

# The News - Banner

www.News-Banner.com

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024 BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection \$1.00

## County, city will continue payments to Wells Chamber

### County Council, Common Council address confusion amidst negotiations

**By HOLLY GASKILL and JONATHAN SNYDER**  
Both the Wells County Council and Bluffton Common Council addressed misunderstandings about their financial position with the Wells County Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development during their respective meetings Tuesday evening. The statements followed an extensive conversation during the County Commissioner meeting on Monday, wherein various elected officials discussed the status of a collective annual contract with the Chamber to support the Economic Development Commission. While county commissioners did not approve the contract, they did approve a motion for Common Council member Scott Mentzer to represent their collective interest in negotiation, intending to con-

clude negotiation within the next several weeks. According to County Council President Seth Whicker, the Chamber board subsequently canceled their Wednesday meeting on the basis that there was no longer funding secured for the EDC. Whicker and Commissioner President Jeff Stringer said this was inaccurate, and the county was financially committed through June 30. This same sentiment was echoed by the Common Council, who approved a motion to pay the Chamber for January through June and for Mentzer to represent all municipal partners. "I don't think I've talked more about an issue since I've been on the council than this one," noted Mentzer. However, a financial commit-

(Continued on Page 2)



### We built this city on Legos

Creative kids enjoyed the chance to collaborate at the Lego Build event hosted by the Bluffton Parks Department Tuesday evening. At top, Ainsley Wagner (left) and Audrey Breunig worked together to build a small city.

At left, Audrey Breunig (pictured) focused on the task at hand.

Above, Porter Steigerwald said he could not take credit for the awesome creation in the photo, however, he had a blast picking up where others left off. (Photos by Sydney Kent)

## City partners with Reusser Marketing for rebranding

**By JONATHAN SNYDER**  
Bluffton's rebranding will be done by Reusser Marketing, as decided by the Bluffton Common Council at its Tuesday meeting. Reusser had the low bid, quoting their project at \$20,000. Executing any plans Reusser gives will cost extra. The council stated that there is a grant opportunity through the Wells County Foundation for \$25,000, with the city needing to match \$15,000. A decision on the grant won't be made until mid-March. While all three firms were qualified according to council member Chandler Gerber, Reusser's past work experience in Adams County and Berne made them more qualified than others. Reusser is located in Roanoke, about 30 minutes away from Bluffton. The council also approved funding for the Wells County Master Plan. Despite the ongoing contract negotiations between the city, county and the Wells County Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development, the council decided to approve the expense because the master plan monies need to start being spent now for

it to be successful, according to Economic Development Director Chad Kline. The council decided that the city's contribution to the master plan should not exceed \$15,000. Much like the rebranding plan, the city will also look for grant opportunities. Furthermore, the council approved a stormwater management ordinance, in order to comply with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. IDEM rules state that there needs to be a stormwater ordinance for cities with populations above 10,000 people, which Bluffton hit in the 2020 census. The council also noted that the ordinance needs to be passed by April 1. The ordinance outlines the procedures and construction standards for any stormwater treatment facility. Some of the highlights include minimizing the potential for soil erosion, sediment-laden water needing to be managed appropriately to minimize the sedimentation, and public roadways needing to be kept cleared of accumulated sediment. City Attorney Tony Crowell stated that from a legal perspective, he is

(Continued on Page 2)

## Senate moves on foreign ownership of farmland bill despite concerns

**By WHITNEY DOWNARD Indiana Capital Chronicle**  
As a bill protecting farmland from foreign adversaries heads to the finish line, economic development concerns are cropping up at the last minute. Senate sponsors on Monday pushed back against exemptions for a specific agricultural project in northern Indiana, noting that 11 Chinese companies are currently seeking projects within Indiana. House Bill 1183 was amended slightly to incorporate concerns about dual citizens and restrictions around military installations. "I have to strongly oppose (the exception for northern Indiana) because it would create an exemption for what could be a homeland

security risk ... I don't think it's good for all of us in Indiana," said Sen. Jean Leising, R-Oldenburg. "It's hard for me to fight against another opportunity for agriculture, but I think we have to go with a statewide view of what's good." Even gubernatorial candidates weighed in on the race, with Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch urging senators to adopt the language. "As Secretary of Agriculture, I urge the Senate to pass HB 1183 to prohibit foreign adversaries from buying our farmland and land near military bases. China can buy our crops, not our farmland. We must act to protect our national security and agricultural freedom," Crouch's campaign said in a statement.

Crouch is competing against five other contenders for the Republican nomination to succeed Gov. Eric Holcomb as governor. Several other contenders have been vocal about their opposition to China. **The underlying farmland bill** House Bill 1183 would prohibit entities or people from six "adversarial countries" — a list that the U.S. Department of Commerce defines as Russia, China, North Korea, Iran, Cuba and Venezuela — from owning or leasing Hoosier farmland along with mineral, riparian or water rights. Those same groups would also not be permitted to purchase, lease or acquire land within ten miles

(Continued on Page 2)

## Child care and disaster limitations top legislative roundup

**By WHITNEY DOWNARD, NIKI KELLY and CASEY SMITH Indiana Capital Chronicle**  
Multiple major bills — including those on child care, disaster relief and birth control — inched closer to the governor's desk Monday as state lawmakers kicked off what's expected to be the final week of the 2024 legislative session. More than a dozen bills are still under negotiation or pending

a final vote from legislators, however. Among those are proposals to define and ban antisemitism at Hoosier colleges, allow chaplains in schools, provide reimbursement for ambulance expenses and restrict foreign ownership of Indiana farmland. Monday was the last day for the House to approve Senate bills. The Senate faces a Tuesday deadline to vote House bills back to the opposite chamber.

**House wraps up discussion on Senate bills**  
In the House, lawmakers pushed the final dozen-plus bills across the finish line to meet their third reading deadline. Senate Bill 2, a priority for Republican senators, heads back to the Senate after a House committee opted to add after-school and out-of-school programs to the child care proposal. Should the Senate agree with the changes in a concurrence vote, then it'll move

to Gov. Eric Holcomb's desk. "Senate Bill 2 will improve the overall effectiveness of a child care system while maintaining health and safety standards," said House sponsor Rep. Dale DeVon. The bill passed on a 98-1 vote, with Rep. Ryan Dvorak, D-South Bend, voting against the bill. The measure, authored by Sen. Ed Charboneau, would create pilot "microcenters," mandate a study on child care worker salaries and decrease certain regula-

tions on providers. Charboneau, a Republican from Valparaiso, explicitly sought child care fixes with no price tag in a non-budget year, drawing from a list of interim committee recommendations. Other House agenda items included a dual disaster effort, one a Holcomb priority headed straight for his desk and another that would limit the emergency powers of the governor's office. Senate Bill 190 tweaks the

(Continued on Page 2)

**Inside**  
Local/Area  
Obituaries . . . . . 3  
Police Notebook . . . 3  
  
Opinion  
Michael Hicks . . . . 4  
  
Also...  
Sports . . . . . 6  
Classifieds . . . . . 8  
Diversions . . . . . 7

**Outside**  
  
Cloudy and windy today, cloudy and cool tonight  

Today	Thursday	Friday
High 51	High 53	High 57
Low 35	Low 40	Low 46

More Weather on Page 2

**Online**  
Follow us on Facebook!  
Go to [www.facebook.com/newsbanner](http://www.facebook.com/newsbanner)  
  
Place Your Classified Ads 24/7  
  
Vol. 95 No. 106  
WEDNESDAY  
March 6, 2024

Find Your Dream Website Built to Impress  
WEB PRESENCE ONLINE ADVERTISING WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT  
SIGN UP NOW!  
Get the 1st Year's Hosting Package Free!  
\$399 Value Saving  
**NBDigital**  
A DIVISION OF THE NEWS-BANNER  
125 N. Johnson St. • 260.824.0224 • [www.nb-digital.com](http://www.nb-digital.com)

How to contact us:  
Call us: 824-0224  
or 1-800-579-7476  
email@news-banner.com  
On the Web:  
[www.news-banner.com](http://www.news-banner.com)  
Follow us at:  
[twitter.com/newsbanner](https://twitter.com/newsbanner)

# Wells Chamber payments

(Continued from Page 1)  
ment was not included in the motion passed by the commissioners on Monday.  
During the meeting, officials and representation from the Chamber board mutually agreed it was appropriate to pay EDC for their services already provided in 2024, as well as commit to payment through a period until they reached an agreement. This was included in a first motion by Commissioner Mike Vanover.  
After discussion continued for nearly 30 minutes regarding the contract, Vanover revised the motion. He then stated, "So maybe the motion is too complex. I'd like to make a motion for Councilman Mentzer to be our representative here and lead the negotiation with the Chamber and interested parties." It was unanimously approved.  
The commissioners proceeded with the next item, and there was no further confirmation that payment

would be issued for the first or second quarter of the year.  
Whicker explained Tuesday, "It was pretty clear to me, whether a motion was made or not, that there has to be at least some understanding in this community that if you're working for the county, you're going to get paid. And so, I just wanted to officially go on the record ... if people were working for this county not getting paid, I would resign because that is unfair to those people."  
Wells County had deferred its contract renewal in August after the Chamber announced a change in its bylaws eliminating board seats for elected officials. While Commissioner Blake Gerber has since been reinstated to the board, negotiations have continued regarding a list of key performance indicators.  
These debated KPIs have included Economic Development's responsibility to provide regular reports and

financial statements, among other items.  
Chamber Board President Patty Randall sent an email Monday morning that the relationship between the parties would cease if the elected boards did not approve the contract at their upcoming meetings. That night, Economic Development Executive Director Chad Kline explained that he could not continue work with businesses without ensuring financial stability of the EDC.  
The commissioners ultimately refused to sign the contract due to the recent revisions to the list of KPIs and the ultimatum.  
"This is not us against the Chamber," Stringer said Tuesday. "It is collectively the first time the city, county and Ossian ... and we come up collectively with one set of KPIs. The contract's done — we're talking about two pages in the contract, and it's KPIs."  
Also Tuesday, the Board of Public Works and Safety

approved Cheryl Morphew as an as-needed economic development consultant. Mentzer previously consulted with Morphew in forming the list of KPIs for Wells County Economic Development. She will be contracted by the city for 10 hours monthly for \$150 per hour.  
"This is not a hiring of an economic director," clarified Mentzer. "It's not a (new) local economic development officer for the city. It's us getting a resource that, should we need it, we have it."  
The commissioners also considered the same consulting service on Monday, planning to match the contracted hours and payment with Morphew. However, they deferred approval after Gerber said he needed more time to consider the agreement, which he said he had received Friday.  
The next regular commissioner meeting is 5 p.m. on Monday, March 18.  
*holly@news-banner.com, jonathan@news-banner.com*

# Weather

**Wednesday, March 6, 2024**  
**(24-hour observations at 10:12 p.m. Tuesday)**  
**High: 65; Low: 54; Precipitation: 0.08 inches of rain**  
**Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.66 feet at 8:45 p.m. Tuesday**

## Wells County forecast

**Today:** Cloudy, with a high near 51. Northeast wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.  
**Tonight:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 35. Northeast wind around 10 mph.  
**Thursday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 53. East wind around 10 mph.  
**Thursday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 40. East wind around 10 mph.  
**Friday:** Showers, mainly after 1 p.m. High near 57. Chance of precipitation is 80%. New precipitation amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch possible.  
**Friday Night:** Showers. Low around 46. Chance of precipitation is 80%.  
**Saturday:** Showers likely. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 50. Chance of precipitation is 70%.  
**Saturday Night:** A 30% chance of showers, mainly before 1 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 31.  
**Sunday:** A slight chance of rain and snow showers before 1 p.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 42. Breezy. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

# Foreign ownership of farmland

(Continued from Page 1)  
of a military installation. The Indiana Attorney General would be empowered to act on suspected violations.  
After passing out of the House unanimously, senators in committee opted to allow an exemption for renewals made before July 1, so long as the acreage doesn't change, to accommodate an existing Switzerland-based agrichemical company acquired by ChemChina in 2017.  
Discussion on the Senate floor revolved around an exemption for a proposed project in northern Indiana but Leising, the bill's sponsor, rejected the amendment. She noted that the Indiana Economic Development Corporation "is in negotiations with 11 Chinese companies, many of them in strategic locations."  
Senators opted to adopt two changes, one allowing dual citizens to own land — of the six countries, the United States only has dual citizenship with Russia — as well as reaffirming the 10-mile radius, rather than the previously proposed 50-mile radius, around military installations.  
Votes on all four amendments — the two adopted and the two failed motions — were voice votes, meaning there's no record of how each individual senator voted.  
Author Rep. Kendall Culp, R-Rensselaer, spoke to the Indiana Capital Chronicle before the Senate discussed amendments. He expressed concerns about adding too many specific exemptions but acknowledged the need to clarify ownership prohibitions in terms of dual citizens or green card holders.  
"I think we need to be careful that we don't have too many carve-outs of the legislation or it's going to obvious-

ly weaken it," Culp said.  
Culp said he and Leising met with the Indiana Economic Development Corporation and other interested parties just over two weeks ago to discuss the implications of the proposal on economic development deals.  
"... I know they have some concern that they are dealing with foreign adversaries wanting to locate to Indiana. And that's, in all honesty, part of the issue (and) why we have the bill. 'Do you want foreign adversaries here and, if so, how many?'" Culp said. "Obviously the IEDC is charged with spurring economic development in Indiana and creating jobs and that's what their focus is."  
"The focus of this bill is to be a little more selective about who we allow into Indiana to do business," he continued.  
**Economic development spurs pushback**  
Sen. Rodney Pol, D-Chesterton, said that an adopted amendment reducing the buffer zone around military installations from 50 miles to 10 miles still doesn't allow a proposed Chinese-owned agricultural project in LaPorte County. He proposed an amendment that would allow a local unit of government to supersede the bill by adopting an ordinance.  
"Adopting this (bill), as you know, would ultimately kill what is potentially a great project and a number of jobs," Pol said.  
The Chinese company trying to locate to Kingsbury, Fufeng Group, was recently prevented from building an agricultural processing plant 12 miles from the Grand Forks Air Force Base in North Dakota. Resident outcry prompted a federal review, which came out against Fufeng ownership and

pushed the Grand Forks City Council to abandon the project, as reported by the North Dakota Monitor.  
Sen. Mike Bohacek, R-Michiana Shores, voiced his support for the amendment, saying farmers would now have a nearby market for their corn, rather than driving to Logansport or Lafayette.  
"My concern, though, is statewide. To not allow the locals an exception to be able to determine their own financial future with the investment they've made in their industrial parks," Bohacek said. "This kind of thing can happen to your communities — it's just mine today."  
He said his county has spent over \$15 million on rail construction and upgrades to support the project.  
Leising said Pol's amendment would allow counties to have an impact on state and federal security policy.  
"(Fufeng) is very strategic on where they want to locate," Leising said, noting that the company says it chose the Kingsbury site because of two nearby intersecting railways. "There's no doubt that farmers in northern Indiana would benefit from another location to deliver grain but we have to weigh the benefits of homeland security, safety ... with the opportunity for economic development."  
In response, Bohacek said Fufeng was interested in LaPorte County because they were a "grain surplus area." He also said the military installation was a "weekend-staffed National Guard base" 9.7 miles away from the industrial park.  
The bill now moves to third reading; the deadline for that is Tuesday in the Senate. Afterward, it returns to the House, which can either accept or reject the changes made by the Senate.

# Rebranding

(Continued from Page 1)  
comfortable with the ordinance.  
"It's no fun, but we've gotta do it," said council member Josh Hunt.  
Additionally, the council also approved a tax abatement for Star Engineering due to its investment into a milling machine. Star is investing over \$163,000 into the milling machine, which should create a full-time job opening for Star to work said machine. The tax abatement will be spread over four years, with the first three at a 100% abatement, and the final year at 85%.  
Sarah Reed, Rick Elwell, Janella Stroncsek and Blake Fiechter were also present at the council meeting.  
Before the council meeting, the Board of Works adjusted Mt. Fuji Sushi and Hibachi's water bill, cutting their \$393.62 payment in half. Mt Fuji's manager stated that they spent over \$1,000 to fix a broken water pipe in the ceiling, which caused the influx of water usage. The sewer portion of

the bill was adjusted before the meeting, with the board stating that no water from the burst pipe had gone into the sewer system.  
The board also approved a \$15,000 payment to Motorola Solutions for software used by the Police Department. This software allows access to a cloud service that allows body camera and in-car camera footage to be uploaded and downloaded for investigation purposes, as well as easy access for prosecutors.  
"Without the software it's (cameras) are pretty much bricks," said Police Chief Kyle Randall.  
There were two SRF claims that the board approved. VTF Excavation's claim amount totaled \$10,237 and James S. Jackson Construction Company's Claim totaled \$1,431,679. Both claims are for the Wastewater Treatment Plant project.  
Mayor John Whicker was also present at Tuesday's board meeting.  
*jonathan@news-banner.com*

# Legislative roundup

(Continued from Page 1)  
existing state disaster relief fund to allow higher payments to Hoosiers for certain emergencies while expanding the uses of those dollars to include mitigation efforts.  
House legislators also doubled senate restrictions on a governor's ability to declare a state of disaster emergency. Senators previously limited such executive orders to 30 days, with one 30-day renewal for disasters receiving federal relief funds but the House amended the bill to a 60-day declaration and allowed one 60-day extension with no restrictions.  
Rep. Matt Lehman, the House sponsor of the bill, said the measure simply added guidelines for governors to engage with the

General Assembly on a statewide emergency.  
"Senate Bill 234 begins to set a parameter for future governors as to ... when you need to engage the legislative branch," said Lehman, R-Berne.  
During the COVID-19 pandemic, Holcomb repeatedly renewed the statewide disaster declaration with little pushback from lawmakers, who convened multiple times during the statewide emergency.  
Rep. Robin Shackleford, D-Indianapolis, wondered where such a law would leave the state should another pandemic like COVID-19 hit Indiana.  
"We have to be very careful of putting any taxes or maximum limits on these

disaster emergencies," Shackleford said. "... That (maximum) just puts us in danger not only because of the health of our communities, but also going to put us in danger of not receiving federal funding. Because we're going to put a limit and a cap on what we can do to statewide emergencies."  
The bill advanced over bipartisan objections, though only Shackleford spoke against the bill, on a 71-27 vote. Republican Reps. Mike Aylesworth, of Hebron, and Ed Clere, of

New Albany, joined Democrats against the bill.  
**Senate weighs in on birth control, health care**  
The Senate also moved several key bills Monday while turning down changes to a contentious birth control bill.  
Senate Democrats tried to add intrauterine devices back into a bill about long-acting reversible contraceptives. They were removed earlier in a health committee after opponents pushed a misconception that it is a type of abortion.



**Agri-SC**



• Improve emergence • Increase water infiltration

**FOUR STAR SERVICES, INC.** 260-824-5384  
agri-sc.com

**FCC (Adams), LLC**

# HIRING Full-time

**\$18.93/hour and up to \$21.01/hour**

- Apply at [www.fcc-na.com](http://www.fcc-na.com)
- Apply in person
- Apply on Indeed

Scan our QR Code



**Text our recruiters!**  
**1-260-849-2305**

FCC (Adams) is a World Leader in clutch technology.  
-An equal opportunity employer-



**BUSINESS OR PERSONAL**

401(k)s | Asset Management | Bonds  
College Planning | UITS | Financial Planning | Insurance & Annuities  
IRAs | Stocks | Personalized Goal Planning | Mutual Funds  
Pension & Profit Sharing Plans | Research | Retirement Planning


**RAYMOND JAMES**  
Raymond James Financial Services, Inc.  
Member FINRA/SIPC

**INVEST FOR THE FUTURE**



**Kim Gentis**  
Financial Advisor  
Financial Advisor Wealth Management Professional  
(260)824-8070  
kim.gentis@raymondjames.com  
1245 N. Main St., Bluffton, IN 46714  
Investment Advisory Services are offered through Raymond James Financial Services Advisors, Inc.

Your Local Tax Specialists



**BUSINESS CONSULTING • TAX PREPARATION  
BOOKKEEPING • PAYROLL • QB CONSULTS  
IRS REPRESENTATION**

**JOHN EMSHWILLER, EA  
NICK SCHEER, EA  
CORY RECKARD, CPA  
COLIN PENROD, EA**

207 N. Johnson Street, Bluffton, IN 7230 Engle Road, Fort Wayne, IN

[www.emshwiller.net](http://www.emshwiller.net) • 260.824.1826

OBITUARIES

**Lynn A. Ealing, 71**

Lynn A. Ealing, 71, of Bluffton, passed away Sunday afternoon, March 3, 2024, at Ossian Health & Rehabilitation Center following a short illness.

Lynn was born Oct. 24, 1952 to Paul E. and Barbara Ann (Lepper) Ealing in Fort Wayne; his father survives in Ossian. He was a 1971 graduate of Norwell High School and earned his BA in Business. Lynn worked as a Machinist and retired in 2018.

He was a member of Hope Missionary Church in Bluffton, where he volunteered as an usher for 40 years. Lynn volunteered at Forgotten Children, Helping Hands and the Caylor-Nickel Foundation Family YMCA.

Lynn married Susan G. (Karges) in Bluffton on Oct. 20, 1984, she survives in Bluffton. Additional survivors include his father; two sisters, Denise (Steve) Gerber



of Bluffton and Paula (Stan) Urbine of Ft. Wayne; and one brother, Dennis (Angie) Ealing of Ossian. Lynn and Susan are bonus grandparents to Elizabeth, Abigail, Adah and Grace, children of Josh and Lindsay Seder.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Barbara Ann (Lepper) Ealing on Feb. 11, 2019.

Visitation will be Saturday, March 9, 2024, from 11:00 until 3:00 p.m., at Hope Missionary Church, 429 East Dustman Road Bluffton, followed immediately by a funeral service at 3:00 p.m. Pastor Tony Robles will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in Lynn's memory can be made to Forgotten Children Worldwide or Helping Hands Bluffton.

Online condolences can be made at [www.goodwincaleharnish.com](http://www.goodwincaleharnish.com).

**Lorena E. Spaulding, 95**

Lorena E. Spaulding, 95, of Bluffton, passed away early on Tuesday morning, March 5, 2024, at her residence.

Lorena was born Sept. 17, 1928 in Hartford City to Herbert F. and Erma E. (Huggins) Lambert. Lorena was a homemaker and raised her two sons. She was a member of American Legion Post 111 Auxiliary.

On September 10, 1940, Lorena and Robert "Bob" E. Spaulding were married. They shared 53 years together before his passing in 1993.

Survivors include her two sons, Richard E. Spaulding of Bluffton and Greg A. (Cheryl) Spaulding of Bluffton; along with six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents;



her husband, Bob; and her siblings, Herbert Lambert, Jr., Patty Martin, Virginia Turner, Sue Jones and Robert M. Lambert.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 10, 2024, at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.

Visitation will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday, prior to the funeral service.

Memorials may be made to Friends Who Care Cancer Relief Foundation and can be sent to the funeral home.

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

**Sherry G. Salyers, 66**

Sherry G. Salyers, 66, died Sunday afternoon, March 3, 2024, at River Terrace Retirement Community. Sherry was born in Bluffton, on June 23, 1957, to Amos L. and Elizabeth (Combs) Salyers, both parents preceded her in death.

Sherry is survived by one sister, Tracy

Salyers of Chicago, Ill. In accordance with Sherry's wishes, there will be no public services at this time.

Goodwin - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel has been entrusted with the funeral arrangements.

**Police Notebook**

INCIDENTS

County:

Monday, 12:59 p.m., S.R. 116 and North Meridian Road, Bluffton. Driver cited for speeding 79 in a 55 mph zone.

Monday, 5:13 p.m., 4900 South Hoosier Highway, Bluffton. Officer responded to accident, multiple occupants in the car. Driver was identified as a juvenile with no license.

Tuesday, 12:05 a.m., Bluffton Rubber Co. Report of a suspicious vehicle in lot. Driver advised he was teaching his wife how to drive. Officer had subjects follow him to high school parking lot.

Tuesday, 2:12 a.m., near Main and Monroe streets, Bluffton. Officer conducted records check on vehicle

during routine patrol, driver registration returned as no valid license. Jabari Ronell Eldridge arrested for operating without receiving a license.

Tuesday, 7:26 a.m., S.R. 224 and North 400 West, Markle. Driver cited for speeding.

Ossian: Monday, 3:20 p.m., 1400 block of Baker Drive, Ossian. Caller advised her mother was in an accident. Officers observed a vehicle that had rolled over at least once. Subject advised she was driving home from work. Driver blew over two times the legal limit on a PBT test. Chastity Fisher arrested for operating while intoxicated.

ARRESTS

Andrew Lee Woods, 33,

Fort Wayne; possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony, and possession of paraphernalia — controlled substance, a Class C misdemeanor. Bond set at \$5,500.

Chastity Mae Fisher, 47, Ossian; operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class C misdemeanor. Bond set at \$500.

Jabari Ronell Eldridge, 40, Fort Wayne; operating a vehicle without ever receiving a license, a Class C misdemeanor.

Fernely Esduardo Velasquez, 20; operating without ever obtaining a license, a Class C misdemeanor.

Cesar Javier Marrogain-Jimenez, 19, Bluffton; operating without ever obtaining a license, a Class C misdemeanor.



**Sectional Bracket Contest winner**

Constance Alma, center, is the winner of the News-Banner and Pak-A-Sak's Boys' Sectional Bracket Contest, the prize for which is a \$100 gift card. Also pictured are Andrena Baughman, left, of Pak-a-Sak and Brandi Freeman, right, of the News Banner. (Photo by Jim Chilton)

**American Legion to host 105th birthday**

Members of Bluffton American Legion Post 111 will celebrate the 105th Birthday of the American Legion this Saturday per announcement today by Commander Robert Buehl. The celebration begins with a catered dinner at 6 p.m.

Members are asked to RSVP to the Post at 824-3815 by Thursday.

This year's guest speaker for the event will be Robert Burkhart from Alexandria, Indiana, and Post 87. He is the leading candidate for Indiana Department Commander for 2024-25. He earned his membership through 32 years of honorable service in the U.S. Army from 1981-2013, most of which was as a Military Policeman. Burkhart recently retired from the Indiana State Police after 23 years of service. Burkhart has held many offices in the Indiana American Legion on the Post, District and Department level. He currently represents Indiana

on the National Americanism Council.

Also attending will be the current Department Commander Robert Oeth, along with his wife, Debby. Bluffton Mayor John Whicker and his wife, Jolin, will also be attending.

A high point of the evening will include recognition of members with fifty or more years of continuous membership at Post 111. The most anticipated event of the evening is the announcement of Post 111 "Legionnaire of the Year." Also Saturday evening will be the announcement of the "Law Officer of the Year," introduced by Bluffton Police Chief Kyle Randall, and "Firefighter of the Year," introduced by Bluffton Fire Chief Don Craig. A monetary donation to the city of Bluffton will be presented to Whicker for the purpose of maintaining the display of American Flags in the downtown business neighborhood.

**Holcomb signs controversial pet sales bill**

By NIKI KELLY

Indiana Capital Chronicle

Gov. Eric Holcomb signed three bills into law on Monday, including a bill several years in the making that invalidates 21 local ordinances limiting pet sales.

House Enrolled Act 1412 also establishes care standards for dog breeders and pet stores.

Holcomb released a statement saying "A lot of collective work has gone into this bill since last session which addresses many of my original concerns. HB 1412 puts in place protections and provides needed transparency concerning the sale of dogs in Indiana. By signing this bill, pet stores, breeding facilities and animal rescue operations will be required to register with the Indiana State Board of Animal Health while pet stores will also be required to maintain records of each dog

purchased. The new regulations will ensure responsible breeding practices and improve animal care and safety in our communities."

Sen. Blake Doriot, R-Goshen, the chamber sponsor, described the measure as a proposal to establish some of the "strictest standards in the country" for retail stores and breeders, which must register with the State Board of Animal Health and follow Purdue University's Canine Care Certified Program.

Critics say the measure, which failed last year, strips local control and protects so-called puppy mills at the expense of crowded animal shelters. And there is no state funding to support state inspections.

Local governments in various communities had passed ordinances saying pet stores couldn't sell puppies from breeding operations as a way of limiting puppy mills.



**Johnloz honored by Quail Forever**

Rick Johnloz was recently awarded the Polaris Habitat Stewardship Award at the East Central Indiana Quail Forever banquet in Bluffton. The award was for 40 years of conservation wildlife projects on managed property as well as his own family farms in the area. Picture from left are Rick Johnloz, Shawn Fear of Fear Motor Sports and Quail Forever Regional Rep Nick Golias. (Photo submitted)

**Obituary Policy**

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

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

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

**WE HELP YOU GET SOCIAL SECURITY, MEDICARE AND MEDICAID READY!**

**Jerry Flack & Associates**

WE REPRESENT MANY - MANY - MANY INSURANCE COMPANIES

WE HAVE ALL THE MEDICARE AND MEDICAID OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Preston Kaehr - Julie Myers - Connie Vangelakos

The Price Tag is the Same Everywhere Consider Local for Better Service

**WE HAVE THE MARKETPLACE UNDER 65 PRODUCTS.**

WHEN YOU HAVE PROBLEMS AND YOU WILL HAVE PROBLEMS YOU WILL HAVE US TO COUNT ON

**MEDICARE SUPPLEMENTS - MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLANS - PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLANS**

Life Insurance - Long Term Care Insurance - Investments - Individual and Small Group Health - Dental - Vision - Hearing - Cancer Insurance

Folks on Medicare A and B and Diabetic can get FREE Nice Looking Diabetic Shoes Every Year from Us | We Do FREE Information/ Education Seminars In Your Business (Again Former Teachers)

**WE CAN MEET: IN OUR OFFICE - IN YOUR HOME - IN A FAVORED LOCATION**

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

**FAST, RELIABLE FIBER INTERNET**

SOLUTIONS FOR HOME AND BUSINESS

UNLIMITED DATA | UPTO 1\* GBPS | 24/7 SUPPORT

**SERVICE NOW AVAILABLE IN MANY AREAS.**

Sign up today or get fiber-ready by signing the underground agreement.

Call for more details!  
833.727.5563  
[twncomm.com/heartland](http://twncomm.com/heartland)

**TWN Communications** | **HEARTLAND REMC**

\*Services provided by TWN Communications. Not available in all areas. Restrictions, terms and conditions apply. Taxes, regulatory, surcharges and other charges are applicable. A line connection fee may be applicable. Call for details or visit [twncomm.com/terms-conditions](http://twncomm.com/terms-conditions) for additional information and terms and conditions of services. Residential customers on qualifying internet plans will receive download/upload speeds of 25.0 Mbps to 1.0 Gbps, per respective plan. A 30-day notice is required to cancel service.

## Indiana needs more municipal flexibility

Over the past half century, a tad more than 90 percent of population growth in Indiana occurred in metropolitan counties. Half of all the growth in Indiana over the past 50 years occurred in the Indianapolis metro area. That trend is accelerating over the past decade.

Rural population in the state peaked at the beginning of the Great Recession. Since then, 103 percent of population growth has occurred in metro areas, with Indy capturing more than 71 percent of the state's total population growth. It isn't just people. Urban Indiana captured more than 100 percent of new jobs created in the state since 2000, and nearly all the economic growth so far this century.

In the months since COVID we might have expected things to change. Roughly a third of Hoosier employees now work at least partially from home. This explosion in remote work means a substantial share of families are less geographically connected to their worksite. That has slightly improved the prospects for rural Indiana. Since COVID, cities have only accounted for 99.3 percent of population growth. That results in net growth of about 100 families across all of Indiana's rural counties since the end of the COVID recession. In contrast, Hamilton County alone had nearly 16,000 new residents in the first two years after COVID.

Cities aren't just critical to Indiana's economy, they are the future of Indiana's economy.

One fortunate geographic quirk of Indiana is that we are a very condensed state. Unlike the upper Midwest, Plains, or southwestern states, almost nine in 10 Hoosiers live within 20 minutes of a metropolitan area. The benefit of that is that almost anyone can access urban labor markets, urban amenities and public services in cities. That should be a boon to both urban and rural Hoosiers.

Unfortunately, many Hoosier cities aren't thriving. In fact, Indiana has some of the worst performing metropolitan areas in the country so far this century. Including the stunning growth in the Indianapolis region, Indiana ranks 32nd nationwide in urban growth, a full one-third slower than the national average.

There are many causes to Indiana's sluggish growth. Lower levels of educational attainment along with lower quality public services are the dominant causal factors in slow growth. For the most part, elected city leaders work very hard to remedy these problems. However, there is just too little flexibility for cities to boldly experiment with public policy options. That is a problem that begins and ends in the legislature.

According to the staff at Accelerate Indiana's Municipalities—a 130-year-old association of municipal governments—in a typical short session they face roughly 40 bills per year limiting the power of city government. In a budget session, that number more than doubles, with some years seeing more than 100 bills designed to strip fiscal or regulatory power from cities.

The recent history of restricting cities has seen some hurtful policies. Indiana cities have very little fiscal flexibility. Property taxes are capped. Implementing or raising the Food and Beverage Tax requires legislative approval. The local option income tax on a city requires all taxing bodies to face the same rate. And maybe worst of all, it is virtually impossible for cities to annex surrounding neighborhoods, even if they already provide them with public services.

I can name several Indiana cities that are poised to grow but are landlocked. Residents want to live in the city and access city services. Builders want to build homes in the city, and the city wishes to expand water, sewer, police and fire protection to these new parts of the city. But, the city cannot annex the property, so no homes will be built and no sewer or water expanded.

Indiana's annexation rules have created de facto urban growth boundaries that are more like Portland, Ore. or San Francisco, Calif. than a midwestern city desperate for new residents. It is a bizarre outcome.

No doubt many of the bills considered each year to restrict the freedom of cities are reasonable in their assessment of a particular project or plan. As in any organization run by humans, some mistakes are inevitable. Even so, the legislature would do well to stay away from trying to judge these matters as if they were a city council or mayor's office.

The reasons for this are both philosophical and practical. One great gift of our form of government is simply that states and cities are the laboratory for policy ideas. States should be in the business of permitting cities wide latitude in their affairs. That sort of Federalism argument is part of the pantheon of conservative thought.

Moreover, most city policies the legislature seeks to limit are the result of democratic voices in those cities. One good example is SB 52, which had sought to limit the use of dedicated bus lanes. Having not studied the issue in depth, I just don't know if the style of bus lanes used by Indianapolis is wise or not. I do know that the IndyGo plan has been heavily vetted, supported by voters across many electoral cycles, and the mayor who supports it was re-elected handily. That speaks to the democratic nature of the proposal.

There's also a practical reason. In the more than two decades I've been studying cities, I can think of no examples where mistakes in city spending or policy have broad economic spillovers. Even in massive cases of failure, such as Detroit in the 2000s, nearly all the negative consequences were concentrated within city limits. In contrast, there are hundreds of examples where the benefits of successful cities spill over into neighboring communities.

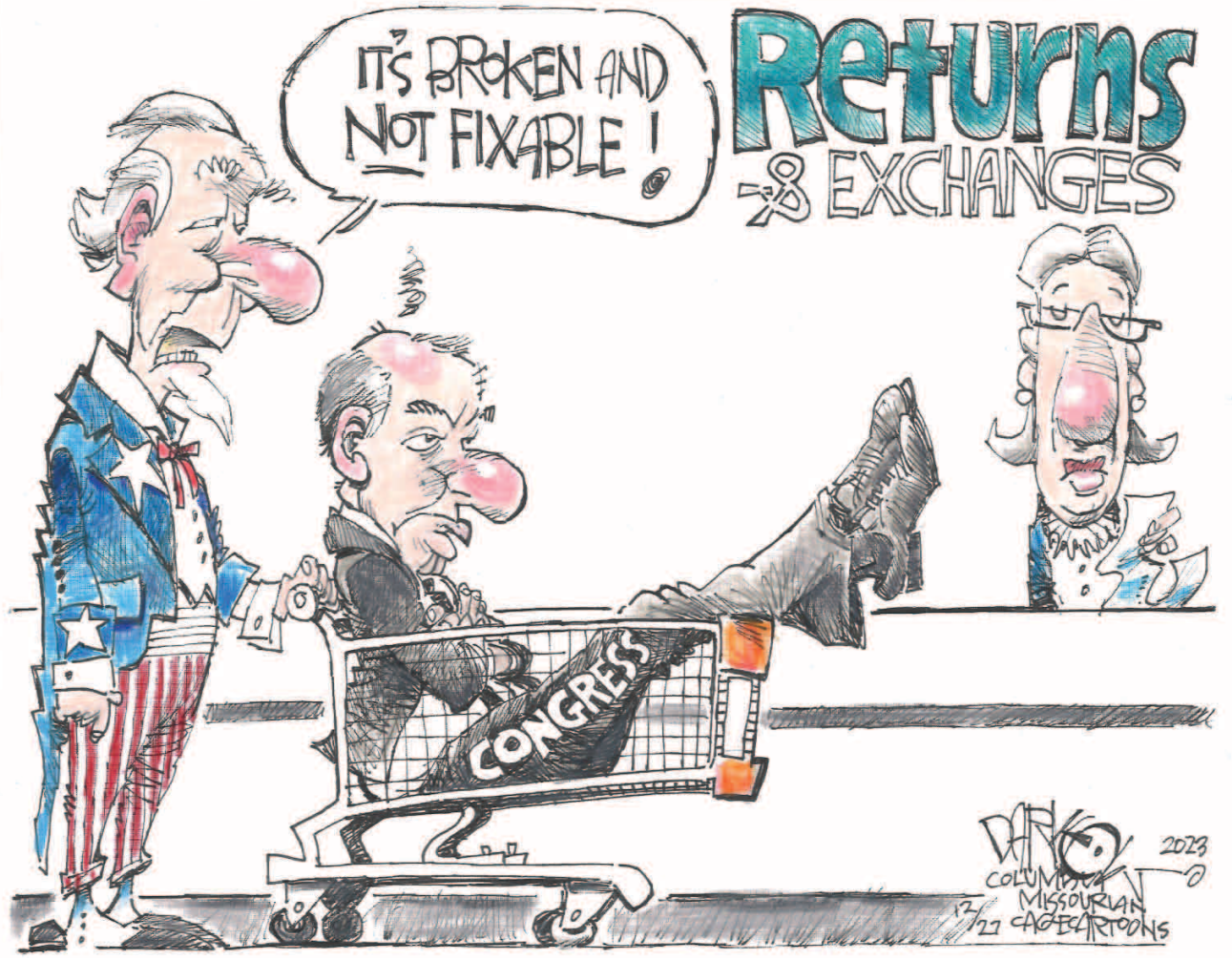
This means that there is really no downside to the legislature in allowing broad policy experimentation in taxes, infrastructure, policing or education within a city. Likewise, there are just no upsides to restricting experimentation. It is almost really that simple.

*Michael Hicks is the George and Frances Ball Distinguished Professor of Economics and the director of the Center for Business and Economic Research at Ball State University.*



Michael Hicks

## Hoosier Opinions



## Our political parties have become unrecognizable

When you're in the political center, you get attacked by partisans on both sides. It sometimes seems the only thing that unites liberals and conservatives is how much both camps dislike those of us in the middle of the road.

I used to push back when challenged. But in recent years, I've become more laid back — and a bit mischievous.

When someone identifies as a Democrat, I'll respond: "Great! What kind of Democrat are you?" The same goes for those who identify as Republican: "That's awesome," I'll say. "What kind of Republican are you?"

Are they the kind of Democrat who supports refugees or the kind that supports President Biden's attempt to all but eliminate asylum when border crossings get too high? Are they the kind of Republican who supports free trade or the kind that backs the tariffs on aluminum and steel imposed by then-President Donald Trump?

I'm not playing gotcha, or setting a trap. I'm genuinely curious as to where people are coming from. I don't just want to know how they define themselves. I want to know *why* they see themselves in that light. Often, people can't verbalize it. Or they use the opposing party as a north star. They say they're a Democrat because they can't stand Republicans or they're a Republican because they have no faith in Democrats.

I'm also trying to make a point. I want more Americans to see that the major political parties in this country ain't what they used to be. Often, the principles and values that once attracted followers are no longer adhered to. And, in some cases, what the parties claim to stand for now are some of the very things they were said to oppose years ago.

Now that both Republicans and Democrats have turned themselves inside out — especially on hot-button issues like immigration, guns or abortion — to win elections, political labels have become worthless.

Generally speaking, the parties have gravitated to the extremes and away from the middle. In the process, ideological labels got scrambled.

In the Republican Party, what passes for a "conservative" today might have been stranded on the far-right fringe years ago, while what passes for a "moderate" today might have been seen as quite "conservative" not long ago. For Democrats, a self-described "progressive" would have been isolated on the left-wing margins years ago, while what we consider a "moderate" could be considered a traditional "liberal."

Political historian Brian Rosenwald, a scholar in residence at the University of Pennsylvania, has studied this. While he acknowledges that elements of the Democratic Party have moved to the left, he is more concerned about what he sees as a dramatic rightward drift by the GOP.

Analyzing the ideologies of different members of Congress, Rosenwald suggests that even a legendary "arch-conservative" like Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) would today be considered more moderate. Helms's career voting record would make him the 14th most conservative member of the current Senate, he argues.

"This illustrates something not discussed frequently enough in the media," Rosenwald wrote in an op-ed for Smerconish.com, the digital hub from SiriusXM radio host Michael Smerconish. "Republicans have lurched so far to the right over the last few decades that labels like moderate and conservative have become distorted."

Political observers insist that neither Democrat John F. Kennedy nor Republican Ronald Reagan could be elected today to lead their party. Reagan — who legalized approximately 2.7 million undocumented immigrants — would be judged too liberal for Republicans. Kennedy — a foreign policy hawk who cut taxes — would be deemed too conservative for Democrats.

Besides, there used to be "conservative Democrats" and "liberal Republicans." That was actually a thing, and our politics were better off. You don't get much done with absolutes and bright lines and 100 percenters who reject half a loaf. You need nuance, flexibility and common sense.

Nowadays, how we define ourselves is irrelevant. It's what is in our hearts that matters. I want more people to look inside and recognize what's there. We shouldn't even be allowed to identify ourselves politically until we've engaged in the difficult, often uncomfortable, process of introspection. We can't know *what* we are until we know *who* we are.

The political parties muddy the waters with dishonesty and double talk. On Monday, they support one thing; by Friday, they're for the opposite.

Rosenwald is half right. Political labels *have* become distorted. But what's worse is that, along the way, our politics have become disfigured.

*crimscribe@icloud.com. His podcast, "Ruben in the Center," is available through every podcast app.*



Ruben Navarette

## Politicians excel at lying

Politicians aren't good at much, but they do excel at one thing — lying. They lie about the border. Both parties refuse to acknowledge the danger of a growing and unsustainable debt (CNBC reports it's increasing by \$1 trillion about every 100 days).

Consider. President Biden had his annual physical exam last week. When asked if a cognitive test was part of it, White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre stated flatly, "No, because the doctor doesn't believe he needs one."

If a police officer sees a car swerving, the officer will usually pull the driver over. If the driver smells of alcohol, the officer proposes a sobriety test. If the driver refuses, the driver can still be found guilty based on the appearance of drunk driving.

What evidence would be necessary to conclude without a test that President Biden has cognitive issues? Falling down? Shuffling? Slurred speech? Forgetting names? Needing notes for the simplest of engagements? The public sees all these and more. Polls show a majority say Biden is too old for a second term. It's not the age, but the condition of the mind.

Devon Archer, a former business associate of Hunter Biden's, testified last year that Hunter would occasionally put his father on speakerphone during business meetings, but that they never discussed business on the calls. Archer said the vice president was put on the phone only to help sell



Cal Thomas

"the brand." Hunter testified before the GOP-led House Oversight and Judiciary Committees last week, and, according to Chairman James Comer, citing the committee's investigation, "Joe Biden, attended dinners, spoke on speakerphone, showed up to meetings, and had coffee with his son's foreign business associates."

There was no explanation why Hunter, according to the New York Post, received a diamond reportedly worth \$80,000 and a new Porsche, or if any product or service was provided in exchange. Some critics are credibly claiming it was influence-buying.

Hunter had previously said to business associates, "I'm sitting here with my Dad." And there were possibly incriminating texts sent to business associates while he was "high or drunk."

Tony Bobulinski, another former business associate of Hunter Biden's, testified before the House Oversight and Judiciary Committees claiming what most people suspected, that the "big guy" who allegedly received 10 percent on every deal, was Joe Biden, but that he wasn't "involved."

"I'm not drunk, officer, it was my tire alignment that caused the car to weave."

This recalls another president who was good at lying. Bill Clinton claimed he did not have sex with intern Monica Lewinsky. "There is nothing going on between us," he asserted, as reported by Slate at the

time. Later and under oath, Clinton was asked before a grand jury if he was still (currently) having sex with Lewinsky. His famous reply: "It depends on what the meaning of the word 'is' is. If the — if he — if 'is' means is and never has been, that is not — that is one thing. If it means there is none, that was a completely true statement. ... Now, if someone had asked me on that day, are you having any kind of sexual relations with Ms. Lewinsky, that is, asked me a question in the present tense, I would have said no. And it would have been completely true."

Hairs then and now have never been split so finely. In 1998, several Clinton defenders left a Cabinet meeting with the president and buttressed his claims of innocence. The group was led by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, who said: "I believe that the allegations are completely untrue." Commerce Secretary William Daley said, "I'll second that." Education Secretary Dick Riley added, "I've already said that."

The same lying, dissembling and coverup is happening again from the more than 50 intelligence officers claiming material found on Hunter's laptop was "Russian disinformation," to Hunter's reversal of previous lies, while he apparently continues to lie about other things and some Democrats claim there is nothing there.

When it comes to Washington (the city, not George), if you never trust a politician you will never be disappointed.

*tcaeditors@tribpub.com*

### The News-Banner

(USPS 059-200)

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

#### News-Banner Publications, Inc.

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

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

Holly Gaskill, Editor  
Mark Miller, Opinion Page Editor

# A checklist for success, thanks to Ralph Waldo Emerson

As I have grown older, I find how I feel about certain things are quite different from how I felt in various stages in my life. Years of experiences influence a person's insight when determining the meaning of a word. The topics are as varied as the color of spring flowers.

Take the definition of old. When I was a teenager in the '60's, thirty sounded so old, and we were told not to trust anyone over that age. At 30, sixty sounded old as parents and grandparents started to show snow colored hair and slower gaits. At 40, I had lost my parents, and it was my friends that were getting gray hair. I noticed the change in weather through my knees. It was then that old wasn't determined by a number but how I felt. Now at 75, old is defined by luck. People of a certain age feel lucky that they are on the right side of the grass and are experiencing what old age has to offer.

Another term that takes on new meaning is happiness. When I was a child, happy was sunshine on my face and my grandma's cookies. As

a teenager, it was a smile from a certain boy and a date to the prom. As a college student, it was a party on Friday night and sleeping in until 2 p.m. In my thirties, it was a baby sleeping through the night and laundry being done. Today happiness is baking cookies for my granddaughter and waking to see the sun peering through my bedroom window.

But I think the word that has changed so greatly for me personally is the word success. When I was in college, I had a poster on my dorm wall that I read often. It was the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson. It stated...

*"To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate the beauty; to find the best in others; to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch Or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded!"*

As a bright-eyed college student, I felt I had accomplished none of these and my goal was to work toward success. The one I



homed in on was the redeemed social condition. I felt it spoke directly to me and the many challenges my generation faced: war, civil rights, and femi-

nism. I needed to forge forward to make changes in those social conditions. It gave me purpose. The other words didn't pertain to me. I planned not to have children or plant a garden and cared little about what others felt about me. My friends were going to be my friends forever and would never betray me. I felt I had forever before I would leave this earth. The next 50 years would prove me wrong.

Today I look totally different at that statement for I feel Emerson was speaking to a person's lifetime and to simply live and survive is to be successful.

Each person travels through stages of his or her life. Some look to others for affirmation that they are successful. I beg to differ. I believe our success is determined by our own opinion of the impact we have others and the world around us. People need to make a checklist of Emerson's guidelines to see if they are a success. I did.

1. **To laugh often and much:** Yep, every day... usually at

myself.

2. **To win the respect of intelligent people:** Do people I respect ask me for advice? Check

3. **To win the affection of children:** All I need is to look into my grandchild's eye. Or remember the many children I received heart-felt hugs from in the morning as they arrived for another day in my classroom.

4. **To appreciate the beauty:** I am humbled at the world around me as I witness the marvels of nature. I also focus on the beauty to be found within a person and not the outside.

5. **Earn the appreciation of honest critics:** This is a tough one but then I think of the countless editors that gave me advice, and I can check off this one.

6. **Endure the betrayal of false friends:** This is a painful one to check off but if you live long enough your friends will disappoint you, and you will survive.

7. **Find the best in others:** This is the backbone of every teacher I have known, the belief that every student is reachable and valuable.

**To leave the world a bit better, whether by...**

8. **A healthy child:** Three children. Yup. Define healthy....

9. **A garden patch:** There was a time my house looked like a greenhouse so I can check this

one off, but now, not so much. My green thumb faded, and my back became weak.

10. **A redeemed social condition:** I have fought my entire life to preserve and conserve our natural world. It is a continuous battle and one I shall rage until my last breath.

11. **To know one life has breathed easier because you have lived:** This should be the goal of every human being.

**Here's the thing:** Emerson had it right. These eleven goals could easily be a roadmap to a very successful life. One through ten are achieved at various stages of your life, but number 11 seems to be the most important. I challenge you to take on number 11 every day you have left on this earth. Make it a point that you have used your resources, your intelligence, your spirit, or simply your smile to make another person's day just a little bit better. Then you can go to bed every night knowing you are a success.

mamashwartz@hotmail.com

*Editor's Note: This is one of a series of articles written by a group of retired and current teachers — LaNae Abnet, Ken Ballinger, Billy Kreigh, Kathy Schwartz, and Anna Spalding. Their intent is to spur discussions at the dinner table and elsewhere. You may also voice your thoughts and reactions via The News-Banner's letters to editor.*

## 1,000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN



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

At left, Denver Drayer (holding his prize book "Chloe and the Lion") is pictured with his mom, Nicole.

At right, Phoebe Reynolds (posing next to her prize book "Welcome") is pictured with her parents Carl and Natalie.

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



## Registration opens for Adams County 5K Run/Walk Challenge

The Adams County 5K Run/Walk Challenge for the 2024 season is set to begin April 20, 2024. The series offers participants an opportunity to participate in a total of eight races within Adams County. The Challenge Series award will be given to the first 100 participants 19 years-old or older who complete a minimum of five events and have registered for the Challenge. Both runners and walkers are encouraged to participate.

Registration forms are available on the Adams County 5K Run/Walk Challenge website at [adamscounty5kchallenge.com](http://adamscounty5kchallenge.com). The series fee covers registration to all events. Participants entering the Challenge will automatically be pre-registered for all races in the series schedule. The cost to register for the series is \$150 with a t-shirt at each race, and \$100 without a shirt. Students under the age of 18 may register for the series for each race, and \$80 without a shirt. Registration forms may be submitted to Debra Gerber, 656 W Van Buren Street, Berne, IN 46711. Participation is open to

anyone wanting to compete and is not limited to residents living in Adams County. The Challenge is limited to the first 100 entries. Runners / walkers who do not pre-register for the series may still participate by signing up for individual events but will not receive the series discount. Individual event registration forms and information may also be found the Adams County 5K Run/Walk Challenge website.

Following each event, race results may be viewed on the Adams County 5K Run/Walk Challenge website at [adamscounty5kchallenge.com](http://adamscounty5kchallenge.com).

- The 2024 schedule is as follows:
- April 20: St. Joe/HASA Fun Run 5K at 9 a.m.; Contact Kendra Strickler, 260-223-9619 or [kyrajoe03@hotmail.com](mailto:kyrajoe03@hotmail.com).
  - May 11: Monroe Lions 5K at 8:15 a.m.; Contact Alan Arnold, 260-216-1101 or [pamalarn@myfibersolution.com](mailto:pamalarn@myfibersolution.com).
  - June 8: Youth for Christ 5K at 8 am; Contact Rhonda Beall, 260-525-8022 or [rhonda@bigjawsyfc.org](mailto:rhonda@bigjawsyfc.org).
  - June 15: Fitness Deliv-

ered 5K and Fun Run. Fun Run at 8 a.m., 5k at 8:30 a.m.; Contact Kelly Roby at [kkeloby25@yahoo.com](mailto:kkeloby25@yahoo.com).

• July 27: Swiss Days at 8:15 a.m.; Contact Jason Arnold, 260-589-8231 or [jarnold@southadams.k12.in.us](mailto:jarnold@southadams.k12.in.us).

• Aug. 24: Adams Memorial/Kekionga Greenway Gallop at 4:30 p.m.; Contact Linda Morris, 260-692-2916 or [lmorris@decaturchamber.org](mailto:lmorris@decaturchamber.org).

• Sept.14: Catch Your Breath/Dash for Diabetes 5K and Kids 1 mile at 9 a.m.; Contact Macy Jauregui, 260-223-9695 or [macy.jauregui@adamshealthnetwork.org](mailto:macy.jauregui@adamshealthnetwork.org).

• Oct. 6: Callithumpian Canter 5K and 1 mile Fun Run at 2 p.m.; Contact Mary Friedt, 260-223-1087 or [mary.friedt@yahoo.com](mailto:mary.friedt@yahoo.com).

• Nov. 30: Rainbow Lake 5K at 10 a.m. Contact Sawyer Miller, 260-418-8396 or [sawyermliller75@gmail.com](mailto:sawyermliller75@gmail.com).

## Events at the Fort Wayne riverfront

March events at Fort Wayne's Promenade park will include the following:

Kickboxing will be presented on the Sundays of March 10, April 14, May 12 with Boxing 9 Round from 9 a.m. and Yoga from 10:30-11:30 a.m. A free event.

Free Heritage Concerts will be offered on the Sundays of March 10, April 14 and May 12 with local groups performing.

The free Green Thumb Garden Tour will be held on Sunday, March 17, from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be workshops, activities and displays with a garden presentation at 1 p.m.

More information about all events at [Riverfrontfw.org](http://Riverfrontfw.org).



## Pop up vendors at the Pulse

Jessica Salyer of Jessica's Craft Corner was the featured vendor at the Pulse Opera House on Saturday, March 2, as her personalized beverage bottles, key chains, ear rings and coasters were offered for sale in the theater lobby before and after the performance of "The Invisible Man: A Live Radio Show." The show will have Friday and Saturday performances at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 p.m. and Sunday at 4 p.m. on March 8-10, with a new vendor featured each day. Tickets to the show are \$15 for adults and \$5 for those 12 and under. The show takes the audience back to a time when listeners sat around a counsel radio and went "to the theater." Salyer may be contacted via Facebook @ Jessica's Craft Corner. (Photo by Barbara Barbieri)

# Online Directory

Check out these websites of local & area companies and businesses.

<b>Genesis Pest Services</b> genesispestservices.com	<b>MR. KOOL</b> HEATING AND COOLING mrkoolheatingandair.com	<b>DAZEY'S SUPPLY</b> dazeys.com/bluffton-in
<b>WELLS COUNTY 4-H GROWS HERE</b> extension.purdue.edu/wells	<b>JC'S GARAGE DOOR SALES &amp; SERVICE</b> jcsgaragedoor.com	<b>Daniel's JEWELERS</b> daniels-jewelers.net
<b>THEGMCFAMILY.COM</b>	<b>3 RIVERS</b> 3riversfcu.org	<b>MYERS FUNERAL HOMES</b> myersfuneralhomes.com
<b>FISHER'S GARAGE DOORS</b> fishersgaragedoors.com	<b>Riverstone DENTAL</b> riverstonedental.net	<b>Bluffton Tire</b> blufftontire.com
<b>INNOVATIVE CONCEPTS</b> icav.us	<b>HIDAY AUTOMOTIVE GROUP</b> hidaymotors.com	<b>Edward Jones</b> EdwardJones.com
<b>Lengerich MEATS</b> lengerichmeats.com	<b>Jerry Flack &amp; Associates</b> jerryflackinsuranceandinvestments.com	<b>LaFontaine Center</b> A RHF Community lafontainecenter.org
<b>Still Waters FAMILY DENTISTRY</b> stillwatersfamilydentistry.com	<b>bi-countyservices.com</b>	<b>Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home</b> thomarich.com
<b>AB CINEMA</b> 130 W. Monroe St. Decatur, IN • 260-724-SHOW	<b>Kung Fu Panda 4</b> Thursday, March 7th 6:20pm Friday, March 8th 6pm & 8:20pm Saturday, March 9th 1pm, 5:55, 2pm, 4:10pm, 6:20pm, & 8:30pm Sunday, March 10th 2pm & 4:20pm	<b>State Farm</b> Erin Daugherty 260.827.0527 www.MyBlufftonSFAgent.com
<b>Dune Part 2</b> Thursday, March 7th 6pm Friday, March 8th 6:30pm Saturday, March 9th 3:30pm, & 7pm Sunday, March 10th 3:30pm	<b>Gabrini</b> Saturday, March 9th 11am Sunday, March 10th 12:30pm	<b>HOME COURT HOME CARE</b> homecourthomecare.com
<b>www.abcinemainc.com</b>		<b>NBDigital</b> nb-digital.com

Buy-Sell-Estate and Collection Appraisal  
Strong Buyers of Old Coins, Silver Coins & Scrap Gold Jewelry

## Solly's Coins

(260) 747-0500  
NOW in Broadview Plaza Across the Street From Our Old Location!  
6110 Bluffton Rd., Waynedale, Fort Wayne, IN  
Jim Sollberger, Owner  
[sollycoins@comcast.net](mailto:sollycoins@comcast.net)  
[www.sollycoins.com](http://www.sollycoins.com)  
Hours: T-F - 10-5 | SAT - 10-2 | or by Appointment

- US Coins
- Gold Coins
- Silver Bullion
- Proof & Mint Sets
- Coin Supplies (Albums & Folders)

**Kung Fu Panda 4**  
Thursday, March 7th 6:20pm  
Friday, March 8th 6pm & 8:20pm  
Saturday, March 9th 1pm, 5:55, 2pm, 4:10pm, 6:20pm, & 8:30pm  
Sunday, March 10th 2pm & 4:20pm

**Dune Part 2**  
Thursday, March 7th 6pm  
Friday, March 8th 6:30pm  
Saturday, March 9th 3:30pm, & 7pm  
Sunday, March 10th 3:30pm

**Gabrini**  
Saturday, March 9th 11am  
Sunday, March 10th 12:30pm

[www.abcinemainc.com](http://www.abcinemainc.com)

# Have a Website? Tell the World!

Ask for our latest Website visitor statistics!  
The power of print and the Internet, working for you! Call 824-0224 for more information.

# Earth Day 5K registration now open for Bluffton Parks

Registration is now open for the Bluffton Parks & Recreation's Earth Day Race Without a Trace 5K.

At 9 a.m. Saturday, April 20, this running/walking annual event will take place at the Bluffton City Gym. For \$10, anyone can participate.

Bluffton Parks & Recreation will also be

giving away live plants and trees to overall and age group winners. It will also be recycling past event shirts and bibs.

To sign up, go to [raceroster.com/events/2024/86614/earth-day-5k](https://raceroster.com/events/2024/86614/earth-day-5k) and for more information, [blufftonindiana.net](https://blufftonindiana.net) or the Bluffton Parks Facebook page will have it for you.

# Cardinals ace Sonny Gray could miss opening day start

By DAVE SKRETTA  
AP Sports Writer

St. Louis Cardinals ace Sonny Gray could miss an opening day start because of a mild right hamstring strain sustained in his latest spring training outing.



Sonny Gray

Gray had been slated to start at the Los Angeles Dodgers on March 28.

"If it's in the cards for me to still do that, then obviously I'm going to do everything in my power to make that happen," Gray said Tuesday.

The three-time All-Star right-hander left his start Monday against Washington after 20 pitches. The Cardinals initially said Gray had tightness in his hamstring, and an MRI revealed the strain.

"We've had some encouraging news that it's a mild strain. Not going to put any return-to-play (date) on it," president of baseball operations John Mozeliak said. "It's been less than 24 hours. We're going to see how he responds over the next few days. But from the MRI reading, we're definitely encouraged. Fingers crossed this isn't something that's going to linger too long."

Following their poorest season since 1995, the Cardinals gave Gray a \$75 million, three-year contract in November to anchor a revamped rotation that includes

fellow newcomer Kyle Gibson and returning starter Lance Lynn. Gray is coming off one of the best seasons of his 11-year major league career, going 8-8 with a 2.79 ERA for Minnesota while finishing second to the New York Yankees' Gerrit Cole in AL Cy Young voting.

Gray was sharp in his spring training debut, throwing a pair of scoreless innings, and he was shutting down Washington before his hamstring problem popped up with two outs in the second inning. He motioned for catcher Willson Contreras to come to the mound, and soon manager Oliver Marmol and Cardinals head athletic trainer Adam Olsen had joined them.

Gray has a history of hamstring injuries, twice missing time during the 2022 season with Minnesota.

"It is somewhat of a similar feeling," Gray said. "Physically, I feel like I'm in a much better spot now than I was then."

Mozeliak said the Cardinals have not discussed who would replace Gray against the Dodgers on opening day. Miles Mikolas appears to be the most likely candidate after starting on opening day last year.

If Gray starts the season on the injured list, Matthew Liberatore and Zach Thompson are in line to take his spot in the rotation.

"It would be challenging, I think, at this point (to start opening day)," Mozeliak acknowledged at the Cardinals' spring training base in Jupiter, Florida. "We just have to give it a little air, a little space, and we'll understand more the next few days."

# No. 3 Purdue tops No. 12 Illinois to clinch outright Big Ten title

By STEVE STEIN  
Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. (AP) — Zach Edey had 28 points and eight rebounds as No. 3 Purdue rallied in the second half to beat No. 12 Illinois 77-71 on Tuesday night, becoming the first team in 17 years to win consecutive outright Big Ten regular-season championships.

Fletcher Loyer added 16 points for the Boilermakers (27-3, 16-3), who had already clinched at least a share of their second straight conference title with Saturday night's victory over Michigan State.

The previous Big Ten team to win back-to-back outright regular-season crowns was Ohio State in 2006 and 2007.

Braden Smith had 13 points and six assists for Purdue, which improved to 7-0 against ranked opponents this season. Mason Gillis scored 10 off the bench.

Loyer hit a 3-pointer with 3:08 left that put Purdue ahead for good, 67-66.

Marcus Domask led second-place Illinois (22-8, 13-6) with 20 points. Coleman Hawkins had 13 points and nine rebounds.

Quincy Guerrier scored 12 for the Fight-

ing Illini, and Terrence Shannon Jr. had 11 points on 3-for-13 shooting — including 0 of 4 from 3-point range.

Edey scored 18 points in the first half, shooting 9 of 13 from the field, but the Illini led 40-34 at halftime. Purdue didn't take its first lead until Gillis' 3-pointer with 10:11 left put the Boilermakers in front 56-54.

### BIG PICTURE

Purdue: All three of the Boilermakers' losses have come on the road in Big Ten games, to Northwestern, Nebraska and Ohio State. Knocking off Illinois, which had lost just twice at home all season, was an impressive addition to Purdue's sparkling resume.

Illinois: Shannon didn't play when Illinois lost 83-78 at Purdue on Jan. 5. It was one of six games he missed while serving a university-imposed suspension because of a rape charge in Kansas. Foul trouble kept Shannon on the bench for much of the first half Tuesday, and he wasn't much of a factor in the game.

### UP NEXT

Purdue: Home vs. Wisconsin on Sunday.  
Illinois: Plays at Iowa on Sunday.

# Knights MS defeats Starfires in swim & dive, wrestling

Norwell's Middle School swimming and diving teams and the wrestling team defeated South Adams Monday night.

In swimming, the boys won 135-35, while the girls won 154-27.

### First-place winners were:

- Boys**
- Ben Peterson in the diving events and in the 50-yard butterfly.
  - Evan Swallow in the 200-yard freestyle and in the 400-yard freestyle.
  - Tyler Zent in the 100-yard IM and in the 100-yard backstroke.
  - Wyatt Goulet in the 50-yard freestyle.
  - Easton Reinhard in the 100-yard breaststroke.
  - Rodgers, Peterson, Swallow and Goulet in the 300-yard freestyle relay.
  - Goulet, Rodgers, Swallow and Peterson in the 200-yard freestyle relay.
- Girls**
- Katelyn Troutt in the diving events.
  - Faith Grant in the 200-yard freestyle and in the 100-yard backstroke.
  - Mia Kurtz in the 100-yard IM.

- Abby Swineford in the 50-yard freestyle.
  - Emma Easley in the 50-yard butterfly and in the 400-yard freestyle.
  - Reagan Wilson in the 100-yard breaststroke.
  - Swineford, Kurtz, Easley and Mialkowski in the 300-yard freestyle relay.
  - Grant, Haiflich, Hoopingarner and Swinerford in the 200-yard medley relay.
  - Swineford, Mialkowski, Easley and Kurtz in the 200-yard freestyle relay.
- In wrestling, Norwell won 39-31.

### Individual winners were:

- Crete Edwards by decision 4-0 at 90.
- Clayton Parsons by decision 11-5 at 95.
- Royce Merrin by major decision 8-0 at 125.
- Preston Capps by fall at 132.
- Colton Huss by technical fall 15-0 at 150.
- E.J. Morgan by fall at 175.
- Lincoln Moeyer by forfeit at 195.
- Ty Tofflemoyer by forfeit at 220.

# High School Calendar

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

No events scheduled.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 7

No events scheduled.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 8

No events scheduled.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 9

TRACK & FIELD (CO-ED): Norwell at Bulldog Invite at Indiana Tech (Warrior Park), 10 a.m.

### MONDAY, MARCH 11

No events scheduled.

### TUESDAY, MARCH 12

No events scheduled.

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

No events scheduled.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 14

No events scheduled.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 15

TRACK & FIELD (CO-ED): Bluffton, Norwell at Taylor University Qualifier, 5:30 p.m.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 16

No events scheduled.

# Big names headline NFL's franchise tag deadline day

The NFL's first big transaction date of the off-season happened on Tuesday, and it included some big names.

The franchise tag deadline forced teams to make final decisions on whether or not they'd use a non-exclusive franchise tag, an exclusive tag, a transition tag or an outright release the player to free agency.

Here are some of the notable names:

### WR Michael Pittman Jr., Indianapolis Colts

The Indianapolis Colts have placed the non-exclusive franchise tag on starting receiver Michael Pittman Jr. The move was announced less than an hour before Tuesday's deadline and comes less than a week after Colts general manager Chris Ballard said Pittman would be on the team's roster next fall. Under the tag, Pittman can negotiate with other teams and if he reaches an agreement, the Colts could match it. If Indy was to decline the offer, it would receive two first-round draft picks from Pittman's new team. Last season, he became the fourth player in franchise history to catch 100 passes in a single season.

### CB Jaylon Johnson, Chicago Bears

The Chicago Bears have placed the franchise tag on cornerback Jaylon Johnson after he made his first Pro Bowl in the final season of his rookie contract. Johnson would earn \$19.8 million in 2024 if he doesn't agree to a multiyear deal before the July 15 deadline. He has said he wants to remain with the Bears. Johnson, who turns 25 in April, had four interceptions last season after picking off one pass in his first three years. He was named a second-team All-Pro.

### EDGE Josh Allen, Jacksonville Jaguars

The Jaguars have used their franchise tag on standout pass rusher Josh Allen and essentially guaranteed he will play at least another year in Jacksonville. Allen was the seventh

overall pick in the 2019 draft. He set a single-season franchise record with 17½ sacks in 2023 and is 10 shy of the team's career mark of 55 held by Tony Brackens. Jacksonville's non-exclusive franchise tender would guarantee Allen \$24 million in 2024. The Jaguars and Allen have until July 15 to work out a long-term deal. Allen has 45 sacks in 74 games spanning five seasons.

### RB Saquon Barkley, New York Giants

Star running back Saquon Barkley has moved another step closer to free agency. The New York Giants elected Tuesday not to put a franchise tag on the second overall pick in the 2018 NFL draft. The Giants used the tag last season and eventually worked out a one-year, \$10.1 million contract before the start of training camp. A franchise tag this year would have cost the team \$12.2 million if Barkley accepted the offer. The 27-year-old Barkley, who is looking for a multi-year deal, and the Giants have until Wednesday to work out a deal before free agency begins.

### CB L'Jarius Sneed, Kansas City Chiefs

The Kansas City Chiefs placed the franchise tag on L'Jarius Sneed on Monday. It is uncertain whether that means one of the top cornerbacks due to hit free agency will remain with the Super Bowl champions next season. He would earn \$19.8 million if he plays on the one-year contract, but Kansas City appears open to trading Sneed for the right price. The Chiefs not only covet draft capital, they also want some cap space to address some of their other needs. That includes a potential long-term contract with All-Pro defensive tackle Chris Jones, who is also due to hit free agency.

### OLB Brian Burns, Carolina Panthers

The Carolina Panthers have used the non-exclusive franchise tag on two-time Pro Bowl outside linebacker Brian Burns. The

25-year-old Burns would make \$24 million in 2024 under the tag if he doesn't sign a contract extension before July 15. The Panthers have until July 15 to work out a long-term deal with Burns. Under the non-exclusive tag, Burns can negotiate with other teams but the Panthers would have the right to match any offer and get two first-round draft picks in return if they don't. Burns has 46 sacks during his five seasons with the Panthers, including eight last season.

### S Antoine Winfield Jr., Tampa Bay Buccaneers

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers placed the franchise tag on Antoine Winfield Jr., a move that ensures the All-Pro safety a one-year, \$17.1 million salary for next season. The team will continue to seek a long-term agreement with the four-year veteran who leads all defensive backs in sacks, quarterback hits, forced fumbles and fumble recoveries since entering the NFL as a second-round draft pick in 2020. Winfield led the Bucs with three interceptions in 2023, when he also joined T.J. Watt, Justin Tuck and Terrell Suggs as the only players since 2000 to have five-plus sacks, five-plus takeaways and five-plus forced fumbles in the same season. He had six sacks, seven takeaways and six forced fumbles in 2023.

### DT Justin Madubuike, Baltimore Ravens

The Baltimore Ravens have put the franchise tag on Justin Madubuike after the defensive tackle finished his rookie contract with a breakout season in 2023. The franchise tag for defensive tackles comes with a one-year cost of just over \$22 million. Madubuike and the Ravens can continue negotiating for a longer deal with a pre-season deadline of July 15. The Ravens used the franchise tag on star quarterback Lamar Jackson last offseason, but were able to reach a long-term contract with him several weeks later.

# News-Banner Scoreboard

### BASKETBALL

#### High School

#### Boys' Basketball Regional Schedule

- 4A**
- East Chicago Central vs. Mishawaka
  - Fort Wayne North Side vs. Fort Wayne Wayne
  - Kokomo vs. Fishers
  - New Palestine vs. Ben Davis
  - Franklin Community vs. Center Grove
  - Avon vs. Lawrence North
  - Jeffersonville vs. Evansville Harrison
- 3A**
- Peru vs. West Lafayette
  - Glenn vs. South Bend St. Joseph
  - Delta vs. Fort Wayne Concordia Lutheran
  - Batesville vs. Scottsburg
  - Northview vs. Danville
  - Guerin Catholic vs. Indianapolis George Washington
  - Southridge vs. Evansville Bosse
- 2A**
- North Judson-San Pierre vs. 21st Century — Gary
  - Wapahani vs. Tipton
  - Wabash vs. Westview
  - Fort Wayne Blackhawk Christian vs. Lafayette Central Catholic
  - Switzerland County vs. Forest Park
  - Irvington Prep vs. Park Tudor
  - Sullivan vs. Brownstown Central
  - Parke Heritage vs. Northeastern
- 1A**
- Marquette Catholic vs. DeMotte Christian
  - Seton Catholic vs. Liberty Christian
  - Tri-County vs. Elkhart Christian
  - Fort Wayne Canterbury vs. North

- Vermillion
- Bethesda Christian vs. Clay City
  - Oldenburg Academy vs. Greenwood
  - Christian
  - Christian Academy of Indiana vs. Barr-Reeve
  - Trinity Lutheran vs. Evansville Christian

### College

#### Men's Basketball Scores Tuesday, Mar. 5

#### EAST

- Binghamton 72, UMB 71
  - Bryant 83, Albany (NY) 79
  - Dartmouth 76, Harvard 69
  - Holy Cross 84, Army 68
  - Maine 71, Mass.-Lowell 65
  - Navy 64, Loyola (Md.) 48
  - Ohio 78, Buffalo 66
  - Providence 71, Georgetown 58
  - Vermont 68, New Hampshire 64
- SOUTH**
- Austin Peay 101, North Florida 98, OT
  - Clemson 90, Syracuse 75
  - Coastal Carolina 75, Louisiana-Monroe 71
  - Duquesne 69, VCU 59
  - Florida 105, Alabama 87
  - Georgia 69, Mississippi 66
  - Jacksonville 67, E. Kentucky 65
  - Middle Tennessee 69, Liberty 61
  - North Carolina 84, Lipscomb 75
  - North Carolina 84, Notre Dame 51
  - South Florida 85, Tulane 72
  - Stetson 83, Queens (NC) 71
  - Virginia Tech 80, Louisville 64
- MIDWEST**
- Ball St. 76, Kent St. 69
  - Bowling Green 73, W. Michigan 65
  - Cent. Michigan 69, N. Illinois 63
  - Cleveland St. 85, IUPUI 66

- E. Michigan 61, Akron 60
  - Fort Wayne 78, Robert Morris 63
  - Milwaukee 83, Detroit 79
  - Purdue 77, Illinois 71
  - Toledo 97, Miami (Ohio) 63
- SOUTHWEST**
- Texas Tech 75, Oklahoma St. 58
  - Wyoming 74, Air Force 63

#### Women's Basketball Scores Tuesday, Mar. 5

#### EAST

- Harvard 75, Dartmouth 48
- SOUTH**
- Coastal Carolina 79, South Alabama 60
  - East Carolina 71, Charlotte 66
  - Georgia Southern 72, Texas St. 70
  - Tulsa 61, Tulane 56
  - Wichita St. 68, UAB 65
- MIDWEST**
- Detroit 59, Robert Morris 48
  - N. Kentucky 70, Oakland 62
  - Youngstown St. 73, IUPUI 50
- SOUTHWEST**
- North Texas 78, Memphis 66
  - South Florida 68, SMU 61, OT
  - UTSA 60, Rice 52
- FAR WEST**
- Colorado St. 64, Boise St. 50
  - UNLV 104, Utah St. 44

### NBA

#### Tuesday's Games

- Orlando 101, Charlotte 89
- New Orleans 139, Toronto 98
- Atlanta 116, New York 100
- Miami 118, Detroit 110
- Cleveland 105, Boston 104
- Brooklyn 112, Philadelphia 107
- Houston 114, San Antonio 101
- Indiana 137, Dallas 120

close to home; far from ordinary

215 DAVIS RD. OSSIAN, IN  
PH: 260-622-7821  
[WWW.OSSIANHEALTHANDREHAB.COM](http://WWW.OSSIANHEALTHANDREHAB.COM)

# Terrible twos and tough talks

Dear Annie: I have a son who's going to be 3 in August. He's been going through the "Terrible Twos," and as you can imagine, it's been terrible. His thing right now is that he will throw a fit, and then when he's done, he will wrap his arms around me and say, "I love you, Mommy!"

Well, my husband's aunt has rolled around after her partner died suddenly and left her with nothing. She is pretty rude sometimes, in my opinion. She regularly tells my son that he's mean or he's bad. She never really praises him when he's good. I'm not a fan of telling him he's mean or bad all the time. It does nothing to help his behavior; he's only 2, and he's got those big feelings he can't express yet.

Besides, when he understands that she's telling him he is mean or bad, he will start acting that way more. I lost it the other day. She told him again he's mean and I said, "He's 2!" And she said, "That's no excuse! He is just flat-out mean!" I took my son upstairs to get away from her since he is "flat-out mean."

This woman, I should add, did not stick around for her kids. She blames other people for her reasons for leaving and has absolutely nothing good to say about them. She also tells me all the time he only throws tantrums because I'm here. I'm also not trying to excuse his behavior; she just needs to quit talking to him that way because it does nothing but makes things worse. What can I do? — Mama Bear

Dear Mama Bear: You can establish boundaries for yourself and your son. That boundary is with your aunt. The boundary is as follows: If she insults your son again or criticizes your parenting or him in any way, she is not allowed to see him. Period. She has no right to place her own adult judgments on a 2-year-old child. Her words, "He is just mean," sound a lot like what she is being to you and him. Until she stops projecting her own negative feelings about herself onto you and your son, she

is not allowed to be around you. That is toxic behavior and cannot be tolerated.

Dear Annie: I'm a 67-year-old woman and dating a 70-year-old man.

We live an hour apart. He lives on a farm and is divorced. He told me he enjoys his own company. He is very bright and funny. I have only physically seen him four or five times in the past year. He had an extremely painful divorce, and I am widowed. He calls me every night at the end of his day, and we talk and laugh for an hour or two.

But he never invites me over. I have suggested we cook together or listen to music for a few holidays. Each time I ask to get together, he puts me off. I'm quite smitten with him, but sometimes I feel like I'm really not that special to him. He is a very sweet talker; we hug at the end of each date and share a brief kiss. — Fizzling Out Affection

Dear Fizzling Out: I don't blame you. It is going to be really challenging to have a relationship with someone that you never physically see. The nice long phone conversations are great. You can keep those, but by no means make him your number one. He can just be a friend if he doesn't want to physically spend time with you.

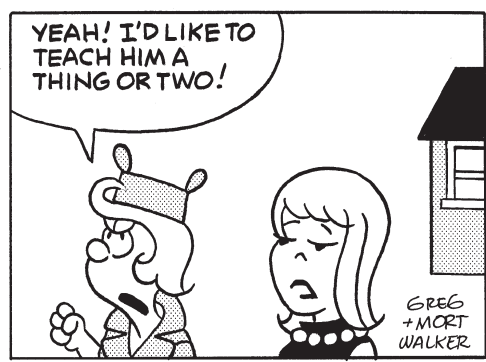
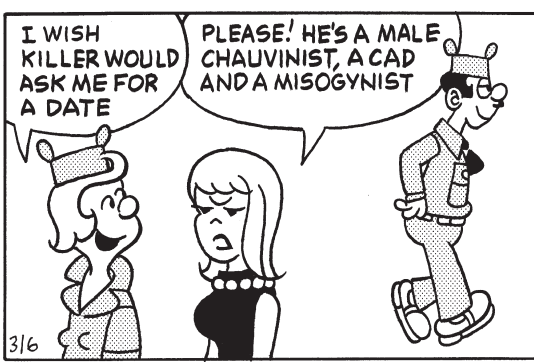
"How Can I Forgive My Cheating Partner?" is out now! Annie Lane's second anthology — featuring favorite columns on marriage, infidelity, communication and reconciliation — is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit <http://www.creatorspublishing.com> for more information. Send your questions for Annie Lane to [dearannie@creators.com](mailto:dearannie@creators.com). © 2024 CREATORS.COM

## Dear Annie

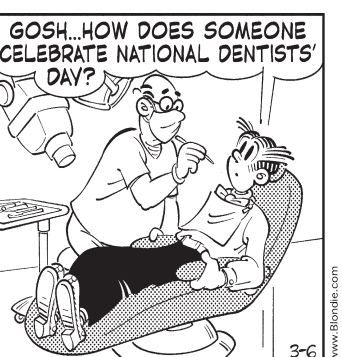
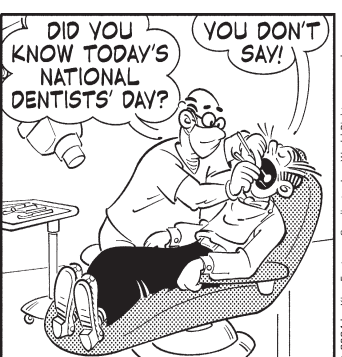
by Annie Lane



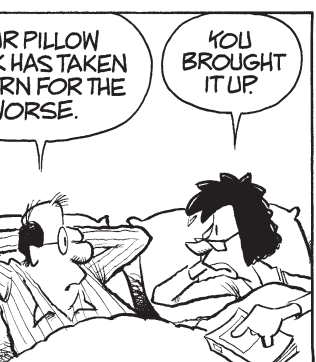
## BEETLE BAILEY



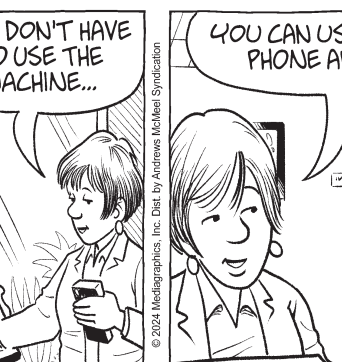
## BLONDIE



## ZITS




## CRANKSHAFT



### My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



# Christ offers help in our daily living

Question: I am a certified electrician. Does the Bible say anything about vocations and whether one job is more important than another? My friends tell me that working at a church is the most important work we can do; yet when people's electricity fails them, electricians seem to be in great demand! — L.W.

Answer: The Bible speaks approvingly of a man by the name of Bezalel. He worked with metals, stone, and wood. He was filled with the Holy Spirit for craftsmanship: "And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in all manner of workmanship, to design artis-

tic works, to work in gold, in silver, in bronze, in cutting jewels for setting, in carving wood, and to work in all manner of workmanship" (Exodus 31:3-5, NKJV).

Jacob and his sons were shepherds, Joseph a prime minister, Daniel a statesman. Both Joseph and Jesus were carpenters, and many disciples were fishermen. Paul, Priscilla, and Aquila were tentmakers; and Luke, the beloved physician.

The Christian ideal certainly doesn't demand that a person renounce all interest in the affairs of this life, but rather that we seek God's guidance in performing our daily work to the best of our ability; that we keep both our work and our ambitions in subordination to the Lord at all times. Christ offers

help in our daily living here on Earth and inspires us in our gifts and helps us in our work.

In one of his delightful essays, F.W. Boreham, quoting Isaiah, goes on to recount how the carpenter of Nazareth has encouraged the goldsmiths of the ages. The world's greatest writers have been inspired by Jesus of Nazareth; the greatest artists, musicians, and sculptors have also been illumined by Him. It is in our daily tasks and in the way we face difficulties that the world will see Christ in us.

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

©2024 Billy Graham Literary Trust. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

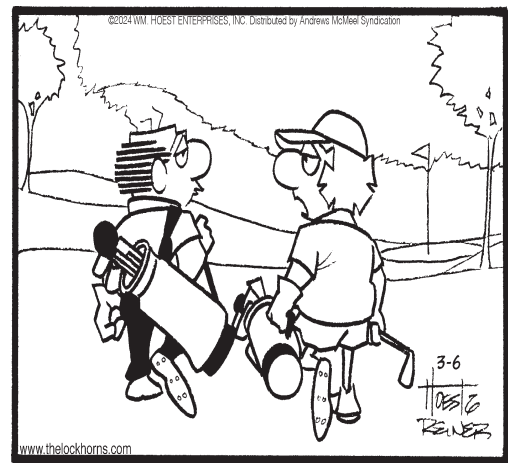
## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"PJ's gettin' a milk belly."

## The LOCKHORNS



"FUN SURE IS A LOT OF WORK."

03/06	M	A	D1	D2	5 PM	5:30	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM	12:30	
WINM (12)	11	26	63		News	Washington Watch With Tony Perkins	Creflo Dollar	Joseph Prince	Morris	TCT Today	Joyce Meyer	Love Worth	James Robison	Dr. Robert Jones	Jewish Jesus	Andrew Womack	Ask the Pastor	Foundation			
CBS WANE (15)	2	2	15	15	News (N)	Inside Edition (N)	News at 6 (N)	CBS News (N)	Wheel of Fortune (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	Survivor	Castaways attempt to outwit, outlast and outplay each other for a prize of \$1 million. (N)	FBI True (N)		Nightcast (N)	(35) Late Show-Colbert (N)	(35) After Mid. (N)				
Antenna WANE-2 (152)	106	20			Blue Bloods "Rectify"	Blue Bloods "Common Enemies"	Blue Bloods "Bloodlines"	Blue Bloods "Strange Bedfellows"	Blue Bloods "Identity"	Blue Bloods "Something Blue"	Blue Bloods "Career Day Part 1: Career Day Part 2"	Blue Bloods "The Real Deal"	Blue Bloods "Naughty or Nice"	Blue Bloods "Behind the Smile"							
ABC WPTA (21)	4	3	21	21	ABC21 News at 5 (N)	ABC21 (N)	ABC World News (N)	ABC21 (N)	Ent. Tonight (N)	The Connors	Not Dead Yet	Chicago Med (N)	Chicago Fire (N)	Judge "You Pay for Them Yams"	ABC21 (N)	(35) Jimmy Kimmel (N)	(35) Nightline (N)				
NBC WPTA-2 (212)	7	8	14		Family Feud	25 Words or Less	News (N)	NBC News (N)	Family Feud	Family Feud	Chicago Med (N)	Chicago Fire (N)	Chicago P.D. (N)	News (N)	(35) Tonight Show (N)	(35) Seth Meyers (N)					
MNT WPTA-3 (213)	10	9	56	34	The King of Queens	The King of Queens	Mod Fam "Integrity"	News (N)	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Dateline	Dateline	Seinfeld "The Pen"	Seinfeld "The Pen"	Mom	Mom	Goldbergs "Weird Al"	The Goldbergs			
CV WISE (38)	8	4	33	33	The Steve Wilkos Show	TMZ Live (N)	Dish Nation (N)	TMZ (N)	Wild Cards (N)	Family Law "When There's a Will" (N)	Dish Nation (N)	TMZ (N)	Family Guy	Family Guy	Burgers "Flu-ouse"	Bob's Burgers					
PBS WFWA (39)	13	5	39	39	NOVA "Reef Rescue"	PBS NewsHour (N)	BBC News America	PBS NewsHour (N)	Nature "Sharks of Hawaii"	NOVA "Butterfly Blueprints"	Impossible Builds "Ice World"	Amanpour and Company (N)	Amanpour and Company (N)	Common Ground With Jane Whitney	Nature "Sharks of Hawaii"	Common Ground With Jane Whitney					
PBS WFPS (49)	3				NOVA "Reef Rescue"	Context	BBC News America	PBS NewsHour (N)	Nature "Sharks of Hawaii"	NOVA "Butterfly Blueprints"	Impossible Builds "Ice World"	Amanpour and Company (N)	Amanpour and Company (N)	Common Ground With Jane Whitney	Nature "Sharks of Hawaii"	Common Ground With Jane Whitney					
FOX WFFT (55)	6	5	55	55	WFFT Fox News at 5 (N)	WFFT Fox News at 6 (N)	Big Bang	Big Bang	The Masked Singer (SP)	Animal (SP)	Family Guy (N)	FOX 55 News First at 10 (N)	Young Sheldon	Young Sheldon	Neighbor	Neighbor					
<b>CABLE CHANNELS</b>																					
LIFE	23	113	108	252	Castle	Castle	Castle	Castle	Married Couple Looking for the perfect partner are scientifically matched up and married on the spot. (05) Prison Brides (N)	(05) Baby	(35) Baby	Married: Sight "Decision Day Round One" (N)									
FX	24	132	136	148	(4:00) Thor: The Dark World	(4:00) Eternals	(2021, Action) Salma Hayek, Kit Harrington, Angelina Jolie.	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond
TVLAND	25		106	304	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith
E!	26	142	114	236	Saved by the Bell	Saved by the Bell	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family
PARMT	30		241	241	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men
ESPN	31	50	140	206	Around (N)	Pardon (N)	NBA Live (N)	NBA Live (N)	NBA Live (N)	NBA Live (N)	NBA Live (N)	NBA Live (N)	NBA Live (N)	NBA Live (N)	NBA Live (N)	NBA Live (N)	NBA Live (N)	NBA Live (N)	NBA Live (N)	NBA Live (N)	NBA Live (N)
ESPN2	32	54	143	209	NFL Live	NFL Live	ESPN BET Live (L) (N)	Basketball	Tennessee at South Carolina (L) (N)	College Basketball Teams TBA (L) (N)	SportsCenter (L) (N)	SportCtr	NFL Live								
FSMW	33		418	671	(2:00) BNP Tennis ATP/WTA First Round (N)	MVC Basketball	Pregame	NBA Basketball Memphis Grizzlies at Philadelphia 76ers From Wells Fargo Center in Philadelphia. (L) (N)	Grizzlies Live (L) (N)	Sports Stars	MVC Basketball	The Icons	World Poker Tour: Season 20								
USA	34	133	105	242	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Pixies"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Consent"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Consent"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Secrets"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Secrets"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Paranoia"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Paranoia"	Law & Order: SVU "Countdown"	Law & Order: SVU "Runaway"	Law & Order: SVU "Folly"	Law & Order: SVU "Folly"	Law & Order: SVU "Folly"	Law & Order: SVU "Folly"	Law & Order: SVU "Folly"	Law & Order: SVU "Folly"	Law & Order: SVU "Folly"	Law & Order: SVU "Folly"
DISC	35	72	182	278	Expedition Unknown	Expedition Unknown	Extraterrestrial "UFOs Over England"	Extraterrestrial "UFOs Over England"	Extraterrestrial "UFOs Over England"	Expedition X "Ghost of WW2" (N)	Ghost Adventures: Screaming Room (N)	Expedition X "Lake of the Dead"	Expedition Unknown								
TLC	36	73	183	280	Untold Stories of ER	American Pickers "Secrets of the Impala"	American Pickers "Secrets of the Impala"	American Pickers "Secrets of the Impala"	American Pickers "Secrets of the Impala"	American Pickers "Secrets of the Impala"	American Pickers "Secrets of the Impala"	American Pickers "Secrets of the Impala"	American Pickers "Secrets of the Impala"	American Pickers "Secrets of the Impala"	American Pickers "Secrets of the Impala"	American Pickers "Secrets of the Impala"	American Pickers "Secrets of the Impala"	American Pickers "Secrets of the Impala"	American Pickers "Secrets of the Impala"	American Pickers "Secrets of the Impala"	American Pickers "Secrets of the Impala"
HIST	38	77	120	269	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam
A&E	39	134	118	265	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	A Scottish Love Scheme (2024, Romance) Jordan Young, Jo Cameron Brown, Erica Durance.	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)
HALL	40	117	185	312	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	A Scottish Love Scheme (2024, Romance) Jordan Young, Jo Cameron Brown, Erica Durance.	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)
SYFY	41	135	122	244	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	A Scottish Love Scheme (2024, Romance) Jordan Young, Jo Cameron Brown, Erica Durance.	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)
TBS	43	130	139	247	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	A Scottish Love Scheme (2024, Romance) Jordan Young, Jo Cameron Brown, Erica Durance.	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)
TMZ	44	131	138	245	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	A Scottish Love Scheme (2024, Romance) Jordan Young, Jo Cameron Brown, Erica Durance.	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)
AMC	45	131	154	254	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	A Scottish Love Scheme (2024, Romance) Jordan Young, Jo Cameron Brown, Erica Durance.	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)
COM	47	107	249	309	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	A Scottish Love Scheme (2024, Romance) Jordan Young, Jo Cameron Brown, Erica Durance.	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)
FS1	48	64	150	219	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	A Scottish Love Scheme (2024, Romance) Jordan Young, Jo Cameron Brown, Erica Durance.	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)
WE	57		128	260	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S' Journey" (SP) (N)	A Scottish Love Scheme (2024, Romance) Jordan Young, Jo Cameron Brown, Erica Durance.	My 600-Lb. Life "Kristal S'														

# The Classifieds

Place Your Ad 24/7: GO TO [www.news-banner.com](http://www.news-banner.com) AND CLICK ON "Classifieds"

OR CALL 824-0224 MON-FRI 8-5 • TOLLFREE 800-579-7476 • FAX 824-0700

WE ACCEPT



SEE your ad published every day in Wells County homes ...

All ads are searchable at [classifieds.news-banner.com](http://classifieds.news-banner.com)...

## SUDOKU

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

### King Classic Sudoku

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

©2024 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Difficulty: ★★★

3/6

### 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).

### SERVICES

#### Services

**TIMESHARE CANCELLATION EXPERTS** - Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 877-329-1207 (I)

**4G LTE HOME** Internet Now Available! Get GotW3 with lightning fast speeds plus take your service with you when you travel! As low as \$109.99/mo! 1-877-327-0930 (I)

### Services

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

**ETHAN'S OUTDOOR SERVICES** LLC Lawn Care, Lawn Rolling, Spring & Fall Clean Ups, Landscaping & Grass Seeding. Call Ethan today for a free estimate. 260-827-7945. 260-827-7945 [ethansoutdoor@gmail.com](mailto:ethansoutdoor@gmail.com)

**FREE HIGH SPEED** internet for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet service. Bonus offer: Android tablet FREE with one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping & handling. Call Maxisp Telecom today! 1-866-981-3302 (I)

**SWITCH AND SAVE** up to \$250/year on your talk, text and data. No contract and no hidden fees. Unlimited talk and text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. For more information, call 1-855-572-5165 (I)

### RENTALS

#### Wanted to Rent

**SMALL BUILDING FOR** antique restoration project west of Bluffton, south of Uniondale. Approximately a two year project. Access to electricity needed. Call 386-965-3191.

### NOTICE

#### Notices

**DIAGNOSED WITH LUNG CANCER?** You may qualify for a substantial cash award - even with smoking history. NO obligation! We've recovered millions. Let us help!! Call 24/7, 844-229-7933 (I)

**HAVING AN UPCOMING** event? A 20 word, line classified ad for six days is only \$24.50. Add a border for an additional \$1 or a graphic for an additional \$5. Contact the Bluffton News-Banner office at 260-824-0224 or 125 N. Johnson St., Bluffton, IN, or online at [news-banner.com](http://news-banner.com) and click on classifieds.

**Read & recycle this newspaper**

### Lottery Numbers

**Tuesday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY**  
**Cash 5** — 03-09-18-27-35  
**Cash4Life** — 09-25-39-46-58, Cash Ball: 02  
**Quick Draw Midday** — 02-05-10-23-26-31-32-39-50-51-57-58-61-62-63-69-71-72-73-80, BE: 05  
**Daily Three-Midday** — 02-07-00, SB: 06  
**Daily Three-Evening** — 05-07-00, SB: 08  
**Daily Four-Midday** — 02-04-05-03, SB: 06  
**Daily Four-Evening** — 07-01-01-07, SB: 08  
**Quick Draw Evening** — 04-11-18-20-21-27-28-33-39-43-44-45-53-57-65-70-75-76-78-79, BE: 75  
**Hoosier Lotto** — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$5.9 million  
**MEGA MILLIONS** 02-49-50-61-70; Mega Ball: 14; Megaplier: 2X.  
**POWERBALL** Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$485 million

### FOR SALE

#### Miscellaneous

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

#### Pets

**HELOISE HINT:** When your kids bring home backpacks or lunchboxes after school. Make sure they put them up and away from nosy pets that could get into foods or other items they shouldn't be eating. Email [HELOISE@Heloise.com](mailto:HELOISE@Heloise.com).

### EMPLOYMENT

#### Help Wanted

**WELLS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE** is currently seeking applicants for the position of Full Time Deputy Sheriff. Applicants must be a US Citizen, at least 21 years of age upon graduation from police academy, possess a high school diploma or equivalent as well as a valid Indiana Operators License. Applicant can't have any felony convictions. Applicants must pass all aspects of the hiring process including physical agility testing, written examination, background investigation, oral interview, polygraph and physiological evaluation. Selected applicant must be able to graduate from the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy. ILEA certified applicants do not have to attend the physical agility and written examination portion of the process. 20-year matrix salary range for a Deputy Sheriff (no rank) is \$56,600 - \$68,400. Years of service and experience will be honored for a starting salary up to five years in the pay matrix. Pre-Application can be found on our website at [www.wellscountysheriff.com](http://www.wellscountysheriff.com). Once pre-application is completed, details on the paper application will be emailed to the applicant. Return completed paper application to 1615 W Western Ave, Bluffton, Indiana 46714 Attn: Chief Deputy Randy Steele no later than 12:00 pm on March 15, 2024.

**THE CITY OF Bluffton** Street Department is accepting applications for a Laborer/Truck Driver. The minimum educational requirement is a high school diploma or equivalent. Applicants must possess and maintain a CDL License or obtain one within the time limit. The City utilizes E-Verify and follows EEOC guidelines. Applications may be obtained from the Clerk Treasurer's office, 128 East Market St, Bluffton, IN between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm Monday-Friday or at [www.blufftonindiana.net](http://www.blufftonindiana.net).

### Help Wanted



**HOLLEY SALES, INC.** is looking for an experienced medium duty / heavy duty truck mechanic. Full-time. Starting pay is \$25.00 per hour. 40-45 hours per week. Some Saturday mornings required. Paid uniforms. Vacation & holiday pay. Please apply in person at 12005 Indianapolis Rd. Yoder, IN 46798 or send your resume to [dirk@holleytruckparts.com](mailto:dirk@holleytruckparts.com). For more information, call 260-478-7411.

**HELOISE HINT:** If you have to give prior references during an application. Tell them what the employer might focus on and that they recommend you for the job. Send your job-success story to [HELOISE@Heloise.com](mailto:HELOISE@Heloise.com).

#### Follow us at...

[twitter.com/newsbanner](https://twitter.com/newsbanner)



**BIDDING CLOSING MARCH 14 - 10 a.m. EST - Clemens and Carol Burger, owners.** Ken-Bar Tool & Engineering Company liquidation! Over 300 lots. 2016 GMC Sierra, 2005 Chevrolet 3500 cargo van, 2008 Mercury Grand Marquis, CNC machines, mills, lathes, ladders, grinders, saws, tooling, tools, more! Preview March 11, 10 a.m.-noon, 3121 S. Walnut St., Muncie, call for information. Pickup March 18 and 19, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., large items can be picked up by appointment only up to 10 days. **Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC**, 260-724-7402, [kjauction.com](http://kjauction.com). **MARCH 14 - 6 p.m. - Denver Neuenschwander Estate, sellers.** Lehman Park, 212 Park Ave., Berne. 135+/- acres available. Selling in 3 tracts, as a combination or whole unit. Tract 1: 39+/- acres along SR 116, tillable/woods. Tract 2: 48+/- acres along 1000 S, tillable. Tract 3: 48+/- acres along 1000 S, tillable. **Heartland Auction & Realty, Inc.**, 260-724-3499, [heartlandauctionrealty.com](http://heartlandauctionrealty.com). **MARCH 17-25 - (Online Only Auction) - Various consignors, seller.** Antiques, primitives, Lionel trains and train items, modern furniture, vintage advertising, household items, patio furniture. Auction Preview: March 19 and March 21 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 118 East Craig St., Ossian, IN. **The Steffen Group Inc.**, 260-824-3006, [www.steffengrp.com](http://www.steffengrp.com).

**SATURDAY, MARCH 23 - 10 a.m. - Various owners represented.** Location: Farmers Grain & Ag LLC, 1257 St. Rd. 33, Willshire, OH. Tractors, combines, heads & carts, harvest equip., Grain carts, wagons, trucks, trailers, pickups, construction, manure equipment, livestock equipment, hay equipment, planters, no-

## This Week's Garage Sales



**GIGANTIC GARAGE SALE** March 7 & 8, 9-5, March 9, 9-2, sack sale, Forgotten Children Worldwide, 650 N. Main Street, Bluffton. Gently used clothes, Easter decor, tools, toys, couch & loveseat, drop-leaf table, end tables, antique dresser, office desk, flower girl dresses, luggage, antique cleaner, wireless headphones, Vera Bradley purses, crafts, home decor, much more.

**HELOISE HINT:** As you organize your garage sale. Put the biggest and best items right out front to draw in more customers. They will sell more easily. Email [HELOISE@Heloise.com](mailto:HELOISE@Heloise.com).

# March GOODS & SERVICES DIRECTORY

**Jerry Flack & Associates**  
**Jerry Flack & Julie Myers**  
 Retirement Advisors  
 A Senior Citizen Answers Our Phone!  
 OFFICE 260-824-1618 • Corner of Main & Market • Bluffton, IN

ASSISTING IN:  
 • FREE Medicare Supplement Comparison  
 • Life Planning  
 • Safe Money Ideas  
 • Dental • Vision • Hearing

**Genesis Pest Services**  
 Locally Owned by  
**Geoffrey Horner**  
 260-227-0742  
[geoff@genesispestservices.com](http://geoff@genesispestservices.com)

**AMISH CREW**  
 will do roofing, siding, remodeling, pole barns. Specializing in redoing old barns. Free estimates. Call 260-438-2508

**Home Remodel and Repair**  
 Locally Owned  
 Repair Bowed Basement Walls  
 Foundations repaired  
 Floor joist repair or replaced  
 Concrete • Doors  
 Windows • Painting  
 Tile • Small Jobs Welcome  
 Text me at 260-301-1269  
**Jim Baker**

**JC'S GARAGE DOOR SALES & SERVICE**  
 All makes & models • broken springs & cables  
 Owner: James Fisher • Sales: Carl Fisher  
 "50 Years of Combined Experience"  
 Call us at 824-3262

As a resident of the Wells County community for decades, Attorney, Gerret J. Swearingen, has devoted his legal practice to assisting clients in preserving the family assets from the high cost of Nursing Home and In-Home Healthcare.

As your guide through the "Medicaid Planning" process, Swearingen Elder Law will provide the right path to both protect your life savings and receive the quality of care we all deserve.

-OSSIAN-  
 1645 Hillcrest Dr., Suite 2A  
 Ossian, IN 46777

**SWEARINGEN ELDER LAW**

- Medicaid Planning
- Durable Power of Attorney
- Estate Planning & Deeds
- Special Needs Trusts
- Long Term Care Planning
- In-Home Healthcare Planning
- Wills, Living Wills, & Advance Healthcare Directives

(260) 888-9256  
 FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION!

**HIDEAWAY BEER & BOURBON**  
**THURSDAY - Dollar Off Drinks** (Excludes Pop)  
**WEDNESDAY - KARAOKE**  
**FRI. & SAT. - Live Music**  
 Follow us on [f](https://www.facebook.com/hideawaybluffton) for our Events.  
 123 S JOHNSON ST. • 824-0455

**Zap Electric, Inc.**  
 260-824-2927  
 Commercial-Industrial-Residential  
 24 Hr. Emergency Service  
 Charles Miller-Electrician  
 1233 W. Cherry St., Bluffton FREE Estimates

**Sure-Flo Seamless Gutters**  
 5" & 6" Continuous Gutters  
 Leaf Protection Systems  
 Large Color Selection - FREE Estimates  
 260-888-5062  
[www.seamlessgutter.net](http://www.seamlessgutter.net)

**STOR-N-GO STORAGE UNITS**  
 2740 E. 200 N. • Bluffton, IN • 260.273.8345  
 with Security Cameras

**Primary Contracting, LLC**  
 Specializing in Building & Remodeling  
 OWNER: Edwin Wickey  
 Call for Spring Scheduling Today!  
 Free Estimates - 260-233-4276

- Pole Barns
- Garages
- Vinyl Siding
- Metal Roofing
- Poly Decks
- Storm Damage

**We Carry Prevacen and CBD Oil!**  
**R Warren Pharmacy**  
 (260)375-2135  
**Nature's Sunshine Distributor**  
 222 N. Wayne St., Warren • 1-800-895-7035  
 Terry Daniels, Pharmacist • Melinda Daniels, RN

**A-1 U-Stor**  
 Safe & Secure Self Storage  
**824-1846**  
 • Safety Lighting • Clean Units  
 • 24 Hr. Access  
 • Video Cameras  
[www.a1-ustor.com](http://www.a1-ustor.com)  
 After hours & Saturdays  
 Call 273-9678 or 824-4782  
 In Monroe at corner of U.S. 27 and S.R. 124  
 Office at 1180 N. Main, Bluffton

**LANCASTER Senior Apartments**  
 1800 S. Wayne St. | Bluffton

- 1 & 2 Bedrooms
- Maintenance Free
- All Ground-level
- Private Entrances
- Water Included

260 824-5280  
 TDD: 7-1-1  
 For those 62+ or disabled, regardless of age.

### SUDOKU ANSWER

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

**YOUR BUSINESS IN THE NEWS-BANNER Every Day!**  
 For as little as ...  
**\$187 PER ISSUE**  
 ... you can keep your name in the public eye!  
 Increase your business with regular advertising!

Plus The Ossian Journal Every Week!  
 Call 824-0224 or 622-4108  
 Apr. deadline is Tues., Mar. 26!