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County Council will consider solar tax abatement ban

By HOLLY GASKILL
On Wednesday, the Wells County Council will review a possible ordinance prohibiting tax abatements for solar energy companies. The council agreed to move forward with a resolution or ordinance about this issue at their monthly meeting on June 4. Separately, the council agreed to a compliance waiver needed for a prospective tax abatement with Heartland REMC. The special session was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Wells County Carnegie Annex — the agenda also includes the consideration of a utility-scale solar tax abatement prohibition ordinance. In their June 4 discussion, council members expressed their support of a ban to “send a message” to solar companies about the county’s interest in solar energy development. Council members Seth Whicker and Brandon Harnish

noted that should future council members hold different perspectives, it would add another step for approval of tax abatement agreements with solar energy companies. Whicker concluded the conversation by saying he would pursue the “more restrictive” path in preparing a proposal with County Attorney Ted Storer. According to a Facebook post from Harnish, the proposed ordinance prohibits “the filing, processing, review, consideration, and granting of all applications for tax abatement and other subsidies that relate to large-scale commercial solar or other alternative energy generation, storage systems, or facilities.” An ordinance of this nature would not prohibit solar companies from continuing through the development process but would exclude them from receiving a reduction in property taxes through an abatement. *holly@news-banner.com*



Saturdays on the Plaza
The Parlor City Market season has begun, with a variety of vendors taking over the plaza from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday. Pictured, Kyanne Scott of DanerMade Designs chats with a customer at her booth. (Photo by Holly Gaskill)

Christian group teaches public school students during school day

Their footprint is growing

By ISABELLA VOLMERT Associated Press
INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — An Ohio nonprofit that provides off-site Bible instruction to public school students during classroom hours says it will triple its programs in Indiana this fall after new legislation forced school districts to comply. To participating families, nondenominational LifeWise Academy programs supplement religious instruction. But critics in Indiana worry the programs spend public school resources on religion, proselytize to students of other faiths and remove children from class in a state already struggling with literacy. LifeWise founder and CEO Joel Penton told The Associated Press that many parents want religious instruction to be part of their children’s education. “Values of faith and the Bible are absolutely central to many families,” Penton said. “And so they want to demonstrate to their children that it is central to their lives.” Public schools cannot promote any religion under the First Amendment, but a 1952 Supreme Court ruling centered on New York schools cleared the way for programs like LifeWise. Individual places of worship often work with schools to host programs off campus, and they are not regulated in some states. LifeWise officials addressed the Oklahoma and Ohio legislatures in support of laws that would require schools to cooperate with off-site religious programs, Penton said, and Oklahoma’s Republican governor signed one such bill into law Wednesday. Similar bills have been introduced in Ohio, Nebraska, Georgia and Mississippi this year, accord-

ing to an AP analysis of Plural, a legislative tracking database. LifeWise programs will be available at over 520 locations in 23 states next school year, up from 331 in 13 states this year, and about 31,000 students attend LifeWise programs in the U.S., Penton said. Penton wants LifeWise to be available to “50 million public school students nationwide,” he said. In Indiana, Republican state Rep. Kendell Culp introduced the legislation requiring principals to allow students to attend release-time religious education after a rural school stopped cooperating with LifeWise. The bill was signed into law in March and subsequently 45 Indiana schools will work with the company this fall, triple the number from last year. LifeWise Academy, based in Hilliard, Ohio, is funded by donors, including more than \$13 million in contributions from July 2022 to June 2023, according to its latest federal report. The curriculum was developed in conjunction with the Gospel Project, a Bible study plan produced by an entity of the Southern Baptist Convention, Penton said. Instructors are provided with guidance on how to respond to difficult questions, including about the afterlife and sex. LifeWise opposes same-sex marriage, as well as transgender and gender-fluid identities. “Our guide helps classroom educators address these questions with compassion, humility and respect,” Penton said in a statement. Chris Paulsen, CEO of LGBTQ+ rights advocacy group Indiana Youth Group, voiced concern that children can receive Christian religious instruction. (Continued on Page 2)

PCI sting at Kroger leads to 14th arrest

By SYDNEY KENT
The most recent suspect caught in a Predator Catchers Indianapolis sting is reportedly a married father from Fort Wayne. Thomas Garand Johnson, 36, was charged with one count of child solicitation, a Level 4 felony. Johnson acquired the charges after he attempted to meet a 14-year-old child for sexual purposes at Kroger in Bluffton on June 2. Johnson entered a preliminary plea of not guilty during his initial hearing in the Wells Circuit Court last week. PCI live-streamed the arrest on their Facebook page. However, unlike other stings, the video begins in the parking lot with Johnson already in police custody. “We had to have the police come quickly,” a PCI member explained in the video. “He came in, said this was a trap, and took off. We got him to come back. He was definitely a flight risk. He is also married.” The member noted that Johnson has a son who is the same age as the child he attempted to solicit for sex. Johnson asked police if he could call his wife while being detained for questioning. “You can make a call at the jail,” an officer explained. “She probably won’t be too happy if you call her though.” Johnson is the 14th suspect arrested by the group in Wells County. He is scheduled for a pretrial conference in the matter at 9 a.m. on Aug. 7 in the Wells Circuit Court. *sydney@news-banner.com*

274 Palestinians killed in Israeli raid that rescued 4 hostages

By WAFSA SHURAF and SAMY MAGDY Associated Press
DEIR AL-BALAH, Gaza Strip (AP) — At least 274 Palestinians, including dozens of children, were killed, and hundreds more were wounded, in the Israeli raid that rescued four hostages held by Hamas, Gaza’s Health Ministry said Sunday. The Israeli military said its forces came under heavy fire and responded during the complex daytime operation in central Gaza. The killing of so many Palestinians, in a raid that Israelis celebrated as a stunning success, showed the heavy cost of such operations

on top of the already soaring toll of the 8-month-old war ignited by Hamas’ Oct. 7 attack. The Israeli bombing was “hell,” witness Mohamed al-Habash told The Associated Press. “We saw many fighter jets flying over the area. We saw people fleeing in the streets. Women and children were screaming and crying.” The operation in Nuseirat, a built-up refugee camp dating to the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, was the largest rescue since Oct. 7, when Hamas and other militants stormed across the border, killing about 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and taking about 250 hostage. Israel’s massive offensive has killed over 36,700 Palestinians, according to the Health Ministry, which does not differentiate between civilians and combatants in its count. It said 64 children and 57 women were killed in the latest raid, and 153 children and 161 women were among the nearly 700 wounded. Saturday’s events also affected fragile attempts to deliver aid. The World Food Program chief said they suspended distribution around a U.S.-built pier off Gaza because “two of our warehouses, warehouse complex, were rocketed yesterday.” When asked how it happened and whether WFP shares its locations with Israel’s military, Cindy McCain said they did and “I don’t know. It’s a good question.” It wasn’t clear if she was referring to the rescue operation. **SCENES OF HORROR AT GAZA HOSPITAL** In Gaza, medics described scenes of chaos after the raid. Overwhelmed hospitals were already struggling to treat the wounded from days of heavy Israeli strikes. “We had the gamut of war wounds, trauma wounds, from amputations to eviscerations to trauma, to TBIs (traumatic brain injuries), fractures and, obviously, big burns,” said Karin Hunter of Doctors Without Borders, which works in Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital. “Kids completely gray or white from the shock, burnt, screaming for their parents. Many of them are not screaming because they are in shock.” The Israeli military said it had attacked “threats to our forces in the area,” and that a special forces officer was killed in the operation. It said rescuers had come under heavy fire, including from gunmen firing rocket-propelled grenades, and the military responded with heavy force, including from aircraft. Israel’s Foreign Minister Israel Katz lashed out at critics of the (Continued on Page 2)

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A break from the warm weather today
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Public school students

(Continued from Page 1)

tion during the school day “yet no one can talk about queer families.” Indiana bans “human sexuality” instruction in schools through third grade.

LifeWise staff and volunteers either bus or drive students from school to the program sites, or use spaces near schools and supervise children walking there.

Indiana law and the 1952 Supreme Court ruling say no public funds can be spent on supplemental religious education, but critics worry schools expend public resources on scheduling and getting children to and from the programs.

“It just puts another burden on the teachers,” said Michelle Carrera, a high school English teacher in Culp’s district.

Democratic lawmakers derided the new law when literacy scores and attendance are down and said it violates the separation of church and state guaranteed in the First Amendment.

“Saying that a religious organization can mandate scheduling at a school strikes me as a fundamental violation of that important American principle,” said Indiana House Education Committee member Ed DeLaney, a Democrat.

Jennifer Matthias, on Fort Wayne Community Schools’ board of trustees, opposes a new program in her district, especially because recent Republican-

led legislation establishes stronger literacy requirements for elementary students.

“How can removing students from the academic day benefit them?” she said.

Backers argue the LifeWise model allows low-income students who cannot afford after-school programs to receive supplemental religious instruction. Culp said the Indiana law gives parents a greater say in their children’s education.

“This is really more about parental rights,” he said.

Christa Sullinger, 46, began sending her 10-year-old son to LifeWise in Garrett, Indiana, last year. With baseball activities on Sundays, the family sometimes misses church and LifeWise fills in the gaps.

“What a great way to solidify our faith,” Sullinger said.

LifeWise says it does not teach programs during classes such as math or reading, but rather during lunch, recess or electives including library, art or gym. Children can attend for up to two hours a week under Indiana law.

The West Central School Corporation in rural Pulaski County, about 100 miles north of Indianapolis, said 64% of its 345 elementary school students attended LifeWise during library this past school year.

West Central School Corporation Superintendent Cathy Rowe said there may be students who feel left out if they don’t attend LifeWise, but that is up to the parents.

“It’s been very well supported in our community,” she said.

The district was often at the center of discussion during the passage of Indiana’s bill. Opponents said if only a handful of children are left at school, they may feel pressure to join or alienated if they are not religiously affiliated or practice another faith.

Some children promote the program to their classmates of their own volition, Penton said.

“We’re grateful when students find joy in our program and spread the word,” he said.

Demrie Alonzo, a tutor of English as a second language in Fredericktown, Ohio, said she saw one LifeWise representative tell one of her third-grade students, who is Hindu, that they could teach her about Jesus. An investigation ensued, resulting in school superintendent Gary Chapman reminding Fredericktown Local School District and LifeWise officials to refrain from soliciting student participation during school hours.

Children from “a diverse array of backgrounds” participate, Penton said.

“I felt it was extremely inappropriate,” Alonzo said.

274 Palestinians killed

(Continued from Page 1)

operation in a post on X, saying “only Israel’s enemies complained about the casualties of Hamas terrorists and their accomplices.”

Inside Israel, local media have focused heavily on the Israeli toll, the hostages and military efforts with relatively little coverage of the situation for Palestinians inside Gaza.

‘MY BROTHER DIED OF GRIEF’

Israelis continued to celebrate the return of Noa Argamani, 26; Almog Meir Jan, 22; Andrey Kozlov, 27; and Shlomi Ziv, 41; as they reunited with loved ones.

Argamani’s mother, Liora, who has late-stage brain cancer, had released a video pleading to see her. Argamani’s father told Army Radio the reunion was “very difficult” as Liora was “just unable to express her feelings and could not say what she was really waiting to say.”

Meir Jan’s aunt, Dina, said his father had died Friday, hours before the operation. “My brother died of grief,” she told Israel’s Kan public broadcaster.

Dr. Itai Pessach at Sheba Hospital said none had serious physical injuries. But they have lost friends and family, and staff “have been assisting them in rebuilding the infrastructure of their life,” he told reporters.

About 120 hostages remain in Gaza, with 43 pronounced dead, after about half were released in a weeklong cease-fire in November. Israeli troops have recovered the bodies of at least 16, according to the government. Survivors include about 15 women, two children under 5 and two men in their 80s.

Scores of hostages are believed to be held in densely populated areas or inside Hamas’ labyrinth of tunnels, making rescues complex

and risky. A raid in February freed two hostages while leaving 74 Palestinians dead.

Israel’s military has acknowledged it can’t carry out operations to rescue everyone.

WHAT LIES AHEAD

Divisions have deepened in Israel over the best way to bring hostages home. Many urge Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to embrace a cease-fire deal U.S. President Joe Biden announced last month, but far-right allies threaten to collapse his government if he does. Hours after the rescue, thousands of Israelis again gathered to protest the government and call for a deal.

On Sunday, Benny Gantz, a popular centrist member of Israel’s three-member war Cabinet, resigned from the government after challenging it to adopt a new plan for the war. The resignation makes Netanyahu more heavily reliant on his far-right allies.

Also Sunday, the commander of the Israeli military’s Gaza division resigned over failures that led to the Oct. 7 attack. U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken will return to the Middle East this week, seeking a breakthrough in cease-fire efforts. U.S. national security adviser Jake Sullivan told CNN that mediators Egypt and Qatar had not received official word from Hamas on the proposed deal. In a separate interview with CBS, Sullivan didn’t say whether Biden would meet Netanyahu when he comes to Washington next month to address Congress.

International pressure is mounting on Israel to limit civilian bloodshed in its war in Gaza. Palestinians also face widespread hunger because fighting and Israeli restrictions have largely cut off the flow of aid.

Centrist Benny Gantz quitting Israel’s war Cabinet, cites frustrations with Netanyahu

JERUSALEM (AP) — Benny Gantz, a centrist member of Israel’s three-member war Cabinet, announced his resignation Sunday, accusing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of mismanaging the war effort and putting his own “political survival” over the country’s security needs.

The move does not immediately pose a threat to Netanyahu, who still controls a majority coalition in parliament. But the Israeli leader becomes more heavily reliant on far-right allies who oppose the latest U.S.-backed cease-fire proposal and want to press ahead with the war.

“Unfortunately, Netanyahu is preventing us from achieving true victory, which is the justification for the painful and ongoing price,” Gantz said. He added that Netanyahu was “making empty promises,” and the country needs to take a different direction as he expects the fighting to continue for years to come.

The popular former military chief joined Netanyahu’s government shortly after the Hamas attack in a show of unity. His presence also boosted Israel’s credibility with its international partners. Gantz has good working relations with U.S. officials.

Gantz had previously said he would leave the government by June 8 if Netanyahu did not formulate a new plan for postwar Gaza.

He scrapped a planned news conference Saturday night after four Israeli hostages were dramatically rescued from Gaza earlier in the day in Israel’s largest such operation since the eight-month war began. At least 274 Palestinians, including children, were killed in the assault, Gaza health officials said.

Gantz called for Israel to hold elections in the fall, and encouraged the third member of the war Cabinet, Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, to “do the right thing” and resign from the government as well. Gallant has previously said he would resign if Israel chose to reoccupy Gaza, and encouraged the government to make plans for a Palestinian administration.

On Saturday, Netanyahu had urged Gantz not to leave the emergency wartime government.

“This is the time for unity, not for division,” he said, in a direct plea to Gantz.

Gantz’s decision to leave is largely “a symbolic move” due to his frustration with Netanyahu, said Gideon Rahat, chairman of the political science department at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He noted it could further increase Netanyahu’s reliance on extremist, right-wing members of his government, led by National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir and Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich.

“They killed everything inside us,” said one Nuseirat resident who witnessed Saturday’s assault. The woman,

identified only as Mounira in a video shared by the U.N. on Sunday, urged a cease-fire.

Ukraine says it struck fighter plane deep inside Russia

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukraine on Sunday said its forces hit an ultra-modern Russian warplane stationed on an air base nearly 370 miles from the front lines.

Kyiv’s main military intelligence service shared satellite photos it said showed the aftermath of the attack. If confirmed, it would mark Ukraine’s first known successful strike on a twin-engine Su-57 stealth jet, lauded as Moscow’s most advanced fighter plane.

In one photo, black soot marks and small craters can be seen dotting a concrete strip around the parked aircraft. According to the Main Intelligence Directorate of Ukraine’s Ministry of Defense, the strike took place on Saturday at the Akhtubinsk base in southern Russia, some 366 miles from the front line.

The Ukrainian agency said the plane, which is capable of carrying stealth missiles across hundreds of kilometers (miles), was among “a countable few” of its type in Moscow’s arsenal. According to reports by Russian agencies, Moscow’s air force obtained “more than 10” new Su-57s last year, and has placed an order for a

total of 76 to be delivered by 2028.

A spokesman for Ukraine’s military intelligence, Andriy Yusov, hours later said on Ukrainian TV that the attack may have damaged two Su-57 jets parked at the base, and also wounded Russian personnel. He did not immediately give any evidence to support the claim.

Ilya Yevlash, a spokesman for Ukraine’s air force, told Ukrainian media in April that Moscow was trying to keep its Su-57 fleet “at a safe distance” from Ukrainian firepower.

The strike comes after the United States and Germany recently authorized Ukraine to hit some targets on Russian soil with the long-range weapons they are supplying to Kyiv. Ukraine has already used U.S. weapons to strike inside Russia under newly approved guidance from President Joe Biden that allows American arms to be used for the limited purpose of defending Kharkiv, Ukraine’s second-largest city.

But the airstrip’s distance from Ukraine, as well as unofficial comments from Russia, point to the likely use of Ukrainian-made drones. Since Moscow’s full-scale invasion more

than two years ago, Kyiv has ramped up domestic drone production and used the munitions to strike deep inside Russia. In January, drones hit a gas terminal near St. Petersburg that lies over 620 miles north of the border.

A popular pro-Kremlin Telegram channel, thought to be run by a retired Russian army pilot, claimed that three Ukrainian drones struck the Akhtubinsk airstrip on Saturday and that flying shrapnel damaged the jet.

“It is now being determined whether it can be restored or not. If not, it would be the first combat loss of a Su-57 in history,” the Fighterbomber channel reported.

A military correspondent for Russia’s state-run RIA news agency, Aleksandr Kharchenko, in a Telegram post Sunday denounced Moscow’s failure to build hangars to protect its aircraft. But the post stopped short of directly acknowledging the strike.

Russia’s so-called “military bloggers” like Fighterbomber are often seen as sources of information on military losses in the absence of an official Kremlin comment. Russia’s Defense Ministry or senior political figures did not comment Sunday.

Weather

Monday, June 10, 2024

(24-hour observations at 11:14 p.m. Sunday at the Fort Wayne International Airport)

High: 79; Low: 55; Precipitation: None

Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.91 feet at 8:45 p.m. Sunday

Wells County forecast

Today: Partly sunny, with a high near 68. North wind around 10 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 45. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 77. Calm wind.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 54. Calm wind.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 84.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 63.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 89.

Thursday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 66.

Friday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 87.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 59.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 86.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 62.

Sunday: Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 92.

Governor’s estate adds new \$300,000 meeting space

By MIA HILKOWITZ, Indiana Capital Chronicle

Gov. Eric Holcomb now has a new place to meet with important business leaders, international visitors and senior staff after a \$300,000 addition was built onto the Carriage House adjacent to his official residence.

The cost could have been higher.

Originally, Residence Director Marianne Molony said the plan was to add an entertaining deck to the residence itself but higher-than-expected costs caused the change.

The project, which added approximately 317 square feet to the estate’s Carriage House, started in the fall of 2023 and finished in January 2024.

The addition is dubbed Room 46, since it’s near 46th street, and is considered an extension of the governor’s study. That’s why no photos were permitted inside the new space during a recent tour.

Molony said Holcomb wanted to use the area to meet with business leaders when Indiana hosts economic development and company visits.

“We have tried, with limited funding, to sort of raise the game here and make it a special type of visit,” she said.

When business delegates visit Indiana, Molony said they often spend most of the day in meetings, looking at building sites and flying in helicopters. She believes the “charming and cozy” Carriage House offers a more welcoming environment.

“This is sometimes the closest thing they’re getting to just coming into someone’s home and experiencing Hoosier hospitality, which is really one of our best selling points,” she said.

Molony added the extra meeting room allows Holcomb to hold back-to-back meetings in both buildings, especially when he is interviewing candidates for the same position.

“He uses that new room a lot,” Molony said. “I think we all wish we would have done it years ago.”

The new addition has a separate entrance, making the Carriage House still available for other use.

The Carriage House has three bedrooms, a dining room, a kitchen, a living room, two bathrooms and a basement to host short-term guests. In 2006, then-Gov. Mitch Daniel’s daughter lived there while attending college.

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Pharmaceuticals: Prescription drugs (in original labeled prescription container), sharps/needles (all sharps must be in sealed containers such as a milk jug or original packaging container).

Appliances: Refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, stoves, washers, dryers, water heaters, dishwashers, microwaves.

Electronics: Monitors, CPU, keyboards, printers, fax machines, VCR/DVD, cell phones, cables.

The following charges will apply to these items:

Televisions: Standard \$20.00 *Large or Console: \$25.00

Tires: Auto Tires: up to 4 - FREE; \$2.00 for each additional, limit 12
Truck Tires: up to 4 - FREE; \$5.00 for each additional, limit 6
Tractor (or tires over 54" tall) \$75.00 each
(Tires on rims will be accepted, additional charge \$1.00)

RESIDENTIAL ONLY - NO BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION DROP OFF

Wells County HazMat Day

Saturday June 15
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Bluffton Middle School
www.wellscounty.org
824-6470

OBITUARIES

Clarence G. "Scotty" Cottrell, JR. 91

Clarence G. "Scotty" Cottrell, JR. 91, of Bluffton, passed away on Friday morning, June 7, 2024, as a result of an automobile accident in Bluffton.

Funeral arrangements are currently pending under the direction of the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home.



Pictured in the photo from left are Ben Renkenberger of the United Way of Wells County, Wells County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Erin Prible, Hattie Wondercheck of the Wells County Chamber of Commerce, Casey Robbins of F&M Bank, Zane Huggins of T-Mobile, Kevin Sills of Farm Bureau Insurance, Wes Meyers of T-Mobile, Kody Kumer of Forgotten Children Worldwide, Nathan Handley of T-Mobile, Doug Brown of The News-Banner, Julie Thompson of Bluffton Regional, Danielle Thompson of Flagstar Bank and Mayor John Whicker. (Photo submitted)

Chamber of Commerce celebrates ribbon cutting with T-Mobile

The Wells County Chamber of Commerce staff and Ambassadors officially welcomed T-Mobile to the community. T-Mobile is located at 2155 N Main St., Suite 3 in Bluffton. T-Mobile enhances connectivity and provides unparalleled customer service in rural areas. Led by store manager Wes Meyers, the Bluffton location is part of T-Mobile's broader initiative to extend its reach to underserved communities.

"We're thrilled to be here in Bluffton and to have the opportunity to serve this vibrant community," said Meyers. "Our goal is to bring reliable and high-speed internet and mobile services to areas that have previously lacked support, ensuring that everyone has access to the technology they need."

The Bluffton store, which opened in October last year, addresses the gap in local service, eliminating the need for residents to travel to Fort Wayne for their T-Mobile needs. The store offers a wide range of services, including home internet, which is expected to be available in Bluffton by the 4th Quarter this year. This service aims to provide an affordable, high-speed internet option to residents.

Meyers emphasized the store's commitment to excellent customer service, stating, "Technology is essential in today's world, whether for personal use or for small businesses. Our team is dedicated to assist-

ing anyone who walks through our doors, whether they are T-Mobile customers or not."

For those considering switching carriers, Meyers notes that T-Mobile often provides the best coverage in Bluffton at competitive prices. The store offers a variety of promotions for new and existing customers, including free phones with trade-ins and flexible plans without contracts.

T-Mobile's Bluffton store offers monthly promotions and free gifts to customers, enhancing the value of their service plans. From practical items like solar eclipse glasses to festive holiday gifts, these promotions are designed to show appreciation for their customers.

The store's community focus extends beyond its walls, with the team actively participating in local events like the recent car shows. This outreach ensures that residents have access to tech support and can learn about the latest in mobile and internet services.

"We are here to support people and make sure they get the best possible service," said Meyers. "Our team is one of the best I've worked with, and we are dedicated to doing things the right way."

Join us in celebrating this exciting addition to Bluffton's business community. For more information, visit the new T-Mobile store or contact (260) 206-9500.

Bluffton High School lists honor roll students

Bluffton High School has released the names of its students on the high honor roll and honor roll for the second term of the 2023-24 school year.

SENIORS

High Honor Roll

Mackinley Baker, Alydia Bertsch, Harley Bolinger, Keturah Bradford, Lillian Broderick, Rehghyn Brooks, Connor Collins, Claire Craighthead, Landon Crist, Juan Cruz, Zara Eisenhut, Caleb Gerber, Takaylah Gerber, Haley Gibson, Alexis Grover, Maksym Laishevkin, Madison Murray, Jaelynn Pemberton, Corina Rader, Hattie Reinhard, Isabella Rhoderick, Cruz Rinkenberger, Isaiah San Juan, Elsie Schaden, Sophia Schwartz, Madison Smith, Elijah Spencer, Cameron Straub, Clayton Straub, Ayden Teeple, Hudson Werich and Noah Zoll.

Honor Roll

Ashton Arnett, Katelynn Bedwell, Braxton Betancourt, Savanah Browning, Allyeha Brubaker, Christian Castaneda, Jacob Chenard, Lucia Corkwell, Hutchenson Craighthead, Gretchen Crist, Kiara Crosbie, Caleb Dailey, Elijah Garrett, Peyton Hall, Andrew Hunt, Kayla Kiefer, Cayah King, Christopher Kramer, Owen Laisure, Brody Lewis, Lauren Mann, Gissel Martinez, Chris McClain, Taylor McFarren, Zoe Morrison, Benjamin Ramseyer, Elija Robles, Dalton Rodgers, Zoey Schmidt, Olivia Schreiber, Kaden Simpson, Fletcher Wenger, Hunter Wenger, Alex West and Elizabeth Wheeler.

JUNIORS

High Honor Roll

Jackson Affolder, Charos Anorboeva, Jude Baumgartner, Dihan Benade, Noah Bluhm, Hailey Bozarth, Chloe Bredemeyer, David DeFrain, Marly Drayer, Chloe Engle, Austin Geimer, Lexi Grady, Anthony Hartman, Samuel Holloway, Adriana Huffman, Dakota Jennings, Levi Johns, Mohammed Nashwan, Grant Reifsteck, Amarah Robles, Maryn Schreiber, Brianna Snyder, Madyson Sonmingsen, Isabella Stout, Bailey Yates and Lukas Yates.

Honor Roll

Kade Abbott, Zainab Ameen, Brady Baldauf, Tyler Beer, Daniel Bodenheimer, Andrew Bowman, McKenna Bunch, Macy Bywater, Phoenix Cook, Lily Crispin, Isabela Curless, Deontae Eskridge, Karlee Ewart, Jordan Fear, Tavin Frees, Addison Goodwin, Ashlyn Hall, Olga Jardan, Lorne Kahn, Connor Klopfenstein, Brett Kuhlbeck, Mykhailo Laishevkin, Nolan Lambert, Tiffany Lanning, Griffin Linderwell, Benjamin Maggard, Tanner McClure, Jarrett McEvoy, Dontai Miles, Ali Mygrant, Taylor Nusbaumer, Averianna Petty, Catalina Polanco, Kyler Potter, Sacra Powell, Noemi Real, Artyom Reimberdyev, Kaine Robinson, Laney Sawyer, Drayvin Shoemaker, CayLynn Sills, Corbin Trigg, Hadessah Yergler and Logan Zoll.

SOPHOMORES

High Honor Roll

Hayden Alfeld, Konley

Ault, Elijah Bertsch, Eve Corkwell, Emily Drayer, Anakin Eguia, Emitt Fiechter, Mason Fox, Emma Frauhtiger, Marshall Gerber, Baylee Green, Miken Habegger, Alyssa Hartman, Kameron Holloway, Aaron Jessup, Lilly King, Owen Lesh, Alexander Mechling, Kayla Morgan, Manning Nash, Brockton Osborne, Jackson Rockwell, Jasmine Rupel, Lily Rupel, Sebastian Schoeff, Ellie Schwartz, Emma Schwartz, Josephina Sessions, Brody Shutt, Kaitlyn Stafford, Aaron Streveler and Coleson Teeple.

Honor Roll

Libby Arnett, Colton Arnold, Piper Baker, Jake Boots, Sabastian Burgess, Treyton Bustos, Harper Craighead, Olivia Donascimiento, Xzavier Driscoll, Kinzie Fiechter, Steven Frettinger, Amelia Fritz, Aidan Gavilanez, Declan Grieser, Sierra Holmes, Savannah Hughtett, Carmen Hurry, Thessaly Huy, Gregory Johnson, Evangilene Larson, Braden Lemler, Kylee Masterson, Elijah McCollum, Griffin Morgan, Rylynn Penick, Savannah Rasor, Keiner Rinehart, Cohen Rogness, Riley Schlotter, Trevor Smith, Preston Souter, Ben Van Tonder, Gabrielle VanCamp and Hannah Withers.

FRESHMEN

High Honor Roll

Tristan Ault, Axton Beste, Elliott Brown, Mateo Castro, Sierra Clark, Samuel Cortez, Gabriella Coyne, Lydia Dailey, Rori Drayer, Madison Duncan, Sophie Eisenhut, Isaac Flood, Madelyn Funk, Addison Gehring, Jonah Geisel, Audrey Gerber, Isla Gibson, Emily Hansen, Reagan Harris, Kylie Hiser, Jordan Jellison, Levi Jennings, Luke Jennings, Heath Johnson, Rozlynn Johnson, Addison Kauffman, Jacob Kephart, Samuel King, Kameron Klinski, Evan Klopfenstein, Alexandria Kobay, Conner Landis, Alexander Maggard, Jackson Meyer, Kierstynn Reed, Blake Reinhard, Jacob Ribich, Grady Rockwell, Alayna Sheets, Gabriel Spencer, Colt Ternet, Myles Velasquez, Aiden Wilfong, Addi-

son Yates and Anna Zurcher.

Honor Roll

Nadege Sharin Abrego, William Ault, Easton Blair, Lillie Brown, Clayton Brubaker, Zacharis Chacon, Chase Collins, Anasia Eguia, Kenley Falk, Abram Gehrett, Adriana Gehring, Cal Grandlienard, Aleeah Grover, Brianna Hart, Cierah Hicks, Chase Houser, Paige Hutchison, Logan Johnson, Elijah Kerner, Athan King, Izabell King, Coy Lantz, Travis Leitner, Graham Linderwell, Sophia Mayne, Aidan McClure, Lance McMillan, Piper Morgan, Jared Moser, Lance Moser, Parker Nash, Grant Nunley, Jessica Nusbaumer, Kaylee Nusbaumer, Riley Roby, Lincoln Rodgers, Ryan Schlagenhauf, Chanley Shaw, Corbin Gregg Snyder, Silas Troyer, Makaila Watson and Gia Youngren.

Financial Focus

PSA: Don't let investments take a vacation

Summertime is almost here — and for many people that means it's time to hit the road. But even if you decide to take a vacation, you'll want other areas of your life to keep working — especially your investments.

Here are a few suggestions for doing just that: First, check your portfolio's performance periodically, but don't measure your results against a market index, such as the S&P 500. Instead, use your own benchmarks, such as how well your portfolio is moving you toward your goals.

Also, invest with a purpose. Follow a long-term investment strategy that reflects your goals, risk tolerance, asset accumulation needs, liquidity and time horizon.

One more idea: Invest strategically by matching some investments with specific goals. For example, your IRA and 401(k) are designed for retirement, but if you want to help send your kids to college, you might consider a tax-advantaged 529 plan. For a short-term goal, such as a wedding or a long vacation, consider an investment that offers significant preservation of principal.

By making those moves appropriate for your situation, you can keep your investments doing one essential task — working hard for you.

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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Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

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Wells Court Docket

Wells Superior Court Criminal Cases

Terez Alastair Leonard, Jr., 19, South Bend, was sentenced to one year in the Wells County Jail with all but 54 days suspended.

Leonard was sentenced after he plead guilty to one count of resisting law enforcement, a Class A misdemeanor. One count of resisting law enforcement, a Level 6 felony, was dismissed pursuant

to a plea agreement. Leonard received 54 days of jail credit for time spent in jail during this case. He is also required to serve 311 days on probation and pay \$389 in court costs and filing fees.

Obituary Policy

The News-Banner and Ossian Journal publishes "basic" obituaries free of charge for "local" deaths. "Basic" obituaries will include the deceased's name, age, community of record, date and place of death, basic genealogical information, the date, time and location of calling hours and services and the name of the funeral home handling arrangements.

If additional information and/or a photo is desired to be included, or if the deceased does not meet the definitions of a "local" person, there is a charge.

Area funeral homes will provide details on the policy and will coordinate obituary publication.

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Is Boone County's LEAP project stuck in neutral?

For two years, the state of Indiana has sat on thousands of acres of farmland in Boone County with no new announced tenants for a controversial innovation park.



Niki Kelly

Hoosiers should be concerned about the lack of progress given the \$358.4 million spent on land so far. And that doesn't count millions more in consulting and development contracts into which the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) has entered.

Hoosier Opinions

The state began acquiring land in late 2021. Then, in May 2022, the IEDC publicly revealed the Limitless Exploration/Advanced Pace (LEAP) Research and Innovation project: a massive tech park with Eli Lilly & Co. as its first tenant.

Lilly initially planned to invest \$2.1 billion into the project on 600 acres of land. But it increased that to more than \$3.7 billion at the groundbreaking in April 2023.

The company again added to that investment a few weeks ago, for a total of \$9 billion and 900 new jobs, still on its 600-acre LEAP lot.

Lilly last year quietly bought its 600 acres from the state — in two parcels — for \$60 million. Erin Sweitzer, spokeswoman for the IEDC, said the state purchased the Lilly land at \$81,000 an acre and sold it at \$99,260 an acre.

"Cash received at time of sale was returned to the General Fund. Additionally, the improvements being made to the land we have purchased to date will increase the value of the land for future sale," she said.

The IEDC has purchased 4,009 acres of land to date and has an additional 3,607 acres under contract, according to Sweitzer.

It's all about the water. The progress on LEAP seems to have stalled because of one major issue: water.

While there is enough water to support the Lilly project, when the state started talking to major semiconductor companies it became clear they would need more water than Lebanon had to offer.

That's when a plan was proposed — privately — to pipe up to 100 million gallons of water a day from the Wabash River in Tippecanoe County.

The plan leaked in a clumsy way and residents in Tippecanoe reacted negatively. IEDC commissioned a water study and initial results claimed there was enough water to support the diversion. But momentum was moving against it.

As a result, Gov. Eric Holcomb directed the Indiana Finance Authority to take over the study and widen it for a more comprehensive examination.

The IFA has retained Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. and Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. Preliminary data from the study are anticipated to be released in late spring or summer of 2024 with final results in the fall.

If the water pipeline happens, the cost will be massive. Some have said upwards of \$2 billion, though the state disputes that an estimate exists.

But in the meantime, Boone County is losing property tax revenue as thousands of acres of land have been removed from tax-paying rolls and sit idle. That's because government-owned land is tax exempt.

The IEDC website boasts about the district's future. "Modeled after the Research Triangle Park in North Carolina, in the heart of the Midwest in Indiana, the LEAP district will be a hub of global innovation and a key component of Indiana's plan to attract and retain businesses that keep Indiana one of the top states in the nation in which to do business," it says.

Some work is being done to prep the land with needed infrastructure but as far as adding tenants, the project seems stuck in neutral with state costs continuing to rise.

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

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, June 10, the 162nd day of 2024. There are 204 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On June 10, 1967, six days of war in the Middle East involving Israel, Syria, Egypt, Jordan and Iraq ended as Israel and Syria accepted a United Nations-mediated cease-fire.

On this date: In 1692, the first execution resulting from the Salem witch trials in Massachusetts took place as Bridget Bishop was hanged.

In 1907, eleven men in five cars set out from the French embassy in Beijing on a race to Paris. (Prince Scipione Borghese of Italy was the first to arrive in the French capital two months later.)

In 1935, Alcoholics Anonymous was founded in Akron, Ohio, by Dr. Robert Holbrook Smith and William Griffith Wilson.

In 1963, President John F. Kennedy signed into law the Equal Pay Act of 1963, aimed at eliminating wage disparities based on gender.

In 1971, President Richard M. Nixon lifted a two-decades-old trade embargo on China.

In 1977, James Earl Ray, the convicted assassin of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., escaped from Brushy Mountain State Prison in Tennessee with six others; he was recaptured June 13.

In 1978, Affirmed, ridden by Steve Cauthen, won the 110th Belmont Stakes to claim horse racing's 11th Triple Crown.



Editor's Note: News-Banner co-owner and chairman of the board George Witwer is the subject of Brian Howey's weekly column that appears in a number of Indiana newspapers. From the News-Banner archives, above is a photo of a clipping from a file on Witwer's 1996 nomination with an inset from the subsequent campaign. He and Goldsmith lost the general election to Frank O'Bannon (ironically another newspaper owner) and Joe Kernan. At right is a file photo from 2016, taken at the Republican National Convention of Witwer and his wife, Dianne. —MFM

A 1996 style assignment, led by Bluffton's George Witwer, for Hoosier GOP delegates

INDIANAPOLIS — When Indiana Republican convention delegates gather on June 15, they'll have an extraordinary assignment they've not had since 1996: Selecting a lieutenant governor nominee.

Yes, delegates ratify the statewide ticket every four years, but this year there are two active candidates for LG, gubernatorial nominee Mike Braun's choice of state Rep. Julie McGuire of Indianapolis, or Noblesville pastor Micah Beckwith. Normally, the nominee for governor chooses a running mate.

In 1996, Indianapolis Mayor Stephen Goldsmith easily defeated Rex Early and George Witwer in the primary with 55% of the vote. "We just came through a primary where two-thirds of the Republican county chairmen endorsed Rex," Goldsmith said. "And I think it's important to reach out to those county chairmen, and it is also important to reach out to delegates at the convention."

While Goldsmith took a hands-off approach, Braun and McGuire as well as Beckwith have been actively meeting with delegates. The Braun campaign sees in McGuire a fresher face, a conservative, a woman. McGuire has been spending six to eight hours of the day on the phone at GOP headquarters contacting delegates, and then hits the road for three or four hours meeting with more in the evenings.

"His entrepreneurial spirit, the way he's ready to run this state, I love the agenda, I love that he's ready to be bold and we need that in Indiana," McGuire told delegates in Merrillville, according to a report from NWI Times reporter Dan Carden. In Fort Wayne on Saturday, Fox 55 reported that though McGuire is in the midst of her first term at the Statehouse, Braun said he is impressed. "The number of people that wanted to be lieutenant governor, none of them were focusing on the most important thing," Braun said. "How do you work with the Legislature? Do you understand the process, and are we going to be synced up on what we need to do?"

McGuire told Fox 55, "We want a united party. Mike wants a partner. I'm doing something I love to do. That's work on public policy. I'm a learner. I'm a collaborator, and I think my background has been receptive."

Beckwith, who finished a distant third in the 2020 5th Congressional District primary, began his LG campaign positioning as a check on Gov. Eric Holcomb. He's been critical of Holcomb's pandemic era policy of social closures, masking and vaccinations. His campaign emailed supporters a photo of Albert Einstein, who "once said the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. That's why I have broken with tradition and I am running for Indiana lieutenant governor to be your voice."

Hoosier Republicans have had a long history of



Brian Howey

rebuking their leaders, as they did in 2008 when they rejected Gov. Mitch Daniels' endorsed candidate for attorney general, or in 2022 when they defeated Gov. Holcomb's secretary of state choice. And I've covered a number of congressional and legislative caucuses over the years and, invariably, there are candidates who thought they had commitments to go over the top, but then fell well short of victory.

George B. Witwer, co-owner of the Bluffton News-Banner, finished third to Goldsmith and Early in the 1996 GOP primary. Witwer learned of Goldsmith's lieutenant governor decision "at the same time everyone else did."

Witwer's lieutenant governor campaign was atypical, jamming a year's worth of stumping in six weeks. "It was kind of spontaneous," Witwer said. "People kept reaching out to me."

Politicking

"The situation was very different in 1996," Witwer said. "Rex still had quite a bit of support when the convention came around. The convention was not united behind Steve."

Braun won the six-person primary with just under 40%, meaning that 60% of voters backed someone else. Since then his primary rivals in Eric Doden, Brad Chambers and Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch have closed ranks behind him.

Witwer was endorsed by Indianapolis News publisher Russ Pulliam and former Gov. Doc Bowen, but Secretary of State Sue Anne Gilroy appeared to have momentum on the eve of the convention as the candidate list grew. A "hard delegate count" I got wind of on the convention floor minutes before the first ballot had Gilroy at 750, Witwer at 650 and Friend at 500.

Then came the first ballot, which Howey Politics described as a "thunderclap": Witwer 826, Gilroy 524, and Rep. Bill Friend at 448. "A benign kind of pandemonium broke out to the right of the stage after the first ballot totals emerged," HPI reported. "The remaining contenders sought out one man, Marion County Chairman John Sweezy."

Witwer approached Sweezy: "We want to cooperate with you." But Sweezy was adamant, declaring, "We'll stay with Sue Anne on the second ballot."

On the second ballot, Witwer rolled to a 1,121-542 victory over Gilroy to clinch the nomination. "Someone told me I won Marion County on the second ballot," Witwer told Howey Politics once the dust had settled. "There were many delegates who voted their conscience."

Witwer, who is not a delegate this month, is ardently backing Braun and believes McGuire should be nominated. "Mike is in a fabulous situation," Witwer said.

So while Braun and McGuire as expressing confidence that they will prevail a couple of Saturdays from now, the proof will come in that final roll call.

Brian Howey is senior writer and columnist for Howey Politics Indiana/State Affairs. Find Howey on Facebook and X @hwypol.

Biden border order: Too little, too late, too political

For more than three years President Biden and his Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas have told the country they do not have the power to stop the flow of migrants entering the country unlawfully unless Congress passes new laws. Funny how Biden had no problem using his power to cancel former President Trump's border restrictions by executive order, but as the election nears, Biden has suddenly discovered the power to do something after all.



Cal Thomas

President Biden has signed an executive order that appears to be nothing short of amnesty. The order will supposedly "cap" the number of migrants at 2,500 per day (they will still cross the border and break current immigration laws). Will the president also "cap" the amount of Fentanyl and other drugs and the number of human traffickers, criminals and terrorists who appear to be slipping in? These "got-aways" may never be identified or caught, unless they commit new crimes.

Writing for the Center for Immigration Studies, Don Barnett says: "The Biden administration is doing an end-run around the nation's immigration laws - by giving migrants work permits in record numbers."

Barnett notes that "Since President Biden took office, more than 3.3 million migrants have been given an Employment Authorization Document (EAD), commonly known as the federal work permit, even though many didn't even legally have the right to be in America. And as of February of this year, pending EAD applications stood at another 1.4 million. In many cases, migrants are given the right to work before they are even given asylum, a green card or other legal documentation that allows them to stay."

This is amnesty anyway you define it. 350,000 migrants reportedly will be allowed to remain in the U.S. and their asylum cases closed. Most were unlikely to show up for court dates anyway, since their court dates are many years ahead.

The supposed "capping" of migrants at 2,500 per day is meaningless. Who will do the counting? If the cap is imposed on one day when the arbitrary number is reached, what happens the next day? Another 2,500, of course. All breaking the law to enter the country. This is like giving shoplifters a maximum they can steal before they are arrested and prosecuted. Oh wait, that is already happening in California.

Biden has apparently seen the writing on the unfinished border wall. Immigration is among the top issues for voters in 2024 and Biden's executive order is in response to a political necessity, not the necessity of controlling the border, which all countries must do or risk losing it all to a steady flow of non-citizens.

President Biden and his predecessor President Obama made a promise to "fundamentally transform America." Obama made that promise days before the 2008 election and Biden has used the same words to affirm that goal.

Neither Obama nor Biden have told us what they wanted to transform America from and to so that voters might have the chance to decide whether they want to go along for the ride and where it will lead. This is the problem with so much that happens in Washington. A small number of people - some elected, some appointed - decide for more than 300 million people what they think is best for them, when it is more about what is best for themselves and their political careers.

The November election will decide whether most of us want to continue on this involuntary journey. One hopes not because the destination will likely not resemble the America we have known and loved.

tcaceditors@tribpub.com

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

Events at the Creative Arts Council of Wells County

428 S. Oak Street in Bluffton
260-824-5222
www.wellscocreativearts.com
creativeartscouncil@gmail.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/wellscocreativearts
Instagram: @creativeartscouncil
Creative Arts office hours — Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday (by appointment only).



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

Parlor City Shakespeare presents "Much Ado About Nothing" at Parlor City Plaza
Friday, September 13 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, September 14 at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, September 15 at 6:30 p.m.
Free Admission
Parlor City Plaza

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.

by Melba Edwards

NEW CLASS

Early Stages Workshop
This workshop is directed towards 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.

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

Performances:
June 14 at 7 p.m.
June 15th at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Tickets: \$11.00 – purchased online at: https://tickets.artstix.org/

Disney Jungle Book Kids (Ages 8-11)
Performances:
June 28 at 7 p.m.
June 29 at 3 p.m.
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

Zanesville News

Report on Zanesville Lions Club 5K 2024. There were 16 runners with two absent.

Men's winners: First, Elijah Jacobs (16), 19:27; second, Jerry Williams (64), 20:18; third, Sam Hedrick (27), 21:51; fourth, Hudson Petrie (14), 22:11; fifth, Skip Stinson (59), 23:22; sixth, Mason Zent (13), 24:44; seventh, John Schnieders (60), 24:45; eighth, Chris Petrie (47), 25:50; ninth, Brent Munro (63), 28:25; 10th, Jeremy Penrod (44), 34:43; 11th, Gary Williams (63), 40:11; 12th, James Conroy (69), 45:53.

Women's winners: First, Melanie Jacob (41), 23:48; second, Phyllis Hayes (58), 29:20; third, Amelia Penrod (14), 34:35; fourth, Deb Blinn (65), 45:52.

First, second, third, fourth and fifth place trophies for run to male and female winners overall. First and second place certificates in age groups. Top five masters men and women.

Thanks to Skip Stinson for providing the trophies and helping with the run.

Thanks to our sponsors: Andrew & Crell Attorneys, Bluffton; Bud's Fishing Hole, Huntington; J. Bailey Trucking, Yoder; City Wide Delivery, Fort Wayne; Expert Transmis-

sion, Bluffton; Edward Jones, c/o Trent McBride; Family Ford, Bluffton; Freemans Body Shop, Uniondale; Ginger Fresh Grocery, Ossian; Lane Star Welding, Markle; I/69 Trailer Sales, Markle; Mike Anderson Chevrolet, Ossian; L & S Transmission, Huntington; Power Up, Ossian; P. Scott Johnson Chiro, Bluffton; SMK Plumbing & Heating, Roanoke; Sorg Auto Repair, Zanesville; Specialized Hydraulics, Zanesville; Stinson Pond Supply, Roanoke; Velocity Motors, Bluffton; Dewesse Appliances, Warren; Holbrooks Mobile Homes, Yoder; Zanesville Church of God, Zanesville; Mike's Car Care, Huntington; Myer's Funeral Home, Markle & Huntington.

Please show your appreciation to all of these businesses for making this 2024 lions 5K possible.

Remember to register by July 1 for Centershot. Centershot is an eight-week faithbased archery training program designed by the International Ministerial Fellowship for youth ages 10-?. Participants can expect quality archery training, Bible study, take-home string bow, lots of fun and a chance to make new friends!

Choose one of two loca-

tions, dates and times.

Zanesville Community Church of God, 11972 Marzane Rd., Zanesville, IN, Mondays, July 8 through Aug. 26, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Contact Pastor Steve at 260-638-4239 or pastor@zanesville.cggc.org.

Nine Mile United Methodist Church, 6303 Winters Rd., Fort Wayne, Tuesdays, July 9 through Aug. 27, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Contact Lori Slee at 260-452-9869 or lorim66@aol.com.

Zanesville Youth Program (ZYP) for June 11 will be games, snacks, stories, and crafts at the Tower Life Center (TLC). Please wear old clothes and non-marking gym shoes (no flip flops).

Meet at the TLC at 9 a.m. sharp for a field trip Thursday, June 13, to Flatcreek Farm, a fun, unique farm experience. Wear sunscreen, ZYP shirt and tennis shoes. We are requesting a \$5 donation for each field trip to help with the cost of bus drivers, activities and snacks. Pick up is at noon.

Stop in at Sis & Bub's or the County Line Pizza & Pub in downtown Zanesville. At the backdoor of Sis and Bub's visit Jon Detweiler at his art studio. For information go to www.greendoorstudioandgallery.org.

Concerts at Fort Wayne's Promenade Park

Fort Wayne's Promenade Park will be hosting the Muddy River Concerts this summer.

All concerts will begin at 6 p.m. and snacks and drinks will be available for purchase from Ted's Snacks and the bar in the Promenade Park Cafe.

The schedule includes:
June 12: Los Electro

June 20: Wallen Road
July 10: School of Rock
July 24: We Are Checkmark

Aug. 7: Rachel Brooke
Aug. 21: Left Lane Cruiser

Community Band Concert
On Thursday, June 20 at 7 p.m. the Fort Wayne Area Community Band will play a free concert at the Auer

Lawn at Promenade Park.

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AB-READ-CADABRA at a magic show

"Adventure Begins at Your Library" got underway Tuesday afternoon in Bluffton as two magic shows, presented by Fort Wayne Magician Jim Barron, got the county's younger readers excited about the summer reading program. (Photos by Barbara Barbieri)



Delsey Gerber assisted with a collapsing wand trick that kept getting more parts for her to hold..



Assistant for a trick that involved a parasol that kept turning into a colorful scarf was Vera.



Coins that kept appearing from behind ears and other places had Cohen as the assistant.

A Talk with Tego

Buddy is a six-month-old, Shih-Tzu/Mountain Fiest mix male. He would do best with no other pets, as he is to playful for most to tolerate!

Cheddar is an 11-week-old, orange tiger male.

Oreo is a seven-year-old, black/white tuxedo, neutered and declawed male. (Housecat ONLY!)

Tego

Tego's Tips: Pets detect sounds at a higher frequency than people so fireworks may startle or overwhelm causing them anxiety and stress.

These are just a few pets available for adoption at the Wells County Animal Shelter, 1613 W. Cherry St., Bluffton. For more information call 824-6063.

NEW SKILLS NEW FRIENDS NEW FUN

Caylor-Nickel Foundation Family YMCA Summer T-BALL League

SEASON DATES: July 9th - August 22nd

REGISTER NOW!
Registration CLOSES on June 20th!

COST: Members: \$40 / Non-members: \$80
AGES: 4-5 years / 6-8 years
WHEN: Tuesdays from 5:30-7pm
WHERE: Caylor-Nickel YMCA Outdoor Fields

- Each Tuesday will consist of a short practice followed by a game.
- Practices/Games will take place in the grass fields at the Caylor-Nickel YMCA.
- Each participant will receive a t-shirt. Ball caps are not provided.
- Each participant must have his/her own glove. Bats, balls, helmets, and other equipment will be provided.
- Cleats are welcomed, but not required for participants.

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Larson celebrates NASCAR playoff waiver, Cup Series points lead

By JENNA FRYER
AP Auto Racing Writer

SONOMA, Calif. (AP) — The Indianapolis 500 is over and the worried wait to see if Kyle Larson's participation in that event would cost him a shot at winning a NASCAR championship has been resolved.



Kyle Larson
busiest driver.

That means a lot more races and, of course, more winning.

Larson celebrated NASCAR approving his participation in the playoffs with his third Cup victory of the season — a Sunday win at his home track. The victory for Larson, who grew up 80 miles away from Sonoma Raceway in Elk Grove, was his second on the rolling road course in picturesque wine country. It is the fifth win on a road course for NASCAR's 2021 Cup champion and moved him to the top of the current series standings.

It was a welcome reward after a grueling month of May in which Larson became the fifth driver to attempt to run the Indianapolis 500 and NAS-

CAR's Coca-Cola 600 on the same day. Rain at both events made his attempt at "The Double" a bust and put him in danger of not being granted a waiver to remain eligible for the NASCAR playoffs.

It took until Tuesday of this week for NASCAR to grant Larson the waiver. Then he took his first two consecutive days off in months to lay by the pool in the California sun, do some wine tasting in familiar territory, and then win at Sonoma.

"My life is so hectic that I never feel like I get a normal week for myself. It gets a little bit more hectic now that I am just NASCAR racing and sprint car racing," Larson said. "It was really nice for me to get to come here this week and just get to do nothing for one day, and then go to be a normal tourist on Thursday. It's just a very relaxing week."

It ends Tuesday when Larson races in Nebraska at Eagle Raceway in the \$55,555-to-win Bikini Zone Eagle Nationals. Then it is on to Iowa Speedway for NASCAR, and if he can pull it off, he'd like to run a sprint car at nearby Knoxville next Friday and Saturday nights.

That's the kind of schedule Larson prefers and tried to pull off last month. But the Indy 500 was delayed four hours by rain, which



forced Larson to miss the start of the Coca-Cola 600. By the time he arrived in North Carolina, the race had been stopped for rain there, never resumed and Larson never turned a lap.

Because of that, it took NASCAR a week of internal debate to decide if one of its biggest stars would be given the pass required to remain eligible for playoff participation. Larson said he never stressed about the looming decision.

"Are we still talking about waivers?" he asked after the race. "Literally, my mind never wavered. It was always focused on executing and winning the regular season points title."

His win at Sonoma only showed how foolish NASCAR would have looked had it ruled against the Hendrick Motorsports driver.

Jeff Gordon, the vice chairman of Hendrick Motorsports, said Larson and the No. 5 team were never rattled during the wait for a waiver.

"I didn't see it affecting the majority of the team," said Gordon, who added Larson and crew chief Cliff Daniels allowed the Hendrick executives to handle

communications with NASCAR. "As far as how it trickled down the team, I didn't see where they were really (bothered). They seem to be business as usual. I think the best medicine in any of those situations is getting back to the racetrack."

"Especially when they get here, home track for Kyle, a track they enjoy racing at, I think that put a lot of that to rest."

Larson led 19 of the 110 laps and passed defending race winner Martin Truex Jr. with eight laps remaining to uphold the win in his No. 5 Chevrolet. It is his 20th win since joining Hendrick in 2021 which ranks third in the organization behind Gordon and Jimmie Johnson.

Truex was going to finish second in a Toyota for Joe Gibbs Racing but ran out of gas before he reached the finish line. He was scored 27th as a pair of tow trucks followed him to the finish.

That gave second to Michael McDowell in a Ford for Front Row Motorsports. Chris Buescher was third in a Ford for RFK Racing and Chase Elliott of Hendrick was fourth. He was followed by Ross Chastain of Trackhouse, who had last-lap contact with Kyle Busch that dropped Busch from fifth to 12th.

HAMLIN OUT EARLY
Denny Hamlin, the Cup Series points leader at the start of the

race, had his day come to an abrupt end just two laps into the event when his Toyota engine failed, sending him to a last-place finish at Sonoma for the second consecutive year.

Hamlin said he had zero warning the engine was about to blow. He started 25th and was 29th when his engine failed.

"No. Nothing. It's just the gearing is a little weird for the track," Hamlin said. "It's a lot of high-end RPM stuff, but the same as everyone else and I'm just not really sure. They'll look at it and figure it out, but certainly not ideal."

Hamlin, who was scored with a 38th-place finish, has finished outside the top 30 at Sonoma for three consecutive years.

It wasn't much better for Ty Gibbs, his teammate at Joe Gibbs Racing, who hit the wall 16 laps into the race and finished just one spot better than Hamlin in 37th.

"I just made a mistake and took us out of this day," Gibbs said.

UP NEXT

NASCAR takes the Cup Series to Iowa Speedway for the first time in track history. NASCAR began using the track in 2006 for lower level series and then some national series events in 2009, but never Cup. NASCAR stopped using the track after the 2019 season. IndyCar made the track an annual stop in 2007 and has been there every year since except 2021.

Scheffler holds on to win Memorial for his 5th PGA Tour title of the season

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

DUBLIN, Ohio (AP) — Winning has become a habit for Scottie Scheffler, except there was nothing typical about his victory Sunday at the Memorial.



Scottie Scheffler

He made only one birdie. He closed with a 2-over 74, his highest final round in two years. And victory wasn't assured until Scheffler had the mettle to put a firm stroke on a downhill putt from 5 feet above the hole to take out the break.

It went right in the heart for a one-shot victory over Collin Morikawa, and a handshake with tournament host Jack Nicklaus. Their exchange said it all.

"You're a survivor," Nicklaus told him.

"Thanks," Scheffler said. "Yeah, you made this place brutal today."

Scheffler endured more stress than he wanted and got the victory everyone has come to expect, his fifth of the season — one week into the month of June — as he heads for another tough test next week in the U.S. Open.

Muirfield Village was so demanding with its ultra firm greens and swirling gusts throughout the afternoon that only six players broke par and the average score was a fraction under 75.

Scheffler, who started four shots ahead, never lost the lead. He never felt safe, either, not with Morikawa and Adam Hadwin on his heels all afternoon, and on a back nine where making par felt like hard work. Par is what it took on the 18th hole.

"This is a tough place to close out," Scheffler said. "I didn't do a whole lot great today, but I did enough."

Just barely.

Scheffler was leading Morikawa by one shot and both hit approach shots that bounced hard and high off the green and into the rough. Both chipped to about 5 feet. Scheffler buried his putt to win, and the force of his

first pump to celebrate showed how tough this day was on him, and practically everybody.

Making the day even more special was a recent memory with Nicklaus at the Memorial, and cradling month-old son Bennett at his newborn's first PGA Tour event.

Scheffler thought back to 2021, when he missed a 6-foot putt on the final hole that ended any chance of a playoff. Walking off the green, he recalls Nicklaus telling him one day Scheffler will make the putt on 18

"and I'll be walking off to shake his hand."

"It was pretty special thinking about that as I was walking over to shake his hand," he said.

Morikawa, who played in the final group of both majors this year, holed a 30-foot birdie putt on the par-3 12th hole and stayed on Scheffler's heels the rest of the way. He shot 71, the only one from the final 13 groups to break par.

Adam Hadwin was right there with them until closing with three straight bogeys for a 74 to finish alone in third.

Scheffler finished at 8-under 280 and won \$4 million from this signature event and its \$20 million purse. That pushes him over \$24 million for the year, breaking the PGA Tour season earnings record — and it's barely June — that he set last year in this era of rising purses.

He also became the first player since Tom Watson in 1980 to have won five times on the PGA Tour before the U.S. Open.

That's next week at Pinehurst No. 2, and Scheffler will go to the U.S. Open as a huge favorite. This was his 11th consecutive tournament with a top 10.

Morikawa picked up \$2.2 million and now has a big cushion as he tries to sew up the fourth spot for the Americans going to Paris this summer for the Olympics.

Hadwin was within one shot of the lead until finishing the front nine with a pair of bogeys. He stayed in the hunt until closing with a pair of bogeys for a 74. Still, his third-place finish moves him ahead of Corey Connors for the second Canadian spot in the Olympics.

The world ranking after the U.S. Open determines who goes to Paris.

Scheffler had only one birdie — a 10-foot putt on the sixth hole — and he missed two birdie chances inside 10 feet on the back nine that could have provided a cushion.

But he made the biggest one on the par-3 16th.

Scheffler and Morikawa were both short of the super slick green some 90 feet away. Scheffler used putter and hit it weakly, coming up 15 feet short. Morikawa chipped from the collar and also hit a pedestrian chip some 20 feet short.

Morikawa missed his par putt, and Scheffler buried his for a two-shot lead.

Scheffler dropped his final shot on the 17th, however, and he was clinging again to a one-shot lead playing the tough 18th that he ended with one last putt.

Next up is the so-called toughest test in golf, and players felt like they just got finished with one at Muirfield Village.

"You could look at it one of two ways," Hadwin said. "Either it's good prep for next week or we just got our butts kicked before going into next week."

For Scheffler it's another victory, his 11th of his career and 12th worldwide. He has finished strong to win big or come from behind. He has pulled away when it was tight at the start. This time, he nearly lost a four-shot lead.

It was his highest closing round since a 74 in the British Open at St. Andrews in 2022. But it goes in the book as another big win against the strongest fields. He now has won three signature events (Bay Hill and Hilton Head were the others) to go along

Celtics take 2-0 lead over Mavs in Finals

BOSTON (AP) — Jrue Holiday had 26 points and 11 rebounds, and Jayson Tatum made up for a rough shooting night with 12 assists and nine rebounds as the Boston Celtics beat the Dallas Mavericks 105-98 on Sunday night to take a 2-0 lead in the NBA Finals.

Luka Doncic, who was listed as questionable to play less than two hours before the opening tipoff, scored 32 points with 11 rebounds and 11 assists — the first NBA Finals triple-double in Mavericks franchise history. But he missed a one-footed, running floater from 3-point range with 28 seconds left, ending Dallas' last chance at a comeback.

Game 3 is Wednesday night in Dallas. The Mavericks need a win then or in Game 4 on Friday to avoid a sweep and earn a trip back to the Boston Garden, where the local fans are already making space in the rafters for what would be an unprecedented 18th NBA championship banner.

The Celtics won the opening pair in the NBA Finals for the ninth time. They have won the previous eight, and have never been forced to a Game 7 in any of them.

Jaylen Brown scored 21 points, Tatum had 18 and Derrick White also scored 18 points for top-seeded Boston. Kristaps Porzingis limped his way to 12 points. Tatum was 6 for 22 shooting and 1 of 7 from 3-point range; the Celtics were 10 for 39 from long distance overall.

Cubs avoid sweep with win over Reds

CINCINNATI (AP) — Ian Happ drove in three runs with a bases-loaded double in the first inning and Shota Imanaga had another strong start as the Chicago Cubs ended the Cincinnati Reds' seven-game winning streak with a 4-2 victory on Sunday.

"We pitched really well today," Cubs manager Craig Counsell said. "Really good at-bats in the first inning. And we got a big hit. We didn't get big hits most of the day, unfortunately."

The two teams have been going in opposite directions. The Reds have won 12 of 16 while the Cubs have lost 12 of 16.

The Reds who won the first three games in the series, haven't swept the Cubs in a four-game series since 2018.

Imanaga (6-1) has allowed 12 runs (eight earned) over his past two starts. On Sunday, he allowed two earned runs in 6 2/3 with a walk and seven strikeouts.

"The best pitchers in the game give up hits," Counsell said. "He fooled us into thinking it never happens."

Seiya Suzuki returned to the Cubs lineup and went 3 for 5 with a double and run scored. He missed Saturday's game after being hit in the back by a throw on Friday.

Reds starter Frankie Montas (3-5) was coming off his best outing of the season allowing one hit in seven innings at Colorado on Tuesday. But the Cubs hit him hard Sunday.

News-Banner Scoreboard

BASKETBALL

NBA FINALS

(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)
Thursday, June 6
Boston 107, Dallas 89
Sunday, June 9
Boston 105, Dallas 98
Wednesday, June 12
Boston at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Friday, June 14
Boston at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Monday, June 17
x-Dallas at Boston, TBA
Thursday, June 20
x-Boston at Dallas, TBA
Sunday, June 23
x-Dallas at Boston, TBA

WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Connecticut 9 1 900 7%
New York 11 2 846 —
Atlanta 5 4 556 4
Chicago 4 6 400 5%
Indiana 3 9 250 7%
Washington 0 12 000 10%
WESTERN CONFERENCE
Minnesota 8 3 727 —
Seattle 7 4 636 1
Las Vegas 5 3 625 1%
Phoenix 6 6 500 2%
Los Angeles 3 7 300 4%
Dallas 3 7 300 4%
Saturday's Games
New York 82, Connecticut 75
Atlanta 89, Chicago 80
Sunday's Games
New York 93, Washington 88

Phoenix 97, Dallas 90, 2OT
Minnesota 83, Seattle 64
Las Vegas at Los Angeles, late

Monday's Games
Indiana at Connecticut, 7 p.m.
Tuesday's Games
Washington at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Los Angeles at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Minnesota at Las Vegas, 10 p.m.
Wednesday's Games
Connecticut at Chicago, 8 p.m.

HOCKEY

NHL FINALS

(Best-of-7)
(x-if necessary)
Saturday, June 8
Florida 3, Edmonton 0
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

MLB AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division

W L Pct GB

New York 46 21 687 —
Baltimore 42 22 656 2%
Boston 33 33 500 12%
Toronto 32 33 492 13
Tampa Bay 31 34 477 14

Central Division

W L Pct GB
Cleveland 42 22 656 —
Kansas City 39 27 591 4
Minnesota 34 31 523 8%
Detroit 32 33 492 10%
Chicago 17 49 258 26

West Division

W L Pct GB
Seattle 37 30 552 —
Texas 31 34 477 5
Houston 30 36 455 6%
Oakland 26 41 388 11
Los Angeles 25 40 385 11

Saturday's Games

Kansas City 8, Seattle 4
Toronto 7, Oakland 0
Pittsburgh 4, Minnesota 0
San Francisco 3, Texas 1
Baltimore 5, Tampa Bay 0
Chicago White Sox 6, Boston 1
Milwaukee 5, Detroit 4
Cleveland 8, Miami 0
L.A. Dodgers 11, N.Y. Yankees 3
Houston 6, L.A. Angels 1

Sunday's Games

Texas 10, San Francisco 2
Detroit 10, Milwaukee 2
Cleveland 6, Miami 3
Baltimore 9, Tampa Bay 2
Minnesota 11, Pittsburgh 5, 10 innings

Monday's Games

Baltimore (Burnes 6-2) at Tampa Bay
(Pejiot 4-2), 6:50 p.m.
Colorado (Hudson 2-7) at Minnesota
(Paddock 4-3), 7:40 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Rodon 8-2) at Kansas
City (Lugo 9-1), 8:10 p.m.
Toronto (Berrios 5-4) at Milwaukee
(Rea 4-2), 8:10 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Fedde 4-1) at
Seattle (Gilbert 3-4), 9:40 p.m.
Oakland (Estes 2-1) at San Diego
(Cease 5-5), 9:40 p.m.
Houston (Arrighetti 3-5) at San Francisco
(Harrison 4-3), 9:45 p.m.

Tuesday's Games

Atlanta at Baltimore, 6:35 p.m.
Washington at Detroit, 6:40 p.m.
Chicago Cubs at Tampa Bay, 6:50 p.m.
Cleveland at Cincinnati, 7:10 p.m.
Philadelphia at Boston, 7:10 p.m.
Colorado at Minnesota, 7:40 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Kansas City, 8:10 p.m.
Toronto at Milwaukee, 8:10 p.m.
Chicago White Sox at Seattle, 9:40 p.m.
L.A. Angels at Arizona, 9:40 p.m.
Oakland at San Diego, 9:40 p.m.
Houston at San Francisco, 9:45 p.m.
Texas at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division

W L Pct GB
Philadelphia 45 20 692 —
Atlanta 35 28 556 9
Washington 30 35 462 15
New York 28 36 438 16%
Miami 22 43 338 23

Central Division

W L Pct GB

Milwaukee 38 27 585 —
Chicago 32 34 485 6%
Cincinnati 32 34 485 6%
St. Louis 31 33 484 7
Pittsburgh 31 34 477 7

West Division

W L Pct GB
Los Angeles 41 26 612 —
San Diego 34 35 493 8
San Francisco 32 34 485 8%
Arizona 31 35 470 9%
Colorado 23 42 354 17

Saturday's Games

Philadelphia 7, N.Y. Mets 2
Washington 7, Atlanta 3
Pittsburgh 4, Minnesota 0
San Francisco 3, Texas 1
Cincinnati 4, Chicago Cubs 3
Colorado 6, St. Louis 5
Milwaukee 5, Detroit 4
Cleveland 8, Miami 0
L.A. Dodgers 11, N.Y. Yankees 3
San Diego 13, Arizona 1

Sunday's Games

N.Y. Mets 6, Philadelphia 5
Texas 7, San Francisco 2
Detroit 10, Milwaukee 2
Cleveland 6, Miami 3
Washington 8, Atlanta 5
Chicago Cubs 4, Cincinnati 2
St. Louis 5, Colorado 1
Minnesota 11, Pittsburgh 5, 10

innings

Arizona 9, San Diego 3
N.Y. Yankees 6, L.A. Dodgers 4
Monday's Games
Colorado (Hudson 2-7) at Minnesota
(Paddock 4-3), 7:40 p.m.
Toronto (Berrios 5-4) at Milwaukee
(Rea 4-2), 8:10 p.m.
Oakland (Estes 2-1) at San Diego
(Cease 5-5), 9:40 p.m.
Houston (Arrighetti 3-5) at San Fran-

cisco (Harrison 4-3), 9:45 p.m.

Tuesday's Games

Atlanta at Baltimore, 6:35 p.m.
Washington at Detroit, 6:40 p.m.
Chicago Cubs at Tampa Bay, 6:50 p.m.
Cleveland at Cincinnati, 7:10 p.m.
Miami at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
Philadelphia at Boston, 7:10 p.m.
Colorado at Minnesota, 7:40 p.m.
Pittsburgh at St. Louis, 7:40 p.m.
Toronto at Milwaukee, 8:10 p.m.
L.A. Angels at Arizona, 9:40 p.m.
Oakland at San Diego, 9:40 p.m.
Houston at San Francisco, 9:45 p.m.
Texas at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.

Midwest League

High-A Midwest League Gance Saturday, June 8

Peoria 13, Fort Wayne 2
Great Lakes 11, Cedar Rapids 3
Lansing 14, Dayton 1
South Bend 10, West Michigan 1
Lake County 10, Beloit 3
Wisconsin 9, Quad Cities 3
Sunday, June 9
Cedar Rapids 9, Great Lakes 6
Lansing 7, Dayton 1
Fort Wayne 9, Peoria 2
Lake County 5, Beloit 3
South Bend 4, West Michigan 3,
11 innings

Wisconsin 6, Quad Cities 5 Monday, June 10

No games scheduled

Tuesday, June 11

Fort Wayne at Lake County, 6:35 p.m.

Wednesday, June 12

Fort Wayne at Lake County, 12:05

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United States flag facts and handling etiquette

The United States flag was first imagined after the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. The Continental Congress authorized creation of the first national flag on June 14, 1777. It was decided that the flag should have 13 stripes, alternating red and white, to represent the original 13 colonies, and that the new union be represented by 13 white stars in a blue field to signify a "new constellation." Francis Hopkinson, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, is most often credited with the original design.

Today there are 50 stars on the flag to represent the 50 states, while the 13 stripes still represent the 13 British colonies that became the first states. While this may be common knowledge, Public Law 94-344, known as the Federal Flag Code, may not be as widely known. The code dictates that the flag is to be treated with respect and proper etiquette. The code is extensive, but the following guidelines can help private individuals interested in displaying their flags do so in accordance with the law.

- Flags should only be displayed in public from sunrise to sunset, unless the flag can be properly illuminated during darkness. In this instance, it may be displayed at all times.
- When displayed with other flags, such as on a single staff or lanyard, the U.S. flag should be above all other flags. If flags are displayed in a row, the U.S. flag goes to the observer's left.
- State and local flags are traditionally flown lower than the American flag.
- During marching ceremonies or parades with other flags, the U.S. flag should be to the observer's left.
- The flag should be displayed at every public institution and at schools

- during school days.
- When displayed vertically and not on a staff, the union should be on the left when observed. It should be suspended so its folds fall freely as though the flag were staffed.
- The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously.
- The flag is often displayed at half-staff on days of mourning, including Memorial Day. The flag should first be hoisted to the peak for an instant, then lowered to half-staff position, which is half the distance



- between the top and bottom of the staff.
- On a vehicle, the U.S. flag should be displayed from a staff firmly fixed to the chassis. It should not be draped over the hood, top, sides, or back of a vehicle.
- The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor, water, or merchandise. It also should never have anything placed on it.
- A flag in poor condition should be destroyed with dignity, preferably by burning. Most American Legion posts and local Boy Scouts troops will have the resources to retire flags accordingly. Many will host annual flag retirement ceremonies on Flag Day.

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FATHER'S DAY

June 14

World War II veteran just married his bride near Normandy's D-Day beaches

By JOHN LEICESTER
Associated Press
CARENTAN-LES-MARAIS, France (AP) — Together, the collective age of the bride and groom was nearly 200. But World War II veteran Harold Terens and his sweetheart Jeanne Swerlin proved that love is eternal as they tied the knot Saturday inland of the D-Day beaches in Normandy, France.

Their respective ages — he's 100, she's a youngster of just 96 — made their nuptials an almost double-century celebration.

Terens called it "the best day of my life."

On her way into the nuptials, the bubbly bride-to-be said: "It's not just for young people, love, you know? We get butterflies. And we get a little action, also."

The location was the elegant stone-worked town hall of Carentan, a key initial D-Day objective that saw ferocious fighting after the June 6, 1944, Allied land-

ings that helped rid Europe of Adolf Hitler's tyranny.

Like other towns and villages across the Normandy coast where nearly 160,000 Allied troops came ashore under fire on five code-named beaches, it's an effervescent hub of remembrance and celebration on the 80th anniversary of the deeds and sacrifices of young men and women that day, festooned with flags and bunting and with veterans feted like rockstars.

As the swing of Glenn Miller and other period tunes rang out on the streets, well-wishers — some in WWII-period clothes — were already lined up a good hour before the wedding, behind barriers outside the town hall, with a rousing pipe and drum band also on hand to serenade the happy couple.

After both declaring "oui" to vows read by Carentan's mayor in English, the couple exchanged rings.

"With this ring, I thee wed," Terens said.

She giggled and gasped, "Really?"

With Champagne flutes in hand, they waved through an open window to the adoring crowds outside.

"To everybody's good health. And to peace in the world and the preservation of democracy all over the world and the end of the war in Ukraine and Gaza," Terens said as he and his bride then clinked glasses and drank.

The crowd yelled "la mariée!" — the bride! — to Swerlin, who wore a long flowing dress of vibrant pink. Terens looked dapper in a light blue suit and matching pink kerchief in his breast pocket.

And they enjoyed a very special wedding-night party: They were invited to the state dinner at the Elysee Palace on Saturday night with President Emmanuel Macron and U.S. President Joe Biden.

"Congratulations to the newlyweds," Macron said, prompting cheers and a standing ovation from other guests during the toast praising French-American friendship. "(The town of) Carentan was happy to host your wedding, and us, your wedding dinner," he told the couple.

The wedding was symbolic, not binding in law. Mayor Jean-Pierre Lhonneur's office said he wasn't empowered to wed foreigners who aren't residents of Carentan, and that the couple, who are both American, hadn't requested legally binding vows. However, they could always complete those formalities back in Florida if they wished.

Lhonneur likes to say that Normandy is practically the 51st state of the USA, given its reverence and gratitude for Allied soldiers and the sacrifices of tens of thousands who never made it home from the Battle of Normandy.

"Love is eternal, yes, maybe," the mayor said, referring to the newlyweds, although his comments also fittingly describe the feelings of many Normans for veterans.

"I hope for them the best happiness together."

Dressed in a 1940s dress that belonged to her mother, Louise, and a red beret, 73-year-old Jane Ollier was among spectators who waited for a glimpse of the lovebirds. The couple, both widowed, grew up in New York City: she in Brooklyn, he in the Bronx.

"It's so touching to get married at that age," Ollier said. "If it can bring them happiness in the last years of their lives, that's fantastic."

The WWII veteran first visited France as a 20-year-old U.S. Army Air Forces corporal shortly after D-Day. Terens enlisted in 1942 and, after shipping to Britain, was attached to a four-pilot P-47 Thunderbolt fighter unit as their radio

repair technician.

On D-Day, Terens helped repair planes returning from France so they could rejoin the battle. He said half his company's pilots died that day. Terens himself went to France 12 days later, helping transport freshly captured Germans and just-freed American POWs to England. Following the Nazi surrender in May 1945, Terens again helped transport freed Allied prisoners to England before he shipped back to the U.S. a month later.

Swerlin made it abundantly clear that her new centenarian husband doesn't lack for rizz.

"He's the greatest kisser ever, you know?" she proudly declared before they embraced enthusiastically for TV cameras.

"All right! That's it for now!" Terens said as he came up for air.

To which she quickly quipped: "You mean there's more later?"

Credit card delinquencies are rising

NEW YORK (AP) — Seriously overdue credit card debt is at the highest level in more than a decade, and people 35 and under are struggling more than other age groups to pay their bills.

The share of credit card debt that's severely delinquent, defined as being more than 90 days overdue, rose to 10.7% during the first quarter of 2024, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. A year ago, just 8.2% of credit card debt was severely delinquent.

If you're experiencing delinquency, or at risk of it, experts advise speaking with a nonprofit credit counselor and negotiating with your creditors directly. Here's what you should know:

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I'M AT RISK OF DELINQUENCY?

Bruce McClary, senior vice president at the National Foundation for Credit Counseling, says that anyone at risk of delinquency should reach out as soon as possible for help from a nonprofit credit counselor, some of whom can be found through his organization. The consultation is free, and a non-judgmental counselor can give guidance towards a long-term solution.

Nonprofits can also help create debt management plans that have lower interest rates, no late fees, and a single payment each month, McClary said. These plans may come

with maintenance fees, which vary, but the fees are offset by the overall savings on the debt. McClary urged borrowers to be careful of scammers and for-profit debt consolidation companies, which often charge much higher fees than nonprofit organizations. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has a helpful breakdown comparing the two.

Martin Lynch, president of the Financial Counseling Association of America, echoed this advice.

"Taking that first step and contacting a counselor is difficult for many people," Lynch said. He emphasized that consumers in debt should do their best to "first, relax," and then to be as forthcoming as possible about their circumstances with the counselor.

WHAT ABOUT NEGOTIATING WITH CREDITORS?

Both Lynch and McClary urge borrowers to reach out directly to credit card companies to negotiate interest rates, fees, and long-term payment plans, noting that it's in the companies' best interests if you pay before the debt goes into collections.

"The best thing to do is to reach out, give an honest assessment of your ability to pay over time, and ask what options are available to you both 'on and off-the-menu,'" McClary said. This kind of phrasing can give creditors an opening to offer more flexibility, he said.

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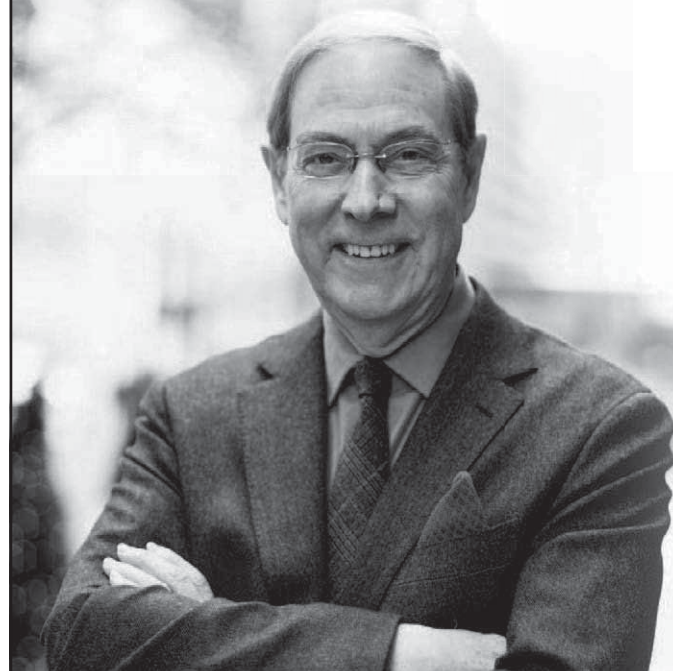
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Hunter Biden's family weathers public airing of his drug addiction

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP) — In a span of less than 48 hours this past week, first lady Jill Biden shuttled from a Normandy ceremony marking the 80th anniversary of the D-Day invasion in France to the front row of a Delaware courtroom, where Hunter Biden is on trial in a gun case, and then back to Paris for an elaborate state visit at Élysée Palace.

"Here we are again," the first lady said with a laugh as she and President Joe Biden were greeted by French President Emmanuel Macron and his wife, Brigitte, at the palace on Saturday, the light comment an oblique nod to her transatlantic commute.

It was a manifestation of the great lengths to which the Biden family has gone to support Hunter Biden as he stands trial in Wilmington, Delaware, accused of lying on a federal gun purchase form when he said he did not have a drug problem. Jill Biden has been a regular presence in the courtroom, buttressed by a rotating cast of other family members.

"The back and forth, the push and pull, of family responsibilities, of first lady duties, of her career, of the

campaign — that's just who she is," said Elizabeth Alexander, the first lady's communications director.

Every family wrestles with personal challenges, and politicians are often left to navigate those dynamics in public. But the very expansive airing in court of tawdry details surrounding Hunter Biden's addiction — in the glare of an election year — is of an order of greater magnitude. And the president's family has shown a determination to ensure Hunter Biden does not weather it alone.

The trial resumes Monday. Hunter Biden has pleaded not guilty to the charges, but he does not deny a drug problem. His memoir, "Beautiful Things," is all about hitting bottom after his brother Beau's death in 2015 from cancer. But his lawyers say he did not consider himself to be an "addict" at the time he filled out the gun purchase form in 2018 to buy a revolver.

BOTH PRESIDENT AND A DAD

Joe Biden has steered clear of the courtroom and said little about the case, wary of creating an impression of interfering in a criminal matter brought by his

own Justice Department. But the president has long walked the line between public servant and father.

At just 30, the Democrat was sworn in as Delaware's junior senator from a hospital room where his young sons were recuperating from a car accident that killed his wife and baby daughter.

In grainy black-and-white newsreels, Biden can be seen holding 3-year-old Hunter as the new senator takes the oath and 4-year-old Beau watches from a hospital bed. Joe Biden pledged then that if there was ever a conflict between "my being a good father and being a good senator," he would resign.

The president did put out a brief written statement as Hunter Biden's trial began.

"As the president, I don't and won't comment on pending federal cases, but as a dad, I have boundless love for my son, confidence in him, and respect for his strength," he said. "Our family has been through a lot together, and Jill and I are going to continue to be there for Hunter and our family with our love and support."

The case followed him to Normandy nonetheless,

where Biden was asked in an ABC interview whether he thought his son would get a fair trial and whether the president would rule out pardoning his son if there was a guilty verdict.

Biden answered with a terse "yes" on both matters.

SHOW OF SUPPORT

Over the trial's first week, Jill Biden was in court four days out of five, missing only Thursday due to the D-Day events. Others who have taken seats in the courtroom at various points are Hunter's sister Ashley, aunts Bonny Jacobs and Valerie Owens and his wife, Melissa Cohen Biden.

The first lady has leaned over the court railing to embrace Hunter, who has called her mom since she married Joe Biden in 1977. She has walked hand in hand with him out of the courtroom. She has listened to hours of testimony.

Hunter has not made it easy for his family, and the evidence in the case has been a highly personal tour of his mistakes and drug use, some kind of nightmare version of "This is Your Life."

Jurors have listened to hours of testimony from his ex-wife, a former girlfriend and his brother's widow, who

showed erratic behavior during that same period. Her father did not respond to her message for hours, then asked her at 2 a.m. whether her boyfriend could meet up to switch cars.

"Right now?" she responded. "I'm really sorry dad I can't take this."

When she got off the stand, she stopped at the defense table, pausing to hug her dad before she left the courtroom.

By Friday afternoon, the first lady was headed back to France for the state dinner.

Her transcontinental flights underscore the importance of family to the Bidens writ large, said Carl Sferrazza Anthony, an expert on first ladies and author of "Camera Girl," about Jacqueline Kennedy.

"She understands that at the end of the day what matters is her son and his well-being and knowing he has support and knowing, also, the vulnerability of someone who has been in recovery," Anthony said.

On Friday, his eldest daughter, Naomi, 30, testified for the defense, telling jurors a hopeful story about how her father seemed to be getting better around the time of the gun purchase.

"I told him I was so proud of him," she said softly.

But then prosecutor Leo Wise showed her texts that

Trump to undergo probation interview Monday

By MICHAEL R. SISAK
Associated Press

Former President Donald Trump is scheduled to be interviewed by New York probation officials Monday, a required step before his July sentencing in his criminal hush money case, according to three people familiar with the plan.

Trump will do the interview via a computer video conference from his residence at the Mar-a-Lago club in Palm Beach, Florida, the people told The Associated Press. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to disclose the plans publicly.

One of Trump's lawyers, Todd Blanche, will be present for the inter-

view. People convicted of crimes in New York usually meet with probation officials without their lawyers, but the judge in Trump's case, Juan Merchan, said in a letter Friday that he would allow Blanche's presence.

The usual purpose of a pre-sentencing probation interview is to prepare a report that will tell the judge more about the defendant, and potentially help determine the proper punishment for the crime.

Such reports are typically prepared by a probation officer, a social worker or a psychologist working for the probation department who interviews the defendant and possibly that person's family and friends, as well as people affected by the crime.

Presentence reports include a defendant's personal history, criminal record and recommendations for sentencing. It will also include information about employment and any obligations to help care for a family member. It is also a chance for a defendant to say why they think they deserve a lighter punishment.

A jury convicted Trump of falsifying business records at his own company as part of a broader scheme to buy the silence of people who might have told embarrassing stories about him during the 2016 presidential campaign. One \$130,000 payment went to a porn actor, Stormy Daniels, who claimed to have had a sexual encounter with Trump, which he denied.

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7 P.M. - Little Miss & Junior Miss Heritage Days Pageant
5 P.M. - 10 P.M. - Poor Jack Amusements

THURSDAY, JUNE 13
8 A.M. - 55th Chief of the Flint Springs Tribe Breakfast
5 P.M. - 7 P.M. - Rotary Strawberry Feed
7 P.M. - Huntington Erie Community Band Concert
5 P.M. - 10 P.M. - Poor Jack Amusements

FRIDAY, JUNE 14
4 P.M. - 11 P.M. - Poor Jack Amusements
4 P.M. - 10 P.M. - Heartage Days Brat Tent
5 P.M. - 9 P.M. - Heritage Days Car, Truck & Bike Show
5:15 P.M. - Junior Achievement (JA) 4th Annual Duck Race

SATURDAY, JUNE 15
7 A.M. - 10 A.M. - Annual Biscuit, Sausage and Gravy Breakfast
10 A.M. - 12 Noon - 60th Annual Heritage Days Parade

CONT' SATURDAY
10 A.M. - 4 P.M. - Quilt Show
11:30 A.M. - Nelson's Chicken
12 NOON - 11 P.M. - Poor Jack Amusements
2 P.M. - 5 P.M. - Huntington County Modelers R/C Expo

3 P.M. - 8 P.M. - 19th Annual Huntington County Disaster Team Car & Truck Show
4 P.M. - 10 P.M. - Heritage Days Brat Tent
4 P.M. - 5th Annual Cornhole for Cancer Tournament
5 P.M. - Pulling for Riley - Kiddie Tractor Pull
5 P.M. - Ice Cream Social
5 P.M. - 8 P.M. - Kids Zone - FREE
5 P.M. - 10 P.M. - Hot Air Balloon Festival
Dusk - Balloon Glow

SUNDAY, JUNE 16
12 NOON - 5 P.M. - Poor Jack Amusements
1 P.M. - 4 P.M. - Quilt Show
1 P.M. - 5 P.M. - "Bear Hunt"
5:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M. - JeFFest
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Let her go

Dear Annie: I am a man in my late 50s. Until recently, I was in a long-distance relationship with a woman — let's call her "Maria" — who lives about a thousand miles away from me. Last month, out of the blue, she accused me of cheating on her with her cousin, who lives about 45 minutes away from me. This is 100 percent not true. I met the cousin only once, when Maria was in town for a visit last year. I have not seen or communicated with her cousin since!

Because of these accusations and Maria's insistence that she is right, sadly, we have split. I love Maria, and I have always told her that and showed her in every way I could. We haven't talked in weeks, since our conversations kept ending in arguments. She says she has "proof," which she has yet to show. She absolutely cannot have proof, because it didn't happen! But how do I prove that something did not happen? Maria and I talked or texted every night, and I told her to call me or video chat me anytime to show I was alone at night. In past relationships, Maria has had trust issues and cheating partners, so I'm thinking that might be where this is coming from. Is there any hope? -- Wrongfully Accused

Dear Wrongfully Accused: I see two possibilities here. Option A: Maria was looking for an excuse to end the relationship, so she invented one. Option B: She truly believes that you cheated on her, despite your giving her no reason to believe such a thing. Either way, my advice is to let her go. A loving partner doesn't make baseless, hurtful accusations.

Dear Annie: I am new to online dating. I started up with it after my husband's sudden death last year. He died just before the COVID-19 shutdowns began, which left me feeling even more isolated and sad. I moved away from my hometown to be closer to my oldest son, but I don't know anyone in this town aside from him.

Being so lonely, a few months ago I started going on Facebook and a dating app to try to meet men. I connected with one man I was interested in. Instead

of stopping there, though, I kept chatting around and connected with seven more guys. I chat with each of them daily. They all say that they'll love me forever, but not one has come to meet me in person yet. I'd prefer to have a boyfriend whom I could actually meet in person.

I like all of them, and I love something about each of them, but I feel torn, since I can only marry one man. I hate to hurt seven men. Do you think that I made a big mistake by talking to eight men? I feel bad that I've been holding up their lives just to break their hearts. — Lonely Widow

Dear Lonely: I'm so sorry for the loss of your husband. It's wonderful you've taken initiative to reach out to others to alleviate your sense of isolation. But you won't find real companionship in men who can't even be bothered to meet you in person (and who could be scammers). Rather than wasting your time chatting with these men online, get outside and get to know your new town. Join a book club, walking group, tennis clinic — anything that piques your interest. The point is to plant your seed and let a social life take root.

If you do decide to try meeting men online, stick to well-reputed dating sites such as Match.com, and when you think you have a connection with someone, promptly make plans to meet in person in a coffee shop or other public place.

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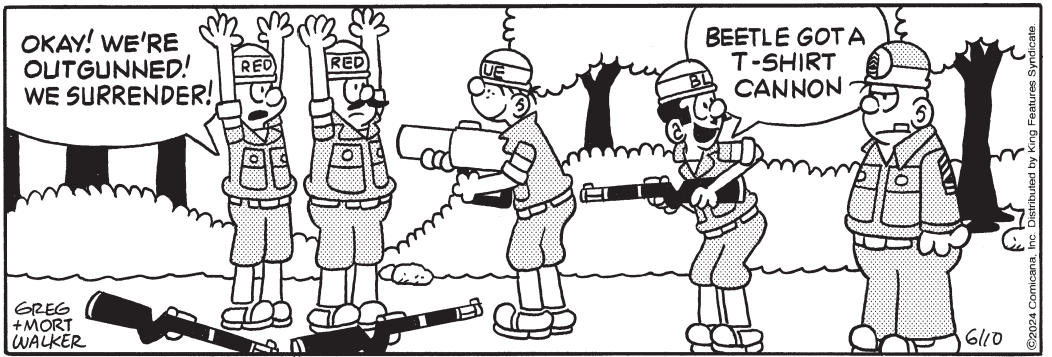
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Dear Annie

by Annie Lane



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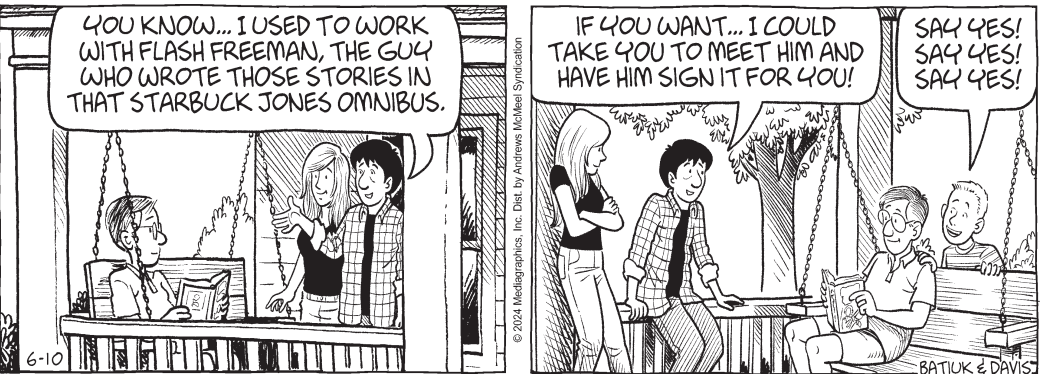
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My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



Why can't spouses seem to get along?

Question: I'm despondent because my marriage is going down the wrong track and I don't know what to do about it. I tried talking to my pastor but he told me to read the Bible. I've tried but really don't know where to find something that will give me direction. My wife is being completely unreasonable. She says the same about me. She resents me for enjoying sports, and I resent her for her constant aggravation, which leads to bickering. Neither one of us, I guess, is willing to bend. Maybe it is time to go our separate ways. — C.D.

a woman wrote in desperation. She added that she had moved out of their house three times but still kept coming back. With minor variations, her story could be repeated thousands of times every day.

Each marriage is different, and we mustn't oversimplify or overlook the uniqueness of every relationship. But what is the problem? Why can't spouses seem to get along? Let's ask another question: What is the opposite of love? It isn't hate (although it may take that form). The opposite of love is selfishness. When a husband and wife are concerned only about their own individual desires, the stage is set for conflict. The Bible gives us another way — the way of

Christ. True love, it says, is self-giving, not self-seeking. True love puts the needs of others first. This is what Christ did when He left Heaven's glory and came down to Earth to show us how we should live. Begin a new page in your marriage by asking Christ to become the center of your life — and your marriage. "Love ... is kind; love does not envy; ... does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil. ... Love never fails" (1 Corinthians 13:4-8, NKJV).

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

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THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"But there aren't any signs around the house that say, 'You break it, you pay for it!'"

The LOCKHORNS



"I'M SURPRISED YOU WEIGH THIS MUCH... HOT AIR USUALLY RISES."

TV schedule grid for Monday, June 10, 2024, listing channels, times, and program titles.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 1 "Hunny" bear network 5 Telly 8 Hindu deity 12 Roof edge 13 Football filler 14 Yale students 15 Curds' partner 16 Capone's nickname 18 Cherry-topped treat 20 Old British coin 21 Priests' garments 23 JFK info 24 Youthful countenance 28 Thick chunk 31 Wall St. debut 32 Fake name 34 Parched 35 Arrears

- DOWN 19 — 22 Offspring 24 Auction action 25 Mimic 26 Hair accessory 27 Beach paper-back, often 29 Curved line 30 "Adios!" 33 Antitoxins 36 Natural gift 38 Wood-land 40 Dict. info 42 Hearty dish 43 Beginner book legend Rom-bauer 47 Wedding cake layer 48 Evergreens 50 Financial pro

Crossword puzzle grid with Saturday's answer 6-10.

Crossword puzzle grid with Saturday's answer 6-10.

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

Difficulty: ★ 6/10

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Lottery Numbers

Saturday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY
Cash 5 — 04-29-33-41-42
Cash4Life — 06-33-41-52-60, Cash Ball: 04
Lotto Plus — 04-07-22-25-39-45
Quick Draw Midday — 05-08-09-12-16-22-29-30-31-40-49-50-53-59-63-66-67-68-75-76, BE: 59
Daily Three-Midday — 00-02-08, SB: 04
Daily Three-Evening — 07-02-06, SB: 04
Daily Four-Midday — 04-06-00-07, SB: 04
Daily Four-Evening — 09-06-05-07, SB: 04
Quick Draw Evening — 19-24-26-29-1-36-37-38-41-46-47-50-59-62-64-71-73-74-75-76, BE: 75
Hoosier Lotto — 10-13-17-24-27-46
POWERBALL
08-38-52-54-64; Powerball: 15; Power Play: 3X

Sunday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY
Cash 5 — 01-09-17-36-42
Cash4Life — 35-39-41-50-53, Cash Ball: 01
Quick Draw Midday — 01-05-08-12-14-19-23-30-38-40-43-49-50-53-62-63-67-69-70-77, BE: 08
Daily Three-Midday — 09-07-02, SB: 05
Daily Three-Evening — 00-00-07, SB: 07
Daily Four-Midday — 03-06-07-02, SB: 05
Daily Four-Evening — 09-01-05-00, SB: 07
Quick Draw Evening — 09-11-14-16-17-25-31-39-43-45-46-48-57-58-59-63-65-69-76-77, BE: 76
Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$14.4 million
MEGA MILLIONS
Estimated jackpot (for Tuesday): \$30 million
POWERBALL
Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$221 million

SUDOKU ANSWER

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

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Public Sale Calendar

BIDDING ENDS JUNE 12 - (Online Only Personal Property Auction) - Huston Watters, seller. 2003 Chevy Impala, well cared for modern furniture, holiday decor, glassware, household, woodworking tools, air compressor, hand & power tools, lawn & garden, Toro snowblower, Toro push lawn mowers, much more! Auction preview & online bidding assistance: June 10 from 4-6 p.m., 1338 Manor Dr., Bluffton, IN. Sale manager Brandon Steffen, 260-710-5684, www.steffengrp.com, 260-426-0633.

JUNE 15-JUNE 22 - (Online Only Personal Property) - Estate of Glen Bowen, seller. Clean 2005 Buick Lesabre Custom w/77,000 miles, 2004 Toyota Sienna LE mini van, 1987 Riviera Cruiser 24' pontoon, 2004 Yamaha XLT jet ski, floating WaveRunner dock, lake equipment, modern furniture, household, electronics, lawn and garden, patio furniture, tools, more. Auction preview & online bidding assistance June 22 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., 500 Lane 101 Jimmerson Lake, Angola, IN. Sale manager Brandon Steffen, 260-710-5684, www.steffengrp.com, 260-426-0633, steffengrp.com.

JUNE 16-JUNE 23 - (Online Only Auc-

tion) - 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.](http://www.steffengrp.com), 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

BIDDING ENDS JUNE 17 - Online only firearm - Buruff and others, owners. Rifles, shotguns & handguns. Marlin, Winchester, Remington, Browning, Bush Master, Colt, Walther. Review all registration information before bidding. Auction preview & online bidding assistance June 12, 4 p.m.-6 p.m., 215 E Market, Bluffton, IN. Sale Manager Isaac Stoller, 260-413-3515, [The Steffen Group Inc.](http://www.steffengrp.com), 260-824-3006, [steffengrp.com](http://www.steffengrp.com).

BIDDING STARTS CLOSING JUNE 20 - 10 a.m. - Steve and Dave Bell, owners. Bell's Auto & Truck Sale retirement liquidation! Antiques/primitives, automobile advertising, tool chests, rod iron, vintage enameled signs, Ford tractor, Mercedes convertible, John Deere mowers, pedal cars/tractors, skid loader, fire hydrants, traffic lights, thermometers, automobiles,

automotive tools, shop equipment, more! Preview June 18, 3-5 p.m., 1420 Goshen Ave., Fort Wayne. Pick up June 21, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., June 24, 1-5 p.m., June 25, 9 a.m.-noon. [Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC](http://www.krueckeberg.com), 260-724-7402, [kjauction.com](http://www.kjauction.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 22 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., 500 Lane 101 Jimmerson Lake, Angola, IN. [The Steffen Group Inc.](http://www.steffengrp.com), www.steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

JUNE 23 - 4 p.m. - Multiple consignors, owners. Online only consignment auction! 1,000+ lots! Huge amount of hand tools, large assortment of household items, camping supplies, gun safe, dollhouses, lodge cookware, hunting items, photography accessories, guitar, kitchen items, exercise equipment, restaurant equipment and much more! Preview June 20, 3-5 p.m., 812 Elm Street, Decatur, IN. Pick up June 24, 1-6 p.m. and June 25, 9 a.m.-noon. [Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC](http://www.krueckeberg.com), 260-724-7402, [kjauction.com](http://www.kjauction.com).

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