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County may create economic development nonprofit

Organization would replace previous agreement

By HOLLY GASKILL

Wells County may pursue developing its own non-profit organization for economic development. Commissioner President Jeff Stringer told the board that the county would soon begin

the hiring process for a new economic development director. Subsequently, County Attorney Ted Storer advised that the commissioners would have to decide how the position, presumably employed by multiple government entities, would be overseen the position.

Storer gave two options — a fee-for-service agreement or an interlocal agreement. With a fee-for-service agreement, the commissioners would oversee the economic development director and bill the city and towns. An interlocal agreement, on the other hand, would require the creation of a non-profit and an advisory board, Storer said.

The commissioners appeared interested in the latter option, but did not vote on the matter. Stringer expressed some hesitation with the idea of another advisory board, and Storer stated they could appoint government officials to the board. The discussion comes weeks after dis-

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Wells County Commissioner candidates hit heavy topics

By HOLLY GASKILL



Tamara Boucher

Republican Primary candidates for County Commissioner in District 3 had no shortage of pressing issues during a forum Monday, addressing the Health Department, solar energy, economic development, and a prospective State Road 1 project.

was also one of six counties not to join the Health First Indiana program, which could have provided additional funding to the Health Department.

Stringer said the department had been a toxic workplace without leadership who were willing to "step up." Stringer said he had intervened to bring back Marlene Hoag, previous department administrator, and Ryan Bennett, who had resigned as an environmental specialist. Because of this, and his reluctance to flippantly take taxpayer money, Stringer was against HFI in 2023. However, he expressed an openness to joining the program this year, saying he had spearheaded planning this year.

Boucher said from her perspective, it seemed like there was a massive hole in the department when Hoag had retired, as well as numerous communication issues.

"I think there were a lot of things there that escalated beyond where they needed to escalate," Boucher said. "I don't think it's fiscally responsible that we're paying for two local health officers right now," she added, referring to the agreement reached between the county and former health officer Dr. Kay Johnson for her resignation.

Boucher also indicated her support of HFI. Both Stringer and Boucher then demonstrated their opposition to industrial solar energy.

"My opinion on something is irrelevant (Continued on Page 2)

Incumbent Jeff Stringer is challenged by Tamra Boucher for the position. Stringer was elected to the role by caucus in 2021 and currently serves as the board's president. Rick Johnloz moderated the "Meet the Candidates" forum, which contained four questions determined by the

legislative committee of the Wells County Chamber of Commerce.

First on the docket was the future of the Health Department and Health First Indiana. In the last year, the health department has experienced a near-complete turnover of its staff, including its health officer. Wells

Four are up for three County Council seats in primary

By HOLLY GASKILL

Property taxes were a forefront issue for Republican primary election candidates for the county's fiscal body.

The race has four candidates, three of which are incumbents, for the three At-Large seats. Moderator Rick Johnloz kicked off the "Meet the Candidates" forum at the Wells County Commerce and Visitors Centre by asking the candidates perspectives on managing capital expenses given rising property taxes. Each candidate has professional business and financial experience.

Scott Elzey, finishing his first term on council, emphasized that the county still has one of the lowest rates in the state. He also recognized that the county has experienced quite a bit of growth and investment in its infrastructure. "If we're not growing, we're dying," he noted.

Vicki Andrews, who has served 12 years on council, communicated a similar idea, saying that the council keeps a frugal mindset but has to recognize there are necessities. Seth Whicker, eight years on council, also encouraged taxpayers to keep officials

accountable and attend budget sessions.

Heath Schlagenhauf, the incumbents' challenger, differed, noting that the county has taken on several projects at once rather than creating a long-term plan.

Candidates were also asked for their stand on Paddlefish Solar, a company with land leases in Chester and Liberty townships. The group had received a 10-year total tax abatement from the county in 2022 in exchange for a series of economic development payments and are currently seeking a zoning layer for energy development from the County Commissioners. Of the three incumbents, Andrews was the only to vote against the abatement in 2022.

On Monday, however, all four candidates stated they were against the development.

Whicker explained that the county had been aggressive in its negotiation for economic development payments and would reportedly receive roughly 90% of what would have been collected through property taxes. He said it had always been the county's intention to use a portion of this (Continued on Page 2)



Solar farm protesters lined Main Street and the exterior of the Wells County Commerce and Visitors Centre prior to the primary candidate forum on Monday evening. (Photo by Jonathan Snyder)

Solar farm protesters flood primary candidate forum

By HOLLY GASKILL

In the hour before the primary candidate forum, a large group of protestors flocked to Main Street and the entrance of the Wells County Commerce and Visitors Centre.

The demonstration was organized by Clayton Hamilton, who also started the Facebook group "No Solar on Wells County, IN Farm Ground". The group has just over 800 members.

Hamilton said the group had wanted to show up at the event, where officials who had voted on matters in favor of solar farm agreements were running for re-election. The demonstration was met with frequent car horns, thumbs up and revving engines. Case Hamilton, a fourth grade student at Southern Wells Elementary School, enthusiastically counted 95 car horns while waving his sign.



Solar farm protesters on Main Street prior to the primary candidate forum on Monday evening. (Photo by Holly Gaskill)

Later, all Republican candidates for Wells County Council and Commissioners stated they were against the project during (Continued on Page 2)

Two arrested on felony drug charges after traffic stop

By SYDNEY KENT

Two people are in custody after a traffic stop revealed what police are calling a "sizeable amount" of illegal narcotics on Friday.

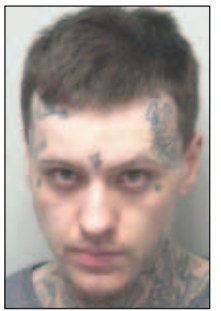
According to a press release from the Bluffton Police Department, a vehicle was pulled over for a burnt-out headlight. Additional units were requested after the driver was identified as Ollie Puckett, 23, Bluffton. Puckett has a previous conviction for robbery resulting in bodily injury in Wells County.

After a handgun was located during the initial search, Puckett and a passenger in the vehicle were both detained.

Further evaluation revealed a plastic bag of methamphetamine that weighed 18.5 grams, eight bags of various amounts of cocaine totaling 11 grams, a bag of blue pills

weighing 1.64 grams that later tested positive for fentanyl, as well as additional paraphernalia and \$485 in cash.

Puckett was charged with the following: dealing methamphetamine and possession of methamphetamine, both Level 2 felonies, dealing a narcotic drug (cocaine), a Level 2 felony, dealing a narcotic drug (fentanyl) and possession of cocaine, both Level 3 felonies, possession of a narcotic drug and possession of a fire-



Ollie Puckett

(Continued on Page 3)

BHMSD to pay expenses for state College Core Program

By JONATHAN SNYDER

Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District will be paying for all expenses related to dual credit, dual enrollment and Advanced Placement courses for students, the BHMSD school board announced Monday. Superintendent Brad Yates and

Assistant Superintendent Julie Meitzler met with Bluffton High School Principal Steve Baker about costs for the Indiana College Core Program — it was estimated that students and families will pay about \$50,000 to higher education institutions for these courses. The courses available under

Indiana College Core's program will be fully transferable towards a student's first year of college. Most public institutions in Indiana will accept the courses available and students could get a potential of 30 credit hours towards their degree, which tallies out to about one year of college.

Board President Bruce Holland noted that the budget can be modified so that the board can easily pay the expenses.

"That sure is an excellent move," Holland said.

The board also stated that graduation for Bluffton High School will be held on May 24. It was also

announced that materials arrived April 1 for construction on a roof replacement for BHS. The BHMSD board hopes that the roofing in the gymnasium area is completed by the end of the school year. Access to the interior of the building is said to be "very minimal." (Continued on Page 2)

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Outside

Chance of showers and thunderstorms

Today	Wed.	Thursday
High 75	High 72	High 66
Low 60	Low 52	Low 48

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Online

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TUESDAY

April 16, 2024

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Commissioner candidates

(Continued from Page 1)

when the community speaks up," Boucher summarized. "Often what happens is we trust our elected officials, right? We vote for our people, we put them in office, we expect that they're going to do the right thing, and then we go on with our lives and don't really pay attention. And then something happens ... So when people do speak up, that's when, as an elected official, you have to listen to them."

Boucher indicated that the project never should have received approval for a tax abatement or road use and decommissioning agreements, since both conflict with goals outlined in the county's Vision 2035. Stringer, however, said that these agreements were in negotiation "long before" the plan was approved.

Stringer also said when those had been approved, he had been assured the company was very early in the process. Even if the commissioners would approve the company's recent zoning

petition, Paddlefish Solar would still have to submit a development proposal.

That said, Stringer said he's consulted with a number of those involved and affected and was against the development. He also did not like that the company was French-owned and the solar panel manufacturer was reportedly Canadian and Chinese-owned. "Zero solar," he concluded.

Regarding economic development, Stringer said he was the driving force in asking for transparency from the Chamber of Commerce because of the county's investment. "I never wanted him (Chad Kline) to leave. I still don't want him to leave. But if accountability and fiscal responsibility scares you, then maybe he should leave."

Stringer said that the county now has new opportunities with the Economic Development Commission and supports the idea that everybody in the community supports job creation and growth.

Boucher then referenced a discus-

sion during the commissioners' meeting two hours earlier, where the board discussed creating a new nonprofit for economic development. "And I sat there thinking, 'That's kind of like what we had already' — except for we already had the mechanism in place ... It was a private-public partnership that I believe is important when we talk about developing the community."

Boucher said the partnership was a model for other communities and, while private businesses do create jobs, offered a point person to coordinate efforts.

Lastly, the candidates gave their opinions on the potential four-lane expansion of S.R. 1. Boucher advised she wanted to encourage cooperation between all parties to provide the best outcome. She also wanted to see a clearer database on all roads and bridges. Stringer mentioned similar points, saying he wanted a comprehensive plan for all road improvements.

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County Council



Vicki Andrews



Scott Elzey



Heath Schlagenhauf



Seth Whicker

(Continued from Page 1)

money specifically for Southern Wells schools, as well. However, as public discussion has unfolded, he no longer feels it's in the best interest of the community.

Elzey felt likewise, saying he was a proponent of land use rights and "tolerance for your neighbor," but the rift in the community was "too high a price."

A farmer himself, Schlagenhauf said he had "trouble" with industrial use of farmland, especially at the scale Paddlefish Solar has outlined. He also recognized how the matter has sewn discord within the county.

The group was also asked about the Economic Development Commission, given the recent discontinuation of the agreement between the county and Chamber of Commerce. Elzey, Schlagenhauf and Whicker expressed that a change was needed for greater accountability, and wanted to move

forward with the opportunities available ahead.

Andrews said she had served on the board for economic development when Chad Kline, the former director, had been hired. She said she would like to see someone new carry the torch of what Kline had started.

Lastly, the candidates shared what they believed to be the biggest issue to tackle in the next four years. Both Schlagenhauf and Whicker highlighted concerns about EMS funding and fire coverage, with Schlagenhauf also stating his desire to support county infrastructure like drainage. Andrews said she would like to see more community involvement.

Elzey gave three points — jobs, housing and youth retention — which he believed were all tied to economic development.

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Solar farm protestors

(Continued from Page 1)

the forum.

The demonstration was predominantly concerned with Paddlefish Solar, a company looking to place a solar development on reportedly 3,000 acres of farmland in Chester and Liberty townships. Paddlefish was first approved for a 10-year total tax abatement in 2022 in exchange for a series of economic development payments totaling at least \$8.5 million. The project has

since received approval for road use and decommissioning agreements.

However, a recent request for a zoning layer for energy development has left the project in limbo. The Area Plan Commission gave a unanimous "do not pass" for the project, and Wells County Commissioners tabled the matter following extensive public comment.

The commissioners have until June 6 to make a decision and have stated they will

not do so until at least May.

Hamilton also noted that while the conversation about solar energy has grown, there are still many people who are unaware of the present issues facing the county. This was quickly exemplified by a man walking by who asked what the group was doing. Hamilton and Christina Furnish jumped on the opportunity to share their cause, discussing the farm community, property values and safety concerns.

While recognizing the matter had been included in public meetings, Furnish stressed that the community had been ineffectively alerted about the project.

Trena Roudebush, community and government relations for Paddlefish, was also present at the forum. Several protesting said they had spoken with her or other company representatives, and felt there were insufficient answers to their concerns.

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College Core Program

(Continued from Page 1)

Additionally, Yates stated that the new lights for the BHS stadium are installed and Energy Harness is currently training Bluffton staff on the controls. Replacement of the turf field and track surface will start after the track season, sometime in mid-May. Drawings for a new stadium storage unit have been submitted to the state for review with bid searching to follow. Upgrades to various other storage units throughout campus are expected to start over the next couple of weeks.

The safety village, a mock community area intended to teach kids safety skills, received quotes from two contractors and are awaiting a third following a redesign of the project. The project was originally supposed to be 250-foot long and 130-foot wide but after trouble with getting reasonable quotes from contractors, the board decided to reduce the footprint on the project.

Other items were:

- The board voted to approve At-Will employee April Corbat's termination effective immediately.

The board approved the following resignations: Allyson Lock, former speech language pathologist assistant; Adam Shively, former middle school custodian Carsan Cunningham, former elementary school instructional assistant

• The board approved the following employment recommendations: Erin Schantz transfers from high school language arts teacher to high school student support specialist; Kristi Searles transfers from middle school mild disabilities/grade 5 writing teacher to elementary school mild disabilities

teacher; Kami Salway transfers from middle school part-time reading interventionist to full-time mild disabilities teacher; Griselda Martinez as ELL teacher; Holly Mishler as mentor to Martinez; Deb Johnson and Tonya Isch as part-time high school academic at risk teachers; Kellie Morgan as high school language arts teacher; Holden Berlin as band director; Joseph Becker as middle school intervention teacher; Shane Leimgruber and Ashley Sheetz as middle school custodians; Randy Birch as bus driver; Jaci Moser, Jill Mounsey, Megan Weldy, Lindsay Schroeder, Tammy Funk, Kyan Harris, Hunter Cunningham, Grace Sommerfeld and Zella Walborn as elementary school PAT members; and Alyssa Osborn as middle school counselor.

• Yates's report stated that the first quarter fund analysis report showed that funds are moving as expected. Yates also noted that 102 potential students are registered for Kindergarten next year, which puts them on pace for their 130 student goal. Yates also stated that he is looking into starting an education foundation for Bluffton schools so they have a mechanism to award scholarships to students. Yates noted that more info should be available as early as next month.

• A new art piece will also be displayed in the board room, as Mrs. Amy Foreman-Habegger's elementary art students used their fingerprints to create a tree that shows their appreciation for what the school board does.

• In order to comply with federal regulations, the board approved a resolution to raise the micro-purchase

threshold to \$50,000. The Indiana Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Agriculture stated that school districts may self-certify for the threshold in order to maintain operational compliance for their food service program. Yates noted that nothing should change in regards to the program's operations, but it does get their actions in line with federal requirements.

• The board also announced that BHS will offer an Advanced Placement U.S. History class next year, where students can earn college credit. BHMSD will get course materials from Perfection Learning Publishing Company and the quoted costs will cover six years of access for 30 students a semester.

• An audit of the food service program was performed leading up to the Monday meeting. The audit

was a positive one, according to Meitzler and Director of Food and Nutrition Robin McCorkle. As part of her report, Meitzler also noted that the weather balloon launched by Bluffton-Harrison Middle School, in partnership with Manchester High School, was a resounding success. Metzler hopes that more video and camera shots come from the balloon's flight in the coming weeks.

• The BHMSD board was recognized as an Exemplary Governing Award Level One Commendable Board by the Indiana School Boards Association. The board also accepted two donations, one from James S. Jackson Construction Company for \$500 to a Pre-K experiential classroom and an anonymous donation of \$500 each for unpaid lunch accounts in elementary and middle school.

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Weather

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

(24-hour observations at 9:04 p.m. Monday)

High: 76; Low: 54; Precipitation: None

Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 10.35 feet at 9:45 p.m. Monday

Wells County forecast

Today: A slight chance of showers before 2 p.m., then a chance of showers and thunderstorms between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., then a chance of showers after 5 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 75. Southeast wind 10 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

Tonight: A chance of showers, then showers and possibly a thunderstorm after 8 p.m. Low around 60. Southeast wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80%. New rainfall amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch, except higher amounts possible in thunderstorms.

Wednesday: Showers and possibly a thunderstorm. High near 72. South wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. New rainfall amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible.

Wednesday Night: Showers before 8 p.m. Low around 52. West wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80%. New precipitation amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch possible.

Thursday: Partly sunny, with a high near 66.

Thursday Night: A 50% chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 48.

Friday: A 30% chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 59.

Nonprofit

(Continued from Page 1)

agreement between municipalities and the Wells County Chamber of Commerce led to the ultimate dissolution of the economic development branch within the nonprofit organization. The parties had been unable to settle on a contract, specifically regarding oversight and communication allowed to the municipalities. At the time, the county and city of Bluffton also approved a contract with Cheryl Mor-

phew of Johnson County for economic development consulting.

Morphew will "help in the interim," Stringer explained Monday. Stringer also stated a drafted job description was sent to the commissioners; it was not provided at the time of print.

Storer also said he would continue his coordination with attorney for the city of Bluffton, Tony Cromwell.

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OBITUARIES

William C. Barkdull, 76

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

Bill was born June 1, 1947, in Marion, to P.P. Whitey Barkdull and Hazel (Purvis) Barkdull-Jones. He graduated from Jefferson Township High School with the class of 1965, and attended Taylor University, where he studied accounting. Bill honorably served his country in the United States Army from June of 1965 to June 1968, during the Vietnam Conflict as a helicopter mechanic. When he returned home, he started Barkdull Service - Standard Oil Service Station in Bluffton. He retired from a 33-year career in 2013 with the Indiana Department of Transportation, where he started at the Bluffton branch, and then spent most of his time at the Fort Wayne INDOT as District Fleet Facilities and Environmental Manager.

Bill loved his corvettes and was a member of the Corvette Club. He always enjoyed trips to tour the Corvette Factory in Bowling Green, Ohio. He loved watching NASCAR races and everything automotive.

Bill and Rebecca A. Malone have shared the last 49 years together. Because of their combined love for Elvis, they got married on Elvis' birthday, Jan. 8.

Survivors include his wife, Rebecca "Bekkee" of Bluffton; he was a loving "Daddy - O" and father to his children, Randy Barkdull of DeFuniak Springs, Fla., Chris Overmier-Barkdull of Lafayette and Faith (Trent) Wyatt of Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.; and grandpa to a grandson, Brady Thomas Mills-Overmier along with his mother, Chrissy Mills, both of Lafayette. He also left behind his beloved cats Miss Molly and Max.

Bill is also survived by his siblings, Pete (Barb) Barkdull of Hartford City, Mike Barkdull of Ruskin, Fla., Joe Barkdull of Anderson and Jeff (Lora) Barkdull of Hart-

ford City; three sisters, Vickie Towne, of Tampa, Fla., Pennie (Melvin) Weatherly of Marion, and Jennie Gothrup of Noblesville, along with cousins, nieces and nephews.

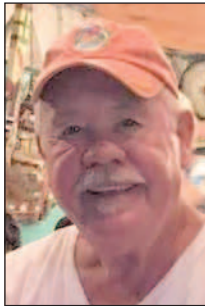
He is preceded in death by his parents; a son, Richie Barkdull; and brothers, Jack E.C. Barkdull and Allen Barkdull.

Visitation will be held from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, April 18, 2024, at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton and for one hour prior to the service.

Funeral Services will take place at 1 p.m. Friday, April 19, 2024, at the funeral home with Travis Bussel officiating. Entombment will take place at the Northridge Community Mausoleum, located at Fairview Cemetery, with military honors by the United States Army Honor Guard and American Legion Post 111 of Bluffton.

Memorials may be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation to benefit Parkinson's Research, St. Jude Children's Hospital or to the family.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.



Max Glancy, 95

Max W. Glancy, 95, of Washington Township, Hartford City, passed away with his family by his side on Thursday evening, April 11, 2024, at his home after a recent cancer diagnosis.

He was born on Jan. 9, 1929, in Hartford City, to John "Henry" and Helen (Johnson) Glancy. He was a proud Roll Red Roller, graduating in the class of 1947. Max had an impressive high school basketball career, beating out all three local high schools as the leading scorer in the county - something to this day he was very proud of. Shortly after high school, he was drafted by the U.S. Army. He married Frances R. Anderson on Nov. 14, 1953, in Logansport, celebrating over seven decades of precious memories together.

His long-time career as a truck driver began with Stoll Packing, NYC, and ended with DA Lubricant, Indianapolis. After retirement in 1993, Max began soaking up all of his free time with his only granddaughter, Shannon. He owned "Wagon Masters" for several years, buying and selling old wagons. Many Saturday mornings you could find him behind the wheel of his pickup, with his trailer hitched up, driving down the road to a sale or auction. He loved collecting all sorts of things, tinkering in his barn, fishing, and driving into town with his brother John for morning coffee at the High Street Bar.

Max was a lifetime member of the Millard-Brown American Legion Post#156, former member of the Blackford County Coon Hunter's Association, and former vice president of Glancy Funeral Homes. He spent the winter months in Bonita Springs, Florida, with his wife. Max recently shared he lived a long, good life and he couldn't live forever. However, to his

family, even forever wouldn't have been long enough.

Loving survivors include his wife, Frances Glancy; son, Jeff (Trudie) Glancy; granddaughter, Shannon (Ben) Light, great-grandchildren, Luna and Lane Light; sisters, Marjorie Michaud of Hartford City, Beverly Malott of Montpelier, Sharon (Jim) Roush of Montpelier; brothers, Jim (Sharon) Glancy of Hartford City, John Glancy of Hartford City, and Phil Glancy of Hartford City; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Ray Glancy; sister, Joan Irving; daughter, Brenda Glancy; and son, Randy Glancy.

Family and friends may gather to share and remember from 2-8 p.m. on Thursday, April 18, 2024, at Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, located at 109 W. Windsor St. in Montpelier.

A service to celebrate Max's life will be at 11 a.m. Friday, April 19, 2024, at Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, with Pastors Steve Rogers and Dewey Zent officiating. Burial will follow in the Brookside Memorial Park in Montpelier. Millard-Brown American Legion Post #156 will be conducting graveside military honors.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorial donations to: Millard-Brown American Legion Post #156, 112 W. Green Street, Montpelier, IN 47359.

Arrangements are being handled by his son and granddaughter, Jeff & Shannon Glancy, Glancy Funeral Homes.



Jacqueline "Jackie" Werling, 87

Jacqueline "Jackie" Werling, 87, of Ossian, passed away on Wednesday, April 10, 2024.

Jackie was born in Fort Wayne, on Sept. 11, 1936; she was a daughter of the late Arthur and Ruth (Dressler) Nord. Jackie was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Ladies Auxiliary for several years. She enjoyed her flowers and gardening.

Jackie is survived by her sons, Gary (Darlene), Scott, Steven (Charli), Darrin, Thomas (Kristi) and Blair Werling; seven grandchildren; 13 step-grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; 11 step-great-grandchildren; one great-great grandchild; and sisters, Emmalyn Downs, Rosalyn Henry and Donnalyn Unsicker.

She was also preceded in passing by her husband of 55 years, Wilmer Werling.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, April 19, 2024, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 6514 East 750 North, in Ossian, with visitation one hour prior.

Visitation will also be held from 3-7 p.m. on Thursday, April 18, 2024, at Elzey-Patterson-Rodak Funeral Home, 120 West Mill St. in Ossian. Burial to follow the service at Bethlehem Lutheran Church Cemetery. Contributions in Jackie's memory may be made to Bethlehem Lutheran Church Ladies Auxiliary. Condolences may be left online at www.elzey-patterson-rodak.com.



Ronald Maddox, 87

Ronald E. Maddox, 87, of Montpelier, passed away at 4:16 p.m. on Sunday, April 14, 2024, at Markle Health & Rehab in Markle.

He was born on Sunday, April 19, 1936, in Hartford City. Ronald was a 1954 graduate of Chester Center High School. He was a farmer in Wells and Blackford Counties. Ron was part of the 150-year establishment, The Maddox Family Farms. He had worked at and retired from Franklin Electric. Ron was on the board of directors of Woodlawn Cemetery, he was a member of the Chester Center Alumni, board for the Montpelier Civic Center, and the Harrison Township Advisory Board. He was a Funks G Seed Corn Dealer.

Ronald proudly served his country in the U.S. Army. He was in the Intelligence Department. He also participated in the Veterans Honor Flight in Washington D.C. Ron was a member of the Pleasantdale Church. He loved his family and farming.

Ronald is survived by his son, Jeff A. Maddox of Montpelier; daughter, Pamela K. (Steve) Reff of Montpelier; son, Randall S. (Jen) Maddox of Green Valley, Arizona; son, Richard T. (Kelli) Maddox of Indianapolis; grandchildren, Andrew Reff of Charlotte, North Carolina, Aimee Reff of Indianapolis, Stacie Fields of New Albany, Brandy Harris of Indianapolis, Megan Maddox of Crown Point, Indiana, Matthew Maddox of Wellington, Florida, Cody Maddox of Sahuarita, Arizona, and Taylor Maddox of Sahuarita, Arizona; several great-grandchildren and several great-great-grandchildren; step-daughter,

Doby (Peter) Confer of Zanesville; step-daughter, Robyn (Scott) Minnear of Liberty Center; step-son, Andy (Damaras) Zehner of Jamica; several step-grandchildren and several step-great-grandchildren; brothers, Thomas L. (Dorothy) Maddox of Montpelier, and John R. (Marilyn) Maddox of Keystone; several nieces and nephews; and special friend, Jean Siela.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William R. Maddox and Treva M. (Bedwell) Maddox; first wife, Martha Sue Green; and second wife, Marilyn Ford-Zehner.

Family and friends may gather to share and remember from 2-8 p.m. Saturday, April 20, 2024, at Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W Windsor St. in Montpelier.

A service to celebrate his life will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 21, 2024, at Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, with the Pastor Steve Loft officiating. Interment will follow in the Woodlawn Cemetery in Montpelier.

Preferred memorials: Woodlawn Cemetery S.R.18 Montpelier, IN 47359, and/or Pleasantdale Church 6007 E. 300 N. Montpelier, IN 47359

Arrangements are being handled by Walker & Glancy Funeral Home in Montpelier.

Online condolences may be made at www.glancyfuneralhomes.com



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.

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City: Thursday, 3:03 p.m., 600 block of South Williams Street. Report of subject threatening other subject with firearm.

Thursday, 3:31 p.m., 300 block of South Bennett Street. Caller reported man knocked on door accusing caller of affair with his wife.

Thursday, 5:26 p.m., 40 block of Columbian Avenue. Report of theft.

Thursday, 5:33 p.m., 700 block of McArthur Drive. Report of verbal abuse.

Thursday, 6:11 p.m., Roush Park. Report of civil issue regarding a charging cord.

Friday, 1:41 a.m., North Main Street and Capri Court. Driver Ollie Puckett arrested for significant drug possession during traffic stop.

Friday, 7:57 a.m., 500 block of South Jersey Street. Search warrant executed.

Friday, 8:31 a.m., Bluffton High School. Student cited for possession of vape.

Friday, 3:47 p.m., South Main and East South streets. Report of two men physically fighting at intersection. Unable to locate.

Friday, 4:31 p.m., 600 block of Cedar Road. Welfare check requested for woman, woman told officer to go away.

Friday, 4:55 p.m., CVS. Caller reported they witnessed driver with open container in hand. Unable to locate.

Friday, 9:52 p.m., Wendy's. Report of subjects fighting. 5 juveniles detained.

Saturday, 5:50 a.m., West Dustman Road and Ridge Plaza. Driver cited for suspended license and speeding.

Saturday, 6:43 a.m., South Wayne Street and East River Road. Signs requested for flooded river.

Saturday, 4:14 p.m., All American. Report of a man sleeping in a car, caller wanted subject to leave.

Sunday, 12:56 a.m., All American. Report of two men fighting in store.

Sunday, 5:03 p.m., Bluffton Animal Clinic. Caller reported cat escaped from clinic and someone thought

they saw the cat on Marion Street, subjects refused to show the cat in their possession.

Sunday, 6:51 p.m., Whicker Park. Caller reported two subjects at park acting suspicious. Man was fixing carpet in back of his SUV, spoke little English.

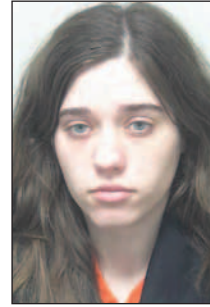
Sunday, 8:02 p.m., Stogdill Road and East River Road. Welfare check requested for many children playing in the river without adult. Adult was nearby.

Monday, 12:21 p.m., 200 block of East Central Avenue. Report of junk/weed violation.

Traffic stop leads to arrests

(Continued from Page 1)

arm by a serious violent felon, Level 4 felonies and possession of paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor.



Krysta Graft

The passenger in the vehicle told police she was with Puckett overnight on Wednesday and again on Friday after midnight shortly before the traffic stop.

She reported that during her time at his home, she witnessed various drug deals. She also reported seeing more than 15 guns in the residence and a lockbox under a couch that contained narcotics. The passenger did not receive any charges.

A search warrant of Puckett's residence

was conducted following the stop. Officers collected a square piece of carpet with blood stains for evidence. The search also revealed a .9 mm revolver, multiple magazines, unspent ammo, .9mm, .38 cal, and .223 casings, and additional drug paraphernalia.

In the bedroom at the residence, officers found a black backpack containing a rolled-up dollar bill and a piece of paper that tested positive for fentanyl. The backpack reportedly belonged to Krysta Graft, 23, Ossian.

Graft was charged with possession of a narcotic drug, a Level 6 felony, and possession of paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor. Her bond was set at \$5,500. Graft is scheduled for a status hearing at 1 p.m. on June 11 in the Wells Superior Court.

Puckett's bond is set at \$125,500. He is scheduled for a pretrial conference in the Wells Circuit Court at 1 p.m. on June 5.

sydney@news-banner.com

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Letters to the Editor

The rest of the Jefferson Township story

First of all, the township has fire protection through Dec. 31, 2024 with the town of Ossian. Second, Dennis Ealing, Ossian town board member, and Trustee Larry Heckber keep saying that Jefferson Township will not pay half of the town's \$200,000 fire budget. The town's budget and the township budget is available online at IndianaGateway.com.

The town's budget for fire protection is \$152,128 not \$200,000. The township budget for fire protection is \$79,000. But, the township also has a fire debt for a fire engine we are still paying for of \$52,690 per year.

The town has one line item in their fire protection budget that is hydrant rental of \$29,133. This is Ossian fire department paying Ossian water department for this hydrant rental. So if you do the math on what the town of Ossian is paying for fire protection and the township is paying for fire protection...

Town of Ossian Budget: \$152,128	Jefferson Township Budget: \$79,000
Hydrant rental: -29,133 (budgeted number)	Fire truck payment 52,690
Total: \$122,995	Total: \$131,690

The township was billed \$28,677.44 for hydrant rental. This is against the townships current contract for fire protection with the town of Ossian.

Trustee Heckber wants the township to just write a check to the town and let them pay the fire protection bills. This is against our current contract. The contract was drawn up like it is, so we pay our own township fire protection bills. This would include fire trucks, fuel for trucks, insurance, maintenance, and firefighting equipment. This is done this way so if the township is told they are going to have their fire protection discontinued the township has some fire equipment and fire fighting items to have for bargaining and not just a bunch of receipts where we paid for fire protection.

In the current contract, the Town of Ossian provides the firefighters and the township buys equipment.

The town of Ossian or Dennis should have talked to the township board before sending the township a bill for fire hydrant rental which is against the current contract. Trustee Heckber should have talked to the board before paying the bill of \$28,677.44 since that goes against our current contract.

Basically, the fire protection budget from the town of Ossian is being misrepresented as \$200,000 when it is actually \$152,128. Also, it is misrepresented that the township does not want to pay their share.

This situation has nothing to do with Ossian Firemen. They provide the community with excellent service. I know and the town knows that this arrangement is the best service for fire protection and the most reasonably priced.

I am willing to sit down as a board member and look at the bills that are paid for fire protection. If there is not enough equipment, fuel, insurance, and maintenance bills that we can use our \$79,000 budgeted money, then maybe we can consider rewriting part of the fire contract. But, the first thing that the township needs is to be repaid the hydrant rental.

This is my opinion and I am one of three board members, so this is solely my view. We work as a board, so there will be other input on this.

TIM BAKER

Jefferson Township Advisory Board Member

Who's Who

A continuing series on how to contact government officials

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

TRUSTEE: Larry Heckber (R), 592 Indian Trace, Ossian; phone 260-704-6629.

TOWNSHIP BOARD: Timothy M. Baker (R), 2142E-800N, Ossian; David Haiflich (R), 3457E-800N, Ossian; AJ Springer (R), 2513 E U.S. 224, Ossian.

LANCASTER TOWNSHIP

TRUSTEE: David Rigney (R), 2414 Red Oak Ct., Bluffton; 824-9501.

TOWNSHIP BOARD: Rick Smith, 5216N-600E, Craigville; Greg Steele, 3522E U.S. 224, Ossian; Andy Wolf (R), 5351E-500N, Craigville.

UNION TOWNSHIP

TRUSTEE: Brian D. Imel, 8313N-600W-90, Markle; cell phone 260-273-1834.

TOWNSHIP BOARD: Kedric L. Bailey, 3475W-1000N-90, Markle; John M. Walmsley, 11941 E. Smuts Drive, Zanesville; Robert L. Caley (R), 7756 N. Marzane Road-90, Markle.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, April 16, the 107th day of 2024. There are 259 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On April 16, 1963, Martin Luther King Jr. wrote his "Letter from Birmingham Jail" in which the civil rights activist responded to a group of local clergymen who had criticized him for leading street protests; King defended his tactics, writing, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

On this date:

In 1789, President-elect George Washington left Mount Vernon, Virginia, for his inauguration in New York.

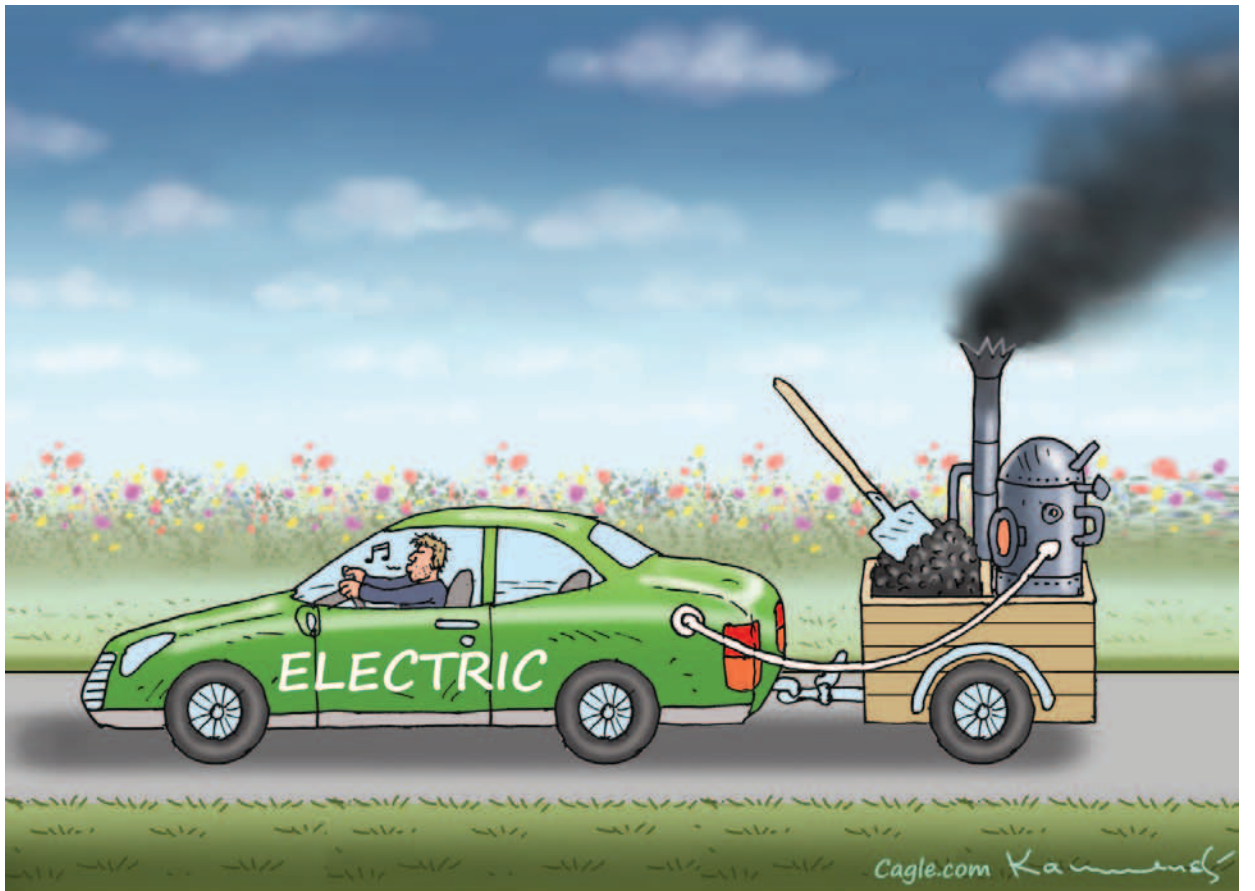
In 1889, comedian and movie director Charles

Chaplin was born in London.

In 1945, a Soviet submarine in the Baltic Sea torpedoed and sank the ship the MV Goya, which Germany was using to transport civilian refugees and wounded soldiers; it's estimated that up to 7,000 people died.

In 1947, the cargo ship Grandcamp, carrying ammonium nitrate, blew up in the harbor in Texas City, Texas; a nearby ship, the High Flyer, which was carrying ammonium nitrate and sulfur, caught fire and exploded the following day; the blasts and fires killed nearly 600 people.

In 1972, Apollo 16 blasted off on a voyage to the moon with astronauts John W. Young, Charles M. Duke Jr. and Ken Mattingly on board.



Biden's impossible dream: Any car you want, as long as it's an EV

Government's language often radiates contempt for the governed, as when the Environmental Protection Agency recently said limits on automobile emissions in model years 2027-2032 will "give drivers more clean vehicle choices." The regulations are, of course, explicitly intended to restrict consumers' choices by forcing manufacturers to produce fewer cars that have tailpipe emissions. Drivers will be able to choose any vehicle they want — from the "clean" category government prefers. As Henry Ford reportedly said, the Model T would be available in "any color" the customer wants, "as long as it's black."

The Biden administration's costly and coercive crusade to replace internal combustion vehicles (ICVs) with electric vehicles (EVs) is disproportionate to its minuscule climate impact. The American Enterprise Institute's Benjamin Zycher says the EPA's own assumptions project that the new regulations will mitigate global warming by 0.023 degrees Celsius by 2100. Because the standard deviation of the Earth's surface temperature record is 0.11 degrees Celsius, "that effect would not be detectable."

Each half-ton battery for "clean" vehicles requires, reports Mark P. Mills in City Journal, digging and processing 50 to 250 tons of earth for copper, nickel, aluminum, graphite and lithium, the prices of which will increase (as will the vehicles' prices) when the easily accessed supplies decrease. All existing and planned mines can meet "only a small fraction" of the needed increase of those materials. The International Energy Agency says hundreds of huge new mines will be needed, each taking a decade or more to open.

EPA emissions standards for heavy-duty trucks will require more of them to be EVs (currently, 99 percent are not). Electric semis are heavy (because of their batteries), damage roadways and generate particulate-matter pollution from roads and their necessarily special tires. The Wall Street Journal reports that "an electric semi consumes about seven times as much electricity on a single charge as a typical home does in a day." They require frequent recharges (95 minutes to charge the battery from 25 percent capacity to 93 percent), as well as multiple time-consuming, load-delivering trips because their weight limits load sizes.

Consumer Reports finds that EVs have 79 percent more problems than ICVs. This is one reason Hertz, having preened about its plans to purchase 100,000 Teslas, is selling 20,000 of those it has. Other reasons include: Hertz cycles its fleet into the used-car market,



George Will

where an EV glut caused prices to plummet 33 percent between 2022 and 2023. Hertz's Teslas are involved in four times more accidents than its ICVs. (Teslas' braking and acceleration require getting used to.) Tesla's complex electronics make them substantially more expensive than ICVs to repair. Consumer resistance to EVs has pushed down their prices, which has slashed the value of Hertz's multibillion-dollar investment in them.

Vehicle manufacturers, which are losing serious money on every EV they build, are compensating by raising prices on the ICVs that customers actually want. Manufacturers begging government for ever-more multibillion-dollar subsidies resemble 9-year-old Oliver Twist holding out his gruel bowl: "Please, sir, I want some more." Vehicle manufacturers, having become government appendages, also want government to provide more charging stations to combat potential customers' "range anxiety." What could go wrong?

In 1920, there were only 9.2 million U.S. passenger cars and commercial vehicles; by 1930, that number had nearly tripled. And there were more than 121,000 filling stations provided by the private sector. A miracle, like the multiplication of the loaves and fishes? No, just the market working. In the two years since Congress allocated \$7.5 billion for government-built charging stations, seven have been built.

This glacial pace is partly because government regulations about implementing government regulations cause government to congeal. "Equity" considerations (charging-station money is skewed toward "marginalized" communities) and vote-buying (electricians unions are favored) converge.

Businesses relying on electric pickup trucks find that time (which is money) is squandered on charging. When the trucks are used as, well, trucks — loaded, and towing things — batteries sag even faster.

Winter is unkind to EVs: Cold slows the batteries' chemical reactions. Some drivers who joined lines at charging stations with (supposedly) ample miles of remaining battery capacity had to be pushed, after long waits (high-speed chargers are slow — 30 to 60 minutes — compared with five-minute gas fill-ups), to the chargers. Hot weather, too, makes the chemical reactions less efficient.

Spring, however, is Goldilocks season for EVs — neither too hot nor too cold. And soon, perhaps, government regulations will require temperatures to be mild, always and everywhere.

georgewill@washpost.com

Another taxing time

Was it as bad for you as it was for me? Sending Washington money we earn, but Washington doesn't, I mean?

It's not just being part of half the nation that pays taxes while the other half doesn't that bothers me. It's the waste and unnecessary programs and agencies that have long outlived whatever usefulness they once had (if they were ever necessary). And still President Biden wants to raise taxes even more without proposing a single dollar be cut to reduce our unsustainable \$34 trillion debt.

As The Washington Times reported: " (Biden) wants to impose a 25% minimum tax on all income not currently taxed — including unrealized gains on assets — for Americans with a net worth of \$100 million. Mr. Biden has also urged Congress to raise the corporate tax rate to 28% up from 21%."

No American should be forced to endure the annual torture of compiling records and filling out tax returns. Many other nations have far simpler systems. Even the instructions for filling out forms for the IRS need instructions to understand. It is why so many must hire tax attorneys, who fulfill the role of language translators.

Just one example: Enter your gross farming and fishing income reported on Form 4835, line 7; Schedule K-1 (Form 1065), box 14, code B; Schedule K-1 (Form 1120-S), box 17, code AN; and Schedule K-1 (Form 1041), box 14, code F. See instructions.



Cal Thomas

Got it?

The Congressional Budget Office predicts the U.S. will add an average of \$2 trillion in debt annually for the next decade. That's more than \$5 billion of debt daily for the next 10 years. We borrow more than \$200 million every hour. That's \$3 million every minute, \$60,000 every second.

If that's not enough to make your blood boil, consider a tiny fraction of

the misspending that occurs in Washington. For the past nine years, Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY) has published a "Festivus Report" exposing outrageous examples of unnecessary federal spending. In his latest report he writes: "I am highlighting a whopping \$900,000,000,000 of waste, including an NIH grant to study Russian cats walking on a treadmill, Barbies used as proof of ID for receiving COVID Paycheck Protection Program funds, \$6 million to promote tourism in Egypt, and \$200 million to 'struggling artists' like Post Malone, Chris Brown, and Lil Wayne. No matter how much money the government has already wasted, politicians keep demanding even more."

There's much more. Google

Festivus Report and be aghast at what we are doing to ourselves. Ultimately, this is the fault of voters who won't restrain politicians and don't select people who will restore America's financial future and balance the budget, as was so recently done during the administration of Bill Clinton.

If too many voters keep fueling the gravy train, the only option will be an Article V constitutional convention, provided by the Founders for such a moment we are now facing.

If a future Congress refuses to attack the debt an Article V constitutional convention will be the only way to balance the budget and return power to where the Founders originally intended it - to the people. Nineteen of a required 34 states have already passed resolutions calling for a Convention of States. Other states

have passed it in one legislative chamber, and still others have it under consideration.

Our current oppressive tax system can be analogized to Dracula, who is never satisfied with the blood he sucks out of one victim, but must constantly look for new sources to bite. We must drive a stake in the blood-sucking government's heart, or we will end up driving one in ourselves and the country we have known and loved will be no more.

tcaeditors@tribpub.com.

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Gloria thanks God for the good (and bad) things in life

I glance back, I see memories.

I look in the future, I see no certainty.

I look at the moment and thank God for what I have right now.

Now when I look too long at things I don't like in the moment, I lose hope, but when I look to the Provider of all things there's a simple joy and hope.

Focusing on good things, such as the perfect sunny day we're having, the blooming blue bells and bleeding hearts the children bring to me, I am thankful, but what happens when I thank my Maker for only the things that suit me? Will I always be able to find enough good things to bring me happiness? What if those good things all fade away and there's nothing left to bring happiness?

I like how Daniel's cousin reminded me, last week. She said, "Once we have nothing left but God we find he's everything!"

I'm guessing that most of us have never had absolutely



The Amish Cook
by Gloria Yoder

nothing left, but don't we all know that feeling? When we get stripped of all the things that used to make us happy we naturally become sad then hardened.

For me it can be big disappointments such as the death of my spouse, but then sometimes the little irritations also get to me more than I care for them to. That reminds me of a dear widow friend of mine. Though she is not Amish, she has been a family friend for years. As I write I wonder if perhaps Mrs. Harvey's sweetness comes from her true thankfulness. Not only does she thank God for the good things, but also has a wellspring of thanksgiving for things she does not enjoy.

Whether it's her washer that quit working or another dilemma without her husband to help her out of it, she turns her face toward Jesus and thanks him for the problem.

Is that something that comes naturally to you? It certainly isn't my innate response. My mind flashes back to a tidbit I journaled last winter. It was something like, "Thanking God for the hard things brings a far deeper joy than to thank for the things we like." I scratch my head, how do I get away from that so easily? Then smiling despite of myself, I look at God and thank him for making me with such frail inclinations.

And you know, many times I do not see the blessings from the trial until much later. We may not even get a glimpse of them from this side of eternity, but that's okay, God's got track of them all perfectly. When we see him face to face there will be a completion of rewards for all we trusted him with.

I enjoy the innocence of little ones as they celebrate

things they enjoy. Something they've been enjoying these days is a set of house finches which are building a nest on the front porch in a set of chimes and a robin building a nest on one of the beams on our new deck out the back toward the woods.

The process on the deck has been quite intriguing to watch from the kitchen window as she started out with a bigger stick then added smaller twigs, bit of straw and all that was needed to make a soft bed for her eggs. Currently she has four eggs which she is incubating day after day. Bit by bit she is growing tamer and stays on her nest even when we are talking or singing on the deck. Hopefully in a couple weeks we'll be able to watch her feed her babies from our kitchen table.

Lastly I'll wrap up with children's favorite bars I've been making for them. We call them candy bars and give everyone a medium to small piece, thus having it last for more than one meal. I thank God for a grow-



Homemade Amish granola bars pressed in the pan before the chocolate is poured over it. (Photo submitted)

ing family with a large food consumption, though it takes something to keep the ball rolling!

Chewy Granola Bars Bars:
4 c quick oats
3/4 cup brown sugar (I use a bit molasses and xylitol instead)
1 cup peanut butter
1 cup choc chips
1/2 cup sunflower seeds
3/4 cup coconut oil or butter

2/3 cup honey
1 teas vanilla
Mix all together and bake at 350 for 15 minutes.
Chocolate:
1 cup coconut oil
1 1/2 cup peanut butter
3/4 cup maple syrup
1 1/4 cup cocoa
1/2 teas salt
2 teas vanilla
Place all ingredients in a sauce pan and melt over low to medium heat. Spread over cooled bars. Cut and chill. Absolutely scrumptious!

Premiere April 19th for Forester Film's 'Patterns' at Huntington University

By BARBARA BARBIERI

On Friday, April 19, Huntington University's Forester Films, LLC. will be presenting the premiere performance of their latest film, "Patterns," at the Zurcher Auditorium in the Merillat Center for the Arts at Huntington University, at 7 p.m.

This is the second feature-length film produced by Forester Films, as part of their Film Capstone program, which works in tandem with Forester Films by providing a semester of immersive, mentor-based training culminating in a professional film or television project as seniors transition from the classroom to the film industry.

Students receive one-on-one mentoring from industry professionals while working side by side on a professional film set, as well as a semester of working with their own underclass film mentee to practice leadership and share the craft they have been honing.

When possible Huntington University alumni are hired to return and give back to the program that shaped them. Along with over 30 students and a recent alumni crew the film "Patterns" boasts five alumni department heads including the writer, Rachel Hart Cabello (2028), the director, Dawn

Davis (1989), the key grip (Brian Farrell (2028) and both producers Lance Clark (1989) and Matt Webb (1998).

The story line for "Patterns" follows three estranged siblings who, after their mother's death, return to their family home for a weekend to determine what to do about their father who has dementia. (Due to the subject the film it may not be suitable for children ages 12 and younger)

Tickets priced at \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors are available through the Huntington University box office.

Bluffton residents who attended the Eclipse viewing at the Wells County Public Library on April 8th, may have observed some of the Foresters Film crew in action as they were filming the crowd for another production. Instructor Lance Clark was in charge of the group at the library. He and Webb are instructors for the film classes.

The first full-length feature film by the Foresters was titled "Wayfaring Stranger" and featured Stephen Baldwin and Bethany Anne Lind. It involved a 12 year old pastor's son who befriended a middle age broken down, alcoholic singer who helps the boy enhance his musical calling and also



Lance Clark, at right, a producer for the Huntington University Forester Film program who was photographing during the recent Eclipse event outside the Wells County Public Library, is shown talking about the group's coming Premiere of "Patterns" with Anne Salscheider, at left. (Photo by Barbara Barbieri)

helps the pastor build a new church. The singers untimely death brings the community together to finish the building project and unite church family.

The public is invited to the premiere of "Passages" on Friday, April 19, at 7 p.m. at Huntington University's Zurcher Auditorium in the Merillat Center for the Arts. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8

for seniors. (Not recommended for those 12 and younger.)

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Norwell Internship Spotlight award Emma Dodane

Emma Dodane has been selected to receive the Norwell High School ICE Student of the Week award. She is employed at Crosby Excavating Inc. of Fort Wayne with her supervisor Rachel Weaver. Emma is the daughter of Andy and Nicole Dodane of Ossian.

Crosby Excavating is in the business of trans-

porting stone and dirt to their customers. Emma works in the office area where she answers the phone and does filing. She also does computer data entry which includes invoicing and payroll time sheets.

Upon graduation, Emma plans to study construction management at PFW (Purdue Fort Wayne).



Emma Dodane

1970's music performed at Sweetwater by Fort Wayne Philharmonic

Music of the 70's will be presented by the Fort Wayne Philharmonic at the Sweetwater Performance Pavilion on Sunday, May 10, at 7:30 p.m.

The concert will offer an evening of R&B, Soul and Pop from the classic horn bands of the 70's: Chicago, Earth Wind & Fire and Blood Sweat & Tears.

Tickets begin at \$20 and are available online at sweetwaterpavilion.com

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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

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Lewis outduels Tigers in county baseball battle

By RYAN WALKER

The game of baseball is played on a diamond, but Norwell played chess in its 5-0 win over Bluffton.

This was the home opener for the now 5-2 Knights, and they used baserunning, stellar pitching and even a rare suicide squeeze to slowly bind the Tigers (3-5).

Norwell took advantage of Bluffton's first-inning blunder, missing a pop fly in the infield to place Noah Schamerloh on the base path. Lane Lewis drove him on an RBI single to strike first.

Then, in the third inning, Drew Graft swiped second and advanced twice more on passed balls to lead 2-0.

The mistakes were costing the Tigers early, who seemingly needed to play perfectly to try and steal a victory over their county rival. The pressure was on the offense that struggled against starting pitcher and Taylor University signee Lewis.

"They're crucial," Bluffton head coach Jason Pierce said about the early errors. "They set a tone. I mean, you know, we made the mistake early in the first inning just on a miscommunication on the ball. We were facing a pitcher like Lane Lewis that you're going to be limited on the runs that you're going to put up on him."

Lewis stranded two runners on base twice by his sixth inning of work: once against the middle of the order when Axton Beste and Braxton Betancourt hit back-to-back singles.

On the other side, Bluffton's southpaw was keeping his team in the game.

Griffin Morgan went toe-to-toe with Lewis in his 5.1 innings of work. The Tigers' sophomore struck out eight Knights and allowed just five hits and three earned runs.

One of the runs came via small ball from first-year head coach Christian Bohata.

Cayden Cassel hit a leadoff double to deep centerfield and was moved over on a groundout by Korben Neuenschwander. Morgan began his motion toward home plate to Adam McBride when Cassel started to bolt down the third base line. McBride easily dropped the suicide squeeze bunt play to extend the Knights' lead to 3-0.

"What I've been preaching to the guys all offseason is baseball's all about the little things," Bohata said. "If we can do the little

things right — whether it's getting bunts down, stealing bases, getting great jumps on steals — little stuff like that."

As Morgan left the sixth inning, in came Cameron Williams, who dished out a strikeout to leave the door open down by three runs.

Bluffton had runners in scoring position with two outs trying to scrape a run of two with the seventh inning looming, but Lewis dialed up his 10th punchout to hold them in check.

This was the third time Lewis got out of a jam with a runner or more on base. He said that he wanted to challenge the Bluffton hitters, and didn't want to walk them.

"I felt like I started off really good," Lewis said. "My fastball was live. (I) got in a little bit of trouble in the middle in the middle innings, but I felt like being able to work out of it and trusting my defense behind me. I have so much confidence in everybody behind me."

Norwell only needed one run, but got some late insurance with Cassel's second double to the outfield wall. That scored two more runs and secured some comfort heading into the final frame.

Lewis went 1-2-3 to shut the door to earn a complete game shutout.

In his three starts this season, Lewis has yet to allow a run. He tallied 12 strikeouts in Monday night's win to bring the season total to 24 in 18 innings.

"(His) first three starts — he's been incredible," Bohata said. "He's everything we wanted out of him. He's competing. He's a bulldog. Even with guys on base, you saw tonight, just nothing changes. His demeanor stays the same. He just keeps filling up the strikes."

"When Lewis' on the mound, we're not necessarily worried about who we're throwing in relief," he continued. "We're expecting him to go seven (innings) ... It's a different feeling. I think the guys even feel it in the dugout. It's just more of a confidence that if we scratch across three, four or five runs, we're going to win a ballgame with Lane Lewis on the year."

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

Norwell will travel to Jay County at 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 16.

ryan@news-banner.com



Norwell's Lane Lewis (left) and Bluffton's Griffin Morgan had a pitching duel Monday night. The Knights got the best of the Tigers 5-0 with a complete game, 12 strikeout shutout by Lewis. Morgan went 5.1 innings, allowing four runs and struck out eight. (Photos by Ryan Walker)



Knights' baserunner Drew Graft touches home plate in the bottom of the third inning to go up 2-0.

Sports Roundup

Raiders shut out Generals

The Southern Wells softball team got its first win of the season in a 12-0 win at Wayne Monday.

The Raiders scored seven runs in the sixth inning to apply the 10-run mercy rule after five innings. The win brought the team to a 1-3 record.

Three Raiders had multi-hit games. Emma Parks went 2-3 with a double and two RBI. Gracie Reeves went 2-4 with two RBI. Kaylea Coffel went 2-3. Collena Reeves went 1-2 with a double and two RBI. Remi Holmes and Kim McCune had the other RBI.

Coffel earned the win, tossing six innings of scoreless softball. She allowed just one hit, walked two and struck out nine.

Southern Wells will host Wes-Del at 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 17.

Knights win first softball game of the season over Jets

Norwell got its first softball win of the season in a 9-5 victory at Adams Central Monday.

The Knights improved their record to 1-2 after falling to South Adams in the opener.

Of the 13 hits, five Knights had two-hit games. Jordan Markley went 2-5 with two RBI, Kara Brown 2-5, Leah Werling 2-3, Nevada Lenwell 2-4 with an RBI and Makayla Yung 2-3 with an RBI. Reese Frauhiger and Teagan Lesley also had RBI.

Kayla Watkins got the win, throwing four innings with two unearned runs, three hits, no walks and seven strikeouts. Sami Lemler threw three innings and allowed three runs (two earned), three hits, a walk and three strikeouts.

Norwell will visit Bishop Luers at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 16.

Knights remain perfect in girls' tennis, defeat Jets

Norwell remained perfect in its girls' tennis season with a 3-2 win over Adams Central.

This was the first time the Knights allowed a match point to an opposing team in their four games this season.

Individual results:

- Hillary Tobias (AC) defeated Addy Heyerly 5-7, 6-2, 10-4 at No. 1 singles.
- Delaney Hoover (N) defeated Melanie Bertsch 7-5, 6-2 at No. 2 singles.
- Macie Saalfrank (N) defeated Macy McClure 6-2, 6-0 at No. 3 singles.
- Annabelle Johnson and Macy Felger (N) defeated Alaina Bertsch and Alayna McCullough 6-1, 6-4 at No. 1 doubles.
- Anna Leye and Alexa Brotherton (AC) defeated Jordyn Xayyachack and Ciera Hiester 6-2, 6-3 at No. 2 doubles.

Norwell swept the junior varsity match 9-0.

Results for JV:

- Aubrey Meyer defeated McKayla Ringger 8-1.
 - Gabbi Hoepfner defeated Josie Shoaf 8-2.
 - Lucy Gerbers defeated Ella Bluhm 8-4.
 - Charli Swindell defeated Myah Ripple 6-3.
 - Hope Mitchell and Emmaline Johnson defeated Adrienne Johnson and Jayla Biberstine 8-3.
 - Sam Evans and Abryn Keller defeated Alyssa Schearer and Ellie Lengerich 8-4.
 - Melissa Hoag and Campbell Sloan defeated Lux Shultz and Kavya Aschliman 6-3.
 - Carley Wolf and Isabella Hubble defeated Addison Thieme 6-0.
 - Hazel Lewis and Molly Threewits defeated Lexie Hamilton and a name not listed 6-4.
- Norwell will be at South Side at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 16.

Tigers sweep Apaches in girls' tennis for first win

Bluffton earned its first win of the season in a 5-0 sweep over Wabash at home Monday.

Individual results:

- Emma Schwartz defeated Alexa Johnson 6-0, 6-1 at No. 1 singles.
 - Eve Corkwell defeated Hadley Schuler 6-1, 6-1 at No. 2 singles.
 - Gretchen Crist defeated Emma Weaver 6-4, 6-2 at No. 3 singles.
 - Hazel Pfister and Sophie Eisenhut defeated Abbi Hipskind and Maddie Von Uhl 6-1, 6-1.
 - Avery Hunt and Kinzie Fiechter defeated Bridget Bailey and Emma Adams 6-4, 6-0.
- Wabash won the junior varsity match 2-1.

Results for JV:

- Madison Murray and Zoey Schmidt (B) defeated Sophie France and Amanda Alspach 8-2.
 - Amanda Alspach (W) defeated Mary Beth Zurcher 8-3.
 - Sophie France defeated (W) defeated Zara Eisenhut 8-7 (7-3).
- Bluffton will be at host Adams Central at 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 16.

Knights' JV softball team improves to 3-0

Norwell's junior varsity softball team edged Adams Central 9-6 at home Monday night.

The win improves the Knights record to 3-0 on the season.

Norwell tallied six hits and walked eight times.

Alli Crow went 3-4 with two runs scored in the game. Brielle Foss went 2-4 with four RBI, Angie Rogers had two RBI and Ayla Nern went 1-1 with an RBI.

Carli Fausz got the win with five innings pitched, four runs (one earned), six hits, two walks and two strikeouts. Bria Reinhard threw

(Continued on Page 7)

High School Calendar

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.
THURSDAY, APRIL 18
 BASEBALL: Homestead at Norwell, 5 p.m.; South Adams at Bluffton, 5 p.m.; Southern

Wells at Adams Central, 5 p.m.
 BOYS GOLF: Southern Wells at Wapahani, 4:30 p.m.
 GIRLS TENNIS: Bluffton at New Haven, 5 p.m.
 SOFTBALL: South Adams at Bluffton, 5 p.m.; Southern Wells at Adams Central, 5 p.m.
 TRACK & FIELD (CO-ED): Yorktown at Bluffton, 6 p.m.
FRIDAY, APRIL 19
 BASEBALL: Angola at Norwell, 5:30 p.m.
 GIRLS TENNIS: Wayne at Norwell, 5:30 p.m.
 SOFTBALL: Norwell at Homestead, 5 p.m.; Bluffton at Oak Hill, 5:30 p.m.
SATURDAY, APRIL 20
 BASEBALL: Mississinewa at Southern Wells, 10 a.m.
 BOYS GOLF: Norwell, Bluffton, Southern Wells at South Adams Golf Invitational, 9 a.m.
 GIRLS TENNIS: Norwell at Concordia, 10 a.m.; Bluffton at Argyll Invitational, 9 a.m.
 SOFTBALL: Bluffton at Northfield, 10 a.m.
 TRACK & FIELD (CO-ED): Southern Wells at Eastern, 10:30 a.m.

Caitlin Clark taken No. 1 in the WNBA draft by the Indiana Fever

NEW YORK (AP) — Caitlin Clark admitted she was a bit nervous before being chosen with the No. 1 pick in the WNBA draft by the Indiana Fever, even though it was no surprise.

"I dreamed of this moment since I was in second grade, and it's taken a lot of hard work, a lot of ups and downs, but more than anything, just trying to soak it in," Clark said.

The former Iowa star became a household name among basketball fans during her record-breaking college career, and she will now try and help revive the Indiana franchise along with last season's No. 1 pick, Aliyah Boston, who previously played with Clark on a USA Basketball Under-19 team.

"Obviously going to an organization that has, in my eyes, one of the best post players in

the entire world," Clark said. "My point guard eyes just light up at that. And obviously, Aliyah has been one of my teammates before. I'm excited. I can't wait."

The Fever taking Clark had been a foregone conclusion since she announced on Feb. 29 she would turn pro. Nearly 17,000 tickets were claimed to watch the draft at Gainbridge Fieldhouse in Indianapolis.

Clark has helped bring millions of fans to the women's game with her signature shots from the midcourt logo and passing ability. The NCAA's all-time scoring leader was a big reason why a record 18.9 million viewers tuned in to the national championship game, which Iowa lost to unbeaten South Carolina. The Hawkeyes were also the

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News-Banner Scoreboard

BASKETBALL NBA

NBA Play-In Glance
PLAY-IN
FIRST ROUND
Tuesday, April 16
Western Conference
LA Lakers at New Orleans, 7:30 p.m.
Golden State at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
Wednesday, April 17
Eastern Conference
Miami at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Chicago, 9:30 p.m.
SECOND ROUND
Friday, April 19
Eastern Conference
Atlanta/Chicago winner at Miami/
Philadelphia loser, TBD
Western Conference
Golden State/Sacramento winner at
LA Lakers/New Orleans loser, TBD

HOCKEY

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division
GP W L OTpts GF GA
x-Boston 81 47 19 1510266 221
x-Florida 81 51 24 6108263 198
x-Toronto 80 46 24 10102297 252
x-Tampa Bay 81 44 29 8 96285 264
Detroit 81 40 32 9 89273 270
Buffalo 82 39 37 6 84246 244
Ottawa 81 36 41 4 76252 280
Montreal 81 30 36 15 75232 284
Metropolitan Division
GP W L OTpts GF GA
x-NY Rangers 82 55 23 4 114282 229
x-Carolina 81 52 22 7 111276 210
x-NY Islanders 81 38 27 16 92241 259
Washington 81 39 31 11 89218 256
Pittsburgh 81 38 31 12 88251 246
Philadelphia 81 38 32 11 87234 259
New Jersey 82 38 39 5 81264 283
Columbus 81 26 43 12 64231 297
WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division
GP W L OTpts GF GA
y-Dallas 81 51 21 9 111296 233
x-Winnipeg 80 50 24 6 106251 194
x-Colorado 81 49 25 7 105299 253
x-Nashville 82 47 30 5 99269 248
St. Louis 81 43 33 5 91238 248
Minnesota 80 38 33 9 85245 258
Arizona 81 35 41 5 75251 272
Chicago 80 23 52 5 51174 282
Pacific Division
GP W L OTpts GF GA
x-Vancouver 80 49 22 9 107273 218
x-Edmonton 79 48 25 6 102282 225
x-Los Angeles 80 43 26 11 97250 228
x-Vegas 80 44 28 8 96263 240
Calgary 80 37 38 5 79247 266
Seattle 80 33 34 13 79210 229
Anaheim 81 26 50 5 57200 294
San Jose 80 19 52 9 47178 317
NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.
x-clinched playoff spot

Monday's Games

St. Louis 4, Seattle 1
Vegas 4, Colorado 3, OT
Carolina 4, Chicago 2
Calgary 6, Arizona 5
Monday's Games
N.Y. Islanders 4, New Jersey 1
Buffalo 4, Tampa Bay 2
Washington 2, Boston 0
Pittsburgh 4, Nashville 2
Detroit 5, Montreal 4, OT
N.Y. Rangers 4, Ottawa 0
Minnesota at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.
San Jose at Edmonton, 9:30 p.m.

Tuesday's Games
Carolina at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Ottawa at Boston, 7 p.m.
Washington at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Florida, 7:30 p.m.
Seattle at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.
Calgary at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Chicago at Vegas, 10 p.m.

Wednesday's Games
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.
St. Louis at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Arizona, 10 p.m.

Thursday's Games
Seattle at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Vancouver at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.
San Jose at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Edmonton at Colorado, 9:30 p.m.
Anaheim at Vegas, 10 p.m.
Chicago at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

BASEBALL

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	12	5	.706	—
Baltimore	10	6	.625	1½
Boston	9	8	.529	3
Tampa Bay	9	8	.529	3
Toronto	9	8	.529	3
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	11	5	.688	—
Kansas City	11	6	.647	½
Detroit	9	7	.563	2
Minnesota	6	9	.400	4½
Chicago	2	14	.125	9
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	9	8	.529	—
Los Angeles	8	8	.500	½
Oakland	7	9	.438	1½
Seattle	6	10	.375	2½
Houston	6	12	.333	3½
Sunday's Games				
Tampa Bay 9, San Francisco 4				
N.Y. Mets 2, Kansas City 1				
Detroit 4, Minnesota 3				
Toronto 5, Colorado 0				
Baltimore 6, Milwaukee 4				
Boston 5, L.A. Angels 4				
Houston 8, Texas 5				
Cleveland 8, N.Y. Yankees 7, 10				
innings				
Cincinnati 11, Chicago White Sox 4				
Chicago Cubs 3, Seattle 2				

Monday's Games

Oakland 7, Washington 6
Cleveland 6, Boston 0
Texas 1, Detroit 0
Baltimore 7, Minnesota 4
L.A. Angels 7, Tampa Bay 3
Toronto 3, N.Y. Yankees 1
Kansas City 2, Chicago White Sox 0
Atlanta 6, Houston 1
St. Louis at Oakland, late
Cincinnati at Seattle, late

Tuesday's Games
Texas (Gray 0-1) at Detroit (Mize 0-0), 1:10 p.m.
Minnesota (Paddock 0-0) at Baltimore (Rodriguez 2-0), 6:35 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Soriano 0-2) at Tampa Bay (Civale 2-1), 6:50 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Rodón 1-0) at Toronto (Kikuchi 0-1), 7:07 p.m.
Cleveland (Bibee 1-0) at Boston (Whitlock 1-0), 7:10 p.m.
Kansas City (Singer 2-0) at Chicago White Sox (Cannon 0-0), 7:40 p.m.
Atlanta (López 1-0) at Houston (Brown 0-2), 8:10 p.m.
Cincinnati (Greene 0-1) at Seattle (Gilbert 0-0), 9:40 p.m.
St. Louis (Lynn 0-0) at Oakland (Sears 1-1), 9:40 p.m.

Wednesday's Games
Minnesota at Baltimore, 1:05 p.m.
Texas at Detroit, 1:10 p.m.
Atlanta at Houston, 2:10 p.m.
Kansas City at Chicago White Sox, 2:10 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Toronto, 3:07 p.m.
St. Louis at Oakland, 3:37 p.m.
Cincinnati at Seattle, 4:10 p.m.
L.A. Angels at Tampa Bay, 6:50 p.m.
Cleveland at Boston, 7:10 p.m.

Thursday's Games
Minnesota at Baltimore, 1:05 p.m.
Texas at Detroit, 1:10 p.m.
Atlanta at Houston, 2:10 p.m.
Kansas City at Chicago White Sox, 2:10 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Toronto, 3:07 p.m.
St. Louis at Oakland, 3:37 p.m.
Cincinnati at Seattle, 4:10 p.m.
L.A. Angels at Tampa Bay, 6:50 p.m.
Cleveland at Boston, 7:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	10	5	.667	—
Philadelphia	9	8	.529	2
New York	8	8	.500	2½
Washington	6	9	.400	4
Miami	3	14	.176	8
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	10	5	.667	—
Pittsburgh	11	6	.647	—
Chicago	9	6	.600	1
Cincinnati	9	7	.563	1½
St. Louis	8	9	.471	3
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	11	7	.611	—
San Diego	10	9	.526	1½
Arizona	8	8	.500	2
San Francisco 7	10	4	.714	3½
Colorado 4	13	2	.867	6½
Sunday's Games				
Tampa Bay 9, San Francisco 4				
N.Y. Mets 2, Kansas City 1				
Pittsburgh 9, Philadelphia 2				
Toronto 5, Colorado 0				
Atlanta 9, Miami 7				
Baltimore 6, Milwaukee 4				
Cincinnati 11, Chicago White Sox 4				
Arizona 5, St. Louis 0				
Chicago Cubs 3, Seattle 2				
Oakland 7, Washington 6				

(Continued from Page 6)

two innings and allowed two unearned runs with three hits, three walks and a strikeout.

Bluffton falls to Southwood in softball

Bluffton's softball team fell at Southwood 6-0 Monday night.

The team collected just four hits in the loss, one each by Tressa Renner, Konley Ault, Madyson Sonngisen and Kayla Kiefer. Ault's was a triple, while Sonngisen's was a double.

Sonngisen pitched five innings and allowed four runs (two earned), giving up four hits, three walks and struck out nine. Kinlee Taylor threw an

inning and allowed two runs. Bluffton will be at Wabash at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 16.

Tigers top the Raiders in MS golf

Bluffton defeated Southern Wells in middle school golf at Dogwood Glen Monday night.

The Tigers shot a 220 on the day, while the Raiders had a 239.

For Bluffton, Rafe Gerber led the way and was the medalist at 38. Reed Abbett was second at 40, Gibson Griesser (44), Abe Atkins (46) and Gavin Griesser (52).

For Southern Wells, Wyatt

Tigers JV softball falls 1-0 to Knights

Bluffton's junior varsity softball team lost 1-0 to Southwood at home Monday night.

Sierra Holmes earned the loss despite just one run allowed. She pitched four innings and struck out three.

Addison Kauffman had the only hit in the game for Bluffton.

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Tuesday's Games
Colorado (Gomber 0-0) at Philadelphia (Suárez 2-0), 6:40 p.m.
San Francisco (Hicks 2-0) at Miami (Weathers 1-1), 6:40 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Jones 1-2) at N.Y. Mets (Quintana 1-1), 7:10 p.m.
San Diego (Cease 1-1) at Milwaukee (Miley 0-0), 7:40 p.m.
Atlanta (López 1-0) at Houston (Brown 0-2), 8:10 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Hendricks 0-2) at Arizona (Henry 0-1), 9:40 p.m.
Cincinnati (Greene 0-1) at Seattle (Gilbert 0-0), 9:40 p.m.
St. Louis (Lynn 0-0) at Oakland (Sears 1-1), 9:40 p.m.
Washington (Corbin 0-2) at L.A. Dodgers (TBD), 10:10 p.m.

Wednesday's Games
San Francisco at Miami, 12:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Mets, 1:10 p.m.
San Diego at Milwaukee, 1:10 p.m.
Atlanta at Houston, 2:10 p.m.
Washington at L.A. Dodgers, 3:10 p.m.
St. Louis at Oakland, 3:37 p.m.
Chicago Cubs at Arizona, 3:40 p.m.

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Agriculture

How the Purdue Agricultural Centers are providing valuable research for Indiana's farmers

By C.J. MILLER
Hoosier Ag Today

At Purdue University's College of Agriculture, they're not only preparing students to become our next generation of ag leaders, they're also conducting valuable research to benefit Indiana's farmers.

"The Purdue Agricultural Centers—being Purdue-owned, being Purdue-managed—allow us to do some work that's can be a little bit more experimental," says Christian Krupke, Professor of Entomology at Purdue. He is also the Dean's Fellow for Resilient Agriculture to provide research leadership aimed at making agriculture more productive and durable.

Much of the research done at the eight Purdue Ag Centers located throughout Indiana focuses on how to make crops more resilient to different

stresses—such as pests, heat, drought, and disease.

"By using the Purdue Ag Centers to investigate, we are a little bit more able to weather the ups-and-downs and the economics when certain approaches don't work as well as we thought than a producer could because it's their livelihood," he says.

A major benefit of using the Purdue Ag Centers for research is the amount of farmland they have to work with. Several of their test plots are ten acres in size.

"Ten acres is still, of course, smaller than your average corn or soybean field in Indiana, but it's at least of a scale that gets rid of some of the variation when it comes to yields and the variability across fields, so it's more representative of what an actual producer would see in terms of scale."

Krupke says the Purdue Ag Centers are also spread out across Indiana to be more closely connected with producers in the different regions of the state to share research and receive feedback.

"Part of the reason for locating them at areas throughout the state is to have them closer to where people may be and so they don't have to travel all the way to campus or to the Agronomy Farm close to main campus to see it," says Krupke.

Krupke is a guest on the latest episode of the Hoosier Ag Today Soil Health Podcast hosted by Elise Konig. Krupke is joined by Joel Wahlman, Superintendent of the Southeast Purdue Agricultural Center in Jennings County, Indiana, as they go into further detail about the research that is planned at the Purdue Agriculture Centers for 2024.

EPA rule limits 'forever chemicals' in drinking water

By AGDAILY

On Wednesday, the Biden-Harris Administration issued the first-ever national, legally enforceable drinking water standard. The Environmental Protection Agency says the new standards will protect communities from exposure to harmful per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances, also known as "forever chemicals."

Named the National Primary Drinking Water Regulation, the final rule sets maximum contaminant levels at four parts per trillion for PFOA and PFOS and 10 parts per trillion for PFNA, PFHxS, and HFPO-DA.

PFAS are widely present in various industrial and consumer products, such as fire-fighting foam, food packaging, and dental floss, as stated by the EPA.

Due to their slow degradation, these chemicals accumulate in humans, animals, and the environment, earning them the nickname "forever chemicals."

The EPA has stated that there is no safe level of exposure to PFAS without risk of health impacts, but now it will require that public water utilities test for six different types of PFAS chemicals to reduce exposure in drinking water. According to the EPA, the new standards will reduce PFAS exposure for 100 million people and prevent thousands of deaths and illnesses.

EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan said in a statement, "Drinking water contaminated with PFAS has plagued communities across this country for too long."

However, the American Farm Bureau Federation says the new rule unfairly targets rural America.

"Rural America shares the goal of ensuring the water we use to raise our families and grow our crops is healthy. Unfortunately, EPA's National Primary Drinking Water Regulation will disproportionately impact small communities, which lack the resources of large metropolitan systems,

but will still be on the hook to pay the exorbitant costs of treating their water for PFAS chemicals.

The EPA says it expects 6 percent to 10 percent of the 66,000 public drinking water systems in the U.S. may have to reduce PFAS from their water systems to meet the new standard. Nearly \$1 billion in newly available funding through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law helps states and territories implement PFAS testing and treatment at public water systems and helps owners of private wells address PFAS contamination. However, the EPA has also noted that the cost

of treating water will be around \$1.5 billion.

"While we acknowledge the effort EPA has made in providing flexibility and support to small and rural systems, more needs to be done to lessen the burden of this rule-making," wrote Duvall. "We all want clean drinking water, but there are households that will not be able to afford this."

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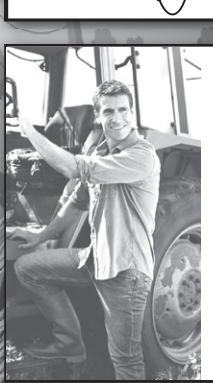


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About to blow

Dear Annie: I've been married for 26 years. I have a 24-year-old son at home on the autism spectrum, and his 4-year-old daughter, of whom he has full custody. They get by with my help, and money, of course.

I have always been a very loving and supportive husband. I cook, clean, do laundry and whatever else needs to be done. I'm getting older now and developing arthritis. For a while, I would push through the pain to pamper my wife. Now, when we sit down, she throws her leg on me and says, "Rub my feet." I didn't mind when she appreciated it, but now that she expects it, this ruins it for me. If I say no, she gets upset.

When I try to talk to her about it, she turns it back on me and says that I shouldn't blame her for my problems. She said that since I've been doing it so long, she just expects it. This is not very comforting. She said, "Why don't you have some alone time and do something that makes you happy?"

For 26 years, I've never had alone time. I go to work, and then go home to my family. If I tell my wife I want to go somewhere by myself, she assumes I'm going to meet another woman. Plus, after 26 years of only thinking about my family, I have no clue what makes me happy. I just know I'm not. — Resentment

Dear Resentment: No one likes to feel unappreciated. Your wife ordering you to rub her feet sounds like she is acting more like a tyrant than a considerate, loving partner. Then again, you have allowed this reign of terror for quite some time.

Instead of brewing like a little teakettle that is going to blow, just tell her exactly how you feel. It is understandable that her lack of appreciation has made you not want to do nice things for her, but you have to tell her that. Couples therapy could help ease this conversation, so that pent-up resentments could be dealt with calmly.

Dear Annie: I read with interest the letter from the 63-year-old mother whose children felt she was wasting her money by going back to school and finishing her degree. I dropped out of college to

put my husband through school when his father became ill and could not help him financially anymore.

After four children, two of whom got college degrees, I decided to go back to college and finish my degree. I chose to major in accounting.

I graduated cum laude at the age of 56. It took me seven months to get the job of my dreams, but after eight years of working, my husband and I were able to pay everything off, accumulate a great nest egg, and now we can travel wherever we want. Better yet, our children don't have to worry about taking care of us if things were to get bad.

Our children would not have dared to tell me I was making a mistake, even though my husband had a nice pension in addition to Social Security. I don't know what this woman's situation is, but she is making a great choice to go for what she wants. I hope she finishes what she started. — Happy I Went Back to College

Dear Happy I Went Back: Thank you for sharing your letter. You set a wonderful example that it is never too late to fulfill your dreams and that taking risks can pay off. Congrats again. In addition to the financial security that you have achieved, you have the knowledge that you acquired by going back to school.

I am reminded of a family saying: "You can lose your money, your looks and your youth, but no one can take away your education."

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

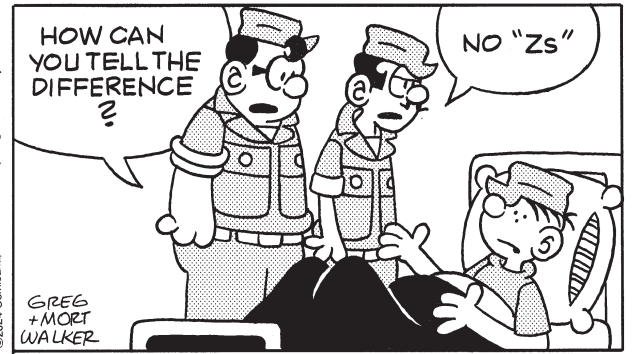
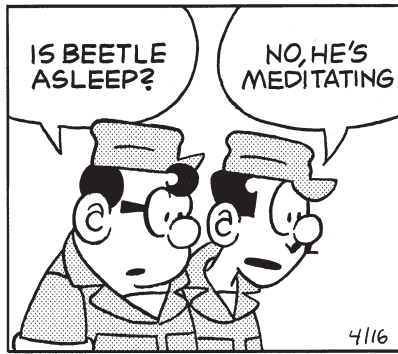
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Dear Annie

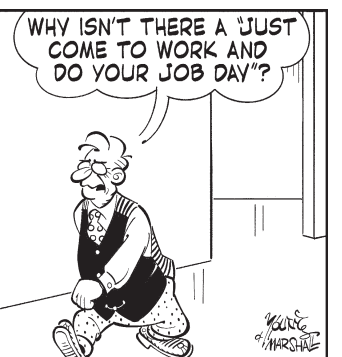
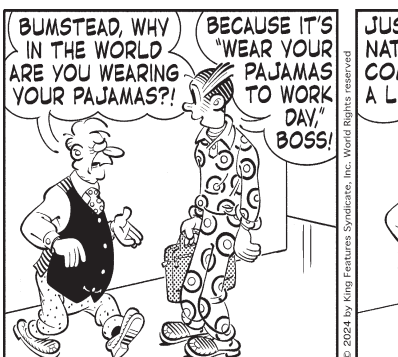
by Annie Lane



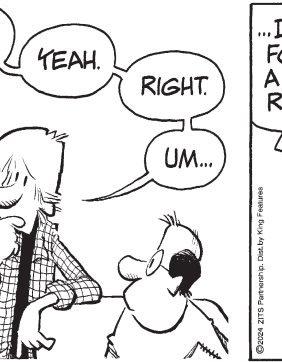
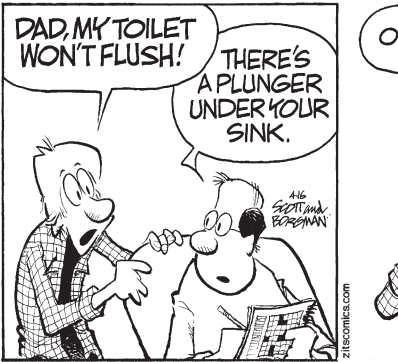
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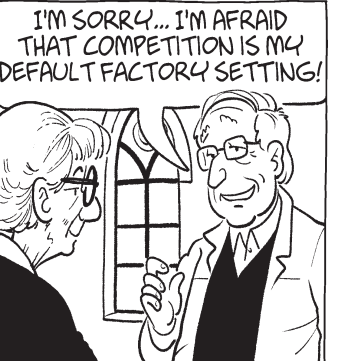
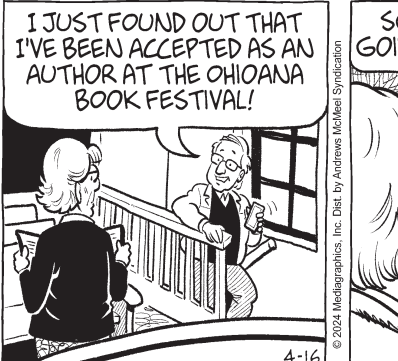
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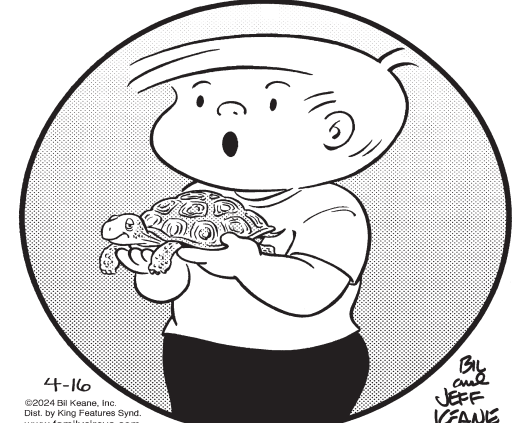


CRANKSHAFT



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



The LOCKHORNS



My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



Seek God with an open heart and mind

Question: Some friends of mine don't understand my personal relationship with the Lord. We share much in common, but not when it comes to God. They pride themselves in diversity and fail to recognize their own prejudice against God. Is it wrong to tell them He is seeking them? — P.M.

Answer: By nature people seek to find independence from God; they do not have a sense of purpose in life, so they wander, and often they find themselves trying to satisfy their desires through travel, entertainment, and other sources.

But there are some who come to their senses and

realize that there must be something more to life than material things. They are searching for a deeper spiritual reality. Sadly, their search can take them down paths that will not lead them to the living God.

When we encounter such people, we should urge them to put aside whatever prejudices they may have against Jesus and encourage them to seek Him with an open heart and mind. God hasn't left us in the dark; He has revealed Himself through His Word and His Son, Jesus Christ. We should tell people the whole truth: God took upon Himself human flesh and became a man — a fact that should stagger our imagination. If we want to know what

God is like, we only need to look at Jesus, for He was God in human flesh. "For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10).

The Lord is pleased when He sees His people testifying of His salvation. He is holy, righteous, and loving, and He will never lead a seeker down the wrong path. We are greatly privileged that the Lord puts us in the pathways of those who need to know Him as their Savior.

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

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Table with columns for date, time, and program listings for various channels (WIMM, CBS, WANE, etc.)

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

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

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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.

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Miscellaneous

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Line Classified Ad Deadlines:
Monday editions: Friday by 4 p.m.
Tuesday-Friday editions: day-before by 4 p.m.
Saturdays: Friday by noon

Lottery Numbers

Monday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY Cash 5 — 02-18-28-31-40
Cash4Life — 29-32-35-43-44, Cash Ball: 02
Quick Draw Midday — 07-10-11-12-15-21-22-25-26-28-29-41-47-49-51-55-59-61-65-67, BE: 10
Daily Three-Midday — 06-06-00, SB: 06
Daily Three-Evening — 02-03-09, SB: 09
Daily Four-Midday — 06-06-06-03, SB: 06
Daily Four-Evening — 02-07-06-09, SB: 09
Quick Draw Evening — 01-08-10-15-18-20-23-35-37-47-48-49-50-58-61-62-65-70-76, BE: 22
Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$9.7 million
MEGA MILLIONS Estimated jackpot (for Tuesday): \$148 million
POWERBALL 07-16-41-56-61 Powerball: 23; Power Play: 3X

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Public Sale Calendar

BIDDING STARTS CLOSING APRIL 16 STARTING AT 6 PM EST - Howard Williams, owner. Real estate 6 p.m.: 915 sq. feet, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 2 car detached garage, sitting on .15 acre city lot, Adams Central Community School, Monroe Township, Adams County, Indiana. Personal property 6:30 p.m.: 2007 Ford Five Hundred, tools, hand tools, appliances, furniture, lawn/garden, household items, collectibles & much more! Pick up April 17, 2-6 p.m., 113 W. Washington St., Monroe. **Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC**, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.

BIDDING ENDS APRIL 19 - (Online Only Auction) - The Estate of Dr. Hugh and Rhea Glidewell, seller. Huge jewelry and coin auction. Seven Rolex watches, fine diamond rings, necklaces, earrings, 14ct, 18ct and 22ct gold jewelry, sterling silver jewelry, 350+ Invicta luxury watches, coin collection. **The Steffen Group Inc.**, 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.com.

APRIL 20 - 10 a.m. - (Live Auction) - Marc and Valerie Hamman, seller. 6530 S. 300 E., Hamilton, IN. Three lots adjacent to Hamilton Lake with 2 car 26'x28' garage. This is the perfect property to build a new home, extra storage and parking. **The Steffen Group Inc.**, www.steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

BIDDING ENDS APRIL 20 - (Online Only Auction) - The Estate of Dr. Hugh and Rhea Glidewell, seller. Major personal property auction. 2008 Mercedes sedan, large quantity of high-end camera equipment, professional telescope, new high end his and her golf clubs and accessories, huge qty. of power and hand tools, modern furniture, sterling silver flatware set, Smith and Wesson revolver, jewelers safes, much more. **The Steffen Group Inc.**, www.steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

APRIL 20-APRIL 27 - (Online Only Auction) - By order of the secured creditor, seller. Over 400+ designer wedding and bridesmaid dresses, designed by Christina Wu, Morilee, Allure Bridal, Maddison James, Maggie Sottero, and more, all size and styles. Preview: April 17 and April 24 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 215 E. Market St., Bluffton, IN. **The Steffen Group Inc.**, 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.com.

APRIL 22 - 6 p.m. - Kevin Reinhard, seller. Wells County 4-H Park, 1240 4-H Park Rd., Bluffton. Property: From Bluffton travel 3 miles southwest on Hoosier Highway. Online bidding available. 75+/-A offered in 5 tracts or any combination, Wells County, Harrison Township. Buyer will have 2024 farming rights. Productive farmland in great location (southwest of Bluffton). Development potential. Truck farm opportunity. Inspection: April 16, 4-6 p.m. Auction manager Al Pfister, 260-760-8922, **Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc.**, 800-451-2709, schraderauction.com.

BIDDING STARTS END-
NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION
Notice is hereby given that Parkway Industrial Enterprises, LLC f/k/a Rethceif Enterprises, LLC, was on the 11th day of April 2024, dissolved by the Indiana Secretary of State.
All persons who have claims against this Company, whether or not now due, must send those claims to:
Timothy L. Fiechter
6002 East George Street
Syracuse, Indiana 46567
With a copy to:
Anthony O. Crowell, Esq.
Attorney for Parkway Industrial Enterprises, LLC
f/k/a Rethceif Enterprises, LLC
Attorney No. 4255-49
Gordon & Associates Professional Corporation
119 East Oak Forest Drive
Bluffton, IN 46714
All claims against the Company will be barred unless a proceeding to enforce the claim is commenced not later than two (2) years from the date of the publication of this Notice.
Requested by:
Anthony O. Crowell, Esq.
Attorney for Parkway Industrial Enterprises, LLC
f/k/a Rethceif Enterprises, LLC
Attorney No. 4255-49
Gordon & Associates Professional Corporation
119 East Oak Forest Drive
Bluffton, IN 46714
(260) 824-9377

ING APRIL 28 - 6 p.m. EST - Phil Vorhees, owner. 2005 Homiers Farm Pro 2425 4x4 tractor w/loader & backhoe, Massey Harris 44 Special tractor, 1995 Coachman Catalina 5th wheel camper, several 3 pt attachments, Husqvarna Z248f zero turn mower, yard & garden, hand tools, power tools, muzzleloader pistols .41 cal, household, glassware, furniture, Crane bedroom suite, WWII video reels, 1960 Roy Smeck steel guitar Gold Edition, more! Preview April 25, 3-5 p.m., 2414 W 1100 S, Geneva. Pick up April 29, 2-6 p.m. **Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC**, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.

APRIL 28-MAY 5 - (Online Only Auction) - Various consignors, sellers. Over 4,000+ older and newer comic books, sports trading cards, vintage toys including Cabbage Patch dolls, vintage toys, 45 records, much more. Preview: April 30 and May 2 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 118 E. Craig St., Ossian. Rod Fetters, sale manager, **The Steffen Group, Inc.**, www.steffengrp.com 260-824-3006.

Public Notices

STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF WELLS IN THE WELLS COUNTY COURT
Case Number: 90C01-2404-MI-000012
IN RE THE CHANGE OF NAME OF:
Angela Jane Guzman
Petitioner

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Notice is given that I have filed a Petition for a Change of Name in the Wells County Court and that said petition will be heard by the Court on JUNE 18, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. Any person has the right to appear at the hearing and file an objection.
Beth Davis
Clerk
nb 4/16, 4/23, 4/30
hspaxlp

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

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