Ossian. Sale manager, Brandon Steffen, The Steffen Group Inc., 260-824-3006, [www.steffengrp.com](http://www.steffengrp.com).

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

### Public Notices

STATE OF INDIANA }  
COUNTY OF WELLS } SS:  
IN THE WELLS }  
CIRCUIT COURT }  
CAUSE NO. }  
90C01-2401-EU-000005 }  
IN RE: THE ESTATE OF )  
RUTH E. VANGILDER )  
**NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION**  
For Publication in Newspaper  
Notice is hereby given that Ruth Caye Jones Gullion was on January 29, 2024, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Ruth E. VanGilder, deceased, who died on the 18th day of January, 2024. All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.  
Dated at Bluffton, Indiana, this date: January 29, 2024  
Beth Davis  
Clerk, Wells Circuit Court  
Attorney for the Estate:  
Philip A. Wagler, BARRETT  
MCNAGNY LLP  
215 East Berry Street, P. O. Box  
2263  
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46801  
Supreme Court ID: 29538-02  
nb 2/3, 2/10  
hspaxlp

**SUDOKU ANSWER**

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# Local Roundup

## Friends of the Shelter will meet Monday afternoon

Friends of the Shelter, the organization that provides support for the Bluffton/Wells County Animal Shelter, will meet at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St. The meeting is open to the public.

During the meeting, the Friends of the Shelter will discuss financial reports and upcoming events.

## Bluffton-Harrison school board will meet Monday

The board of the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12, in the school district's administration building at 803 E. Harrison St. in Bluffton.

Topics on the agenda include:

- A legislative update.
- Reports from Superintendent Brad Yates and Assistant Superintendent Julie Meitzler.
- Continued discussion regarding the high school building construction project and athletic facility needs.
- New business, including consideration of a contracted service agreement for an Interim Area 18 CTE Director, Indiana Literacy Cadre and Elementary School instructional coach.
- Personnel and financial matters.

## Regional Sewer District board will meet Monday

The board of the Wells County Regional Sewer District will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12, 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 on the WCRSD office and storage space.
- Financial matters.
- Reports from the superintendent and engineer.

## Ossian Town Council will meet Monday evening

The Ossian Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13, at the Ossian Town Hall, 507 N. Jefferson St. in Ossian.

Topics on the agenda include:

- A public hearing regarding additional an appropriation of funds for police/fire for a Community Crossings Matching Grant. The council will also vote on the matter later during the meeting.
- Committee reports from the Fire Department, Police Commissioners and Park Board.
- Results and recommendations from North Collection System Improvements bids.
- Consideration of Resolution 24-2-1 filed by Energy Control.
- Consideration of a variance request for 1008 Locust Trail from Mark Boiling.
- Appointments to the Town of Ossian Economic Development Commission.

ment Commission.  
• Financial matters.

## Wells County SWCD board to meet Tuesday morning

The board of the Wells County Soil and Water Conservation District will meet at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13, in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Service Center at 117 W. Harvest Road in Bluffton.

## Bluffton Board of Works to meet Tuesday afternoon

The Bluffton Board of Public Works and Safety will meet at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13, in the meeting room on the first floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St.

Topics on the agenda will include:

- Continued discussion regarding a fine for Super-Pufft.
- Personnel and financial matters.

## Norwell school board will meet Tuesday evening

The board of the Northern Wells Community Schools will meet at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13, at the school district's central office, 312 N. Jefferson St. in Ossian.

Topics on the agenda include:

- An update regarding Norwell Middle School construction from Dylan Markley of Weigand Construction.
- A review of the staff's SWOT analysis and feedback.
- Updates regarding special education programming.
- Discussion regarding the elementary literacy curriculum adoption process.
- A recommendation to approve a contractor for the Ossian Elementary School refresh.
- A recommendation regarding the solar eclipse on April 8.
- Financial and personnel matters.

## Wells County Public Library board will meet Tuesday

The board of the Wells County Public Library will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13, in the meeting room of the main library, 200 W. Washington St.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Personnel and financial matters.
- Regular librarian, treasurer and committee reports.
- A report on the mini-golf fundraiser.
- Review of the 2023 annual report.
- Discussion regarding the 2024 non-resident card fee.
- Approval of a landscaping and snow removal contract renewal.
- Director updates.

## Visitors Commission will meet Wednesday morning

The board of the Wells County Convention and Visitors Commission will meet 8 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 14, in the conference room of the Wells County Commerce & Visitors Centre, 211 Water St. in Bluffton.

ference room of the Wells County Commerce & Visitors Centre, 211 Water St. in Bluffton.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Financial matters.
- Continued discussion of the Visitor Guide and maps.
- New business, including consideration of a meeting change, a presentation from the Optimist Club, and discussion of economic impact in regard to the Indiana Destination Development Corporation.

## PSAP Advisory Board will meet Wednesday morning

The advisory board for the Public Safety Answering Point (911) will meet at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 14, in the city courtroom of the Bluffton Police Department, 204 E. Market St. in Bluffton.

Topics on the agenda will include the discussion and approval of new policies.

## County health board will meet Thursday morning

The board of the Wells County Health Department will meet at 6:30 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 15, 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 the 2023 annual report.
- Updates, including a complaint abatement, food recalls, the nursing department and 2024 meeting dates.

## APC will hold special session Thursday

The Wells County Area Plan Commission will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15, 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:

- Consideration of a rezoning request from Douglas and Amy Dunwiddie for 711 W. Cherry St. in Bluffton.

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# Ocean system that moves heat gets closer to collapse, which could cause weather chaos, study says

By **SETH BORENSTEIN**  
AP Science Writer

An abrupt shutdown of Atlantic Ocean currents that could put large parts of Europe in a deep freeze is looking a bit more likely and closer than before as a new complex computer simulation finds a "cliff-like" tipping point looming in the future.

A long-worried nightmare scenario, triggered by Greenland's ice sheet melting from global warming, still is at least decades away if not longer, but maybe not the centuries that it once seemed, a new study in Friday's Science Advances finds. The study, the first to use complex simulations and include multiple factors, uses a key measurement to track the strength of vital overall ocean circulation, which is slowing.

A collapse of the current — called the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation or AMOC — would change weather worldwide because it means a shutdown of one of key the climate and ocean forces of the planet. It would plunge northwestern European temperatures by 9 to 27 degrees over the decades, extend Arctic ice much farther south, turn up the heat even more in the Southern Hemisphere, change global rainfall patterns and disrupt the Amazon, the study said. Other scientists said it would be a catastrophe that could cause worldwide food and water shortages.

"We are moving closer (to the collapse), but we're not sure how much closer," said study lead author Rene van Westen, a climate scientist and oceanographer at Utrecht University in the Netherlands. "We are heading towards a tipping point."

When this global weather calamity — grossly fictionalized in the movie "The Day After Tomorrow" — may happen is "the million-

dollar question, which we unfortunately can't answer at the moment," van Westen said. He said it's likely a century away but still could happen in his lifetime. He just turned 30.

"It also depends on the rate of climate change we are inducing as humanity," van Westen said.

Studies have shown the AMOC to be slowing, but the issue is about a complete collapse or shutdown. The United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which is a group of hundreds of scientists that gives regular authoritative updates on warming, said it has medium confidence that there will not be a collapse before 2100 and generally downplayed disaster scenarios. But van Westen, several outside scientists and a study last year say that may not be right.

Stefan Rahmstorf, head of Earth Systems Analysis at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Research in Germany, was not part of the research, but called it "a major advance in AMOC stability science."

"The new study adds significantly to the rising concern about an AMOC collapse in the not too distant future," Rahmstorf said in an email. "We will ignore this at our peril."

University of Exeter climate scientist Tim Lenton, also not part of the research, said the new study makes him more concerned about a collapse.

An AMOC collapse would cause so many ripples throughout the world's climate that are "so abrupt and severe that they would be near impossible to adapt to in some locations," Lenton said.

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