

# The News - Banner

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MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2024

BLUFFTON, INDIANA · Wells County's Hometown Connection

\$1.00

## Developing Wells County

After eight years Chad Kline transitions into new role

By MARK MILLER

When Chad Kline was elected to the Noble County Commissioners in the 2012 elections, his first appointment was to that county's Economic Development Council. He felt like he had found a home.

"It really piqued my interest," he said in his Bluffton office on a rainy Thursday morning. "The prospect of developing relationships to improve a community and work towards positive growth — that really is what drew me to this."

So when he heard that there was an opening for an economic development director in Wells County in late 2015, he immediately considered applying.

"By that time, I had got to know Blake Gerber and Kevin Wood-

ward and Toby Steffen," he continued, "so I talked to them about it and they encouraged me to apply. Frankly, I'm not sure why I was selected but I am glad they did."

One of the attractions for him to the Wells County position was the "cooperation and collaboration" of the chamber of commerce and the economic development offices working so closely together. "At the time, Wells County was a bit unique," he confirmed. "But it's becoming more common now."

Kline's last day as Wells County's economic development director was Friday; he will begin his new duties Monday as one of three directors of economic development at Greater Fort Wayne, Inc., which is a similar combination of those



Chad Kline gazes out his office window Thursday morning, contemplating his transition from being Wells County's economic development director for eight years to a new position with Greater Fort Wayne, Inc. His last day was Friday. (Photo by Mark Miller)

two entities, only on a bigger scale. Having assumed his duties here in February, 2016, it is just over eight years of work that he reflected upon.

"I really feel good about the momentum Wells County has," he said. More than 1 million square feet of manufacturing and logistics

space has been added during his tenure. He knows that is remarkable for not just a county of this size, but also in a county that does not have an interstate highway. In fact, he added, Wells County is the only county in northeast Indiana with no four-lane highway.

Kline briefly walked through two

examples — 20/20 Custom Molding and Inteva. He called the Inteva project the "largest Wells County has seen in a number of years."

Originally targeted at adding about 400 jobs, employment at the plant is now up to about 650.

"Yes, I'm pretty proud of that," (Continued on Page 2)

### Open house at the Historical Museum

The grand opening of the Harry Lindstrand Art Gallery, located in the entrance area of the Wells County Historical Museum, brought several donations to the collection of watercolor paintings for which Lindstrand was known. At top, "On the Banks of the Wabash" was gifted by Marcelline Hoy, at right, to Historical Vice President Connie Brubaker, during the Sunday afternoon open house.



At middle right, one of Harry Lindstrand's "Arizona" watercolors of "Saguand Lake" was presented to the museum by Autumn McAfee (right).

At far middle right, Julie Harvey (left) brought a painting featuring her father-in-law Lou Harvey on a horse, painted by Harry Lindstrand. Accepting the gift was Lynn Elliott, the Historical Society's treasurer.

Shown at bottom is a special corner in the Military Exhibit, located on the first floor of the annex, is a collection of authentic military uniforms worn by Wells County soldiers. Ben Jones and a group of veterans have been working on creating the collection.



The museum is now open on Sunday and Wednesday afternoon from 1 to 4 p.m. Additional photo on Page 3. (Photos by Barbara Barbieri)

## U.S. helps Israel shoot down Iran-launched attack drones

By ZEKE MILLER and MICHELLE L. PRICE  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden lauded American forces who helped Israel down "nearly all" of the drones and missiles fired by Iran and vowed to coordinate a global response to Tehran's unprecedented attack. The Pentagon said U.S. forces intercepted "dozens of missiles" and drones launched from Iran, Iraq, Syria and Yemen that were headed toward Israel.

With regional tensions at their highest since the Israel-Hamas war began six months ago, Biden pledged on Saturday that American support for Israel's defense against attacks by Iran and its proxies is "ironclad." The attack marked the first time Iran has launched a direct military assault on Israel, risking a wider regional

conflict. Biden made clear in a call to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that the U.S. would not participate in any offensive action against Iran, according to a senior administration official who was not authorized to publicly discuss the private conversation and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The U.S. and Israel had been bracing for an attack for days after Iran said it would retaliate for a suspected Israeli strike this month on an Iranian consular building in Syria that killed 12 people, including two senior Iranian generals in the Revolutionary Guard's elite Quds Force.

"At my direction, to support the defense of Israel, the U.S. military moved aircraft and ballistic missile defense destroyers to the region over the course of the past week," (Continued on Page 2)

## House Speaker Johnson says he will push for aid to Israel and Ukraine

By STEPHEN GROVES  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Speaker Mike Johnson said Sunday he will try to advance war-time aid for Israel this week as he attempts the difficult task of winning House approval for a national security package that also includes funding for Ukraine and allies in Asia.

Johnson, R-La., is already under immense political pressure from his fellow GOP lawmakers as he tries to stretch between the Republican Party's divided support for helping Kyiv defend itself from Moscow's invasion. The Republican speaker has sat for two

months on a \$95 billion supplemental package that would send support to the U.S. allies, as well as provide humanitarian aid for civilians in Ukraine and Gaza and funding to replenish U.S. weapons provided to Taiwan.

The attack by Iran on Israel early Sunday further ratcheted up the pressure on Johnson, but also gave him an opportunity to underscore the urgency of approving the funding.

Johnson told Fox News Channel's "Sunday Morning Futures" that he and Republicans "understand the necessity of standing with Israel" and he would try this (Continued on Page 2)

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**Outside**

Enjoy the last day of sunshine

Today	Tuesday	Wed.
High 73	High 71	High 73
Low 51	Low 60	Low 53

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# Developing Wells County

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but quickly added that it has not been just him. He described his role as a "professional middle man."

"Nothing can happen without the support of local government," he said, but he is proud of the support and collaboration his office has provided. He also praised the support of the Wells County Foundation.

"I cannot say enough about their support and Tammy (Slater)," he added. "It's been amazing."

He also pointed to momentum in other areas, such as workforce development and housing needs, noting that the increasing costs of construction have impacted efforts surrounding "accessibility, affordability and attainability," he explained. "But we've made progress there. And I hope it continues, by whoever or whatever follows."

The issue of talent attraction may well fall under the auspices of the tourism bureau, a new entity that was one of Kline's priorities. A large part of that concept of tourism is not just attracting people for a weekend or an event, "but also to attract and retain residents," he explained, which can create new business and opportunities for everyone.

As he departs, he also feels good about the process for each community in the county in developing a master plan.

"We've set up the framework for them to work on 'what does the future look like,' 'what do we do about it.' This will help us be more intentional about growth," he explained.

The county foundation was also instrumental in creating an early learning coalition. This program, estab-

lished in cooperation with Adams County through the Adams Wells Manufacturing Association, will help address issues in child care, "which is critical to workforce development," he noted.

The coalition will eventually become a stand-alone non-profit.

"Again, every project is a partnership," he continued. The coalition added the Adams County commissioners to the mix.

And now he will be taking that "middle man" experience and skills into a different environment.

"I'll be focused on business retention and expansion," he explained, "as opposed to doing everything." Other ED directors in the Greater Fort Wayne organization will focus on downtown development, new business recruitment, and workforce development. That change will have its upsides and its downsides.

"I am really looking forward to having a real vacation," he noted with a smile. He has typed up proposals and prepared presentations on a train in Germany and on a beach in Hawaii. "You were always on duty, but that's just part of the job." But, he insisted, he was not complaining.

He is looking forward to working with "an organization that thinks outside of the box," being part of a larger team and an opportunity to have a more dedicated focus.

"It was not an opportunity I sought, but it became something I thought I should," he shared.

He paused and gazed out his office window that overlooks the Wabash River before talking about the down-

sides.

"Leaving previous jobs has never been difficult," he said. "This is going to be difficult."

He cited some "unfinished business" — housing initiatives, workforce development and talent attraction and retention.

One project that will be completed is the "Downtown Ossian project," he said. "We've been getting close to the finish line — there will be some announcements coming soon." He was able to make arrangements with his new employers to devote what time is needed to get it completed.

"They recognize the importance of this project for the region," he said.

It is what initially drew him to the job — building relationships — that will make it the most difficult to leave.

After emphasizing that he and his wife are not moving, that they will still be a part of the community and he will continue to serve on the Norwell school board, "we've made a lot of friends," he said, "and then there's this team..." as he gestured towards the office area in the Chamber building. And paused again.

"We're family," he finally said. "And I have never seen a more dedicated and enthusiastic person as Erin (Prible) is toward this organization and this community."

He is confident his future work will entail Wells County. Both Greater Fort Wayne and Wells County is aware that success of the region is about working together.

"And I'll still be pulling and rooting for Wells County's success."

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# Weather

Monday, April 15, 2024

(24-hour observations at 10:51 p.m. Sunday)

High: 79; Low: 55; Precipitation: None

Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 11.77 feet at 8:45 p.m. Sunday

## Wells County forecast

**Today:** Sunny, with a high near 73. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

**Tonight:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 51. East wind 5 to 10 mph.

**Tuesday:** A 50% chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 71. Southeast wind 10 to 15 mph.

**Tuesday Night:** A chance of showers and thunderstorms, then showers and possibly a thunderstorm after 2 a.m. Low around 60. Southeast wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. New rainfall amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible.

**Wednesday:** Showers and possibly a thunderstorm. High near 73. Breezy. Chance of precipitation is 90%. New rainfall amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible.

**Wednesday Night:** Showers and possibly a thunderstorm before 8 p.m., then a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m. Low around 53. Breezy. Chance of precipitation is 80%.

**Thursday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 65.

**Thursday Night:** A 40% chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 47.

**Friday:** A 20% chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 59.

**Friday Night:** A 20% chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 41.

**Saturday:** A 20% chance of showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 55.



# Attack drones

(Continued from Page 1)

Biden said in a statement late Saturday. "Thanks to these deployments and the extraordinary skill of our service members, we helped Israel take down nearly all of the incoming drones and missiles."

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin in a statement said the U.S. took out dozens of the attacks, but did not provide details on ships or aircraft involved in the operation that commanders had been preparing for over the past two weeks.

"Our forces remain postured to protect U.S. troops and partners in the region, provide further support for Israel's defense, and enhance regional stability," Austin said, adding that troops are standing ready to prevent any further conflict.

Biden had cut short a weekend stay at his Delaware beach house to meet with his national security team at the White House, returning to Washington minutes before Israeli officials confirmed that they had detected drones being launched toward their territory from Iran.

He convened a principals meeting of the National Security Council in the White House Situation Room to discuss the unfolding situation, the White House said, before speaking with Netanyahu.

"I told him that Israel demonstrated a remarkable capacity to defend against

and defeat even unprecedented attacks — sending a clear message to its foes that they cannot effectively threaten the security of Israel," Biden said.

Biden added that he would convene a meeting of the Group of Seven advanced democracies on Sunday "to coordinate a united diplomatic response to Iran's brazen attack."

The Pentagon reported that Austin had spoken twice with his Israeli counterpart to praise the "extraordinary defensive measures and strong cooperation undertaken to defeat this Iranian attack against Israel" and again stated clearly that "Israel could count on full U.S. support to defend Israel against any future attacks by Iran and its regional proxies." National security adviser Jake Sullivan also spoke with his counterpart to reinforce Washington's "ironclad commitment to the security of Israel."

National Security Council spokesperson Adrienne Watson said in a statement that "Iran has begun an airborne attack against Israel." She added: "The United States will stand with the people of Israel and support their defense against these threats from Iran."

Biden on Friday said the United States was "devoted" to defending Israel and that "Iran will not succeed." Asked by reporters what his message was for Iran, the president's only reply was: "Don't."

He ignored a question about what

would trigger a direct U.S. military response.

The U.S., along with its allies, have sent direct messages to Tehran to warn against further escalating the conflict.

During the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza, there have been near-daily exchanges of fire between Israeli forces and the Iran-backed Hezbollah militant group along the Israel-Lebanon border. U.S. officials have recorded more than 150 attacks by Iran-backed militias in Iraq and Syria on U.S. forces at bases in those countries since war started on Oct. 7.

One attack in late January killed three U.S. service members in Jordan. In retaliation, the U.S. launched a massive air assault, hitting more than 85 targets at seven locations in Iraq and Syria.

Meantime, on Saturday, commandos from Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard rappelled from a helicopter onto an Israeli-affiliated container ship near the Strait of Hormuz and seized the vessel.

Watson, the NSC spokesperson, said the U.S. strongly condemned the seizure and urged Iran to release the ship and crew immediately.

"We will work with our partners to hold Iran to account for its actions," she said.

Also Saturday, the Israeli-occupied West Bank also saw some of the worst violence since Hamas' attack on Israel.

# House Speaker Johnson

(Continued from Page 1)

week to advance the aid.

"The details of that package are being put together right now," he said. "We're looking at the options and all these supplemental issues."

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer at a news conference also said that President Joe Biden held a phone call Sunday with the top Republicans and Democrats in the House and Senate, including Johnson. The New York Democrat said there was consensus "among all the leaders that we had to help Israel and help Ukraine, and now hopefully we can work that out and get this done next week."

"It's vital for the future of Ukraine, for Israel and the West," Schumer said.

The White House said Biden "discussed the urgent need for the House of Representatives to pass the national security supplemental as soon as possible."

Johnson has also "made it clear" to fellow House Republicans that he will this week push to package together the aid for Israel, Ukraine and allies in Asia and pass it through the House, said GOP Rep. Mike Turner of Ohio, chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, on NBC's "Meet the Press."

The speaker has expressed support for legislation that would structure some of the funding for Kyiv as loans, pave the way for the U.S. to tap frozen Russian central bank

assets and include other policy changes. Johnson has pushed for the Biden administration to lift a pause on approvals for Liquefied Natural Gas exports and at times has also demanded policy changes at the U.S. border with Mexico.

But currently, the only package with wide bipartisan support in Congress is the Senate-passed bill that includes roughly \$60 billion for Ukraine and \$14 billion for Israel.

White House national security spokesman John Kirby called on the speaker to put that package "on the floor as soon as possible."

"We didn't need any reminders in terms of what's going on in Ukraine," Kirby said on NBC. "But last night certainly underscores significantly the threat that Israel faces in a very, very tough neighborhood."

As Johnson searches for a way to advance the funding for Ukraine, he has been in conversations with both the White House and former president Donald Trump, the presumptive Republican presidential nominee.

With his job under threat, Johnson traveled to Florida on Friday for an event with Trump at his Mar-a-Lago club. Trump expressed support for Johnson and said he had a "very good relationship" with him.

"He and I are 100% united on these big agenda items," Johnson said. "When you talk about aid to Ukraine, he's introduced the loan-lease concept which is

a really important one and I think has a lot of consensus."

But Trump, with his "America First" agenda, has inspired many Republicans to push for a more isolationist stance. Support for Ukraine has steadily eroded in the roughly two years since the war began, and a cause that once enjoyed wide support has become one of Johnson's toughest problems.

When he returns to Washington on Monday, Johnson also will be facing a contingent of conservatives already angry with how he has led the House in maintaining much of the status quo both on government

spending and more recently, a U.S. government surveillance tool.

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, a right-wing Republican from Georgia, has called for Johnson's ouster. She departed the Capitol on Friday telling reporters that support for her effort was growing. And as Johnson on Sunday readied to advance the aid, Greene said on X that it was "antisemitic to make Israeli aid contingent" on aid for Ukraine.

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**OBITUARIES**

**Ronald Gene Mahon, 72**

Ronald Gene Mahon, 72, of Bluffton, passed away Friday morning, April 12, 2024, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.



Gene was born March 1, 1952, in Hartford City to Donald F. and Deloris R. (Atwood) Mahon. After attending Bluffton High School, Gene honorably served our county in the United State Marines, during Vietnam and was a longtime member of the American Legion Post 111 of Bluffton. Gene was a self-employed contractor and enjoyed playing Santa Claus for many years. In his later years, Gene enjoyed driving for Amish construction companies and for school children.

On July 3, 1994, in Wells County, Gene and Lisa V. (Hall) were married. Survivors include his wife Lisa Mahon of Bluffton; his mother, Deloris R. Mahon of Bluffton; and two children, Malisha Mahon of Fort Wayne and Crystal Mahon

of Virginia; along with several grandchildren.

Gene is also survived by sisters; Karen Keeling of Delphos, Brenda (Ron) Cardin of Ossian, and Cheryl Zeis of Bluffton; and several nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his father, Donald D. Mahon; his brothers, Donald Duane Mahon, David L. Mahon, Glen A. Mahon and Rocky E. Mahon; and a granddaughter, Cathline E. Mahon.

Visitation will take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 20, 2024, at the Thoma/ Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. As Gene requested, there will be no formal funeral service.

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

**Ellen P. Snow, 93**

Ellen P. Snow, 93, of Bluffton, passed away Friday evening, April 12, 2024, at River Terrace Estates in Bluffton.



She was born March 11, 1931, in Adams County, Indiana to John A. Linton and Lena M. (Peel) Johns.

A Wells County resident for most of her life, Ellen graduated from Petroleum High School with the class of 1949. Ellen worked as a secretary for WBGW Radio Station, formerly WCRD, in Bluffton for 22 years, retiring in 1989. She was a member of the Petroleum United Methodist Church and the J-T-5 Homemakers Club. Ellen was a member of the Extension Homemakers Club since 1952 and was awarded Extension Homemaker of the Year in 1993.

On June 26, 1949, in Petroleum, Ellen and Emil L. Breedlove were married. He preceded her in death Jan. 5, 1993. On June 15, 2002, Ellen and Max B. Snow were married. He preceded her in death Sept. 2, 2022.

Survivors include her daughters, Linda (Dave) Durham of Wesley Chapel, Fla., Theresa Breedlove Bradford of Bluffton, Karen Murphy of Fort Wayne and Coralee Bowley of Uniondale. She is also survived by a stepson, Brad (Peggy) Snow of Bluffton; brothers Kent (Carole) Johns of Bloomington and Ronald (Cheryl) Johns

of Indianapolis.

She is also survived by grandchildren, Steve (Elaine) Platt, Tabitha (Dan) Jenks, Brian (Jennifer) Miller, Jacoby Gibson, Greg (Laurie) Murphy, Sheila (Dave) Mays, Joe (Geni) Bradford, John (Melissa) Bradford, Stephanie Snow and Jacob Snow, along with many great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husbands; a brother, Keith Johns; and a sister, Genevieve Wahman; and sons-in-law Wendell Bradford, Jim Murphy and Ed Bowley.

Visitation will be held from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton and for one hour prior to the service.

Funeral services will take place at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, April 18, 2024, at the funeral home with Pastor Mark Dauterman officiating. Burial will follow at Stahl Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or American Cancer Society.

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

**Richard W. Stultz, 71**

Richard W. Stultz, 71, of Bluffton, passed away Friday evening, April 12, 2024, at his residence.



Richard was born in Portland on Jan. 30, 1953, to Jay and Louise (Gilly) Stultz. Both parents preceded him in death.

Richard graduated from Pennville High School in 1971 and later graduated from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering in 1975. He was the operating manager for his family's business, Miller Roofing in Bluffton, for over 20 years. He was a past member of the Petroleum Lions Club, past chief of the Nottingham Township Volunteer Fire Department, and past Assistant Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troup 149 of Bluffton.

During his earlier years, while raising his son, Richard enjoyed being involved with the Boy Scouts, hunting, fishing,

and canoeing. Later in life he enjoyed scuba diving and especially spending time with his two granddaughters.

Survivors include a son, David (Crystal) Stultz; two granddaughters, Madison and Megan Stultz; a close friend, Helen Steffen; a nephew, Brian (Mackenzie) Brockhaus and family; and a niece, Beth Brockhaus.

In addition to his parents, Richard was preceded in death by a sister, Connie Sue Brockhaus.

Private family services are being held at I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Pennville. Goodwin - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton has been entrusted with the arrangements.

In lieu of floral tributes and gifts, memorial contributions may be directed to the Pennville Volunteer Fire Department.

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

**William C. Barkdull**

William "Bill" C. Barkdull, 76 of Bluffton, passed away Saturday afternoon, April 13, 2024, at his residence, surrounded by his loving family.

Funeral arrangements are pending at this time with the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.

**Obituary Policy**

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

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

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



**Sports memorabilia at the Historical Museum**

Sports memorabilia has been moved to the second floor and displays of past Individuals and county teams are highlighted — including the Petroleum Panthers and baseball standout Everett Scott. At a future date the museum members plan to have a special Sunday to showcase a ball once belonging to Babe Ruth. (Photo by Barbara Barbieri)

**Court News**

**Wells Superior Court Criminal Cases**

Skylor Gearlds, 33, was sentenced to 730 days in prison with 534 days suspended and 196 days of jail credit towards his sentence; Gearlds is required to serve 531 days on probation.

The sentence was issued after Gearlds pled guilty to one count of failure to register as a sex offender, a Level 6 felony. Gearlds is also ordered to pay court costs and filings fees in the amount of \$189.

David Lonnie Lawhorne, Jr., 28, New Haven, was sentenced to one year in the Wells County Jail with all but six days suspended. Lawhorne Jr. was sentenced after he pled guilty to one count of domestic battery, a Class A misdemeanor. Lawhorne Jr. is also required to serve 359 days on probation and pay court costs and filing fees in the amount of \$239.

Joseph Anderson, 30, Fort Wayne, was sentenced to 90 days under the supervision of Community Corrections with four days of

jail credit.

Anderson pled guilty to one count of possession of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor. Two counts for unlawful possession or use of a legend drug, both Level 6 felonies, were dismissed pursuant to a plea agreement. Anderson is also required to pay court costs and filing fees in the amount of \$389.50.

Donovan E. Clark, 68, Bluffton, pled guilty to one count of battery resulting in moderate bodily injury, a Level 6 felony. A sentencing hearing is scheduled in this case at 9 a.m. on June 24 in the Wells Superior Court.

Miguel Angel Hernandez Lopez, 22, Fort Wayne, was ordered to pay court costs and filing fees in the amount of \$189.50, as well as a fine of \$10.50 after he pled guilty to operating a vehicle without ever receiving a license, a Class C misdemeanor.

**Financial Focus**

**Be careful when naming beneficiaries**

When you purchase insurance or open investment accounts, such as an IRA, you'll be asked to name a beneficiary — but major life events may cause you to take steps to protect that beneficiary.

If you've named your spouse as a beneficiary of an investment account or insurance policy, this beneficiary designation will be automatically revoked upon divorce in about half the states. So, if you still want your ex-spouse to get these assets, you will need to name them as a beneficiary after the divorce.

And when couples divorce in a community property state, the laws require they split their assets 50/50, but only those assets obtained while they lived in that state. Assets obtained during marriage in other states may be split differently.

You may need to work with a legal professional to sort out beneficiary designation issues and the rules that apply in your state. But you may also want to do a beneficiary review with your financial advisor whenever you experience a life event such as a marriage, divorce or the addition of a new child. Your investments, retirement accounts and life insurance proceeds are valuable assets — so make sure they go where you intended.

*This content was provided by Edward Jones for use by Jeremy Todd, your Edward Jones financial advisor at 260-824-0686.*

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**Wells County Highway DUST CONTROL 2024**  
**New Location: 828 E 200 S, Bluffton**  
**Sign-up is Mon • April 1<sup>st</sup> - Wed • May 1<sup>st</sup>**  
DUST CONTROL OIL PRODUCT: \$2.07 PER FOOT  
Sign up at the Highway office or print the agreement at [www.wellscounties.com](http://www.wellscounties.com) and mail with payment to office. The Highway Department will place flags for those mailed in. **Payments must be made by CASH OR CHECK ONLY.**  
There is a 200 ft. minimum.  
**Office hours are 7:00am to 3:00pm Monday to Friday**  
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**Obituary Policy**

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

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

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## Let's index Indiana's income tax

With April 15 here, it's a good time to review income taxes. On the surface, the federal government has kept income taxes the same since President Donald Trump and Congress decreased marginal tax rates a bit (and simplified the tax code a lot) in 2017.

Unfortunately, federal payroll (FICA) taxes on income are unchanged. At 15.3 percent of every dollar earned by those in the lower through upper-middle income classes, these taxes are far greater for most taxpayers, even though politicians rarely discuss their onerous burdens. For example, if you earn \$40,000, you lose about \$6,000 to payroll taxes; if you earn \$80,000, you lose about \$12,000 to payroll taxes.

President Trump, President Joe Biden and Congress have significantly increased taxes in notable ways. Trump and Biden have been equally aggressive with higher tariffs — taxes on imported goods that increase prices and reduce consumer purchasing power. Trump and Biden (and Congress) have both pursued profligate spending and economy-threatening debt. These must be re-paid through higher future taxes. Under Trump, the national debt increased by \$8 trillion; under Biden, it has increased by \$6 trillion so far. That's \$42,000 per individual in the U.S. over the last seven years. With all of the rhetoric about defending democracy these days, it's odd (and hypocritical) to see so much debt being foisted on people who don't have a vote in the matter.

Inflation is another sort of tax, by reducing the purchasing power of dollars. Under Trump, inflation was 7 percent; under Biden, it's been 20 percent so far. Inflation can also have the insidious effect of increasing taxes if they are not "indexed" for the impact of inflation. Fortunately, at the federal level, most of this has been fixed. For example, Social Security payments were indexed in the 1970s. And income tax rates were (dramatically reduced and) indexed in the 1980's by President Ronald Reagan with a Republican Senate and a strongly-Democrat House.

The harm of inflation to fixed payments is obvious; the same amount of money will not go as far. But the impact on taxes is more subtle. Without indexing, as incomes typically increase with inflation, more income ends up in higher tax brackets. This is called "bracket creep": people and their incomes "creep" into higher tax brackets — even if they're not better off, given what inflation is doing to their purchasing power.

At the state level, indexing is a mixed bag. Arizona, California and Colorado indexed their tax codes in 1978, but many states have not followed their lead. (Nine states don't have a state income tax, so the concern is irrelevant in those cases.) The issue is especially bothersome in states with multiple marginal tax rates. Some states (including Indiana) have a single marginal tax rate. But many states (including Indiana) do not index their deductions and exemptions, resulting in more income exposed to that tax — and thus, greater tax burdens.

Let's use some numbers to see how this works. Assume you earned \$60,000 in 2021. For 2024, your income has risen by 20 percent (along with 20 percent inflation). So, you earn \$72,000 in 2024, but still have the same purchasing power (or "real income"). With a spouse and four children, each year you would have \$12,000 in exempted income. Thus, your taxable income would be \$48,000 in 2021 and \$60,000 in 2024 (25 percent higher). Assume a 3 percent state tax rate and a 2 percent county tax rate, your tax bill would be \$2,400 in 2021 and \$3,000 in 2024 (again, 25 percent higher). Even though your standard of living is no higher, the state and county governments are taking a higher percentage of your income.

How to fix this? Index the exemptions for inflation. In my example, the exemptions would also rise 20 percent (to \$14,400) because of inflation. The new taxable income would be only \$57,600, resulting in a tax bill of \$2,880 (now 20 percent higher than in 2021). Without indexing, the taxpayers in my example would have an extra \$120 taken from them by state and county governments.

It was encouraging to see Indiana pass a slightly lower marginal tax rate in 2023, reducing it from 3.23 percent to 3.15 percent. Going forward, the next tax reform should be to index deductions and exemptions for inflation, limiting the impact of federal inflation on state income taxes.

*Eric Schansberg, Ph.D., an adjunct scholar of the Indiana Policy Review Foundation, is Professor of Economics at Indiana University Southeast and the author of "Poor Policy: How Government Harms the Poor."*



Eric Schansberg

## Hoosier Opinions



## 'Outsider' Braun leads the GOP showdown

The current six-person Republican field for governor is an anomaly. In the television age of Hoosier politics, the GOP usually sorts out the candidates, so there are only one or two by the February primary filing deadline.

Past Republican nominees and governors were not "outsiders" — as two of the candidates in U.S. Sen. Mike Braun and Brad Chambers — are claiming to be this cycle.

They have been ultimate insiders: Edgar Whitcomb sought the office while serving as secretary of state; Doc Bowen as speaker of the House; Richard O. Ristine, Robert Orr and John Mutz as lieutenant governors; Linley Pearson as attorney general; David McIntosh and Mike Pence as congressmen; Mitch Daniels as an out-going White House budget director; and Eric Holcomb as a former aide to Daniels, U.S. Rep. John Hostettler and U.S. Sen. Dan Coats (before he became a state GOP chair and then lieutenant governor).

Since Mitch Daniels won the nomination in 2004, Republicans have resisted the angry, grainy attacks ads against each other and Democrat nominees.

In a poll of likely Republican and GOP-leaning independents conducted for State Affairs/Howey Politics Indiana on April 4-7, some 44% of respondents picked Braun. Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch trailed with 10%, and Chambers and Eric Doden each received 8%. Curtis Hill and Jamie Reitenour got 2% each, with 26% of poll respondents undecided.

This online survey comes after Chambers and Doden spent more than \$19 million combined on TV advertising, according to AdImpact. While some of that spending went to basic biography spots, much of it was aimed at Braun over issues such as police qualified immunity, the southern border and a podcast where Braun suggested he might attend a Black Lives Matters rally. During that same time, Braun spent \$7.7 million, while Crouch spent \$2.6 million.

"That is what we call a very commanding lead, where he's 4-to-1 greater above each of the opponents," Ken Alper, president of SurveyUSA which conducted the poll, said of Sen. Braun's strength. "He's well ahead among every demographic. It looks like it might be closest to moderates, but it's more than 2-to-1 where he's at 38% among moderates, while it's 16% for Suzanne Crouch."

"It's sort of a blowout," Alper said of Braun's lead in the poll.

Crouch had hoped to be in second place at this point in the campaign, poised for a breakout with \$5 million to spend on a final media push. That strategy hinged on Chambers and Doden attacking Braun, thus softening him up. Crouch has not aimed any advertising at Braun to date. Alper said the 2% separating Crouch from Chambers and Doden was "negligible"

after he was asked about which candidate was best poised to become Braun's key challenger.

"Being a month out [from the primary] there would have to be a pretty significant stumble to cause a change in this," Alper said, underscoring the widespread observation going into this election cycle that this was Sen. Braun's race to lose.

Like 2018 when Braun upset two congressmen in the primary before defeating Democrat U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly, he has the endorsement of Donald J. Trump, who has an 83% approval in the State Affairs/HPI survey, despite facing 88 criminal charges. The survey found that 17% of Hoosier Republicans have an unfavorable opinion of the former president.

Epic, game-changing "stumbles" do happen, like the one in the 2012 U.S. Senate race between Democratic Sen. Joe Donnelly and Republican Richard Mourdock, who tripped up during a statewide debate question on the abortion issue. The Donnelly-Mourdock race had been within the margin of error of every media, internal and advocacy group poll before the fateful Oct. 23 debate in New Albany. When the Howey Politics/DePauw Poll did its final survey, Donnelly jetted out to an 11% lead at 47%-36% on the way to a 5% upset plurality that November.

Toward the end of the first homestretch debate at the Carmel Palladium in mid-March, former attorney general Curtis Hill wondered why Braun was seeking the governor's office if his one term in the U.S. Senate had been so successful. "I thought he was very well equipped for the job," Hill said. "He talks about how tough it is in D.C. I want him to go back and continue the fight; he gave up the fight. Will he give up the fight as governor?"

Braun responded, "I spent 37 years building a little scrappy business into a regional, national and international company. And that is what I ran for Senate on. It resonated overwhelmingly. If you like me as your senator you'll like me better as governor."

Throughout Indiana history, former Indiana governors ranging from Oliver P. Morton to Evan Bayh — found career ending refuge in the U.S. Senate. Braun is doing it in reverse fashion. "You know why?" he asked at his unassuming office at Meyer Distributing in Jasper. "Because they're from the farm system of politics. The people who got done being governor just weren't done with politics. They wanted to continue. My blessing is I did something in the real world first before I decided to get into politics at a level of significance."

*Brian Howey is senior writer and columnist for Howey Politics Indiana/State Affairs. Find Howey on Facebook and X @hwypol. State Affairs reporter Jarred Meeks contributed to this column.*



Brian Howey

## Politicking

## Yes, fight anti-white racism

Is there anything more poisonous or ridiculous than insisting that corporations and the government treat people fairly regardless of race?

Apparently not. An Axios report on the Trump team's intention to use civil-rights laws to target diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) policies discriminating against whites has occasioned sneering and denunciations.

Philip Bump at The Washington Post snarked, as his headline puts it, "Trump aims to be a fearless warrior for White advantage."

The New Republic commented, sarcastically, "If Donald Trump is elected to a second term in November, his allies plan to end this country's long-standing oppression of a major marginalized group in America: white people."

MSNBC warned, "Trumpism is increasingly organized around the reactionary principle that white Americans are not just overlooked, but are victims because of their race. This is a path to unraveling multicultural democracy."

Much of the commentary reflects the contradictory argument that anti-white racism isn't really a thing, yet, simultaneously, is absolutely essential to racial progress.

The same twisted reasoning was often used when the critical race theory controversy was at its height; CRT was either a right-wing myth or foundational to the truthful teaching of America's past, or somehow both.

There should be a long German word for this rhetorical phenomenon.



Rich Lowry

Regardless, it is axiomatic that in the context of zero-sum hiring, admissions and contracting decisions, favoring one group will disadvantage another.

This has been well established regarding affirmative-action policies at colleges — it's much harder for white (or Asian) applicants to get into competitive schools than it is for members of favored minority groups with similar credentials.

Progressives might believe that this is cosmic justice, that whites deserve whatever they get. But individuals aren't racial symbols and shouldn't be treated as such. A conscientious white college applicant, who has never harmed anyone, shouldn't be punished for his or her race.

Why are the iniquities of the old Jim Crow regime being taken out on white applicants — who never voted for Lester Maddox and probably never heard of him — for assistant-vice-president jobs at banks and other corporations?

This is unfair, and, more to the point, against the law. The U.S. Constitution is race neutral, and so are the civil-rights laws enacted after the Civil War and in the 1960s. As such, they are potentially a powerful weapon against the system of racial preferences that has become a pervasive feature of American life.

We saw that in the Supreme Court's affirmative-action decision last year, and in the ruling last month against the Minority Business Development

Agency by U.S. district court judge Mark Pittman in Texas.

Corporations that are setting hiring targets by race and gender face massive exposure. They haven't had to worry about it much to this point. The plaintiffs' bar, out of political cowardice, won't touch this issue. On top of that, it's hard even to find plaintiffs; becoming known as the white person who was chiseled out of a job and sued over it is not the best career move in corporate America.

This is why an ideologically driven group like former Trump aide Stephen Miller's America First Legal has had to pick up the baton, with some success.

But if a Trump Justice Department decides to make an example of a couple of high-profile corporations engaged in these discriminatory practices, the regime of preferences may well crumble quickly.

Until recently, the incentives have been all the other way — to adopt the fashionable attitudes, spout the familiar DEI lines, empower the apparatchiks of HR, and not risk the ire of elite opinion by taking a different path.

Now, there are signs that DEI in corporate America is cresting, or at least becoming less blatant, under political and legal pressure.

If a Trump Justice Department (and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission) pushes these types of policies in business and government into the dustbin, the Left will firmly plant both feet on one side of its current straddle — and say it's a travesty that anti-white discrimination no longer exists.

*Rich Lowry is on Twitter @RichLowry*

## The News-Banner

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*Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily represent the views of this newspaper.*



# Events at the Creative Arts Council of Wells County

428 S. Oak Street in Bluffton  
260-824-5222  
www.wellscocreativearts.com  
creativeartscouncil@gmail.com  
Facebook: www.facebook.com/wellscocreativearts

Instagram: @creativeartscouncil  
Creative Arts office hours — Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday (by appointment only).

**Creative Arts Spring Showcase**  
Friday, April 26 at 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday, April 27 at 3:00 p.m.  
Admission: \$5 at the door  
We invite you to join us for Creative Arts Youth Dance Company's Spring Showcase!

Creative Arts is very proud of our dance academy, and we are excited to present our Spring Showcase this month! Our Ballet, Modern, and Tap dancers will be presenting in this year's showcase. Our Ballet students will be presenting an abridged version of "The Sleeping Beauty" accompanied by Pyotr Tchaikovsky's familiar music. Our Modern dance program features the beginning, intermediate, and advanced classes as they take a sojourn into ancient Egypt. Tap will be performing rhythm and broad way tap styles. We will proudly present two performances, both in the auditorium at 428 S. Oak St in Bluffton.

**Beers with the Bard**  
Tuesday, May 7 at 7 p.m. at The Parlor City Brewing Company  
Beers with the Bard is back!

Three of Shakespeare's plays done in ten minutes each?? Is that even possible? YUP. You betcha!

Join us on Tuesday, May 7 at Parlor City Brewing Company to watch us do it! But wait! There's more! The Rag Tag Bunch, Fort Wayne's favorite Irish band, will be joining us again this year.

Get ready for an evening of Shakespearean silliness, delicious locally brewed beverages, and great music! Doors open at 6:30, and the show starts at 7 p.m. This is a 21+ event.

Tickets go on sale soon! Presented by Parlor City Shakespeare Company and the Creative Arts Council

**DRUM LESSONS – beginner, intermediate & advanced**

We are excited to expand our repertoire of musical instrument lessons by offering drum lessons! Lessons will be Monday evenings. Private lessons are \$25 per half hour session. Limited Spots available.

Lessons will be taught by Alex Cornett, a worship/rock drummer with 25 years of experience. He has toured with several worship bands across the country and overseas, and has played at dozens of churches, both as a fill in and an every week musician. With a degree in audio engineering and a history of studio work, Alex has a unique collection of musical knowledge and technical ability. He is offering beginner, intermediate, and advanced classes.

If you are interested in finding out more, please call the Creative Arts office at (260) 824- 5222.

**Creative Arts Summer Camps Summer Theater Intensive June 2024**

**Shrek the Musical JR** (Ages 12-18) – only 4 spots left!!

Auditions: Saturday, May 4th, 2024 (must be age 12 by March 1st)

Rehearsals: June 3 – 14; Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Performances: June 14 at 7 p.m. and June 15th at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.



(Attendance is required at all 10 days of camp plus all 3 performances)  
Tuition: \$100

**Disney Jungle Book Kids** – Registration is full, call to be put on the waiting list

**Summer Dance Intensive**  
Registration Opens – March 1, 2024  
Dates: June 3-21, 2024

**Creative Movement (Ages 3-5)**  
For 3-5 year old students, the 45 minute Creative Movement class meets twice a week for three weeks.

Choose 1 session  
Tuesday and Thursday  
Session A: 10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.  
Session B: 10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
Tuition: \$50  
Pre-Dance (Ages 6-8)  
The Pre-Dance class is geared toward 6-8 year old students. Students will take two 45 minute classes (one in ballet and one dance elective) twice a week for three weeks.

Tuesday and Thursday / 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.  
Tuition: \$90  
Continuing Dance (Ages 9-12)

For 9-12 year old students, Continuing Dance occurs twice a week for 3 weeks. Students will take two, one hour classes (one in ballet and one dance elective).  
Tuesday and Thursday / 4:45 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.  
Tuition: \$120  
Intermediate/Advanced Class  
For students that have reached an intermediate to advanced level of classical ballet. Students will take 1.5 to 2.5 hours of class three times a week for three weeks. Classes offered will include ballet, pointe, and contemporary dance styles.

Monday / 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
Wednesday / 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
Friday / 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Tuition: \$190

**Ongoing Activities**  
Creative Crew: Tuesdays from 8:30a.m.-12:30p.m.: All forms of creativity welcome: painting, drawing, needlework and more.... spend the morning working on your craft and socialize with other artists. Enter Door 1 or Door 10 at Life Community Church, the creative crew meets in the cafe

Readers' Brown Bag Luncheon: Meeting the last Tuesday of the month at noon at Life Community Church, enter door 10. All readers are welcome. Feel free to call the office for more information.

\*\*\*Important Scheduling Note: Changes can occur after the Creative Happenings column has been published. Please confirm dates and times before planning to participate in programs and activities\*\*\*

Creative Arts Council activities are supported by memberships, sponsors and grants from funders including Arts United, a regional agency; the Indiana Arts Commission, a state agency; and the National Endowment for the Arts, a national agency.

by Melba Edwards

## Zanesville News

Well the excitement of the eclipse is over and now we are looking ahead to summer and ballgames at the park. The teams have already been there working down the diamond.

Robin and I went down to the back patio at Sis & Bub's about 4 p.m. on eclipse day to enjoy their selection of food outdoors. We were there for about an hour and a half and were amazed at the traffic through town heading north on Wayne Street/300 W. For the whole time we were there, and before and after there, was a steady line of cars bumper to bumper probably coming from Ouabache State Park heading for the Fort Wayne area.

I was looking through my columns to see if I wrote about the eclipse that happened on January 15, 2010. I did not find that I even mentioned it. The month was very busy as our granddaughter Anna Miller passed away on January 1st and Kenny retired that January so I had other things to write.

Mark your calendars for voting on Tuesday, May 7. This information is for Wells County voters: The Clerk's Office at the Wells County Courthouse will be available for early voting 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays through May, as well as 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday; April 27, and Saturday, May

4, and 8 a.m. to noon on Monday, May 6.

Mail-in ballot applications are available at wellscounty.org/elections. Applications are due to the Clerk's Office or Indiana Election Division by the end of the day April 25 for the May 7 primary election. Check voter registration status and ballot information by visiting indianavoters.in.gov.

Election day spots for near Zanesville are Lighted Gardens, 10794 N S.R. 1 in Ossian and Zanesville Tower Life Center, 11811 N Wayne St. in Zanesville.

A long time friend of yours and mine is having a special birthday and her family wants you to come and help her celebrate! Join us for a 90th birthday celebration honoring Jean Kleinschmidt Saturday, April 20. Open house from 1 to 4 p.m. EST at Markle Boy Scout Lodge, 260 S. Clark Street, Markle, IN. In lieu of gifts, consider a donation to Meals on Wheels in honor of Jean's dedicated volunteer service. Mail check to Meals on Wheels LaPorte County, 301 E. 8th St., Suite 110, Michigan City, IN 46360.

**WELLS COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING**

*Senior Citizens Expo*

**Thursday, May 9, 2024**  
**9 am – 2 pm**  
**Wells County 4-H Community Building**  
**1240 4-H Road, Bluffton, IN**

- **The Expo is Open to the Public**
- **There will be over 60 vendors**
- **Free Breakfast** provided by Adams Health Network from **9-10 am**
- **Free Lunch** provided by River Terrace Retirement Community from **11:30 am-12:30 pm**

**Look for more detail in May 7th News Banner**  
**Advertising Available - Deadline: May 2**

## Norwell Internship Spotlight award Haleigh Reinhard

Senior Haleigh Reinhard has been selected to receive the Norwell High School Internship Spotlight award. She has been doing her experience at the Alive and Well organization of Wells County for the entire school year. Her mentor is the director Wendy Bailey. Haleigh is the daughter of Grayson and Tara Reinhard of Craigville.

The Alive and Well Program presents healthy life choices to Norwell students of different

grade levels throughout the school year. The topics covered are drugs and alcohol, friendships, sexual relations, and family struggles. Haleigh has been observing the classroom presentations from the professionals who lead. Haleigh has also learned some organizational aspects of the program by helping to inventory and prep materials, assist with classroom activities, and run various errands.

Haleigh is undecided

Haleigh Reinhard

on what college she will attend, but she does plan to major in Business.

## FW Youtheatre to present 'Ruby Bridges'

Next presentation by Fort Wayne Youtheatre will be "Ruby Bridges," the 10th Annual Linda L. Ruffolo Young Heroes of Conscience Series production, on April 19-21, at the First Presbyterian Theater in Fort Wayne.

Opening night will be on Friday, April 19, at 7 p.m. when the Harvey Cocks Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to Gregory Stieber, the outgoing director/playright of the series.

There also will be 2 p.m. performances on Saturday, April 20 and Sunday, April 21. A sensory friendly performance will be held on Saturday at 4:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$16 for adults and \$12 for children, seniors and groups of 10 or more. Tickets are available through artsix.org or by calling 260-422-4226 between noon and 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. More information at www.fortwayneyoutheatre.org.

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# April

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# Sports Roundup

## Tigers down Golden Eagles in twice baseball doubleheader

Bluffton's baseball team bounced back from its four-game losing skid with a sweep over at Oak Hill on Saturday.

The Tigers won 8-1 in the first game and 18-5 in the second.

In Game 1, the Tigers took advantage of four Golden Eagle errors and 11 walks, while pouring on seven hits.

Axton Beste, Braxton Betancourt, Eli Garrett and AJ Streveler all walked twice and scored one or more runs between them.

At the plate, Streveler roped two doubles in his 2-2 day with four RBI, while Betancourt's 1-3 effort was for four RBI with two stolen bases. Nick Pastore went 2-4 with three RBI and Easton Blair had a pair of RBI.

Colton Arnold got the win in his 4.1 innings of work, allowing five runs (four earned), eight hits, two walks and five strikeouts. Streveler threw 2 innings of perfect ball in relief.

In Game 2, the Tigers produced nine hits and walked six times at the plate.

Brody Lewis led the team with 2-3 with two RBI. Beste and Betancourt had multi-hit games, Pastore, Griffin Morgan and Lukas Gehrett had one each.

Betancourt got the win, throwing five innings and allowing one run on three hits, four walks and five strikeouts.

Bluffton will travel to Norwell at 5 p.m. Monday, April 15.

## Bluffton combines for third in co-ed track invitational

Bluffton's track teams competed in a co-ed relay-style invitational at Oak Hill.

The Tiger's boys and girls finished third overall with 101 points of the 10 competing schools, sitting behind the champion Oak Hill and second place Delta. Total points and places were not available.

First-place finishers for the Tigers included Jude Baumgartner in the 400m and Johnny Cruz in the shot put.

### Top event placers were:

#### Boys

• Jude Baumgartner first in the 400m with a time of 51.87.

• Andrew Hunt fourth in the 300m hurdles with a time of 44.23.

• Austin Geimer and Eli Bertsch tied for fourth in the high jump at 5-8.

• Trey Buston second in the long jump at 20-5.

• Tavin Frees fourth in the discus at 122-5 and Drayvin Shoemaker fifth at 121.

• Johnny Cruz first in the shot put at 48-1.5 and Sam Mechling third at 42-4.

#### Girls

• Rylynn Penick seventh in the 100m with a time of 14.01.

• Maryn Schreiber seventh in the 400m with a time of 1:06.18.

• Madelyn Funk seventh in the long jump at 15-3.

• Alexandria Koby fifth in the shot put at 30-8.5.

Bluffton will be at Jay County at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 16.

## Knight girls win IPT Relays, boys finish in third

The Norwell track teams had a successful meet at the IPT Relays at Heritage High School on Saturday.

The Knight girls won the event with 118 total points. The boys finished in third of the five-team event.

Among the three first-place finishers for Norwell were: Jasper Kreigh first in the pole vault, Jada Dale, Ryland Graft, Makenzie Fuess and Eden Nash first in the 4x400m relay and Emerson Meredith in the pole vault.

### Top-three finishers:

#### Boys

• Trevon Stoppenhagen second in the 100m with a time of 11.88.

• Brady Smith, Quentauris Jones, Hayden Bennett and Jase Harmon second in the 4x100m with a time of 46.15.

• Stoppenhagen, Matthew Hernandez, Ryan Smith and Devin Dale third in the 4x400m relay with a time of 3:43.80.

• Luke Johnson, Gavin Threewits, Gage Reinhard and Lukas Mashuda third in the 4x1600m relay with a time of 20:45.72.

• Dale, Smith, Hernandez and Stoppenhagen third in the 1000m sprint medley relay with a time of 2:10.89.

• Caiden Petrie, Threewits, Reinhard and Elijah Jacob third in the 4000m distance medley relay with a time of 13:00.97.

• Harmon second in the high jump at 6-0.

• Jasper Kreigh first in the pole vault at 12-0.

• Harmon second in the long jump at 20-2.25.

## Scottie Scheffler wins the Masters

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — Scottie Scheffler spent more time looking at his feet than any of the white leaderboards at Augusta National, all of them showing what everyone was watching — a Masters champion again, the undisputed best player in golf.

He prefers to stay in his own little world, population

one. Nobody is close to him in the game at the moment.

Scheffler is No. 1 in the world by a margin not seen since Tiger Woods in his prime. In nine tournaments this year, he doesn't have a round over par and has earned over \$15 million. And on Sunday, he delivered the greatest

piece of evidence when he slipped into that green jacket.

Scheffler pulled ahead with magnificent shots around the turn, poured it on along the back nine as his challengers melted away with mistakes and closed with a 4-under 68 to claim his second Masters in three years with a four-shot victory.

### Girls

• Jillian Melcher second in the 100m hurdles with a time of 18.28 and Eden Nash third at 18.49.

• Karrigan Melcher, Shae Brooks, Haley Williamson and Jaycie Grzch third in the 4x100m.

• Melcher, Brooks, Williamson and Grzch second in the 4x200m with a time of 1:58.96.

• Jada Dale, Ryland Graft, Makenzie Fuess and Nash first in the 4x400m relay with a time of 4:24.12.

• Ali Riley, Haleigh Reinhard, Larkin Smith and Brooklyn Meyer third in the 4x800m relay with a time of 11:15.86.

• Reinhard, Addison Meyer, Elizabeth Norris and Kylee Hannie second in the 4x1600m relay with a time of 26:19.63.

• Fuess, Graft, Jillian Melcher and Dale second in the 1000m sprint medley relay with a time of 2:32.81.

• Smith, Riley, Addison Meyer and Norris second in the 4000m distance medley relay with a time of 16:00.33.

• Williamson third in the high jump at 5-0.

• Emerson Meredith first in the pole vault at 10-0 and Kendall Dunwiddie second at 8-0.

• Graft second in the long jump at 15-5.

• Fuess third in the shot put at 30-10.5.

• Kaylee Eicher third in the discus at 87-5.

### Team Scores

#### Boys

1. New Haven (119 points), 2. Heritage (110), 3. Norwell (95), 4. Concordia (67) and 5. Bishop Luers (29).

#### Girls

1. Norwell (118 points), 2. New Haven (95), 3. Concordia (81), 4. Heritage (63), 5. Bishop Luers (32) and 6. Blackhawk Christian (31).

Norwell will host Belmont at 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 16.

## Knights split with Berries, Patriots in baseball

Norwell's baseball team went 1-1 in the two-game series at Logansport High School on Saturday.

The Knights dropped the first game to the Berries 9-3 and won the second against Bethesda Christian 17-1. The split puts their record to 4-2 on the season.

In Game 1, Norwell was scratched for two base hits. One from Noah Schamerloh and one from Collin Burns.

Noah Turk and Korben Neuenschwander collected the two RBI.

Cade Shelton received the loss despite none of his seven runs being earned. He pitched 1.2 innings, giving up five hits, four walks and three strikeouts. Noah Turk threw 5.1 innings out of the bullpen and allowed two runs on four hits, two walks and six strikeouts.

In Game 2, the Knights got their offense rolling for 19 hits.

Drew Graft and Cayden Cassel led the way with three hits. Graft produced a double and a triple for two runs scored and one RBI, and Cassel had a double and two RBI.

Schamerloh, Lane Lewis and Drew Jolley all contributed two hits. Ryne Thornton's pinch-hit single drove in two runs, while Neuenschwander, Logan Cotton, Shelton and Adam McBride had one RBI each.

Schamerloh got the win, allowing just one earned run in a complete five innings in 7-pitches. He gave up seven hits, one walk and struck out six.

Norwell will host Bluffton at 5 p.m. Monday, April 15.

## Knights fall in softball season opener to Starfires

After rain postponed Norwell's softball team's first four games, the Knights began their season at South Adams on Saturday.

The two games did not go in the Knight's favor, ending in a two-game sweep for the Starfires.

In Game 1, South Adams won 6-2. Norwell collected four hits and committed three errors.

Reese Frauhiger's two-run home run was the only runs of the game. Kara Brown went 2-3 and Leah Werling added the other hit.

Sami Lemler got the loss, throwing five innings and allowing six runs (five earned) with a walk and two strikeouts. Brown came out of the bullpen and tossed a clean one inning.

In Game 2, South Adams won 17-10. Norwell's offense jumped with 14 hits in the contest with a home run by Brown, who led the team with a perfect 4-4 and four RBI.

Lemler added to the scoresheet with two doubles and an RBI. Kaydance Clark went 2-4 with a double and two RBI, while Frauhiger also went 2-4 with a double. Jordan Markley went 2-5 in the leadoff slot with an RBI and three stolen bases.

Kayla Watkins earned the loss.

Norwell will travel to Adams Central at 5 p.m. Monday, April 15.



Norwell's Elizabeth Norris during the 4x1600m relay at the Heritage IPT Relays Saturday morning. Norris is a part of the Knights' 4x1600m relay and the 4000m distance medley relay that led them to a first-place finish. (Photos by Ryan Walker)



Norwell's Luke Johnson runs during the 4x1600m relay. The boys finished third at the meet.

## High School Calendar

### MONDAY, APRIL 15

BASEBALL: Bluffton at Norwell, 5 p.m.; South Adams at Southern Wells (non-conference), 5 p.m.

GIRLS TENNIS: Adams Central at Norwell, 4:30 p.m.; Wabash at Bluffton, 5 p.m.

SOFTBALL: Norwell at Adams Central, 5 p.m.; Bluffton at Southwood, 5 p.m.; Southern Wells at Wayne, 5:30 p.m.

### TUESDAY, APRIL 16

BASEBALL: Norwell at Jay County, 5 p.m.; Belmont at Bluffton, 5 p.m.; Southern Wells at Southwood, 5 p.m.

BOYS GOLF: Jay County at Bluffton, 4:30 p.m.

### GIRLS TENNIS: Norwell at South Side,

5:30 p.m. SOFTBALL: Norwell at Bishop Luers, 5:30 p.m.; Bluffton at Wabash, 5:30 p.m.

TRACK & FIELD (CO-ED): Belmont at Norwell, 5 p.m.; Bluffton at Jay County, 5:30 p.m.; Southern Wells/Adams Central at Heritage, 5:30 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

BASEBALL: Bluffton at Canterbury, 5 p.m. BOYS GOLF: Norwell at Leo, 4:30 p.m.; Bluffton at Southwood, 5 p.m.; Southern Wells at Woodlan, 5 p.m.

GIRLS TENNIS: Norwell at Homestead, 5 p.m.; Adams Central at Bluffton, 5 p.m.

SOFTBALL: Marion at Norwell, 5 p.m.; Wes-Del at Southern Wells, 5 p.m.

## News-Banner Scoreboard

### BASKETBALL

#### NBA

#### Saturday's Games

No games scheduled.

#### Sunday's Games

Charlotte 120, Cleveland 110  
Boston 132, Washington 122  
Philadelphia 107, Brooklyn 86  
Indiana 157, Atlanta 115  
Miami 118, Toronto 103  
Orlando 113, Milwaukee 88  
New York 120, Chicago 119, OT  
San Antonio 123, Detroit 95  
Houston 116, L.A. Clippers 105  
Oklahoma City 135, Dallas 86  
Denver 126, Memphis 111  
Golden State 123, Utah 116  
L.A. Lakers 124, New Orleans 108  
Phoenix 125, Minnesota 106  
Sacramento 121, Portland 82

#### Saturday's Games

N.Y. Rangers 3, N.Y. Islanders 2, SO  
Dallas 3, Seattle 1  
Winnipeg 7, Colorado 0  
Philadelphia 1, New Jersey 0  
Florida 3, Buffalo 2, OT  
Washington 4, Tampa Bay 2  
Detroit 5, Toronto 4, OT  
Ottawa 5, Montreal 4, SO  
Nashville 6, Columbus 4  
Boston 6, Pittsburgh 4  
Vancouver 3, Edmonton 1  
Los Angeles 3, Anaheim 1  
Minnesota 6, San Jose 2

#### Sunday's Games

St. Louis 4, Seattle 1  
Carolina 4, Chicago 2

1st game  
Cincinnati 5, Chicago White Sox 0  
Houston 9, Texas 2  
Milwaukee 11, Baltimore 5  
Minnesota 4, Detroit 1, 2nd game  
N.Y. Yankees 8, Cleveland 2, 2nd game

Chicago Cubs 4, Seattle 1  
Sunday's Games  
Tampa Bay 9, San Francisco 4  
N.Y. Mets 2, Kansas City 1  
Detroit 4, Minnesota 3  
Cleveland 8, N.Y. Yankees 7, 10  
innings

Cincinnati 11, Chicago White Sox 4  
Chicago Cubs 3, Seattle 2

### NATIONAL LEAGUE

Saturday's Games  
Cincinnati 5, Chicago White Sox 0  
Arizona 4, St. Louis 2  
Chicago Cubs 4, Seattle 1

Sunday's Games  
Cincinnati 11, Chicago White Sox 4  
Arizona 5, St. Louis 0  
Chicago Cubs 3, Seattle 2

### BASEBALL

#### MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE  
Saturday's Games  
N.Y. Yankees 3, Cleveland 2, 1st  
game  
Minnesota 11, Detroit 5, 12 innings,

### HOCKEY

#### NHL

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Mother-in-law love

Dear Annie: I have been married for 15 years. A little over a year ago, I started having an affair with an ex-girlfriend. The affair ended a month ago. It is over and done with.

I am not sure if I should tell my wife about it or just keep it a secret. I feel that if I tell her, nothing good would come from it, other than being truthful. However, I see it destroying the trust she has in me. I can't think of a good reason to tell her. What should I do? — A Cheater in Upstate NY

Dear Cheater: Ask yourself what your intentions are in confessing. Are you doing it to relieve yourself of guilty feelings? The feelings are there, whether you tell her or not. The real question to ask is why you cheated in the first place. That might be better flushed out with a therapist.

Dear Annie: I have been married to my husband for 38 years, and it took me quite a long time to realize that this dynamic of being interrupted was not going to change, no matter what I did or said. That type of person is only interested in listening to themselves talk about family stories and things that happened in the past.

If any of your readers find themselves in similar situations, it might be useful for them to take a discreet survey of all family members when they are being interrupted. I was very surprised to discover, after the fact, that my mother-in-law took my side when I was very rudely interrupted by my brother-in-law.

She left the table, a fact that she confided in my husband later on. She told him that she just couldn't stand how I was constantly being interrupted. She comes from a background of avoiding confrontation at all costs, so I don't ever expect her to say anything, but her actions speak loudly enough for me and make me love her all the more. — Love My Mother-in-Law

Dear Love My Mother-in-Law: Being interrupted is rude and frustrating, no matter how you look at it. I'm printing your letter because it is nice to hear someone praising mothers-in-law. Usually, people write in to share their frustrations with them, so it was sweet to hear that you love her and that she saw the situation as you did. When she got up and left the table, she was sending a strong message in her own quiet way. Actions speak louder than words.

Dear Annie: As someone who has long suffered from an easily stressed digestive system, I suggest that "Gut Feelings" also see a functional medicine practitioner. Food sensitivities and gut dysbiosis are very common, yet unrecognized, causes of distress.

With testing to evaluate digestive health and identify imbalances, digestive comfort can often be attained with dietary changes and supplements. I've been there and am now feeling so much better. — Healthy Gut

Dear Healthy: Congratulations on getting your gut in good health. Taking proper care of one's body through healthy foods, exercise, meditation or prayer, and lots of sleep, love and laughter, is always a good idea.

"How Can I Forgive My Cheating Partner?" features favorite columns on marriage, infidelity, communication and reconciliation. It is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit http://www.creatorspublishing.com for more information. Send your questions for Annie Lane to deannie@creators.com.

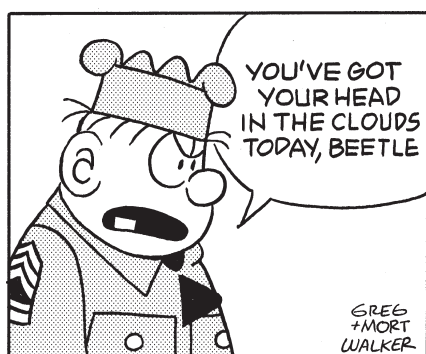
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Dear Annie

by Annie Lane



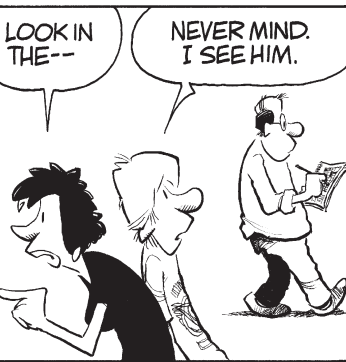
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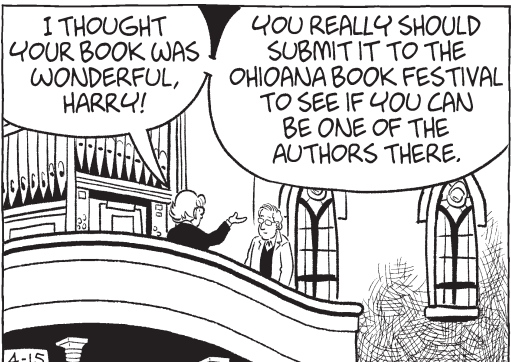
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My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



The Old Testament

Question: A leading pastor who was interviewed on Fox News declared that the Old Testament is not for today. Is this true? — B.D.

Answer: The Old Testament may not seem relevant to us today — but it is, because it's part of God's holy Word. After all, the Old Testament Scriptures were quoted by Jesus when He walked on this earth. He taught from the scrolls of the prophets. Why is this important? One reason is because these passages point to His coming as the promised Messiah.

Some parts of Old Testament writing may seem hard to understand,

such as the detailed instructions that governed the sacrificial system. These no longer strictly apply to us, however, because they have been fulfilled in Christ's sacrifice of Himself on the cross. Yet they still have much to teach us about the holiness of God and the seriousness of sin. One of the things God wants to teach us from the Old Testament is how not to live [in conduct and unbelief].

A good place to start reading in the Old Testament is "at the beginning." "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1, NKJV). Knowing what God says about His creation is important. Jesus said, "Do not think that I came to destroy the

Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill" (Matthew 5:17), and He blesses those who read God's Word in faith.

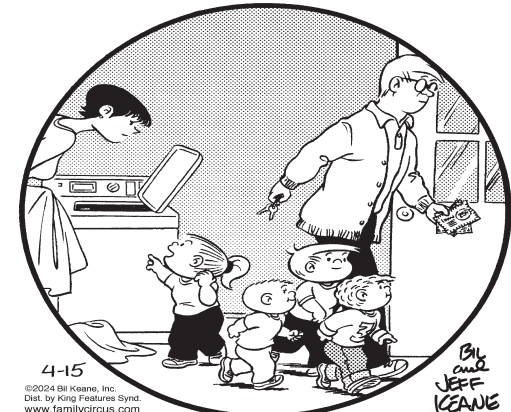
In the middle of the Old Testament is the book of Psalms, the Bible's hymnbook. It shows us what it means to walk with God in prayer and praise. The books of the Prophets document how God dealt with His people in times past, and how He wants to deal with us today. "The entirety of Your word is truth" (Psalm 119:160, NKJV).

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

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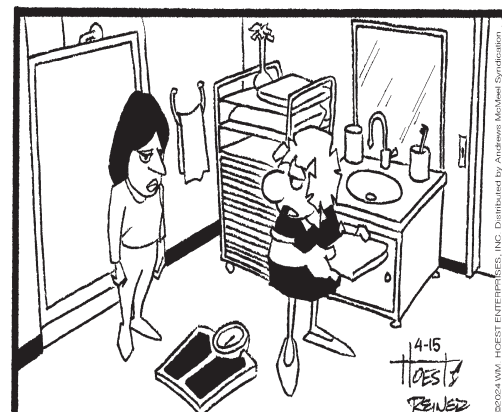
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and solution time: 21 mins.

Saturday's answer 4-15 crossword puzzle grid with clues.

TV schedule table with columns for time slots (5 PM, 5:30, 6 PM, 6:30, 7 PM, 7:30, 8 PM, 8:30, 9 PM, 9:30, 10 PM, 10:30, 11 PM, 11:30, 12 AM, 12:30) and rows for various channels (WIMM, CBS, Antenna, ABC, NBC, etc.).



# Can homeless people be fined for sleeping outside?

*A rural Oregon city asks the U.S. Supreme Court*

GRANTS PASS, Oregon (AP) — A pickleball game in this leafy Oregon community was suddenly interrupted one rainy weekend morning by the arrival of an ambulance. Paramedics rushed through the park toward a tent, one of dozens illegally erected by the town's hundreds of homeless people, then play resumed as though nothing had happened.

Mere feet away, volunteers helped dismantle tents to move an 80-year-old man and a woman blind in one eye, who risked being fined for staying too long. In the distance, a group of boys climbed on a jungle gym.

The scenes were emblematic of the crisis gripping the small, Oregon mountain town of Grants Pass, where a fierce fight over park space has become a battleground for a much larger, national debate on homelessness that has reached the U.S. Supreme Court.

The town's case, set to

be heard April 22, has broad implications for how not only Grants Pass, but communities nationwide address homelessness, including whether they can fine or jail people for camping in public. It has made the town of 40,000 the unlikely face of the nation's homelessness crisis, and further fueled the debate over how to deal with it.

"I certainly wish this wasn't what my town was known for," Mayor Sara Bristol told The Associated Press last month. "It's not the reason why I became mayor. And yet it has dominated every single thing that I've done for the last 3 1/2 years."

Officials across the political spectrum — from Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom in California, which has nearly 30% of the nation's homeless population, to a group of 22 conservative-led states — have filed briefs in the case, saying lower court rulings have hamstrung their ability to

deal with encampments.

Like many Western communities, Grants Pass has struggled for years with a burgeoning homeless population. A decade ago, City Council members discussed how to make it "uncomfortable enough ... in our city so they will want to move on down the road." From 2013 to 2018, the city said it issued 500 citations for camping or sleeping in public, including in vehicles, with fines that could reach hundreds of dollars.

But a 2018 decision by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals changed the calculus. The court, whose jurisdiction includes nine Western states, held that while communities are allowed to prohibit tents in public spaces, it violated the Eighth Amendment's ban on cruel and unusual punishment to give people criminal citations for sleeping outside when they had no place else to go.

Four years later, in a case challenging restrictions

in Grants Pass, the court expanded that ruling, holding that civil citations also can be unconstitutional.

Civil rights groups and attorneys for the homeless residents who challenged the restrictions in 2018 insist people shouldn't be punished for lacking housing. Officials throughout the West have overstated the impact of the court decisions to distract from their own failings, they argued.

"For years, political leaders have chosen to tolerate encampments as an alternative to meaningfully addressing the western region's severe housing shortage," the attorneys wrote. "It is easier to blame the courts than to take responsibility for finding a solution."

In Grants Pass, the town's parks, many lining the picturesque Rogue River, are at the heart of the debate. Cherished for their open spaces, picnic tables, playgrounds and sports fields, they host everything from annual boat-racing festivals and vintage car shows

to Easter egg hunts and summer concerts.

They're also the sites of encampments blighted by illegal drug use and crime, including a shooting at a park last year that left one person dead. Tents cluster along riverbanks, next to tennis courts and jungle gyms, with tarps shielding belongings from the rain. When the sun comes out, clothes and blankets are strung across tree branches to dry. Used needles litter the ground.

Grants Pass has just one overnight shelter for adults, the Gospel Rescue Mission. It has 138 beds, but rules including attendance at daily Christian services, no alcohol, drugs or smoking and no pets mean many won't stay there.

Cassy Leach, a nurse, leads a volunteer group providing food, medical care and other basic goods to the town's hundreds of homeless people. They help relocate their tents to comply with city rules.

At one park last month, she checked on a man who

burned his leg after falling on a torch lighter during a fentanyl overdose and brought him naloxone, the opioid overdose reversal medication. In another, she distributed cans of beans, peas and Chef Boyardee mini ravioli from a pickup truck.

"Love, hope, community and a safety net is really as important as a shower and water," Leach said.

Dre Buetow, 48, from northern California, has been living in his car for three years after a bone cancer diagnosis and \$450,000 in medical bills. The illness and treatment kept him from returning to his old tree-trimming job, he said.

Laura Gutowski's husband died from a pulmonary embolism and she suddenly found herself, in her 50s, with no income. They didn't have life insurance or savings and, within a month, she was sleeping outside in the city she grew up in.

"I used to love camping," she said through tears. "And now I can't stand it anymore."

# Ukraine civilians die, think tank warns delays in aid will hamper Kyiv's forces

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — More civilians died across Ukraine Sunday as analysts warned that delays in U.S. military assistance would see Kyiv struggle to fight off Russian offensives.

One man was Sunday killed after a Russian drone hit the truck he was driving in the Sumy region, the local prosecutor's office said. Elsewhere, a 67-year-old woman was killed after shelling hit an apartment block in the Donetsk region, said Gov. Vadym Filashkin.

Officials in the Kharkiv region also said Sunday that they had

retrieved the bodies of a 61-year-old woman and a 68-year-old man killed by a Russian strike the previous day. Ten Russian Shahed-type drones were shot down over the Kharkiv region overnight, the Ukrainian Air Force said Sunday.

Meanwhile, shelling in the Russian-occupied Kherson region killed two civilians Sunday, said Moscow-installed leader Vladimir Saldo. Ukrainian drones were also reported in Russia's Krasnodar and Belgorod regions and over the Black Sea, the Russian Defense Ministry said.

The news came as the Institute

for the Study of War, a Washington-based think tank, warned that delays in Western military assistance would increasingly hamper Ukraine's ability to push back Russian advances.

With the war in Ukraine entering its third year and a vital U.S. aid package for Kyiv stuck in Congress, Russia has used its edge in firepower and personnel to step up attacks across eastern Ukraine. It has increasingly used satellite-guided gliding bombs — dropped from planes from a safe distance — to pummel Ukrainian forces beset by a shortage of troops and

ammunition.

In its report, the ISW said that Russian forces were prioritizing grinding, tactical gains with operational-level efforts focusing on the cities of Lyman, Chasiv Yar, and Pokrovsk.

"The Russian military command likely assesses that Ukrainian forces will be unable to defend against current and future Russian offensive operations due to delays in or the permanent end of U.S. military assistance," the think tank said.

Ukraine's military chief, Gen. Oleksandr Syrskyi, said Saturday

that Ukraine's battlefield situation in the industrial east had "significantly worsened in recent days," as warming weather allowed Russian forces to launch a fresh push along several stretches of the more than 620-mile-long front line.

In an update on the Telegram messaging app, Syrskyi said that Russian forces had been "actively attacking" Ukrainian positions near the cities of Lyman, Bakhmut and Pokrovsk, and beginning to launch tank assaults as drier, warmer spring weather made it easier for heavy vehicles to move across previously muddy terrain.

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## EMPLOYMENT

### Help Wanted

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

### LOOKING FOR EMPLOYEES?

Place a 20 word line classified ad for a month for \$52. Add a graphic or photo for an additional \$5. Contact the Bluffton News-Banner, 260-824-0224, 125 N. Johnson St., or online at [www.news-banner.com](http://www.news-banner.com) and click on classifieds.

**HELOISE HINT:** When writing your resume. Highlight any awards that you have won in one section of your resume. This will make you stand out to employers. Send your job-success story to HELOISE@Heloise.com.

## FOR SALE

### Pets

**REHOMING AKC CHOCOLATE & YELLOW LAB PUPPIES** Be ready April 26th. 1st shots and wormed. 2 yellow females 3 yellow males 5 chocolate females 2 chocolate males Call or text for more info. Portland IN 260-729-7870

## Pets

**ZAILEY, \$400, BORN** December 23, 2019. She is four years old and is spayed, and up to date on all shots. She is a pure bred Chocolate Lab. Good with children, dogs, cats. (765) 348-7811.

**LEO, FOR SALE, \$400.00.** He was born November 28, 2023. Leo is half Manx and half Rag doll. He has the stumpy tail. Leo is black and white, and his coat is slick and shiny. He has had all shots, but has a slight hernia, that can be fixed. At six months, I will take off \$100.00 to get hernia fixed, you would pay the rest. Negotiable, message me, (765) 348-7811.

## Miscellaneous

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

## Read & recycle this newspaper

## SUDOKU ANSWER

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

## SERVICES

### Services

**LANDSCAPE SERVICES** Landscape clean up installation maintenance mulch plants and rocks lawn and property clean up debris removal etc. Experienced honest service. Can provide references upon request. Call Dan for a free estimate. 231-373-8028

**THINKING ABOUT INSTALLING** a new shower? American Standard makes it easy. FREE design consultation. Enjoy your shower again! Call 1-855-475-0534 today to see how you can save \$1,000 on installation, or visit [www.newshowerdeal.com](http://www.newshowerdeal.com)/hoosier (I)

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

## Services

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

**PRECISION LAND MANAGEMENT** Excavating-Drainage Driveways-Demolition Call us today for a free quote! Serving Ossian and surrounding areas 517-932-8063

**CONNECT TO THE** best wireless home internet with EarthLink. Enjoy speeds from 5G and 4G LTE networks, no contracts, easy installation, and data plans up to 300 GB. Call 855-430-1496 (I)

**SERIOUSLY INJURED IN** an AUTO ACCIDENT? Let us fight for you! Our network has recovered millions for clients! Call today for a FREE consultation! 844-517-6414 (I)

## Lottery Numbers

### Saturday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY

**Cash 5** — 12-18-25-26-32  
**Cash4Life** — 14-21-24-27-38, Cash Ball: 02  
**Lotto Plus** — 05-07-08-22-35-39  
**Quick Draw Midday** — 01-02-10-18-23-25-36-45-48-50-51-55-56-57-58-59-64-65-71-79, BE: 36  
**Daily Three-Midday** — 05-05-08, SB: 02  
**Daily Three-Evening** — 07-08-04, SB: 09  
**Daily Four-Midday** — 01-07-04-01, SB: 02  
**Daily Four-Evening** — 07-05-04-03, SB: 09  
**Quick Draw Evening** — 01-03-05-06-12-14-25-31-33-34-41-47-49-51-61-67-70-71-73-79, BE: 05  
**Hoosier Lotto** — 02-03-15-17-19-37  
**POWERBALL**  
 07-33-40-43-69; Powerball: 10; Power Play: 5X

### Sunday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY

**Cash 5** — 10-19-20-33-35  
**Cash4Life** — 16-28-33-54-55, Cash Ball: 01  
**Quick Draw Midday** — 05-14-15-17-18-22-26-32-33-34-45-47-48-49-63-67-69-74-79, BE: 36  
**Daily Three-Midday** — 04-00-02, SB: 07  
**Daily Three-Evening** — 07-08-04, SB: 09  
**Daily Four-Midday** — 04-02-09-06, SB: 07  
**Daily Four-Evening** — 08-05-09-06, SB: 09  
**Quick Draw Evening** — 01-04-05-13-14-16-19-27-31-35-42-46-55-56-63-70-73-77-79-80, BE: 16  
**Hoosier Lotto** — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$9.7 million

### MEGA MILLIONS

Estimated jackpot (for Tuesday): \$148 million  
**POWERBALL**  
 Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$63 million

## SUDOKU

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

### King Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty: ★

4/15

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## Help Wanted

**American Legion Post 111** in Bluffton is looking to hire bartender for days from 11:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Must have current Indiana state license and be preford non-smoker. Also wanted to hire short order cook for 24 hours a week 10:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m. and 4:00-7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. preford non-smoker only apply and must be dependable. Ideal positions for recently retired person and can be trained if the person is motivated. Applications available at the post on 111 W. Washington St.



## Swiss Village

### Now Seeking: Healthcare Hostess

Swiss Village is seeking an individual to work Part-Time as a Healthcare Hostess. This position will be 2-3 days per week, 3:30pm-6:30pm, with a weekend rotation. Weekend hours will be 2pm-5pm on Saturdays and Sundays. This position is responsible for assisting the healthcare staff by providing non-medical support services, including passing linens, snacks, and ice waters. Candidates must be at least 15 years old, have an interest in nursing services, and be able to communicate effectively with staff and residents.

Apply in person, online at [www.swissvillage.org](http://www.swissvillage.org), or send Resume to:  
**Kayla Reilly, HR Specialist**  
**Swiss Village | 1350 W. Main St. | Berne, IN 46711**  
 or email: [careers@swissvillage.org](mailto:careers@swissvillage.org)  
 EOE