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Incumbents take GOP nominations across the board

By HOLLY GASKILL

All contested Republican incumbents have secured their spot on the fall general election ballot — however, they weren't entirely unscathed.

Just under 5% of votes separated Wells County Council challenger Health Schlagenhaut, who received 2,195 votes, from incumbent Scott Elzey, 2,667. Incumbent Vicki Andrews came out on top with 2,913 votes, and current Council President Seth Whicker followed with 2,748.

Addressing the crowd gathered at the Republican Party headquarters after the votes were tallied, Elzey, Andrews and Whicker thanked the public for their support and emphasized the "exciting things"

going on in the county.

For County Commissioner District 3, incumbent Jeff Stringer beat challenger Tamra Boucher 2,603 to 1,925.

"Thanks to everybody who supported me, and got out, and really pushed, and encouraged me to just do the best I could," Stringer began his statements after his victory was announced. "It's tough when you got a competitor, and I'm not going to say it's been fun or easy, but it is what it is."

Stringer said he hoped to continue to push the county forward, citing developments at the Wells County Health Department and Economic Development. Commissioner Stringer said the county has also hired a new engineer, filling a nearly six-month vacancy.

"And we're not done yet — the 'W' doesn't come 'til November," Stringer concluded. "So let's just keep on our toes and do what's right."

Rep. Lorissa Sweet, R-District 50, who represents Jackson Township, also secured her party's nomination against challenger Rob Miller. In Jackson Township, she received 104 votes to Miller's 63.

Republican Chairman Zach Rodgers also reminded the party that the race is far from over in his concluding statements. "But we'll be ready as a party unified behind these people that were victorious tonight," Rodgers stated.

At least the County Council will have a contested race in the general election — Brian Hollingsworth received 337 votes in the Democratic primary election Tuesday and Scott Burke has filed initial pre-primary finance reports as an independent candidate.

Altogether, voter turnout came in at 27.75%. While low, Rodgers emphasized



All three Republican incumbents for the Wells County Council secured their nominations for the general election. Vicki Andrews (above left), Scott Elzey (above right) and Seth Whicker (left) expressed their gratitude to the voters at the party's headquarters on Tuesday. (Photos by Jonathan Snyder)



Incumbent Jeff Stringer discusses the work he hopes to continue as a County Commissioner, having won the Republican nomination Tuesday.

that the total was higher than many counties and showed a slight increase from four years earlier. Rodgers thanked those who

ran both contested and uncontested, saying both candidates took a risk and put them-

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Council talks TIF district, approves Kline as consultant

By JONATHAN SNYDER

The Bluffton Common Council addressed some apprehension Tuesday as they continued their discussion about expanding a Tax Increment Funding District.

The council heard from Roger Thornton, who said he was in favor of the expansion, but cautioned that there could be unprecedented tax bill increases for homeowners.

Thornton urged the board to examine developer payback agreements when future properties are developed and leased in the

TIF district, noting that this is a common practice in other areas. Thornton asked the council to get any future tax-abated properties and TIF district properties on tax rolls as soon as possible.

Thornton also requested that accrued TIF balances and excess TIF funds should support equipment needs for the Bluffton Fire Territory, which may ease the increasing property taxes on homeowners.

Council Member Scott Mentzer noted that the addition of properties to the TIF dis-

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Bluffton water department will receive new work truck

By JONATHAN SNYDER

A 2023 Ford F250 will join the Water Distribution Department fleet after the Bluffton Board of Public Works and Safety approved the purchase in its Tuesday meeting.

The truck costs \$62,490.35. It comes with a Knapheide service body, which is an open cargo attachment on the back of the truck with doors on the sides of the truck bed for transportation of tools, and a 10-speed transmission.

The department will replace a 1999 Chevy Silverado 1500 — which needs a lot of repairs according to Water Distribution Supervisor Dave Hendricks. Hendricks said that the shift cable broke in the Silverado the other day and that the steering column needs rebuilt. The 1999 truck currently has approximately 167,000 miles on it.

Out of the four quotes given the Board of Works, the low bid was for a 2022 F250 valued at \$59,601.65. Hendricks stated that the 10-speed transmission will help with fuel mileage, which is why the board did not take the low bid at Hendricks recommendation. Board member Scott Mentzer and Utility Director Jon Oman noted that the expense is part of the capital asset plan for

Bluffton, so the money is available.

Additionally, Anita Ybarra came to the board to discuss her nuisance dog order. On April 23, Ybarra discussed the incident where her dog attacked another at a boarding facility in Ossian, leading to the death of the other dog. She updated the board saying that a trainer came to her residence and the dog listens to commands better. She also asked the board about the purpose of the muzzle training if the dog is to never leave the property.

"All these trainings that we are going to put him through. It doesn't mean anything if we can't implement them," Ybarra said.

Mentzer stated that he is willing to hear from her and discuss the matter further. Board Member Josh Hunt clarified, however, that the muzzle requirement is to ensure the dog can go to the required obedience training and that the initial discussion was for an extension on the required time to get her dog trained.

"I'm certainly willing to have another conversation after the training's done," Mentzer said. "Let's get through those steps (first), but we're certainly willing to dialogue with you once we're past those milestones."

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Election Day

Primary election voting remained steady at the Wells County 4-H Fairgrounds Tuesday. Above, James Hutton submits his information while a line trails out the door. Wells County voter turnout was just 27.75%, with 3,802 Wells County residents voting on Tuesday and 1,503 more voting early or by mail. (Photo by Jonathan Snyder)

Braun nabs early win in the GOP primary for governor

By WHITNEY DOWNARD

Indiana Capital Chronicle

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun soundly defeated challenges from five other hopefuls to clinch the Republican nomination in the race for governor on Tuesday, winning just after polls in the Central Time Zone closed at 6 p.m.

"I intend to be the most entrepreneurial governor the state has ever had; the most accessible," Braun told the crowds to chants of "I like Mike."

"We're going to take this state to a place we've never seen before."

The other candidates running in the Republican primary for governor were: former Secretary of Commerce Brad Chambers, Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, Fort Wayne businessman Eric Doden, former Attorney General Curtis Hill and faith-motivated Jamie Reitenour.

As of 10 p.m., 84% of the votes had been

counted and Braun led with 40% of the vote.

In safely red Indiana, Braun is likely to be Gov. Eric Holcomb's successor in November but faces a challenge from Democrat Jennifer McCormick and Libertarian Donald Rainwater. McCormick was the only Democrat to qualify for a gubernatorial run and Rainwater got the Libertarian nod in a private party convention.

McCormick, in a release, called the choice between her and Braun one of "polarization and division" versus "optimism and opportunity."

"The primary results are in, setting up a clear choice this November," said McCormick. "As your governor, I will stand firm in my commitment to the values that define us as Hoosiers. I will fight to restore our reproductive rights and freedoms, champion for our kids, and ensure Hoosiers earn the wages they deserve. Indiana values reflect

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Outside

Sunny and warm today, showers tonight

Today	Thursday	Friday
High 80	High 65	High 62
Low 57	Low 45	Low 45

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Pictured above are Republican primary winners present at the party headquarters Tuesday night — Judge Kenton Kiracofe, Commissioner Blake Gerber, Pam Gregory for treasurer, Cliff Thomas for coroner, County Council members Scott Elzey and Vicki Andrews, Rina Stuck for recorder, County Council member Seth Whicker, and Commissioner Jeff Stringer. (Photo by Holly Gaskill)

Incumbents take nominations

(Continued from Page 1)

selves out there. “We recognize that in the political culture going on right now on a national front, there is a lot of anger and frustration, and I think we should acknowledge that this was a tough race for a lot of the candidates up and down the ballot, including locally,” Rodgers said. “I will say this — even when your name is on the ballot uncontested. It is a big deal for you to step up and run.”

Three races for precinct committeemen were also contested — Brandon Harnish won over Tami Runyon 67-53 (Bluffton 5), Michael Lautzenheiser Jr. over Preston Wright 205-72 (Bluffton Lancaster East), and Kathy Peep over Ashley Peterson 170-63 (Lancaster East).

Other Wells County results were:

- President (R): Nikki Haley (832) and Donald Trump (3,857).

- President (D): Joe Biden (375)

- U.S. Senator (R): Jim Banks (3,842)

- U.S. Senator (D): Marc Carmichael (109) and Valerie McCray (263).

- Governor (R): Mike Braun (1,875), Brad Chambers (494), Suzanne Crouch (654), Eric Doden (1,248), Curtis Hill (280) and Jamie Reitenour (186).

- Governor (D): Jennifer McCormick (384)

- U.S. Representative, District 3 (D): Kiley M. Adolph (247) and Phil Goss (127)

- State Representative, District 79 (R): Matt Lehman (3,939)

- State Representative, District 50 (D): Joe Swisher (6)

- Circuit Court Judge 28th Circuit (R): Kenton Kiracofe (4,150)

- County Recorder (R): Rina Stuck (4,075)

- County Treasurer (R):

Bucher wins Wells

Grant Bucher, a Wells County native, placed fifth in the Republican nomination for U.S. Representative in District 3 but took the lion’s share of votes in Wells County. Bucher received 2,048 votes — nearly triple Wells’ second-place candidate, Marlin A. Stutzman, who ultimately secured the nomination.

Republican results were: Bucher (2,048), Wendy Davis (553), Mike Felker (52), Jon Kenworthy (84), Tim Smith (591), Marlin A. Stutzman (718), Eric Whalen (50) and Andy Zay (660).

Pam Gregory (4,055)

- County Coroner (R): Cliff Thomas (4,098)

- County Surveyor (R): Jarrod Hahn (4,107)

- County Commissioner, District 2 (R): Blake Gerber (3,967)

- Twelve Republican state convention delegates at large: Ethan Bailey (1,768), Heather Barkley (2,090), Joshua Barkley (2,221), Tamra Boucher (2,570), Case

- Ferree (862), Sandra Garcia (2,175), Brandon Harnish (2,853), Becky Holdman (2,853), Travis Holdman (2,989), Josh Hunt (2,690), Scott Mentzer (2,299), Daphne Mygrant (1,174), Ashley Peterson (1,690), Kerry Roberts (1,690), Laura Roberts (2,041), Zach Rodgers (1,905), Joan Whicker (2,364) and Preston Wright (1,532).

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TIF district

(Continued from Page 1)

trict does not mean that the city will force negotiations between parties. The city will only seek to acquire property when the owner is willing to sell it and there is a need for the city to be a middleman in negotiations with developers.

“The TIF district geography is not expanding,” Mentzer said. “We’re adding parcels to our plan, so that if there is ever a situation where an owner and the city may want to enter into a purchase agreement, that it’s already in the plan and we can do without any more legislative effort.”

“In order for the Redevelopment Commission to use TIF dollars to either purchase real estate or support development of a particular

real estate, the property that would be acquired has to be on a list,” City Attorney Tony Crowell advised. “To be efficient in our process, like (Mentzer) said, and not have to come back every time... we just ask the question ‘What other properties in that area might we ever consider developing or purchasing for the TIF area?’ and add those to the list now so that we don’t have to do it later. It doesn’t mean anything except (that) they’re on the list.”

The council also approved an economic development consulting contract between Chad Kline, former Wells County Economic Development executive director, and the city of Bluffton. Kline will assist with the Northeast

Indiana Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative program. Council Member Rick Elwell noted that Kline is the most knowledgeable about READI program money and is the most qualified guy to help get grants for the city.

“This READI 2.0 (program) is a big deal,” Council member Chandler Gerber said. “As we’ve undertaken this effort to rejuvenate Bluffton, a lot of it hinges on grant money. It’s a little unfortunate with the timing of where everything landed here at the moment... but at this point we’ve gotta get this ball across the goal line.”

Kline will be paid \$50 per hour and is contracted through April 29 of next year.

The board later approved a petition on second reading to vacate an alley west of Jersey Street going west to the railroad right-of-way, between South and Cherry Streets. The petition was first read on April 16, but too few members of the council were physically present. An additional \$11,000 appropriation for opioid funding was also approved on second reading by the council.

The council also approved four CF-1 tax abatement forms for Randy Harnish. The forms state that the property improvements include a projection for five out of six storage buildings, with the total size of the buildings at 26,700 square feet.

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Braun nabs early win

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those of common sense, civility, and bipartisanship. Let’s bring this back to our great state. It’s our time; let’s go!”

Braun said three competitors had called him offering their congratulations during the 8 p.m. speech but didn’t provide specifics. Crouch said she left a voicemail.

In a concession speech around 7:30, runner-up Crouch said she had offered her congrats and support, urging unity to “keep Indiana on the road to victory in November.”

“We ran a positive campaign focused on the issues and focused on Hoosiers and we did everything we possibly could. After that, it’s up to God and the voters,” she said. “They have made their decision and we will get behind it.”

Contenders Doden, Chambers and Hill, in separate releases, also offered their support for Braun.

“Tonight, I called U.S. Senator Mike Braun to congratulate him on his victory and offer my support in the months ahead,” said Chambers. “I entered this race because I believe Indiana is a great state, but that with the right leadership, it could be even better. I hope U.S. Sen. Braun will be the leader Indiana needs and act ambitiously to create more opportunities that will lift up every Hoosier.”

Holcomb’s statement was short and to the point: “Congratulations to Senator Braun on a decisive victory tonight. Now we all unite through November to keep

Indiana on the fast track.”

Braun consistently led in several polls leading up to Tuesday’s primary though large blocs of voters appeared to be undecided in the final days of the race.

A group seeking to moderate the extremes of Hoosier politics, Recenter Indiana, endorsed Chambers over Braun and paid for billboards ahead of the May election urging Democrats to pull Republican ballots.

That sort of middle-ground tactic appealed to at least one Marion County voter, who called Chambers the “least controversial.”

“I’m a Democrat. I usually always vote Democratic,” Alan McKibben said outside of the Broad Ripple Park Family Center voting precinct. “I just wanted to make my opinion known.”

However, only Braun nabbed the envious endorsement from former President Donald Trump.

Braun’s win comes

nearly six years to the day since he won the Republican nomination for his U.S. Senate seat.

“I remember back to six years ago (Wednesday), the euphoria of winning the primary,” Braun said, recalling the bitterly expensive general election race that followed. “Money, sadly, has become too big a deal ... and in a full field like this, with four well-financed campaigns, it’s going to probably be a record for any primary.”

Braun, Chambers, Crouch and Doden have spent tens of millions in the final weeks — with the affluent Chambers and Doden both contributing heavily to their own campaigns. Braun, also a wealthy businessman, has amassed a war chest during his time in public service as has Crouch, who has nearly three decades of political experience.

In Indiana, the lieutenant governor position is filled

in a private convention but Braun said he would submit a recommendation for his future running mate.

“We’re going to have, I think, a recommendation for lieutenant governor. You’re probably going to be hearing that soon, provided we get over the finish line,” Braun said.

Braun said he “loved” the competition presented by Noblesville pastor Micah Bechwith, who has launched an unusual public bid to become the state’s next lieutenant governor.

Weather

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

(24-hour observations at 10:33 p.m. Tuesday)
High: 79; **Low:** 54; **Precipitation:** 0.15 inches of rain
Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 2.28 feet at 9:45 p.m. Tuesday

Wells County forecast

Today: Sunny, with a high near 80. Southwest wind around 5 mph.

Tonight: Showers likely, then showers and possibly a thunderstorm after 11 p.m. Low around 57. East wind 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. New rainfall amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch, except higher amounts possible in thunderstorms.

Thursday: Showers likely. Partly sunny, with a high near 65. East wind 10 to 15 mph becoming west in the morning. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Thursday Night: A 20% chance of showers before 2 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 45. Northwest wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Friday: Partly sunny, with a high near 62.

Friday Night: A 30% chance of showers after 2 a.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 45.

Saturday: A 50% chance of showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 63.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 44.

Water department

(Continued from Page 1)

Furthermore, the board approved a design change that will allow traffic on Perry Street to access the city parking lot across from city hall. The success of Mt. Fuji restaurant saw the need for the change, according to Street Commissioner Tim Simpson.

Simpson stated in a letter to the board that they would close off one of the entrances to Market Street traffic, and give Perry Street traffic the access point on their side. Simpson also noted that they would change the parking stall direction only on the west side of the lot to allow for parking from the north to pull in. Signs will

also be posted to assist with the change of direction.

“It’s always confusing if you’re in that alley,” Hunt said. “To me, it’s a no-brainer.”

The board also approved a motion to block two parking spots on Market Street next to the Foundations building sometime in June, so that construction workers can work on elevating roofing materials for Foundations. The board also approved a raise for Electric Department Substation Maintenance Employee Matt Moore, which takes him to the maximum allowed by salary ordinances.

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WCCOA | 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

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Pictured is Andrew Lengerich, who was arrested by the Adams County Sheriff's Office after barricading himself for over four hours. (Photo provided)

Adams County arrests wanted fugitive

The Adams County Sheriff's Department apprehended a wanted fugitive for Level 5 Felony charges of Intimidation. Andrew D. Lengerich, 35, rural Adams County, barricaded himself for four hours in his parents' Adams County barn following a coordinated operation led by the Adams County Sheriff's Office. Lengerich was wanted for Level 5 felony charges of intimidation.

The arrest was executed swiftly and safely, thanks to the seamless cooperation and coordination among the participating agencies.

The collaborative efforts of agencies including the Decatur Police Department, Indiana State Police, Adams County EMS, Decatur Fire, and the Adams County Highway Department were instrumental in the apprehension of the suspect.

Ossian Rotary to host Vicki Winchester of Northern Indiana Funeral Care

At its regular weekly meeting on Thursday, May 9, Ossian Rotary will host Vicki Winchester of Northern Indiana Funeral Care, which is locally owned and operated, and specializes in providing low-cost funeral and cremation services to families in Fort Wayne and all of Northern Indiana.

Winchester has an 18-year career in Advanced Planning. She lives in Fort Wayne. Having lost a spouse, mother, and other family members all in the same year, she knows personally the value and peace of mind that comes with having pre-arrangements taken care of before a need arises.

In these difficult economic times, more people are seeking an affordable solution when planning one of life's most difficult events. Northern Indiana Funeral Care promotes having services at a church or other venue, often saving 40% or more compared to most funeral homes. With a focus on simplicity, their goal is low overhead and an approach that's straightforward and easy to understand.

In addition, Northern Indiana Funeral Care offers a variety of funeral services for veterans, providing affordable funeral and cremation services to former and current members of the U.S. military and their families.

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, May 16, Ossian Rotary will host Kody Kumer of Ossian Revitalization.



Vicki Winchester

Principles class offers Bluffton High School students pathway to teaching

By JESSICA BRICKER

At Bluffton High School, one class gives students a first-hand look at what it means to be a teacher — and for students and teachers alike, the immersive class is serving its purpose.

This is the second year the Principles of Teaching class has been offered as a pathway for BHS students. Adam Atkins uses the course as a way to introduce students to as many opportunities in the education field as possible. This includes bringing in teachers to share their knowledge from across Bluffton-Harrison MSD for weekly "Teacher Chats" and visiting Bluffton-Harrison Elementary and Middle School twice a week for classroom experiences.

"I just think that more kids in today's world are kinesthetic and hands-on, and when they get to actually get involved is where they can actually learn the best," Atkins says.

'Every teacher has their own story'

Sophomore Ash Schoeff learns alongside the students in Grace Sommerfeld's music classes at Bluffton-Harrison Elementary. In Atkins' classroom, he is learning important skills such as best practices for interacting with students in the classroom, as well as interacting with other teachers.

"I signed up for Principles of Teaching because I really like music and I would like to teach younger students to love music as much as I do," Schoeff said.

Getting to visit BHES is his favorite part of the class. As someone who wants to enter education, Schoeff says the class has been helpful.

"This class has helped me because it teaches me how to interact with students, how to interact with other teachers and how I can bring (lessons) into the classroom that will help me teach students," he says.

Atkins says the most beneficial part of his class is sending students out into the classroom.

When he was in school to become a teacher, he said he learned the most by getting hands-on experience.

He enjoys listening to students' stories after they come back from the classroom each week. He also enjoys listening to the Teacher Chats, a weekly session in which he brings in a variety of teachers to share their experiences with Principles of Teaching students. "They add value to the class because they add perspective," Atkins said.

"Every teacher has their own story. Every teacher has their own 'why.' Every teacher has their own style," he says. "And I think when you bring in experts from all across all the areas I think it can be beneficial."

'A melting pot of a profession'

One of the Teacher Chats participants this semester was Kyle Linton, an interventionist at BHS.

Linton said he agreed to talk with students to show them someone who had a different career before going into teaching to normalize not quite knowing what to do after high school. That can be motivating, he said.

"I hope (students) understand that everybody's life is different," he said. "Everybody's experiences are different, and everybody's experiences shape who you are as you get older. I think that, for them connecting that, I think is a huge part in becoming who we are, as teachers specifically. This is why this teacher has this style, and we're just kind of a melting pot of a profession."

Vicki Van Matre, the longtime art teacher at BHS, also participated in Teacher Chats this semester.

"I taught the class last year and I know how important it is for future teachers to understand what it's like to be a teacher," she says. "And I think it's good for any student to understand what teachers do to get to the process of being a teacher and some of the things that we do in our day-to-day routines."

Van Matre hopes that students learn that while teaching is fulfilling and rewarding, it's not easy. And she hopes students realize how much teachers care for them — which is what keeps them going day after day.

Even if students don't enter the teaching profession, Van Matre says, if they can get in front of a classroom, they can use those skills to become highly

employable in another field.

'You're always thinking'
Sophomore Piper Baker is enrolled in the class this semester.

"I've heard so many good things about the Principles of Teaching class and I love working with kids," Baker says.

Studying education has crossed her mind, she said, and her parents think she would make a great teacher. The class has prepared her for working and interacting with students, as well as how students respond in the classroom. It's rewarding when she can get a struggling student to work.

Plus, she enjoys her Tuesdays and Thursdays when she visits Sara Runyon's kindergarten class.

"I love whenever I walk into the classroom and my kids run up to me and hug me," she says.

Some students are still considering their post-BHS options, and some are determined to go into education.

"I've always wanted to be a teacher, ever since I was in second grade, and I thought (this) would be a good class for me to take,"

junior Karli Anderson says.

Anderson says the course is preparing her to teach because when she gives presentations, she has to overcome the social anxiety of public speaking and get comfortable talking with students.

Freshman Matthew Tierney has aspirations to one day be a coach, and teaching aligns with that goal.

He says the class has helped him realize how much a teacher has on his or her plate — from teaching and grading to checking on students who may be struggling.

"You're always thinking, 24/7, it never stops," he says.

Engaging with the students is Tierney's favorite part; he doesn't just talk at them but with them. He also knows he can play a part in students' academic journeys, even if it's only through this class.

"I get to be able to be in some kids' lives and be able to walk down that path with them," he says, "even if it's for a few months."

Contact Jessica at jbricker@bhmsd.org

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Service: 10 a.m.,
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Abby R. Helmke
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Funeral: 11 a.m.
Friday, May 10 at the
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Public Sale Calendar

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! *Krueckberg 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, 260-824-3006, 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. *Krueckberg Auction & Realty LLC*, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.

MAY 21 - 6 p.m. - Patricia Mossburg & Joyce

Shady, owners. Wells County 4-H Park, 1240 4-H Rd., Bluffton. Property location: 100S & 200W, Bluffton. 90+/-A, Zoned Agricultural, Liberty Township, Wells County. To be sold in individual tracts or any combination. Tract 1: 54+/-A tillable, frontage on both CR 100S & CR 200W. 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. *Krueckberg Auction & Realty LLC*, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.

MAY 26-JUNE 2 - (Online Only Auction) - The Estate of John F. Holbrook, seller. 200+ pcs. Roseville, Rookwood, Hull, McCoy, VanBriggle, antique & modern furniture, 1950 Ford Sedan, Coca Cola vintage signs & collectibles, antique tools, 2-pc. Oak kitchen cabinet, JFK political buttons and advertising, vintage toys. Auction preview: May 23 from 3-6 p.m. and May 30 from 3-6 p.m., 10421 W. Yoder Rd., Roanoke, IN. Patrick Carter, sale manager, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, www.steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

JUNE 1 - 8:30 a.m. - E & M Blacksmith Shop. 2404 W 350 S, Berne, IN. 13th annual consignment auction. Horses, ponies, horse-drawn machinery, produce equipment, buggies, harness, carts, new tack, saddles, shop tools, lawn & garden tools, sausage grinders & stuffers, new & used furniture, washing machines, hay, straw & firewood. Accepting consignments every evening that week from 4-8 p.m., all day May 30, and May 31 from 7 a.m.-8 p.m. *Troyer Auctions, LLC*, 260-768-7246, ext. 3.

JUNE 4 - (Online Only Auction) - Bidding Opens at 9 a.m. and will close at 6 p.m. - The Estate of John F. Holbrook, seller. 300 W, Markle, IN. Northern Wells containing 6.79 acres in Union Township of vacant agricultural land, outstanding opportunity for potential building site with excellent location. Patrick Carter, sale manager, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, www.steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

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The primary campaign gave Indiana what it deserves

French philosopher and statesman Joseph de Maistre is credited with saying it first: "Every country has the government it deserves." In America, we more often credit the sentiment to Thomas Jefferson, who specifically said, "The government you elect is the government you deserve."



Michael Leppert

Ouch. Regardless of the version or the originator, it hurts more than usual in the shadow of this Primary Election Day in Indiana. It's designated as a state holiday, for all of the civic reasons that theoretically make sense. This year however, Hoosiers need to celebrate the end of the pre-season, the undercard, the opening act that no one wants to watch at the overpriced concert.

Hoosier Opinions

Do we really "deserve" this? Sadly, I must concede that we do. It's telling us some hard truths about ourselves.

One truth is that the campaigns I have viewed in central Indiana do not differentiate themselves in any meaningful way on the issue of governing. Writing down that "governing" is an "issue" being inadequately addressed in any campaign for public office is, well, a problem.

Amazingly, the marketplace of ideas, produced almost no actual ideas. It's easy to point at campaigns and complain that they aren't delivering what we, the voters, want. But in markets, supply and demand respond to one another. To summarize, we aren't demanding enough.

Governor's race

The GOP candidates for governor spent approximately \$40 million in pursuit of their party's nomination. Now, that's a market. But if one was to divvy up that total based on policy issues for a governor to legitimately pursue, I estimate less than 5% of it was spent to communicate any governing commitment.

Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch's "axe the tax" plan as a governing issue is worthy of mention in this context, but only barely. She advocated to eliminate the state's income tax. OK. The idea lacked details, primarily in the math department, but at least it's an idea.

Collectively, the bulk of the \$40 million was spent on four campaigns, Mike Braun, Brad Chambers, Eric Doden and Crouch. The ads introducing themselves to voters weren't necessarily offensive, just undifferentiating. However, as the season matured and the insults began to fly, they collectively established one thing for me: I like all of them a little less than I did before.

One ad that I saw more than just about any of them attacked Braun as a "RINO squish." RINO, an acronym for "Republican in name only" used to mean something. It no longer does in the era of MAGA, an acronym that also doesn't mean anything, unless loyalty to the right's pseudo-deity has governing value.

The term "squish" dates back to the Reagan era to describe a Republican who lacks backbone. Using that term today is awkward at best. To be a member of today's GOP, one must check that backbone at the door in exchange for the loyalty oath to a man on criminal trial right now. It's the opposite of courageous.

Dim view

Politics has become so disconnected from governing that the language of campaigns is losing relevance. Nothing is more nonsensical than those who say things like, "I like Trump's policies but..." Trump doesn't have "policies" or any coherent ideology, only grievances. And voters inspired by that ecosystem have been the only targets of this entire primary. That's why it never amounted to much from the start.

The TV and digital ads were trying to establish a few identifiable things. Of the top four candidates, common messaging would have the public believe they are all hard workers and committed to their faith. There's no reason to question any of that. But the apparent desire to be considered an outsider remains silly to me. Again, Crouch didn't beat that drum either, regularly expressing pride in her public service.

I'm looking forward to reelection campaigns in our future, running on the platform of being an outsider. It's almost as absurd as Donald Trump and Robert Kennedy, Jr. trying it. Spoiler: neither are.

In the 2016 primary, with both presidential nominations still in doubt, approximately 1.6 million Hoosiers voted. Even if we had that kind of enormous turnout this year, the \$40 million spent would equate to about \$25 per vote. I'm betting that number is between \$50 and \$75 this year.

It's been a colossal waste of money, at least in terms of value to the people of Indiana. Bluntly, we didn't learn what any of these candidates would be like if they win in the fall.

Jefferson and de Maistre wouldn't pity us though. They'd likely tell us we earned it.

Michael Leppert is an author, educator and a communication consultant in Indianapolis. He writes about government, politics and culture at MichaelLeppert.com.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, May 8, the 129th day of 2024. There are 237 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On May 8, 1996, South Africa took another step from apartheid to democracy by adopting a constitution that guaranteed equal rights for Blacks and whites.

On this date:

In 1541, Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto reached the Mississippi River.

In 1846, the first major battle of the Mexican-American War was fought at Palo Alto, Texas; U.S.

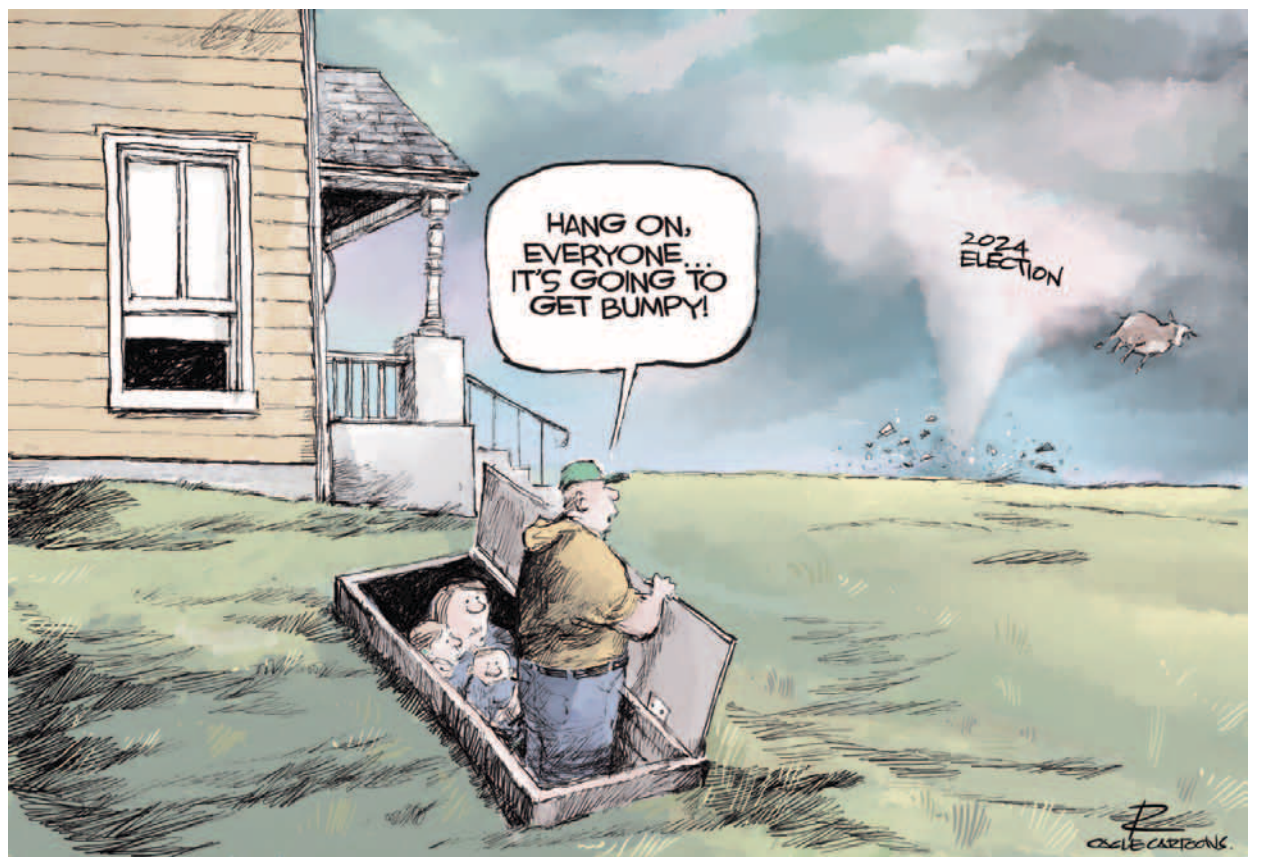
forces led by Gen. Zachary Taylor were able to beat back Mexican forces.

In 1915, Regret became the first filly to win the Kentucky Derby.

In 1945, President Harry S. Truman announced on radio that Nazi Germany's forces had surrendered, and that "the flags of freedom fly all over Europe."

In 1972, President Richard Nixon announced that he had ordered the mining of Haiphong Harbor during the Vietnam War.

In 1973, militant American Indians who had held the South Dakota hamlet of Wounded Knee for 10 weeks surrendered.



The 2024 electorate is more interesting than either candidate

Like the Gorgons in Greek mythology whose glances could turn people to stone, today's sour candidates have calcified our presidential politics with their glowering contest. "Rancor," said José Ortega y Gasset, "is an outpouring of a feeling of inferiority." Both men have much about which to feel inferior. The electorate, however, is at least interesting.

Until recently, presidential politics was significantly shaped by regional differences that were Civil War residues. In 1968, the Republicans' "Southern strategy" (following 25 years of steady gains in the South) facilitated victory in four of the next five, and five of the next seven, presidential elections. But in 2008, Barack Obama received a larger percentage of the nation's White vote than Democratic nominees Michael S. Dukakis, Al Gore and John F. Kerry won in 1988, 2000 and 2004, respectively. In 2020, Donald Trump won at least 56% in 18 states but not in Florida (51.2), Texas (52.1) or South Carolina (55.1).

Today, the nation has newer class-based and culture-fueled divisions, but is not happier for having somewhat transcended regionalism: There are battleground states (Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Georgia, Arizona, Nevada) in the North, South, East and West.

When George W. Bush was reelected in 2004, Ohio was the only large state he carried outside the South. (His next most populous non-Southern victory was in Indiana.) Regional differences have not lost their salience, but Obama won Florida and Virginia twice, North Carolina once, and in 2012 received 44% of both Mississippi's and South Carolina's votes.

In 2016, Hillary Clinton became a harbinger - and casualty - of today's ongoing class-based realignment. If her White working-class turnout and percentages of support had matched those of Obama in 2012, she would have won Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Iowa, Florida and the presidency. She would have won Wisconsin and Michigan if she had matched Obama's 2012 turnout in Milwaukee and Detroit.

Because so many Democratic voters are in California (13.7% of the party's national popular vote total in 2020) and a few other noncompetitive states (e.g., Illinois, New York), the party probably must win the



George Will

national popular vote by more than 3 percentage points to win 270 electoral votes. Oddities abound. Gerald Ford came closer to defeating Jimmy Carter in the 1976 popular vote than Mitt Romney came to defeating Obama in 2012. Clinton, losing to Trump in 2016, won the popular vote by a larger margin (2.1 points) than John F. Kennedy did defeating Richard M. Nixon in 1960.

In 56 of the 70 years prior to tumultuous 1968 (marked by assassinations, urban riots and a polarizing ground war of attrition on the Asian mainland with a conscript army), the federal government was united: One party or the other held the presidency and both houses of Congress. In the subsequent 56 years, there has been unified government for only 17 years.

In the 62 years from 1932 to 1994, there were Democratic House majorities for all but four years (and Senate majorities for 10 years). After Democrats controlled the House of Representatives for 40 years (1954-1994), control changed three times in 24 years. Now, for the first time, control has changed under five consecutive presidents (under Bill Clinton in 1994, Bush in 2006, Obama in 2010, Trump in 2018, Joe Biden in 2022). Before ticket-splitting became unusual, Nixon trounced George McGovern in 1972 by 23.2 points, and Ronald Reagan defeated Walter Mondale in 1984 by 18.2 points, yet in both cases Democrats retained control of the House.

It is asserted that independents will decide the 2024 election. Romney might be skeptical. In 2012, he won independents by 5 points but lost the popular vote by 4 points. Stasis is, however, notable: 36 states and the District of Columbia have voted for the same party in this century's six presidential elections.

If Biden loses, he will be the fifth incumbent defeated in the past 100 years (Herbert Hoover, Ford, Carter, George H.W. Bush). If Biden wins, he might be the first incumbent since Dwight Eisenhower in 1956 to win reelection while losing control of both houses of Congress. (Although Republicans seem to be trying to lose the House.)

Finally, for 50 years, the percentage of Americans calling themselves moderate has remained constant, around 40. Yet, remarkably, the ascent of glowering Gorgons has turned moderates away from politics.

georgewill@washpost.com

The powerless church

"O never give me over to my own heart's desires, nor let me follow my own imaginations!"

—John Wesley

There are many reasons for the modern church's loss of its prophetic voice, politics being just one of them. As in ancient times, trying to embrace what the rest of the world is doing has diminished the power of the church to address what used to be called "sinful behavior."

The latest, but surely not the last example, is what the United Methodist Church did last week at their convention in Charlotte, North Carolina. Delegates voted 523 to 161 to replace the definition of marriage as exclusively between a man and a woman and will now allow gay Methodist ministers to be ordained and perform same-sex marriages. They dropped language that said homosexual practice "is incompatible with Christian teaching." African delegates voted against the change. What do they know that others have forgotten?

Marriage between a man and a woman is compatible with Christian teaching. The majority of delegates should read and obey the Scriptures that John Wesley, the founder of their denomination, preached without compromise.

In Genesis, it says: "A man shall leave his father and mother and cleave to his wife and the two will become one flesh." The idea is to express love through mutual plea-



Cal Thomas

sure and produce children. (Genesis 2:24)

Jesus quotes that verse in the New Testament, affirming traditional marriage (Matthew 19:5-6)

In Judges, it says: "In those days Israel had no king. Everyone did as he saw fit" (Judges 21:25). We see that reflected in today's attitudes about sex, marriage and so many other things.

Paul writes that in the end times, "to suit their own desires, they will gather round them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear" (2 Timothy 4:3). We have entered that age and not just when it comes to faith. It's the same with politics and politicians, too many of whom are telling us what we want to hear, rather than what we need to hear.

There are numerous warnings about what will happen — and has happened — if especially religious leaders ignore Scripture. The ancient Israelites were severely punished for doing just that and now too many Christian denominations are climbing into the same boat. But the boat is sinking, as reflected in the number of people who have left these churches.

As The New York Times reported about Methodism three years ago, "America's second-largest Protestant

denomination is in the final stages of a slow motion rupture that has so far seen the departure of a quarter of the nation's roughly 30,000 United Methodist churches, according to the denomination's news agency." It has only gotten worse since then. What else should be expected if the preaching and teaching reflects what the secular world believes? Why attend these churches? Many congregants are fleeing to other denominations, spending their Sunday mornings at a local coffee shop or staying home.

To put things on a secular level, most businesses that lose customers would change their way of doing business to win them back. Not the Methodists, Episcopalians, United Presbyterians, and a branch of Lutherans among others. They are doubling down. Strongly evangelical churches that believe and preach Scripture are growing. Heresy is a bad "business model" for the church. Martin Luther said: "Peace if possible, truth at all costs." If we can't agree on truth, then anything goes.

Historically, the church has been a moral voice when it stood for what Scripture calls "righteousness." It affirmed doing right things and opposed wrong things. It was a major influence in ending slavery, promoting the right to vote for women and civil rights. While there was opposition to all these, the right prevailed.

If the church has lost its voice, who will speak up against wrong things? Who will listen?

tcaeditors@tribpub.com

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

Fear of failure keeps people from making decisions

I would sit at my desk and look out over my classroom and watch as my students would attack a test with a variety of strategies. I noted the ones that feverishly wrote their answers with such confidence that I knew that a high grade will be written at the top



Kathy Schwartz

of the page. I studied the students who looked blankly at the page and knew that I'd be spending some time reteaching the concepts to them or finding an alternative way to evaluate their knowledge on the topic. The students that would give me pause were the ones that continually redid their answers. Pieces of eraser were flung about, and tiny holes appeared on the page, as they struggled to get the answer to fit their need to be completely correct. They would spend the entire time allotted rereading, rewording, and changing their answers. Often, they would not finish the

test because there would be one question they could not leave unanswered. They would stress to the point of tears or anger and wouldn't move on to the next question. This overwhelming need for perfection or fear of failure paralyzed them to the point where failure was a certainty. The frequency of students with this mode of thinking increased as time passed. I wondered where society was headed if our population became obsessed with being right with no room for failure. I am saddened to think we are increasingly getting there.

Have you ever sat in a meeting and wanted to shout, "Would someone PLEASE make a decision!" I have. Everyone is so concerned that their decision may not end with success that no decision is made. And if a decision is made and fails, it is someone else's fault. It was the group's decision and therefore no one can be identified as the individual that blew it.



I think back on what my dad would expound upon during our many front-porch discussions. He said many profound things, all of which at the time meant very little to me, but now seem so relevant. Looking directly into my eyes, Dad said, "You need to decide what you are going to do. If things work out that's great. Chances are they won't. That's when you need to do two things. First, own your mistake. Don't blame someone else. Take ownership of what you did, just as you would if it turns out to be a roaring success. And secondly, sit down and figure out what went wrong so you know the next time what NOT to do."

Why are people so afraid to take ownership? The way some people are quick to ostracize or dismiss others for errors they perceive as egregious could be a reason. Society is very quick to condemn a person for a mistake and NOT give a second chance to rectify the situation. To take own-

ership of ones mistakes requires bravery in contemporary society.

During the first few weeks of school, I made it a point to make mistakes that could easily be caught by my students. This was to prove to my students that mistakes were welcome in my classroom. Without mistakes we do not learn. I learned more about a student's ability by the questions that were missed than the questions that were right. Their mistakes guided me to what needed to be taught. I shared stories of times I made not-so-brilliant choices and discussed what I learned from those decisions. I gave students a second chance to rethink what they had done and to give an alternative that may have resulted in a different ending. Mistakes are not an end but a beginning to growth.

I am first to say that when deciding, a person should evaluate the different choices that are possible and gather as much information as possible before making a decision. Considering the ramifications of your decision is necessary and reduces the impulsivity of the decision, but lingering on the multitude of possibilities can delay past the point of being

reasonable. If you spend too long deciding, the situation being addressed could have changed, thus affecting the results. Unless an individual has a giant crystal ball and can read it accurately, a person can not account for every single scenario.

Here's the thing: How do we move forward and allow our fellow humans to make mistakes without the fear of monumental consequences? Perhaps we need to cultivate a culture where forgiveness is given freely along with the realization that no one person is perfect. It's okay to be wrong if you strive to not repeat the mistake and truly regret your decision. So put down those erasers and move forward, knowing that you will learn a valuable lesson no matter the outcome.
mamaschwartz@hotmail.com

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



World Labyrinth Day walkers

Walkers in the World Labyrinth Day event on Saturday, May 4, from 1 to 2 p.m. were part of the wave of prayers for peace going across the country, at the Labyrinth beside Bluffton's First Presbyterian Church. Opening prayers for the walk were offered by the church's Assistant Pastor Sandra Garcia. (Photo provided)

Auditions for upcoming shows

The Creative Arts office at 428 S. Oak St. in Bluffton will serve as the audition site for "Much Ado About Nothing" and Mark Twain's "Tom Sawyer."

The Parlor City Shakespeare group will hold auditions on Sunday, May 19 and Monday May 20 at 7 p.m. Those auditioning should enter the building through Door 10 and follow the signs.

Haley E. Johnson will be the director with more information at <https://www.facebook.com/parlorsityshakes>.

Auditions for the fall production of "Tom Sawyer" will be held on Thursday, Aug. 1, 5-6 p.m., Friday, Aug. 2, 6-8 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 3, 10 a.m.-12 noon. More information about the production at <https://www.facebook.com/events/373432615684636>.

DORA adopted in Fort Wayne

Downtown Fort Wayne now has a DORA area (Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area) which spans much of the downtown area.

The area is roughly from Promenade Park to Parkview Field. Adults may legally purchase drinks in special cups from participating bars and at events and carry them within the designated area. The 16-ounce plastic cups are brightly-colored with the DORA logo and are manufactured by the

JH Specialty Co.

Sites in the designated area include: the Landing, Botanical Conservatory, PNC Plaza, JK O'Donnell's, Dash-In, Pint & Slice, Tolon, Copper Spoon, the Side-car, Nawa, Prozimo, Night Train, Dana's, Bistro Nota, The Porch Off Calhoun and Marquee.

Fort Wayne City Council members also have designated Electric Works in Fort Wayne as another DORA area.

Canal boat rides to begin on Fort Wayne's Sweet Breeze

Ticket sales have begun for the summer season of canal boat rides on Sweet Breeze from Promenade Park in Fort Wayne.

Saturday and Sunday rides will be offered from May 25 to Oct. 13, with 90 minute rides priced at \$30 and 45 minute ones at \$20. From June 26 to Aug. 29, Thursday evening rides are priced at \$23 for a 60 minute one.

The boat is handicapped accessible and has rest rooms facilities. To book a ride call

260-427-6000 and for more information go to ridessweetbreeze@cityoffortwayne.org.



Free 'Firefly Tour' dancers

Dancers from the Fort Wayne School of Ballet will be appearing at Bluffton's Kehoe Park on Tuesday, May 14, at 7 p.m. for a free "Firefly Tour" concert. They also will be doing free programs at the Old National Bank Plaza in Fort Wayne on May 17, 19, 20, 21 and 22. Other sites for free programs will include Warsaw, Auburn and Angola. (Photo provided.)

Monroe Lions 5K Run/Walk

The Monroe Lions 5K Run/Walk is the next race in the Adams County Challenge series. The race will take place at 8:15 a.m. on Saturday, May 11. The race will start and end on the east side of Adams Central School by the Fair Grounds.

Registration is \$20 on race day with no guarantee of a shirt. All female participants will receive a plant in honor of Mother's Day.

Contact race director Alan Arnold with any questions at pamalarn@myfibersolution.com or 260-216-1101.

Local Concerts

KEHOE PARK, BLUFFTON

Firefly Tour (Fort Wayne Ballet): May 19, 7 p.m., free Bayou County—CCR Tribute: June 7, 8-10 p.m.

A John Mellencamp Tribute: June 14, 9-10 p.m. Def Legend Tribute: June 28, 8-10 p.m.

Community Worship: June 30, 7-8:30 p.m. (Sunday)

Hotel California—Eagles Tribute: July 12, 8-10 p.m.

The Insiders—Tom Petty Tribute: July 26, 8-10 p.m.

Woolblies Rock Orchestra: Aug. 2, 8-10 p.m.

MUSIC ON THE PLAZA, BLUFFTON

Parlor City Plaza, 118 W. Market St., Bluffton

Fleetwood 2 The Max: June 21, 7-10 p.m.

Rylie Lynn Band: July 19, 7-10 p.m.

Whoa, Man!, Aug. 8, 7-10 p.m.

The Electric Cars, Sept. 5, 7-10 p.m.

WELLS CO. 4-H FAIR

Hubie Ashcraft Band: July 16

Trevor Hunt: July 17

MARKLE SUMMER SOUNDS

Markle Fish & Game Club Park, 220 S. Clark St.

Debutantes: May 10

Hubie Ashcraft Band: June 14, 7 p.m.

Whoa, Man!: July 12, 7 p.m.

New Frontiers: Aug. 9, 6-9 p.m.

WARREN CONCERTS

Burr's Hill Park Band Shell, Warren. All concerts are free and begin at 5 p.m.

Merchants of Cool (Foreigner Tribute): July 9

The Pogs (90's Tribute): July 16

Detroit Breakdown (classic rock): July 23

Eastbay Wind Ensemble (classical):

Back in the Day (80's Tribute): Aug. 6

Run For Cover (high energy dance band): Aug. 13

Steppin' Out Feat New Image (R & B): Aug. 20

Country Wild Heart (country): Aug. 27

Movie Schedule

Free movies are shown on Thursday evenings with gates opening at 6:30 p.m. and movie to start at 8:30 p.m. (dusk)

Minions Rise of Gru: July 6 (Karaoke at 6:30 p.m.)

Puss in Boots: The Last Wish: July 20

Lyle, Lyle the Crocodile: Aug. 3 (Just Dance performances)

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STEFFEN Financial Group stefffinancial.com	JC'S GARAGE DOOR SALES & SERVICE jcsgaragedoor.com	Daniel's JEWELERS daniels-jewelers.net
INDIANA FARM BUREAU INSURANCE Bluffton Office (260) 824-2234 infarmbureau.com	3 RIVERS 3riversfcu.org	Myers FUNERAL HOMES myersfuneralhomes.com
WELLS COUNTY 4-H GROWS HERE extension.purdue.edu/wells	RiverStone DENTAL riverstonedental.net	Bluffton Tire blufftontire.com
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The Fall Guy
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Friday, May 10th 6pm & 8:50pm
Saturday, May 11th 2:30pm, 5:20pm & 8:10pm
Sunday, May 12th 2pm & 4:50pm

Unsung Hero
Thursday, May 9th 6:20pm
Friday, May 10th 6:20pm & 9pm
Saturday, May 11th 3pm, 5:45pm & 8:30pm
Sunday, May 12th 2:20pm & 5pm

www.abcinmainc.com

TikTok sues U.S. to block law that could ban the platform

By HALELUYA HADERO, MICHELLE CHAPMAN and BARBARA ORTUTAY

AP Business Writers
TikTok and its Chinese parent company filed a lawsuit Tuesday challenging a new American law that would ban the popular video-sharing app in the U.S. unless it's sold to an approved buyer, saying it unfairly singles out the platform and is an unprecedented attack on free speech.

In its lawsuit, ByteDance says the new law vaguely paints its ownership of TikTok as a national security threat in order to circumvent the First Amendment, despite no evidence that the company poses a threat. It also says the law is so "obviously unconstitutional" that its sponsors are instead portraying it as a way to regulate TikTok's ownership.

"For the first time in history, Congress has enacted a law that subjects a single, named speech platform to a permanent, nationwide ban, and bars every American from participating in a unique online community with more than 1 billion people worldwide," ByteDance asserts in the lawsuit filed in a Washington appeals court.

The law, which President Joe Biden signed as part of a larger foreign aid package, marks the first time the U.S. has singled out a social media company for a potential ban, which free speech advocates say is what would be expected from repressive regimes such as those in Iran and China.

The lawsuit is the latest turn in what's shaping up to be a protracted legal fight over TikTok's future in the United States — and one that could end up before the Supreme Court. If TikTok loses, it says it would be forced to shut down next year.

The law requires ByteDance to sell the platform to a U.S.-approved buyer

within nine months. If a sale is already in progress, the company would get another three months to complete the deal. ByteDance has said it doesn't plan to sell TikTok. But even if it wanted to divest, the company would need Beijing's blessing. According to the lawsuit, the Chinese government has "made clear" that it wouldn't allow ByteDance to include the algorithm that populates users' feeds and has been the "key to the success of TikTok in the United States."

TikTok and ByteDance say the new law leaves them with no choice but to shut down by next Jan. 19 because continuing to operate in the U.S. wouldn't be commercially, technologically or legally possible. They also say it would be impossible for ByteDance to divest its U.S. TikTok platform as a separate entity from the rest of TikTok, which has 1 billion users worldwide — most of them outside of the United States. A U.S.-only TikTok would operate as an island that's detached from the rest of the world, the lawsuit argues.

The suit also paints divestment as a technological impossibility, since the law requires all of TikTok's millions of lines of software code to be wrested from ByteDance so that there would be no "operational relationship" between the Chinese company and the new U.S. app.

The companies argue that they should be protected by the First Amendment's guarantee of freedom of expression and are seeking a declaratory judgment that it is unconstitutional.

The Justice Department declined to comment on the suit Tuesday. And White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre declined to engage on questions about why the president continues to use TikTok for his political activities, deferring to the campaign.

Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi, an Illinois Democrat

who is the ranking member of the House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party, issued a statement Tuesday defending the new law.

"This is the only way to address the national security threat posed by ByteDance's ownership of apps like TikTok. Instead of continuing its deceptive tactics, it's time for ByteDance to start the divestment process," he said.

ByteDance will first likely ask a court to temporarily block the federal law from taking effect, said Gus Hurwitz, a senior fellow at the University of Pennsylvania's Carey Law School who isn't involved in the case. And the decision whether to grant such a preliminary injunction could decide the case, because its absence, ByteDance would need to sell TikTok before the broader case could be decided, he said.

Whether a court will grant such an injunction remains unclear to Hurwitz, largely because it requires balancing important free speech issues against the Biden administration's claims of harm to national security. "I think the courts will be very deferential to Congress on these issues," he said.

The fight over TikTok comes amid a broader U.S.-China rivalry, especially in areas such as advanced technologies and data security that are seen as essential to each country's economic prowess and national security.

U.S. lawmakers from both parties, as well as administration and law enforcement officials, have expressed concerns that Chinese authorities could force ByteDance to hand over U.S. user data or sway public opinion by manipulating the algorithm that populates users' feeds. Some have also pointed to a Rutgers University study that maintains TikTok content was being amplified or underrepresented based on

how it aligns with the Chinese government's interests — a claim the company disputes.

Opponents of the law argue that Chinese authorities — or any nefarious parties — could easily get information on Americans in other ways, including through commercial data brokers that rent or sell personal information. They say the U.S. government hasn't provided public evidence that shows TikTok has shared U.S. user information with Chinese authorities or tinkered with its algorithm for China's benefit.

"Data collection by apps has real consequences for all of our privacy," said Patrick Toomey, deputy director of the ACLU's National Security Project. "But banning one social media platform used by millions of people around the world is not the solution. Instead, we need Congress to pass laws that protect our privacy in the

first place."

Jameel Jaffer, executive director of the Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University, expects TikTok's lawsuit to succeed.

"The First Amendment means the government can't restrict Americans' access to ideas, information, or

media from abroad without a very good reason for it — and no such reason exists here," Jaffer said in a statement.

Although TikTok prevailed in earlier First Amendment challenges, it isn't clear whether the current lawsuit will be as simple.

Knights win final regular season track meet vs. Tigers, Panthers

Bluffton, Norwell and Eastbrook were able to avoid the storm cells Tuesday night and ran their final track meets of the season.

The Knights were the top team in both the boys' and girls' meets. In the boys, Norwell won with a team score of 82, Bluffton 52 and Eastbrook 22. In the girls, Norwell won with 91 points, Eastbrook second at 35 and Bluffton third with 30.

Top placers were:
Bluffton Boys
 • Maksym Laisharkin second in the 200m with a time of 24.28.
 • Elijah Kerner third in the 400m. Times were not posted.



Norwell's Jase Harmon leaps during the long jump.

• Brett Kuhlenbeck third in the 1600m with a time of 5:11.20.
 • Aidan Graves second in the 3200m with a time of 11:05.50
 • Andrew Hunt second in the 110m hurdles with a time of 17:09 and Eli Bertsch third at 17.73.
 • Hunt second in the 300m hurdles with a time of 43.46.
 • Bluffton's 4x100m relay team of Alex Mechling, Ben Ramseyer, Trey Bustos and Khamel Moore second with a time of 45.75.
 • Bluffton's 4x400m relay team of Tyler Godwin, Laisharkin, Hunt and Jude Baumgartner second with a time of 3:38.40.
 • Bluffton's 4x800m relay team of Buamgartner, Levi Johns, Graves and Kuhlenbeck second with a time of 8:52.43. Bluffton's second relay team of Godwin, Ayden Teeple, Jackson Rockwell and Marshall Gerber third at 8:57.58.
 • Bustos second in the long jump at 18-11 and Laisharkin third at 18-10.

• Johnny Cruz first in the shot put at 48-11.75 and Sam Mechling third at 42-6.5.
 • Tavin Frees first in the discus at 129-11.
Girls
 • Alydia Bertsch third in the 1600m with a time of 6:24.37.
 • Reagan Harris third in the 3200m with a time of 15:15.21.
 • Dakota Lee first in the 100m hurdles with a time of 17.25. and Sophie Schwartz second at 17.58.
 • Lee first in the 300m hurdles with a time of 52.39 and Schwartz 54.27.
 • The 4x400 relay team of Addison Yates, Maryn Schreiber, Lee and Madelyn Funk second with a time of 4:46.57.
 • Rori Drayer third in the shot put at 29-2.25.
 • Corina Rader third in the discus at 85-4.
Norwell Boys
 • Devin Dale first in the 100m with a time of 11.75 and Trevon Stoppenhagen second at 11.76.

• Stoppenhagen first in the 200m with a time of 24.25 and Dale third at 24.31.
 • Cohen Bailey second in the 400m with a time of 53.34.
 • Kyler Morris second in the 800m with a time of 2:11.15 and Luke Johnson third at 2:13.99.
 • Gavin Threewits first in the 1600m with a time of 5:03.32 and Caiden Petrie second at 5:04.83.
 • Gage Reinhard first in the 3200m with a time of 11:00.33 and Threewits third at 11:10.72.
 • Zane Borne first in the 110m hurdles with a time of 16.79.
 • Borne first in the 300m hurdles at 42.39 and Hayden Bennett third at 43.82.
 • Norwell's 4x400m relay team of Stoppenhagen, Jase Harmon, Ryan Smith and Dale first with a time of 44.28. Norwell's second relay team of Brady Smith, Nolan Weedman, Caden Morgana and James Springer.
 • Norwell's 4x100m relay team of Morris, Stoppenhagen, Bailey and Smith first with a time of 3:38.21.
 • Norwell's 4x800m relay team of Threewits, Petrie, Johnson and Morris first with a time of 8:46.88.
 • Trace Moser and Harmon second in the high jump at 5-8.
 • Bailey first in the long jump at 19-5.5.
 • Alex Fojtik second in the shot put at 43-11.5.
 • Will Gerber second in the discus at 117-7.
Girls
 • Abigail Dale first in the 100m and Ryland Graft second. Times were not posted.
 • Graft first in the 200m



Norwell's Zane Borne (left) stays just ahead of Bluffton's Andrew Hunt (right) during the 110m hurdles Tuesday night at Bluffton. Borne defeated Hunt in the end, leading the Knights to a boys' and girls' victory. (Photos by Ryan Walker)

with a time of 28.83 and Emerson Meredith third at 30.14.
 • Jada Dale second in the 400m with a time of 1:01.93 and Haley Williamson third at 1:05.90.
 • Haleigh Reinhard first in the 800m with a time of 2:45.94 Kylee Hannie second at 2:46.19.
 • Elizabeth Norris first in the 1600m with a time of 6:19.06 and Ashley Waldman second at 6:19.09.
 • Norris first in the 3200m with a time of 13:45.27 and Waldman second at 14:54.98.
 • Jaycie Grzych third in the 100m hurdles with a time of 17.77.
 • Grzych third in the 300m hurdles with a time of 53.60.
 • Norwell's 4x100m relay team of Makenzie Fuess, Dale, Dale and Graft first with a time of 52.08. Norwell's second relay team of Karrigan Melcher, Shae Brooks, Carlee Strunk and Addison Roembke third at 56.47.
 • Norwell's 4x400m relay team of Dale, Dale, Fuess and Graft first with a time of 4:29.94. Norwell's second relay team of Lillian Mann,

Grzych, Alivia Green and Eden Nash at 5:02.59.
 • Norwell's 4x800m relay team of Ali Riley, Reinhard, Brooklyn Meyer and Waldman first with a time of 10:56.23. Norwell's second relay team of Larkin Smith, Meyer, Lyanna Kelley and Mariah Kline third at 12:04.25.
 • Williamson first in the high jump at 4-8 and both Meredith and Green tied for second at 4-6.

• Williamson first in the long jump at 15-4, Fuess second at 14-6.25 and Strunk third at 14-1.5.
 • Fuess second in the shot put at 31-2.
 • Kaylee Eicher second in the discus at 88-9.5.
 Bluffton will host its thrower's showcase at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 11.
 Norwell will be at the 9/10 relays at Huntington North starting at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 11.

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WELLS COUNTY INDIANA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

High School Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8
 BASEBALL: Snider at Norwell 5:30 p.m.
 BOYS GOLF: Norwell at DeKalb, 4:30 p.m.; Northfield at Bluffton, 5 p.m.
 GIRLS TENNIS: Bluffton at Jay County, 5 p.m.
 SOFTBALL: Norwell at Huntington North, 5:30 p.m.
THURSDAY, MAY 9
 BASEBALL: Huntington North at Norwell, 5:30 p.m.; Woodlan at Southern Wells, 5:30 p.m.
 BOYS GOLF: Bluffton at Woodlan, 4:30 p.m.; Eastbrook/Southwood at Southern Wells, 4:30 p.m.
 GIRLS TENNIS: Huntington North at Norwell, 4:30 p.m.; Carroll at Bluffton, 5:30 p.m.
 SOFTBALL: Bluffton at Norwell, 5 p.m.; Woodlan at Southern Wells, 5:30 p.m.
 TRACK AND FIELD (CO-ED): Norwell/Bellmont at Adams Central, 5 p.m.



Aces finish 3rd in Decatur tournament

The 10 and under Aces team in Wells County had a great weekend in Decatur. It was the team's first travel tournament, and the Aces finished in third place. All players reside in Wells County and are playing a year under 10, facing others who are a year older. Saturday didn't start the way they planned it, falling to Fort Wayne Force 13-6 and Freedom 8-0, but Sunday, they got right back on their feet. The Aces went 2-1 on Sunday, defeating the Busco Freedom 22-6 and the Decatur Dynamite 12-5. The team threw 448 pitches, went 56/57 on stolen base attempts, 74 at-bats and 48 runs scored. Next weekend, the Aces are going to Yorktown for another tournament. Pictured from left to right: Front row, Cait Smithley and Lexi Gumbel. Second row: Gabby Diss, Paetynn Miller, Aubrielle Dillon, Paislee Teusch and Elli Graham. Back row: Ainsley Wagnor, Ellie Frees, Quinn Wilson, Audrey Fulton and Emily Prough. (Photo provided)

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Sports Roundup

Tigers sweep Raiders in softball, finishes the original game

Bluffton and Southern Wells finished the final inning of their game back on Friday, April 26, 0-0 that was postponed three days later and was then postponed again. The games were played on Monday.

The Tigers defeated the Raiders 21-6, and then played a nonconference game afterward.

In the first game, the Tigers had eight hits, two from Averi Petty with a double. The Tigers got RBI from Marly Drayer, Isabella Stout, Konley Ault with a double, Jillian Phillippe, Addison Kauffman, Ella Borrer and Kayla Kiefer. Tyrrah Shaw also had three stolen bases.

Southern Wells had 10 hits, two from Kyah Thomas with an RBI, Maddy Sutton with two hits with two RBI and a double. Collena Reeves had two RBI.

Shaw picked up the win, throwing four innings and allowing no runs on three hits, striking out three.

Thomas had the loss for Southern Wells. In Game 2, the Tigers won 20-5.

Bluffton had 14 hits, led by Ault with two hits, three RBI and a home run. Drayer, Petty and Madison Smith had two-hit games. Drayer with two RBI and Petty with a triple.

Southern Wells had 14 hits as well, two

from Thomas, Sutton and Gracie Reeves. Reeves had two doubles and Sutton one. Lilly Roe, Sutton and Collena Reeves had two RBI.

Madyson Sonnigsen got the win, throwing five innings, five runs (three earned), no walks and four strikeouts.

Kaylea Coffel got the loss.

Bluffton will host Heritage at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 8.

Southern Wells will host Woodlan at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 9.

Knights shutout Riverview in middle school girls' soccer

Norwell's girls' soccer team pitched a 3-0 shutout over Riverview on Monday.

Vivian Branham scored the first goal, followed by Hadie Isch and Lilly Holmes.

Maggi Neuenschwander and Phoenix Whitsitt were in net, and the defense allowed zero Riverview shots on goal.

Knights top Raiders in middle school golf match at Dogwood

The Norwell Middle School golf team went to Dogwood Glen on Monday and defeated Southern Wells 262-319.

Leading the Knights was Easton Pine, who shot a 44 and was the medalist. Cash Fegley shot a 48 and Westin Miller 53.

Penske suspends Cindric, 3 others in the wake of a cheating scandal ahead of the Indianapolis 500

By JENNA FRYER
AP Auto Racing Writer

Roger Penske has suspended the president of Team Penske along with three others for the next two races for their roles in the cheating scandal that has rocked IndyCar ahead of the Indianapolis 500.

Penske said Tuesday in an interview with The Associated Press that a review done by his general counsel found no "malicious intent by anyone" and chalked up the incident as a breakdown in internal processes and miscommunication.

He also said he remains committed to reigning Indianapolis 500 winner Josef Newgarden, who was stripped of his March 10 victory for the scandal, and is actively trying to sign the two-time IndyCar champion to a contract extension.

"We're the same company we have been for 50 years and I'm going to hold my head high," Penske told the AP. "This is an unfortunate situation and when you're the leader, you have to take action. We've done that and we're going to move on. I am not trying to run a popularity contest."

The scandal dates to the IndyCar season-opener in March won by Newgarden. Six weeks later, the series discovered that the three Penske cars were able to use a software system to get a horsepower boost on starts and restarts, which is against the rules.

Tim Cindric, who oversees all Team Penske operations and is the strategist for Newgarden, is the top name to receive the two-race suspension, which includes the showcase Indy 500 on Memorial Day weekend. Also suspended was team managing director Ron Ruzewski, Newgarden engineer Luke Mason and senior data engineer Robbie Atkinson.

Cindric and Ruzewski "raised their hands as the team leaders" to accept responsibility for the mess, Penske told AP.

"For Ron and I as leaders of this team, it's not about what we did, it's about what we didn't do. It is our responsibility to provide the team and all our drivers with the right processes to ensure something like this can't happen," Cindric said in a statement. "For that, I apologize to Roger, our team and everyone that supports us. Our number one job is to protect and enhance the reputation of our brand and that of those that support us."

"In that regard, as the overall leader, I failed, and I must raise my hand and be accountable with the others. This is a team, and in my position, it's the right thing to do."

Ruzewski and Atkinson both work on Will Power's car — Ruzewski is his strategist — and Power was the only one of the three Penske drivers not accused of wrongdoing. Penske acknowledged that Power had done nothing wrong and said the suspensions to his crew members were based solely on their roles within the team. None of Scott McLaughlin's team members were



Tim Cindric

punished; the driver was earlier stripped of his third-place finish at the March race.

The suspensions cover this weekend's race on the Indianapolis Motor Speedway road course and the Indy 500, which Penske is trying to win for a record-extending 20th time.

"That's a big deal, a significant impact to the team, to the individuals involved," Penske told the AP of the Indy 500 being included in the suspensions. "I talked to all of them and the goal was, 'How can we move forward and be competitive and win? Win the next two races?' That was the feeling I had when I left the meeting."

Asked how Newgarden moves forward and regains the respect of his competitors, Penske said: "He's got to do it on the race-track. I think he understands the gravity of this thing and I need to support him."

He said contract talks with Newgarden are ongoing but "for sure I do" want to re-sign him.

The push-to-pass function is controlled by IndyCar and disabled on starts and restarts, when the extra boost of horsepower is illegal. Two weeks ago at Long Beach, a glitch in the software knocked out the software on all cars except the three Penske entries. IndyCar's investigation later showed that the software had been in place in the season-opening race and Newgarden used it to his advantage an admitted three times.

Newgarden said he thought there had been a rule change and the P2P system was now legal on restarts. McLaughlin said he hit the button out of habit and gained no advantage from the horsepower boost that lasted less than 2 seconds.

McLaughlin said he used it once at St. Petersburg and Power never illegally used it. Besides stripping Newgarden and McLaughlin of their podium finishes, IndyCar fined all three drivers \$25,000 and docked them 10 points each.

Cindric said the software was inadvertently left on the cars since last August when it was installed to test IndyCar's upcoming hybrid engine but the scandal shook IndyCar, which had not had a disqualification in 29 years.

Penske owns the race team, IndyCar and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and has been in damage control

"I recognize the magnitude of what occurred and the impact it continues to have on the sport to which I've dedicated so many decades," Penske said in the statement when the punishments were announced. "Everyone at Team Penske along with our fans and business partners should know that I apologize for the errors that were made and I deeply regret them."

IndyCar has said it is trying to determine how the software wasn't found through inspection during the season's first three races.

Brown, White lead Celtics' 3-point onslaught, powering Boston to its Game 1 win over the Cavaliers

By KYLE HIGHTOWER
AP Sports Writer

BOSTON (AP) — Jaylen Brown scored 32 points, Derrick White made seven 3-pointers and added 25, and the Boston Celtics powered past the Cleveland Cavaliers 120-95 on Tuesday night in Game 1 of their second-round playoff series.

Jayson Tatum finished with 18 points and 11 rebounds to help the Celtics pull away in the second half.

The Cavaliers went 11 of 42 from 3-point range and kept pace early. But the Celtics were even more efficient from the outside, connecting on 18 of 46 from beyond the arc for the game.

It helped Boston carry a 15-point lead into the fourth quarter. The Celtics then started the final period on a 10-2 run to increase their lead to 102-79.

Donovan Mitchell had 33 points and six assists for the Cavaliers. He is the fourth player in league history to score 30 or more points in six straight playoff series openers, joining Michael Jordan (three times), Kobe Bryant and Walt Chamberlain.

Darius Garland added 14 points. Game 2 is Thursday night in Boston.

White picked up where he left off after scoring 38 and 25 points in the final two games against the Miami Heat in the first round.

With the Cavaliers hot from the 3-point line early, White led the Celtics attack. It was his third time this postseason with at least six 3s.

Both teams played without their starting centers. Cleveland's Jarrett Allen missed his fourth straight game with a bruised rib injury he sustained in the first round against Orlando. Boston's Kristaps Porzingis was sidelined for the second consecutive game with a strained right calf.

The top-seeded Celtics got an extended break after making quick work of the Heat in the first round. They looked like a rested team, jumping out to a 12-2 lead, with nine of those points coming from Brown.

Mitchell was just as aggressive for Cleveland, scoring eight points during a 21-9 spurt by the Cavaliers to nudge back in front.

But Boston settled down, closing the opening period on a 19-11 run to take a 40-34 edge into the second.

The 74 combined points in the opening period were the most in a Celtics' playoff game since 1990 and third-most in franchise history. The Celtics took a 59-49 lead into halftime.

News-Banner Scoreboard

BASKETBALL

NBA

SECOND ROUND

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

Monday, May 6

New York 121, Indiana 117, New York leads series 1-0

Minnesota at Denver, late

Tuesday, May 7

Boston 120, Cleveland 95

Dallas at Oklahoma City, late

Wednesday, May 8

Indiana at New York, 8 p.m.

Thursday, May 9

Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.

Dallas at Oklahoma City, 9:30 p.m.

Friday, May 10

New York at Indiana, 7 p.m.

Denver at Minnesota, 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 11

Oklahoma City at Dallas, 3:30 p.m.

Boston at Cleveland, 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 12

New York at Indiana, 3:30 p.m.

Denver at Minnesota, 8 p.m.

Monday, May 13

Boston at Cleveland, 7 p.m.

Oklahoma City at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 14

x-Indiana at New York, TBA

x-Minnesota at Denver, TBA

HOCKEY

NHL

SECOND ROUND

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

Sunday, May 5

N.Y. Rangers 4, Carolina 3, N.Y. Rangers leads series 1-0

SECOND ROUND

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

Monday, May 6

Boston 5, Florida 1

Tuesday, May 7

N.Y. Rangers 4, Carolina 3 (2OT)

Colorado at Dallas, late

Wednesday, May 8

Boston at Florida, 7:30 p.m.

Edmonton at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

Thursday, May 9

N.Y. Rangers at Carolina, TBA

Colorado at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.

Friday, May 10

Florida at Boston, TBA

Edmonton at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

Saturday, May 11

N.Y. Rangers at Carolina, TBA

Dallas at Colorado, TBA

Sunday, May 12

Florida at Boston, TBA

Vancouver at Edmonton, TBA

Monday, May 13

x-Carolina at N.Y. Rangers, TBA

Dallas at Colorado, TBA

Tuesday, May 14

x-Boston at Florida, TBA

Vancouver at Edmonton, TBA

BASEBALL

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	23	12	.657	—
New York	24	13	.649	—
Boston	19	17	.528	4½
Tampa Bay	19	18	.514	5
Toronto	16	20	.444	7½

Central Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	23	13	.639	—
Minnesota	20	15	.571	2½
Kansas City	21	16	.568	2½
Detroit	19	17	.528	4
Chicago	8	28	.222	15

West Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	21	16	.568	—
Seattle	20	16	.556	½
Oakland	17	20	.459	4
Los Angeles	13	23	.361	7½
Houston	12	23	.343	8

Monday's Games

Cleveland 2, Detroit 1

Pittsburgh 4, L.A. Angels 1

Tampa Bay 8, Chicago White Sox 2

Kansas City 3, Milwaukee 2

Minnesota 3, Seattle 1

Texas 4, Oakland 2

Tuesday's Games

Texas 15, Oakland 8

Detroit 11, Cleveland 7

Washington 3, Baltimore 0

Tampa Bay 5, Chicago White Sox 1

L.A. Angels 9, Pittsburgh 0

Philadelphia 10, Toronto 1

Atlanta 4, Boston 2

N.Y. Yankees 10, Houston 3

Milwaukee 6, Kansas City 5

Seattle 10, Minnesota 6

Wednesday's Games

L.A. Angels (Soriano 1-4) at Pittsburgh (Pérez 1-2), 12:35 p.m.

Toronto (Bassitt 2-5) at Philadelphia (Nola 4-1), 1:05 p.m.

Detroit (Olson 0-4) at Cleveland (Bibee 2-1), 1:10 p.m.

Milwaukee (Ross 1-3) at Kansas City (Singer 2-1), 2:10 p.m.

Texas (Lorenzen 2-1) at Oakland (Sears 2-2), 3:37 p.m., 1st game

Baltimore (Bradish 0-0) at Washington (Parker 2-1), 6:45 p.m.

Chicago White Sox (Flexen 1-3) at Tampa Bay (Civale 2-2), 6:50 p.m.

Houston (Arrighetti 0-3) at N.Y. Yankees (Rodón 2-2), 7:05 p.m.

Texas (Leiter 0-0) at Oakland (Bido 0-0), 7:07 p.m., 2nd game

Boston (Pivetta 1-1) at Atlanta (Sale 4-1), 7:20 p.m.

Seattle (Kirby 3-2) at Minnesota (Paddack 3-1), 7:40 p.m.

Thursday's Games

Seattle at Minnesota, 1:10 p.m.

Houston at N.Y. Yankees, 5:05 p.m.

Cleveland at Chicago White Sox, 7:40 p.m.

Kansas City at L.A. Angels, 9:38 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	26	11	.703	—
Atlanta	21	12	.636	3
Washington	18	17	.514	7
New York	18	18	.500	7½
Miami	10	27	.270	16

Central Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	22	14	.600	—
Chicago	22	15	.595	—
Pittsburgh	17	20	.459	5
Cincinnati	16	19	.457	5
St. Louis	15	21	.417	6½

West Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	24	13	.649	—
San Diego	19	20	.487	6
Arizona	16	20	.444	7½
San Francisco	16	21	.432	8
Colorado	8	27	.229	15

Monday's Games

Philadelphia 6, San Francisco 1

Pittsburgh 4, L.A. Angels 1

Kansas City 3, Milwaukee 2

N.Y. Mets 4, St. Louis 3

San Diego 6, Chicago Cubs 3

L.A. Dodgers 6, Miami 3

Tuesday's Games

Washington 3, Baltimore 0

Arizona 6, Cincinnati 2

L.A. Angels 9, Pittsburgh 0

Loss, recovery and tough family choices

Dear Annie: I am also a parent of a child who lost his battle with addiction in 2022. There are so many of us with difficult stories to share.

My son found alcohol and drugs at 15 and battled those demons until his death at the age of 30. I have come to know that there are some types of brains that truly do not know how to turn off that switch.

I have come to view those years with my son as a time where I examined the fragility of life and the undeniable love I had for another person. I miss my son every day, but I wouldn't take one bit of my time away from him, even though many of those times were bleak.

I hope that those who have experienced this type of loss will come to a peaceful place with the grief that is often overwhelming and focus on helping others with the benefits of the knowledge that they have learned.

Dear Mom of Grief: I am so sorry for your loss. Thank you for sharing your story and for your understanding that you are not alone.

Dear Annie: Reading those letters from parents of alcoholics brought tears to my eyes. I am a recovering addict/alcoholic. It took three rehabs and two relapses in my recovery.

I wrote this letter to send hugs, love and understanding to all those who are still suffering. AA and NA gave me a free, wonderful recovering life. Don't quit until the miracle happens.

Dear Miracles: Thank you for your letter. I hope it encourages others to carry on.

Dear Annie: I always read your col-

umn and have forever, but today is the first time I've been inspired to write.

I read the letter from the woman who was saying her parents were celebrating their 50th but felt they should have ended the marriage years ago.

Let me add my blunt thoughts. My parents were the same. Several times growing up, I asked my mum why we couldn't leave my dad and basically got, "You need to have a dad."

I'm 60 years old. What that "need" got me was years of therapy for the way I was treated, and I'll probably be in therapy for the rest of my life.

For any parents thinking they're doing the right thing, let me leave you with this closing thought. My mum passed away 32 years ago. I still miss her but have not and will not ever forgive her for sticking me in that mess because it was supposed to be better for me.

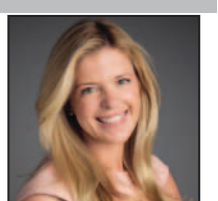
Dear Still Standing: Thank you for your letter. I am sorry about your childhood. That must have been very difficult on you.

You can choose what thoughts to have about your mom now that she has passed. Forgive her, knowing that she did the best she could.

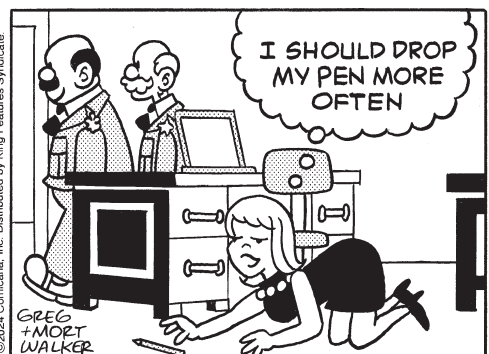
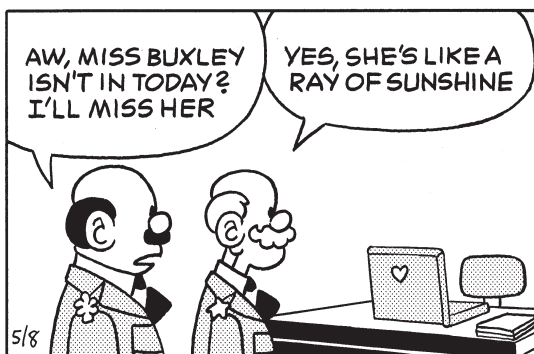
"How Can I Forgive My Cheating Partner?" is out now! Annie Lane's second anthology — featuring favorite columns on marriage, infidelity, communication and reconciliation — is available as a paperback and e-book.

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Dear Annie by Annie Lane



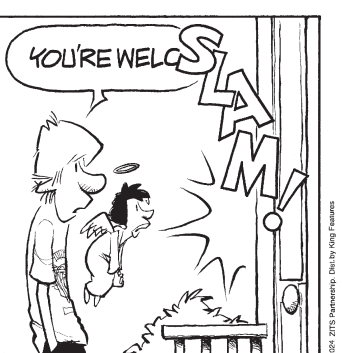
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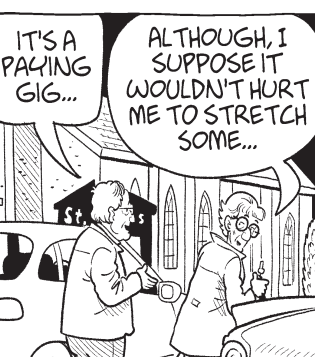
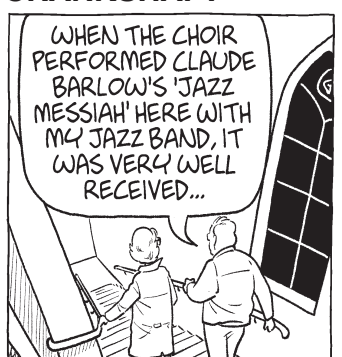
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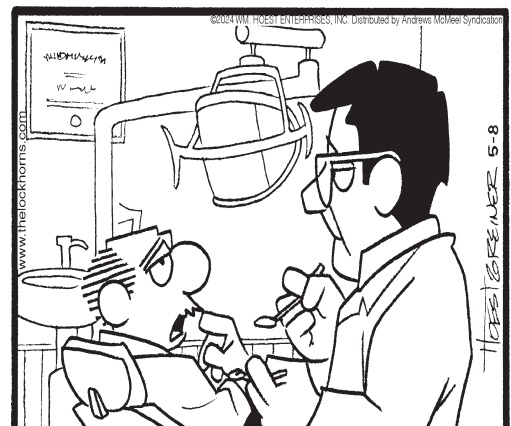
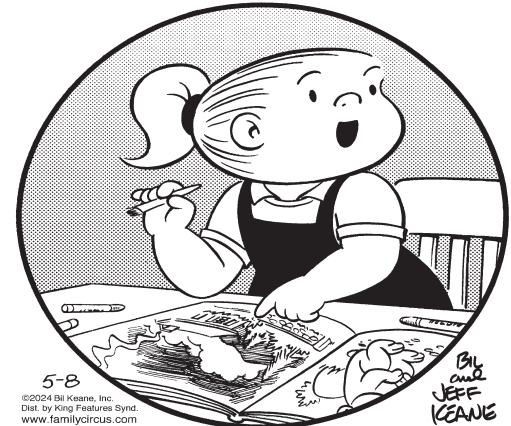
CRANKSHAFT



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

The LOCKHORNS



My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



Seek God first

in the midst of struggles when we seek Him.

A woman was traveling with a missionary couple through the Jordanian desert when a sandstorm blew up. The woman noticed the driver's knuckles were white.

Even the birds know peace; though the thunder and lightning rage, the little bird can sleep in the crevice of the rock with its head tucked serenely under its wing.

Jesus was asleep in a boat when a storm like that

arose. The disciples were terrified and woke Him: "Lord, we will perish; save us!" Jesus said to the sea, "Peace, be still!"

In Christ, we can be at peace in the midst of the confusions, bewilderingments, and perplexities of this life. The storm rages, but our hearts are at rest.

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

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Question: My life is in shambles, and the world is also a mess. How can I possibly be at peace? — S.P.

Answer: The Bible tells us to seek God first; put Him above everything else. We must learn from our disappointments and failures and ask God to forgive our sins and help us overcome them — and He will send His peace that passes all understanding.

Once we've received the Lord as Savior, we must seek the will of the Lord and obey Him. If we don't read His word, this will be difficult to do. But the Lord does bring peace

TV schedule grid with columns for time slots (5 PM to 12:30) and rows for various channels (WIMM, CBS, Antenna, ABC, NBC, etc.).

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words. Includes 'Solution time: 23 mins.' and 'Yesterday's answer 5-8'.

Grid for 'Yesterday's answer 5-8' crossword puzzle.

The Classifieds

FOR SALE

Farming

2017 WILSON HOPPER, 40 foot, 102 inches wide, 72-inch sides, \$35,000. 2019 Timptee hopper, 40 foot, 102 inches wide, 72-inch sides, elec., roll tarp, \$40,000. Both have disc brakes and super single tires, great shape. Call or text 260-820-0121, leave message if no answer.

This Week's Garage Sales
Clip & Save

5495 N 700 E CRAIGVILLE HUGE GARAGE SALE! Tons of girls clothes size 6y-8y including boutique items and lots of Matilda Jane, bags and purses including Coach and Vera Bradley, highchair, pack and play, toys, childrens and adult books, treadmill, household items, women's clothing L-XXL, kids shoes and lots more! May, 10 9:00 AM-4:00 PM, May, 11 8:00 AM-2:00 PM Rain or Shine

MULTI FAMILY GARAGE sale and baked goods, 7363 N. State Rd. 1, Ossiian, IN, rain or shine, Wednesday-Friday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Fresh home-baked cinnamon rolls, cakes, bars, bread, angel food cakes, homemade noodles, and much more! Furniture, antique treadle sewing machine, snowmobiles, crossbow, baby items, clothing of all sizes, home decor, Tupperware. Something for everyone.

TIMBERIDGE GARAGE SALES
1851 E SOUTH TIMBERIDGE RD, BLUFFTON, 4+ neighborhood sales. Baby, woman's, girls, teens, mens, shoes, bikes, boots, tools, baby swing, boat supplies, exercise bike, garden/lawn supplies, snow gear, doll houses, homeschool books, home decor, wet suits, furniture & scotcheroos! May, 9-10th 9-5, May, 11th 9-12

GIGANTIC GARAGE SALE May 9 & 10, 9-5, May 11, 9-2 sack sale, Forgotten Children Worldwide, 650 N. Main St., Bluffton. Dining table & chairs, kitchen appliances, large screen TV, end tables, floor & table lamps, 2 living room side chairs, side table, bookshelves, 2 office desks, wooden rocking chair, 2 twin beds, baby strollers, twin bed frame set, too much more to list.

HELOISE HINT: While you're browsing through a garage sale, check out all the items carefully. There may be collectibles and other treasures of value. Email HELOISE@Heloise.com.

STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF WELLS)
) IN THE WELLS
) CIRCUIT COURT
) 2024 TERM
) Cause Number:
) 90C01-2404-AD-08

NOTICE OF ADOPTION BY PUBLICATION

Michael K. O'Rourke is notified that a petition for adoption of a minor child, named S.S.A.O. born on January 20, 2015, was filed in the office of the clerk of Wells County Circuit Court, located at 102 W Market St. #301 Bluffton, IN 46714, and reachable at (260) 824-6485. The petition for guardianship alleges that the consent to adoption of S.S.A.O. is not required because in accordance with I.C. 31-19-9-8 he has abandoned or deserted the minor child for at least six (6) months immediately preceding the date of the filing of the petition for adoption and/or that the child has been in the custody of another person for a period of at least one (1) year; the parent: (A) fails without justifiable cause to communicate significantly with the children when able to do so; or (B) knowingly fails to provide for the care and support of the children when able to do so as required by law or judicial decree and in given that the biological Father has made no efforts to support or communicate with the minor children and has therefore abandoned the minor children.

If Mr. O'Rourke seeks to contest the adoption of the child, S.S.A.O., then Mr. O'Rourke must file a motion to contest the adoptions in accordance with IC 31-19-10-1 in the above named court not later than thirty (30) days after the date of service of this notice.

If Mr. Michael K. O'Rourke does not file a motion to contest the guardianship within thirty (30) days after service of this notice the above-mentioned court will hear and determine the petition for adoption. The consent to adoption of S.S.A.O. will be irrevocably implied and Michael K. O'Rourke will lose the right to contest either the adoption or the validity of Michael K. O'Rourke's implied consent to the adoption.

No oral statement made to Michael K. O'Rourke relieves Michael K. O'Rourke of Michael K. O'Rourke's obligations under this notice.

This notice complies with IC 31-19-4.5-3 but does not exhaustively set forth a person's legal obligations under the Indiana adoption statutes. A person being served with this notice should consult the Indiana adoption statutes.
nb 4/24, 5/1, 5/8 hspaxlp

Miscellaneous

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

Lottery Numbers

Tuesday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY
Cash 5 — 02-07-11-26-36
Cash4Life — 06-09-17-31-59, Cash Ball: 02

Quick Draw Midday — 01-04-17-19-23-25-28-34-36-41-46-49-56-63-69-70-71-72-75-77, BE: 36
Daily Three-Midday — 02-09-08, SB: 04
Daily Three-Evening — 02-02-01, SB: 07
Daily Four-Midday — 07-07-01-05, SB: 04
Daily Four-Evening — 00-04-04-00, SB: 07

Quick Draw Evening — 01-03-10-13-16-26-28-33-35-39-42-43-47-56-57-59-62-67-74-78, BE: 39
Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$11.7 million

MEGA MILLIONS
26-28-36-63-66; Mega Ball: 15; Megaplier: 3X.
POWERBALL
Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$20 million

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 the Superior Court of Wells County, Indiana, in Cause No. 90D01-2203-MF-000009, wherein U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPA CITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCFA ACQUISITION TRUST was Plaintiff, and Mark A. Hogsett, Erica Scherrer, AKA Erica S. Scherrer, AKA Erica S. Hogsett, Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. and CommunityWide Federal Credit Union 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 PM, or as soon thereafter as is possible, at Wells County Courthouse at 102 W Market St., Bluffton, IN 46714, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Wells County, Indiana.

A part of the NE/4 of Section 29, Township 28 North, Range 12 East, Wells County, Indiana, described as follows:
Starting at the NE corner of said Section 29, marked by a 5/8" reinforcing bar stake over a buried stone; thence westerly 825.0 feet on the north line of said Section to a P.K. nail which shall be the place of beginning; thence westerly 95.0 feet on the north line of said Section 29, to a P.K. nail; thence southerly, deflecting left 89 degrees 38 minutes, 25.0 feet to a standard corner marker (5/8" x 15" reinforcing bar stake with an aluminum cap stamped Higman, 10025); thence southerly 892.04 feet on an extension of the last above described line to a standard corner marker; thence easterly deflecting left 90 degrees 22 minutes, parallel to the north line of said Section 29, 95.0 feet to a standard corner marker; thence northerly deflecting left 89 degrees 38 minutes, 892.04 feet to a standard corner marker; thence northerly 25.0 feet on an extension of the last above described line to the place of beginning. Containing in all 2.0 acres.

More commonly known as: 1820 East 800 North, Ossiian, IN 46777
Parcel No. 90-02-29-100-002,000-008
Together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws.

"Subject to all liens, encumbrances and easements of record not otherwise extinguished in the proceedings known as Cause 90D01-2203-MF-000009 in the Superior Court of the County of Wells, Indiana."

Attorney for Plaintiff: Nicholas M. Smith
ATTORNEY NO. 31800-15 Manley Deas Kochalski LLC P.O. Box 165028 Columbus OH 43216-5028 Scott Holliday Sheriff of Wells County Jefferson Township 1820 East 800 North Street Address

The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein.
nb 5/1, 5/8, 5/15 hspaxlp

Wanted to Buy

WANTED: ANTIQUES & OLD TOYS Cash Paid for old toys! Gi Joe, Transformers, Tin toys, Robots, Pressed Steel Cars/trucks, Action Figures, Antiques of all kinds, etc. Searching for attics, basements, barns, etc to go through. Call or Text! 260-223-8083

Pets

HELOISE HINT: If your cat digs in the dirt around your houseplants. To prevent this, place several pine cones in the dirt. You can also put plants on a higher shelf and out of reach from your nosy cat. Fax Heloise @ 210-HELOISE (435-6473).

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted

THE CITY OF Bluffton is accepting applications for Paid-On-Call Firefighters and Part Time Firefighters. Both positions require a high school diploma or equivalent and a Driver's License. The City utilizes E-Verify and follows EEOC guidelines. Applications may be obtained from the Clerk-Treasurer's Office, 128 E. Market St, Bluffton, Mon-Fri from 8a-4:30p or online at www.blufftonindiana.net. Applications due June 14th.

SERVICES

Services

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STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF WELLS)
) IN THE WELLS
) CIRCUIT COURT
) 2024 TERM
) Cause Number:
) 90C01-2404-AD-09

NOTICE OF ADOPTION BY PUBLICATION

Michael K. O'Rourke is notified that a petition for adoption of a minor child, named M.D.O. born on June 10, 2016 was filed in the office of the clerk of Wells County Circuit Court, located at 102 W Market St. #301 Bluffton, IN 46714, and reachable at (260) 824-6485. The petition for guardianship alleges that the consent to adoption of M.D.O. is not required because in accordance with I.C. 31-19-9-8 he has abandoned or deserted the minor child for at least six (6) months immediately preceding the date of the filing of the petition for adoption and/or that the child has been in the custody of another person for a period of at least one (1) year; the parent: (A) fails without justifiable cause to communicate significantly with the children when able to do so; or (B) knowingly fails to provide for the care and support of the children when able to do so as required by law or judicial decree and in given that the biological Father has made no efforts to support or communicate with the minor children and has therefore abandoned the minor children.

If Mr. O'Rourke seeks to contest the adoption of the child, M.D.O., then Mr. O'Rourke must file a motion to contest the adoptions in accordance with IC 31-19-10-1 in the above named court not later than thirty (30) days after the date of service of this notice.

If Mr. Michael K. O'Rourke does not file a motion to contest the adoption within thirty (30) days after service of this notice the above-mentioned court will hear and determine the petition for adoption. The consent to adoption of M.D.O. will be irrevocably implied and Michael K. O'Rourke will lose the right to contest either the adoption or the validity of Michael K. O'Rourke's implied consent to the adoption.

No oral statement made to Michael K. O'Rourke relieves Michael K. O'Rourke of Michael K. O'Rourke's obligations under this notice.

This notice complies with IC 31-19-4.5-3 but does not exhaustively set forth a person's legal obligations under the Indiana adoption statutes. A person being served with this notice should consult the Indiana adoption statutes.
nb 4/24, 5/1, 5/8 hspaxlp

Services

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

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SUDOKU

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

King Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty: ★★★ 5/8

LINE CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINES:
Monday editions: Friday by 4 p.m.; Tuesday-Friday editions: day-before by 4 p.m.; Saturdays: Friday by noon.
Submit ads to the Bluffton News-Banner office, 260-824-0224, 125 N. Johnson St., or online at classifieds.news-banner.com.

May

GOODS & SERVICES DIRECTORY

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

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

Gerret J. Swearingen
Attorney
1645 Hillcrest Dr., Suite 2A
Ossiian, IN 46777

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4	7	2	8	1	6	8	9	9
9	9	6	7	8	7	1	1	8
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2	9	9	8	2	1	8	7	6
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9	1	7	9	8	2	6	8	7
2	7	8	6	9	7	1	8	9
6	8	9	1	7	8	9	7	2

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