

The News - Banner

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SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2024

BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection

\$1.00

Sentence reduced for mother of slain boy

By SYDNEY KENT

The mother of Owen Collins, a three-year-old from Wells County who died in January 2015, will be released from prison early.

Breanna Joy Arnold, 30, Bluffton, appeared in the Wells Circuit Court in September for a sentence modification hearing.

With the completion of "every possible program" thus far, Arnold

already received a time cut of nearly seven years and was scheduled for release in July of 2028. In January, Arnold's sentence was modified to 16 years executed with 6.5 years suspended. Her new release date is July 2025.

Arnold was originally sentenced in January 2017 to 22.5 years in prison for one count of dealing in methamphetamine in

the presence of a child, a Level 2 felony. Of that, 2.5 years were suspended and ordered to be served on house arrest after she had served 75% of her sentence.

Multiple charges, including a Level 1 felony for neglect of a dependent resulting in death, were dismissed as part of her plea agreement, which capped her sentence at 20 years executed.

The charges were filed following the investigation into the Collins' death.

According to a probable cause affidavit, police located the child's body wrapped in plastic wrap in a charred dresser in the woods after he was initially reported missing. The scene was approximately 12 miles from his home. While authorities initially were told Col-

lins had died after ingesting meth, his cause of death was later determined to be blunt force trauma.

Arnold's then-boyfriend, Zachary Barnes, pled guilty to Collins' murder and was sentenced to 50 years in prison. Barnes also pled guilty to abuse of a corpse and dealing methamphetamine. He was sentenced to 12 years behind

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Construction season begins

Spring cleaning has begun for Bluffton as the Street Department works to repair some sidewalk and curbs. Crews are currently working on Scott Street, with the main focus over the next week being on the east side of the city, from Main to Wayne streets, according to Street Commissioner Tim Simpson. Above, Juan Dominguez, and Clay Smith clean the demoed area, while Shane Turner drives the forklift carrying concrete. (Photos by Jonathan Snyder)



County prepares for upcoming total eclipse

By JONATHAN SNYDER

Eclipse fever is setting in Indiana, and Wells County will be a prime spot to participate in the unique event.

The April 8 path of totality covers almost all of Wells County. The only exception is a small area in the northwest corner, where the totality path cuts Zanesville in half. Complete totality in Bluffton will start around 3:08 p.m. and will last about two and a half minutes.

Laura Ainslie of the Fort Wayne Astronomical Society emphasized there is a major difference between 99% totality and full totality. Full totality allows visibility of the sun's corona, the glowing outermost part of the sun, in addition to casting its path in darkness.

"The sky doesn't get super dark," added Ainslie. "It gets twilight dark, like deep twilight dark under a total eclipse."

Weather also plays a key factor in eclipse-watching. If cloudy, a partial eclipse could be relatively unnoticeable. However, Bluffton should still experience effects in the line totality.

"In partial eclipses, you won't see any of that partial eclipse stuff," Ainslie said. "But then when totality hits, wham! It becomes dark as midnight, suddenly."

Because of this, Ainslie cautioned drivers to preemptively turn on their headlights.

Cell towers and other internet

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APC gives "do pass" recommendation for Meyer Renovation

By JONATHAN SNYDER

A business rezoning petition for a 5,000-square-foot structure at 10350 North State Road 1 in Ossian has been given a "do pass" recommendation with conditions from the Wells County Area Plan Commission.

The issue now moves to the Wells County Commissioners, who, if approved, would change the area from a residential to a business-three zone. Jason and Casandra Meyer of Meyer Renovation will then create a development plan for the site, set to be the new storefront for their business.

The rezoning discussion took the majority of the three-hour meeting on Thursday. The building on the property will be used for a garage and storage area, a

business showroom and residential use. Area Plan Commission Executive Director Mike Lautzenheiser noted that a special exemption would have to be made to the Board of Zoning Appeals to keep the residential portion.

Since the area resides next to solely residential homes, there were many concerns about the rezoning. Meyer presented a study that showed multiple other businesses near the region, such as Lighted Gardens and Dollar General, carry no dramatic changes in residential property values.

The board also had some concerns about a septic holding tank potentially near a community well. Meyer said he was sure he had a permit from the Health Depart-

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Senate struggles to wrap up \$1.2T funding package

By KEVIN FREKING and MARY CLARE JALONICK
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate bogged down Friday evening on a \$1.2 trillion package of spending bills, increasing the prospects that funding for some key federal agencies could lapse and initiate a partial government

shutdown beginning at 12:01 a.m. Saturday.

Though passage was not in doubt, Republicans and Democrats were at odds over votes on proposed amendments in exchange for expediting a final vote.

Republicans said Friday evening that they had proposed several amendments on border security

and other issues, but that Democrats had rejected those votes during hours of talks. Any successful amendments to the bill would send the legislation back to the House, which has already left town for a two-week recess.

"Right now, it doesn't look good," Sen. Mike Rounds, R-S.D., said after emerging from talks on

the Senate floor.

The practical impact of a funding lapse in the near term would likely be minimal, with federal offices closed for the weekend and many government services funded through earlier legislation. Still, there could be varying impacts on the Pentagon, the Department of Homeland Security and other

agencies that would see a lapse in funds — especially if the disagreements drag into Monday.

The White House Office of Management and Budget typically sends out guidance to agencies ahead of any potential funding lapse.

While Congress has already

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Outside

A sunny and windy weekend

Today	Sunday	Monday
High 43	High 48	High 63
Low 25	Low 36	Low 47

More Weather on Page 2

Online

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Vol. 95 No. 121
SATURDAY
March 23, 2024

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Mother of slain boy

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bars.
During Arnold's sentence modification hearing, multiple testimonies presented, including Arnold's, depicted the lifelong suffering of a young victim who was abused by their stepfather — however, the victim was not Collins.
Arnold testified a thorough account of the physical, psychological and sexual abuse she endured and witnessed throughout her childhood.
Arnold said she experienced such severe sexual abuse as a child that she currently suffers from an ongoing medical condition that prohibits her from using the restroom without assistance. She cried as she said that medical care for her condition is limited in prison.
Arnold was represented by Mark Koselke, deputy attorney for the Indiana State Public Defender's Office. Hannah Hall, Mitigation Investigation Specialist, also testified during the hearing.
Hall told the court that based on a self-administered quiz called the ACE questionnaire, Arnold has experienced more adverse childhood experiences than many of her peers. Hall emphasized that only 1 in 1,000 people experience the same amount or types of traumatic experiences.
Koselke said his office deals with the "worst of the worst" cases and that Arnold was exceptional.
"Breanna's childhood was not only difficult, it was almost impossible to successfully come out of," Koselke said. "She struggles to forgive herself."
A close family member of Arnold also testified during the hearing. She recounted her experiences of the abuse that she and Arnold experienced at the hands of Carter Arnold and their two older brothers. The family member also told the court that her child was Carter

Arnold's most recent victim of child sexual abuse.
Koselke then asked the court to acknowledge that Carter Arnold had a current criminal case with said child.
Koselke argued that during Breanna Arnold's original sentencing hearing, there was a "mischaracterization of the facts" and of Breanna Arnold as a person. This was largely in part because Carter Arnold was painted as a supportive figure in her life, Koselke said.
Koselke argued that the image of Breanna Arnold having a stable stepfather discounted her resilience during her original sentencing hearing.
He also said that Arnold admitted what she did was wrong and took full accountability for her crime.
Koselke detailed the long list of counseling services and programs Arnold has completed during her time in prison. He argued that it would be "cruel and unusual punishment" to allow her to continue to remain incarcerated with no way to better herself and that she could access better services outside of prison.
"I'm good right now," Arnold said regarding mental health services. "But I could be great."
During her recount of the events that led up to Collins' death, Arnold continually emphasized the word "his" concerning Barnes' drug manufacturing and use. She also insisted she was forced to inject the drugs into her body. Prosecutor Colin Andrews also asked Arnold to explain a series of five counts of misconduct that occurred during her time in prison.
In one count, she walked away from prison officials, disobeying direct orders. She said that she felt she was doing what was best. Andrews argued that she was not more cooperative towards law enforcement according to the instance.

"I get the sense that Miss Arnold wants to be a genuine participant here," Prosecutor Colin Andrews said. "There's still a lot of finger-pointing and blame going on."
Andrews acknowledged Arnold's significant past with abuse, as well as the progress she has made over the last nine years. However, he argued that she failed to take full accountability for her part in Collins' death. He also emphasized the response from the community and that the original sentence was "constitutionally appropriate" and should not be modified.
"There was a massive search that spanned multiple counties," Andrews argued. "There is a cry for justice here for our community — we suffered for this. There are still stickers on our cars that say 'fly home little buddy' in honor of Owen."
Kirafofe asked Arnold if she intended to return to this community. She confirmed.
"Undoubtedly you're going to cross paths with someone who remembers and knows who you are," Kirafofe said. "What would you say to them if you faced some criticism on why you're out?"
"The fact of the matter is I've done two-thirds of my time and I've changed for the better," Arnold responded. "If you grant this request from me, then that means you believe I can do better. If you grant this request, what does anyone have to say? I've done my time."
Arnold said that her past is her past, and though she could move and start over in a new town, someone could always learn her identity. She said she wants to help other people in the future with her experiences and even open a facility to care for elderly offenders "in the proper way" one day.
Kirafofe said he would take the request under advisement and commended Arnold on her growth over the last near-decade.

In a letter to the court three months after the modification hearing, Arnold detailed additional employment opportunities she has received while in prison. Several weeks later in January, an order officially approved the modification.
During her closing statements, Arnold said that the first thing she wants to do when she gets released from prison is to visit Collins' gravesite. Next, she wants to have a meal with her family.
"It's not easy to forgive yourself when it was my job to protect my children and do better for them," Arnold said. "I know I need to tell my son, Travis, I'm sorry, but the person I need to say sorry the most is Owen, and I'm not going to get that opportunity unless I live my life right and end up in heaven with him. I have tried to change myself so going forward, I can do better. I want to live a better life and I don't want to succumb to the circumstances of how I grew up."
Carter Arnold was woven as the common thread that led to the unraveling of Arnold and Owen's lives. Under the 18 Level 1 and Level 4 felonies for child molestation, Carter Arnold easily faced life in prison.
He was sentenced to a combined 16 years in prison under two charges for child molestation in October. Sixteen additional charges for child molesting were dismissed.
Kirafofe stated that Carter Arnold's age was the only reason he was accepting the plea deal.
"I think your actions are disgusting," Kirafofe said during his sentencing hearing in October. "Generational victimization has gone on."
Arnold will be required to complete a period of probation following her release from incarceration.

Weather

Saturday, March 23, 2024
(24-hour observations at 10:21 p.m. Friday)
High: 44; Low: 28; Precipitation: Trace of rain
Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.84 feet at 8:45 p.m. Friday

Wells County forecast

Today: Mostly sunny, with a high near 43. North wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.
Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 25. East wind around 10 mph.
Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 48. East wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.
Sunday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 36. East wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.
Monday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 63. Breezy.
Monday Night: Showers, mainly after 2 a.m. Low around 47. Chance of precipitation is 90%.
Tuesday: Showers. High near 56. Breezy. Chance of precipitation is 80%.
Tuesday Night: Showers likely, mainly before 2 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 34. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Tax bills mailed Monday

Tax bills for Wells County property owners are scheduled to be mailed on Monday, March 25. The first (spring) installment of 2024 taxes are due May 10, and the second (fall) installment will be due Nov. 12. Tax bills mailed includes coupons for the May and November payments, and this will be the only bill property owners will receive in 2024.
Taxpayers can pay in person at the treasurer's office. Hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.
• Pay by mail: Send property tax bill with your payment to Wells County Treasurer, 102 W. Market St., Suite 204, Bluffton, IN 46714. If a receipt is requested, enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.
• Pay at the following local banks: First Bank of Berne, F&M Bank, First Merchants Bank or 1st Source Bank. You must have your tax bill coupon to pay at the banks.
• Pay online: Visit www.wellscounty.org. Fees will apply.
• Pay by phone: Call toll-free 1(877) 690-3729 and use Jurisdiction Code: 2438

2024-2025 Kindergarten Registration Open House





April 10, 2024 • 3:30-6:00pm
Please enter door #20. Bring Birth Certificate & Proof of Residency. Students are encouraged to attend. Tours will be offered. Sign up for screening held in May.

☎ 765-728-2121 🌐 www.swraiders.com

Eclipse preparation

(Continued from Page 1)
services may also be slower due to increased web traffic and potential tourism. The Visit Wells County website notes that for businesses in the area, card readers may be slow and delivery times may increase; people are also asked to plan for increased traffic.
"Get as much information as you can in advance," Ainslie said. "In my experience, especially eclipse websites might get jammed up and you can't get that information."
According to Visit Wells County, Ouabache State Park, 4-H Park, Archbold Wilson Park, both branches of the Wells County Public Library, Markle Fish and Game Park and Markle Health and Rehab will allow the public to view the eclipse from their sites.
Ouabache campground reservations have been

booked for about two months, according to office manager Joni Cincotta. People will still be able to walk around the park, but campsites will not be available. The 4-H Park still has sites available — camping involving electric power costs \$40, and primitive camping options cost \$20.
The Wells County Public Library will host a five-minute overview of what eclipses are and safety precautions. Fort Wayne Astronomical Society's Larry Clifford will also bring a telescope with a solar filter to the library. Community relations manager Emily Marshall stated about 150 people are signed up for the Bluffton location, but the Ossian location is almost full. The library will give out free glasses while supplies last, Marshall said.
Archbold Wilson's campground will also have music

and food available at their site. Made By Mamaw Embroidery will also have items available for purchase to celebrate the occasion. Markle's Fish and Game Park will offer free parking at their location, with food available from food trucks, concession stands, and The Pickle Bar and Grill.
Markle Health and Rehab will have a bounce house at their location, along with a limited supply of free glasses. Hot dogs, chips, ice cream and water are available at Markle Health and Rehab. Markle Town Hall will have free glasses available, according to Clerk-Treasurer Stephanie Hensley.
Ouabache will have glasses for sale, \$3 each, or four for \$10. Archbold Wilson Park will have free sunglasses donated by Paddlefish Solar available while supplies last.
jonathan@news-banner.com

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE & LAND AUCTION

Tuesday, April 9th || 6:00 PM EST




Auction To Be Held @ Wells County Chamber Commerce: 211 Water Street Bluffton, IN

☎ 260.724.7402 ✉ info@kjauction.com 🌐 kjauction.com

1600 W Washington Street Bluffton, TN 46714

Tract 1: 13,128 SQ. Feet Heated Building, Floor Drains, 3 Phase Power, Office Space, 14' & 12' Overhead Doors, 2.80± Acres, Zoned Commercial, Harrison Township

Tract 2: 5,000 SQ. Feet Building, 4 14'x18' Overhead Doors, 4.2 ± Acres, Zoned Commercial, Harrison Township Access Via 30' easement off Tract 1

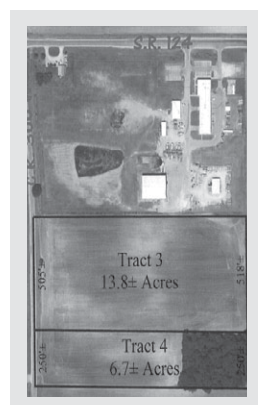
Open House:
Tuesday, March 26th
5-6 PM

300 W (1/2 Mile south of State Road 124)

Potential Building Sites!

Tract 3: 13.8± Acres Tillable Zoned: Agricultural, Liberty Township

Tract 4: 6.7± Acres Total with 1.5± Acre Woods Zoned: Agricultural, Liberty Township





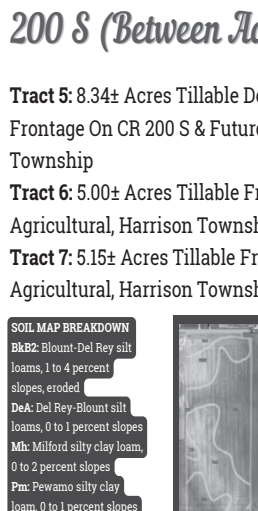
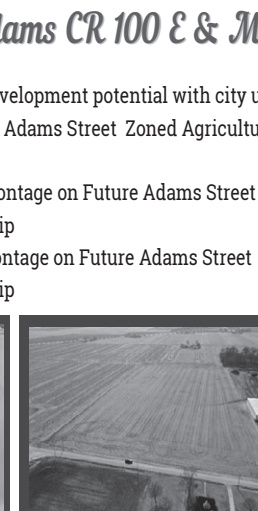
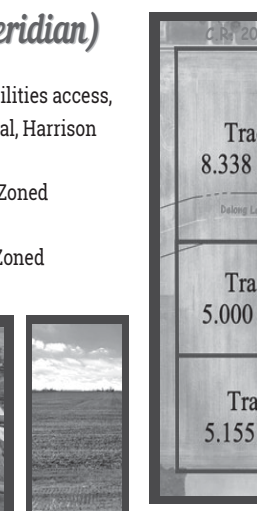
SOIL MAP BREAKDOWN
BkB2: Blount-Del Rey silt loams, 1 to 4 percent slopes, eroded
DeA: Del Rey-Blount silt loams, 0 to 1 percent slopes
Mh: Milford silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes
Pm: Pewamo silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes

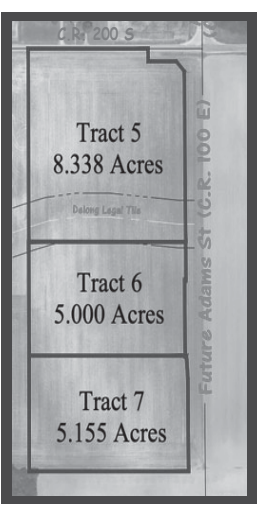
200 S (Between Adams CR 100 E & Meridian)

Tract 5: 8.34± Acres Tillable Development potential with city utilities access, Frontage On CR 200 S & Future Adams Street Zoned Agricultural, Harrison Township

Tract 6: 5.00± Acres Tillable Frontage on Future Adams Street Zoned Agricultural, Harrison Township

Tract 7: 5.15± Acres Tillable Frontage on Future Adams Street Zoned Agricultural, Harrison Township



Offered as Individual Tracts or Any Combination
Michael & Shelley Mossburg - Owners

Auction Terms & Conditions: Real Estate: \$50,000 nonrefundable down payment due at close of auction. Possession of 200S & 300W land upon harvest of 2024 crops. Possession of Washington Street to be at closing. Closing to be within 45 Days of auction. Buyer to receive 2nd half of 2024 cash rent. Taxes prorated to date of closing. A staked survey will be provided, cost of the survey split 50/50 between buyer & seller. Title policy, title policy, closing cost to be split 50/50 between buyer and seller. Not Sold Subject to Inspections, Please have inspections done Prior to day of auction Sold AS/IS WHERE/IS. Sold Subject to Sellers approval. Not responsible for accidents. Auctioneers License: Trevor Gray (A01150020 AC3150005)

Funding package

(Continued from Page 1)
approved money for Veterans Affairs, Interior, Agriculture and other agencies, the bill at issue Friday is much larger, providing funding for the Defense, Homeland Security and State departments and other aspects of general government.
The House had approved the package of spending bills earlier Friday, a long overdue action nearly six months into the budget year that would push any threats of a government shutdown to the fall.
The House passed the bill by a vote of 286-134, narrowly gaining the two-thirds majority needed for approval. More than 70% of the money would go to defense.
The vote in the House reflected anger among Republicans over the content of the package and the speed with which it was brought to a vote. House Speaker Mike Johnson brought the measure to the floor even though a majority of Republicans ended up voting against it.
Johnson broke up this fis-

cal year's spending bills into two parts as House Republicans revolted against what has become an annual practice of asking them to vote for one massive, complex bill called an omnibus with little time to review it or face a shutdown. Johnson viewed that as a breakthrough, saying the two-part process was "an important step in breaking the omnibus muscle memory."
Still, the package was clearly unpopular with most Republicans, who viewed it as containing too few of their policy priorities and as spending too much.
It's taken lawmakers six months into the current fiscal year to get near the finish line on government funding, the process slowed by conservatives who pushed for more policy mandates and steeper spending cuts than a Democratic-led Senate or White House would consider. The impasse required several short-term, stopgap spending bills to keep agencies funded.

He said afterward that the bill "represents the best achievable outcome in a divided government."
In sign of the conservative frustration, Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, R-Ga., initiated an effort to oust Johnson as the House began the vote but held off on further action until the House returns in two weeks. It's the same tool that was used last year to remove the last Republican speaker, Kevin McCarthy of California.
The vote breakdown showed 101 Republicans voting for the bill and 112 voting against it. Meanwhile, 185 Democrats voted for the bill and 22 against.
Rep. Kay Granger, the Republican chair of the House Appropriations Committee that helped draft the package, stepped down from that role after the vote. She said she would stay on the committee to provide advice and lead as a teacher for colleagues when needed.
Johnson broke up this fis-

Bluffton Parks & Rec News & Notes



By Brandy Fiechter

Destination Recreation

We have a new program called **Junk to Glam Barbie Dreamhouse** on April 13 from 10-11:30 a.m. at Washington Park Inside Pavilion. Families are invited to work together to build a Barbie Dreamhouse out of a box and upcycle items to use as decorations. All supplies will be provided. Make sure you bring your Barbie doll to try out its new home. The morning will also include refreshments and a photo area. Registration is limited, and the cost is \$15 per box to create your very own Barbie Dream House. When registering, please indicate how many will be attending in your group. An adult is required to be present with their child/children to assist in the build.

There is still time to sign up for the Spring session of **Senior Snippets**. These classes focus on the Senior population, with weekly classes on various topics. These free talks will be held at different locations in town, so be sure to make a note in your calendar after you sign up. Some classes have limited space, and you must call 824-6069 or e-mail events@blufftonindiana.gov to register.

Monday: April 15, April 22, and May 6 at 2 p.m. — **Dehydrating 101** and **Cooking with an Air Fryer** at Washington Park Indoor Pavilion.

Dehydrating 101 — Ever wonder about dehydrating foods? Whether you're thinking about getting a dehydrator or have one but need guidance, this class is for you. Make sure to sign up for both sessions of this two-part workshop. Session 1 of 2 objectives: Basic methods and techniques for dehydration. Choosing healthy foods to dehydrate. Learn to preserve food through dehydration safely. Hands-on demonstration of the process. Session 2 of 2 Objectives: Learn effective storage methods for long-term preservation. Explore how dehydrated foods enhance a healthy diet. Sample healthy dehydrated snacks. (April 15 and 22).

Cooking with an Air Fryer — Are you considering whether an air fryer would benefit your kitchen, or do you already have one but aren't sure how to use it? Join us for this class on air fryer basics. Objectives: Basics of Air Frying

and different air fryer models. Cooking/Food Safety Tips. Air Fryer Safety Tips. Recipes. Demonstration and Samples. (May 6)

Tuesdays: April 16 and April 23.
10 a.m. — **Foreign Countries at Washington Park Indoor Pavilion:** Listen to area high school exchange students from Norwell High School talk about life in their home country. Countries include Sweden and Kyrgyzstan.

Wednesdays, April 17 — May 15.
10 a.m. — **History Class at the Wells County Historical Museum:** Enjoy an in-depth look at local history at the Wells County Historical Museum. Connie Brubaker will present the following topics: Unsolved Murder, History of Hair Jewelry, History of Miller Airport, and History of the American Legion in Bluffton.

1 p.m. — **Movie/Book Club at the Wells County Public Library:** 5 weeks of Vermeer with Catherine Campbell at the Wells County Public Library. Come for the beauty, stay for the inspiration. Watch Colin Firth and Scarlett Johansson in the stunning "The Girl with a Pearl Earring," a fictional account of the creation of Johannes Vermeer's famous masterpiece. Then, see a fascinating documentary presented by entertainers Penn & Teller, "Tim's Vermeer," about the reproduction of one of the Dutch Master's paintings.

2 p.m.—**Easy Spring Crafts** at the Wells County Public Library, taught by Emily Marshall. Explore your creativity at the library with a different Spring craft each week. Emily Marshall with the Wells County Public Library will lead you through each craft, which will be easy enough for beginners but still allow you to get creative and make it your own. All supplies provided.

Thursdays, April 18 — May 16.

3 p.m. — **Crochet Lessons at Washington Park Indoor Pavilion:** Instructor Kathy Gehrett will teach new and advanced students how to crochet. Bring a size H hook. Class size is limited to the first 12 who preregister.

Have a great week!



Friday evening rollover accident

Wells County EMS transported an unidentified male to Lutheran Hospital Friday evening after he reportedly drove his GMC Sierra into a field on the west side of Ind. 1 south of 450S. After leaving the highway, the driver rolled the truck an unknown number of times before the vehicle stopped. As of press time, the Wells County Sheriff's Department had not released any more information, such as the condition of the driver or the time the crash happened. The Bluffton Fire Department also responded to the scene. All emergency personnel left the scene by about 10:25 p.m. (Photo by Chet Baumgartner)

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City:
Thursday, 2:59 p.m., East Harrison Road and South Main Street. Welfare check requested for driver slumped over wheel.

Thursday, 4:32 p.m., 1700 South Main Street. Report of silver truck in lot, subject possibly living there. Man was waiting on someone to get him gas, not causing any issues.

Thursday, 7:17 p.m., Bluffton Police Department. Subject turned in card he found at the bank.

Thursday, 9:02 p.m., 200 block of West South Street. Officer assisted with property retrieval.

Thursday, 9:44 p.m., Walmart. Management requested two individuals be trespassed.

Friday, 12:29 a.m., 200 block of West Washington Street. Caller reported dogs barking for long periods.

Friday, 1:42 a.m., North Main and East Market streets. Driver cited for driving while suspended.

Friday, 9:09 a.m., Bluffton Police Department. Subject requested to speak to officer regarding other homeless subject.

County:

Thursday, 3:19 p.m., Country Corner Deli, Liberty Center. Report from bus driver of vehicles passing bus. Officer warned three driver's for swerving in their lane behind the bus.

Thursday, 3:23 p.m., S.R. 301 and East Wenger Court, Bluffton. Driver cited for disregarding stop sign.

Ossian:

Thursday, 4:15 p.m., 400 East 900 North, Ossian. Report of a road rage incident involving broken window.

Thursday, 11:40 p.m., Ossian Deli. Driver cited for failure to file insurance and failure to appear for driver safety program, and charged for operating while intoxicated.

Friday, 6:02 a.m., S.R. 1 and East 800 North, Ossian. Officer noticed three open fireball shots on passenger seat during traffic stop for speeding. Driver admitted to drinking them before work, but blew a .0% PBT. Driver

warned.

ARRESTS

Tatiana Janae Royal, 29, Bluffton; Possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. No bond set.

Mitchell Lee Buzzard, 39, Huntington; Invasion of privacy, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond set at \$1,500.

Ervin Fernando, 26, Fort Wayne; Operating without ever obtaining license, a Class C misdemeanor.

Karen Kay Roberts

Calling: 2 - 7 p.m. Monday, March 25 at the funeral home and one hour prior to the service at the church.
Funeral: 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 26 at Murray Missionary Church.

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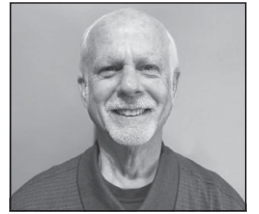
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www.themonumentcenter.com



Local Roundup

Wells County Council to hold special session Monday

The Wells County Council will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 25, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

Topics on the agenda will include:
• Consideration of two additional requests regarding the Local Trax and Rainy Day funds.

• Discussion regarding a stipend an additional clerical position for the Highway Department with Supervisor Shawn Bonar.

Bluffton Board of Works to meet Tuesday afternoon

The Bluffton Board of Public Works and Safety will meet at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 26, in the meeting room on the first floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St.

Topics on the agenda include:
• Consideration of four water adjustments.
• CRP application request from Bluffton NOW!

• Discussion of a nuisance animal.
• Personnel requests.
• Dump truck quotes.
• Street closure request from Wells on Wheels.

Southern Wells Jr.-Sr. High School announces Quarter 3 honor roll

Southern Wells Jr.-Sr. High School has released the names of its students on the high honor roll and honor roll for the third quarter of the 2023-24 school year.

12th Grade

High Honor Roll

Brittany Costello, Kammy Miller, Rylie Wilson and Tristen Worster.

Honor Roll

Allison Barger, Case Boxell, Malaina Culbertson, Perrin Gates, Jaxon Heath, Brayden Jackson, Cambri Leas, Peyton Long, Tessa Maul, Emma Peterson, Yazmine Tucker and Karlee Warner.

11th Grade

High Honor Roll

Ava Adkins, Matthew Aulbach, Aidan Carney, Alyssa Green, Andres Herrmann, Nickolas Lee, Hana McClain, Collena Reeves and Derek Rockwell.

Honor Roll

Lydia Baumgartner, Quinten Darling, Avery Gaskill, Tyler Grover, Colter Kiel, Owen King, Cohen Miller, Bailee Moore, Aruzhan Mussina, Ashlie Needler, Alaina Nusbaumer, Kenzie Paxson, Dominic Ramirez, Brandon Reed, Caroline Ripperger and Haidee Stetzel.

10th Grade

High Honor Roll

Sydney Alstoft, Kolbie Beavans, Peyton Bertsch, Peyton Ellis, Lilly Gartin, Addison Gaskill, Shaylinn Geesaman, Jazlyn Gillum, Emma Park, Gracie Reeves, Lily Rhodes, Taylor Rogers, Adeline Sabinske, Dannicka Sorensen and Emily Steffen.

Honor Roll

Korbin Eltzroth, Chloe Enochs, Lexie Fiechter, Jarin Frauhiger, Keith Gartin, Leeland Goodnight, Levon Goodnight, Lucas Goodrich, Wyatt Harker, Kane Jenkins, Lillian Mahorney, Michael, Miley Joanne, Hayden Morgan, MacKenzie Taylor and Braden Yencer.

9th Grade

High Honor Roll

Kinley Allred, Joshua Aulbach, Cash Banter, Aliah Carroll, Miranda Holloway,

Gavin Howell, Landon Johnson, Samantha Kahn, McKenna King, Sophia Meeks, Chanie Mounsey, Lillia Paxson, Elisabeth Penrod and Kila Shelley.

Honor Roll

Jayda Brown, Andi Jane Bryant, Dirk Frauhiger, Alison Knight, Carson Liddy, Aubree Meyer, Gunner Murray, Reagan Needler, Catalina Ramirez, Lilly Roe, Delinda Schortgen, Emma Shepard and Bailey Trosper.

8th Grade

High Honor Roll

Kinley Allred, Joshua Aulbach, Cash Banter, Aliah Carroll, Miranda Holloway, Gavin Howell, Landon Johnson, Samantha Kahn, McKenna King, Sophia Meeks, Chanie Mounsey, Lillia Paxson, Elisabeth Penrod and Kila Shelley.

Honor Roll

Kaleb Boots, Kaylee Davis, Ellie DeWeese, Harlie Durham, Lucy Fairchild, Hallie Frauhiger, Madison Grover, Jacob Hahn, Sevoa Harris, Kameron Hawkins, Sophie Heckman, Mary Huffman, Bailey Jenkins, Drew Lahr, Sarah McFarren, Bryson Michael, Adalynn Morrison, Marianne Pease, Evelyn Peterson, Abbie Powell, Milee Rickard, Abigail Sawin, Mia Vanover, Cadence Watkins, Caylee Williams and Kendal Zavattaro.

7th Grade

High Honor Roll

Rylen Gates, Gabriella Hoffacker, Gwyneth Howell, Logan Leas, Lyla Lyons, Amelia Penrod, Adelynn Robles, Grace Rockwell, Annalyse Roe and Grace Rogers.

Honor Roll

Aubrie Beavans, Brooklyn Blinn, Leighann Carpenter, Landon Clifton, Alaina Edmonds, Mack Frauhiger, Avery Geesaman, Camryn Hamilton, Adelyn Heim, Kyan Johnson, Chase Kirkwood, Rylan Leas, David McMillan, Lyric McQueary, Jacob Miller, Olivia Newman, Lucille Palmer, Kylie Peterson, John Schneider, Ella Schwartz, Timothy Smith and Logan Tarr.

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One giant leap into the 21st century for this old Boomer

One small step for most. One giant leap for others. That would be me.

The time had come. Others, particularly my wife, would say it was past time.

It has always been interesting, especially the past few years, to see reactions whenever I pulled out my flip phone. Some chuckled, some envied, but I like to think the majority were both amused and at least somewhat envious.

"I wish I'd never gotten this thing," was heard more than once as they pulled out their often-bulky modern contraption that is more computer than phone.

There was an article in a national publication I clipped out: "Flip the phone script; Members of Gen Z are snapping up 'dumb' flip phones." It was about how flip phones were making a comeback because of the addictiveness of smart phones and the loss of privacy by their mere presence. There is no doubt they are listening. That was a year ago already; I don't think that trend actually developed, but then dumb-phone people might be just keeping them hidden.

On a trip last year during an airport layover, one of our traveling companions told me that while I had been texting someone, a young boy nearby tugged his father's arm and pointed at me. They both chuckled, he said. I can just hear the kid saying "Look Dad, a dinosaur."

I didn't hear them, but I am sure the gals in the N-B office were at least smirking whenever I was texting someone there: Beep-beep-beep. Bop-bop. Boop-boop. Beep. Bipp-bipp. My wife once asked me to put my phone on "silent" mode whenever I would text around her.

And that's one of the main reasons I have finally acquiesced. People want to communicate via text more and more, including me. Not only is that problematic on a flip phone but mine was getting evermore eccentric and problematic as it aged.

Just like me, I guess. It probably didn't help any that I had dropped it a couple times, once cracking the hinge that opened it, the second time the front screen became non-functional. I could no longer tell who was calling without flipping it open which automatically answered the call, whether or not I wanted to talk to them.

That happened at least six months ago. I was still stubbornly hanging on. I didn't like to carry around the small flip phone, let alone a larger hip attachment. (So I got the smallest one still available.) I didn't want to be tied to this gadget like I see so many people — waiting in line or at an office or eating their meals at a restaurant whether or not they're alone — and am determined not to do that. I didn't want to have Siri or Alexus listening in on my conversations and then sending me ads or notifications about that. (She is turned off. I think.)

Ordering it and setting it up did not do a lot to ease those qualms. We have been customers of Consumer Cellular. Their customer service reps are people you can understand and their training obviously is focused on dealing with older people and our struggles with technology. The young man who took my order about two weeks ago was almost condescending. The nice lady who helped me set it up last Saturday was a godsend. I had hoped to be able to transfer my "Contacts" from the flip phone to the new iPhone. She said we could try but it would likely not work well. So we linked it to our laptop MacBook at home and finished up.

After completing the process and saying farewell, I did the re-start and began poking around, and then I dove into entering my "Contacts" manually while watching some college basketball. The phone had downloaded a long list of contacts from somewhere but they were terribly outdated and only had email addresses. For example, one was for my younger brother's email at a church he hasn't been at for about 25 years. It also had the Photo Gallery from my iPad. How'd that get there?

I accidentally called our oldest son, somehow without his phone number being in that contact list yet, and then accidentally terminated the call as we were talking. I clicked on the FaceTime App and it immediately connected me with our youngest son, with whose family we frequently FaceTime on my iPad. How'd that happen? Is this thing reading my mind?

Just as I was breaking a sweat, realizing that my worst fear of dealing with a device smarter than me was coming true, this new gadget in my hand rang. (The default ringtone was some sort of phoo-phoo noise. My wife insisted I change it. I eventually figured out how to do that. But I digress.) A friend was calling. Although his contact had been in my flip phone it only showed a phone number. I took that as a good sign. Not sure why.

I was able to answer it. I didn't hang up on him, and I successfully terminated the call without cutting him off or blowing this thing up. Maybe there is hope, I thought.

Our son welcomed me to the 21st century and added, "welcome to a world where you're tied to your phone." I told him that was perhaps the main reason I had not made the switch and my intent was to remain as non-dependent as possible. "Good luck," he said. And chuckled. Not encouraging.

After sharing with the friend that he was honored to be my first phone call on it (he had recently dubbed my old phone as "Flipper," giving me an additional emotional attachment to it), he recommended I call one of the grandkids to come help me set it up. They will be here next Saturday. I am working on a list of questions. It gets longer every day.

No small step for me.

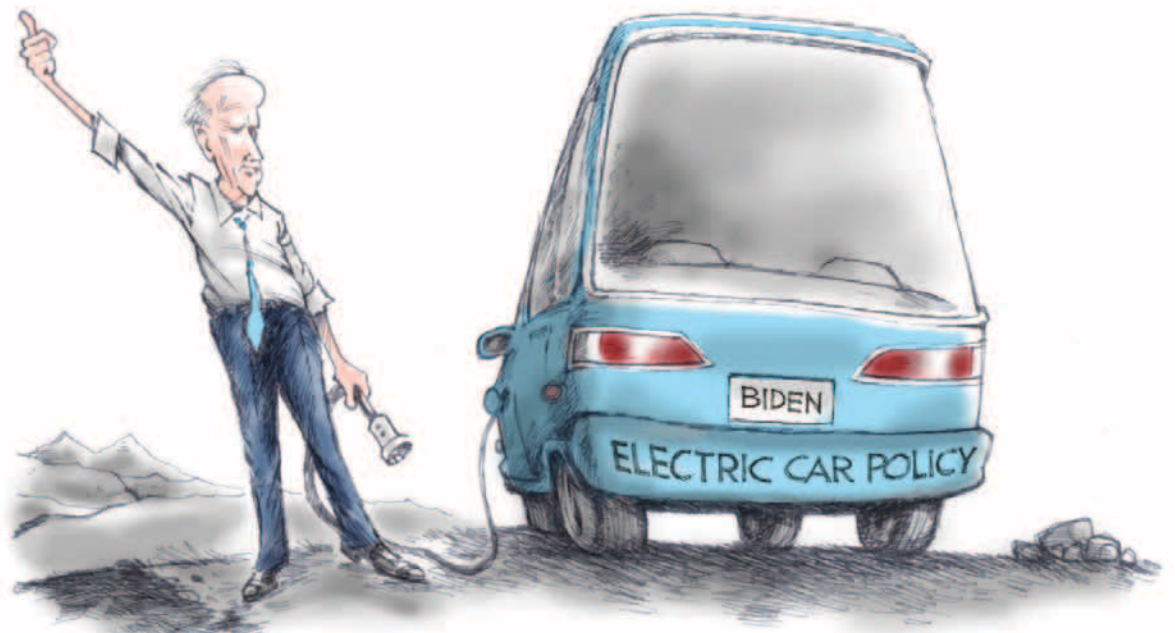
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Saturday's Sub



Mark Miller

DEAN WITWER GAGLE CARTOONS



The Electric Car Fiasco

Donald Trump's anodyne if overexcited comment that the U.S. auto industry would face a "bloodbath" if he's not elected and doesn't impose 50% or 100% tariffs on cars produced predictable results.

"Don't outsmart yourself," Sen. Brian Schatz (D-Hawaii) posted, and Joe Biden's campaign promptly charged Trump with promising a "bloodbath" if he loses, without saying that he used a common metaphor and was talking about the auto industry.

That's a subject Team Biden is understandably touchy about, given the conspicuous fiasco of its electric vehicle policies.

It's summed up in a lengthy Wall Street Journal report on how a "dramatic societal shift to electric cars" had "overlooked an important constituency: the consumer."

Evidence is plentiful. Manufacturers have been cutting prices as dealers' lots filled up with unsold electrics. Ford is halving its output of electric F-150 trucks in its Dearborn, Michigan, plant. General Motors dealers are pressing the company to reverse its strategy, cut EV production and build hybrids instead. Tesla CEO Elon Musk warned of "notably lower" EV production.

Expectations elsewhere went unmet. Hertz sold off 20,000 rental EVs at a loss of \$245 million and fired its CEO, a Goldman Sachs alumnus. EV startup Fisker, which defaulted on \$192 million in Obama administration loans, is reportedly preparing for bankruptcy. Apple is shutting down its multibillion-dollar electric car division.

"Plans for an EV-led industrial revolution are in full-scale retreat" in Britain, France and Germany, the London-based Telegraph reported. "It looks like all those 'well-paid green jobs' are going to take a little longer to arrive than anyone anticipated."

Liberals justify the \$7,500 consumer subsidies for EVs as a way to reduce carbon emissions. But, of course, reductions depend on where the electricity, and the rare earths and metals in batteries, come from. Meanwhile the environmental pitch may have boosted sales among Democrats, but it also has resulted in low sales to Republicans.

These attitudes correlate with geography. EVs may be practical to zip about in the mild weather of the Pacific Coast and over the short distances of the Northeast — Biden territory in 2020. But EV batteries run out of charge over long distances, when it's freezing outside, or when you've got your air conditioning on — all common experiences in the South, Midwest and Rocky Mountain states, which Trump carried in 2016 and 2020.



Michael Barone

It's not hard to see, although government projections seem to have missed it, that many people would be reluctant to pay more for a vehicle likely to totally stop functioning in common use, and much more expensive to repair.

And irksome to charge. In the 1920s, the private sector built vast networks of gas stations capable of refueling a vehicle in five or 10 minutes. In the 2020s, the government has taken on the task of building electric charging stations, with predictable results. After more than two years, the \$5 billion 2021 charging station program has produced exactly eight charging stations.

In the marketplace, it's clear the demand for electric vehicles is much smaller than that predicted by environmental enthusiasts and imposed on carmakers by the Biden administration. Toyota's hybrid gasoline-and-electric vehicles, while less fashionable in certain quarters than battery-powered EVs, are rated as more reliable and just as green, and they are outselling the all-electrics.

As the late economist Herbert Stein said, "If something cannot go on forever, it will stop." Projections for EV sales have fallen woefully short month after month. The Environmental Protection Agency projects EV sales will rise from 7.6% in 2023 to 67% in 2032, but the EPA's tailpipe regulations, the tool used to raise EV sales, are not on track to do so.

At least not without drastically cutting total auto production. Environmental nonprofit organizations may not mind that, but the United Auto Workers, which represents workers at Detroit's Big Three but not at Tesla or foreign-based companies, does and has demanded the administration change policy.

Which it has, sort of. The EPA is now announcing it won't enforce EV sales requirements until 2030. But it still says it's requiring two-thirds by 2032.

As you may have noticed, there are three presidential elections between now and late 2032, when Biden will turn 90 and Trump 86. Team Biden is obviously fiddling with its failed EV policies in the hopes of smoothing over the differences between its environmentalist and union constituencies, Marin County, California, and Macomb County, Michigan. That might work, up through Election Day.

Then, whoever wins, there will come something you might provocatively call a bloodbath. For an industry with large capital needs and long lead times, or for environmentalists determined to phase out vehicles that most consumers prefer and can afford — maybe for both.

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The absurd four-day workweek

Karl Marx would be proud. Bernie Sanders has proposed taking another step toward the philosopher's envisioned utopia by proposing to mandate a four-day workweek.

Marx wrote how in communist society, workers would be liberated to "hunt in the morning, fish in the afternoon, raise cattle in the evening, criticize after dinner, just as I have in mind, without ever becoming hunter, fisherman, shepherd or critic."

Needless to say, that's not how communism turned out. Yet the belief that work is basically a capitalist imposition that is unnatural and bad for people still holds sway on the left, and Sanders is, accordingly, proposing to move from a 40-hour to a 32-hour workweek to make us healthy, wealthy and wise.

"It is time to reduce the stress level in our country and allow Americans to enjoy a better quality of life," the Vermont socialist insists. "It is time for a 32-hour workweek with no loss in pay."

The last clause is the key one. If everyone can work less and produce and earn exactly the same, why not? And if this is possible, why stop at four days a week? It'd be positively cruel to make someone work four days when they can work three days with the same outcomes.

Of course, the promise that we can



Rich Lowry

work less and make the same is the socialist equivalent of Mexico will pay for the border wall. It's not just promising a free lunch, but a free breakfast, lunch and dinner, with room service delivering a late-night snack gratis.

What we earn is not an arbitrary number, but is linked to what we produce. To simplify, if everyone were to work 20% less without becoming any more productive, GDP would decline 20%. The pie would shrink, even though Sanders is saying everyone's slice would — impossibly — be just as big.

It's certainly true that Americans work more than people in other countries. France has a much-vaunted 35-hour workweek, although that stricture only applies to blue-collar workers. Still, France works less than we do, and — in a sign that basic economic laws aren't so easily suspended — its workers make less money. The average net disposable household income in France, according to *The Week* magazine, is \$34,375 a year, whereas it is \$51,147 in the U.S.

If Sanders were being honest and weren't a socialist, he'd say he has a great deal for Americans — they can work less and become poorer. There probably wouldn't be many takers.

Sanders complains that American workers are 400% more productive than they were in the 1940s, yet they

are still working long hours. Over time, though, we have worked less. In 1830, the average working week was more than 70 hours, and over the course of the next century, it dropped by almost half.

If we were all content with 1940s living standards, maybe we could go all the way and adopt a two-day workweek. From a 21st century perspective, though, returning to 1940s-era housing, plumbing, technology, transportation and health care would feel like impoverishment, and it would be.

What Sanders misses, as economics writer David Bahnsen argues in his new book "Full Time: Work and the Meaning of Life," is that work is good for us, indeed an inherent part of the human condition. Moreover, the problem isn't that Americans work too much, but that too many Americans aren't working at all. Noting the long-term decline in labor-force participation, Bahnsen points out that if the participation rate were the same as it was in 2000, an additional 10 million Americans would be working, with a concomitant increase in goods and services.

In short, the Sanders idea is a frank expression of economic illiteracy. Instead of working so hard to propose and publicize such baldly ludicrous ideas, it'd be better for everyone if the senator found more time for leisure pursuits and resolved to put in fewer hours on the job.

Rich Lowry is on Twitter @RichLowry

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Call to Worship

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705 W.-900 N., Uniondale
10 a.m. - Worship.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Time to Take a Devotional Break

VICTIM OR VICTOR?
Society is filled with individuals who consider themselves victims. Nothing reveals this more than advertisements, signs, and social media postings attempting to shame others for real and perceived slights.

"If you ever lived here during this time, then YOU may be entitled to compensation."

"Go ahead - you deserve it. It's not your fault."

"Injured by malpractice? Contact our law firm."

M a n k i n d always finds someone else to blame for character flaws or failures. Initially, Adam pointed to Eve — and indirectly, God — for his disobedience (Genesis 3:12). Eve accused the serpent (Genesis 3:13). From that initial rebellion until today, humanity has become proficient in denouncing others while refusing to recognize the part they play in the "game" and consequences.

Scripture reveals multiple opportunities that our Savior had to step away from His path of obedience to death on the cross.

Beginning with Satan's personal attempt to derail God's plan of salvation through escape in the desert (Matthew 4:1-11), Jesus could have chosen to avoid His future suffering.

Those who saw and participated in His miracles wanted to crown Him King (John 6:13), which would have destroyed the power of Jesus' death and resurrection.

Alone with His disciples, Jesus affirmed that their recognition of His position as Messiah could only have been revealed by God, then warned His followers not to tell anyone (Matthew 16:13-20; Mark 7:35-36).

When Pilate reminded Jesus of Rome's political power over Him, Jesus responded, "You would have no authority over me...if it hadn't been given to you" (John 19:10-11).

During agonizing hours on the cross, Christ was even taunted by the religious leaders to save Himself as He had saved others (Matthew 27:42).

Despite these possibilities for escape through victimhood, our Lord chose eternal victory by submitting to the will of His Father (Luke 22:42).

This fallen world offers unlimited opportunities for living as a victim. God, alone, provides the strength to live as His forgiven, restored, victorious child (Romans 8:31-39). May this Easter season inspire you to choose the best, most victorious life offered to you.

mpaxson99@yahoo.com



by Martha Paxson

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Dr. Pamela J. Johnson
decaturdentalin.com

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

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

GRACE BIBLE
6626 Village Way, Berne
gracebibleberne.com
9 a.m. - Sunday classes. 10 a.m. - Collective Worship.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

TO REPORT CHURCH NEWS:

- E-mail to churchnews@news-banner.com
- Drop information at 125 N. Johnson St. in Bluffton

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Liberty Center's Dick Harris inducted into IBHOF Wednesday

By MARK MILLER

Liberty Center High School and Manchester University legend Dick Harris was inducted into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame during a banquet held in Indianapolis on Wednesday evening.

The 1964 Liberty Center graduate holds the career scoring record at the school that was consolidated into Southern Wells Jr./Sr. High School in 1972. He also lettered three years in track and basketball at Liberty Center.

Harris was on the Liberty Center team that famously played a 9-overtime game in the Marion Regional semi-finals in 1964, losing to Swayzee. It is a record that still stands.

Harris had fouled out of that game during the fourth quarter; it was widely agreed that had he not fouled out, Liberty Center would have most likely won the game and gone on to play the heavily favored Marion team in the evening finale.

"But looking back," he told the News-Banner in a recent interview, "it would have been just another game and we would be long forgotten."

After graduation, Harris went to what was then Manchester College,

where he was named four-time All-Indiana College Athletic Conference, three-time All-NAIA District and All-American.

When he was inducted as a charter member into the Manchester Hall of Fame in 1994, he still held 16 individual Spartan records, including most points scored in one game (54), points scored in a season (790) and career points (2,643).

After graduating with a degree in biology, he was drafted by the NBA Cincinnati Royals before being drafted into the Army. He was named to the 1972 United States AAU team which participated in the sixth International Cup tournament in Sao Paulo, Brazil. He led the USA team to the championship and a gold medal.

Harris taught biology for a few years in Huntington and later became a commercial airline pilot. He and his wife Donna live in San Diego, California.

Wednesday's schedule included a reception at the Hall of Fame building in New Castle before driving to Indianapolis for the evening reception and dinner.

In his speech at the banquet, Harris expressed his gratefulness to his father.

"When I had just started playing, he said to me that it is easy to be better than every one else when you're bigger. You need to learn to play the game better," he told the crowd. Harris was listed at 6-4.5" during his playing days.

He gave credit to his high school coach, Richard Butt, and his college coach, Claude Wolfe, for helping him develop those skills. He also thanked his teammates in both high school and college.

"I would like to dedicate this evening to my family members and my friends that are no longer with us," he concluded his remarks. "They may not be here in person but they are in spirit. They are looking down with smiles on their faces."

The banquet honored a total of 17 inductees in the 2024 class that included two other familiar names: Dan Dakich of Andean High School near Merrillville, who went on to play at Indiana University; and Al Gooden, Fort Wayne Wayne who played at Ball State University and then coached for a number of years at several high schools, including Wayne.

miller@news-banner.com



Dick Harris in front of the display of memorabilia from his basketball career at the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame in New Castle. He was inducted into the hall during a banquet held in Indianapolis Wednesday evening. (Photos provided)



Dick Harris poses with his three siblings at Wednesday morning's reception in New Castle prior to leaving for the induction banquet into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame in Indianapolis that evening. Standing from left are brothers Ted and Mike Harris and sister Cheri Hall. (Photos provided)

Zach Edey has first 30-20 as No. 1 seed Purdue routs No. 16 Grambling State

By MICHAEL MAROT

AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Zach Edey had the first 30-point, 20-rebound game in the NCAA Tournament since 1995, delivering on his promise to end the discussion about first-round March Madness exits by leading top-seeded Purdue Boilermakers past 16th-seeded Grambling State 78-50 on Friday night.

The greatest scorer and rebounder in school history finished with 30 points and 21 rebounds in 30 minutes, going 11 of 17 from the field. When he did miss, he often scored on putbacks or drew fouls. Defensively, he constantly challenged the Tigers with his 7-foot-4, 300-pound body, blocked shots, and

gobbled up even more rebounds as he set up a second-round contest Sunday against either eighth-seeded Utah State or ninth-seeded TCU.

How good was Edey? The last player with a 30-20 game in the tournament was Joe Smith of Maryland on March 18, 1995.

Braden Smith added 11 points and 10 assists for the Boilermakers (30-4), who tied the school's single-season record for victories. Purdue had a 48-23 rebounding advantage.

This was a far different story from the one that played out 372 days earlier, when the Boilermakers fell to Fairleigh Dickinson to become the second No. 1 seed to lose to a No. 16 seed in

the NCAA Tournament. This time, they left no doubt about who had the better team — or the better players.

Purdue took a 36-27 halftime lead in front of a sellout crowd largely clad in their dominant black color, 60 miles from the school's campus. Edey then proceeded to lead the Boilermakers on an 18-6 spurt to open the second half and never looked back.

Tra'Michael Moton scored 21 points and Kintavious Dozier finished with 16 for the Tigers (21-15), the Southwestern Athletic Conference Tournament champs who emerged as an early darling when they beat Montana State in overtime in the First Four to earn their first trip to the NCAA Tournament.

Men's tournament recap: SEC falling hard while Pac-12 thrives in Round

Yale 78, Auburn 76

John Poulakidas scored 28 points, Samson Aletan made a key block during a wild scramble in the final seconds, and 13th-seeded Yale beat No. 4 seed Auburn 78-76 in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. For the second straight year, the Ivy League Tournament champion took down one of the pre-tournament favorites. The Bulldogs won an NCAA Tournament game for just the second time in school history, rallying from a 10-point deficit midway through the second half. John Broome led Auburn with 24 points and 13 rebounds.

Colorado 102, Florida 100

KJ Simpson rattled in a tiebreaking jumper from the baseline with 2 seconds left, and 10th-seeded Colorado beat seventh-seeded Florida in a 102-100 thriller in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. Simpson finished with 23 points as the Buffaloes and Gators put on the most impressive offensive display of this year's March Madness. Colorado extended its single-season school record for wins two

days after beating Boise State in the First Four. The Buffs advance in the South Region to face second-seeded Marquette on Sunday. Walter Clayton Jr. scored the last 16 points for Florida, including a 3-pointer to tie the game at 100-all with 9 seconds left. He finished with a career-high 33 points.

Texas A&M 98, Nebraska 83

Wade Taylor IV led five Aggies in double figures with 25 points as No. 9 seed Texas A&M sent eighth-seeded Nebraska home still looking for its first NCAA Tournament victory after beating the Huskers 98-83 Friday night in the South Region. The Aggies added insult to injury by beating Nebraska after unexpectedly hiring athletic director Trev Alberts away from his alma mater for the same job last week. Texas A&M now will play either top-seeded Houston or No. 16 seed Longwood with a trip to Dallas awaiting in the Sweet 16. Brice Williams led the Huskers with 24 points.

Clemson 77, New Mexico 56

Chase Hunter scored 21 points and sixth-seeded Clemson ended No. 11

seed New Mexico's hopes of repeating the Mountain West's run in the NCAA Tournament, beating the Lobos 77-56. The Lobos came in as the Mountain West Tournament champs, a popular pick to be this tournament's version of San Diego State a year ago. New Mexico was favored by 2 1/2 points in this game, according to FanDuel Sportsbook. But Clemson dominated on both ends, leading by 19 points in the first half and 23 in the second. Nelly Junior Joseph had 14 points and 12 rebounds for New Mexico.

Marquette 87, Western Kentucky 69

Kam Jones scored 28 points and Tyler Kolek made a successful return from an oblique injury, helping No. 2 seed Marquette rally for an 87-69 victory over No. 15 seed Western Kentucky in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. The Golden Eagles trailed 43-36 at halftime, but they overwhelmed the Hilltoppers in the second half. Kolek finished with 18 points and 11 assists in his first game since Feb. 28. Next up for Marquette is the

(Continued on Page 7)

Women's tournament Round of 64 recap: Buckeyes advance, Spartans fall

Ohio St. 80, Maine 57

Jacy Sheldon had 19 points and three other Ohio State players scored in double figures as the Buckeyes ran away from Maine 80-57 in the first round of the women's NCAA Tournament. The bigger and faster Buckeyes swarmed Maine with a stifling press, forcing 22 turnovers. Second-seeded Ohio State advances to play seventh-seeded Duke on Sunday. Sheldon scored her 2,000th career point with a layup late in the first half. Cotie McMahon scored 13 points for Ohio State, and Celeste Taylor and Taylor Thierry each added 12. Anne Simon led Maine with 25 points.

North Carolina 59, Michigan St. 56

Deja Kelly had 13 points and No. 8 seed North Carolina held off a late Michigan State run for a 59-56 victory to start the NCAA Tournament on Friday. The Spartans cut a 16-point deficit to 57-56 on Theryn Hallock's 3-pointer with 5.4 seconds left. But Kelly did just enough at the foul line to pull off the victory. Alyssa Usby had 16 points and 17 rebounds, including the last one after Kelly's miss from the foul line with 3.2 seconds to go.

South Carolina 93, Presbyterian 39

Chloe Kitts tied her career high with 21 points on 9-of-9 shooting as No. 1 overall seed South Carolina easily overcame the absence of starters Kamilla

Cardoso and Bree Hall to beat No. 16 seed Presbyterian 91-39 in the first round of the women's NCAA Tournament. The Gamecocks moved five wins away from the 10th perfect championship season by overwhelming the Blue Hose of the Big South Conference for a second time this season. Next comes another rematch against No. 8 seed North Carolina on Sunday. The Tar Heels gave up almost all of a 16-point lead before holding on to defeat No. 9 seed Michigan State earlier Friday.

LSU 70, Rice 60

Angel Reese had 10 points and 19 rebounds, and third-seeded LSU overcame a feisty performance by No. 14 seed Rice for a 70-60 victory in the first round of the women's NCAA Tournament. Aneesah Morrow added 15 points, while Flau'Jae Johnson and Mikaylah Williams each scored 14 for the defending national champion Tigers. But LSU committed a season-high 24 turnovers that helped Rice stay in then game. LSU never led by more than 11 and was up by just six with 1:56 left. Destiny Jackson scored 15 and Malia Fisher had 13 points and three steals for Rice.

Texas 82, Drexel 42

Shaylee Gonzales scored 21 points and Taylor Jones added 18, and No. 1 seed Texas defeated No. 16 Drexel 82-42 Friday in the first round of the NCAA

Tournament for its 13th win in the last 14 games. Gonzales converted 5 of 6 3-point attempts while matching her season-high in scoring. Jones hit 7 of 11 shots inside. Drexel (19-15) had only one starter taller than 6 feet — 6-2 Hedda Staatman.

Baylor 80, Vanderbilt 63

Bella Fontleroy scored 19 points and grabbed 11 rebounds to lift Baylor to an 80-63 victory over Vanderbilt in the first round of the women's NCAA Tournament. Fontleroy hit 6 of 12, including four 3-pointers, for the fifth-seeded Bears (25-7), who broke open a close game at halftime with a dominating third quarter in winning for the seventh time in their past eight games. Iyana Moore led the 12th-seeded Commodores (23-10) with 15 points, but made just 3 of 14 from the floor.

Alabama 82, Florida 74

Freshman Essence Cody had season bests with 20 points and 14 rebounds and No. 8 seed Alabama defeated No. 9 Florida State 82-74 in the first round of the women's NCAA Tournament. Working inside, the 6-foot-4 Cody more than doubled her average of eight points a game. She also blocked four shots. Alabama shot 5 of 6 from the foul line in the final 44 seconds. Ta'Niya Latson led Florida State with 25 points and five assists. Makayla Timpson had 23 points, 11 rebounds and three blocks.

High School Calendar

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

No events scheduled.

MONDAY, MARCH 25

No events scheduled.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

No events scheduled.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

No events scheduled.

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

No events scheduled.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

BASEBALL: Norwell at Brownstown Central, 1 p.m. & vs. Evansville Central at Bloomington South High School, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

BASEBALL: Norwell vs. Edgewood, 10 a.m.; Norwell vs. Brownstown Central at Edgewood high School, 5:30 p.m.

Corrections and clarifications

Friday's News-Banner incorrectly identified Southern Wells baseball head coach Evan Huffman as Evan Reynolds.

Carson Smith, Peyton Miner and Sebastian Couch are not on the roster.

Ohtani's interpreter fired by Dodgers after allegations of theft

By STEFANIE DAZIO, RONALD BLUM and BETH HARRIS Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Shohei Ohtani's interpreter and close friend has been fired by the Los Angeles Dodgers following allegations of illegal gambling and theft from the Japanese baseball star.

Interpreter Ipeei Mizuhara, 39, was let go from the team Wednesday following reports from the Los Angeles Times and ESPN about his alleged ties to an illegal bookmaker. The team is in Seoul, South Korea, this week as Ohtani makes his Dodgers debut, and Mizuhara was in Los Angeles "dugout" during their season-opening win.

Mizuhara was seen regularly chatting with Ohtani, who was the Dodgers' designated hitter, seemingly discussing his at-bats over a tablet computer.

"In the course of responding to recent media inquiries, we discovered that Shohei has been the victim of a massive theft and we are turning the matter over to the authorities," law firm Berk Brettler LLP said in a statement Wednesday.

Sports gambling is illegal in California, even as 38 states and the District of Columbia allow some form of it.

Mizuhara is a familiar face to baseball fans as Ohtani's constant companion, interpreting for him with the media and at other appearances since Ohtani came to the U.S. in 2017. He even served as Ohtani's catcher during the Home Run Derby at the 2021 All-Star Game. When Ohtani left the Los Angeles Angels to sign a \$700 million, 10-year contract with the Dodgers in December, the club also hired Mizuhara.

The Dodgers said in a statement they were "aware of media reports and are gathering information."

"The team can confirm that interpreter Ipeei Mizuhara has been terminated," the statement said. "The team has no further comment at this time."

On Tuesday, Mizuhara told ESPN that his bets were on international soccer, the NBA, the NFL and college football. MLB rules prohibit players and team employees from wagering — even legally — on baseball and also ban betting on other sports with illegal or offshore bookmakers.

"I never bet on baseball," Mizuhara told ESPN. "That's 100%. I knew that rule ... We have a meeting about that in spring training."

The Associated Press could not immediately reach Mizuhara for comment Wednesday.

Mizuhara was born in Japan and moved to the Los Angeles area in 1991 so his father could work as a chef. He attended Diamond Bar High School in eastern Los Angeles County and graduated from the University of California, Riverside, in 2007.

News-Banner Scoreboard

BASKETBALL High School

Boys' Basketball State Final 1A

Bethesa Christian (23-7) vs. Fort Wayne Canterbury (18-9), 10:30 a.m.

Brownstown Central (27-4) vs. Wapahani (26-2)

Scottsburg (24-5) vs. South Bend St. Joseph (20-9), 6 p.m.

Ben Davis (23-5) vs. Fishers (28-1), 8:15 p.m.

College

Men's Basketball Schedule Friday, Mar. 22

UConn 91, Stetson 52

Alabama 109, Coll. of Charleston 96

Baylor 92, Colgate 67

Clemson 77, New Mexico 56

Colorado 102, Florida 100

Duke 64, Vermont 47

Northwestern 77, FAU 65, OT

Texas A&M 98, Nebraska 83

Yale 78, Auburn 76

Marquette 87, W. Kentucky 69

Purdue 78, Grambling St. 50

San Diego St. 69, UAB 65

Niagara 91, Le Moyne 86

Baylor 80, Vanderbilt 63

Middle Tennessee 71, Louisville 69

NC A&T 56, UNC-Greensboro 51

North Carolina 59, Michigan St. 56

South Carolina 91, Presbyterian 39

Virginia Tech 92, Marshall 49

Colorado 86, Drake 72

Duke 72, Richmond 61

James Madison 72, Wisconsin 61

Kansas St. 78, Portland 65

Ohio St. 80, Maine 57

South Dakota 72, UC Riverside 57

Alabama 62, Florida State 74

Houston 86, Longwood 46

Texas 82, Drexel 42

Iowa St. 93, Maryland 86

Oregon St. 73, Washington 51

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, Pct, GB

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Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, Pct, GB

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, Pct, GB

Phoenix 128, Atlanta 115 Friday's Games

Boston 129, Detroit 102 Oklahoma City 123, Toronto 103

New Orleans 111, Miami 88 Minnesota 104, Cleveland 91

Memphis 99, San Antonio 97 Indiana at Golden State, late

L.A. Clippers at Portland, late Philadelphia at L.A. Lakers, late

Brooklyn at New York, 1 p.m. Sacramento at Orlando, 7 p.m.

Charlotte at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m. Boston at Chicago, 8 p.m.

Phoenix at San Antonio, 8 p.m. Toronto at Washington, 8 p.m.

Utah at Houston, 8 p.m. Denver at Portland, 10 p.m.

New Orleans at Detroit, 3 p.m. Philadelphia at L.A. Clippers, 3:30 p.m.

Cleveland at Miami, 6 p.m. Golden State at Minnesota, 7 p.m.

Oklahoma City at Milwaukee, 7 p.m. Indiana at L.A. Lakers, 10 p.m.

Charlotte at Cleveland, 7 p.m. Boston at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.

Brooklyn at Toronto, 7:30 p.m. Detroit at New York, 7:30 p.m.

Phoenix at San Antonio, 8 p.m. Portland at Houston, 8 p.m.

Washington at Chicago, 8 p.m. Dallas at Utah, 9 p.m.

Memphis at Denver, 9 p.m. Philadelphia at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

Indiana at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

Pittsburgh at Colorado, 2 p.m. New Jersey at N.Y. Islanders, 5 p.m.

Edmonton at Ottawa, 6 p.m. Florida at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.

Toronto at Carolina, 6 p.m. Dallas at Arizona, 8 p.m.

Tampa Bay at Anaheim, 8:30 p.m. Buffalo at Calgary, 9 p.m.

Montreal at Seattle, 9 p.m. Vegas at St. Louis, 8 p.m.

Los Angeles at Vancouver, 9 p.m.

Los Angeles 13 5 722 Colorado 15 10 600

Washington 15 10 600 San Francisco 14 10 583

Chicago 16 12 571 New York 14 11 560

St. Louis 11 11 500 San Diego 9 9 500

Milwaukee 13 14 481 Arizona 12 13 480

Atlanta 11 13 458 Pittsburgh 11 15 423

Cincinnati 10 14 417 Miami 8 12 400

Philadelphia 8 14 364 Atlanta 5, N.Y. Yankees 2

Houston 9, St. Louis 1 Washington 9, Minnesota 8

N.Y. Mets 10, Detroit 5 Cleveland 8, Kansas City (ss) 5

Chicago White Sox 3, Kansas City (ss) 3

Chicago Cubs 5, Colorado 2 Toronto 3, Pittsburgh 2

Boston 3, Baltimore 2 San Francisco 7, Milwaukee 6

Seattle 7, Cincinnati 6 Minnesota (ss) vs Atlanta at Fort Myers, Fla., canc.

Tampa Bay vs Minnesota (ss) at Port Charlotte, Fla., canc.

Detroit 4, Philadelphia 3 N.Y. Yankees 5, N.Y. Mets 3

Toronto 5, Boston 1 Colorado 3, Texas (ss) 2

Cleveland 10, Texas (ss) 0 Oakland (ss) 8, Cincinnati 6

Chicago White Sox (ss) 8, Oakland (ss) 2

San Francisco (ss) 7, Chicago Cubs (ss) 3, 1st game

San Francisco (ss) 13, Chicago Cubs (ss) 12, 2nd game

L.A. Angels 2, Chicago White Sox (ss) 0

Seattle (ss) 3, Arizona 3 Milwaukee (ss) 4, Seattle (ss) 4

Milwaukee (ss) 11, Kansas City 5 Baltimore vs Pittsburgh at Sarasota, Fla., canc.

Houston vs Washington at West Palm Beach, Fla., canc.

Miami vs St. Louis at Jupiter, Fla., canc.

Scottsdale, Ariz., 4:05 p.m. Arizona (ss) vs Cleveland at Scottsdale, Ariz., 4:10 p.m.

Baltimore (ss) vs Toronto (ss) at Sarasota, Fla., 6:05 p.m.

Boston (ss) vs Minnesota at Fort Myers, Fla., 6:05 p.m.

Washington (ss) vs Miami at West Palm Beach, Fla., 6:05 p.m.

Houston vs St. Louis at West Palm Beach, Fla., 12:05 p.m.

Boston vs Atlanta at Fort Myers, Fla., 1:05 p.m.

Detroit vs Tampa Bay at Lakeland, Fla., 1:05 p.m.

Minnesota vs Baltimore at Fort Myers, Fla., 1:05 p.m.

Philadelphia vs Toronto at Clearwater, Fla., 1:05 p.m.

Pittsburgh vs N.Y. Yankees (ss) at Bradenton, Fla., 1:05 p.m.

Miami vs N.Y. Mets (ss) at Jupiter, Fla., 1:10 p.m.

N.Y. Mets (ss) vs Washington at Port St. Lucie, Fla., 1:10 p.m.

del Mexico vs N.Y. Yankees (ss) at Mexico City, 4 p.m.

Cincinnati vs Cleveland at Good-year, Ariz., 4:05 p.m.

Colorado vs Chicago White Sox at Scottsdale, Ariz., 4:10 p.m.

Seattle vs Chicago Cubs at Peoria, Ariz., 4:10 p.m.

Milwaukee vs Arizona at Phoenix, 4:10 p.m.

L.A. Dodgers vs L.A. Angels at Los Angeles, 7:10 p.m.

Sacramento vs San Francisco at Sacramento, Calif., 8:07 p.m.

David Hamilton, RHPs Cooper Criswell and Zack Kelly and INF/OF Romy Gonzalez to Worcester (IL).

CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Optioned RHP Prelander Berroa to Charlotte (IL).

Released INF Mike Moustakas and OF Kevin Pillar.

CLEVELAND GUARDIANS — Optioned SS Jose Tena to Columbus (IL).

DETROIT TIGERS — Optioned RF Aki Baddoo, RHP Matt Manning and SS Ryan Kreidler to Toledo (IL).

Reassigned OF Justin-Henry Malloy to the minor league camp.

HOUSTON ASTROS — Optioned C Cesar Salazar to Sugar Land (PCL).

KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Optioned LHPs Anthony Veneziano, Daniel Lynch IV, 1B Nick Pratto and C Austin Nola to Omaha (IL).

LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Optioned RHP Andrew Wantz and SS Livan Solo to Salt Lake (PCL).

Optioned RHP Ben Joyce to Rocket City (SL).

MINNESOTA TWINS — Reassigned INF Brooks Lee to the minor league camp.

NEW YORK YANKEES — Optioned LHP Clayton Andrews to Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (IL).

SEATTLE MARINERS — Reassigned LHP Jhonathan Diaz and INF Ryan Bliss to the minor league camp.

TEXAS RANGERS — Signed RHP Michael Lorenzen to a one-year contract.

Placed RHP Jacob deGroom on the 60-day IL.

ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS — Optioned LHP Andrew Saalfank and OF Pavin Smith to Reno (PCL).

Reassigned LHP Jose Castillo to the minor league camp.

Released INF Elvis Andrus.

LHP Edwin Escobar to the minor league camp.

CINCINNATI REDS — Reassigned INF Mike Ford, RHP Tony Santillan and C Michael Trautwein to the minor league camp.

FOOTBALL National Football League CLEVELAND BROWNS — Signed RB D'Onta Foreman.

GREEN BAY PACKERS — Signed LB Eric Wilson.

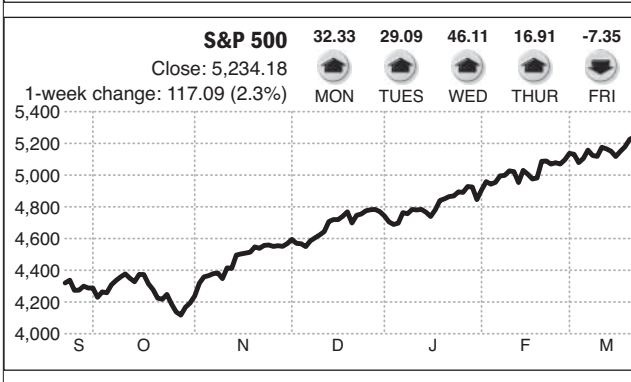
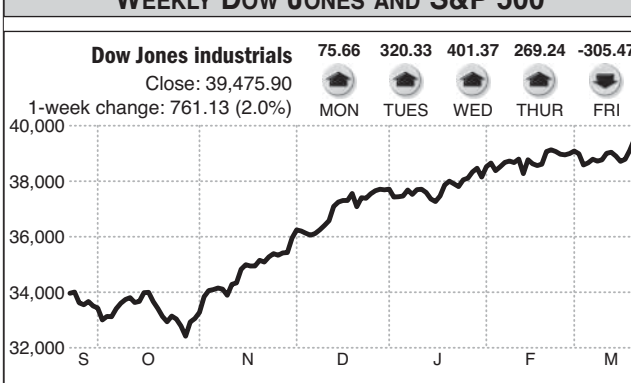
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Signed QB Joe Flacco.

EAST COAST HOCKEY LEAGUE FORT WAYNE KOMETS — Released D Taylor Bierley from his standard player contract.

Placed F Daniel Amesbury on reserve.

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

WEEKLY DOW JONES AND S&P 500



STOCK MARKET INDEXES

Table with columns: Index Name, High, Low, Name, Last, Wk Chg, Wk %Chg, YTD %Chg, 12-mo %Chg

STOCK EXCHANGE HIGHLIGHTS

Table with columns: NYSE GAINERS, NYSE LOSERS, NYSE ACTIVES, NASDAQ GAINERS, NASDAQ LOSERS, NASDAQ ACTIVES

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Wk Chg, Wk %Chg, YTD %Chg

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Wk Chg, Wk %Chg, YTD %Chg

Table with columns: Money Rates, Currencies

Table with columns: Name, Total Assets, Total Return/Rank, Pct Load

CA - Conservative Allocation, CI - Intermediate-Term Bond, FB - Foreign Large Blend, GS - Short Government, IB - World Bond, IH - World Allocation, LB - Large Blend, LG - Large Growth, LV - Large Value, MA - Moderate Allocation, MI - Multi-National Intermediate, ML - Multi National Long, NT - Non-traditional Bond, WS - World Stock, Total Return: Chng in NAV with dividends reinvested, Rank: How fund performed vs. others with same objective. A is in top 20%, E in bottom 20%. Source: Morningstar.

Stock Footnotes: g = Dividends and earnings in Canadian dollars. h = Does not meet continued listing standards. If = Late filing with SEC. n = New in last 52 weeks. pf = Preferred. rs = Stock has undergone a reverse stock split of at least 50 percent within the past year. r = Right to buy security at a specified price. s = Stock has split by at least 20 percent within the last year. u = Units. vj = In bankruptcy or receivership. wd = When distributed. wv = When issued. wt = Warrants. Mutual Fund Footnotes: b = Fee covering market costs is paid from fund assets. d = Deferred sales charge, or redemption fee. f = front load (sales charges), m = Multiple fees are charged. NA = not available. p = previous day's net asset value. s = fund split shares during the week. x = fund paid a distribution during the week. Source: The Associated Press. Sales figures are unofficial.

Men's tournament recap

(Continued from Page 6)

Florida-Colorado winner on Sunday in the second round of the South Region. Tyrone Marshall scored a career-high 21 points for WKU.

Northwestern 77, Florida Atlantic 65 (OT)

Ryan Langborn scored 12 of his career-high 27 points in overtime, and ninth-seeded Northwestern finally put away No. 8 seed Florida Atlantic 77-65 in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. The injury-depleted Wildcats recovered after

squandering a nine-point lead late in the second half. Brooks Barnhizer's driving layup tied it with nine seconds left. Next up for Northwestern is No. 1 overall seed UConn in the second round of the East Region on Sunday in Brooklyn. Vlad Goldin had 19 points for the Owls, who returned nearly their entire team from a surprising Final Four run last year but were unable to muster that same March magic this time.

San Diego St. 69, UAB 65

Jaedon LeDee dominat-

ed inside on the way to 32 points, Lamont Butler added 15 and San Diego State held off 12th-seeded UAB 69-65 in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. A year after marching to the national title game, also as a No. 5 seed, the Aztecs saw a 12-point second-half lead disappear before putting

together a late surge on the strength of their star 6-foot-9 forward. That ensured San Diego State avoided a March Madness surprise in the East Region. Efreem Johnson scored 19 points to lead UAB. He had a chance at a tying 3-pointer with 8 seconds left, but it rimmed off.

Edward Jones advertisement with logo and contact information for Bluffton, Ossian, and other locations.

Advertisement for Spring Home, Lawn & Garden, featuring a house illustration and contact information.

Daughter invites bad ex-boyfriend on birthday vacation

Dear Annie: My daughter broke up with her boyfriend several months ago. She just recently hooked back up with him. Needless to say, I don't like him. He is spoiled and rude.

The family was planning a trip for her birthday and she asked if a female friend could come. I told her that would be OK. Now she is telling me that her girlfriend can't come and that her ex-boyfriend can take her friend's plane ticket. I told her if he goes, I'll stay home because I do not want to be around him. She knew this before inviting him to go on the trip. I openly expressed this to her.

Now, my daughter is telling me that she originally invited him to go on this trip if her friend decided not to go. She says I'm being mean and causing her to choose between him and me! I tried to explain to her that I don't want her to choose and that she already knew how I felt about the whole situation. She still insists I am driving a wedge between us.

I'm not sure what to do — either stick to my original decision, as I truly don't like him, or try to put up with him for the five days we will be on our trip so I can try to enjoy what little time I'll get with her since her ex will be there and he does not like to be around me or my daughter's brother. What should I do? I love her, but I don't like him. — Unhappy Mom

Dear Unhappy Mom: Difficult as it might be to feign excitement with this man tagging along, the only person who loses out by not going on this trip is you. As much as you don't like him or the situation, you'll likely feel worse if you don't go and miss out on celebrating your daughter's birthday.

Do your best to be cordial and enjoy the time with her and the rest of your family. If she decides she wants to be with this man again long term, you will have to figure out a way to accept their relationship as best you can for as long as they are together. If you don't, I fear you will only continue to lose more and more of your daughter.

Dear Annie: My name is "Stephanie," and my husband's name is "Travis." Travis and I have been married for 27 years.

About six months ago, I was blindsided with divorce papers. He and his mom made the decision. Yes, you read that right. Anyhow, my husband and I still live together, and the divorce has not moved forward for various reasons. His entire family has completely disowned me, with the exception of my father-in-law, who didn't get involved.

Travis' father, my father-in-law, suddenly passed away recently. It was heart-breaking. I sent food, etc. because that is who I am. When the obituary came out online and in the paper, my name wasn't in it. My husband's name and our children's names were, of course, but my name wasn't. I am so hurt by this. My father-in-law and I always had a good relationship, and I feel like Travis and his mother did it out of spite. I know they did. In my opinion, that was disrespectful to both his father and to me.

How could people be so cruel? How do I move past this? What are your thoughts? Thank you. — "Stephanie" Left Out in PA

Dear Stephanie: I'm sorry for the loss of your father-in-law, especially during an already difficult time for you and your marriage. After almost three decades of calling Travis' family your own, you have every right to feel hurt, excluded and disrespected by their behavior. Ultimately, this action speaks much louder of their character than of yours.

Initiate a conversation with Travis to express how this exclusion made you feel and establish a way to interact and cohabit as you move toward finalizing the divorce. It is disappointing that the people you've been closest to have started to act in unrecognizable ways, but remember, you can only control your reactions and behavior. Lean on your true friends and loved ones while you grieve both your father-in-law and your marriage.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com. © 2024 CREATORS.COM

My Answer



By Dr. Billy Graham

Children also need to be nourished by God's truth

hardship but it is worth the effort. Children also need to be nourished by God's truth. There are many examples in the Bible about people seeking happiness. King Solomon was convinced he knew how to find happiness — and with his vast resources, he was able to pursue it. Wealth, fame, pleasure, power, lavish houses, a reputation for wisdom — you name it, King Solomon had it. Yet after gaining everything he had ever wanted, he reluctantly concluded that his life was still empty and without meaning. His search for lasting happiness had failed; his soul was empty.

A child is too young to have enough wisdom to recognize true happiness as they pursue it, so they must be led. Teaching children the Scripture gives them foundation — replacing what the world teaches with the things of God. Children often respond to illustrations. Children should be taught that there are consequences of rebelling against those who love and cherish them.

Imagine the wisest human king saying that he denied himself nothing but learned that all he achieved was meaningless (see Ecclesiastes 2:10-11). We must all learn from these lessons that have stood the test of time.

(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.

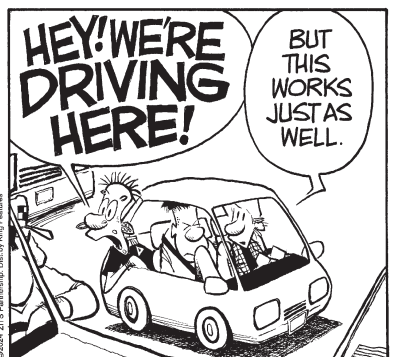
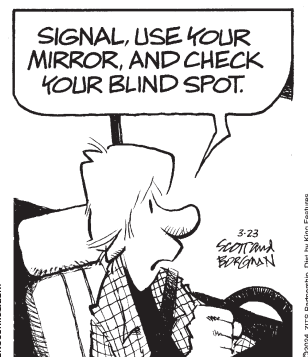
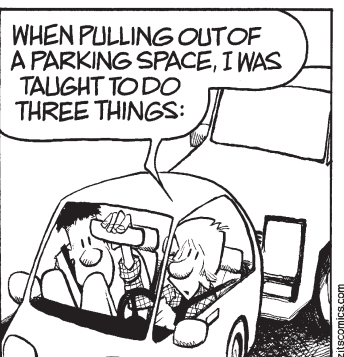
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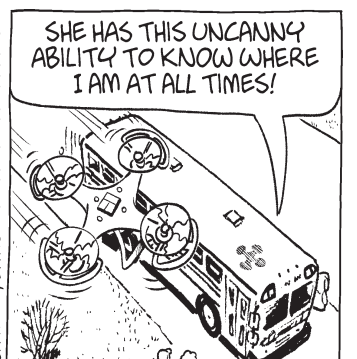
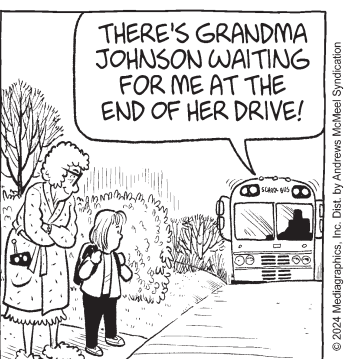
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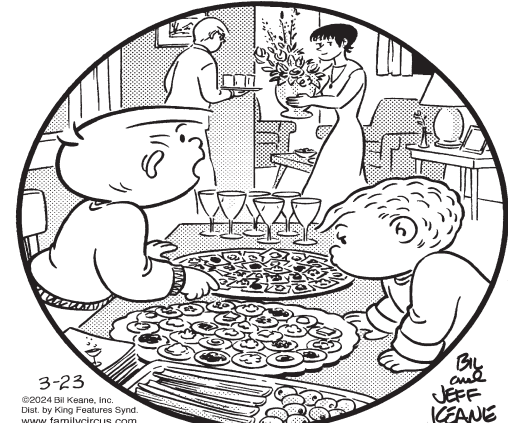


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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



The LOCKHORNS

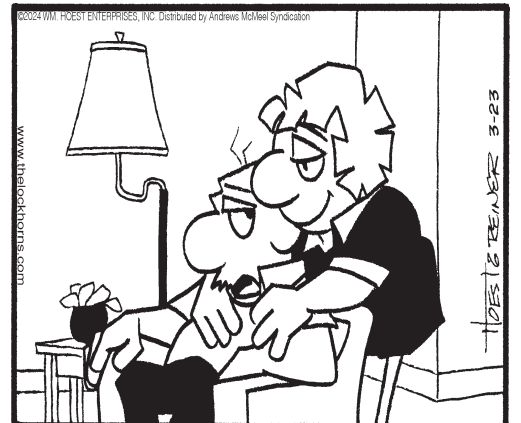


Table with columns for date, time, and program listings for various channels including WINM, CBS, Antenna, ABC, NBC, MNT, CW, PBS, FOX, and WFTT.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words. Includes a solution time of 26 mins and a grid of letters.

Table with columns for date, time, and program listings for various channels including HBO, MAX, SHOW, and TMC.

Do pass recommendation

(Continued from Page 1)

a permit from the Health Department before the meeting. Commissioner Jarrod Hahn warned that the email received was likely the department notifying him of what needed to be done rather than a permit. Meyer stated he would look into the email after the meeting.

"That community well is going to be a problem," Hahn said.

There were several public comments about the issue from concerned neighbors.

Mike Fancher, who lives across the street, brought up three concerns: the lighting from the building shines directly into his home at night, the adjacent property sits six inches higher potentially causing flood problems, and the zone could bring all sorts of unknown business types to that zone. Meyer advised he was willing to fix the lighting issue.

Orville Hilsmeir Jr., Emily

Grover, Michele Pulfer and Judy Kaehr also shared concerns about the property, including natural septic flow, the use of dumpsters in the area, the location of the business and different issues in construction.

The APC's overall opinion was that the concerns were valid and would be addressed by the requirements of B-3 zones, which include attaching a development plan. As such, the APC unanimously approved the "do pass" recommendation with the following conditions: Meyer must file for a Health Department permit within 30 days; Meyer's development plan must address any lighting, sewage, drainage and buffer issues; and Meyer Renovation, Meyer Removal or similar businesses are the only entities that can be in this zone.

"If we have the right stipulations and create the right things, this won't just put a band-aid

on this (issue) but stitch it up the right way," board member Tyson Brooks said.

Additionally, the APC approved a request for an eight-lot major subdivision on 300 East at Wayne Street south of State Road 116. This subdivision will be for housing developments and will be accessible by a shared private drive. Water for the lots will be drawn from community wells instead of city water. FIT Development LLC owners Todd Fiechter and Aaron Isch stated that hooking up to city water was not economically feasible.

Isch further clarified that the north half of the subdivision will still be farmland. Kent Shady of Bluffton expressed concern that Markley Ditch, a runoff area near the subdivision, would not be able to handle the added stress of the new developments. Shady stated that part of his backyard is in a floodplain area. He also expressed

concern that the development had no plans to annex into the city of Bluffton.

Hahn noted that a detention pond will be on the property, which forces the water to have a longer holding time before it goes into a system. He explained that they are also sizing the detention pond larger than necessary for the planned eight lots, just in case the owners want to put more housing on that parcel.

Board member Josh Hunt, substituting for Chandler Gerber, stated that neither the city nor the owners could force annexation due to protections against cities taking in undeveloped areas. Lautzenheiser further noted that details for sewer lines will be determined during the development process.

Furthermore, the APC gave a rezoning request at 328 South Union St. a "do pass" recommendation to the Bluffton Common Council. This would switch the area from

a residential-three zone to a residential-two zone. The zoning would restrict the area to only have two or single-family dwellings.

Owner Drew Gerber said he plans to install a tri-plex instead of a duplex. The area is currently an open lot due to a past single-family home being demolished. He stated that parking for the apartments will be accessed by a shared drive that goes into individual driveways. He hopes to have at least two cars per unit.

The APC also cleared one violation for Shane and Kristi Anderson. They allowed their in-laws to reside in their RV and because they lived in the area for over 90 consecutive days, a violation was filed. Since then, the in-laws have spent time away from the area, and because they broke the 90-day streak, the violation was cleared.

All board members were present on Thursday.

jonathan@news-banner.com

Russia, China veto U.S. resolution calling for cease-fire in Gaza

By EDITH M. LEDERER
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Russia and China on Friday vetoed a U.S.-sponsored United Nations resolution supporting "an immediate and sustained cease-fire" in the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza, calling the measure ambiguous and saying it was not the direct demand to end the fighting that much of the world seeks.

The vote in the Security Council became another showdown involving world powers that are locked in tense disputes elsewhere, with the United States taking criticism for not being tough enough against its ally Israel, whose ongoing military offensive has created a dire humanitarian crisis for the 2.3 million Palestinians in Gaza.

A key issue was the unusual language that said the Security Council "determines the imperative of an immediate and sustained cease-fire." The phrasing was not a straightforward "demand" or "call" to halt hostilities.

The resolution reflected a shift by the United States, which has found itself at odds with much of the world as even allies of Israel push for an unconditional end to fighting.

In previous resolutions, the U.S. has closely intertwined calls for a cease-fire with demands for the release of Israeli hostages in Gaza. This resolution, using wording that's open to interpretation, continued to link the two issues, but not as firmly.

Before the vote, Russian U.N. Ambassador Vassily Nebenzia said Moscow sup-

ports an immediate cease-fire, but he criticized the diluted language, which he called philosophical wording that does not belong in a U.N. resolution.

He accused U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and U.S. Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield of "deliberately misleading the international community."

"This was some kind of an empty rhetorical exercise," Nebenzia said. "The American product is exceedingly politicized, the sole purpose of which is to help to play to the voters, to throw them a bone in the form of some kind of a mention of a cease-fire in Gaza ... and to ensure the impunity of Israel, whose crimes in the draft are not even assessed."

China's U.N. ambassador, Zhang Jun, said the U.S. proposal set preconditions and fell far short of expectations of council members and the broader international community.

"If the U.S. was serious about a cease-fire, it wouldn't have vetoed time and again multiple council resolutions," he said. "It wouldn't have taken such a detour and played a game of words while being ambiguous and evasive on critical issues."

The U.S. has vetoed three resolutions demanding a cease-fire, the most recent an Arab-backed measure supported by 13 council members with one abstention on Feb. 20.

Thomas-Greenfield urged the council to adopt the resolution to press for an immediate cease-fire and the release of the hostages,

as well as to address Gaza's humanitarian crisis and support ongoing diplomacy by the United States, Egypt and Qatar.

The vote in the 15-member council was 11 members in favor and three against, including Algeria, the Arab representative on the council. There was one abstention, from Guyana.

After the vote, Thomas-Greenfield accused Russia and China of voting for "deeply cynical reasons," saying they could not bring themselves to condemn Hamas' terrorist attacks in southern Israel on Oct. 7, which the resolution would have done for the first time.

She accused Russia of again putting "politics over progress" and having "the audacity and hypocrisy to throw stones" after launching its unwarranted invasion of Ukraine in February 2022.

At the White House, national security spokesman John Kirby said Russia and China would "rather shoot down something we authored simply because we authored it."

While the most recent resolution would have been officially binding under international law, it would not have ended the fighting or led to the release of hostages. But it would have added to the pressure on Israel amid global demands for a cease-fire at a time of rising tensions between the U.S. and Israeli governments.

Meanwhile, the 10 elected members of the Security Council have put their own resolution in a final form. It demands an immediate humanitarian cease-fire for

the Muslim holy month of Ramadan that began March 10 to be "respected by all parties leading to a permanent sustainable cease-fire." The Palestinian U.N. ambassador said the vote would take place Saturday morning.

The resolution also demands "the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages" and emphasizes the urgent need to protect civilians and deliver humanitarian aid throughout the Gaza Strip.

The Russian, Chinese and Algerian ambassadors urged council members to support it, but Thomas-Greenfield said the text's current form "fails to support sensitive diplomacy in the region. Worse, it could actually give Hamas an excuse to walk away from the deal on the table."

The Security Council had already adopted two resolutions on the worsening humanitarian situation in Gaza, but none has called for a cease-fire.

Russia and China vetoed a U.S.-sponsored resolu-

tion in late October calling for pauses in the fighting to deliver aid, protection of civilians and a halt to arming Hamas. They said it did not reflect global calls for a cease-fire.

A day earlier, the U.S. circulated a rival resolution, which went through major changes during negotiations before Friday's vote. It initially would have supported a temporary cease-fire

linked to the release of all hostages, and the previous draft would have supported international efforts for a cease-fire as part of a hostage deal.

The vote took place as Blinken, America's top diplomat, was on his sixth mission to the Middle East since the war began, discussing a deal for a cease-fire and hostage release, as well as post-war scenarios.

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Trump says he has nearly \$500M in cash but doesn't want to use it to pay New York judgment

By MICHAEL R. SISAK
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Donald Trump claimed on Friday to have almost a half-billion dollars in cash but said he'd rather spend it on his presidential run than on the \$454 million civil fraud judgment against him in New York. The former president vowed to fight the verdict "all the way up to the U.S. Supreme Court if necessary" as the state gears up to potentially seize some of his assets if he doesn't pay the hefty tab.

Trump has been trying to get a state appeals court to excuse him from a requirement that he provide financial guarantees showing he's good for the money while he appeals the staggering verdict.

The presumptive Republican presidential nominee didn't provide any documentation for his cash claim, and his lawyers have suggested it's not feasible to tie up so much cash on a bond while also keeping his businesses running and meeting other obligations. Among them, according to financial records: a condition on one of his property loans that he maintain a minimum liquidity of \$30 million.

A Manhattan judge in February found that Trump repeatedly lied about his wealth on financial statements given to banks and others to secure loans and make deals. The judge ordered him to give up profits from certain real estate deals and money he saved by obtaining lower interest rates on loans. Trump denies that he tried to

deceive anyone.

As recently as Thursday, Trump's lawyers reiterated in court filings that they were having difficulty obtaining a bond covering the judgment because underwriters insisted on cash, stocks or other liquid assets instead of real estate as collateral. More than 30 bonding companies rejected their entreaties, they said.

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