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TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2024 | BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection | \$1.00

Love, time and patience: CASAs advocate for children in Wells County

By SYDNEY KENT

"This program would not happen without the volunteers," Ginny Vogel said with a hand firmly over her heart. "They give so much love, time, and patience. They give so much of themselves for the kids they work with — it is really about their passion for youth in our county that this program is up and running."

Vogel, the director of Wells County CASA, is referencing the volunteers who make up the program. A 'CASA' is a Court Appointed Special Advocate.

In chapters of CASA across the country, volunteers go through specific training before being sworn into the court. CASAs are then assigned to "Child in Need of Services" — or CHINS, for short — cases going through the court system. A child

may fall into this category after a report of neglect or abuse.

CASAs learn more about the child and who is involved in the child's life, engage with people in the case, and make recommendations from this information. A CASA is there to communicate with the court what the child wants, as well as what they believe to be in the best interest of that child.

Vogel's passion for serving children was a critical component of bringing the program to the county. She said that Judge Kenton Kiracofe shared a similar passion. The two worked together to bring the dream to fruition.

The Wells County CASA program became nationally certified in August 2020. The first five volunteers, along with Vogel, were sworn in four months later. Vogel was



Several of the 19 Wells County CASA volunteers pose with Vogel and the Wells Circuit Court Judge during the event to honor Vogel as volunteer of the year in November. Pictured from left to right are Lynne Niermeyer, Eric Blessing, Pam Blessing, Judge Kenton Kiracofe, Ginny Vogel, and Sherry Barnes. (Photo by Sydney Kent)

recognized for her outstanding efforts in November when she was named Volunteer of the Year.

Care And Special Attention

Lynne Niermeyer, a retired educator of over 34 years, said she first learned about the program during a conversation with

(Continued on Page 2)



Students of the Creative Arts Dance Company took a curtain call at the completion of their showcase performance Saturday afternoon at the Auditorium at 428 S. Oak St. (Photos by Barbara Barbieri)

Creative Arts Council holds annual Spring Showcase

By BARBARA BARBIERI

Students who take instruction in all levels of ballet, creative movement and tap dancing presented a Spring Showcase of their talents this past weekend at the Auditorium, 428 S. Oak St. in Bluffton.

Students from the modern dance classes included Izzi Curlless, Sophia Meeks, Ella Wheeler, Sephora Alfreus, Rayne Smith, Avery King and Camille Surbaugh.

Tap dancers included Jonah Bultemeier, Alexander Fuhrmann, Annabelle Fuhrmann, Ellie Surbaugh and Jude Wirgau while from the Foundations of Dance class the dancers were Jesse Bangs, Lia Kay Bangs and Maya Cerna.

The ballet students presented "Sleeping Beauty" and the cast included: Garland Waltz: Naomi Dailey, Madison Grover, Rayne Smith, Violetta Tarasova, Emma Wirgau, Sarah McFarren, Alexander Fuhrmann, Livia Daugherty, Jordyn Towne, Gianna Wirgau and Jonah Bultemeier.

Carabosse: Izzi Curlless; Queen: Emily Maggard; Fairies: Madison Grover, Violetta Taraova, Emma Wirgau, Naomi Dailey, Rayne Smith and Sophia Meeks.

White Sprites included Lexlie Anderson, Makayla Christman, Annabelle Fuhmann, Avery King, Clara Kipfer and Junia Kay Schnaars while Carabosse; Sprites were Katherine Wisenbaker, Elayna Marcuccilli and Delcie Roop.

Aurora was danced by Ella Wheeler and Prince Charming was portrayed by Grace Meeks. Blue birds included Lexie Anderson, Makayla Christman, Annabelle Fuhmann, Avery King, Clara Kipfer and Junia Kay



Creative Arts Executive Director and ballet instructor Janiece Lipsey, at left, honors Ella Wheeler as the only graduating senior from the Ballet School this year after taking lessons for 15 years.

Schnaars. The White Cat was Jordyn Towne and Puss in Boots was Jonah Bultemeier. Others included Sarah McFarren as Little Red Riding Hood, Alexander Fuhrmann as the Wolf, Livia Daugherty as Jack and Gianna Wirgau as Jill.

Instructors for the students were Davina Schnaars, Jeni Meeks, Kelly McCormick Bangs and Janiece Lipsey.

Sponsors for the showcase included: Emshwiller & Emshwiller, Erin Daugherty State Farm, W & W Anesthesia Associates, Family Ford of Bluffton, Daniel's Jewelers Inc. and AdamsWells Internet.

barb@news-banner.com

IU protests, police action draw criticism, defense

Governor tells students to 'play by the rules'

By MARISSA MEADOR AND NIKI KELLY
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Tension between police and student protesters enveloped Indiana University's Bloomington campus in recent days as arrests mounted along with distrust in IU leadership after a change to long-standing policy the day before the initial protest.

Gov. Eric Holcomb defended police action, in which Indiana State Police have taken a lead role, while Democrats in the legislature called out the administration for trampling on free speech rights.

"We are concerned for the safety of students, faculty and staff and for their ongoing rights to free speech. Students should be able to voice their views on campus in non-violent ways without fear of retribution. The First Amendment is one of the founding blocks to a successful democracy and this infringement on demonstration, in our opinion, is a violation of both state and federal constitutional rights," said a statement from the Indiana Senate Democratic Caucus.

"What we are seeing on the news and hearing from firsthand accounts gives us great concern that First Amendment Rights and even personal safety could be at risk on the Indiana University Campus. While we understand this is a fluid situation we still worry about the sheer amount of police in riot gear, including snipers, called in to manage what has been reported as a peaceful protest."

Police snipers were spotted on top of IU buildings at various times over the last four days.

The protesters disagree with continued bombing of Palestinian people across the Gaza strip and called for IU to sever financial ties with Israel. Counter-protesters supporting Israel have also been present.

IU's actions have been highlighted in several national publications, including the New York Times and Washington Post.

'Play by the rules'

But Holcomb told reporters Friday that the state police "will of course continue to

(Continued on Page 2)

Ukrainian-born Spartz votes against aid for homeland

By ISABELLA VOLMERT
Associated Press

SHERIDAN, Ind. (AP) — U.S. Rep. Victoria Spartz, the first and only Ukrainian-born member of Congress, emerged early on as a natural advocate for supporting her native country in its war with Russia. But when \$61 billion in additional support for the war effort came up for a vote in the House recently, she voted against it.

Instead she has called for better oversight of U.S. funds and opposed giving "blank checks" to the Ukrainian cause. She says U.S. border security should be a bigger priority.

That puts her more in line with conservative House Republicans and more notably with voters in her deeply conservative central Indiana congressional district. She's locked in a tough reelection fight in the May 7 GOP primary, made all the more complicated by her public announcement more than a year ago that she wouldn't seek another term, a decision she later reversed.

The aid package, part of a larger bill that also included assistance for Israel, Taiwan and other global hot spots, was approved by the House on April 20, the Senate on Tues-

day and signed into law by President Joe Biden on Wednesday.

Spartz said she is "kind of appalled" at the notion that her heritage should dictate support for the Ukrainian cause if she feels the money would be wasted.

"My responsibility is the protection of American people," she said during a recent interview.

Spartz spoke at an event hosted by the Hamilton County GOP at a community center in Sheridan, Indiana, a town of a few thousand people. The event in a hall just off of the town's main street was attended by eight of the nine GOP primary candidates, who were able to make their case to voters and county Republican officials one at a time during a meet-and-greet that also included short speeches by the candidates.

Mike Murphy, a former Indiana state representative and political commentator, said in a phone interview that funding for Ukraine isn't much of a priority for Republican voters these days. Concern about the southern border is a greater catalyst for participation, which isn't lost on candidates in the conservative district. Most of Spartz's

(Continued on Page 2)

Inside
Local/Area
Ossian Rotary 3
Police Notebook . . . 3

Opinion
George Will 4

Also...
Sports 6-7
Classifieds 9
Diversions 8

Outside

Sunny and warm today, cool and breezy tonight

Today	Wed.	Thursday
High 73	High 78	High 82
Low 51	Low 55	Low 62

More Weather on Page 2

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CASA advocates

(Continued from Page 1)

Vogel. Her decision to join was propelled by the timing of the conversation. Though Niermeyer was approaching retirement, she was still working as an educator. There was a young girl in her school district that Niermeyer felt could have used a voice which amplified Niermeyer's passion.

Niermeyer joined the second training group in the county, accepting her first case several months later. She has since been a CASA for six families, 11 children in total. Though a CASA may choose to hold one case at a time, Niermeyer currently has three cases.

"Ginny let us know that the next time a case comes up," Niermeyer paused. "That she would have to tell the judge we were at capacity. If there was a case, I wanted any children to be represented by a CASA. I told her I would take it if another one came up."

Niermeyer said that the role of a CASA is to advocate for the best interest of the child, however, that process often involves championing that child's parents.

"There was a mother that failed a drug screen after so many clean screens," Niermeyer recounted. "She was crying in the meeting — she was disappointed in herself. The case has to take a backward step for the safety of this child. Everyone at the table went around and took turns highlighting something positive about her."

Niermeyer said that being a CASA has given her a greater purpose in her life. The experience has allowed her to stay connected to serving children in retirement. She also said the social aspect has been helpful, as well.

Niermeyer has even begun writing a book about her experience as a CASA while taking special care to protect the information of those involved. She said that Vogel's support has been incredible during her volunteering experience.

Pam Blessing, a CASA in the same training group, wholeheartedly echoed this sentiment. Blessing is a retired Medical Technologist who concluded her career at Bluffton Regional Medical Center.

"Once you get involved, you realize the need that is there," Blessing said. "That is what inspires me now —

the kids that need the help. You might think that because you are in Bluffton, there's nothing very serious going on. But being from a small town does not preclude you from the uglier parts of things like child abuse."

Blessing also said that though multiple cases have started in Wells County, the children in them have had to move to Jay County or Muncie to find an available foster home. She continues to visit the children in their respective placements.

"You want to be the one to make a difference," Blessing said. "Once it is over you're not able to reach out to them. They can reach out to you, but you don't always know how it all turns out after time has passed."

Niermeyer expressed a similar sentiment. She said she received an unexpected text that gave her joy and peace long after a case had closed. The text was from the child's mother. It read, "365 Days SOBER!"

"Take the training," Blessing said to anyone considering becoming a CASA who may be uncertain. "Baby step your way into it. Someone more seasoned will help you along. Everyone has the same nerves and jitters when you write that first court report. Ginny is there every step of the way. You'll figure this out."

More men are needed

Vogel emphasized the need for more male CASA volunteers in the courtroom. She said that over half of the children in CHINS cases are male.

"While us women do a fine job in working with these boys and young men," Vogel said. "I feel like having a male role model in their lives is something they need and could learn from. I think that they also bring a different perspective to our group."

Jeff Kohrman, a grandfather of 23 and a Wells County CASA, agreed with Vogel's assessment.

"Last week, I was at a court hearing," Kohrman recounted. "It was me, the judge and about 15 ladies. That shows the disparity of the mix. There is a definite need for men to be involved in the CASA program. It is not a sacrifice or another obligation. It is fulfilling to make a big difference in the life of a little one."

Kohrman said the most rewarding

aspect has been witnessing a positive outcome to a case, whether that be reunification, adoption, or permanency with a foster family.

"It's knowing these children are in a safe place," Kohrman continued. "They are being nurtured (and) they are being loved and cared about. When you interact with them — they are innocence personified. It is our responsibility as adults to help take care of that part of our world that needs help and is defenseless in some ways. Children to me are such a vital part of our society. I love my grandkids and I thought — this is something I can help someone else's child with. That's why I do it."

Where CASA began

It was the plight of a voiceless three-year-old girl who sustained injuries — believed to be from child abuse — that ultimately gave birth to the CASA movement. As the late Seattle Juvenile Judge David W. Soukup looked around the courtroom, he did not see anyone there to represent her. The decision to permanently alter the trajectory of her life, without enough information, weighed heavily on him.

"There is no one else in that courtroom whose only function in that case is to provide a recommendation based on the child's needs," Soukup said in a video on the organization's website. "Everyone else has a role. No one else can do that but a volunteer CASA or a guardian ad litem."

Soukup also became a CASA after he retired, noting that it was one of the most rewarding experiences of his life.

Wells County CASAs have the option to meet weekly, as well as at a regular monthly luncheon. During that time, Vogel said the group can share experiences, ask for advice, and talk about things like compassion fatigue. During this time, CASAs also learn from a keynote speaker. The monthly meetings count towards the 12 hours of training that are required annually for a CASA.

Anyone with an interest in becoming a CASA volunteer or learning more information about the program should contact Director Ginny Vogel at 260-273-9877 or by email at ginnyvogel24@gmail.com.

sydney@news-banner.com

Weather

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

(24-hour observations at 10:11 p.m. Monday)
High: 75; Low: 63; Precipitation: 1.53 inches rain
Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 3.51 feet at 8:45 p.m. Monday

Wells County forecast

Today: Mostly sunny, with a high near 73. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 51. Northwest wind around 5 mph becoming south after midnight.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 78. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 55. West wind around 5 mph becoming east after midnight.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 82.

Thursday Night: A 20% chance of showers after 2 a.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 62.

Friday: A chance of showers, with thunderstorms also possible after 2 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 76. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

Spartz

(Continued from Page 1)

opponents for the 5th district seat have said protecting the U.S.-Mexico border should be a bigger priority than sending money to Ukraine.

Border security has been hammered in the campaign by state Rep. Chuck Goodrich, the most well-funded of Spartz's eight challengers. He has attacked Spartz on her original support to Ukraine, saying she puts "Ukraine first."

Goodrich, who attended the Sheridan event, acknowledged that Indiana is far from Mexico but said illegal drugs such as fentanyl enter the U.S. through the southern border and pose a threat deep in the heartland.

Spartz beat a crowded 2020 primary field, winning nearly 40% of the vote and receiving former President Donald Trump's general election endorsement. She ran unopposed in the 2022 primary.

Spartz made things harder for herself when she announced in early 2023 that she would not run again, citing fatigue with Washington politics and her desire to spend more time with her family. She also threatened to resign if the national debt was not addressed.

Campaign finance reports show Spartz trailing Goodrich in campaign funds, in part because Goodrich has put up \$2.6 million of his own money. Goodrich, who represents the wealthy Indianapolis suburb of Hamilton County in the state legislature, outspent Spartz by \$1.9 million in the first three months of 2024 and has loaned his campaign a total of \$4.6 million, according to reports.

Spartz entered the final weeks before the primary with \$134,000 of cash on hand compared to Goodrich's \$1.3 million.

IU protests draw criticism

(Continued from Page 1)

do their job. And that is to serve and protect all and make sure that protests can occur and the freedom to speak out for and against issues that may be emotional in nature. But there will be law and order."

"We can peacefully protest and you can express your emotionally charged opinion but you're not going to infringe on other people's rights. And you're not going to deter people from getting a good education," he said.

When asked where to draw the line on police involvement during a peaceful protest he said, "The locals establish those local rules ... So I would say play by the rules like everybody else has to or they will be administered and enforced."

It is those local rules that have drawn criticism. The day before the IU Divestment Coalition began their planned protest on April 25, IU updated a longstanding policy to forbid the use of structures like tents in Dunn Meadow without prior approval. They posted the new policy to their website the morning of April 25, writing that the original policy allowed them to create an ad hoc committee to make changes to policy.

The original policy, which was created in 1969 and allowed temporary structures in Dunn Meadow during the day without approval, recommended the provost create a committee with a member of the IU Student Association, the Bloomington Faculty Council and a member appointed by the provost to advise policy changes and review denials of permission for overnight structures. However, IU Student Government, previously called IUSA, said the provost did not ask faculty or students to join the committee.

In an email to faculty Thursday, IU President Pamela Whitten said the last-minute policy change was made to bal-

ance safety and free speech.

"Our university must create a space for meaningful dialogue, while ensuring that our campus is safe and welcoming to all, and that peaceful protest, as many experienced today, symbolizes our steadfastness to the free expression of ideas," Whitten wrote.

After several warnings from police to remove tents on Thursday, Indiana State Police arrived to disperse the crowd. As ISP troopers pushed against the protesters, dragging people out of tents and detaining them, a large crowd of nonparticipating students and faculty looked on from the surrounding sides of the meadow. Some looked shocked and horrified, while others cheered and clapped for the arrests.

Police ultimately arrested 33 people, most of them IU students or faculty, for charges ranging from criminal trespass to resisting arrest and battery, and loaded them onto IU campus buses to the Harry Gladstein Fieldhouse. After processing the protesters, they took them to the county jail, though almost all were released that day with future court dates. Many received notices from the IU Police Department banning them from IU property for a year for allegedly trespassing in Dunn Meadow.

On Friday, faculty led a protest in front of Bryan Hall, IU's administration building. Protesters stayed overnight in tents with no police intervention, but an additional 23 people were arrested Saturday afternoon. More bans were handed out, including a student who was banned from campus for five years. Nearly all students can appeal their bans, an IU spokesman said.

Protests continued on Sunday.

Faculty disapproves

Throughout the protests, several faculty and administrators condemned the university's actions. Executive dean of the College of Arts and Sci-

ences Rick Van Kooten wrote he had expressed "deep concern" to IU leadership while some leadership at the Luddy School of Informatics, Computing and Engineering offered support to students who had received a ban from campus. Faculty at the O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs overwhelmingly voted to recommend the immediate withdrawal of the new IU policy.


The overwhelming temperature on campus remains high and distrust in IU leadership seems to have sunk to an all-time low. Earlier this month, over 800 faculty voted they had no confidence in IU's president, provost and vice provost for faculty and academic affairs, citing a more than a semester of turmoil. Concerns about First Amendment violations given the last-minute policy change have been echoed by lawyers, including Josh Bleisch, an attorney for the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression.

"To us that really raises the specter of viewpoint discrimination in this case," he said.

He said banning students from campus raise concerns that the university may be engaging in prior restraint by creating fear that students' protests won't be considered protected speech. He said the last-minute change made it nearly impossible for students to ensure their protest abided by policy.

"Practically speaking, it seems like there was no way even if the students did want to comply with policy there's no way for them to get permission before their plan was set to go off," he said.

While the events of the past few days have rattled the campus, students have continued pre-graduation festivities, popping champagne, taking photos and crowding downtown bars. As of publication, the protesters and their tents remain in Dunn Meadow.



**WELLS COUNTY
COUNCIL ON AGING**

Senior Citizens Expo

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

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

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



**Public
Sale Calendar**

MAY 4 - 9 a.m. - Multiple consignors. 6632 N. 500 W., Decatur. Personal property: Vehicles, jewelry (gold, silver, costume), toys, collectables, furniture, household, antiques, tools, appliances. Preview May 3, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. *Wiegmann Auctioneers*, 260-447-4311, wiegmannauctioneers.com.

BIDDING ENDS 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.

BIDDING NOW OPEN & STARTS CLOSING MAY 5 - 6 p.m. - James Koons, owner. Online only personal property auction! 100+ lots that include general household items, glassware, furniture, Samsung washer, Basset bedroom suite, solid oak table, garden items, Stihl chainsaw, Yard Machine snow blower & much more! Pick up May 6, 2-6 p.m., 808 N. Jefferson St., Ossian. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.

MAY 9 & 10 - 9 a.m. - Secured creditors & various consignors, owners. Two day truck & equipment auction. Day 1 online bidding only: 100+ various skid loader attachments, tool boxes, workbenches, iron gates, chains & binders, 1 trip 40' high side shipping container w/side doors, dome shelter containers, various truck take off parts, plumbing, electrical and mechanical surplus including urinals, toilets, electrical components, more! Day 2 onsite and online bidding offering 700+ lots! 100+/- municipal units! Cars, SUV, 1/2 ton & 3/4 ton pickups, cargo & passenger vans, large group of Chevy Impalas, Tahoes & Dodge Chargers, Harley-Davidson motorcycles, dump trucks, 2012-2014 Freightliner M2106 box trucks, day cabs, sleepers, utility trucks, bucket trucks, utility & semi trailers, SUV's, pickups, 100+ various skid steer attachments, more! *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.

MAY 12-MAY 19 - (Online Only Auction) - Phyllis Montgomery, Seller. Major auction of fine antiques and collectables. "An Auction of the Year." Extensive cast iron skillet collection, early candy scales, primitives, salesman samples, early rare gum dispenser, De Laval signs, beer signs, firearms, butter churns, large Westmorland glass collection, much more. Preview: May 9 and 16 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 1556 Shadow Run Trail, Bluffton. *Steffen Group*, www.steffengrp.com, 824-3006, Pat Carter, sale manager.

MAY 19 - 4 p.m. - Multiple consignors, owners. Online only consignment auction. 1,000+ lots! Furniture, oak kitchen table, large assortment of household items, tools, 100+ lots of collectible glass including Fostoria, Fenton, Candlewick, Pyrex and much more! Preview May 16, 3-5 p.m., 812 Elm Street, Decatur. Pick up May 20, 1-6 p.m. & May 21, 9 a.m.-noon. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.

MAY 21 - 6 p.m. EST - Patricia Mossburg & Joyce Shady, owners. Wells County 4H Park, 1240 4-H Road, Bluffton. Property location: 100S & 200W, Bluffton. 90+/-A, tillable & wooded land, Zoned Agricultural, Liberty Township, Wells County. To be sold in individual tracts or any combination. Tract 1: 54+/-A tillable, frontage on CR 100S. Tract 2: 12+/-A, 8+/-A tillable, 4+/-A woods, frontage on 100S & 200W. Tract 3: 24+/-A, mostly woods, 6+/-A tillable, frontage on CR 200W. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.

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Crews of volunteers work to make needed repairs at the Ossian ball diamonds. (Photo submitted)

Ossian baseball diamonds receive improvements

By SYDNEY KENT

The Norwell Junior Baseball League is kicking off the baseball season with growth both on and off the field.

According to a press release from the league, coaches, board members and friends worked together to make improvements to the Ossian ball diamonds earlier this month. Of these, new stone in driveways and spectator areas, new roofs on T-Ball dugouts and preparation for a new storage shed and concession stand were highlighted.

192 players across all age groups participated last year. That number was hit out of the park in what the league is calling an “astounding increase in participation” with 338 players joining the league this season.

The league also extended gratitude to

local organizations Stone Street Inc, Hulvey Trucking, Krumma-Sorg Excavating and Lowes for their donations and services. The release states that the league is offering local businesses and families a space to display their name or logo on the new storage shed in exchange for a \$500 donation.

The Ossian Minor League and Northern Wells Junior Baseball League combined forces two years ago. The league said that rebranding as the Norwell Junior Baseball League reflects their commitment to unity and community cohesion.

For more information, please contact Amanda Huffman at 260-450-0912 or Jared Kurtz at 260-705-0342, or at norwelljuniorbaseballleague@gmail.com.

sydney@news-banner.com



Above, Steve Ehrsam and Robert Wassil from Bi-County Services surprised representatives of “Feeding Tomorrow’s Future Today” with a \$2,500 donation on Friday. From left: Wells County Extension Agent Bill Horan, BCS consumers Ehrsam and Wassil, 4-H Association representative Allie Alma, Backpack Program volunteer Morgan Estrada, and BCS Direct Support Professional Chris Thacker. At right, Ehrsam and Wassil surprised the Friends of Ouabache State Park with a \$2,500 donation on Friday. From left: Ouabache State Park Property Manager Jon Winne, Ehrsam, Wassil, BCS Direct Support Professional Chris Thacker and Ouabache State Park Office Manager Joni Cincotta. (Photos submitted)



Bi-County Services Self-Advocates donate \$5,000 to local nonprofits

In celebration of National Pay It Forward Day, the Bi-County Services Self-Advocates donated \$5,000 to two of their favorite local nonprofits Friday morning, thanks to the generous support of the AWS Foundation.

Steve Ehrsam, Robert Wassil and Matt Garber proudly presented \$2,500 checks to Feeding Tomorrow’s Future Today as well as the Friends of Ouabache State Park.

BCS consumers selected the two groups from a list of several organizations they volunteer with, have benefited from, and who make a positive impact in Wells County.

The “Backpack Program,” as it’s known locally for sending bags of food home on the weekends with local at-risk schoolkids, holds a special place in consumers’ hearts. They help pack as well as deliver the food.

BCS consumers also benefit greatly from being able to enjoy nature at Ouabache State Park. Several consumers volunteered to help care for trails at the park last fall, while others regularly attend the park’s monthly Lunch and Learn Program.

Park Property Manager Jon Winne said he knew “there was a donation coming this morning, but that was considerably more than I was expecting.” He told the three men that their donation will buy “enough hay to feed the bison all next winter.”

“Bi-County Services has so often benefitted from the generosity of others,” said Patti Hays, AWS Foundation CEO. “The idea of celebrating Pay it Forward Day in this way is to allow

those with disabilities to experience the joy and internal satisfaction that comes from giving to others.”

Pay it Forward Day was started in 2007 to show that a small act of kindness can make a big impact. AWS Foundation asked Self-Advocates to select nonprofits in their communities that have made an impact on their lives to make a donation.

Founded in 2007, AWS Foundation supports a wide range of organizations and



BCS consumer Steve Ehrsam jokes around with Ouabache State Park Property Manager Jon Winne, who was thrilled to receive a \$2,500 donation from BCS on Friday, April 26. He said the donation will buy enough hay to feed the bison all next winter.

service agencies in northeast Indiana, working to develop a community in which people with enduring intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities are engaged fully and meaningfully in all aspects of community life. For more information, visit awsfoundation.org.

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City:
 Friday, 5:15 p.m., S.R. 1 and I-469. Property damage accident.
 Friday, 5:43 p.m., residence in the 900 block of West Market Street. Caller accidentally swiped neighbor’s vehicle.
 Friday, 11:13 p.m., Main and Spring streets. Traffic stop. One taken into custody.
 Saturday, 9:34 a.m., Garden Lane. Property damage accident.
 Saturday, 10 a.m., 700 block of Clark Avenue. Report of an aggressive dog.
 Saturday, 6:06 p.m., 700 block of South Morgan Street. Woman reported someone had pointed a gun at her. Report to follow.
 Saturday, 8:46 p.m., 1303 S Main St. Protective order violation.
 Saturday, 9:23 p.m., Wings, Etc. Citation issued for 47 in a 30 mph zone.
 Sunday, 12:55 a.m., 427 W South St. Neighbor reported hearing someone in an apartment after the tenant had passed away and apartment should be empty. Apartment cleared and no one was found.
 Sunday, 1:10 a.m., residence in the 700 block of Cedar Road. Noise complaint. Officer advised the resident to turn the TV down.
 Sunday, 3:35 a.m., residence in the 200 block of 200 East South Street. Noise complaint. Residents advised they would keep the party down.
 Sunday, 10:34 a.m., Main and Wabash streets. Citation issued for disregarding a traffic control device.
 Sunday, 1:26 p.m., 500 block of Beth Avenue. Loose dog. The owners’ children were attempting to catch the dog at large.
 Sunday, 1:34 p.m., residence in the 600 block of West Cherry Street. Noise complaint. No noise found.
 Sunday, 2:02 p.m., Main and Horton streets. Citation issued for stop sign violation.
 Sunday, 3:50 p.m., 400 block of South

Morgan Street. Complaint of juveniles riding small motorcycles. Children had supervision.
 Sunday, 4:48 p.m., Valley Park Apartments. Complaint of marijuana odor. Not found.
 Sunday, 5:14 p.m., 1009 North Main Street. Traffic stop. Intoxicated driver.
 Sunday, 6:19 p.m., residence in the 500 block of West Market Street. Caller reported someone was threatening to hurt them.
 Sunday, 7:42 p.m., First Church of the Nazarene. Juvenile issue.
 Sunday, 9:09 p.m., residence in 700 block of West Silver Street. Caller reported an unwanted party on property. Individual claimed he lived at the property. Officer advised the parties to work out the issue.
 Sunday, 9:27 p.m., Scott and South streets. Empty sign post removed from roadway.
 Sunday, 10:36 p.m., Wiley Avenue and Williams Street. Report of three individuals threatening one another, talking about brass knuckles, a gun, and theft. Unable to locate.
 Sunday, 11:26 p.m., S.R. 1 and 400 N. Citation issued for 74 in a 55 mph zone.
 Monday, 9:25 a.m., WEG. Report of an individual with a gun.
 Monday, 9:54 a.m., residence in 500 block of East Silver Street. Weed/grass violation.
 Monday, 10:59 a.m., Bluffton-Harrison Middle School. Report of a stolen electric scooter.
 Monday, 11:51 a.m., Walmart. Hit and run accident.
 Monday, 12:04 p.m., residence in 1100 block of South Oak Street. Report of battery.
 Monday, 12:09 p.m., 200 block of West South Street. Grass violation.

FIRES
 Saturday, 12:20 a.m., 6269 S 100E, Pone-to. Wires down.
 Saturday, 12:32 a.m., 606 W Cherry Street, Bluffton. Tree fell on house.
 Monday, 7:41 a.m., River Terrace Estates. Alarm. Maintenance issue.

Ossian Rotary to hear from Tamra Boucher, commissioner candidate

At its regular weekly meeting Thursday, May 2, Ossian Rotary will host Tamra Boucher, candidate for Wells County Commissioner. For more than 20 years, she has served the community through both government roles like the Markle Town Council, Markle Area Plan Commission, and the Board of Zoning Appeals, as well as volunteer leadership roles including the boards of United Way of Wells County, The Wells County Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development, Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership and the Wells County Leadership Academy.

At its regular weekly meeting Thursday, May 2, Ossian Rotary will host Tamra Boucher, candidate for Wells County Commissioner. For more than 20 years, she has served the community through both government roles like the Markle Town Council, Markle Area Plan Commission, and the Board of Zoning Appeals, as well as volunteer leadership roles including the boards of United Way of Wells County, The Wells County Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development, Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership and the Wells County Leadership Academy.



Tamara Boucher

Boucher states, “These leadership experiences have given me a perspective to understand collaboration and how to represent the community as a County Commissioner. I entered this race because I believe our government works best when the people have choices and when the focus of the elected servant is the people, not personal opinions and desires. I have led through challenging times and situations, bringing together people with differing points of view to work toward solutions that benefit our community.”

Markle Town Council, we had a challenging situation that required me as the Council President to coordinate with all four of the Townships, that include parts of the Town — two in Wells County and two in Huntington County. While serving on non-profit boards, I have navigated complex situations that required leadership beyond what is usually expected of board members.”

Boucher continues, “I believe it is imperative that leaders approach situations and people with civility and respect. As an elected official, my position is and always has been to listen to the will of the people. Sometimes that requires proactively seeking it rather than waiting for the people to express it. Communication and a willingness to listen prevents differing opinions from escalating to division.”

She concludes, “I have a heart for service and look forward to meeting with the members of the Ossian Rotary Club to learn more about what is important to them. And I hope to have the opportunity to represent District 3 as County Commissioner.”

Anyone is welcome to attend Ossian Rotary this

Thursday morning, at 7:30 at First Baptist Church of Ossian, 1001 Dehner Drive for this program.

For more information, please contact Jeremy Penrod, Ossian Rotary President, at jeremy.penrod@edwardjones.com.

Please note that Ossian Rotary will cancel when Norwell Community Schools has a delay or cancellation due to weather.

Next Thursday, Ossian Rotary will host Vicki Winchester of Northern Indiana Funeral Care at its Thursday, May 9 meeting.

VISITATION & SERVICES

Mollie J. Wenger

Calling: 2 - 8 p.m.
 Tuesday, April 30.

Service: 10 a.m.,
 Wednesday, May 1 at St. Mark’s Church in Decatur.

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
 308 W. Washington St.
 824-3850
www.thomarich.com

VISITATION & SERVICES

Carol Sue Huffman

Calling: 4 - 8 p.m.
 Wednesday, May 1.

Service: 10:30 a.m.,
 Thursday, May 2 at the funeral home.

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Letters to the Editor

A case for solar on farmland

The topic of solar farms has caused a lot of vocalized opinions at meetings and there is certainly nothing wrong with that, but if you really want to know what the public thinks, look at where the consumer spends their money.

Years ago we saw signs in the county that read "NO MEGA DAIRIES" and "NO FACTORY FARMS." Today that's where we spend our money. Whether it's the Great Value label milk at Walmart (all from very large dairies) or the meat we purchase from Smithfield, Tyson, or Cooper Farms, it's all mega farms. There is no emotion wasted on small farms when a lower price is involved.

People complain about China having their hands in our markets, yet if you buy pork products, there is a good chance it was processed at Smithfield Foods, the largest pork processor in the U.S. and a Chinese-owned company.

Amazon and Walmart also sell a very high percentage of products made in China, and who doesn't shop there? Opinion polls don't always reflect what the people truly want. The consumer's pocketbook has always dictated change even when they said they didn't want it.

There is also concern that we are giving up too much of our farm ground to solar, yet no one has complained about the 40% of our corn crop that goes into their gas tanks in the form of ethanol, a very inefficient way to produce energy. The trend line yields in the last 30 years for both corn and soybeans have increased more than the U.S. population growth while Brazil has overtaken us in the export market. *We are not running out of food!*

Solar offers an opportunity for consumers, taxpayers, land owners, and the land itself. The consumer has a growing need for electricity while the methods of producing it are being limited. After the recent property tax mailings, it's obvious Wells County could use the increased investment that solar brings.

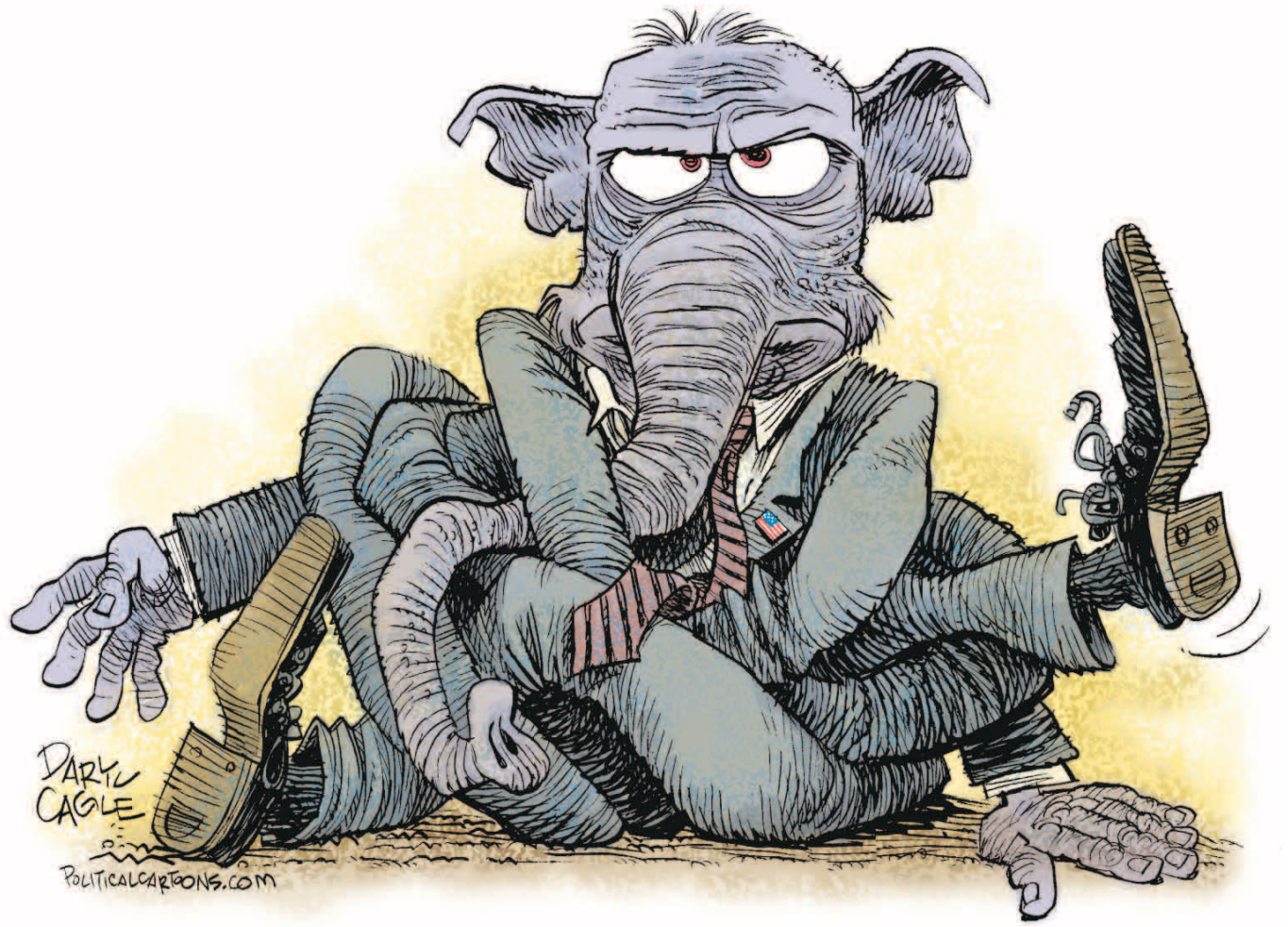
Land owners would benefit from the ability to use their land to produce a product in high demand, more so than corn or beans. And here is probably the most important aspect of this, the land benefits from being given a rest, much like the Conservation Reserve Program. It has a permanent cover crop, no fertilizer or chemicals, no heavy machinery, an uninhibited growth of soil microorganisms, earthworms and pollinator friendly insects, and above all no housing developments.

When the solar life is over it will once again produce that crops it is known for, but in better condition for our grandchildren than it is today.

When you take a position on a matter, that decision should be based on fact, not emotion. Referring to a useless barn in the middle of a bean field as "Special" is certainly not being dedicated to the facts.

The land owners rights and the pocketbooks of the consumer should not be ignored because of baseless emotion. BUILD SOLAR.

PAUL MILLS
Bluffton



Republicans are doomed if they don't get it together

Another week, another round of Republicans attacking each other.

This time it was over the Ukraine funding bill that was passed by the House and ultimately became part of the big military aid package for Ukraine, Israel and Taiwan that Congress passed this week.

The Republican controlled House, led by Speaker Mike Johnson, passed the Ukraine funding bill after what seemed like years of delays by a vote of 311-112.

All the "no" votes came from Republicans and Johnson had to rely on Democrats to get the bill over the finish line.

That, of course, raised new cries for Speaker Johnson's ouster from the suicidal wing of his own party.

Many House Republicans voted "no" on the military aid bill because they wanted Johnson to include money for Southern border security in the bill.

I get it. We need to take care of the Southern border. I live in California and see the consequences of Biden's immigration fiasco every day.

But attaching money for border security to the military aid bill would have been a poison pill that would have killed it immediately.

How do we know that? Because the HR 2 immigration bill that came out of the Republican House last year has never been voted on by the Democrat-controlled Senate — and never will be.

And the so-called bipartisan immigration bill that the Senate passed a few weeks ago will never get voted on in the House.

Attaching border security money to the foreign aid bill was always a dumb idea.

It would have meant Israel and Taiwan would not get the military help they need. And Ukraine would not get any more of the help it needs from us to defend itself — and which was promised years ago by two presidents.

The reality is, people, we are morally and militarily obligated to Ukraine.

Presidents Clinton and Obama each guaranteed Ukraine's leaders that if they gave up their stockpile of Soviet Empire-vintage nuclear weapons, which they did, the United States would protect and defend them.

That obligation to protect Ukraine is what we have been doing with money and weapons since Vladimir Putin started the war by sending in his tanks and artillery.

It doesn't matter how corrupt Ukraine's politicians are or whether Ukraine should or should not become a member of NATO. Two U.S. presidents guaranteed the country's safety and protection if they gave up their nukes and we should honor that guarantee.

So the political reality in Washington is that it is wrong to blame Johnson or the other House Republicans for doing what was needed to keep our promise to Ukraine.

Money for the Southern border was a totally separate issue that should never have been attached to the Ukraine military funding bill.

Speaker Johnson is a smart guy. He did it the right way by keeping Ukraine aid and the border security issue separate.

If we Republicans want to take care of the Southern border, then, damn it, I would suggest we elect a Republican president, a Republican Senate and a Republican House on Nov. 5, 2024.

That's the only way we will ever be able to fix the border and fix our hapless immigration system, which has remained broken for decades because both parties have been too weak, too afraid and too stupid to fix it.

If Republicans in Congress continue to fight with each other the way they have been since Biden was elected, the American people have every right to ask, "Why in the hell would I want to elect one of these people to lead when they are incapable of working together?"

It's very simple: If the Republican Party can't find a way to unite, it doesn't deserve to win anything in 2024.

And if Hakeem Jeffries becomes Speaker of the House in 2025, it won't be because the Democrats did such a damn good job in the election.

It'll be because the Republicans screwed up. Again.

Reagan@caglecartoons.com • X: @reaganworld



Michael Reagan

Special Notice: Letters to the Editor

We have recently become aware that the link on our website to submit your Letters has not been working properly. If you have submitted a letter in this manner and it has not been published, please resubmit it via email at <email@news-banner.com>.

Also note that we no longer have an active fax option. Letters may also be submitted via mail to PO Box 436, Bluffton IN 46714, or dropped off at 125 N. Johnson St., Bluffton. There is a 24-hour drop box at the front door. All letters must be signed and must include a phone number or address in case verification is desired. Letters are edited for brevity and clarity. Letters must be no more than 500 words. Please mark your correspondence as a "Letter to the Editor," or if you wish to express an opinion to us but do not want it published, please mark as "Not for Publication."

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, April 30, the 121st day of 2024. There are 245 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On April 30, 1975, the Vietnam War ended as the South Vietnamese capital of Saigon fell to Communist forces.

On this date:

In 1789, George Washington took the oath of office in New York as the first president of the United States.

In 1803, the United States purchased the Louisiana Territory from France for 60 million francs, the equivalent of about \$15 million.

In 1812, Louisiana became the 18th state of the Union.

In 1900, engineer John Luther "Casey" Jones of the Illinois Central Railroad died in a train wreck near Vaughan, Mississippi, after staying at the controls in a successful effort to save the passengers.

In 1945, as Soviet troops approached his Berlin bunker, Adolf Hitler took his own life, as did his wife of one day, Eva Braun.

In 1947, President Harry S. Truman signed a resolution officially confirming the name of Hoover Dam, which had also come to be known as "Boulder Dam."

In 1958, Britain's Life Peerages Act 1958 allowed women to become members of the House of Lords.

In 1970, President Richard Nixon announced the U.S. was sending troops into Cambodia, an action that sparked widespread protest.

In 1973, President Nixon announced the resignations of top aides H.R. Haldeman and John Ehrlichman, Attorney General Richard Kleindienst and White House counsel John Dean, who was actually fired.

So, 112 ignoble, infantile Republicans voted to endanger civilization

Stoking the passion that is their excuse for pandering — the nihilism of a febrile minority in their party — a majority of House Republicans voted April 20 to endanger civilization. Hoping to enhance their political security in their mostly safe seats, and for the infantile satisfaction of populist naughtiness (insulting a mostly fictitious "establishment"), they voted to assure Vladimir Putin's attempt to erase a European nation.

The Republican Party was founded as a noble rejection of the most consequential bad thing Congress has ever done: the 1854 Kansas-Nebraska Act, which authorized territories to vote slavery up or down, thereby valuing popular sovereignty more than liberty. On Saturday, the House voted 311-112 for \$61 billion for Ukraine, with 112 ignoble House Republicans voting to condemn Ukraine to death, starved of such military basics as artillery shells. How many of the 112 know or care that more than half the \$61 billion will fund restocking U.S. munitions inventories, as well as Ukraine's purchases of U.S. weapons?

President Biden has been blameworthy for what is rightly disparaged as the "drip feed" of weapons to Ukraine. It is fair to say of him what Theodore Roosevelt said of President William Howard Taft: He "means well feebly."

Last Tuesday's Senate ratification of Ukrainian aid provokes that Dwight Eisenhower's baton of Republican internationalism was passed, via Ronald Reagan, to Mitch McConnell. They are the three most important Republicans of the past 100 years.

Congress's support for Ukraine ranks with two other nation-defining congressional acts.

In March 1941, Congress approved Lend-Lease aid to Britain and oth-



George Will

ers (235 Democrats and 24 Republicans yea, 25 Democrats and 135 Republicans nay). This "most unsordid act in the history of nations" (Winston Churchill) ended the facade of U.S. neutrality. By approving aid for Greece and Turkey in May 1947, Congress affirmed (161 Democrats and 126 Republicans yea, 13 Democrats and 93 Republicans nay) the Truman Doctrine: The United States would assist democratic nations threatened by authoritarians. World War II's end would not revive isolationism.

In today's Republican Party, dominated by someone who repudiates the internationalism to which Eisenhower committed the party seven decades ago, the cabal of grotesques might yet predominate.

It includes Missouri's Sen. Josh Hawley, who thinks we have given "blank checks" to Ukraine (actually, 5 percent of defense spending, and less than half the monetary value of European support). Yet Hawley says we cannot defend both Ukraine and Taiwan, so this would be an excellent time to reduce the U.S. forces in Europe that are deterring Russia from aggressions against NATO allies. Another grotesque, Ohio's Sen. J.D. Vance, an itinerant Neville Chamberlain visiting green rooms, would welcome Ukraine's death on the installment plan (see Czechoslovakia in 1938-1939). Georgia's Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (she who wonders whether Jewish space lasers cause forest fires) expresses her loathing of Ukraine with lunatic accusations that confirm the judgment of Texas's Rep. Michael McCaul (Republican chair of the House Foreign Affairs Committee) that Russian propaganda has "infected a good chunk of my party's base."

We have defined heroism so far down that it encompasses Speaker Mike Johnson (R-La.) allowing a House vote on assisting Ukrainians' resistance to indiscriminate bombardments of population centers, ethnic cleansing, rape, torture and the abduction of children. Aleksandra Matviichuk, the Ukrainian winner of the 2022 Nobel Peace Prize, adds: "One woman I interviewed had her eye extracted with a spoon."

Heroism is not required of Ukraine's NATO and other allies, whose combined GDPs are 20 times that of Russia. The cost of losing, by ill-conceived parsimony, this proxy war with a barbarian power possessing the world's largest nuclear arsenal would be steep.

The Economist columnist Charlemagne says Ukraine's defeat would be a "Suez moment" for the West. Meaning, a humbling demonstration of waning power. Two months ago, Estonian intelligence said: "Russians in their own thinking are calculating that military conflict with NATO is possible in the next decade." Josep Borrell, the European Union's chief diplomat, says: "A high-intensity, conventional war in Europe is no longer a fantasy."

Today's Moscow-Beijing-Tehran axis is, as the 1930s Axis was, watching. Johns Hopkins foreign policy analyst Hal Brands, writing for Bloomberg, reminds us: "Italy's invasion of Abyssinia in 1935 encouraged Hitler to send his military back into the Rhineland in 1936, just as Germany's blitzkrieg through Western Europe in 1940 emboldened Japan to press into Southeast Asia."

We can now see that the great unraveling that was World War II perhaps began with Japan's 1931 invasion of Manchuria. Without the benefit of retrospection, we cannot be certain that World War III has not begun.

georgewill@washpost.com

The News-Banner

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Gloria shares the joys of a new marriage and old friends

Bright sunny changes. Yes, that's right.

The day dawned sunny and beautiful with a pronounced gladness. Cousin Amy had lost her husband two months to the hour after Daniel got hurt, now under the same roof where we had grieved with her, we now rejoiced with her. It was her wedding day, God had sent another young man for her.

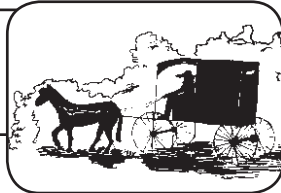
The day before, we had traveled to Ohio. As we cruised down the highway I couldn't help but marvel, surely God has given me much more than I deserve! Six precious children, all going with their mom to the wedding. We sang songs, played guessing games, did our best to keep things afloat with little boys ready to run off energy, and snacked along the way. Yes, we keenly missed Daniel and tears were shed, yet the presence of God was unmistakably there.

Now sitting in the church services we sang slow German songs followed by two uncle sharing messages and Amy's father reading the scriptures. Our uncle by marriage spoke tenderly of the years at home after he lost his dad. "I had the best Father those 10 years," he said. (Meaning his heavenly father.) He proceeded in performing the ceremony as he joined their hands, pronouncing them as husband and wife.

After they had again taken their seats little Eric was soon snuggled on his mama's lap, too young to really grasp what had just taken place. During the first year of his

The Amish Cook

by Gloria Yoder



life he loved his daddy and those last months before he passed he was old enough to show his excitement when Daddy came home from work, now one day his daddy will be there to greet him in heaven, in the meanwhile God has given him another daddy to be there for him.

After the last prayer and German song had ended the children and I walked the short distance to the neighboring shop where long rows of tables were set up to host the guests for the reception. It was warm and inviting, the tables were covered with white plastic and set with square plates, bouquets of tulips across the tables added a spring touch.

My heart warmed when I found my name next to Grandma's. Grandma had been widowed shortly after I had, and since she lives in Ohio I don't get to see her as often as I wish I did. She gets more dear to me as the years roll by. Next to me on the other side was Mom then Dad. How thoughtful of them to think of such kindness!

The meal was superb, there was plenty for all 450 guests. Mashed potatoes, stuffing (dressing as we call it), gravy, deep-fried chicken, chive rolls, salad, and for dessert, there were individual ice cream cups and three kinds of pie - peanut butter, raspberry, and straw-

berry. Mmm. Not only was it completely scrumptious, but it was also attractively served in pretty bowls and platters, which were passed around the tables by the servers who were eager to help with anything they could.

Coffee cups with the names of the new couple, the date, and their theme verse, "As for God, his way is perfect," were also set across the tables. They were filled with coffee or tea. The mugs were gifts for the guests to take home.

After everyone had eaten, we had what they call a program. We sang songs they had chosen and printed in their wedding pamphlets. This time the songs were all sung in English, at one point Amy's uncle shared a devotional. I listened with intense interest as he shared of his boyhood days and their family with his mother as a widow for many years. It was a beautiful story with details of God's steadfast providence through it all.

I kept eyeing the clock, it had been a good day, yet I knew the driver would be coming to pick us up in less than an hour, how could I talk with everyone I had wanted to see yet? There were many faces I did not know, but then also many friends I had not seen for quite

some time. My heart warmed to think of all the support these dear people have showed to us since Daniel had passed.

I looked forward to what came next. We all had an opportunity to file through and shake hands with the new couple. The bridal table was attractive, laden with roses, glass dishes, and candles. Next to the table was a corner in memory of Keith. The white roses, a plaque, and candle were a small token of the love and precious memories of Keith, who had been a wonderful husband to Amy before his passing. Of course it was tearful for both Amy; her eyes replayed all we went through together. I congratulated her and assured her that there was no doubt God is doing this all for her and that the same God will continue to provide for the children and I. Some feelings are too deep for words, yet there is absolutely no doubt that in God's perfection: he will continue to work his work in a perfect way, no matter what.

Half an hour later the children were all ready to go and waiting on me as I finished chatting with friends of bygone years. The day was good, it seemed short, how could it be passed already?

With a prayer in my heart for Amy and her new husband, I took my seat, clicked the seat belt in and we were off.

That evening was spent with Daniel's family in Danville, Ohio and the following day we traveled back home to Illinois.



Fresh strawberry Pie

- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup water
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/4 cup clear jel*
- 2 Tablespoons strawberry jello
- 2 cups sliced strawberries
- Mix first four ingredients in a kettle.
- Heat until sugar is dissolved.
- Make a paste of clear jel and water and stir into sugar mixture.
- Bring to a boil, simmering for a few minutes.
- Remove from heat and add jello.
- Fold in strawberries when cooled.
- Spoon into a baked pie crust and top with whipped topping.
- *corn starch will also work but will result in a more cloudy look.

Upcoming May festivals in Indiana

500 Festival: May 1-25, downtown Indianapolis and Indianapolis Motor Speedway, variety of events with admission charged for some, parade, 500festival.com.

Mayfest in Shipshewana: May 3-4, downtown, free, visitshipshewana.org.

Brick Street Market: May 4, downtown Zionsville, artisan & craft fair, free, zionsvillechamber.org.

Tri -State Engine & Tractor Assoc. 42nd Swap & Sell Meet: May 15-18, Club Grounds beside Jay County Fairgrounds at Portland, admission charged, tristategasenginetractor.com.

Redbud Quilt Guild Quilt Show: May 17-18, Anderson Museum of Art in Ander-

son, demos & vendors, admission charged.

Indiana Peony Festival: May 18, Seminary Park in Noblesville, 50 vendors with "flower" products, free, indianapeonyfestival.com.

Fairy, Gnome & Troll Festival: May 18, downtown Kendallville, 75 craft & food vendors, free, kendallvillemainstreet.com.

Cherry Blossom Festival: May 19, noon to 6 p.m. Walb Student Union at PFW in Fort Wayne, Japanese music, dance, tea ceremony, free, cherryblossomfw.com.

Tri State Bluegrass Festival: May 23-26, Noble County Fairgrounds at Kendallville, bands performing, admission charged, bluegrassusa.net.

Spring events for the Fort Wayne Philharmonic

Among the spring events for the Fort Wayne Philharmonic will be the following concerts:

Fabio Bidini plays Rachmaninoff will be presented on Saturday, May 4, at 7:30 p.m. at the Auer Performance Hall.

Brahms and the Romantic Spirit will take place on Wednesday, May 8, at 7:30 p.m. at the History Center in downtown Fort Wayne and again on Sunday, May 12, at 2 p.m. at the Rhinehart Recital Hall at PFW Music Center.

The Music of the Moody Blues will be on stage at the Auer Performance Hall on Saturday, May 11, at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets to all of the concerts available at ArtsTix Community Box office or at tickets@fwphil.org.

Quilt Guild donates handmade baby blankets

Members of Creative Quilters Quilt Guild, based in Adams county but drawing members from other counties, met recently and fulfilled a challenge to sew baby blankets and quilts using color schemes pulled from paint chips. Thirty-nine quilts were completed and donated to Adams Memorial Hospital. Creative Quilter's meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at the Preble Firemen's Hall. For more information regarding Creative Quilters, contact Monica Gause at mgause@outlook.com. (Photo submitted)

SMALL BUSINESS Spotlight

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Members of the state champion Cyber Tigers Overwatch team are from left to right: Front row, Noah Zoll, Aiden Gavilanez and Chris McClain. Back row, coaches Tyson Brooks, Jonathan Morgan and Kurt Smith, Leighton Elkins, Caleb Dailey, Mack Baker and Eli McCollum. (Photo provided)

Bluffton Cyber Tigers win the state championship in Overwatch

The Cyber Tigers eSports team brought some hardware back home to Bluffton on Saturday.

The team competed in the state championship at Ball State University for the games Overwatch and Super Smash; and Sam Holloway competed in Tetrio.

In Overwatch, the Cyber Tigers defeated Union City, winning the school's fourth title in its three years. Members of the team are Noah Zoll, Eli McCollum, Caleb Dailey (captain), Leighton Elkins, Mack Baker, Chris McClain and Aiden Gavilanez.

To reach the finals, Bluffton went through the team it beat last season in the finals, Wabash.

Holloway, who plays solo in Tetrio, was honored at the event for his championship over 50 other players.

The Super Smash team finished second, falling to Blackford in the championship. The Cyber Tigers defeated Oregon Davis in the semi-state to reach the finals. Members of that team are Jordan Troyer, Jayden Suman (captain), Noah

Tigers sweep Broncos in weekend softball games, improves to 6-6

Bluffton's softball team swept the doubleheader at Dal-ville Saturday.

The two wins now brings the Tigers to 6-6 on the season.

In Game 1, Bluffton won 10-7. Konley Ault, Averi Petty, Madyson Sonnigsen and Kayla Kiefer had two-hit games. Petty doubled twice and drove in a run. Tressa Renner and Tyrah Shaw drove in two runs. Marly Drayer stole two bags.

Sonnigsen got the win, throwing seven innings, allowing seven runs (four earned), eight hits, two walks and struck out 14.

In Game 2, Bluffton won 11-6 and piled up 19 hits with four home runs. Leading the way was Ault and Claire Craighead, who each went 4-4. Ault had a home run with two RBI and Craighead tripled and had two RBI. Kiefer went 3-4 with a double, while Sonnigsen and Madison Smith had two hits and one home run. Shaw had the final home run with two RBI.

Shaw picked up the win, throwing seven innings, allowing three runs (two earned), six hits, three walks and seven strikeouts.

Bluffton will be at Adams Central at 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 30.

High School Calendar

- MONDAY, APRIL 29**
 BASEBALL: Norwell at DeKalb, 5:30 p.m.; Bluffton at Chubbusco, 5:30 p.m.; Southern Wells at Randolph Southern, 5 p.m.
 GIRLS TENNIS: Norwell at Carroll, 4:30 p.m.; Bluffton at Bellmont, 4:30 p.m.
 SOFTBALL: New Haven at Norwell, 5:30 p.m.
- TUESDAY, APRIL 30**
 BASEBALL: Norwell at New Haven, 5:30 p.m.; Bluffton at Adams Central, 5 p.m.; Southern Wells at Randolph Southern, 5 p.m.
 BOYS GOLF: East Noble at Norwell, 4:30 p.m.; Woodlan at Bluffton, 5 p.m.; Southern Wells at South Adams, 4:30 p.m.
 GIRLS TENNIS: Norwell at New Haven, 5 p.m.; South Adams at Bluffton, 5 p.m.
 SOFTBALL: Bluffton at Adams Central, 5 p.m.; Southern Wells at Randolph Southern, 5 p.m.
 TRACK & FIELD (CO-ED): Huntington North at Norwell, 5 p.m.; Heritage/South Adams at Bluffton, 5:30 p.m.; Southern Wells at Woodlan, 5:30 p.m.
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 1**
 BASEBALL: Southern Wells at Oak Hill, 5:30 p.m.
 BOYS GOLF: Huntington North at Norwell, 4:15 p.m.



Rain, Rain... please go away

Bluffton traveled to Southern Wells Monday night in an attempt to complete Friday's contest that was postponed. After two innings went by, the Raiders' athletic staff called the game was called with thunder in the distance. The score was 15-6 Bluffton in the middle of the fifth inning. Southern Wells head coach Jason Riley said after the game that he will try and find a makeup date, or else the game will be in risk of being incomplete. The game will not be considered a complete game unless five full innings are finished and one team is winning. (Photos by Ryan Walker)



Above, a lonely softball field takes on the rain after both softball teams left to go home, a common theme for ball diamonds in April.

Middle, Bluffton pitcher Tyrah Shaw throws a pitch during a downpour in the first inning resumed from Friday's postponement.



Bottom, Bluffton's Owen Lasure nearly gets a tag down to second in time to get Southern Wells' Morgan Jones at second base.

Morel hits tiebreaking HR off Díaz in 9th and Cubs top Mets

By MIKE FITZPATRICK
 AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Christopher Morel hit a two-run homer off Edwin Díaz to snap a ninth-inning tie and the Chicago Cubs beat the New York Mets 3-1 on Monday night after being held hitless by Luis Severino into the eighth.

Dansby Swanson singled off Severino with nobody out in the eighth for Chicago's first hit, putting runners at first and second following a leadoff walk to Michael Busch.

With runners at the corners and one out, pinch-hitter Nick Madrigal hit a broken-bat grounder to third baseman Joey Wendle, who had just entered for defense. Wendle easily could have thrown out Busch at the plate, cutting off the tying run. Instead, the veteran infielder made an ill-advised decision to try for an inning-ending double play. Madrigal beat the relay to first and the Cubs evened it 1-1.

Brandon Nimmo hit his 13th career leadoff homer for the Mets, but Jameson Taillon shut them down after that in a fast-moving pitchers' duel that zipped by at a breakneck pace.

Taillon allowed four hits in 7 1/3 innings, throwing 57 of his 78 pitches for strikes.

Mark Leiter Jr. (1-1) got two outs for the

win, and Héctor Neris worked around two walks in the ninth for his fourth save. With two runners aboard, he struck out pinch-hitters DJ Stewart and Brett Baty to end a game that took just 2 hours, 5 minutes.

Mike Tauchman doubled off Díaz (0-1) with one out in the ninth. One out later, Morel drove a 3-1 fastball to left-center for his fourth home run.

A two-out walk to Ian Happ in the fourth was Chicago's only baserunner until Severino plunked Tauchman with a pitch leading off the seventh.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Cubs' LHP Justin Steele (left hamstring strain) is expected to throw about 60-65 pitches Wednesday in a rehab start for Triple-A Iowa. It's possible he could rejoin Chicago's rotation after that, manager Craig Counsell said. Steele has been on the injured list since leaving his opening-day start March 28. ... RHP Kyle Hendricks (lower back strain) is trending toward a rehab start later this week, Counsell said.

UP NEXT

Cubs RHP Javier Assad (2-0, 2.00 ERA) starts Tuesday night against LHP Sean Manaea (1-1, 3.33) in the second game of the four-game series.

IndyCar cheating scandal risks sullyng Penske's perfect image

By JENNA FRYER
 AP Auto Racing Writer

Santino Ferrucci once made a typo in a social media post in which he incorrectly spelled Josef Newgarden's first name.

Newgarden, a two-time IndyCar champion at the time, quickly responded to Ferrucci, who does not drive for a powerhouse such as Team Penske.

"It's Josef(asterisk)" he wrote two years ago. "At Penske, we care about details."

It was a zinger that earned Newgarden scorn at the time for his arrogance to a driver on a lesser team. But he was being honest — attention to detail is next level under Roger Penske's watchful eye — and that's what makes the cheating scandal that has rocked IndyCar so troubling.

IndyCar last week disqualified Newgarden's victory and teammate Scott McLaughlin's third-place finish in the March season-opening race because it realized weeks later that the Team Penske push-to-pass software had been illegally used by both drivers during restarts.

Newgarden says this is all just one big misunderstanding and the reigning Indianapolis 500 winner thought there had been a rule change allowing the extra boost of horsepower on restarts. Team Penske officials called it an error in transferring the software systems from hybrid test sessions

onto the 2024 cars.

Roger Penske, who owns the team, IndyCar and Indianapolis Motor Speedway, has said he was embarrassed by all this. He summoned all IndyCar owners into his motorcoach for a brief Saturday mea culpa session in which the 87-year-old apologized for the damage his team had done to the series.

A.J. Foyt, who was not present for the meeting but represented by his son, on Monday staunchly defended Penske.

"I think the drivers thought they could use the (system) at a certain time, and it turned out they couldn't, so I think it was all just a big misunderstanding," Foyt told The Associated Press. "I have known Roger longer than anyone in my career. He is straight up. He's not a B-plus guy, he's an A-plus guy. He doesn't need to cheat for his cars to win races and I really respect him for standing up to the owners and offering his side."

Here's the problem: Penske Perfect is a way of life and, as Newgarden himself stated, the entire operation pays immaculate attention to detail. So there is only one of two options in this scenario: Either Newgarden and multiple members of the No. 2 team cheated, or, Penske's employees are incredibly inept at their jobs.

Newgarden's explanation
 (Continued to Page 7)

Girls wrestling, boys volleyball approved to join the IHSAA

The IHSAA approved two new sports for the next school year announced on Monday.

Girls wrestling and boys volleyball will soon be recognized by the organization after the board of directors approved of the sports during the annual review Monday afternoon.

The hopeful sports went and played through the IHSAA's Emerging Sport Process and will be assigned to its familiar time of the season next year. Girls wrestling will

be the first to debut, as it will be assigned to the winter sports season. Boys volleyball will follow as a spring sport.

According to the IHSAA's press release, girls wrestling has more than 1,400 wrestlers competing for 177 different high schools and boys volleyball has 100 teams.

Girls lacrosse is another sport in the Emerging Sport Process, and was tabled to the June Executive Committee meeting.

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BASKETBALL

NBA

FIRST ROUND

(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)

Saturday, April 20

Cleveland 97, Orlando 83
Minnesota 120, Phoenix 95
New York 111, Philadelphia 104
Denver 114, L.A. Lakers 103

Sunday, April 21

Boston 114, Miami 94
L.A. Clippers 109, Dallas 97
Milwaukee 109, Indiana 94
Oklahoma City 94, New Orleans 92

Monday, April 22

Cleveland 96, Orlando 86
New York 104, Philadelphia 101
Denver 101, L.A. Lakers 99

Tuesday, April 23

Minnesota 105, Phoenix 93
Indiana 125, Milwaukee 108
Dallas 96, L.A. Clippers 93

Wednesday, April 24

Miami 111, Boston 101
Oklahoma City 124, New Orleans 92

Thursday, April 25

Orlando 121, Cleveland 83
Philadelphia 125, New York 114
Denver 112, L.A. Lakers 105

Friday, April 26

Indiana 121, Milwaukee 118, OT
Dallas 101, L.A. Clippers 90
Minnesota 126, Phoenix 109, Minne-
sota leads series 3 - 0

Saturday, April 27

Orlando 112, Cleveland 89, series
tied 2 - 2

Oklahoma City 106, New Orleans 85,
Oklahoma City leads series 3 - 0

Boston 104, Miami 84, Boston leads
series 2 - 1

L.A. Lakers 119, Denver 108, Denver
leads series 3 - 1

Sunday, April 28

New York 97, Philadelphia 92, New
York leads series 3 - 1

L.A. Clippers 116, Dallas 111, series
tied 2 - 2

Indiana 126, Milwaukee 113, Indiana
leads series 3 - 1

Minnesota at Phoenix, late

Monday, April 29

Boston 102, Miami 88
Oklahoma City 97, New Orleans 89

L.A. Lakers at Denver, late

Tuesday, April 30

Indiana at Milwaukee, TBA
Orlando at Cleveland, TBA
Philadelphia at New York, 7 p.m.

x-Phoenix at Minnesota, TBA

Wednesday, May 1

Miami at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
x-New Orleans at Oklahoma City, TBA
Dallas at L.A. Clippers, 10 p.m.

HOCKEY

NHL

FIRST ROUND

(Best-of-7)

(x-if necessary)

Saturday, April 20

Carolina 3, N.Y. Islanders 1
Boston 5, Toronto 1

Sunday, April 21

Florida 3, Tampa Bay 2
N.Y. Rangers 4, Washington 1
Winnipeg 7, Colorado 6
Vancouver 4, Nashville 2

Monday, April 22

Toronto 3, Boston 2
Carolina 5, N.Y. Islanders 3
Vegas 4, Dallas 3
Edmonton 7, Los Angeles 4

Tuesday, April 23

N.Y. Rangers 4, Washington 3
Florida 3, Tampa Bay 2, OT
Colorado 5, Winnipeg 2
Nashville 4, Vancouver 1

Wednesday, April 24

Boston 4, Toronto 2
Vegas 3, Dallas 1
Los Angeles 5, Edmonton 4, OT

Thursday, April 25

Florida 5, Tampa Bay 3
Carolina 3, N.Y. Islanders 2

Friday, April 26

N.Y. Rangers 3, Washington 1, N.Y.
Rangers wins series 4 - 0

Vancouver 2, Nashville 1
Colorado 6, Winnipeg 2
Edmonton 6, Los Angeles 1, Edmon-
ton leads series 2 - 1

Saturday, April 27

N.Y. Islanders 3, Carolina 2, 2OT,
Carolina leads series 3 - 1

Tampa Bay 6, Florida 3, Florida
leads series 3 - 1

Boston 3, Toronto 1, Boston leads
series 3 - 1

Dallas 3, Vegas 2, OT, Vegas leads
series 2 - 1

Sunday, April 28

Colorado 5, Winnipeg 1, Colorado
leads series 3 - 1

Vancouver 4, Nashville 3, OT, Van-
couver leads series 3 - 1

N.Y. Rangers 4, Washington 2
Edmonton at Los Angeles, late

Monday, April 29

Florida 6, Tampa Bay 1
Dallas at Vegas, 9:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 30

Toronto at Boston, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Carolina, 7:30 p.m.
Colorado at Winnipeg, 9:30 p.m.
Nashville at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

Wednesday, May 1

x-Florida at Tampa Bay, TBA
Los Angeles at Edmonton, TBA
Vegas at Dallas, TBA

BASEBALL

MLB AMERICAN LEAGUE

Monday's Games

Baltimore 2, N.Y. Yankees 0
Toronto 6, Kansas City 5

Tampa Bay 1, Milwaukee 0
Minnesota 3, Chicago White Sox 2

Philadelphia at L.A. Angels, 9:38
p.m.

Atlanta at Seattle, 9:40 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Oakland, 9:40 p.m.
St. Louis at Detroit, ppd.

Tuesday's Games

St. Louis (Gibson 2-2) at Detroit (Fla-
herty 0-1), 3:40 p.m., 1st game

N.Y. Yankees (Cortes 1-2) at Balti-
more (Kremer 1-2), 6:35 p.m.

St. Louis (TBD) at Detroit (TBD),
6:40 p.m., 2nd game

Kansas City (Ragans 1-2) at Toronto
(Berrios 4-1), 7:07 p.m.

San Francisco (Webb 3-1) at Boston
(Criswell 1-1), 7:10 p.m.

Minnesota (Woods Richardson 0-0)
at Chicago White Sox (Soroka 0-3),
7:40 p.m.

Tampa Bay (Alexander 1-0) at Mil-
waukee (Peralta 2-0), 7:40 p.m.

Washington (Gore 2-2) at Texas

(Gray 0-1), 8:05 p.m.

Cleveland (Carrasco 1-2) at Houston
(Brown 0-4), 8:10 p.m.

Philadelphia (Turnbull 2-0) at L.A.
Angels (Anderson 2-3), 9:38 p.m.

Atlanta (Lopez 2-0) at Seattle (Cas-
tillo 2-4), 9:40 p.m.

Pittsburgh (Keller 2-2) at Oakland
(Wood 1-2), 9:40 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Monday's Games

Washington 7, Miami 2

Chicago Cubs 3, N.Y. Mets 1

Tampa Bay 1, Milwaukee 0

Philadelphia at L.A. Angels, 9:38
p.m.

Atlanta at Seattle, 9:40 p.m.

Cincinnati at San Diego, 9:40 p.m.

L.A. Dodgers at Arizona, 9:40 p.m.

Pittsburgh at Oakland, 9:40 p.m.

St. Louis at Detroit, ppd.

Tuesday's Games

St. Louis (Gibson 2-2) at Detroit (Fla-
herty 0-1), 3:40 p.m., 1st game

St. Louis (TBD) at Detroit (TBD),
6:40 p.m., 2nd game

IndyCar cheating scandal

(Continued from Page 6)

Newgarden said that when he pushed the P2P button on a restart and it worked, he assumed there had been a rule change. That doesn't match the Team Penske claim that some software simply wasn't changed on this year's cars before the season began.

You aren't alone if you believe Team Penske is playing you for a fool; that was the feeling across the paddock all weekend at Barber Motorsports Park. Penske drivers McLaughlin and Will Power, the only one of the three not accused of any wrongdoing, went 1-2 in the race but it was heavily overshadowed by this controversy and what it could mean for Penske's legacy.

It's simply not believable that one of three cars owned by series leadership thought a major rule had been changed without any public announcement. Newgarden and the No. 2 team also didn't bother to talk over any suspected rule change with their teammates.

The data that Newgar-

den had illegal access to P2P would be obvious to any Penske or Chevrolet engineer who reviewed his daily on-track metrics. Only a glitch during warm-up at Long Beach that knocked the software out on all the cars except the three Penske cars brought the issue to light. The systems were ordered fixed before the Long Beach race.

The Captain

Penske is adamant he had no knowledge of the situation until IndyCar competition officials alerted him early last week. Newgarden used the word "interrogated" to describe his conversation with his boss.

Even after his in-person apology to his colleagues on Saturday at Barber, Penske still has doubters. One rival car owner told The AP that Penske knows "exactly how many cars he sells daily and what the tire pressure is on every one of his global leasing trucks," offering an analogy as to how Penske couldn't possibly have been unaware of the shenanigans.

Another team owner

reminded the AP that in 1967, Trans-Am race stewards discovered Penske and driver Mark Donohue had figured out that by dipping their car in an acid bath, it would eat away small amounts of metal and make the car incrementally lighter and faster. It won its final race by lapping the entire field and was found in post-race inspection to be 250 pounds lighter than the minimum weight requirement.

Penske warded off a Donohue disqualification, but the rules were changed ahead of the 1968 season.

The road ahead

Even before this mess, the pristine nature of Team Penske had been questioned this season. Joey Logano was caught wearing an aerodynamic-deflecting glove in qualifying for the second NASCAR race of the season; he won't address if he wore the same illegal glove one week earlier when he put a Penske car on the pole for the Daytona 500.

Penske says he comes down hard on his drivers, who he says are supposed

to be the team leaders, but there's some institutional horseplay happening right under his nose by his very own employees. They are sullyng his name in the process.

When Penske closed on the purchase of Indianapolis Motor Speedway in early 2020, it was a legacy buy for him. The speedway was a crown jewel he plans to pass down through his family and is meant to be the defining asset in his multibillion-dollar empire.

Now rival team owners are criticizing his slow marketing spending (even though he kept them all afloat during the pandemic) and the difficulty in hammering out a charter agreement for team ownership. Michael Andretti even publicly called for Penske to sell IndyCar if he won't increase his investments.

Now there's a cheating scandal in which Penske's own people are offering implausible explanations and in doing so staining his name.

Agriculture

Farmers' Almanac summer forecast: Hot, humid

By AGDAILY

Summer will officially arrive in North America on June 20, with the summer solstice — the earliest start in 128 years thanks to the Leap Year and exactly when the Sun reaches its northernmost point from the celestial equator.

While many people love summer with the time it urges us to spend outdoors, fishing, gardening, swimming, and more, it can be a nerve-wracking time for farmers. Between droughts, pests, water, weather events, and market uncertainties, the Farmers' Almanac Summer Weather Forecast 2024 has likely piqued the interest of those in agriculture.

Kicking off with a Strawberry Moon and thunderstorms in the central U.S., June is predicted to be warm, humid, and thunderous in many, if not most areas of the country.

The muggy temperatures are predicted to bring a plethora of moisture and thunderstorms to most areas east of the Mississippi River. New England is on track to have yet another wet summer, and thunderstorms will be plentiful in the Great Lakes and Midwest region of the country.

For the Southeast states and the Mid-Atlantic region, summer's soaking showers and steamy days could be a common occurrence. Meanwhile, Texas is anticipated to see hot temperatures and a stormier July than August.

The Almanac predicts that areas in the North Central region are expected to see a seesaw of summer temperatures with an overall warm season but with occasional cold Canadian air blowing in.

The Southwest will see hot, dry conditions for most of the summer. The Pacific Northwest will also be dry, but temperatures won't be as extreme.

**August and September:
Hot and wet**



(Image provided by Farmers' Almanac)

According to the Farmers' Almanac Summer Forecast 2024, August looks to be exceptionally wet and showery across the eastern two-thirds of the country. Gardeners in New England who saw a soggy summer season last year may want to plan "rain gardens" this year with plants that love a lot of water, such as marigolds, forget-me-nots, canna lilies, daylilies, irises, and hibiscus.

For those in the pathway of rain, prepare for an increase in certain insect populations!

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration says there is a one-in-three chance that 2024 will be warmer than 2023, and a 99 percent chance it would rank among the five warmest on record!

Hurricanes are to be expected

Hurricane season runs from June 1 to Nov. 30, but hurricanes are likely to develop when heat builds up over the tropics from mid-August to mid-October. In the last decade, the U.S. has been hit by hurricanes about twice per year. Seven made landfall in 2020, but there weren't any that touched base in 2013 and 2015.

Our summer forecast

calls for two hurricanes at the end of summer. One hurricane may form along the Gulf Coast toward the end of August, and another is expected along the Atlantic Seaboard in mid-September.

In Canada, for 2024, the Almanac forecasts a hurricane threat between September 16-24 for Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland. Hurricane season runs from June 1 to November 30, and the traditional peak of the season is September 10.

The threat of tropical cyclones tends to ramp up quickly after mid-August and decline rapidly after mid-October.

The Farmers' Almanac weather predictions are based on a formula originally developed in 1818 by the publication's founding editor, David Young. This formula incorporates many of the various techniques, as well as sunspot activity, the moon's tidal action, the position of the planets, and more.

The 2024 Farmers' Almanac, with its orange and green cover, is now available in bookstores and retail stores, as well as on Amazon and FarmersAlmanac.com. Not just for farm-

ers, the Almanac reaches a broader audience with husbandry tips, days to cut your hair or mow your lawn (that you won't see for a while), quit bad habits, brew beer, and grow basil.

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Navigating financial and communication boundaries in relationships

Dear Annie

by Annie Lane



Dear Annie: I had been in a wonderful relationship with an incredible woman for two years and 10 months. She recently broke up with me because I had not discussed my personal finances with her.

I am a private person and have a difficult time opening up. My reasoning behind not discussing my finances was that we are not living together.

But now that she has broken up with me, I miss her very much. I know that she is the one for me. We are 60 and 59 years old. Please help. I really want this woman forever. — Regrets

Dear Regrets: The best thing you can do is tell her exactly what you told me in this letter — that you are a private person and you didn't discuss your finances with your girlfriend because you were not married or living together. But now that you said in your letter that she is the one for you, you will be open and honest about your finances and spending habits and expect her to do the same.

If you apologize and clear up what sounds like a miscommunication and she still wants to break up, then you have to move on.

Dear Annie: I grew up in a household where my mother tolerated very little inappropriate behavior. When she was interrupted, she would continue talking, saying, "Pardon me for speaking while you're interrupting." And she would continue with what

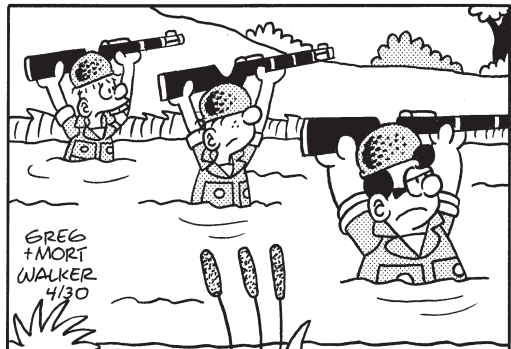
she had to say. I don't know if "Love My Mother-in-Law," who is also struggling with interrupting relatives, has the courage to respond in this manner; perhaps the interrupter would consider changing his behavior if people made him aware of it every time he did it. Make it an issue. Talk about it. Let him know how annoying it is to others. Worth a try. — Grew Up With Corrections

Dear Grew up with Corrections: People will treat you exactly how you let them treat you. It sounds like your mother had very strict boundaries with people about how they could treat her. Thank you for your letter. It highlights the importance of communicating to others what your standards are for acceptable behavior.

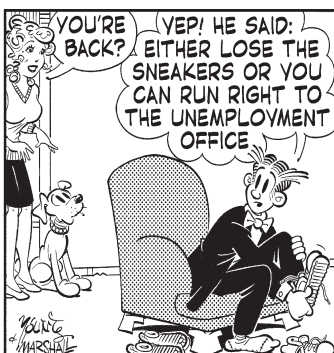
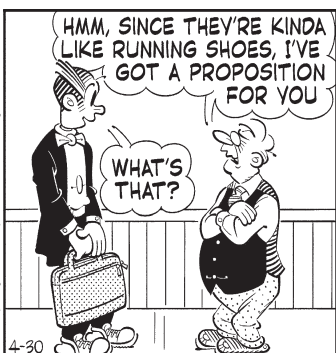
"How Can I Forgive My Cheating Partner?" is out now! Annie Lane's second anthology — featuring favorite columns on marriage, infidelity, communication and reconciliation — is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit <http://www.creatorspublishing.com> for more information. Send your questions for Annie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

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BEETLE BAILEY



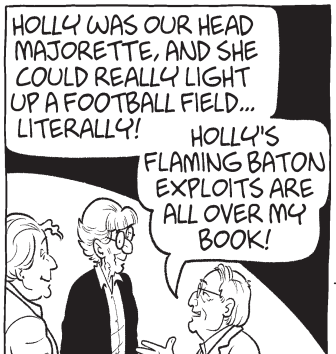
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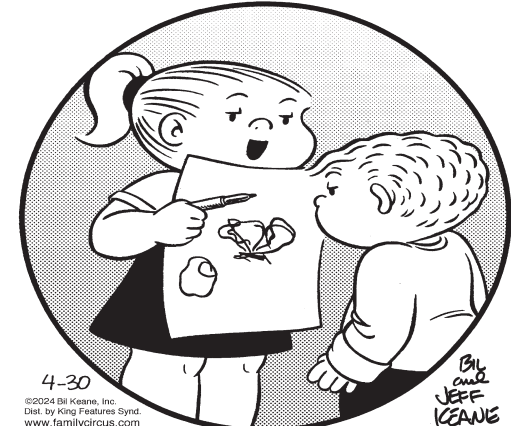
CRANKSHAFT



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

The LOCKHORNS



My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



Satan is not all-powerful

Question: Is it a cop-out to blame the devil when we do things wrong, or does he initiate temptation and then we make it worse by caving in? In other words, is Satan always to blame when things go wrong in our lives, or are we sometimes responsible? — S.U.

Answer: The Bible makes it clear that Satan is real and that he is ultimately behind all the evil that goes on in the world. But now we live in a fallen world twisted by sin — and Satan is behind it.

But Satan is not all-powerful, nor does he directly cause every bad thing that happens to us. Sometimes we don't

know the cause — but often we alone are responsible, because we have turned our backs on God and deliberately followed our own sinful desires instead of His will. The Bible says, "Each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin" (James 1:14-15, ESV). When this happens, we pay the consequences. The Bible warns, "Do not be deceived; God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap" (Galatians 6:7, NKJV).

We need to be acquainted with Satan's tempting ways: the false promises he makes, twisting the Word

of God, and cleverly deceiving people. We should pray to the Lord, asking Him to strengthen us so that we resist the devil and cause him to flee.

The Bible clearly teaches that when we turn our backs on God and choose to disregard His moral laws there are inevitable consequences. But by Jesus' death and resurrection, we can be triumphant over the forces of evil — those in our heart and those in the world.

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

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	35 Quick	DOWN	16 Iowa
1 Dis-position	look	1 Food additive	college robber
5 Swindle	36 Grow weary	2 Tic-tac-toe win	21 Postal delivery
8 Fire-cracker part	37 Stage	3 Flamenco cheer	22 Beige
12 Arias for one	38 Big shot	4 Menus listings	23 Onion's kin
13 Fish story	41 Earth (Pref.)	5 Drain blockage	24 Music category
14 Awe-struck	42 Starring role	6 Squeak stopper	26 Erode
15 Ends a winning streak	43 Glowing from intense heat	7 "Santa Fe Songs"	27 Classic theaters
17 Online journal	48 Incite	8 Silk or satin, e.g.	28 Small bills
18 Biker's Harley, slangily	49 Calendar abbr.	9 Wrinkled fruit	29 Huron, for one
19 Un-common thing	50 Curse	10 Chimney buildup	31 Clone
21 Donnybrook	51 Spanish	11 Like custard	34 Chopin works
24 Asian desert	52 "Of course"	12 Like	35 "Friends" role
25 Experts	53 Thames town	13 Like	37 Favorite
26 "It's all good between us"		14 Like	38 Model Heidi
30 Hot temper		15 Like	39 Sleek, in car lingo
31 Doctrine		16 Like	40 Cronos
32 Genetic stuff		17 Like	41 Musician's job's
33 Half-hearted		18 Like	44 Coloration
		19 Like	45 Bowler, e.g.
		20 Like	46 Music's Yoko
		21 Like	47 X, at times

Solution time: 22 mins.

J	A	R	D	R	E	G	S	M	A	R
A	L	E	O	I	L	U	P	I	C	Y
M	I	C	R	O	D	S	E	C	L	E
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L	I	I	I	F	E	E	L	W	E	E
L	A	P	S	E	E	D	S	L	A	X

Yesterday's answer 4-30

04:30	M	A	D1	D2	5 PM	5:30	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM	12:30				
WINM (12)	11	26	63		Movie		Creflo Dollar	Joseph Prince	Morris	TCT Today	Joyce Meyer	Place Miracles	James Robison	Dr. Robert Jeffrey	Jewish Jesus	Andrew Womack	Ask the Pastor	Billy Graham						
CBS WANE (15)	2	2	15	15	News (N)	Inside Edition (N)	News at 6 (N)	CBS News (N)	Wheel of Fortune (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	FBI "Remorse"	FBI: International "June"	FBI: Most Wanted "Above & Beyond"	Nightcast (N)	(35) Late Show-Colbert	(35) After Mid. (N)								
Antenna WANE-2 (152)	106	20			Chicago Fire "The Hose or the Animal"	Chicago Fire "A Real Wake-Up Call"	Chicago Fire "Scorched Earth"	Chicago Fire "Nobody Else is Dying Today"	Chicago Fire "I Held Her Hand"	Chicago Fire "That Day"	Chicago Fire "The Good Doctor Faith" (N)	ABC21 (N)	(35) Jimmy Kimmel	(35) Tonight Show (N)	(35) Seth Meyers (N)									
ABC WPTA (21)	4	3	21	21	ABC21 News at 5 (N)	ABC21 (N)	ABC World News (N)	Ent. Tonight (N)	Will Trent (N)	The Rookie "Crushed"	Password (N)	News (N)	(35) Tonight Show (N)	(35) Seth Meyers (N)										
NBC WPTA-2 (212)	7	8		14	Family Feud	25 Words or Less	News (N)	NBC News (N)	Family Feud (N)	Lopez vs Lopez (N)	Weakest Link "WWE Superstars Special"	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Mom	Mom	The Goldbergs	Bob's Burgers	Burgers "Topsy"						
MNT WPTA-3 (213)	10	9	56	34	The King of Queens	The King of Queens	Mod Fam "Pilot"	News (N)	Last Man Standing	Chicago Fire	Crime Nat	Four popular college students are murdered in the dead of night in their off-campus home.	Dish Nation (N)	TMZ (N)	Family Guy	Family Guy	Bob's Burgers	Burgers "Topsy"						
CW WISE (33)	8	4	33	33	S. Wilkos "Fake Pregnancy Drama" (N)	TMZ Live (N)	Dish Nation (N)	TMZ (N)	Crime Nat	Four popular college students are murdered in the dead of night in their off-campus home.	Dish Nation (N)	TMZ (N)	Family Guy	Family Guy	Bob's Burgers	Burgers "Topsy"								
PBS WFWA (39)	13	5	39	39	Prehistoric Road Trip "We Dig Dinosaurs"	PBS NewsHour (N)	BBC News America	Healthline (N)	Finding Your Roots "Fathers and Sons"	Express Way "Appalachia" (N)	Frontline "Documenting Police Use of Force" (N)	Amanpour and Company (N)	Finding Your Roots "Fathers and Sons"											
PBS WFPV (49)	3				Prehistoric Road Trip "We Dig Dinosaurs"	Context	PBS NewsHour (N)	PBS NewsHour (N)	Finding Your Roots "Fathers and Sons"	Alert: Missing Persons Unit "Alexi" (N)	FOX 55 News First at 10 (N)	Young Sheldon	Young Sheldon	Neighbor	Neighbor									
FOX WFFT (55)	6	5	55	55	WFFT Fox News at 5 (N)	WFFT Fox News at 6 (N)	Big Bang	Big Bang	To Be Announced (N)															
CABLE CHANNELS																								
LIFE	23	113	108	252	Castle	Castle	Castle	Castle	Castle	Castle	(05) Castle	(05) Castle	Castle											
FX	24	132	136	148	Movie	*** Captain America: The First Avenger	Chris Evans	*** Captain America: The Winter Soldier	(14) Chris Evans	*** Thor	(11) Chris Hemsworth													
TVLAND	25		106	304	Movie	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith			
E!	26	142	114	236	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family			
PARMT	30		241	241	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men			
ESPN	31	50	140	206	Around (N)	Pardon (L)	SportsCenter (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)			
ESPN2	32	54	143	209	ESPN BET Live (L)	The Point (L)	Cardinals! Pre (L)	MLB Baseball St. Louis Cardinals at Detroit Tigers	From Comerica Park in Detroit. (L)	Cardinals	Football	United Fight Alliance	World Poker WPT Chocataw - Part 2											
FSMW	33		418	671	Live on the Line	Cardinals! Pre (L)	MLB Baseball St. Louis Cardinals at Detroit Tigers	From Comerica Park in Detroit. (L)	Cardinals	Football	United Fight Alliance	World Poker WPT Chocataw - Part 2												
USA	34	133	105	242	Law & Order: SVU "Valentine's Day"	Law & Order: SVU "Strange Beauty"	Law & Order: SVU "Twenty-Five Acts"	WWE NXT WWE Superstars compete to prove they've got what it takes. (L)	(10) *** The Longshots	Keke Palmer, Tasha Smith, Ice Cube.	(10) *** The Longshots	Keke Palmer, Tasha Smith, Ice Cube.	(10) *** The Longshots	Keke Palmer, Tasha Smith, Ice Cube.	(10) *** The Longshots	Keke Palmer, Tasha Smith, Ice Cube.	(10) *** The Longshots	Keke Palmer, Tasha Smith, Ice Cube.	(10) *** The Longshots	Keke Palmer, Tasha Smith, Ice Cube.	(10) *** The Longshots	Keke Palmer, Tasha Smith, Ice Cube.		
DISC	35	72	182	278	Moonshiners "Boldest Bootleg"	Moonshiners "The Grapes of Grappa"	Moonshiners "Carolina Crash Course"	Moonshiners "Shine Pods" (N)	Mud Madness "Smash and Drag" (N)	Moonshiners "Lucky But Illegal" (N)	Master Distiller "Nuts on the Line"	Moonshiners "Shine Pods" (N)												
TLC	36	73	183	280	OutDaughtered	7 Little Johnstons	7 Little "Truth or Dare"	The Curse of Oak Island "Cone E Island"	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."		
HIST	38	77	120	269	(4:00) History's Greatest Mysteries	The Curse of Oak Island "Abbey Road"	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."		
A&E	39	134	118	265	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."	Neighbor. "Neighbor."		
HALL	40	117	185	312	Autumn in the City (2022, Romance) Evan Roderick, Laura Soltis, Aimee Teagarden.	*** Spider-Man 3 (2007, Action) Kirsten Dunst, Maguire.	Big Bang	Big Bang	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)		
SYFY	41	135	122	244	*** Spider-Man 3 (2007, Action) Kirsten Dunst, Maguire.	Big Bang	Big Bang	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	
TNT	43	130	139	247	Big Bang	Big Bang	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)	NHL Hockey First Round: Teams TBA	The latest hockey action from across the NHL. (L)
TRU	44	131	138	245	*** Den of Thieves (2018, Thriller) Pablo Schreiber, O'Shea Jackson Jr., Gerard Butler.	*** Avengers: Age of Ultron (2015, Action) Chris Hemsworth, Mark Ruffalo, Robert Downey Jr..	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA	Professional basketball action from the NBA. (L)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA	Professional basketball action from the NBA. (L)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA	Professional basketball action from the NBA. (L)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA	Professional basketball action from the NBA. (L)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA	Professional basketball action from the NBA. (L)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA	Professional basketball action from the NBA. (L)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA	Professional basketball action from the NBA. (L)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA	Professional basketball action from the NBA. (L)	NBA Basketball First Round: Teams TBA	Professional basketball action from the NBA. (L)
AMC	45		131	254	(4:30) *** The Perfect Storm (2000, Thriller) Mark Wahlberg, John C. Reilly, George Clooney.	Concaval	The best continental club soccer tournament in North & Central America & the Caribbean.	NASCAR Cup Series	Wuori 400	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live
COM	47	107	249		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office
FS1	48	64	150	219	(4:30) Speak (L)	NASCAR Race Hub (L)	On Balance (L)	Cuomo (L)	Dan Abrams Live (L)	Banfield (L)	Cuomo	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live	Dan Abrams Live
WE	53		307		Vargas Report (L)	9-1-1 "Merry Ex-Mas"	9-1-1 "New Beginnings"	9-1-1 "Chimney Begins"	Wildcard Kitchen (N)	Wildcard Kitchen (N)	Wildcard Kitchen (N)	Wildcard Kitchen (N)	Wildcard Kitchen (N)	Wildcard Kitchen (N)	Wildcard Kitchen (N)	Wildcard Kitchen (N)	Wildcard Kitchen (N)	Wildcard Kitchen (N)	Wildcard Kitchen (N)	Wildcard Kitchen (N)	Wildcard Kitchen (N)	Wildcard Kitchen (N)	Wildcard Kitchen (N)	
WGN	57		128	260	9-1-1 "Buck, Actually"	9-1-1 "Hen Begins"	Chopped	Vanderpump Rules	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob
FOOD	59	153	110	231	(4:45) Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ
BRavo	60	140	129	237	(4:45) Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ	Housewives of NJ
NICK	68		170	299	SpongeBob	Rock Paper	Rock Paper	Rock Paper	Rock Paper	Rock Paper	Rock Paper	Rock Paper	Rock Paper	Rock Paper	Rock Paper	Rock Paper	Rock Paper	Rock Paper	Rock Paper	Rock Paper	Rock Paper	Rock Paper	Rock Paper	Rock Paper
DISN	69	30	172	290	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
FREEFORM	70	32	180	311	*** The Proposal (2009, Romance) Ryan Reynolds, Mary Steenburgen, Sandra Bullock.	*** Terminator Salvation Christian Bale, Jason Clarke, Jai Rodriguez.	*** The Thomas Crown Affair (1999) Pierce Brosnan.	*** Gladiator (2000, Action) Russell Crow																

The Classifieds

SUDOKU

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

King Classic Sudoku

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

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Difficulty: ★★

4/30

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Miscellaneous

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Read & recycle

Public Notices

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Superior Court of Wells County, Indiana, in Cause No. 90D01-2312-MF-000035 wherein PHH Mortgage Corporation was Plaintiff, and Shanden Slinger; Alfred D. Abers, Jr. were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 12th day of June, 2024, at the hour of 1:00 P.M. or as soon thereafter as is possible, at Courthouse 102 W. Market St., 1st Fl. Bluffton, IN 46714, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Wells County, Indiana.
The North half of Lot Number 117 as known and designated on the recorded plat of the Town, now City of Bluffton, in the Office of the Recorder of Wells County, Indiana.
More commonly known as: 218 Liberty Street, Bluffton, IN 46714
State Parcel No.: 90-08-04-539-370.000-004
Together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws.
Plaintiff Attorney
ATTORNEY NO. 15-23-01778
Codilis Law, LLC
8050 Cleveland Place
Merrillville, IN 46410
(219) 736-5579
Scott Holliday,
Sheriff of Wells County
HARRISON TOWNSHIP
218 Liberty Street,
Bluffton, IN 46714
Street Address
The Sheriff's Department
does not warrant the
accuracy of the street
address published herein.
NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector.
nb 4/30, 5/7, 5/14
hspaxlp

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

SUDOKU ANSWER

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

Miscellaneous

GUN AND KNIFE Show, Bluffton, Indiana, at the Wells County Fairgrounds May 4th-5th, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-3. Admission \$6. All State and Federal Laws apply. For more information: 765-993-8942. (A)

Pets

HELOISE HINT: If you have just gotten a new pet bird. Be aware that you should examine its food cup daily. Birds frequently eat the seeds, leaving the shells behind, which might mean your bird is still hungry. Email HELOISE@Heloise.com.

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted

THE CITY OF Bluffton is accepting applications for a paid internship at the Animal Shelter. Applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent. The City of Bluffton utilizes E-Verify and follows EEOC guidelines. Applications may be obtained from the Clerk Treasurer's Office, 128 E. Market St, Bluffton, IN Mon-Fri 8 am-4:30 pm or online www.blufftonindiana.net. Deadline for applications is May 3, 2024.



CUSTOM APPLICATOR Responsible for the proper application and placement of chemicals and fertilizers. Also responsible for general vehicle maintenance and equipment. Must have a valid driver's license and the ability to obtain an Ag CDL with required endorsements. agplusinc.com/employment

LOOKING FOR EMPLOYEES?

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

HELOISE HINT: If your company hosts gatherings, attend them. You will be able to network with your co-workers in a more casual environment. And you might pick up lots of information about your company and other colleagues. Fax Heloise @ 210-HELOISE (435-6473).

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Circuit Court of Wells County, Indiana, in Cause No. 90C01-2311-MF-000024 wherein NewRez LLC, d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing was Plaintiff, and Terry L. Griffith; Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 12th day of June, 2024, at the hour of 1:00 P.M. or as soon thereafter as is possible, at Courthouse 102 W. Market St., 1st Fl. Bluffton, IN 46714, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Wells County, Indiana.

Lots Numbered 70 and 71 in the recorded Plat of Merchants Addition to the City of Bluffton, as recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Wells County, Indiana.
More commonly known as: 1327 West Cherry Street, Bluffton, IN 46714
State Parcel No.: 90-08-05-505-103.000-004; 90-08-05-505-102.000-004
Together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws.
Plaintiff Attorney
ATTORNEY NO. 15-23-01500
Codilis Law, LLC
8050 Cleveland Place
Merrillville, IN 46410
(219) 736-5579
Scott Holliday,
Sheriff of Wells County
HARRISON TOWNSHIP
1327 West Cherry Street,
Bluffton, IN 46714
Street Address
The Sheriff's Department
does not warrant the
accuracy of the street
address published herein.
NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector.
nb 4/30, 5/7, 5/14
hspaxlp

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Notice is hereby given to the Taxpayers of the City of Bluffton, Wells County, Indiana, that the Common Council of said City will, at the Council Chambers, 128 East Market Street, Bluffton, Indiana, meet on of May 21, 2024 at 5:30 o'clock P.M., to consider the following additional appropriations in excess of the 2024 budget.

ARPA Fund	APPROPRIATE TO:	\$3,418.40
ARPA Budget	Park Improvement	1176.000.443.020
	Taxpayers appearing at said meeting shall have the right to be heard. The additional appropriations as finally made will be automatically referred to the Department of Local Government Finance. The Department will make a written determination as to the sufficiency of funds to support the appropriations made within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a Certified Copy of the action taken.	
	Michelle Simon City Clerk Treasurer	

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Lottery Numbers

Monday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY

Cash 5 — 14-25-27-32-42
Cash4Life — 13-26-35-46-50, Cash Ball: 01
Quick Draw Midday — 02-04-05-06-09-11-19-26-27-28-29-30-32-33-37-45-60-65-74-75, BE: 29
Daily Three-Midday — 06-04-05, SB: 04
Daily Three-Evening — 06-02-03, SB: 02
Daily Four-Midday — 01-09-06-09, SB: 04
Daily Four-Evening — 04-02-02-00, SB: 02
Quick Draw Evening — 01-05-06-08-26-39-42-44-47-49-59-61-64-67-71-74-75-77-78-80, BE: 44
Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$11.3 million

MEGA MILLIONS

Estimated jackpot (for Tuesday): \$257 million
POWERBALL
11-38-47-67-69 Powerball: 14; Power Play: 2X

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Columbia University's history with student protests echoes today

By DEEPTI HAJELA
Associated Press
NEW YORK (AP) — College students taking up space and making demands for change. University administrators facing pressure to get things back under control. Police brought in to make arrests. At other schools: students taking note, and sometimes taking action.

Columbia University, 2024. And Columbia University, 1968. The pro-Palestinian demonstration and subsequent arrests at Columbia that have set off similar protests at campuses nationwide these days and even internationally aren't new ground for students at the Ivy League school. They're the latest in a Columbia tradition that dates back more than five decades — one that also helped provide inspiration for the anti-apartheid protest of the 1980s, the Iraq war protests, and more.

"When you're going to Columbia, you know you're going to an institution which has an honored place in the history of American protest," said Mark Naison, professor of history and African & African American Studies at Fordham University and himself a

participant in the 1968 demonstrations. "Whenever there is a movement, you know Columbia is going to be right there."

It's part of Columbia's lore, students taking part in this month's demonstrations point out — recognized by the school itself in commemorative anniversary programming and taught about in classes.

"A lot of students here are aware of what happened in 1968," said Sofia Ongele, 23, among those who joined the encampment in response to this month's arrests.

The end of an academic year was also approaching in April of that year when students took over five campus buildings. There were multiple reasons. Some were protesting the university's connection to an institute doing weapon research for the Vietnam War; others opposed how the elite school treated Black and brown residents in the community around the school as well as the atmosphere for minority students.

After several days, Columbia's president allowed a thousand New York Police Department officers to be brought in to clear most demonstra-

tions out. The arrests, 700 of them, were not gentle. Fists were flying, clubs swinging. Dozens of students and more than a dozen officers were injured.

It's never been forgotten history. That includes now, when pro-Palestinian students calling on the university to divest from any economic ties to Israel over the war in Gaza set up a tent encampment earlier this month and more than 100 were arrested. It helped spark similar demonstrations at campuses around the country and world.

The storied protest past is one of the reasons Ongele chose Columbia for college and came here from her native Santa Clarita, California. "I wanted to be in an environment where people were indeed socially conscious," she said.

When it comes to protest, "We have not only the privilege but the responsibility to continue in the shoes of those who came before us," Ongele said. The goal, she said: to ensure "that we're able to maintain the integrity of this university as one that is indeed socially aware, one that does have students that do care deeply about what goes on in the world, what

goes on in our communities, and what goes on in the lives of the students that make up our community."

Columbia University officials did not respond to an email asking about the school's position on the legacy of the 1968 events. Those events, like the current protest, "sparked a huge increase in student activism around the country," Mark Rudd, a leader of that protest, said in an email to The Associated Press. "Myself and others spent the entire year after April 1968 traveling the country, spreading to campuses the spirit of Columbia."

But the echoes of the past aren't only in inspiration. Then, as now, the protest had its detractors. Naison said the disruption to campus life, and to law and order, angered many at Columbia and outside of it.

"Student protesters are not popular people in the United States of America," he said. "We weren't popular in the '60s. We accomplished a tremendous amount. But we also helped drive the country to the right."

That has a corollary these days with those critical of the protests, who have condemned what they say is a descent into antisemitism.

Some Jewish students have said they have felt targeted for their identity and afraid to be on campus and university presidents have come under political pressure to clamp down and use methods like police intervention.

"It's history repeating itself, but it's also uncharted territory," he said. "What we

have here is a whole group of people who see these protests as a natural extension of fighting for justice, and a whole other group of people who see this as a deadly attack on them and their history and tradition. And that makes it very difficult for university officials to manage."

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Blinken: Israel must do more to boost aid to Gaza

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Monday that Israel must still do more to increase the flow of humanitarian aid into the besieged Gaza Strip and that he would use his Middle East trip — his seventh to the region since the Israel-Hamas war started in October — to press that case with Israeli leaders.

Speaking at events in Saudi Arabia's capital, Blinken said the best way to ease the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza would be to conclude an elusive cease-fire agreement, which also would release Israeli hostages held by Hamas since its Oct. 7 attacks launched the war. Hamas has been presented with an "extraordinarily generous" offer by Israel that he hoped the group would accept, he said.

"Hamas has before it a proposal that is extraordinarily, extraordinarily generous on the part of Israel, and in

this moment, the only thing standing between the people of Gaza and cease-fire is Hamas," he said at a World Economic Forum gathering in Riyadh.

"They have to decide, and they have to decide quickly. So, we're looking to that, and I'm hopeful that they will make the right decision and we can have a fundamental change in the dynamic," Blinken said.

Although talks continue, Hamas has so far balked at a series of offers negotiated by Egypt, Qatar and the United States and agreed to by Israel. Even without a deal, Blinken said it was critical to improve conditions in Gaza now.

"We're also not waiting on a cease-fire to take the necessary steps to meet the needs of civilians in Gaza," Blinken told Gulf Cooperation Council foreign ministers earlier Monday, when he arrived in Saudi Arabia for the first stop on his Middle East tour, which

includes stops in Jordan and Israel on Tuesday and Wednesday.

"We have seen measurable progress in the last few weeks, including the opening of new crossings and increased volume of aid delivery to Gaza and within Gaza, and the building of the U.S. maritime corridor, which will open in the coming weeks. But it is not enough. We still need to get more aid in and around Gaza," he said.

He said safety for humanitarian relief workers must be improved and that there's a focus on ensuring the aid is making a proper impact for Palestinian civilians.

Scores of relief workers have been killed since the conflict began, and an Israeli attack on a World Central Kitchen convoy in Gaza this month that killed seven aid workers only highlighted the dangers and difficulties of protecting them.

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