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TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2024 BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection \$1.00

Commissioners approve contract ordinance

By HOLLY GASKILL

Wells County Commissioners have unanimously approved an ordinance outlining procedures for contracts with county departments. It will take effect July 1.

The ordinance follows a bill authored by State Rep. Matt Lehman, which requires all department contracts to be written with Wells County and approved by the executive body. It also allows the county to add specific provisions for contracts with elected officials, like the terms for any potential litigation. The approved Wells County Ordinance 2024-08 denotes that the other party must first attempt mediation before filing a suit and that lawsuits must be filed in Wells County.

New contracts will also be submitted for review through the auditor's office, where the department head will confirm the contract meets requirements. The Wells County Council will have to approve the appropriated funds prior to the request for review.

Also Monday, Highway Department Supervisor Shawn Bonar reported that HVAC issues in the new highway building have been resolved. It was also decided that emergency lighting will be installed in place of a generator, and the relocation of the pressure washer and wash bay repair will be upcoming. The Highway Department will host an open house for the public from 3-6 p.m. on Tuesday, June 11.

Sheriff Scott Holliday said he's investigating ongoing issues with the sewer at the jail, which was repaired in the administrative portion of the building earlier this year. Holliday said some of the other cast iron lines may also be leaking, as they've reached their expected lifetime, and a contractor would be on-site this week.

As of Monday evening, 80 inmates were housed in the jail — 41 were pre-trial holds for the Circuit Court, 28 for the Superior Court, 12 from the Department of Correction and one Level 6 felon.

The commissioners also appointed Matt Yergler to the Community Plan Committee; Yergler was the only applicant.

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Fauci pushes back in fiery House hearing over COVID origins

By LAURAN NEERGAARD, AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Dr. Anthony Fauci, the top U.S. infectious disease expert until leaving the government in 2022, was back before Congress on Monday, calling "simply preposterous" Republican allegations that he'd tried to cover up origins of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A GOP-led subcommittee has spent over a year probing the nation's response to the pandemic and whether U.S.-funded research in China may have played any role in how it started — yet found no evidence linking Fauci to wrongdoing.

He'd already been grilled behind closed doors, for 14 hours over two days in January. But Monday, Fauci testified voluntarily in public and on camera at a hearing that quickly deteriorated into partisan attacks.

Republicans repeated unproven accusations against the longtime National Institutes of Health scientist while Democrats apologized for Congress besmirching his name and bemoaned a missed opportunity to prepare for the next scary outbreak.

"He is not a comic book super villain," said Rep. Jamie Raskin, D-Md., saying the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic had failed to prove a list of damaging allegations.

Fauci was the public face of the government's early

(Continued on Page 2)



Gaga for Gaga ball

The Bluffton Parks Department has kicked off their summer roster of events, including a round of Gaga ball at Roush Park on Monday. The department offers events throughout the summer for all age groups — a list can be found on the city's website. (Photo provided)

The fall of former sheriff Jamey Noel

In a statement, Gov. Eric Holcomb said he is "shocked, stunned and surprised" by the allegations against Noel

By CASEY SMITH

Indiana Capital Chronicle

The list of Hoosier politicians with ties to former Clark County Sheriff Jamey Noel spreads deep and wide.

The past Republican chair for both Clark County and the 9th Congressional District has been a sort of gatekeeper for southern Indiana political hopefuls over the last decade, but his influence extends across the state.

Among his notable relationships, Noel held close ties to former Gov. Mike Pence, who appointed him to serve on the now defunct Homeland Security Foundation. On a personal invite from Pence, he'd eventually attend former President Donald Trump's inauguration in Washington, D.C.

As a member of the Indiana State Republican Party Committee, Noel was among those tasked with selecting a gubernatorial candidate to replace the future vice president on the ballot in 2016. He then went on to lead the campaign for the party's pick — current Gov. Eric Holcomb — and was appointed to the governor's transition team after Holcomb's victory. In 2020, Noel was tapped again to serve as chairman of Holcomb's reelection bid, which resulted in a second gubernatorial term.

Entangled with Noel, as well, are former U.S. Reps. Mike Sodrel and Trey Hollingsworth, plus dozens of state lawmakers and other elected officials.

Last November, those prominent connections fell to the wayside, however, when a corruption and fraud investigation led by the Indiana State Police — centered on Noel — came to a head.

To date, he faces more than two dozen felony charges — six more were filed Monday morning — includ-

ing theft, ghost employment, official misconduct and tax evasion involving more than \$4 million in questionable spending

Noel's wife, Misty, and their daughter, Kasey, have also been charged. All have pleaded not guilty.

Investigators believe the family spent millions of taxpayer dollars on cars, planes, vacations, clothing and other luxury purchases. More than \$50,000 was supposedly spent on cigars alone, as well as \$183,000 on custom suits.

At least 40 cars have been confiscated by law enforcement, including a bevy of classics, such as two 1970 Plymouth Superbirds, a 1959 Corvette and 1966 and 1968 Chargers, according to search warrant returns.

Court documents further claim Noel used a jail commissary fund to bankroll a close friend for "consulting work." He's also accused of running a vehicle transfer scheme, in which he sold vehicles from the sheriff's office or his companies to himself for \$1 — or for nothing at all. Other times, he sold them and pocketed the money, according to police.

Legal filings allege, too, that Noel received millions of dollars worth of military surplus equipment during his time as Clark County sheriff and sold at least some of it for personal gain.

The investigation additionally uncovered that Noel used public funds to pay child support payments for a child he fathered with a former local councilwoman. And, per documents, he charged \$180,000 for tuition and rent for two daughters on a nonprofit credit card.

The state police's investigation — one of the largest in the agency's his-

tory — is ongoing.

Noel is currently in the Scott County Jail, where he's serving a 60-day sentence after being held in contempt of court for not following conditions of his pre-trial release.

But in the months since the criminal investigation erupted, commotion around Noel's fall from grace seems to be staying south.

In interviews with the Indiana Capital Chronicle, more than a dozen people who know Noel — including former law enforcement colleagues, local officials and those who orbited in his powerful political circles — repeatedly described him as "controlling" and "insulated."

Mostly silent, though, are some of Indiana's top politicians and leaders in the state capital. Multiple Republican officeholders and party officials declined to speak or did not reply to interview requests.

"The extent of the alleged corruption, and the web, and the family — it's just such a gripping story. I'm quite surprised that we haven't heard more," said Gregory Shufeldt, a political science professor at the University of Indianapolis. "This is not just a candidate using campaign money for something else. This is all sorts of problems, at a greater degree than I think we're used to when we're thinking of typical campaign or government misuse of funds."

Who is Jamey Noel?

Noel, now 53 years old, has lived in Clark County for nearly his entire life.

The small river town of Jeffersonville, the county seat, is more connected to nearby Louisville than Indianapolis. Located along the Interstate 65 corridor, it's a fusion spot of northern and southern culture, and the area's rich gambling history has also made it a hotbed for organized crime and corruption for more than a century.

(Continued on Page 2)

Black medic wounded on D-Day saved dozens of lives

He's finally being posthumously honored

By REBECCA SANTANA

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Waverly Woodson Jr., a medic who was part of the only Black combat unit to take part in the D-Day invasion of France during World War II, is being posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross in recognition of

the heroism and determination he showed treating troops under heavy enemy fire.

The Distinguished Service Cross is the second-highest honor that can be bestowed on a member of the Army and is awarded for extraordinary heroism.

The announcement was made Monday by Sen. Chris Van Hol-

len of Maryland, who has been working for years with Woodson's family for more recognition of his exploits on that fateful day.

"This has been a long time coming," Van Hollen said during an interview with The Associated Press. "Woodson's bravery on D-Day was heroic. We have numerous accounts of what he did to save his fellow soldiers even as he was wounded. And so we've

been pursuing this recognition for a long time along with the family."

The announcement comes just days before the 80th anniversary of the June 6 anniversary of the assault that led to the liberation of France and the rest of Western Europe from Nazi Germany.

Members of the First Army, which included Woodson's unit during World War II, is taking a World War II-era Distinguished

Service Cross with them to France. They will hold a ceremony on the Colleville-sur-Mer section of the beach, under what was a German fighting position known as WN61 where Woodson cared for troops, and place the medal in the sands there. Later this summer it will be given to his family in a ceremony.

Woodson was just 21 years old when his unit, the 320th Barrage

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Outside

Chance of showers and storms off and on today

Today	Wed.	Thursday
High 87	High 80	High 78
Low 67	Low 61	Low 57

More Weather on Page 2

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Fauci pushes back

(Continued from Page 1)
 COVID-19 response under then-President Donald Trump and later as an adviser to President Joe Biden. A trusted voice to millions, he also was the target of partisan anger and choked up Monday as he recalled death threats and other harassment of himself and his family, threats he said still continue. Police later escorted hecklers out of the hearing room.

The main issue: Many scientists believe the virus most likely emerged in nature and jumped from animals to people, probably at a wildlife market in Wuhan, the city in China where the outbreak began. There's no new scientific information supporting that the virus might instead have leaked from a laboratory. A U.S. intelligence analysis says there's insufficient evidence to prove either way -- and a recent Associated Press investigation found the Chinese government froze critical efforts to trace the source

of the virus in the first weeks of the outbreak.

Fauci has long said publicly that he was open to both theories but that there's more evidence supporting COVID-19's natural origins, the way other deadly viruses including coronavirus cousins SARS and MERS jumped into people. It was a position he repeated Monday as Republican lawmakers questioned if he worked behind-the-scenes to squelch the lab-leak theory or even tried to influence intelligence agencies.

"I have repeatedly stated that I have a completely open mind to either possibility and that if definitive evidence becomes available to validate or refute either theory, I will readily accept it," Fauci said. He later invoked a fictional secret agent, decrying a conspiracy theory that "I was parachuting into the CIA like Jason Bourne and told the CIA that they should really not be talking about a lab leak."

Republicans also have accused Fauci of lying to Congress in denying that his agency funded "gain of function" research -- the practicing of enhancing a virus in a lab to study its potential real-world impact -- at a lab in Wuhan.

NIH for years gave grants to a New York nonprofit called EcoHealth Alliance that used some of the funds to work with a Chinese lab studying coronaviruses commonly carried by bats. Last month, the government suspended EcoHealth's federal funding, citing its failure to properly monitor some of those experiments.

The definition of "gain of function" covers both general research and especially risky experiments to "enhance" the ability of potentially pandemic pathogens to spread or cause severe disease in humans. Fauci stressed he was using the risky experiment definition, saying "it would be molecularly impossible"

for the bat viruses studied with EcoHealth's funds to be turned into the virus that caused the pandemic.

In an exchange with Rep. H. Morgan Griffith, R-Va., Fauci acknowledged that the lab leak is still an open question since it's impossible to know if some other lab, not funded by NIH money, was doing risky research with coronaviruses.

Fauci did face a new set of questions about the credibility of NIH's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, which he led for 38 years. Last month, the House panel revealed emails from an NIAID colleague about ways to evade public records laws, including by not discussing controversial pandemic issues in government email.

Fauci denounced the actions of that colleague and insisted that "to the best of my knowledge I have never conducted official business via my personal email."

Jamey Noel

(Continued from Page 1)
 After graduating with an associate's degree from Indiana University Southeast, Noel joined the fire crew at the former Indiana Army Ammunition Plant and worked part-time in the county's probation office in the early 1990s. He went on to serve as a state trooper for 22 years before embarking on a campaign for county sheriff in 2014.

Pence, then Indiana's governor, made multiple campaign stops to help garner support for Noel.

His eventual success marked the first time a GOP candidate was elected to the county's top law enforcement office in decades. In the years following, numerous county and precinct offices in the historically Democratic district flipped red, too -- thanks in large part to Noel's control over local party politics.

Trump.

In the interim, Noel was key to helping numerous candidates gain access to Republican ballots and see success at the polls. That is, to run as a Republican in Clark County or the 9th District, candidates had to get approval from Noel.

In 2016, for example, Noel gave Hollingsworth -- a transplant from Tennessee -- the greenlight only after he signed a "loyalty pledge" promising not to run as a third-party candidate should he not win the nomination in the primary.

Noel also poured more than \$100,000 into GOP campaigns between 2008 and 2022, according to state and federal campaign finance records. Among his contributions were at least \$33,622 to Holcomb across his campaigns for both U.S. Senate and governor; \$7,650 to Sodrel's multiple congressional runs; \$7,400 to Hollingsworth; \$4,600 to U.S. Sen. Todd Young; and \$1,950 to Pence.

In 2022, Sodrel used the address for a pole barn owned by Noel -- containing many of the classic cars later discovered by police -- to run for Congress. Sodrel claimed to live inside the barn, which he described as a friend's "bachelor pad."

Despite their close relationship, Noel never held a position within Holcomb's administration. Still, it's not clear whether the governor accepted non-nominal travel, gifts or otherwise from Noel -- which could have been paid for with stolen taxpayer dollars.

Holcomb or other Hoosier GOP officials would need to come to light for there to be political implications, however.

"We aren't seeing the sort of party loyalty, doubling down, rejecting these allegations that you might see at a national level. ... This is Republicans pursuing corruption among their own," Shufeldt said. "But I don't see there being political or legal implications (for other politicians), unless there's another shoe to drop ... that other people were aware of this, that they consented to this."

"Unless the governor or other kinds of leaders in the Republican Party were aware of this, there aren't any sincere or real electoral consequences," he continued. "The next sheriff is going to be a Republican, the state senators, the state rep, the member of Congress -- all of these people are still going to be Republicans."

Noel's downfall -- and what comes next

The Indiana State Police investigation into Noel started in June 2023, when authorities believe he instructed Clark County jail employees to work on his personal and rental properties, in addition to running errands for him while working on county time and being compensated with public funds, court documents show.

Also putting investigators on alert was Noel's vast automobile collection, which police said included 133 vehicles. Those were registered to the Utica Township Volunteer Fire Department and New Chapel EMS, but further reviews of those vehicles showed several were "inconsistent" with a not-for-profit fire department and EMS business. Among them are multiple Cadillacs, Chevrolet Camaros and Chevrolet Corvettes.

Noel has also been accused of unlawfully purchasing a Cessna airplane, which he reportedly used for frequent trips to Florida and Cuba.

In November 2023, following an August raid on his Jeffersonville home by state police, Noel was arrested and charged with 15 state felonies. Ten additional felony charges were filed in February. Another six felonies were filed Monday -- five additional counts of theft and one count of money laundering.

According to court documents, investigators found thousands of dollars in cash, more than 130 vehicles, evidence of ghost employment and "questionable" use of public funds.

Noel paid an all-cash bail of \$75,000 and managed to stay out of jail until a special judge in the criminal case threw him behind bars after a theatrical hearing in April, yelling at Noel in court and slamming his gavel so hard it broke.

The former sheriff's 60-day contempt sentence is set to end next week. His criminal trial is currently scheduled to begin Nov. 6, one day after the 2024 general election.

Last month, Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita additionally lodged two civil cases in an effort to force Noel to pay back the state agencies he allegedly took public funds from to pay for personal spending.

In one lawsuit, Rokita said Noel should be required to reimburse the Clark County jail commissary fund more than \$900,000 for "funds misappropriated, diverted, or misapplied", which were cited in an audit report filed by the State Board of Accounts in February.

Rokita also requested a restraining order that would temporarily restrict Noel from selling real estate properties, stocks and bonds, vehicles, firearms, clothing and jewelry while the attorney general's legal challenges are pending.

A Clark Circuit Court judge has since requested the Indiana Supreme Court to appoint a special judge to oversee both cases.

"His game plan centered around the precinct committees ... that was major to his strategy to getting who he wanted in office," said Shawn Bostock, who lives in Harrison County and previously worked under Noel as a firefighter. "Your precinct committeemen are actually the most powerful seats -- they organize the executive structure of your county party. (Noel) knew that, and he gained a lot of power by focusing on who got put in those seats."

Holcomb declined the Capital Chronicle's multiple interview requests and did not answer specific questions about what he might have accepted from Noel, knowingly or not.

"Over the years, Jamey Noel and I devoted much time and energy to growing the Republican Party and the principles it stands for a local, state and national perspective," the governor said in a written statement, his only response to the Capital Chronicle's questions. "Those efforts brought us together on many occasions at various campaign and official events, the most recent being the 2022 State of the State. At no time, did he utter one unethical word to me nor was I aware of the accusations he's now facing in court. To say the least, I was shocked, stunned and surprised. Beyond that, I won't be commenting further as I will let the legal process play out."

Shufeldt, at the University of Indianapolis, said definitive evidence implicating

the military during World War II, none was among the original recipients of the Medal of Honor awarded in the conflict. The Army commissioned a study in the early 1990s to analyze whether Black troops had been unjustly overlooked during an era of widespread racism and segregation in the military. Ultimately, seven Black World War II troops were awarded the Medal of Honor in 1997.

At the time, Woodson was considered for the award and the authors interviewed him. But, they wrote, his decoration case file couldn't be found and his personnel records were destroyed in a 1973 fire at a military records facility. Woodson's supporters believe not just that he is worthy of the Medal of Honor but that there was a recommendation at the time to award it to him that has been lost.

Braafladt said after the war the U.S. military made a deliberate effort to reduce its massive amounts of paperwork. The fire at a military records facility in Missouri also destroyed countless documents. But Braafladt, who's been working on the Woodson case for roughly four years, said there's no doubt in his mind that Woodson was absolutely deserving of the Medal of Honor and that he was recommended for it at the time. It's a matter of finding the documentation, he said.

"For me and for the First Army, the hunt continues," he said.

Capt. Kevin Braafladt, the First Army historian, said Woodson's landing craft -- LCT 856 -- was hit by two shells, wounding Woodson. The vessel lost power and was pushed toward the shore by the tide. Woodson likely had to jump in the water to wade ashore.

For the next 30 hours he treated 200 wounded men all while under intense small arms and artillery fire before collapsing from his injuries and blood loss, according to accounts of his service. At the time he was awarded the Bronze Star.

Although 1.2 million Black Americans served in

Weather

Tuesday, June 4, 2024
 (24-hour observations at 9:08 p.m. Monday)
High: 85; Low: 58; Precipitation: None
Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 2.74 feet at 8:45 p.m. Monday

Wells County forecast

Today: A slight chance of showers between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., then a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms after 5 p.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 87. South wind 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

Tonight: A chance of showers and thunderstorms before 11 p.m., then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 67. South wind around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

Wednesday: Showers and possibly a thunderstorm. High near 80. South wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. New rainfall amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible.

Wednesday Night: A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms before 2 a.m. Mostly clear, with a low around 61. West wind 5 to 10 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 78.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 57.

Friday: A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2 p.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 71.

Friday Night: A 10% chance of showers and thunderstorms before 8 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 54.

Saturday: A 30% chance of showers, mainly after 2 p.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 76.

Saturday Night: A 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 57.

D-Day

(Continued from Page 1)
 Balloon Battalion, took part in the Allied operation. His battalion, the only African American combat unit there that day, was responsible for setting up balloons to deter enemy planes.

At a time when the U.S. military was still segregated by race, about 2,000 African American troops are believed to have taken part in the D-Day invasion.

Woodson died in 2005. He spoke to the AP in 1994 about how his landing craft came under intense fire from the Germans as it approached the beach.

"The tide brought us in, and that's when the 88s hit us," he said of the German 88mm guns. "They were murder. Of our 26 Navy personnel there was only one left. They raked the whole top of the ship and killed all the crew. Then they started with the mortar shells," Woodson said.

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In addition to his law enforcement experience, Noel co-founded the Utica Township Volunteer Firefighters Association -- also known as New Chapel EMS -- an ambulance and emergency medical services company that long held contracts with Clark County, the city of Clarksville and portions of Floyd County. Some local officials are now seeking to void those contracts, including in Floyd County, where New Chapel services ended last month.

"Powerful," well-connected Republican

Noel's ascension within the GOP's ranks dates back to 2009, when he was elected as head of the Clark County Republican Party. In 2014, 2016 and 2018, the role gave him a seat within the state GOP's central committee, where he helped draft the Indiana Republican Party's platform.

In 2011, Noel was also selected to serve as the 9th Congressional District chair. And by 2016, he was additionally chosen by Indiana Republican Party leaders to play a key role in nominating the party's presidential nominee at the GOP national convention. As a delegate, he pledged support for Donald

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OBITUARIES

Douglas Davis, 68

Douglas "Doug" L. Davis, 68, of Adrian, Missouri, passed away Friday, May 31, surrounded by his family.



Doug was born in Rochester, Indiana, on April 29, 1956, to Edward C. and Marjorie E. (Thompson) Davis. He married Susan Arnold in Adrian in September 1977. Susan preceded Doug in death in January 2022.

A 1974 graduate of Bluffton High School, he continued his education at ITT in Fort Wayne, graduating in 1976 with a degree in electrical engineering. He found his vocation at Bindex (Kansas City), now known as Honeywell, where he retired in 2017 with 35 years of service. Doug suffered a stroke in December 2017 which limited his abilities and changed the course of retirement, but still was able to enjoy his family and some traveling in his later years.

Doug was very active in the Adrian community, being a member of the Adrian Rural Fire Department and a member of the Western Missouri Antique Tractor Association. He had many hobbies, including going to local car shows with his 1967 Cougar.

As a boy, Doug accepted Christ as his Savior. He would always say that it was the single most important decision of his life. Doug was a faithful member of Calvary Baptist Church in Adrian for more than 45 years serving in many capacities — doing all things through Christ and for God's glory.

Doug is survived by three daughters, Rachel (Steven) Davis of Amorett, Missouri, Sarah (Jim) Davis of Kansas City, and Faith (Matt) Hutchens of Adrian; two sons, Luke (Alexandria) Davis of Colville, Washington, and Ben Davis of Adrian; five grandchildren; as well as two brothers, Robert (Remie) Davis and Andy (Cindy) Davis, and one sister, Sherri (Ted) Harter, all of Bluffton.

A memorial service will take place on Wednesday, June 5, at Calvary Baptist Church in Adrian.

Local funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the family at www.thomarich.com.

Marilyn A. Leman, 87

Marilyn A. Leman, 87, a former resident of Bluffton and Roanoke, Ill., passed away Monday morning, June 3, 2024, at Christian Care Retirement Community.

Marilyn was born in Strawn, Ill., on May 10, 1937, to Harold and Clara (Reiger) Honegger. She married Wallace J. Leman in Strawn, Ill., on June 5, 1955. He preceded her in death on May 29, 2020.

Survivors include four daughters, Cindy (Brett) Shorb of Buffton, Rhonda (Ed) Maller of Bluffton, Kari (Laura) Rogan of Colorado, and Sheri (Dave) Moser of Bluffton; four sons, Dr. Greg (Lela) Leman of Texas, Jeff (Val) Leman of Craigville, Ron (Kathy) Leman of Ossian, and Jon (Tammy) Leman of Yorktown; along with 38 grandchildren, many great-grandchildren; and one great-great granddaughter.

In addition to her husband and parents, Marilyn was preceded in death by a son, Matt Leman; two brothers, Roger Honegger and infant Herman Honegger; two grandsons, Cory Maller and Daniel Shorb; and a great-grandson, Taylor Maller.

Visitation will be Thursday, June 6, 2024, from 4:00 until 7:00 p.m. at Goodwin — Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton, followed immediately by a funeral service at 7:00 p.m., at the funeral home. Marilyn's sons, Jeff Leman and Jon Leman will officiate. A graveside service will be held on Friday, June 7, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., at the Apostolic Christian Cemetery in Roanoke, Ill.

Online condolences may be made at www.goodwin-caleharnish.com.

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City:

Thursday, 3:26 p.m., Inteva. Report of a combative intoxicated woman in the breakroom.

Thursday, 8:56 p.m., 700 block of west Horton Street. Report of stolen trash can.

Friday, 1:19 a.m., Central Avenue and Williams Street. Report of two males getting into vehicles. Boston Lee Wilhelm, 18, Bluffton, was arrested for theft, a Class A misdemeanor, unauthorized entry of a vehicle, a Class B misdemeanor, and underage possession of alcohol, a Class C misdemeanor. Bond set at \$3,000. Bonded.

Friday, 2:18 a.m., 304 Arrowhead Trail. Noise complaint. Advised to keep music down.

Friday, 7:42 a.m., Richards. Indiana State Police advising one detained in a traffic stop.

Friday, 9:08 a.m., 1135 W Wiley Ave. Report of \$175 stolen from vehicle.

Friday, 5:53 p.m., Nicholson Family Dental. Driver cited for operating with expired plates.

Friday, 5:55 p.m., Flag Star. Report of a driver that hit juvenile on bicycle and drove away.

Friday, 6:10 p.m., Washington Park. Officer spoke with juvenile who stated he fell from his scooter, denied being hit by truck.

Friday, 7:06 p.m., 400 block of West Wiley Avenue. Report of a black and gray husky. Dog returned to owner using microchip.

Friday, 7:48 p.m., Walmart. Kaleb Cook arrested on Huntington County warrant.

Friday, 9:10 p.m., 1000 West Cherry Street. Report of a man being violent.

Saturday, 12:14 a.m., Washington Park. Report of yelling and screaming, one subject arrested.

Saturday, 12:44 a.m., 200 block of West Wiley Avenue. Report of knocking on door.

Saturday, 12:06 p.m., 200 block of West Wiley Avenue. Report of backpack in front of residence.

Saturday, 12:57 p.m., West Arnold and South Williams streets. Report of five kids who removed manhole cover and kept walking.

Saturday, 3:49 p.m., 400 block of East Town-

ley Street. Report of animal issue.

Saturday, 4:14 p.m., South Williams and West Ohio streets. Report of a black and white dog in road.

Saturday, 11:29 p.m., 800 block of South Morgan Street. Officer requested to destroy drugs.

Sunday, 4:12 a.m., 20 block of Sunrise Way. Report of a noise complaint.

Sunday, 5:37 a.m., South Main and East Washington streets. Driver cited for speeding 50 in a 30.

Sunday 8:27 a.m., Budget Inn. Caller reported fighting from room next door between man and woman. One man arrested, scratch marks observed on his neck.

Sunday, 10:23 a.m., 400 block of West Market Street. Report of a theft of a license plate.

Sunday, 11:18 a.m., Kroger. Predator catchers Indianapolis arrest.

Sunday, 2:20 p.m., 100 block of North Oak Street. Report of property damage.

Sunday, 7:16 p.m., Bluffton Woods. Report of subjects throwing items into private pond.

Monday, 8:54 a.m., Bluffton Harrison Elementary School. Report of subject leaning against a light pole.

County: Thursday, 2:56 p.m., 190 W Maple Rd. Bluffton. Two boys called to report their two dogs had run away when let out for a bathroom break. Advised to tell parents when they returned.

Thursday, 3:56 p.m., 100E and 400N, Bluffton. Citation issued for speeding.

Thursday, 4:03 p.m., Wells County Jail. Warrant served to Ashley Avonne Conliff, 36, Uniondale. Conliff was arrested for a false report concerning a missing person, contributing to the delinquency of a minor, and driving while suspended with a prior suspension in 10 years, all Class A misdemeanors. Bond set at \$4,500. Bonded.

Thursday, 4:07 p.m., Wells County Jail. Warrant served to Brian Digman.

Thursday, 4:08 p.m., Wells County Jail. Warrant served to Jerron Mickle Jackson, 30, Bluffton. Jackson was arrested for resisting law enforcement and possession of methamphetamine, both

Level 6 felonies, criminal mischief, reckless driving, and leaving the scene of an accident involving property damage, all Class B misdemeanors, and possession of controlled substance paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor. Bonded.

Thursday, 4:08 p.m., Wells County Jail. Warrant served to Joshua Lee Norman Sr., 48, Bluffton. Norman was arrested for invasion of privacy, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond set at \$1,500. Bonded.

Thursday, 4:36 p.m., Walnut Street and Meridian Road, Poneto. Report of a male driving a motorcycle with a small child.

Thursday, 4:49 p.m., 11 E Washington St., Poneto. Caller reported something had gotten into a rabbit hutch and killed a rabbit. Caller believed it to be neighbor's dog.

Thursday, 6 p.m., 600E and S.R. 116. Report of grass in the roadway, causing dangerous driving conditions. Woman mowing nearby said she would clear it up when she was finished.

Thursday, 6:59 p.m., 5000 block of North Miller Street, Uniondale. Report of fighting in the area. Upon arrival, the deputy was told that a neighboring individual had been kidnapped. The individual was found at the location and said the other party had incited a physical altercation. Parties were separated and advised to contact if anything further happened.

Thursday, 11:15 p.m., Lancaster and Adams streets. Report of a vehicle tailgating, flashing brights and refusing to pass. The driver denied this, saying the caller was the one exhibiting that driving behavior. The driver was found to have a suspended license.

Friday, 3:48 a.m., 100E and 300N, Bluffton. Vehicle found locked, with hazards on. Deputy allowed some time to pass to allow the driver to return, but had the vehicle towed after 1.5 hours.

Friday, 5:33 a.m., 450E and 500N, Craigville. Citation issued for 65 in a 45 mph zone.

Friday, 10:38 a.m., S.R. 218 and 100W, Poneto. Vehicle with flat tire. Towed.

ARRESTS

Yader de Jesus Blandon, 25, Indianapolis; operating a vehicle without receiving a license, a Class C misdemeanor. Booked and released.

Joshua Lee Norman SR., 48, Bluffton; invasion of privacy, a Class A misdemeanor. No bond set.

Lisa Michele Bohon, 49, Bluffton; driving while suspended - prior, a Class A misdemeanor, and operating without financial responsibility, a Class C misdemeanor. Booked and released.

Jamie Lynn King, 46, Muncie; probation violation, perjury, a Level 6 felony. Bond set at \$5,000.

Randy Joseph Batten, 39, Ossian; driving while suspended - prior, a Class A misdemeanor. No bond set.

Corey Tyler Stout, 38, Ossian; domestic battery and strangulation, both Level 6 felonies, interference with the reporting of a crime, a Class A misdemeanor, and criminal mischief, a Class B misdemeanor. Bond set at \$37,000.

Stockton Lee Gerber, 19, Bluffton; contributing to the delinquency of minor, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond set at \$1,500.

Curtis Andrew Ellis, 18, Bluffton; possession of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor, possession of paraphernalia, a Class A misdemeanor. Booked and released.

Braun to participate in two election debates

By WHITNEY DOWNARD
Indiana Capital Chronicle

In a Monday morning release, the Republican gubernatorial nominee and sitting U.S. Sen. Mike Braun indicated that he would participate in two general election debates slated for October.

"As a Main Street Entrepreneur, I believe in competition and a spirited discussion about the issues facing Hoosiers, and that's why I have once again agreed to two statewide debates that can be viewed across the state," said Braun in a statement. "I look forward to these two debates and other campaign stops where my Lt. Governor nominee Julie McGuire and I will discuss our Freedom and Opportunity Agenda to improve our schools, reduce crime, and lower the cost of healthcare for Hoosiers."

The first debate will occur on Fox 59/CBS 4 Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2024 followed by a WISH-TV debate on Thursday, Oct. 3. Those two stations also hosted primary debates, relying on

company criteria to winnow down the crowded Republican field.

Those same qualifications, if applied to the 2024 general election, could potentially disqualify a third-party candidate like Libertarian Donald Rainwater, who won an historic 11.4% of the general election vote in the 2020 gubernatorial election.

According to the criteria for Fox 59/CBS 4, a statewide candidate must receive 5% in a primary test poll question — or 10% for a general election poll — and must report at least \$100,000 in contributions, one-quarter of which must be from Hoosier residents.

Braun's release explicitly acknowledges a "Democrat opponent" but doesn't mention Rainwater or a Libertarian opponent. Former Superintendent for Public Instruction Jennifer McCormick, who previously ran for office as a Republican, is on the Democratic ticket.

In a statement, Rainwater confirmed

that he had been invited to participate in the Oct. 3 debate with WISH-TV and "expect(ed)" to be invited to the Oct. 1 debate.

"Since I placed 2nd in vote totals in 33 of Indiana's 92 counties in 2020 and also received over 20% of the vote in 17 counties, I cannot imagine a legitimate reason why I would not be included in the gubernatorial debates in 2024," Rainwater said. "I am a duly nominated candidate on the November 5, 2024 ballot and I do not believe that there should be any other criteria to qualify for a statewide gubernatorial debate."

McCormick didn't immediately responded to a request for comment.

Also notable in Braun's release is the exclusion of the Indiana Debate Commission, which has historically hosted general election debates for gubernatorial candidates. The six-way April primary debate was heavily criticized by candidates and the public alike.

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Time to lift the Indianapolis 500 blackout – for good

In a rarity since moving here to Indiana in 1996, I got to lay on my couch and watch the Indianapolis 500 live, from green flag to checkered flag. And it shouldn't have taken a four-hour rain delay to make that happen.

It's time to ditch the archaic central Indiana blackout. The Kentucky Derby — similarly the marquee event for its sport — doesn't black it out for Kentucky residents.

Viewership for the rain-delayed Indianapolis 500 was up 8% this year, and 10% over 2022 according to Indianapolis Star's Nathan Brown.

The race averaged 5.34 million viewers across both NBC and Peacock. And with the blackout lifted, Indianapolis led as the No. 1 market. The peak was 6.46 million viewers over the thrilling closing laps.

It's hard to say what caused the spike in viewership. It could be that one of NASCAR's most popular drivers, Kyle Larson, crossed over to try to run the double: the Indianapolis 500 and the Coca-Cola 600.

It could be that the race was delayed to the afternoon, allowing people to be past church and lunchtime in various parts of the country.

And it could be that a lot of Hoosier fans, like me, got to watch live because the blackout was lifted.

Indianapolis Motor Speedway Communications Director Amanda Stanley said there was an exceptional amount of momentum heading into race day led by storylines such as Larson's double attempt and driver Helio Castroneves' bid for a fifth win.

"The NTT Indycar Series itself is incredibly competitive and challenging, offering more passes for the lead and more potential race winners than its peers. These same elements that contributed to strong ticket sales also translated to strong viewership numbers," she said.

Plenty of factors go into viewership, but the blackout is personal.

IMS reports that about 60% of Indy 500 tickets are sold to someone with an Indiana address, which I have to admit is higher than I expected.

But this idea that IMS must completely sell out of seats or punish local fans is just antiquated. That's especially when central Indiana has supported the speedway in so many ways, including government incentives and subsidies.

A blackout hurts older and disabled fans who can't walk miles from a parking lot and spend hours in the hot sun. For other fans, the financial cost is simply too much. And this year, the gap between tickets sold and a total sellout seemed minimal at best.

Yes, 5,000 unsold grandstand tickets sounds like a lot. But not when you have 345,000 tickets sold. It's less than 2% from a sellout. The National Football League uses an 85% level to determine a sellout.

If IMS insists on keeping this rule, I suggest setting a reasonable limit: if within 5%, then the blackout is lifted.

IndyCar needs a new generation of fans. Its attendance has dropped for years with more competition for the entertainment dollar. So, it seems obvious to me that if younger folks could watch it live they might want to go to see it in person.

Gov. Eric Holcomb was asked Wednesday whether the Indianapolis Motor Speedway — owned and led by Roger Penske — should get rid of the blackout.

"I know my lane and it's not in pit lane. I'll leave it to the IMS to determine the best way to connect with fans," he said. "Connecting with fans and growing the fan base, I'm quite confident they're looking at that."

He went on to reminisce about his childhood and the Indy 500.

"I grew up as a little kid at neighborhood picnics in a garage of whoever's number was called listening to it on the radio. That's how I was connected. So, whether you're watching it delayed, you're there in person, listening to it on the radio. I know a lot of my fellow service members in the military, we're getting it via radio feeds around the world. So, there's different ways to connect to it, but they'll have to deal with that."

That sounds amazing, but when is the last time you've seen kids listening to the radio together in a garage? The world has changed and it's time for IMS to change with it.

Try it for a few years. If attendance dips, then reinstate it. But for a sport struggling to find fans, why make it more difficult for Hoosiers to watch the biggest race of the year?

Niki Kelly is the editor of the Indiana Capital Chronicle, a non-profit newsroom. nkelly@indianacapitalchronicle.com

Today in History

By The Associated Press
Today is Tuesday, June 4, the 156th day of 2024. There are 210 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On June 4, 1942, the World War II Battle of Midway began, resulting in a decisive American victory against Japan and marking the turning point of the war in the Pacific.

On this date:

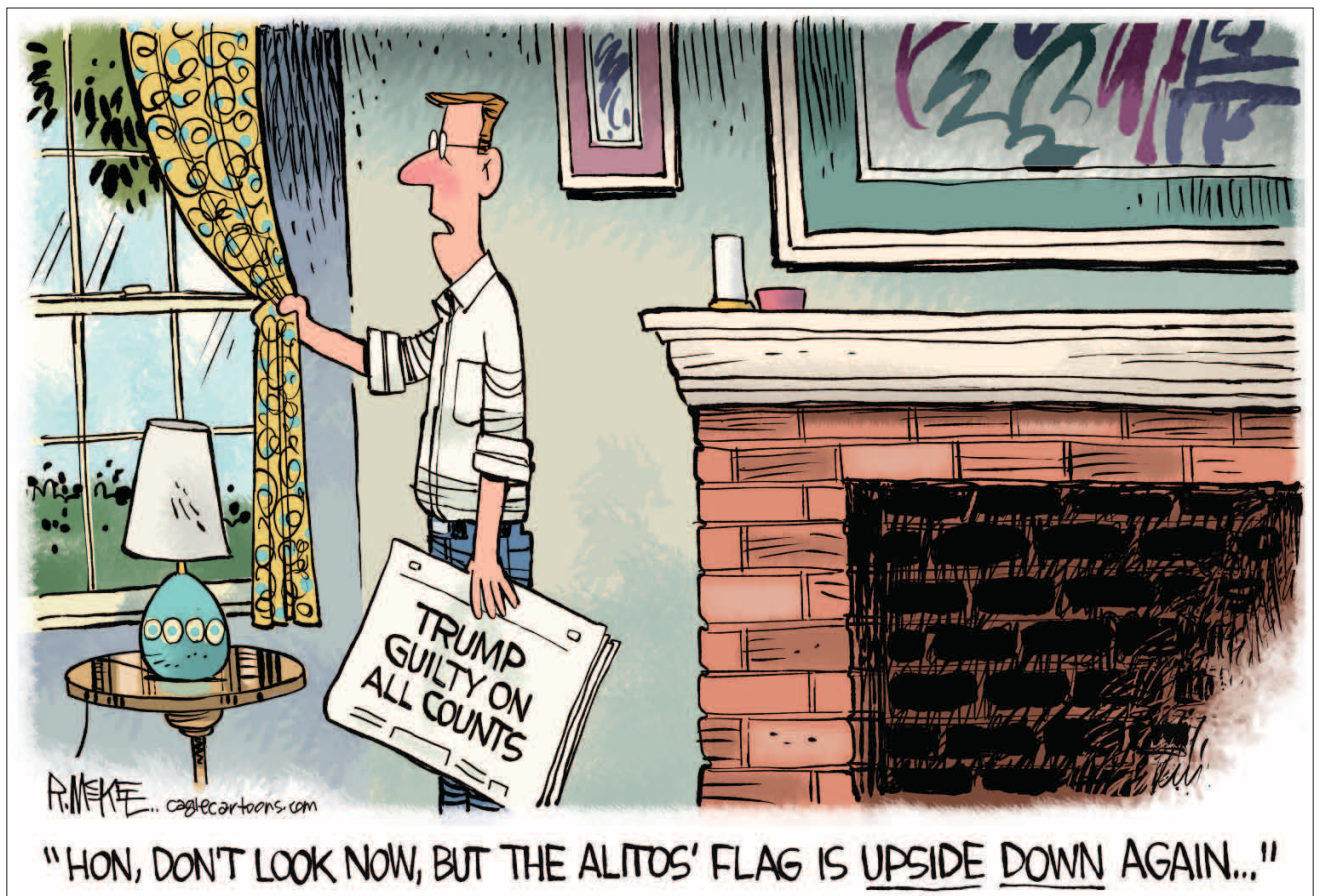
In 1812, the U.S. House of Representatives approved, by a vote of 79-49, a declaration of war against Britain.

In 1919, Congress approved the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which said that the right to vote could not be denied or abridged based on gender. The amendment was sent to the states for ratification.



Niki Kelly

Hoosier Opinions



Gloria's Ohio trip ends with many treasured memories

We are packing up, it's time to head back home. I'm excited to go yet I can't say that there are no mixed feelings to go with it. I will miss 'our' little cabin on the hill and the many friends and family in these rolling hills in Knox County. The sunrises beyond the valleys below will remain etched in my heart and mind.

Julia and I were having a discussion of the sadness we feel of leaving Ohio, yet how much we like home in Illinois. We came to the conclusion that when it comes down to the real deal, life is not about what we want, but what God designed us to do. The beautiful slant to that thought is that when we give our will to God, he gives us a desire to do what he has planned for us to do. Yes, that may take years depending on the intensity of the situation, but rest will come and even joy in adversity.

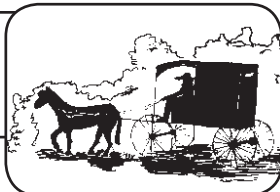
Summing up the last three weeks, there has been so much—so much relaxation, renewal, and time with loved ones. Yesterday, Julia, Hosanna, Mary, and I went to Mary's friend Nettie's house. We had a little ladies' party in her white kitchen, with juice in dainty cups and chips and dip.

The tour through her house proved quite interesting.

You should have seen Julia's eyes when she rounded the corner into Nettie's library. Shelves were lined with books. As we browsed through them, she assured us that we were welcome to borrow any

The Amish Cook

by Gloria Yoder



books we chose. "That's what I have them for," she explained. There were countless storybooks for children, adults, and everyone in between. There were many familiar titles and countless new ones. They all seemed to contain character-building material.

Fishing was among the highlights for the boys. Last night at Tobias' house we caught around 30 bluegill. The evening was extra special with Daniel's twin aunts and Grandpa Tobe along. At 90 years old he still enjoys fishing, the children were happy to help him put the worms on his hook. Thanks to Tobias for keeping everyone's fishing lines going, which was its own job. His wife, Fannie, grilled chicken and hot dogs over a fire. Fresh veggies, fruit, and fiber balls finished off the picnic supper.

It was one of those times I tucked many special little memories deep into my heart, especially when three-year-old Joshua sat on his great-grandpa's lap as they fished together. Joshua's little curly head turned up to Grandpa with delight when they caught a fish. Whenever Grandpa would catch a fish and Joshua would be standing next to Grandpa, he would add that fish to his own tally of fish he claimed to have caught. In his mind, they were a

team.

My heart melted, I truly treasure the reality that we're still family even two years after Daniel went home to heaven. Certainly, we will miss them all this summer.

The children have also grown very fond of going down to Daniel's uncle Eli and his wife to fetch fresh cow's milk and yogurt. His dear wife is one of those rare gems that would never get upset but simply encourage others by quietly blooming. On our walk home from fetching milk one of the younger children and I were talking about her outstanding character. "Did you know that as you learn to surrender even at a young age, you can one day be as sweet as she?" I asked.

In a voice filled with awe, the response came, "Really?"

Good morning, this is two days later, we are back home in Southern Illinois. We received an amazing welcome. The garden was freshly tilled, the animals well attended, the yard and pastures freshly mowed, the house cleaned, and baskets of fresh fruit and other useful items setting on the kitchen table. What kindness! We feel very unworthy of the



Left, Joshua helping to bake cookies in the kitchen. Right, Joshua and Grandpa Tobe, 90, fishing. (Photos contributed)

genuine care and support shown by all of you through these first years of having Daddy in heaven. May God bless you.

One day at Mary's house Julia got an urge to bake cookies for some of our new friends. She chose her all time favorite Graham Cracker Cookies. We'll pass them on for you to try for yourself. I have fond memories of my grandmother making these cookies. She really liked the recipe and would say, "They turn out perfect every time."

These freeze well. If you like fresh cookies, form the dough into balls and freeze. When ready for fresh cookies, simply thaw the number of cookies you need and bake as usual. You will not only enjoy a warm cookie but

also the aroma of freshly baked cookies in your kitchen.

Graham Cracker Cookies

- 2 cups butter
 - 1 1/2 cups brown sugar
 - 1 1/2 cups white sugar
 - 4 eggs
 - 4 cups flour
 - 3 cups graham cracker crumbs
 - 2 teaspoons baking powder
 - 2 teaspoons baking soda
 - 1 teaspoon salt
 - 3 cups chocolate chips (opt)
- Cream together softened butter and sugar. Add eggs, beat together until fluffy. Add remaining ingredients. Mix and drop onto ungreased cookie sheet by rounded spoon fulls. Bake at 350 for 10 minutes or until very lightly browned on bottom of cookie.

Bluffton Student Riley Zoll graduates from Albion College in Michigan

Bluffton student Riley Zoll recently graduated from Albion College with a degree in German with minors in English as a second language education and educational studies.

Zoll is a resident of Bluffton. Albion College, located in Albion,

Michigan, is a private liberal arts college of approximately 1,500 students and is nationally recognized for its academic excellence in the liberal arts tradition, a learning-centered commitment, and a future-oriented perspective.

St Luke Church dedication and open house

The Dedication Service for St Luke Church's recently completed building addition will be on Sunday, June 9 from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. The morning service will include a dedicatory address by Curtis Smith, musical specials, and a short video history of the church's 167 years. An Open House, including light snacks and tours of the new building will continue from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Limberlost Construction of Geneva was the general

contractor for the project, and all work was done by local subcontractors and church members.

St Luke is located

between Monroe and Bluffton at 4960 W 100 N and the church is excited to welcome the public to attend this event.

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Supplies for Hannah's House

Members of the Beta Associate chapter of Tri Kappa were visitors bearing gifts (paper products and personal items) to Hannah's House on a recent Friday morning. House Director Andrea Dimond, center, and two of the seven young ladies residing there happily accepted the items stacked on their dining room table. Left to right are Norma Sweeten and Deb Brown (both Tri Kappas); Alyssa Hubbard, Director Dimond and Lacey Ripley (Hannah's House residents) and Michelle Sodervick and Amy Greiner (both Tri Kappas). (Photo by Barbara Barbieri)

June events in Kosciusko County

These events will take place in June in Kosciusko County.

"Beauty & the Beast" at Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts: June 6-15, wagonwheelcenter.org.

Lake City Skiers Home Shows: Sunday and Tuesday Nights, 6 to 7 p.m., Hidden Lake by Warsaw. Shows are

free to the public. (Hidden Lake is located at the junction of St. Rd. 15 and US 30.)

"Kiss Me Kate" at the Wagon Wheel: June 20-29, wagonwheelcenter.org.

Mermaid Festival in North Webster: June 19-22.

"Ask Ben Franklin" at Wawasee High School in

Syracuse: June 30, 4:30 p.m. (A Chautauqua program, www.chautauquawawasee.org.

Patriotic Pops concert by the Fort Wayne Philharmonic will be held Sunday, June 30, at 7:30 p.m. at the Oakwood Resort's lawn in Syracuse.

Information at VisitKosciuskoCounty.

Affordable health screenings at Ossian UMC

Residents living in and around the Ossian can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes, and other chronic, serious conditions with affordable screenings by Life Line Screening. Ossian United Methodist Church will host this community event on July 10. The site is located at 201 W Mill St in Ossian.

Screenings can check for:

- The level of plaque buildup in your

arteries, related to risk for cardiovascular disease, stroke and overall vascular health.

- HDL and LDL Cholesterol levels
- Diabetes risk
- Kidney and thyroid function, and more

Screenings are affordable and convenient. Free parking is also available.

Call 1-877-237-1287 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com. Pre-registration is required.

Concerts at the Clock Tower Plaza in Berne

On June 7 the Sweetwater All Stars Band from Fort Wayne will be in concert at the Muensterberg Plaza Clock Tower in Berne. The band is comprised of a large group of artists who combine their talent to produce a classic, horn-driven R & B and soul-music sound. The band appears at the many festivals held in Fort Wayne annually and performs at a wide range of charity and community events as well. The band has opened for soul favorites Tower of Power and the Isley Brothers, and headlined Fort Wayne's Three Rivers Festival. The concert will run from 7 to 9 p.m. The concert is underwritten by local businesses and is free to the public. Please bring lawn chairs.

Food trucks will be on-site.

The following week on June 14 the CP Worship Band from Houston, Texas will be in concert at the Muensterberg Plaza Clock Tower. The concert and evening of worship will be from 7 to 9 p.m. CP Worship leads worship weekly for a large congregation at Church Project, a large church in The Woodlands,

Texas. The band offers a blend of original and current Christian music. The cost of the concert will be underwritten by local businesses Those attending should bring their own seating with food trucks offering food for purchase. In the event of rain the concert will be moved to the First Mennonite Church in Berne.

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Jury is chosen in Hunter Biden's federal firearms case

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP) — A jury was seated Monday in the federal gun case against President Joe Biden's son Hunter, after prospective panelists were questioned about their thoughts on gun rights and drug addiction while the first lady watched from the front row of the courtroom.

Opening statements were set to begin Tuesday after the jurors — six men and six women plus four women serving as alternates — were instructed by Judge Maryellen Noreika not to talk or read about the case.

Hunter Biden has been charged in Delaware with three felonies stemming from a 2018 firearm purchase when he was, according to his memoir, in the throes of a crack addiction. He has been accused of lying to a federally licensed gun dealer, making a false claim on the application by saying he was not a drug user and illegally having the gun for 11 days.

The case is going to trial following the collapse of a plea deal that would have avoided the spec-

tacle of a trial so close to the 2024 election. Hunter Biden has pleaded not guilty and has argued he's being unfairly targeted by the Justice Department, after Republicans decried the now-defunct plea deal as special treatment for the Democratic president's son.

The proceedings are unfolding just days after Donald Trump, the presumptive 2024 Republican presidential nominee, was convicted of 34 felonies in New York City. A jury found the former president guilty of a scheme to cover up a hush money payment to a porn actor to fend off damage to his 2016 presidential campaign. The two criminal cases are unrelated, but their proximity underscores how the courts have taken center stage during the 2024 campaign.

Jury selection moved at a clip. The pool was chosen from roughly 65 people. Those who answered "yes" on an initial questionnaire were quizzed individually by Noreika to determine whether they could be fair and impartial. Their names were not made public.

The questions tested their knowledge of the case, surveyed their thoughts about gun ownership and inquired whether they or anyone close to them have struggled with substance abuse or addiction. Other questions focused on the role politics may have played in the charges.

One potential juror who was sent home said she didn't know whether she could be impartial because of the opinion she had formed about Hunter Biden based on media reports.

"It's not a good one," she replied when an attorney asked her opinion.

Another was excused because he was aware of the case and said, "It seems like politics is playing a big role in who gets charged with what and when."

Jurors who were chosen included a woman whose sister was convicted about 10 years ago of credit card fraud and drug charges in Delaware. One male juror's father had been killed in a crime involving a gun, and his brother went to

jail for possession of a narcotic. Another woman on the panel has a husband who is a gun owner and formerly in law enforcement. A third juror, also a woman, gets her news from YouTube and said she was vaguely aware of the case.

Hunter Biden also faces a separate trial in California in September on charges of failing to pay \$1.4 million in taxes. Both cases were to have been resolved through the deal with prosecutors last July, the culmination of a yearslong investigation into his business dealings.

But Noreika, who was nominated to the bench by Trump, questioned some unusual aspects of the deal, which included a proposed guilty plea to misdemeanor offenses to resolve the tax crimes and a diversion agreement on the gun charge, which meant as long as he stayed out of trouble for two years the case would be dismissed. The lawyers could not come to a resolution, and the deal fell apart. Attorney General Merrick Garland then appointed the top investiga-

tor, former U.S. attorney for Delaware, David Weiss, as a special counsel in August, and a month later Hunter Biden was indicted.

This trial isn't about Hunter Biden's foreign business affairs — which Republicans have seized on without evidence to try to paint the Biden family as corrupt. But it will excavate some of Hunter Biden's darkest moments and put them on display.

The president's allies are worried about the toll the trial may take on the elder Biden, who's long been concerned about his only living son and his sobriety and who must now watch as his son's painful past mistakes are publicly scrutinized.

Allies are also worried the trial could become a distraction as the president tries to campaign under anemic poll numbers and as he is preparing for an upcoming presidential debate with Trump.

In a statement Monday, the president said he has "boundless love" for his son, "confidence in him and respect for his strength."

Spring CAR CARE

Maintenance intervals drivers should know

Vehicles are among the most costly expenses individuals have. According to data from Kelley Blue Book, the average price paid for a new vehicle in the United States in September 2022 was \$48,094. Canadian car buyers face an equally expensive reality in their country, where the average MSRP for a new car is more than \$45,000.

Since vehicles are such sizable investments, it behooves motorists to do as much as they can to keep their cars and trucks running smoothly. Vehicle owner's manuals typically recommend maintenance intervals and should be drivers' first resource for information regarding how to take care of their cars and trucks. But the following are some standard maintenance intervals drivers can keep in mind.

3,000 miles
The 3,000-mile mark is used to be the benchmark for changing oil, but modern vehicles can now go longer between oil changes. However, it's still a good idea to check other fluid levels every 3,000 miles. Windshield washer fluid, coolant, brake fluid, transmission fluid, and power steering fluid should all be checked every 3,000 miles and topped off if levels are low.

It's wise for drivers to perform some additional maintenance checkups every 3,000 miles. Check tire pressure, inspect hoses (which should not be leaking or bulging) and clean the interior of the vehicle every 3,000 miles.

5,000 miles
Many vehicle manufacturers now recommend oil changes every

5,000 miles. Tire rotations also can be part of service visits at this interval, and drivers can ask their mechanic to check their fuel filters and batteries every 5,000 miles as well. Many may already do this as part of their comprehensive maintenance packages, but it's still good to confirm if they do and request they do so if it's not part of the plan.

Drivers also can request that cabin air filters are inspected at this point, though they can generally last a year before they need to be replaced.

Around the 5,000-mile mark, wiper blades also may begin to show signs of wear and tear, including streaking on the windshield or scratching noises

when in use. Each of those signs indicates the wipers need to be replaced. However, drivers should take note of these signs regardless of when they appear. Some may not make it 5,000 miles before they begin to wear down. In such instances, they should be replaced immediately regardless of how many miles it's been since they were installed.

10,000 miles
Some vehicles may only require oil changes every 10,000 miles. That's not uncommon in vehicles that use synthetic oil, though drivers are urged to consult their owner's manuals.

Brake pads also may need to be replaced around this time, and one telltale

sign of that is a squeaking noise whenever the brakes are applied.

Drivers can ask their mechanics to check the alignment of their vehicles around this interval as well. Though many vehicles won't develop alignment issues, it's best to check for such issues every 10,000 miles or whenever a vehicle feels as though it's pulling in one specific direction.

Maintenance intervals are created to serve as a guideline for drivers. Any issues that arise should still be brought to the attention of a mechanic regardless of how many miles have been added to the odometer since the most recent trip to the garage.



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HOF Cowboys' lineman Larry Allen dies suddenly at 52

By SCHUYLER DIXON
AP Pro Football Writer

DALLAS (AP) — Larry Allen, one of the most dominant offensive linemen in the NFL during a 12-year career spent mostly with the Dallas Cowboys, has died. He was 52.

Allen died suddenly on Sunday while on vacation with his family in Mexico, the Cowboys said.

A six-time All-Pro who was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2013, Allen said few words but let his blocking do the talking.

"Larry, known for his great athleticism and incredible strength, was one of the most respected, accomplished offensive linemen to ever play in the NFL," the Cowboys said Monday. "His versatility and dependability were also signature parts of his career. Through that, he continued to serve as inspiration for many other players, defining what it meant to be a great teammate, competitor and winner."

The former Sonoma State lineman drafted in the second round by the Cowboys in 1994 — the year before the last of the franchise's five Super Bowl titles — Allen once bench-pressed 700 pounds while dumb-bell-pressed teammates watched, then mobbed him.

Allen was feared enough among his peers that notorious trash-talker John Randle of the Minnesota Vikings decided to

keep to himself when he faced the Cowboys, so as to avoid making Allen mad.

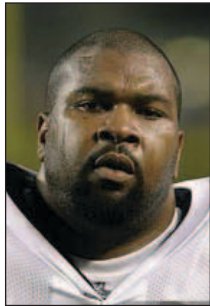
"He never said nothin'," Nate Newton, one of Allen's mentors on Dallas' offensive line, told The Associated Press for its Hall of Fame story on Allen 11 years ago. "Every now and then you'd hear him utter a cuss word or hear him laugh that old funny laugh he had."

Allen entered the Hall of Fame as a first-ballot selection about a year after his mother died, knowing her presence would have helped him get through a speech after a career spent trying to avoid the spotlight.

"I miss her," Allen said before going into the hall. "Whenever I'd get nervous or had a big game and got nervous, I'd give her a call, and she'd start making me laugh."

The Cowboys were coming off consecutive Super Bowl wins when they drafted Allen. He was surrounded by Pro Bowl offensive linemen but didn't take long to get noticed, eventually making 11 Pro Bowls himself.

Late in his rookie season, Allen saved a touchdown by running down Darion Conner when it looked like the New Orleans linebacker only had Troy Aikman to beat down the sideline. Most of the rest of his career was defined by power — first as a



Larry Allen

tackle, where the Cowboys figured he would be a mainstay, and ultimately as a guard.

"The National Football League is filled with gifted athletes, but only a rare few have combined the size, brute strength, speed and agility of Larry Allen," the Hall of Fame said in a statement. "What he could do as an offensive lineman often defied logic and comprehension."

Allen spent his final two seasons closer to home with the San Francisco 49ers. Then, true to his personality as a player, Allen retired to a quiet life in Northern California with his wife and three kids.

"He was deeply loved and cared for by his wife, Janelle — whom he referred to as his heart and soul — his daughters Jayla and Loriana and son, Larry III," the Cowboys said.

Allen missed the first two Super Bowl titles in "The Triplets" era of Aikman, running back Emmitt Smith and receiver Michael Irvin, all three Hall of Famers themselves.

After a loss to the 49ers in the NFC championship game when Allen was a rookie, the Cowboys broke through the next year to become the first to win three Super Bowls in four seasons.

"He was a HOF offensive lineman that dominated opponents regardless of the posi-

tion played," Aikman posted on the social platform X. "Off the field, he was a gentle giant that loved his family."

Allen was playing at Butte College when his coach at Sonoma State, Frank Scalerio, discovered him at the junior college where the lineman landed after attending four high schools in the Los Angeles area in part because his mom moved him around to keep him away from gangs.

Then an assistant for Sonoma, Scalerio was recruiting another player when he saw Allen throw an opponent to the ground for the first time.

"I kinda forgot about the guy I was actually recruiting," Scalerio said.

Allen ended up at tiny Sonoma, a Division II school, because his academic progress wasn't fast enough to get him to Division I, where he probably belonged.

"He could literally beat the will out of his opponents, with many quitting midgame or not dressing at all rather than face him, but that was only on the field," the Hall of Fame said. "Off it, he was a quiet, gentle giant."

In retirement, Allen showed up at Sonoma basketball games — the football program was dropped a couple of years after Allen left — and happily signed autographs and posed for pictures.

"He's even bigger now than he ever was on campus," Tim Burrell, a friend of Allen's, said in 2013. "Everybody loves him."

MLB player Tucupita Marcano faces possible lifetime ban for alleged baseball bets

By RONALD BLUM
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — San Diego Padres infielder Tucupita Marcano is under investigation by Major League Baseball for allegedly betting on baseball and could be subject to a lifetime ban, according to a person familiar with the probe.

MLB is looking into allegations Marcano bet on games involving the Pittsburgh Pirates while on the team's injured list last season, according to the person who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the investigation is ongoing.

Marcano could be the second pro athlete banned for life over sports betting this year after the NBA punished Toronto Raptors player Jontay Porter in April following a league probe that found he disclosed confidential information to sports bettors and wagered on games.

It's believed that no active MLB player has been banned for betting on baseball since 1924. Pete Rose was retired when he agreed to a lifetime ban in 1989.

Marcano, 24, has not played since tearing his right ACL last July 24. He was claimed by the Padres off waivers on Nov. 2 and placed on the 10-day injured list March 19.

MLB's investigation was first reported

Monday by The Wall Street Journal, which also reported four other players were under investigation for betting on baseball while in the minor leagues.

"We are aware of an active investigation by Major League Baseball regarding a matter that occurred when the player in question was a member of another organization and not affiliated with the San Diego Padres," the team said in a statement. "We will not have any further comment until the investigative process has been completed."

"We are aware of the matter that's under investigation and are fully cooperating," Pirates senior vice president of communications Brian Warecki said in a statement. "We will refrain from further comment at this time."

Marcano's agent, Michel Velasquez of Rimas Sports, did not immediately respond to an email seeking comment. The Major League Baseball Players Association declined to comment.

Major League Rule 21, posted in every clubhouse, states betting on any baseball game in which a player, umpire, league official or team employee has no duty to perform results in a one-year suspension. Betting on a game in which the person has a duty to perform results in a lifetime ban.



Chicago Sports Network set to air Blackhawks, Bulls and White Sox games

CHICAGO (AP) — A new network is launching to carry games from three Chicago pro teams, the Blackhawks, Bulls and White Sox.

The Chicago Sports Network (CHSN) announced Monday that it will launch in October across multiple platforms. The network said it will air more than 300 live Blackhawks, Bulls and White Sox games annually and include pre- and postgame coverage while showing 24-hour-a-day multisport programming.

A joint venture among the three teams and Standard Media, CHSN will broadcast from studios located in both Chicago's United Center and Guaranteed Rate Field.

CHSN will start with airing Blackhawks and Bulls preseason games in October, showing White Sox games beginning in 2025. The rest of the White Sox games in 2024 will remain on NBC Sports Chicago.

Pending league approvals, CHSN will reach most of Illinois, as well as parts of Indiana, Iowa, Michigan and Wisconsin.

The network said it will launch with agreements in place with traditional cable providers, streaming services and be available via free, over-the-air broadcast.

"As we set out to design the network, we began and ended every discussion with the simple question: What is best for our fans?" said Jason Coyle, who has been named president of the network after serving in Chicago-based sports media leadership roles for more than 20 years. "What is the best approach to distribution? How can we push the limits of both in-game and studio production? We plan to serve our fans on as many platforms and in as many markets as our rights allow."

The teams' partner, Nashville, Tennessee-based Standard Media, owns four media stations from Rhode Island to Nebraska.

Saban, Meyer, and Donald debut on CFB Hall of Fame ballot

Nick Saban and Urban Meyer are up for election to the College Football Hall of Fame for the first time.

The ballot for the Hall of Fame class to be announced in January was released by the National Football Foundation on Monday. It includes 77 players and nine coaches from the Football Bowl Subdivision and 101 play-

ers and 34 coaches from the divisional ranks, which include the Championship Subdivision and Divisions II and III.

Among the players appearing on the ballot for the Atlanta-based hall for the first time is former Pitt defensive lineman Aaron Donald, who retired earlier this year after 10 NFL seasons with the Rams.

High School Calendar

TUESDAY, JUNE 4

No events scheduled.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5

No events scheduled.

THURSDAY, JUNE 6

BOYS GOLF: (Regional) Bluffton, Norwell at The Players Club in Muncie, 8 a.m.

Vikings reach agreement with Jefferson on 4-year extension

By DAVE CAMPBELL
AP Pro Football Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Justin Jefferson became the latest player to cash in on the league-wide push for elite pass catchers.

Matching the historic start to his career, Jefferson will be paid — for now — like no one else at his position.

The Minnesota Vikings and their superstar wide receiver agreed Monday to a four-year extension, the richest contract in NFL history for a non-quarterback.

Jefferson will get \$110 million guaranteed

in the deal that's worth as much as \$140 million, with more than \$88 million due at signing.

"We ain't stopping here," Jefferson posted on Instagram along with a video package of highlights and shout-outs in honor of the contract. "There's more to be done."

Jefferson, who has the most receiving yards in league history through a player's first four seasons, had entered the final year of his rookie deal. The two sides came "unbelievably close" to an extension last summer, general manager Kwesi Adofo-Mensah said earlier this spring.

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News-Banner Scoreboard

BASKETBALL

NBA FINALS

(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)
Saturday, June 8
 Edmonton at Florida, 8 p.m.
Monday, June 10
 Edmonton at Florida, 8 p.m.
Thursday, June 13
 Florida at Edmonton, 8 p.m.
Saturday, June 15
 Florida at Edmonton, 8 p.m.
Tuesday, June 18
 x-Edmonton at Florida, TBA
Friday, June 21
 x-Florida at Edmonton, TBA
Monday, June 24
 x-Edmonton at Florida, TBA

WNBA EASTERN CONFERENCE

W	L	Pct	GB	
Connecticut	8	0	1.000	—
New York	7	2	.778	1½
Atlanta	4	3	.571	3½
Chicago	3	4	.429	4½
Indiana	2	9	.182	7½
Washington	0	8	.000	8

WNBA WESTERN CONFERENCE

W	L	Pct	GB	
Minnesota	6	2	.750	—
Las Vegas	4	2	.667	1
Seattle	5	3	.625	1
Phoenix	4	5	.444	2½
Dallas	3	4	.429	2½
Los Angeles	2	6	.250	4

Sunday's Games

Connecticut 69, Atlanta 50
 Phoenix 87, Los Angeles 68
 New York 104, Indiana 68
 Minnesota 87, Dallas 76

Monday's Games

No games scheduled.

Tuesday's Games

Washington at Connecticut, 7 p.m.
 New York at Chicago, 8 p.m.
 Phoenix at Seattle, 10 p.m.

Wednesday's Games

Las Vegas at Dallas, 8 p.m.
 Minnesota at Los Angeles, 10 p.m.

Thursday's Games

Chicago at Washington, 7 p.m.
 New York at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.

HOCKEY

NHL FINALS

(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)
Saturday, June 8
 Edmonton at Florida, 8 p.m.
Monday, June 10
 Edmonton at Florida, 8 p.m.
Thursday, June 13
 Florida at Edmonton, 8 p.m.
Saturday, June 15
 Florida at Edmonton, 8 p.m.
Tuesday, June 18
 x-Edmonton at Florida, TBA
Friday, June 21
 x-Florida at Edmonton, TBA
Monday, June 24
 x-Edmonton at Florida, TBA

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
New York	42	19	.689	—
Baltimore	38	20	.655	2½
Boston	30	30	.500	11½
Tampa Bay	29	31	.483	12½
Toronto	28	31	.475	13

AMERICAN LEAGUE Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Cleveland	39	20	.661	—
Kansas City	36	25	.590	4
Minnesota	33	26	.559	6
Detroit	30	30	.500	9½
Chicago	15	45	.250	24½

AMERICAN LEAGUE West Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Seattle	34	27	.557	—
Texas	29	31	.483	4½
Houston	26	34	.433	7½
Oakland	24	37	.393	10
Los Angeles	21	38	.356	12

Sunday's Games

Minnesota 4, Houston 3
 Washington 5, Cleveland 2
 Atlanta 3, Oakland 1
 Texas 6, Miami 0

Monday's Games

Tampa Bay 4, Baltimore 3
 Toronto 5, Pittsburgh 4
 Detroit 8, Boston 4, 10 innings
 Milwaukee 6, Chicago White Sox 3
 Kansas City 4, San Diego 3
 Seattle 5, L.A. Angels 1
 N.Y. Yankees 7, San Francisco 5

Tuesday's Games

Baltimore 7, Toronto 2
 Detroit 2, Texas 1
 St. Louis at Houston, late
 San Diego at L.A. Angels, late

NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Philadelphia	42	19	.689	—
Atlanta	33	24	.579	7
Washington	27	32	.458	14
New York	25	35	.417	16½
Miami	21	39	.350	20½

NATIONAL LEAGUE Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Milwaukee	36	24	.600	—
St. Louis	28	29	.491	6½
Pittsburgh	29	31	.483	7
Cincinnati	27	32	.458	8½
Cincinnati	26	33	.441	9½

NATIONAL LEAGUE West Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Los Angeles	38	23	.623	—
San Diego	32	30	.516	6½
San Francisco	29	31	.483	8½
Arizona	27	32	.458	10
Colorado	21	37	.362	15½

Sunday's Games

Washington 5, Cleveland 2
 Atlanta 3, Oakland 1
 Texas 6, Miami 0

Monday's Games

Arizona 5, N.Y. Mets 4
 Toronto 5, Pittsburgh 4
 Milwaukee 6, Chicago White Sox 3

Midwest League High-A Midwest League Glance

W	L	Pct.	GB	
Lake County	30	21	.588	—
Great Lakes	27	24	.529	3
Lansing	27	24	.529	3
West Michigan	27	24	.529	3
Dayton	25	26	.490	5
Fort Wayne	23	28	.451	7

West Division

W	L	Pct.	GB	
Wisconsin	32	19	.627	—

Monday's Transactions

BASEBALL
 DETROIT TIGERS — Designated 3B Buddy Kennedy for assignment. optioned 3B Spencer Torkelson to Toledo (IL). selected the contract of 3B Justyn-Henry Malloy from Toledo (IL).

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AGRICULTURE

Nominations for ISDA's AgriVision Award open

By HOOSIER AG TODAY
 Nominations are now being accepted for the 2024 AgriVision Award, the highest agricultural honor presented by the State of Indiana.

This award, now in its 18th year, was established by the lieutenant governor and the Indiana State Department of Agriculture to recognize Indiana's agricultural leaders who are ensuring Indiana is, and remains, a global center for food and agricultural innovation and commercialization.

The AgriVision Award

1 and close on July 1. To nominate an individual, you must complete a form found on the ISDA website and email it to the department.

Once a winner has been selected, the award will be presented by Lt. Gov. Crouch and ISDA Director Lamb during the Celebration of Agriculture at the 2024 Indiana State Fair.

"This award is a way to recognize those individuals who continue to push Indiana agriculture to new heights," said Indiana's Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, Secretary of Agriculture and

Rural Development. "It is my honor to serve as Indiana's Secretary of Agriculture and to work alongside some of the best and brightest leaders in the state."

"Indiana has many leaders that oversee agricultural production, business and technology across the state," said Don Lamb, director of the State Department of Agriculture. "I look forward to honoring this year's award recipients for their leadership and commitment to Indiana agriculture in August."

Visit ISDA.IN.GOV to learn more about the award.

USDA's \$824M funding to address H5N1 dairy outbreak

By AGDAILY

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is making \$824 million available to its Animal and Plant Health Inspection agency for "critical rapid response activities" related to the avian influenza outbreak in dairy cows.

In the two months since the initial detection of H5N1 in dairy cattle, the USDA has worked in concert with its federal and state partners to better understand the virus and contain the disease and remains committed to seeking additional ways to collect the data needed to better understand and mitigate the

risk created by this outbreak.

The USDA said it is setting up a new Voluntary H5N1 Dairy Herd Status Pilot Program. Dairy producers from states enrolled in the first phase of the program can choose to enroll their herd.

The main benefit for farmers who choose to enroll in the Voluntary H5N1 Dairy Herd Status Pilot Program is that once they can demonstrate their herds are free of H5N1 with results from a National Animal Health Laboratory Network facility, they will then need to conduct weekly tests

on bulk milk from that herd to confirm that status and will be able to ship their cows at the time they prefer and without testing individual animals.

Dairy producers from States enrolled in the first phase of this program who choose to enroll their herds and who test negative for H5N1 for three consecutive weeks using on-farm bulk tank milk samples or similar representative milk samples tested at a NAHLN laboratory will be able to move animals without additional pre-movement testing currently required under the

Federal Order. Producers must also comply with continued regular weekly monitoring and testing of the herd for H5N1.

Friendships tested by time

Dear Annie: When I was a teenager, I had a big dilemma, and I would like to know how you would have solved it. My closest friend, "Joanne," lived just a few minutes away but had terrible punctuality when it came to getting together. She would often be up to a few hours late getting to my house, which sometimes led to me having to cancel our plans.

and wondered if I did the right thing. My husband said I could have offered to let Joanne and Katie go together, something that didn't even cross my mind at the time. Anyway, what would you have done in that situation? — Two Tickets, Three Friends

Dear Annie by Annie Lane



Sometimes she would get a call from a neighbor to babysit at the last minute and she wouldn't show up at my house at all. I told her I didn't mind if she cancelled for that reason, but just call and tell me so I know.

Anyway, one day I had tickets for the two of us to see some event together (I don't remember what it was), and as usual, she was very late getting to my house. I waited as long as I could before I finally called her. This was in the '90s, long before we all had cellphones. Her sister answered and told me Joanne had taken a babysitting job and was not home. Frustrated but short on time, I called up my friend "Katie" and asked if she wanted to go to the event with me. She said yes, and I was just on the way out the door when Joanne called. Her sister had lied to me just for fun, and Joanne was ready to go. I didn't know what to do at this point, so I told Joanne I had already invited someone else because I thought she couldn't go. I left and went to the event with Katie. I felt bad, and I know Joanne did, too. I'm pretty sure she was beyond mad at her sister.

Dear Two Tickets, Three Friends: You did the right thing. Please let yourself off the hook for something that occurred over 20 years ago. I disagree with your husband. I'm not really sure why he would make you second-guess yourself over something that happened so long ago.

Joanne was really late and being disrespectful to you. Hopefully, she learned a valuable lesson that night about the importance of punctuality. In addition, I hope she investigated why her sister was being so mean to her and to you.

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

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My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



Without faith in God, people are alone

Question: The rebellion of the '60s seems innocent compared to the degradation we see in the culture today. I guess we became accustomed to immorality in all of its various phases and society has become desensitized. Why can't people see that we are destroying ourselves, our children, and their future? Why are people abandoning religion and a standard of right living? — D.S.

Answer: The world has been corrupt since the fall of man. Society, as a whole, abides by the rules of men: paying our taxes on time, obeying the rules of the road, and so on. If we don't obey them, man imposes penalties, and consequences follow that can seriously

alter our lives. Yet people mock when it is suggested that we obey the rules of the One who created everything. We have loosened our grip on the standards God has set before us.

Millions are deceived by various belief systems; where deception exists, disillusionment follows. Disillusionment and deception are the two primary alternatives to true faith in God, and they are the handiwork of the great deceiver. Satan transforms himself into an angel of light and has many options in his bag of tricks. The first is leading susceptible people to ignore religion altogether. When we feel alienated, isolated, unloved, lonely, and adrift in a cold, dark universe, we sense we need God. But the deceiver

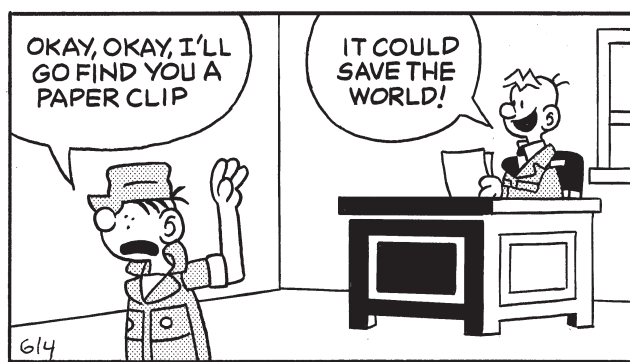
tells us, "There is no God."

The 19th-century philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche said, "God is dead." "Do not seek God or Jesus Christ," the deceiver whispers, "but seek escape." This is why promiscuous sex runs rampant, why alcohol and drug abuse are commonplace. Without faith in God, people are alone and will do anything to fill the void in their lives. Short of Christ, nothing works. God "commands all people everywhere to repent" (Acts 17:30, NKJV).

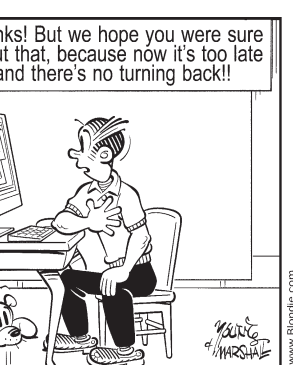
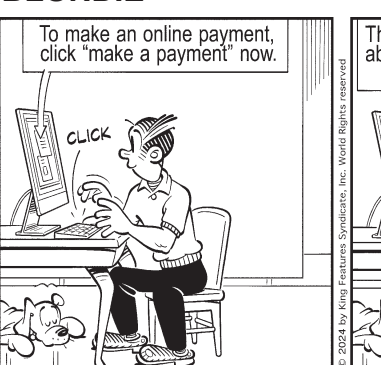
(This column is based on the words and writings of the late Rev. Billy Graham.)

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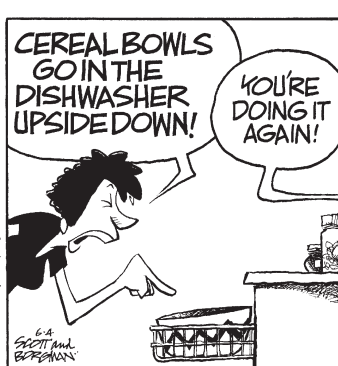
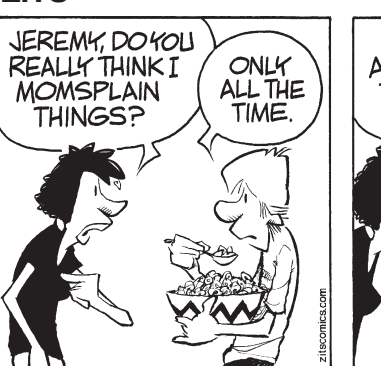
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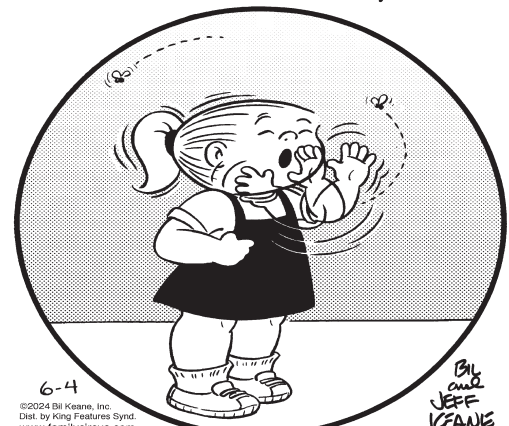


CRANKSHAFT



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



The LOCKHORNS



TV schedule table with columns for time slots (5 PM to 12:30) and various channels (WJMN, CBS, ABC, etc.) listing programs like News, Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy!, and various reality shows.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across (1-36) and Down (1-11) and a solution time of 22 mins.

Grid for 'Yesterday's answer' with numbers 1-44 indicating where to place previous day's answers.

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

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

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Difficulty: ★★

6/4

This Week's Garage Sales



550 CHANNING WAY (Bell Brook), Bluffton, Fri., June 7, 8am-6pm, Sat., June 8, 8am-4pm. Anything & everything you need for a baby boy up to size 12. Tons of nice boys clothes (newborn through size 12), shoes, lots of toys (indoor & outdoor), ball house, Little Tykes basketball goal, ride on toys, play car, high chair, pack n play, strollers, car seats, baby gates, crib that converts into toddler bed. Some seasonal decor & random items.

GIGANTIC GARAGE SALE June 6 & 7, 9 am-5 pm, June 8, 9 am-2 pm sack sale, Forgotten Children Worldwide, 650 N. Main St., Bluffton. Gently used and new clothes and shoes, air mattresses, bar and 2 chairs set, material, games, puzzles, books, home decor, kitchen items, dining table and chairs, DVDs, purses, much more. Next sale in September. New items every sale. Follow us on Facebook.

Services

TROPHY CONSTRUCTION. ALL types of construction: Pole barns, roofing, remodeling, concrete, seamless gutters, etc. Free estimates. (260) 223-4835.

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.

Follow us at... twitter.com/newsbanner

Lottery Numbers

Monday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY

Cash 5 — 15-18-26-27-37
Cash4Life — 01-08-10-26-45, Cash Ball: 04
Quick Draw Midday — 07-29-31-32-33-34-35-40-42-45-51-57-58-64-68-70-71-74-76-79, BE: 42
Daily Three-Midday — 00-06-09, SB: 03
Daily Three-Evening — 00-04-04, SB: 08
Daily Four-Midday — 08-03-06-08, SB: 03
Daily Four-Evening — 03-04-00-03, SB: 08
Quick Draw Evening — 05-11-12-15-17-23-29-31-34-36-41-50-62-64-66-68-69-77-78-79, BE: 29
Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$14 million

MEGA MILLIONS

Estimated jackpot (for Tuesday): \$560 million
POWERBALL
 19-29-35-36-45 Powerball: 16; Power Play: 2X

LINE CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINES:

Monday editions: Friday by 4 p.m.; Tuesday-Friday editions: day-before by 3:30 p.m.; Saturdays: Friday by 11:30 a.m.

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 Ossian, IN 46777
 Attorney Gerret J. Swearingen

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Mark your Calendar for this event

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

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

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Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA
 COUNTY OF WELLS
 IN THE WELLS COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
 CASE No. 90C01-2405-MI-000013
 IN RE THE MATTER OF:
 Melissa Denise Velasquez
 Petitioner

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME
 Melissa Denise Velasquez, whose mailing address is: 515 E South St Bluffton, Indiana 46714, and if different, whose residential address is, in the Wells County, Indiana, hereby gives notice that Melissa Denise Velasquez has filed a petition in the Wells County Circuit Court requesting that her name be changed to Missy Melissa Denise Velasquez.

Notice is further given that the hearing will be held on said Petition on: 7-25-24 at 2:30 pm
 Melissa Denise Velasquez
 Petitioner
 5-24-24
 Beth Davis
 Wells County Clerk
 nb 6/4, 6/11, 6/18
 hspaxlp

SUDOKU ANSWER

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

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