

# The News - Banner

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TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2024

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### Pool opening day

The Wells County Pool opened for the season on Saturday. A line, pictured below, for the facility was formed at least 15 minutes before its noon opening time. At right, Cooper Affolder enjoys the slide down to the pool. Above left, Jaxson Straley plunges in off the diving board. Above right, Davin Drayer excitedly jumps in. (Photos by Jonathan Snyder)



## At least 22 dead in weekend storms across U.S.

By BRUCE SCHREINER and JULIO CORTEZ  
Associated Press

A series of powerful storms swept over the central and southern U.S. over the Memorial Day holiday weekend, killing at least 22 people and leaving a wide trail of destroyed homes, businesses and power outages.

The destructive storms caused deaths in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Kentucky and were just north of an oppressive, early season heat wave setting records from south Texas to Florida.

Forecasters said the severe weather could shift to the East Coast later Monday and warned millions of people outdoors for the holiday to watch the skies. A tornado watch was issued from North Carolina to Maryland.

Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear, who earlier declared a state of emergency, said at a Monday press conference that five people had died in his state. The fifth death was a 54-year-old man who had a heart attack while cutting fallen trees in Caldwell County in west-

(Continued on Page 2)

## Retailers offering summer deals to entice shoppers

By ANNE D'INNOCENZIO  
AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Americans who spend Memorial Day scouting sales online and in stores may find more reasons to celebrate the return of warmer weather. Major retailers are stepping up discounts heading into the summer months, hoping to entice inflation-weary shoppers into opening their wallets.

Target, Walmart and other chains have rolled out price cuts — some permanent, others temporary — with the stated aim of giving their customers some relief. The reductions, which mostly involve groceries, are getting introduced as inflation showed its first sign of easing this year but not enough for consumers who are struggling to pay for basic necessities as well as rent and car insurance.

The latest quarterly earnings reported by Walmart, Macy's and Ralph Lauren underscored that consumers have not stopped spending. But multiple CEOs, including the heads of McDon-

(Continued on Page 2)

## Military labs work to identify soldiers killed in WWII

By JOSH FUNK  
Associated Press

OFFUTT AIR FORCE BASE, Neb. (AP) — Generations of American families have grown up not knowing exactly what happened to their loved ones who died while serving their country in World War II and other conflicts.

But a federal lab tucked away above the bowling alley at Offutt Air Force Base near Omaha and a sister lab in Hawaii are steadily answering those lingering questions, aiming to offer 200 families per year the chance to honor their

relatives with a proper burial.

"They may not even have been alive when that service member was alive, but that story gets carried down through the generations," said Carrie Brown, a Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency lab manager at Offutt. "They may have seen on the mantle a picture of that person when they were little and not really understood or known who they were."

Memorial Day and the upcoming 80th anniversary of D-Day on June 6 are reminders of the urgency of Brown's work. The

forensic anthropologists, medical examiners and historians who work together to identify lost soldiers are in a race against time as remains buried on battlefields around the globe deteriorate.

But advances in DNA technology, combined with innovative techniques including comparing bones to chest X-rays taken by the military, mean the labs can identify more of the missing soldiers every year. Some 72,000 World War II soldiers remain unaccounted for, along with roughly 10,000 more from all the conflicts since.

The experts believe about half of those are recoverable.

The agency identified 59 servicemembers in 2013, when the Offutt lab first opened. That number has steadily risen — 159 service members last year, up from 134 in 2022 — and the labs have a goal of 200 identifications annually.

The labs' work allowed Donna Kennedy to bury her cousin, Cpl. Charles Ray Patten, with full military honors this month in the same Lawton, Missouri, cemetery where his father and grandfather

(Continued on Page 2)

**Inside**

Local/Area

Obituaries . . . . . 3  
School News . . . . . 3


Opinion

Justin Peepers . . . . . 4

Also...

Sports . . . . . 1a-2a  
Classifieds . . . . . 4a  
Diversions . . . . . 3a

**Outside**



Mostly cloudy and warm today, small chance of rain

Today	Wed.	Thursday
High 70	High 68	High 69
Low 53	Low 48	Low 46

More Weather on Page 2

**Online**

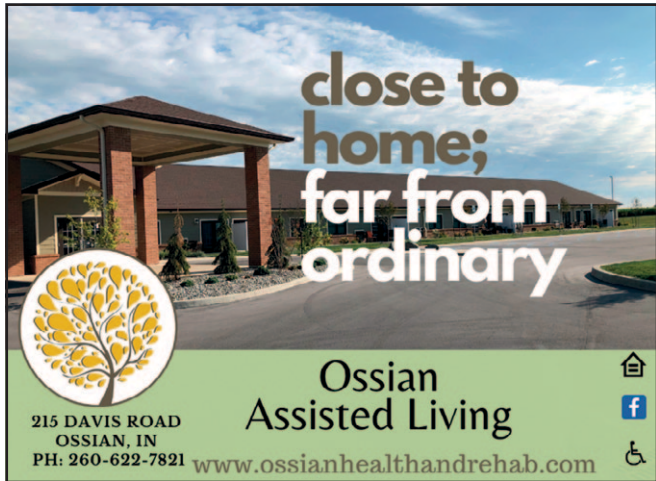
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# U.S. storms kill 22

(Continued from Page 1)  
ern Kentucky, the governor's office said.

The death toll of 22 also included seven deaths in Cooke County, Texas, from a Saturday tornado that tore through a mobile home park, officials said, and eight deaths across Arkansas.

Two people died in Mayes County, Oklahoma, which is east of Tulsa, authorities said. The injured included guests at an outdoor wedding.

The latest community left with shattered homes and no power was the tiny Kentucky town of Charleston, which took a direct hit Sunday night from a tornado that the governor said appeared to be on the ground for 40 miles.

"It's a big mess," said Rob Linton, who lives in Charleston and is the fire chief of nearby Dawson Springs, hit by a tornado in 2021. "Trees down everywhere. Houses moved. Power lines are down. No utilities whatsoever — no water, no power."

Further east, some rural

areas of Hopkins County hit by the 2021 tornado around the community of Barnsley were damaged again Sunday night, said county Emergency Management Director Nick Bailey.

"There were a lot of people that were just getting their lives put back together and then this," Bailey said. "Almost the same spot, the same houses and everything."

Beshear has traveled to the area where his father grew up several times for ceremonies where people who lost everything were given the keys to their new homes.

The visits came after a series of tornadoes on a terrifying night in December 2021 killed 81 people in Kentucky.

"It could have been much worse," Beshear said of the Memorial Day weekend storms. "The people of Kentucky are very weather aware with everything we've been through."

More than 400,000 customers across the eastern U.S. were without power

Monday afternoon, including about 125,000 in Kentucky. Twelve states reported at least 10,000 outages earlier in the day, according to PowerOutage.us.

The area on highest alert for severe weather Monday is a broad swath of the eastern U.S., from Alabama to New York.

President Joe Biden sent condolences to the families who had people killed. He said the Federal Emergency Management Agency is on the ground conducting damage assessments and he has contacted governors to see what federal support they might need.

It's been a grim month of tornadoes and severe weather in the nation's mid-section.

Tornadoes in Iowa last week left at least five people dead and dozens injured. Storms killed eight people in Houston earlier this month. The severe thunderstorms and deadly twisters have spawned during a historically bad season for tornadoes, at a time when climate change contributes to the

severity of storms around the world. April had the second-highest number of tornadoes on record in the country.

Harold Brooks, a senior scientist at the National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman, said a persistent pattern of warm, moist air is to blame for the string of tornadoes over the past two months.

That warm moist air is at the northern edge of a heat dome bringing temperatures typically seen at the height of summer to late May.

The heat index — a combination of air temperature and humidity to indicate how the heat feels to the human body — neared triple digits in parts of south Texas on Monday. Extreme heat was also forecast for San Antonio and Dallas.

In Florida, Melbourne and Ft. Pierce set new daily record highs Monday. Both hit 98 F. Miami set a record high of 96 F on Sunday.

For more information on recent tornado reports, see The Associated Press Tornado Tracker.

# Weather

Tuesday, May 28, 2024

**High: 70 ; Low: 53 ; Precipitation: 30%**  
**Wabash River Level** (at the Main Street bridge): 2.6 feet at 9:45 p.m. Monday

## Wells County forecast

**Today:** A slight chance of showers, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after 11 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 70. Northwest wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

**Tonight:** A chance of showers and thunderstorms before 2 a.m., then a slight chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 53. West wind 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

**Wednesday:** A slight chance of showers, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 68. North wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

**Wednesday Night:** A 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms before 8 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 48. North wind around 5 mph.

**Thursday:** Sunny, with a high near 69.

**Thursday Night:** Clear, with a low around 46.

**Friday:** Sunny, with a high near 75.

**Friday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 52.

**Saturday:** A slight chance of showers, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 76. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

**Saturday Night:** A 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 61.

**Sunday:** A 40% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 80.

**Sunday Night:** A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 61.

**Monday:** A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 83.

# Retailers offering summer deals

(Continued from Page 1)

ald's, Starbucks and home improvement retailer Home Depot, have observed that people are becoming more price-conscious and choosy. They're delaying purchases, focusing on store brands compared to typically more expensive national brands, and looking for deals.

"Retailers recognize that unless they pull out some stops on pricing, they are going to have difficulty holding on to the customers they got," Neil Saunders, managing director of consulting and data analysis firm GlobalData, said. "The consumer really has had enough of inflation, and they're starting to take action in terms of where they shop, how they shop, the amount they buy."

While discounts are an everyday tool in retail, Saunders said these aggressive price cuts that cover thousands of items announced by a number of retailers represent a "major shift" in recent strategy. He noted most companies talked about price increases in the past two or three years, and the cut mark the first big "price war" since before inflation started taking hold.

## WHERE CAN SHOPPERS FIND LOWER PRICES?

Higher-income shoppers looking to save money have helped Walmart maintain strong sales in recent quarters. But earlier this month, the nation's largest retailer expanded its price rollbacks — temporary discounts that can last a few months — to nearly 7,000 grocery items, a 45% increase. Items include a 28-ounce can of Bush's baked beans marked down to \$2.22, from \$2.48, and a 24-pack of 12-ounce Diet Coke priced at \$12.78 from \$14.28.

Company executives said the Bentonville, Arkansas-based retailer is seeing more people eating at home versus eating out. Walmart believes its discounts will help the business over the remainder of the year.

"We're going to lead on price, and we're going to manage our (profit) margins, and we're going to be the Walmart that we've always been," CEO Doug McMillon told analysts earlier this month.

Not to be outdone by its closest competitor, Target last week cut prices on 1,500 items and said it planned to make price cuts on another 3,500 this summer. The initiative primarily applies to food, beverage and essential household items. For example, Clorox scented wipes that previously cost \$5.79 are on shelves for \$4.99. Huggies Baby Wipes, which were priced at \$1.19, now cost 99 cents.

Low-cost supermarket chain Aldi said earlier this month that it was cutting prices on 250 products, including favorites for barbecues and picnics, as part of a promotion set to last through Labor Day.

McDonald's plans to introduce a limited-time \$5 meal deal in the U.S. next month to counter slowing sales and customers' frustration with high prices.

Arko Corp., a large operator of convenience stores in rural areas and small towns, is launching its most aggressive deals in terms of their depth in roughly 20 years for both members of its free loyalty program and other customers, according to Arie Kotler, the company's chairman, president and CEO. For example, members of Arko's free loyalty program who buy two 12-packs of Pepsi beverages get a free pizza. The promotions kicked off May 15 and are due to end Sept. 3.

Kotler said he focused on essential items that people use to feed their families after observing that the cumulative effects of higher gas prices and inflation in other areas had customers hold back compared to a year ago.

"Over the past two quarters, we have seen the trend of consumers cutting back, consumers coming less often, and consumers reduc-

ing their purchases," he said.

In the non-food category, crafts chain Michaels last month reduced prices of frequently purchased items like paint, markers and artist canvases. The price reductions ranged from 15% to up to 40%. Michaels said the cuts are intended to be permanent.

## DO THESE CUTS BRING PRICES BACK TO PRE-PANDEMIC LEVELS?

Many retailers said their goal was to offer some relief for shoppers. But Michaels said its new discounts brought prices for some things down to where they were in 2019.

"Our intention with these cuts is to ensure we're delivering value to the customer," The Michaels Companies said. "We see it as an investment in customer loyalty more than anything else."

Target said it was difficult to compare what its price-reduced products cost now to a specific time frame since inflation levels are different for each item and the reductions varied by item.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics, which tracks consumer prices, said the average price of a two-liter bottle of soda in April was \$2.27. That compares with \$1.53 in the same month five years ago. A pound of white bread cost an average of \$2 last month but \$1.29 in April 2019. One pound of ground chuck that averaged \$5.28 in April cost \$3.91 five years ago.

## WHY ARE COMPANIES CUTTING PRICES ON SOME ITEMS?

U.S. consumer confidence deteriorated for the third straight month in April as Americans continued to fret about their short-term financial futures, according to the latest report released late last month from the Conference Board, a busi-

ness research group.

With shoppers focusing more on bargains, particularly online, retailers are trying to get customers back to their stores. Target this month posted its fourth consecutive quarterly decline in comparable sales — those from stores or digital channels operating at least 12 months.

In fact, the share of online sales for the cheapest items across many categories, including clothing, groceries, personal care and appliances, increased from April 2019 to the same month this year, according to Adobe Analytics, which covers more than 1 trillion visits to U.S. retail sites.

For example, the market share for the cheapest groceries went from 38% in April 2019 to 48% last month, while the share for the most expensive groceries went down from 22% to 9% over the same time period, according to Adobe.

## HOW ARE RETAILERS FUNDING PRICE CUTS?

GlobalData's Saunders said he thinks companies are subsidizing price cuts with a variety of methods — at the expense of profits, at the cost of suppliers and vendors, or by reducing expenses. Some retailers may be using a combination of all three, he said.

Saunders doesn't think retailers are raising prices on other items to make up for the ones they lowered since doing that would bring a backlash from customers.

Target declined to disclose details but said its summer price promotion was incorporated into the company's projected profit range, which falls below analysts' expectations at the low end.

GPM Investments, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of ARKO Corp. said its suppliers are funding the convenience store promotions.

# Military labs

(Continued from Page 1)

are buried. Patten died 74 years ago during the Korean War, but spent decades buried as an unknown in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii.

"I just I ached. I mean, it hurt. You know, I just felt so bad. Even though I didn't know him, I loved him," Kennedy said.

Patten's funeral was a simple affair with just a few family members. But often when veterans who fought decades earlier are identified, people waving flags and holding signs line the streets of their hometowns to herald the return of their remains.

"This work is important first and foremost because these are individuals that gave their lives to protect our freedom, and they paid the ultimate sacrifice. So we're here holding that promise that we'll return them home to their families," Brown said.

"It's important for their families to show them that we'll never stop, no matter what," she said.

Often there are compelling details, Brown said.

One of her first cases involved the intact remains of a World War I Marine found in a forest in France with his wallet still in his pocket. The wallet, initialed G.H., contained a New York Times article describing plans for the offensive in which he ultimately died. He also had an infantryman badge with his name and the year he received it on the back.

Before leaving France with the remains, the team visited a local cemetery where other soldiers were buried and learned there were only two missing soldiers with the initials G.H.

Brown had a fair idea who that soldier was before his remains even arrived in the lab. That veteran was

buried in Arlington National Cemetery and Brown often visits his grave when she is in Washington D.C.

Most cases aren't that easy.

The experts who work at the lab must piece together identities by looking at historical records about where the remains were found and which soldiers were in the area. They then consult the list of possible names and use the bones, objects found with them, military medical records and DNA to confirm their identities. They focus on battles and plane crashes where they have the greatest chance of success because of available information.

But their work can be complicated if soldiers were buried in a temporary cemetery and moved when a unit was forced to retreat. And unidentified soldiers were often buried together.

When remains are brought to the lab, they sometimes include an extra bone. Experts then spend months or even years matching the bones and waiting for DNA and other test results to confirm their identities.

One test even can identify if the soldier grew up primarily eating rice or a corn-based diet.

The lab also compares specific traits of collar bones to the chest X-rays the military routinely took of soldiers before they were deployed. It helps that the military keeps extensive records of all soldiers.

Those clues help the experts put together the puzzle of someone's identity.

"It's not always easy. It's certainly not instantaneous," Brown said. "Some of the cases, we really have to fight to get to that spot, because some of them have been gone for 80 years."

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OBITUARIES

Ruth Esther King, 101

Ruth Esther King, 101, passed away Friday, May 24, 2024, at River Terrace Retirement Community. She was born Aug. 21, 1922, in Westfield, Ind., daughter to the late Ludovic Leonard and Hazel (Tomlinson) Hill.



Ruth received her Bachelor's degree from Bethel College, Mishawaka, Ind., and her master's degree from Ball State University in Muncie. Ruth worked as an elementary school teacher for 28 and 1/2 years. She was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma Sorority and Order of the Eastern Star, Macy, Ind.

Surviving are her son, Leonard Lloyd (Marjorie) King of Ossian; five grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; 11 great-great-grandchildren; and niece, Frieda Jane Oncen.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 65 years, Rev. Norris Lloyd King in 2009; daughter, Sara A. Cox; brother, Hershel Hill; and sister, Rev. Edith Bruner.

Gathering and visitation will be held Thursday, May 30, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Ossian United Methodist Church, 201 West Mill Street, Ossian, Indiana 46777, with Ruth's funeral service beginning at 11:00 a.m. Burial will be Friday, May 31, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at Stilesville Cemetery, 3944 West County Road 900 South, Stilesville, Indiana, 46180.

Please visit [www.elzey-patterson-rodak.com](http://www.elzey-patterson-rodak.com) to leave condolences.

SWES announces Quarter 3 honor roll

Southern Wells Elementary School has released the names of its students on the high honor roll and honor roll for the fourth quarter of the 2023-24 school year.

2nd Grade High Honor

Preston Barnes, Rhett Bower, Lucille Cameron, Bristol Fiechter, Selah Fisher, Riggs Fiechter, Austin Hamilton, Cierra Hamilton, Brooklyn Kinnett, Wesson Laurence, Alexis Nusbaumer, Khushi Patel, Callen Paxson, Charlotte Pursifull, Jack Slusher, Cohen Stevens, Eli Swartz, Titus Truex, Aubrey VanGordon, Jaelyn Wickey and Amelia Wilburn.

Honor

Rhider Bennett, Brynley Caldwell, Chloe Carnes, Finley Emerick, Ty Frauhiger, Kitt Frauhiger, Courtney Hastings, Emmalyn Higgins, Paisley Jenkins, Gavin Jennings, Avery Morgan, Grant Penrod, Kaylynn Scheerer, Mason Schwartz, Mackenzie Townsend, Brant Tucker, LaRose Wengerd and Hannah Wyant.

3rd Grade High Honor

Jaylynn Biberstine, Zoey Boyer, Joseph Bricker, Addison Cassidy, Ava Fiechter, Jacob Hoffacker, Eva Laurence, Emerson Leas, Andre Neuenschwander, Avery Neuenschwander, Gretchen Prible, Hayden Slusher, Brantley Steffen and Scarlett Zaklikiewicz.

Honor

Jace Andrews, Danelia Brown, Matthew Butcher, Greyson Dressler, Jackson Felger, Aaylah Guhl, Addison Hormann, Kynslie Huffman, Emma James, Colton Michael, Amy Mills, Rissa Morris, Jaxon Nusbaumer, Waylon Paul, Kayne Raymond, Gunner Reneau, Oliver Roberts and Blaine Teague.

4th Grade High Honor

Emmabelle Baumgartner, Adrian Boxell, Royal Frauhiger, Katy Goodnight, Lindsay Penrod, Liam Thompson and Lily Townsend.

Honor

Sutton Bennett, Carter

Blinn, Blakely Bower, Maya Campbell, Rylee Carroll, Makenna Dowell, Mason Edmonds, AnnaLynn Felger, Annie Herr, Wyatt Hicks, Granger Higgins, Cash Jenkins, Avy Kirkwood, Layne Koroncvicius, Madison Maxwell, Alivia McClain, Cooper McNally, Parker Michael, Bronc Miller, Kayci Needler, Noah Neuenschwander, Eliza Peterson, Miley Shippy, Naomi Shirar, Talia Smith, Kerrigan Stevens, Tucker Trospen, Trace Tucker, McKenna Twibell, Levi VanDeman, Jasmine Walker, Tucker Wellman, Brayden Wickey and Lexi Zavattaro.

5th Grade High Honor

Raelin Bower, Braelyn Boyer, Paisley Chandler, Traesyn Dixon, Elaina Edwards, Sophia Kahn, Anna McFarren, Cooper Reeves, Elise Schneider and Ethan Swartz.

Honor

Kole Allred, Hunter Baumgartner, Gavin Biberstine, Kaden Boxell, Owen

Boxell, Selic Bradley, Keeton Carroll, Charlene Felger, Connor Fiechter, Cash Frauhiger, Cora Freiburger, Zane Gates, Olivia Hoffacker, Ryan Jeckert, Branson Kiel, Karla Martinez, Allie Miller, Stanley Needler, Tyler Nichols, Vada Palmer, McKenna Rittenhouse, Titus Robles, Blakely Schorgens, Layla Shelly, Alexis Sunderman, Carson Wellman, & Samantha Zavattaro

6th Grade High Honor

Josiah Bricker, Tenley Fiechter, McKynleigh Flowers, Elsa Franks, Alex Gaskill, Liam Leas, Trinity McClellan, Aubree Neuenschwander, Ellie Nichols, Harper Reynolds, Rhett Tucker, Isaac VanDeman and Abigail Zaklikiewicz.

Honor

Charlie Billman, Levi Dunnuck, Ryker Engle, Randy Frauhiger, Josie Goodnight, Evelyn Hartman, Leland Heath, Kegan Leas, Morgan Meyer, Holly Pearson, Reese Prible and Weston Zigler.

Pennville soccer opens 2024 season

The Pennville Soccer Club began its ninth season this year, playing games at Pennville Park.

The league consists of three divisions separated by age groups. The youngest is the Stinger Division ages 4-6, the middle is the Space Division ages 7-9 and the oldest is the Wild Cat Division ages 10-12.

Below are the results from the three leagues over the weekend.

**Stinger:** Patriot Sportwear Hornets 4, AgBest Express Bees 1; AgBest Express Bees 6, A Place to Grow Wasps 3.

Goal leaders: Anniston Hammond 4, Mabel Leonard 2, Phebe Love 2, Raelyn McClain 2.

**Space:** Dave's Heating and Cooling Asteroids 4, Vinson Rental Properties Galaxy 1; Bro Shadow Meteors 3, Ohio Valley Gas Stars 0; Bro Shadow Meteors 4, New Beginnings Holiness Church Rockets 1.

Goal leaders: Neymar Carreno 3, Owen Ehrhart 3, Liam Phipps 2.

**Wild Cat:** WPGW Lions 7, Pennville General Stone Tigers 1; Pennville General Store Tigers 2, Portland Insurance Cougars 1; POET Bioprocessing Cheetahs 1, Penrod Monuments Jaguars 1.

Goal leaders: Blake Jellison 3, Karen Kuhn 2, Bryce Richard 2, Jade Westgerdes 2.

BHMS announces Quarter 4 honor roll

Bluffton-Harrison Middle School has released the names of its students on the high honor roll and honor roll for the fourth quarter of the 2023-24 school year.

5th Grade High Honor Roll

Amelia Burman, Naomi Fry, Reid Harris, Landon Heer, Kyla Isch, Hunter Johnson, Roman Mills, Lakyne Neuenschwander, Titan Robles, Samuel Roush, Stella Schroeder, Brayden Smith, Roman Vasquez, Aldan Wood, Liam Yates and Trace Zoda.

Honor Roll

Amalia Ali, Blaze Archer, Skylar Bass, Harvey Bedwell, Leah Bertsch, T.J. Borabo-Hower, Amerikus Brubaker, Remington Claghorn, Callie Craig, Ethan Donovan, Kreed Elston, Mason Englehardt, Brynlee Gaskill, Kendall Gaskill, Averie Gavilanez, Grace Gillette, Aria Graham, Mianna Hall, Trevor Hall, Finlay Herrold, Ember Hiser, Hunter Holloway, Laynden Jordan, Griffin Kaehr, Sean Riley Kelly, Clare Lambert, Braxton McCullough, Ryan McPherson, Evelyn Meyer, Patton Moore, Daisy Murray, Averie Penrod, Aiden Pfister, Colton Purvis, Gage Quillen, Brynn Reinhard, Eric Rinkenberger, Addisyn Roehm, Mia Smith, Nicholas Stanley, Brooklyn Stoller, Connor Traynor, Declan Triplett, Landry Villanueva, Cameron Walker, Gambit Walton and Mackenzie White.

6th Grade High Honor Roll

Abram Atkins, Kreigh Ault, Eli Brooks, Alaina Coleman, Rowan Drayer, Blaine Ehrman, Molly Frauhiger, Abigail Garrett, Addison Gerber, Clive Gerber, Parker Grandlienard, Wesley Kunkel, Cadence Lehman, Jessica Littell, Molly Mills, Paisley Neuenschwander, Averie Pearson, Emily Priestner, Erin Ramseyer, Charlotte Rhoderick, Ithan Rinkenberger,

Adrienne Smallman, Liam Smith, Rhys Smith, Leona Veselji and Dominic Wilson.

Honor Roll

Olivia Brown, Harrison Buroker, Christian Clubs, Brooklyn Coratti, Naomi Dailey, Mercedes Diaz Sanchez, MacKenzie Dudley, Cooper Dunnuck, Braxton Graham, Kinsey Hartman, Aaron Hay, Sophia Heshner, Broderick Hohe, Maylee Holmes, Renley Hurst, Maddox Kauffman, Jonathan Kephart, Parker Klopfenstein, Logan Krachtus, Crystal Lee, Brielle Lortie, Myah Martin, Olivia Morgan, Lucy Moser, Phoebe Mygrant, Mason Olivares, Madelyn Platt, Hudson Reineck, Payson Rickard, Avalynn Scheiman, Easton Schipper, Seryniti Seale, Cheyenne Sonnigsen, Ciomara Tello, Delilah Traynor, Autumn Watson, Hudson Withers and Lincoln Xayyachack.

7th Grade High Honor Roll

Adelyn Atkins, Elijah Bendes, Adalynn Bertsch, Kinley Bowman, Jeremy Brown, Zander Click, Alana Croft, Virginia Cummins, Lyla Feinberg, Otto Fiechter, Morgan Fox, Asher Fritz, McKenna Fry, Khloe Gehrett, Amelia Geisel, Heath Gerber, Landry Grandlienard, Ellah Grimes, Anna Hartman, Reece Himes, Keaton Ingram, Barbie Jellison, Luci Jenkins, Cleyton Kenworthy, Chase Kistler, Vince Lambert, Audrey McMillan, Audrey Mechling, Avery Meyer, Irene Monagle, Foster Monticue, Madeleine Morgan, Macy Onweller, Gabryella Pauley, Davis Rockwell, Quinton Saige, Charlie Schantz, Chloe Schlotter, Eli Seago, Cameron Simpson, Trace Simpson, Croy Stout, Mariah West, Maddox White and Deacon Yates.

Honor Roll

Cooper Affolder, Wren Ault, Braxton Bebout, Keegan Brubaker, Cooper Bustos, Zain Butcher, Parker Christal, Kayden Claghorn, Izzabellah Combes,

Alexander Cortez, Mason Dietzer, Robert James Dunlap, Dane Fiechter, Marlie Fry, Armson Georvilma, Drake Hicks, Gunner Holloway, Wyatt Holmes, Emma Hughett, Sebastian Jones, Kianna Linderwell, Emily Mai, Christian Marshall, Aiden Martin, Alexis Miller, Rosemary Miller, Hadley Moehlenkamp, Landon Morphew, Madalynn Narvaez, Harper Patterson, Averie Patton, Zayn Pearson, Layne Philebaum, Roberto Rodas, Kolten Schlichter, Kamdyn Shuman, Oraliz Sierra, Olivia Smith, Oscar Soria Luz, Bailey Surbaugh, Madieson Surbaugh, Liam Teeple, Michael Tierney, Noah VanCamp, Aubrey Walker, Corban Wheeler, Harper Wood and Landyn Yates.

8th Grade High Honor Roll

Reid Abbett, Kamryn Ault, Andy Baumgartner, Austin Bennett, Krista Blair, Chayson Brown, Khloe Dick, Tess Frauhiger, Eden Gerber, Rafe Gerber, Macy Lemler, Chloe Lesh, Emily Maggard, Briana Ortiz, Abigail Ramseyer, Kyla Reinhard, Natalie Scher, Breeanna Schmidt, Addison Smith, Kenley Smith, Addison Sonnigsen, Mia Sprunger, Bridget Steffen, Bennett Stoller, Violetta Tarasova and Ava Trexler.

Honor Roll

Parker Barnes, Wyatt Beer, Jimmy Borabo-Hower, Kiah Craig, Grayson Crowder, Jace Draper, Mason Engle, Grace Fry, Raianna Gentry, Kylee Gottschalk, Gavin Gries-

er, Gibson Grieser, Brody Grimes, Cora Kunkel, Dawson Lee, Rinoa Lee, Carter Lehman, Makenna Leitner, Klay Markley, Jaida Mills, Cooper Pearson, Elizabeth Premo, Finn Reinhard, Makynli Rudd, Ariana Tello and Brenton Zhang.

State adult day programs worry about their future

By WHITNEY DOWNARD  
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Jade Jeffries doesn't know what she'd do without SarahCare — an adult day program that her father, James, attends every day. Jeffries is the sole caretaker of her father, who's in his late 80s and has dementia, and works two jobs to pay the bills.

Jeffries feels lucky to have secured a place for her father where he can get socialization and specialized programming in addition to nursing services. After the toll of COVID-19, only 40 or so such adult day programs exist in Indiana — each serving 10 to 15 members.

With SarahCare, her dad has an activities calendar, music and movement programs and more in addition to nurses and nutritionally balanced meals.

But, like the rest of Indiana's Medicaid landscape, adult day services face a monumental change this summer when the state transitions to managed care. For providers, that means a Managed Care Entity will handle their claims and payments rather than the state.

"We're really kind of at a crisis right now," said Laura Altenbaumer, president of the Indiana Association of Adult Day Services. "And I'm concerned ... that when we transition to Indiana Pathways, we are going to lose additional day programs. (The small centers) are not going to be able to withstand this transition."

Altenbaumer, who runs her own Indiana center in Merrillville, said adult day service providers were abruptly told that transportation service would no longer be reimbursed through their referral sources, Area Agencies on Aging.

Financial Focus

PSA: New choices for business owners

If you're a business owner with a 401(k) or similar retirement plan, you'll want to stay current on changes affecting these accounts. What's new for 2024?

As part of the SECURE 2.0 Act, several changes will be enacted this year. If you haven't already established a retirement plan, you can now offer a "starter" 401(k) or "safe harbor" 403(b) plan to employees who meet age and service requirements. The starter 401(k) has lower annual employee contribution limits than a typical 401(k) or 403(b) and you aren't required to make matching or nonselective contributions.

Also, you can now match contributions to employees' retirement plans when these employees make qualified student loan payments.

In another change, part-time employees who meet certain criteria can now contribute to an existing 401(k) plan. Furthermore, employers can now offer an emergency savings account within a 401(k) or similar plan. This account allows lower-paid employees the chance to save up to \$2,500 and take monthly tax-free withdrawals.

You may want to consult with your tax and financial professionals to determine how these changes may affect what you want to do with your retirement plan. The more you know, the better your decisions likely will be.

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

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## Celebrating a special group of professionals this May

“What’s your favorite word, Señor?”

One of my students asked me that question last fall as we were wrapping up the day’s lesson in which our focus was to recognize a handful of new vocabulary words that the students would see a few days later in a story.

“Ubumuntu,” I told him.

It’s a word I learned last summer in Rwanda and one I have written about a couple of times since my wife Jen and I returned from our trip to Africa in June 2023. It means humanity — goodness, generosity and kindness. A person who has Ubumuntu is someone who has greatness of heart and shares that sentiment with others.

Greatness of heart — three simple words that convey one of the most beautiful expressions of language I have ever heard to describe a person’s character and what we should strive to be like in our everyday lives — to be good, to be generous, and to be kind to those in our lives and those who may enter our lives only for a short time.

A group of medical professionals — doctors, nurses and technicians — unexpectedly entered our lives a few months ago, and the only word I have to describe all of them is Ubumuntu.

Jen was diagnosed with early-stage breast cancer in February. Three months later, we are thrilled to share that she has recovered from a surgery and is two weeks in to her weekly chemotherapy treatments that will continue until the end of July.

I have lost count of the number of appointments we have had since the end of February with her team of doctors and nurses.

What we have not forgotten, however, is the goodness, the generosity and the kindness each doctor, nurse and medical professional has showed us every step of the way since we received the upsetting news this winter that she had cancer.

Jen and I had both been fortunate up until this point in our lives to have spent little time in hospitals, as we both had been healthy and strangers to the doctor’s office beyond regular checkups and such. We now feel like local experts — a designation we’ll be happy to bid farewell to once Jen finishes her chemotherapy and other treatments in May 2025.

We have always appreciated the excellent medical care we have access to in northeast Indiana; however, we have gained a new level of appreciation for every person who works in a hospital and helps people at oftentimes one of the most vulnerable moments in their lives.

I know that we’ll never be able to say thank you enough times to everyone who is taking care of Jen. We’ll never be able to repay the doctors and nurses for their goodness, their generosity and their kindness. Instead, we’ll try our best to pay it forward each and every day.

We’ll be spending our next 10 Thursdays with a special group of medical professionals at the oncology clinic as Jen receives her weekly chemotherapy treatments. The care, compassion and expertise that these nurses show as they take care of Jen and all of their patients will bring tears to your eyes. You can take my word on that last part.

May just happens to be Oncology Nursing Month. We are certainly celebrating them this month for their skills and compassion — and we’ll forever be grateful for all of the Ubumuntu we have experienced from Jen’s medical team this year as we try our best to pay forward the greatness of heart that so many have shown us.

*jdpeeper2@hotmail.com*

Submit your Letters to the Editor via: • Our website link (Submit your Letter) • E-Mail: [email@news-banner.com](mailto:email@news-banner.com) • Mail: PO Box 436, Bluffton IN 46714 • Drop-off: 125 N. Johnson St., Bluffton. All letters must be signed and must include a phone number or address in case verification is desired. Letters are edited for brevity and clarity. Letters must be no more than 500 words. Please mark your correspondence as a “Letter to the Editor,” or if you wish to express an opinion to us but do not want it published, please mark as “Not for Publication.”



Justin Peeper



garyvarvel.com

## Biden not fooling voters on economy

If you want to explain to a puzzled, left-leaning writer like The Atlantic’s Annie Lowrey why most voters this year rate the economy during former President Donald Trump’s term more favorably than the economy during President Joe Biden’s, you might start with a pair of simple charts.

Lowrey said the Biden years have seen “the strongest economy the United States has ever experienced.” She cited an unemployment rate below 4%, wage growth higher “than it was at any point during the Obama administration,” and “stronger pay increases than any president since Richard Nixon.” Inflation, she noted defensively, “has cooled off considerably.”

All well and good, and you can hear similar thoughts from Democratic economists and Biden administration spokespeople, together, sometimes, with suggestions that many voters are, well, just not knowledgeable or sophisticated enough to appreciate the bounty the administration’s policies have produced.

In response, look at the pair of charts tweeted by Republican consultant Patrick Ruffini as evidence of “how Joe Biden is losing the election with an economy like this.” They come from an article in last weekend’s Wall Street Journal by Greg Ip and Rosie Ettenheim.

After comparing rises in the Dow Jones average during the two presidencies, the writers explain that “a better measure of financial wealth is net worth: all assets, including stocks, bonds, cash and property, minus debts. Total household net worth rose 19% through Biden’s first three years in office, according to Federal Reserve data — not much less than the 23% through Trump’s first three years.”

That’s reflected in the first of the pair of charts. The second takes inflation into account and shows the changes in household net worth. The first year of each administration saw modest increases, under 10%, but 15 months in, the lines diverge.

Real household net worth kept climbing during the Trump presidency, with some downward spikes roughly coinciding with the Nov. 2018 off-year elections and the imposition of COVID-19 restrictions. Altogether, inflation-adjustment household net worth grew a robust 16% during the Trump presidency.

In contrast, the line showing real household net worth during the Biden presidency shoots downward in summer 2022, following and perhaps sustaining the plunge of Biden’s job approval rating after the botched withdrawal from Afghanistan.

For the last two years, real household net worth has mostly continued in negative territory, finally poking just barely above the Jan. 2021 level. For the total Biden presidency so far, Ip and Ettenheim

reported, it is up a barely perceptible 0.7%.

Given these numbers, it should not be entirely mysterious why many people, including most partisan Republicans but many Democrats as well, don’t believe they are witnessing “the strongest economy the United States has ever experienced.”

It’s true that most political commentary and the economic exhortation one can find in The New York Times opinion pages don’t highlight changes in household net worth. But it may be a better index of voters’ economic discontent (or contentment) than the oft-used unemployment or total income figures.

When I was growing up in Detroit in the 1950s, people lived in terror of unemployment. They had vivid memories of the Great Depression, in which stretches of unemployment could last for years, maybe permanently, and the absence of a regular

paycheck meant meatless meals and raising vegetables in backyard gardens. You couldn’t get through by using your credit card for groceries or school clothes (Visa was introduced in 1958 and was uncommon for the next decade).

Inflation operates differently today, too. Voters under 60 have had no significant experience with inflation in the U.S. When prices suddenly jump up by magnitudes entirely outside your experience (gasoline is up 48%, electricity is up 28%, pet food is up 24%, and restaurant meals are up 21%), and when they show no sign of falling back to familiar levels, you may be inclined to blame a national administration, particularly one that boasted of injecting vast sums into an economy that had high savings rates during the pandemic. And you may not take comfort from assurances that inflation “has cooled off considerably.”

These days, most people are on a path to accumulate modest but significant wealth. They can withstand, with some pain, a bout of unemployment and low wage increases, as in 2007-17. But a spell of persistent inflation leaves them feeling they’re falling behind. No wonder “Bidenomics” is a hard sell.

Meanwhile, Democrats’ argument that Trump poses a threat to democracy is “not working,” as Ezra Klein, Lowrey’s husband, wrote in The New York Times. Most of the Biden-encouraged prosecutions of Trump have been postponed, perhaps indefinitely, and the kangaroo court proceeding in Manhattan is discrediting not the defendant but his prosecutors. On this, as on the economy, Biden strategists are better at fooling themselves than fooling the voters.

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Michael Barone

*For the last two years, real household net worth has mostly continued in negative territory*

## Yes, militarize space



Rich Lowry

“The stars will never be won by little minds,” observed the great science fiction writer Robert Heinlein. If we aren’t careful, though, they just might be won by the scheming minds of governments hostile to the United States.

A notable New York Times piece the other day reported that the “Pentagon is rushing to expand its capacity to wage war in space, convinced that rapid advances by China and Russia in space-based operations pose a growing threat to U.S. troops and other military assets on the ground and American satellites in orbit.”

There are two things to be said about this — one, it’s about time, and two, we need to be doing much more.

Space is indeed the final frontier ... for romantic nonsense that ignores human realities and the imperatives of war-fighting.

For all the talk of how pristine space is, it is an incredibly unforgiving environment. Yes, it looks beautiful, but so do the air and sea. And sure, space has provided the occasion for compelling art, but so what? We don’t let Herman Melville or J.M.W. Turner convince us that we should ban all battleships or submarines.

Playing defense in space — or simply trying to protect our assets — doesn’t make any more sense than doing so on the ground, in the air or

on the sea. Would we ever just give our troops lots of Kevlar vests and station them in elaborate concrete bunkers, but deny them the use of rifles or artillery? Would we ever want our warplanes merely to be capable of evading and surviving enemy attacks without their own missiles and bombs?

Even if we wanted to keep space weapons-free, space is already a domain central to modern military operations. Try to operate a U.S. carrier strike group or even an infantry brigade without the communications, positioning information or reconnaissance provided by space. As the assistant secretary of defense for space has put it, space is “absolutely essential to our way of war.”

Russia and China realize that. Since they aren’t nice, well-meaning people content to see the United States continue as the world’s foremost military power, they have set about finding ways to eliminate our advantages.

In response, we have been working on making our satellites harder to take out. We’ve been reducing our reliance on large, sophisticated satellites that are expensive to build, supposed to last for decades and are enticing targets. We’ve been adding higher numbers of smaller satellites. They are cheaper, aren’t built to last as long so they can evolve technologically more quickly, and can be launched much more rapidly. This

— as well as making satellites more maneuverable — will create a more resilient force.

But defense isn’t enough. We should arm our spacecraft with the non-kinetic (electronic and cyber warfare capabilities, together with directed energy) and kinetic weapons necessary to disable or shoot-down threatening satellites. Again, did we make the Sherman tank without a gun in World War II and hope its armor and maneuverability would see it through?

Space also should be used to intercept nuclear weapons. Merely holding out the possibility of a nuclear launch could be used to coerce the United States in a crisis and, much more seriously, a nuclear attack could deal American society a blow from which it will never recover.

It is insane that our chief means of protecting ourselves from this threat is several dozen decades-old ground-based interceptors. We should be pursuing capabilities, such as space-based lasers, that were once the stuff of science fiction. In a pinch, it’s hard to believe a U.S. president will ever regret having more ways to shoot down an incoming nuclear missile. (By the way, as far as worries about weaponizing space are concerned — a nuclear missile would travel through space, so we shouldn’t hesitate to shoot one down in space.)

All this will require national focus, and a clear-eyed view of a contested domain critical to our ability to deter and win wars.

*Rich Lowry is on Twitter @RichLowry*

## Today in History

**By The Associated Press**  
Today is Tuesday, May 28, the 149th day of 2024. There are 217 days left in the year.

Today’s Highlight in History: On May 28, 1934, the Dionne quintuplets — Annette, Cecile, Emilie, Marie and Yvonne — were born to Elzire Dionne at the family farm in Ontario, Canada.

On this date:  
In 1863, the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment, made up of freed Black men, left Boston to fight for the Union in the Civil War.

In 1918, American troops fought their first major battle during World War I as they launched an offensive

against the German-held French village of Cantigny; the Americans succeeded in capturing the village.

In 1937, Neville Chamberlain became prime minister of Britain.

In 1940, during World War II, the Belgian army surrendered to invading German forces.

In 1959, the U.S. Army launched Able, a rhesus monkey, and Baker, a squirrel monkey, aboard a Jupiter missile for a suborbital flight which both primates survived.

In 1964, the charter of the Palestine Liberation Organization was issued at the start of a meeting of the Palestine National Congress in Jerusalem.

## The News-Banner

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# Events at the Creative Arts Council of Wells County

428 S. Oak Street in Bluffton  
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Facebook: www.facebook.com/wellscocreativearts  
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Creative Arts office hours — Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday (by appointment only).

**NEW CLASS**  
**Early Stages Workshop**  
This workshop is directed toward elementary-aged students who want to focus on acting or wanting to learn more about theater and what it has to offer. The instructor, Ainsley Werich, and the students will explore how to bring the script to life, the history of theater, the different roles in a production, and basics of acting.

Ages: 7-11 years old  
Dates: July 22-26 from 9 a.m. to noon  
Tuition: \$50 per student  
Registration: <https://www.wellscocreativearts.com/early-stages-workshop>  
This is a perfect workshop to join if you are curious about theater or have a few shows under your belt.

**GUITAR LESSONS – Acoustic/Electric Beginner, Intermediate & Advanced**  
Private instruction is available on Tuesdays during the summer for Acoustic/Electric guitar. Limited Spots available. Give us a call at (260) 824-5222 to get on Mike's schedule!

**SUMMER DANCE INTENSIVE**  
Dates: June 3-21, 2024

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

Tuesday and Thursday (Choose 1 session)

Session A: 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. (FULL)  
Session B: 10:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  
Tuition: \$50

**Pre-Dance (Ages 6-8)**  
The Pre-Dance class is geared toward 6-8 year old students. Students will take two 45 minute classes (one in ballet and one dance elective) twice a week for three weeks.

Tuesday and Thursday / 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM  
Tuition: \$90

**Continuing Dance (Ages 9-12)**  
For 9-12 year old students, Continuing Dance occurs twice a week for 3 weeks. Students will take two, one hour classes (one in ballet and one dance elective).

Tuesday and Thursday / 4:45 PM – 6:45 PM  
Tuition: \$120

**Intermediate/Advanced Class**  
For students that have reached an intermediate to advanced level of classical ballet. Students will take 1.5 to 2.5 hours of class three times a week for three weeks. Classes offered will include ballet, pointe, and contemporary dance styles.

Monday / 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM  
Wednesday / 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM

## Patriotic Pops concerts by FW Philharmonic in the area

Wells County will not be the site of a Fort Wayne Philharmonic Patriotic Pops concert this summer, but several are being presented in the area.

The schedule includes:  
Pokagon State Park:

Wednesday: June 26, 7:30 p.m.

DeKalb Outdoor Theater: Friday, June 28, 7 p.m.

Muensterberg Plaza/Clock Tower in Berne: Saturday, June 29, 7 p.m.  
Oakwood Resort at Syra-

cuse: Sunday, June 30, 7 p.m.

Parkview Field in Fort Wayne: Tuesday, July 2,

8:30 p.m.  
Bixler Lake Park in Kendallville: Thursday, July 4, 8:30 p.m.



Friday / 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM  
Tuition: \$190

**Summer Theater - June 2024**  
Dreamworks Shrek the Musical JR (Ages 12-18)

Performances:  
June 14 at 7 PM  
June 15th at 3 PM and 7 PM  
Tickets: \$11.00 – purchased online at:

<https://tickets.artstix.org/>

**Disney Jungle Book Kids (Ages 8-11)**

Performances:  
June 28 at 7 PM  
June 29 at 3 PM  
Tickets: \$11.00 - purchased online at:

<https://tickets.artstix.org/>

**\*\*\*Audition Announcement\*\*\***  
We are eager to announce that our Fall Theater Production will be Mark Twain's "Tom Sawyer!" This is a play adaptation of the classic story that is sure to draw in actors and audiences, both young and old! For more information on specific information please visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/373432615684636>

**Auditions:**  
Thursday, August 1st from 6:00-8:00pm  
Friday, August 2nd from 6:00-8:00pm  
Saturday, August 3rd from 10:00am-12:00pm

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

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

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

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

## Jessup, Sommerfeld earn accolades from Trine

Savanna Jessup of Bluffton, a Trine University student, earned Dean's List recognition for the Spring 2024 semester.

Jessup is majoring in Communication.

To earn Dean's List honors, Trine University students must complete a minimum of 12 hours and have a grade point average of 3.500-3.749.

Ethan Sommerfeld of Bluffton was named to the Vice President's List for the Spring 2024 semester.

Sommerfeld is majoring

in BS in Information Systems.

To earn Vice President's List honors, an undergraduate student must be registered for 12 or more total semester credit hours, including graduate courses, with fewer than 12 credit hours at the undergraduate level. The student must have a semester combined undergraduate/graduate grade point average between 3.750 and 4.000, with the undergraduate semester grade point average not lower than 3.500. Trine Uni-

versity, an internationally recognized, private, co-educational, residential institution, offers associate's, bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees. Founded in 1884 and accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools ([www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org](http://www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org)), Trine operates a 450-acre campus in Angola, Indiana, the College of Health Professions in Fort Wayne and worldwide through TrineOnline.

## Parlor City Market to open June 1

The Parlor City Market season will begin on Saturday, June 1. The market will continue through the summer on Saturdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Applications for vendors are available [blufftonnow.org/parlor-city-mar-](http://blufftonnow.org/parlor-city-market)

ket. Cost is \$50 for the season. Bluffton NOW! is also seeking community partners and entertainment for the season.

Contact with questions or inquiries via email, [blufftonnow@gmail.com](mailto:blufftonnow@gmail.com), or Facebook, [@blufftonparlorcitymarket](https://www.facebook.com/blufftonparlorcitymarket).

## Thursday concerts at Freimann Square in Fort Wayne

Fort Wayne's Freimann Square will be the site of free concerts on Thursday noons throughout the summer beginning on May 30 with Alicia Pyle & The Locals playing from 11:30

a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Also on the schedule are:  
June 6: Hey Hera

June 13: Angie Marquardt

June 20: WMD  
June 27: Khadeja Jamil

July 11: Neo Nea

July 18: Jaina Berry & Taylor Grant

July 25: Todd Harrold Band

Aug. 1: Sunny Taylor  
Aug. 8: Ross Kinsey

## Senior games at FW parks

This will be the 45 year that the Fort Wayne Park Department has sponsored 50+Senior Games at a variety of sites in Fort Wayne including the Community Center, 233 West Main St. .

Registration for the 40 events, to be held June 3-27, is now in progress and includes: axe throwing, basketball, bike tour, billiards, Bocce, bowling, cornhole, darts, disc golf, golf, horseshoes, jigsaw puzzling, miniature golf, paper airplane flying, pickleball, shuffleboard, skee ball, softball throwing/hitting, table tennis, timed walk, trivia, bingo, Wii bowling and more.

More information at [fortwayneparks.org](http://fortwayneparks.org).

## Summer events at Headwaters Park

Events scheduled at Headwaters Park, Clinton & Superior St. in Fort Wayne include the following:

June 1-2: Arab Fest  
June 5-9: Arab Fest  
June 13-16: Rib Fest  
June 20-23: Greek

Fest

July 12-20: Three Rivers Festival

July 26-27: Pride Festival

Aug. 10: Fiesta Fort Wayne

More information at [fortwayneparks.org](http://fortwayneparks.org).

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## Panthers leave Tigers in heartbreak with walkoff

By RICK SPRUNGER

BERNE — A pesky Eastbrook Panther team that refused to go away rallied all the way back from an early five-run deficit to beat the Bluffton Tigers, 10-9, in the championship game of the Class 2A baseball sectional Monday afternoon at South Adams.

Malakai Luthy stole third base and came around to score the winning run with two outs in the bottom of the seventh when the throw to third sailed into left field. The play capped a wild three-run rally in that fateful seventh that lifted the Panthers to the improbable win.

“They stayed with us, but we helped them stay,” said Bluffton coach Jason Pierce outside a stunned Bluffton dugout after the game. “We gave them too many free passes, too many walks and hit batsmen. We just can’t be going up there and throwing a walk. In a game like this, whenever a baserunner gets on there’s a lot of tension, on both sides. We just had too many opportunities where we didn’t take advantage.”

For much of the game, Bluffton appeared to be poised to claim the sectional championship.

The Tigers jumped all over Eastbrook starter Carter Daugherty right off the bat in the top of the first inning.

Bluffton’s first six batters all reached base safely, the first five scored, and Bluffton appeared to be on its way.

Eli Garrett drew a leadoff walk, and Braxton Betancourt, Brody Lewis, and Lukas Gehrett ripped three consecutive doubles to plate two runs. A.J. Strevler drove in a third run with a fourth consecutive hit and scored himself on a sacrifice fly to stake the Tigers to a quick 5-0 lead before a single Eastbrook batter had stepped into the batter’s box.

Eastbrook scored two runs of its own in the bottom of the first, but single runs in both the third and fourth innings, the latter on a long home run by Axton Beste, restored Bluffton to that five-run advantage at 7-2.

But the Tigers missed some golden opportunities in the middle innings.

Betancourt led off the fourth inning with a double and took third on a wild

pitch with nobody out. But two strikeouts and an infield grounder left him standing there.

They also left runners at second and third in the fifth.

“When you get five out of the gate, you’ve got to be better than that,” said Pierce. “We were teeing off on (Daugherty’s) fastball, and we knew that he was going to start coming in with his breaking ball. But we just couldn’t lay off it.”

Eastbrook, meanwhile, kept hanging around. The Panthers got a run back in the bottom of the third on a couple of hits by Austin Mikel and Kyler Hackman wrapped around a walk to make it 7-3.

A two-run double by Daugherty after a hit batsman and a walk in the fourth inched them to within 7-5.

They finally tied it at 7-7 an inning later in a wild inning that saw three walks, a hit batsman, two Bluffton errors — and no Eastbrook hits. Two of the walks were back-to-back on four pitches, the latter forced in a run, and the hit batsman immediately following forced in another.

Bluffton pulled it back together, however, and scored two runs in the top of the seventh to move in front, 9-7.

Griffin Morgan led off with a base hit, was sacrificed to second, took third on an errant pickoff throw and scored on a single by Easton Blair.

A dropped fly ball in left field and a passed ball enabled Blair to reach third, and he scored on Garrett’s sacrifice fly for a two-run cushion with three outs left.

But the wheels came off for the Tigers in the bottom of the inning.

William Hodson beat out a dribbler down the third base line, and Ryder Gipson drew a walk. A sacrifice bunt and another walk loaded the bases with one out. Following that, a wild pitch scored one run, and Mikel then hit a one-hopper back to the mound, but the play was thrown to first base rather than to the plate, and the tying run scored while Luthy moved to second.

It was then that the fateful overthrow on the steal of third made a sudden winner out of Eastbrook.

“Our pitchers threw good enough to win,” said Pierce, “but our offense fizzled,



Bluffton senior Lukas Gehrett (No. 6) consoles catcher senior Brody Lewis as Eastbrook celebrates their walk-off 10-9 title win in Monday’s sectional final game in Berne. (Photos by Chad Kline)



Bluffton's Easton Blair, right, slides into the tag of Eastbrook's second baseman in a steal attempt.

and we didn’t take advantage of the opportunities we had.”

Eastbrook moves on to the regional with time to be determined on Saturday

against Westview with a 12-14 record. Bluffton finishes with a 17-10 mark.

sports@news-banner.com

## Indians out-slug Knights to win sectional championship

By RYAN WALKER

The sectional baseball championship wasn’t the way Norwell wanted it or expected it to happen.

Playing host for the first time for a sectional tournament, the Norwell Knights (18-8) ended their season at the hands of the Mississinewa Indians (18-5) 14-10 in hopes of defending the 2023 title. The home crowd packed all three bleacher sections and down both foul lines, standing or sitting in lawn chairs. The fans got to witness a roller coaster from start to finish on Memorial Day.

Norwell relied on starting pitcher Lane Lewis for most of the season — a pitcher who will head to Taylor University to begin his college baseball career and entered the final game of the season with a 6-1 record and a 1.86 ERA. But the Indians didn’t care about numbers or statistics, and they jumped on the senior hurler early and often.

One after another, the Indians smacked base hits all over the diamond. One run came in, then another, and two more on Jaren Fortney’s double. It was enough to send pitching coach Lex Hunter to make a mound visit to Lewis.

More hits ensued, and the score became 6-0 before Norwell could trot back into the dugout and grab a bat. No matter what Lewis threw, Mississinewa made hard contact and found grass.

“Surprised, really. That’s all I can say,” Norwell head coach Christian Bohata said. “I thought (Mississinewa) had a good game plan. He’s a great pitcher — had a heck of a senior year. He’s going to be a good pitcher for Taylor University, that’s for sure ... They didn’t let them get deep into counts to where he could really mix (his pitches) well. Whether he threw curveballs or fastballs, and even if he located it, they’re hitting it hard.”

Mississinewa’s first inning wasn’t a fluke either. The first two at-bats in the second were hard singles and knocked the Knights’ starter out of the game. Noah Turk came in relief, in which he got the three outs he needed, but one skated across home plate on a passed ball to make it 7-0.

With six more innings of hitting to go, Norwell certainly would have opportunities to chop away at the deficit.

Logan Cotton got it all started with a single, which was the beginning of Norwell’s bases-loaded situation. Up to the plate came Noah Schamerloh, a .261 hitting sophomore

with only five extra-base hits on the season with two outs.

Maybe a single would score a run or two, but Schamerloh had other plans. He took a deep shot into right field pull-side and launched a grand slam to the batting cages, sending an earthquake through Ossian.

“Man when he hit that ball, it was gone right off the bat,” Bohata said.

It was the first career home run for Schamerloh, who was also hitting eighth in Bohata’s lineup card.

Even a slam like that one still had Norwell down 7-4, but it felt as if the losing team had more steam than the winning one at that point in the game.

Turk sat down the Indians the next half inning, and the Norwell sticks were ready for some more damage.

The Knights loaded the bases once more with two outs. Cayden Cassel scored from third on a wild pitch, followed by Korben Neuenschwander lugging out an infield single on a tough bounce for Indians’ second baseman Lio Matamoros.

Now down by one, Collin Burns, who came to the plate ripped a double to right-centerfield and brought home two more runs. and just like that, Norwell’s 7-0 trailing switched to a one-run, 8-7 advantage.

“When (Schamerloh) hit that ball, it got the rest of our guys in the dugout to believe and that just totally swung momentum,” Bohata said.

In the top of the fifth inning, bottom of the fifth and top of the sixth, Norwell and Mississinewa exchanged leads to add to the drama-filled championship game.

In the top of the fifth, Indians’ hitter Rashad Holmes belted a two-run bomb to left field to regain a 9-8 lead. Then, in the top half, Schamerloh continued his big day with a double for two RBI and snatched the lead back to the Knights 10-9.

For the final two innings, the back-and-forth battle came to a close. Mississinewa kept the pedal to the metal offensively and got two solid innings from its freshman relief pitcher Kavion Martin.

Mason Cox’s double down the right field line was just fair by about a foot or two and put the Indians on top for the final time.

Martin shut down the Knights in the sixth, while his offense went to work.

With only three outs to give, Norwell needed to hold the Mississinewa’s one-

(Continued on Page A2)



Eli Randal slides into home safely in the bottom of the fifth against Mississinewa in the sectional semifinal at Norwell Monday. The Indians were victorious 14-10. (Photo by Glen Werling)

## Raiders drop in baseball semifinal to end season

The Southern Wells baseball season came to a close in the sectional semifinal Monday afternoon.

The Raiders fell 17-0 in five innings

against the host Wes-Del. The team dropped to 4-18 to finish the season.

Stats and numbers for the contest weren’t posted online at the time of print.

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# Indians

(Continued from Page A1)

lead to just that to have a chance to tie or win it in the bottom of the seventh. But those red-hot bats never stopped.

Kohen Bailey got an important RBI single to go up by two. Then, Kaiden Campbell's single and Mason Cox's sacrifice fly nailed the Knights to a 14-10 advantage.

The four runs were too much to overcome, and Martin held the 14-10 score to a final to win the sectional championship.

"Yeah, obviously not at all how any of us wanted it to end," Bohata said. "We didn't come in expecting to lose. They jumped on us early, I thought we battled back really well. I mean, we took the lead after the third. I couldn't ask for anything else out of the guys. Just didn't end up our outcome. Sometimes, that's baseball. Gotta give it to them, they hit the crap out of the ball today."

Mississinewa will continue its state tournament path in the regional this Saturday, June 1, against Delta. The time for the game is unknown.

Norwell's 18-8 season was a pleasant surprise under first-year head coach Bohata. The Knights lost six of their nine starters in the field and eight seniors overall from 2023, including most of its top pitching and hitting players.

With a mostly new varsity roster, Bohata's group went through some growing pains and posted a 9-6 record before rattling off seven of their final nine games.

The defending sectional champs reloaded and replenished without missing much of a beat, and now will need to use that experience to fill in a few more holes.

Seniors Lewis and Cade Shelton (Huntington University) graduated and will be on fall college baseball rosters. Both were the 1-2 punch pitchers and were slated 2-3 on most nights in the lineup. Collin Burns, a staple in the Knights' lineup, will need his void filled in the outfield. As well as this season went, Norwell's baseball team won't be any stranger to replacing players again.

"We're a young group you know with the three seniors, but we got to thank those seniors a lot because Lane Lewis, Cade Shelton, Collin Burns — all three of them brought us everything they had this year. They taught these younger guys how to play Norwell baseball," Bohata said.

ryan@news-banner.com



Noah Schamerloh jacks a two-out grand slam home run to cut deep into the Mississinewa lead in the bottom of the second inning of the championship game of Sectional 23 at Norwell Monday. (Photo by Glen Werling)

## High School Calendar

**TUESDAY, MAY 28**  
BOYS GOLF: Adams Central at Norwell, 4:30 p.m.; Southern Wells at Bluffton, 4:30 p.m.  
SOFTBALL: (Regional championship) Norwell at Yorktown, 6 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 29**  
No events scheduled.

**THURSDAY, MAY 30**  
No events scheduled.

**FRIDAY, MAY 31**  
BOYS GOLF: (Sectional) Bluffton, Norwell and Southern Wells at Timber Ridge, 9 a.m.

TRACK & FIELD: (Girls state) Norwell at Robert C. Haugh Track & Field Complex, Indiana University, 3 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 1**  
TRACK & FIELD: (Boys state) Norwell at Robert C. Haugh Track & Field Complex, Indiana University, 3 p.m.

**MONDAY, JUNE 3**  
No events scheduled.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 4**  
No events scheduled.

## Baseball, softball NE8 award winners released

The Northeast 8 Conference award winners were released for both baseball and softball.

The Knights had several players represented in both sports.

The baseball team just wrapped its season up with its first outright title in the NE8 and first outright conference title since 2007.

On the first team: Lane Lewis (pitcher), Cade Shelton (corner infield) and Drew Graft (outfield). Second team: Korben Neuenschwander (catcher). Honorable mention: Drew Jolley (corner infield) and Cayden Cassel (middle

infield).  
For softball, the Knights finished 4-3 in the NE8 and recently won the sectional championship, defeating Peru, Oak Hill and Belmont on their way to the regional.

The regional will start at 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 28.

On the first team: Jordan Markley (outfield) and Kara Brown (outfield). Second team Kaydance Clark (catcher), Reese Frauhiger (middle infield), Leah Werling (corner infield) and Nevada Lenwell (flex). Honorable mention Sami Lemler (pitcher).

# Agriculture

## U.S. House Agriculture Committee advances own version of farm bill

By AGDAILY

The U.S. House Agriculture Committee passed its version of the 2024 farm bill, drawing a large response from stakeholders around the nation. With four Democrats joining Republicans, the \$1.5 trillion bill, formally known as the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024, advanced on a 33-21 vote.

Among the highlights of the House bill are the expansion of support for farm commodities and the reduction in SNAP funding. Probably the most contentious aspect, however, is that nearly \$20 billion intended for so-called "climate-smart farm practices" is targeted for reallocation away the Inflation Reduction Act.

In a public statement Friday morning, the National Corn Growers Association said many of the recommendations made by corn grower leaders are reflected in the legislation and that the language in the bill would improve programs for corn growers across the country. Similarly, the National Association of Wheat Growers affirmed that many of its priorities are reflected in the House bill. These include emphasis on crop insurance and voluntary conservation cost-share programs for producers, as well as increase trade opportunities.

Nonetheless, during a press call earlier this week, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack expressed "deep concerns" about the newest version, saying that the bill "overpromises" farmers, while trying to force a "crack in the coalition" that typically passes a farm bill.

Senate Agriculture Committee chair Debbie Stabenow agreed with Vilsack, saying in a statement, "Despite areas of common ground, it is now clear that key parts of the House bill split the Farm Bill coalition in a way that makes it impossible to achieve the votes to become law."

The House Agriculture Committee posted to X, the platform formerly known as Twitter, "As we traveled to every corner of the country

we heard loud and clear the farm safety net needs to be strengthened. Our #FarmBill does just that."

House Agriculture Committee chair Glenn "GT" Thompson echoed that sentiment Thursday, when the panel went through the farm bill markup, saying that the bill "bolsters every aspect of American agriculture."

"NAWG commends Chairman Thompson for moving the process forward and urges a bipartisan and bicameral process to enact a highly effective Farm Bill," the wheat association said in a statement. "Ultimately, for a Farm Bill to get signed into law, it will have to pass both chambers and be bipartisan. We look forward to working with all stakeholders to help get a farm bill signed into law that provides certainty and a strong safety net for producers."

During the markup, corn growers supported several amendments that were filed by committee members to improve the farm bill. NCGA President Harold Wollé said growers were appreciative of Rep. Max Miller (R-Ohio) for offering an amendment on sustainable aviation fuel that was adopted by the committee. He also credited Rep. Dusty Johnson (R-S.D.) for offering an amendment

requiring a mandatory base acre update that would better reflect corn growers priorities for commodity program eligibility.

Still, while modern American agriculture is certainly a focus of this legislation, the largest part of every farm bill is not as much directly related to farming itself but rather to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's food aid programs. This year, there is a major movement among House committee members to freeze the flagship Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, which is likely to continue to yield the biggest blowback in future discussions.

"Speaking about the waste, fraud, abuse that absolutely exists in these programs — every single dollar that goes to waste, fraud, abuse for these SNAP programs is a dollar that cannot go to feed a hungry child," said Rep. Derrick Van Orden (R-Wis.).

The 2024 farm bill also included an EATS Act provision, which is part of an effort to counteract California's Prop 12 and the restrictions that the measure puts on producers nationwide who want to sell their products in California. Prop 12 was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court

amid lawsuits by the American Farm Bureau Federation and the National Pork Producers Council, but the measure still draws large vocal opposition.

Critics of the EATS Act, particularly those affiliated with animal-rights organizations, repeatedly like to refer to it as a China-backed initiative, primarily because Smithfield Foods is a subsidiary of a Chinese-owned company.

"The leadership of the Agriculture Committee for months has kept repeating that it would present a bipartisan bill, but it included an EATS Act provision that did not have a single Democrat cosponsor in either the House or the Senate," said Wayne Pacelle, the former head of the Humane Society of the U.S. He now serves as president of both Animal Wellness Action and the Center for a Humane Economy.

The 2018 farm bill expired last year, and Congress passed a one-year extension. The Democrat-led U.S. Senate has its own version of the farm bill.

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## Lottery Numbers

**Saturday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY**  
Cash 5 — 03-06-25-33-39  
Cash4Life — 16-17-34-38-42, Cash Ball: 04  
Lotto Plus — 11-24-25-33-34-41  
Quick Draw Midday — 04-08-11-12-18-25-31-34-35-44-46-54-61-62-63-64-67-69-70-71, BE: 69  
Daily Three-Midday — 03-01-04, SB: 01  
Daily Three-Evening — 05-04-06, SB: 04  
Daily Four-Midday — 02-06-01-08, SB: 01  
Daily Four-Evening — 00-06-00-03, SB: 04  
Quick Draw Evening — 05-06-22-24-25-27-28-29-33-43-44-45-53-59-60-61-65-72-78-79, BE: 29  
Hoosier Lotto — 17-23-30-37-39-42  
**POWERBALL**  
06-33-35-36-64; Powerball: 24; Power Play: 3X

**Sunday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY**  
Cash 5 — 06-13-21-34-35  
Cash4Life — 03-15-24-26-50, Cash Ball: 03  
Quick Draw Midday — 01-04-05-07-12-13-22-27-29-33-41-46-48-64-65-68-70-71-76-77, BE: 01  
Daily Three-Midday — 09-06-01, SB: 06  
Daily Three-Evening — 00-08-00, SB: 06  
Daily Four-Midday — 04-09-08-06, SB: 06  
Daily Four-Evening — 00-04-03-07, SB: 06  
Quick Draw Evening — 05-06-15-21-26-32-36-42-43-52-53-55-57-60-65-67-69-74-76-79, BE: 29

**Monday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY**  
Cash 5 — 05-06-10-28-33  
Cash4Life — 02-14-16-22-56, Cash Ball: 04  
Quick Draw Midday — 04-08-11-13-15-25-26-32-36-37-42-48-49-60-68-69-70-73-74-76, BE: 15  
Daily Three-Midday — 02-00-00, SB: 08  
Daily Three-Evening — 05-01-00, SB: 07  
Daily Four-Midday — 08-01-04-08, SB: 08  
Daily Four-Evening — 02-03-07-02, SB: 07  
Quick Draw Evening — 02-05-12-13-16-17-23-32-33-36-44-48-57-61-63-64-65-69-72-79, BE: 69  
Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$13.3 million  
**MEGA MILLIONS**  
Estimated jackpot (for Tuesday): \$489 million  
**POWERBALL**  
09-30-39-49-59 Powerball: 21; Power Play: 5X

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## Public Sale Calendar

**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 1 - 9 a.m. - Multiple consigners.** 6632 N. 500 W., Decatur. Personal property: Jewelry (gold, silver, costume), toys, collectables, furniture, household, antiques, trailer, Flow Blue, glassware, Star Wars. Preview May 31, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. *Wiegmann Auctioneers*, [wiegmannauctioneers.com](http://wiegmannauctioneers.com), 260-447-4311.

**JUNE 1 - 11:30 a.m. - Ardith Smith estate, Cheryl Heral estate & Sonja Bartlett, sellers.** 320 Sparks St., Markle, IN. Live on-site. One story, two bedroom home on 1.6 acres, 1,144 sq. ft., 10x18 detached garage. Steve Ness, auction manager, 260-417-6556, [SteveNess@NessBros.com](mailto:SteveNess@NessBros.com), *Ness Bros. Realtors & Auctioneers*, [www.NessBros.com](http://www.NessBros.com).

**BIDDING ENDS JUNE 2 - (Online Only Auction) - The Estate of John F. Holbrook, seller.** 200+ pcs. Roseville, Rookwood, Hull, McCoy, Van-Briggle, 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 30 from 3-6 p.m., 10421 W. Yoder Rd., Roanoke, IN. Patrick Carter, sale manager, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, [www.steffengrp.com](http://www.steffengrp.com), 260-824-3006.

**JUNE 4 - (Online Only Auction) - Bidding Opens at 9 a.m. and will close at 6 p.m. - Holbrook estate, seller.** 300 W, Markle, IN. Explore the potential of this property! 6.79+/- acre tract of land in Northern Wells, Union Township, easy access to I-69, 435' of road frontage on Wells County Road, rare opportunity for homesite or mini-farm. Inspection: Feel free to walk the property at any time. Patrick Carter, sale manager, 260-273-8294, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, [www.steffengrp.com](http://www.steffengrp.com), 260-824-3006.

**JUNE 5-JUNE 12 - (Online Only Auction) - Huston Waters, seller.** Well cared for modern furniture, wood working tools, household, 2003 Chevy Impala, lawn and garden equipment, outdoor furniture. Open House June 10 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., 1338 Manor Dr., Bluffton, IN. *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-824-3006, [www.steffengrp.com](http://www.steffengrp.com).

## NOTICE

### Notices

**ITALY TOUR PRESENTATION** Thurs, June 6, 6:15pm. Bluffton Wells Library. Discover highlights/facts of this 2025 trip. All Welcome! Terri Worden [grouptoursite.com/tours/mig-worden](http://grouptoursite.com/tours/mig-worden)

(Using WCPL meeting facility does not constitute WCPL's endorsement/sponsorship of the program or organizer's policies/beliefs.) [saratworden@gmail.com](mailto:saratworden@gmail.com)

**BIDDING STARTS CLOSING JUNE 9 - 6 p.m. EST - Berry estate, owner.** Online only real estate & personal property! 6 p.m. real estate: 1 1/2 story craftsman style home w/covered porch, 1,700+/- square ft. w/ornate woodwork throughout, partial basement, 3-4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath, detached 24x24 two-car garage, several older outbuildings all sitting on 6+/- acres, Adams Central School District. 6:30 p.m. personal property: Antique tractors, farm machinery, tools, antiques, primitives, vehicles, furniture, household items, more! Preview May 30, 5-6 p.m., 4854 N 400 W, Decatur. Pick up June 10, 2-6 p.m. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, 260-724-7402, [kjauction.com](http://kjauction.com).

**JUNE 15-JUNE 22 - (Online Only Auction) - The Estate of Glen Bowen, seller.** Clean 2005 Buick Lesabre Custom with 77,000 miles, 2004 Toyota Sienna mini van, 1987 Riviera Cruiser 24' pontoon, 2004 Yamaha XLT jet ski, floating WaveRunner dock, modern furniture, tools. Open House: June 9 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and June 22 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., 500 Lane 101 Jimmerson Lake, Angola, IN. *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-824-3006, [www.steffengrp.com](http://www.steffengrp.com).

**JUNE 16-JUNE 23 - (Online Only Auction) - The Estate of Marilyn McQueary, seller.** 2023 GMC Terrain Denali, AWD Edition with 2,130 miles (like new), clean like new modern furniture, antiques, collectibles, tools, jewelry, designer purses, much more. Open Houses: June 18 and June 20 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 102 S. Jefferson St., Ossian, IN. *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-824-3006, [www.steffengrp.com](http://www.steffengrp.com).

**JUNE 23 - (Online Only Auction) - Bowen Family, sellers.** Well cared for 2 bedroom lake cottage of Jimmerson Lake with 36' of frontage, three season room, 1 car garage, deck with outstanding views of Jimmerson Lake/Part of the Lake James Chain. Open House: June 9 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and June 22 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., 500 Lane 101 Jimmerson Lake, Angola, IN. *The Steffen Group Inc.*, [www.steffengrp.com](http://www.steffengrp.com), 260-824-3006.

## SUDOKU ANSWER

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

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