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BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection

\$1.00

Woman pleads guilty for crash injuring two teens

By SYDNEY KENT

The woman involved in a crash that nearly claimed the life of a Wells County teen and injured another in 2023 has pled guilty to two felony charges.

Christen Gerber, 42, Bluffton, pled guilty to one count of causing

catastrophic injury for operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated, a Level 4 felony, and one count of causing serious bodily injury when operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Level 5 felony.

According to a probable cause affidavit, the charges were filed

in March 2023 after Gerber drove her Chevy Traverse through a stop sign at Adams County Road 700W and S.R. 124. She collided with a vehicle occupied by two Wells County teens, Kaylee Heckber and Keaton Osmun. Osmun suffered minor physical injuries from the

crash. Heckber, however, was ejected from the vehicle. She initially had a faint pulse before first responders could not detect any pulse at all. Doctors reportedly did not expect her to live through the week following the crash. Heck-

ber was hospitalized for over a month and was miraculously able to return home.

Officers noted open alcohol containers in Gerber's vehicle. She also admitted to drinking vodka in her car prior to the accident.

(Continued on Page 2)

Bluffton shop puts new spin on 'Old Ways'

By HOLLY GASKILL

In the heart of downtown, a new shop aims to bring comfort and community to the city of Bluffton.

Old Way Books & Curio opened its doors earlier this month in a newly renovated storefront at 110 S Johnson St. The store offers a variety of new and used books, antiques and plants.

Owner Jennifer Kirnec says she's always been drawn to history and things from the past, often spending time with her nose in a book or collecting antiques. In an increasingly digital age, even the practice of reading a physical book ties in with this love of "Old Ways," Kirnec says.

Kirnec and her family moved to Bluffton from the Indianapolis area in 2020. When she found the Johnson Street storefront earlier this year, she had actually been looking for a location for her husband, Topher, to move his Fort Wayne salon scissor business into a new salon and barber shop closer to home.

They ended up finding neighboring storefronts, and a personal passion for Jennifer Kirnec blossomed into a new business endeavor.

Kirnec led with antiques first, hoping to expand upon sales she had made online. It was only natural that over time, the business started to take on more of Kirnec's passions. "It's just all stuff that I love, so why not share it with other people?" Kirnec says.

She specifically wanted to fill what she felt was a need in the community, saying, "We have a clothing store, we have an ice cream parlor, (this is) just kind of a classic small town thing to have a bookstore. I think a lot of people felt the same way, that we needed something like this in downtown."

Even more so, Kirnec hopes



Jennifer Kirnec is the owner of a new shop selling new and used books, antiques and plants in downtown Bluffton. (Photos by Holly Gaskill)

to foster a community among local readers. In recent years, social media apps like TikTok have created a growing popularity for reading, particularly for specific series and genres. Kirnec has already surveyed some customers through Facebook to tailor her stock to their interests — right now it's a lot of romance, fantasy and Christian

living. Kirnec is partial to historical fiction, particularly about World War II.

"Reading is the easiest way to put yourself in someone else's shoes," she says.

Further adding to a sense of community, customers can exchange old favorites from their personal library for new treat-

(Continued on Page 2)

School board candidates roll in, but vacancies remain

By HOLLY GASKILL

Less than a week remains for residents to file their candidacy for Wells County school boards — as of Friday afternoon, two seats have no candidates filed, and there are no contested races.

Two candidates have filed for three vacancies for Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan Schools. Preston Kaehr has filed for the At-Large seat currently occupied by Angie Sheets, and Chris Koiner has filed for the District 3 seat held by Trent White. No candidates have filed for the District 1 seat; current board member Mike Murray stated during the board's May 13 meeting that he would not run again for the position.

(Continued on Page 2)

Researchers: Money alone isn't enough to overcome public health workforce woes

By WHITNEY DOWNARD
Indiana Capital Chronicle

After years of underfunding and understaffing, public health agencies in Indiana and across the country now have billions of dollars dedicated to addressing workforce shortages — but experts warn the funds aren't enough to overcome long-standing, systemic barriers.

Dr. Valerie Yeager, an Indiana University professor of health policy and management. (Photo from Indiana University)

"The message is not that public health has enough money, it's that the money is cyclical and inconsistent. So it makes it very hard to use (the funds) to strengthen the workforce at times," said Valerie Yeager, an Indiana University professor with a doctorate in public health.

Yeager and co-author Heather Krasna, an associate dean of career services at the Columbia Mailman School of Public Health, recently published a commentary on public health workforce problems with Health Affairs.

The summarized research delves into hiring woes outside of low salaries, such as the lengthy bureaucratic process that can take up to 204 days to complete for federal public health jobs, cutting into positions that often have time-limited funding.

"If you're given two years of funding and 200 of those days are (used for) recruitment, it's hard to get approval to hire into a position that only has one year of funding," Yeager said.

The analysis comes as Indiana begins to

study how counties spent the first year of grant dollars from the Health First Indiana fund — a new initiative that Yeager isn't involved with but is following closely. The second year of funds, for the first time, will include all 92 counties after six holdout counties opted to join the 2025 cohort.

Dollars coming to public health departments

The 2021 American Rescue Plan dedicated \$7.66 billion to create 100,000 new public health jobs, shoring up beleaguered workforces across the nation's 2,800 state and local health departments.

According to an analysis from Columbia University researchers, the Indiana Department of Health has dedicated over half of its allotment, or \$20.5 million, to grants for local public health departments to hire school liaisons to help with immunizations along with vision and hearing screenings.

That wave of monies preceded the \$225 million dedicated by the General Assembly in 2023 to public health departments in exchange for meeting a minimum of "core" services, such as maternal and child health, efforts or tobacco and vaping cessation.

Eighty-six counties split \$75 million in the first year while all 92 counties will receive a portion of the \$150 million dedicated for 2025.

Prior to the program, Indiana's public health funding lagged behind nearly every other state and varied widely from county to county, partly due to Indiana's reliance on local property taxes to fund the agencies.

(Continued on Page 2)



All-Star games

Friday night was the third-annual Allen Bricker All-Star Memorial Game, honoring the memory of Allen Bricker, who served as director of the Wells County Girls Softball program. Bricker's son, Finn Allen Bricker, threw the ceremonial first pitch of the game, shown above with mom, Jessica Bricker. At right, Emily Priestler is at bat while Callie Craig catches. (Photos by Holly Gaskill)



Inside

Local/Area

Obituaries 3
Police Notebook . . . 3

Opinion

Saturday Sub 4

Also...

Sports 6
Classifieds 8
Diversions 7

Outside



A beautiful weekend for summer adventures

Today	Sunday	Monday
High 83	High 92	High 98
Low 59	Low 70	Low 74

More Weather on Page 2

Online

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Vol. 95 No. 192

SATURDAY
June 15, 2024

(Continued on Page 2)



Susan Popper - Local Representative
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Woman pleads guilty

(Continued from Page 1)

As part of the plea agreement, signed May 22, additional counts for causing catastrophic injury for operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated and causing serious bodily injury when operating a vehicle while intoxicated were dismissed.

Adams County Prosecutor Jeremy Brown confirmed that each count that Gerber pled guilty to represents Heckler and Osmun in the crash.

Brown also explained that the case

has awaited disposition for over a year due to the nature of the charge.

"In order to convict someone of causing serious catastrophic bodily injury," Brown said. "The victim's injury must be significant for over one year. We were of course all hoping and praying Kaylee's condition would continue to improve. However, if her injuries lasted longer than one year, well, that is a more serious charge."

A lawsuit against Gerber was also filed by Osmun's mother, Brandy Carr,

seeking "all damages proximately caused by (Gerber's) negligence."

On March 17, 2024, 17-year-old Osmun tragically lost his life in a vehicle accident along with Lillyyan Ellenberger, 19, in rural Ossian. It is unclear if the lawsuit will continue.

Gerber's charges carry a maximum sentence of 18 years. She is scheduled for a sentencing hearing in the matter at 10 a.m. on Aug. 12 in the Adams County Superior Court.

sydney@news-banner.com

Weather

Saturday, June 15, 2024

(24-hour observations at 10:31 p.m. Friday)

High: 86; Low: 65; Precipitation: None

Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.54 feet at 8:45 p.m. Friday

Wells County forecast

Today: Sunny, with a high near 83. East wind around 5 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 59. East wind around 5 mph.

Sunday: Sunny and hot, with a high near 92. South wind 5 to 10 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 70. South wind around 5 mph.

Monday: Sunny and hot, with a high near 98.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 74.

Tuesday: A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny and hot, with a high near 97.

Tuesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 71.

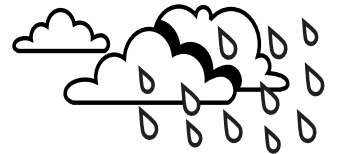
June 16th: Partly sunny and hot, with a high near 96.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 70.

Thursday: Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 96.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 71.

Friday: A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 96.



Bluffton shop puts new spin

(Continued from Page 1)

Old Ways carries both new and secondhand books and will purchase books in good condition for in-store credit.

Old Ways had its "soft launch" opening earlier this month and will re-open for regular hours on June 26. The shop will be open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays. Old Ways Books & Curio can also be found on Facebook and Instagram, which have links to their online inventory and inventory suggestions.

The Kirmacs plan to hold a grand opening celebration for both Old Ways Books & Curio and the salon on July 20.

holly@news-banner.com



Pictured is a window display featuring a variety of books and plants at Old Ways Books & Curio. (Photo by Holly Gaskill)

Public health workforce

(Continued from Page 1)

With the new funding, departments interviewed by the Indiana Capital Chronicle indicated that they used their dollars to hire new nurses or department positions — but Yeager said counties have other barriers to overcome.

Notably, local public health departments can't just hire someone at whatever salary they deem appropriate — usually the local board of health and county council have a say and give final approval.

"It complicates things because they may say, 'We don't think you need this position.' They may not approve the position or they may require that the position be a contractor, which is going to make it harder to hire," Yeager said.

While Indiana doesn't have the same burdensome civil service requirements that other states do, any processing delay encourages applicants to give up and seek other employment.

Becoming a contractor or intern might have fewer barriers, but also has fewer benefits, such as retirement contributions. Yeager advocated for easing the transition of such employees into full-time positions.

An accompanying release to Yeager's paper noted that a recent study estimated health departments nationwide would need to hire an additional 80,000 workers to meet the needs of foundational public health services.

"We need to do a better job of being able to retain these individuals and make it easier for them to shift into a permanent position or a full-time employee position," she said. "Because

they learn a lot while they're in their contract role, and then if we can't retain them, they leave. And we lose their experience and their institutional knowledge goes with them."

Interns can be challenging to transition, however, since young graduates aren't usually able to wait months to secure employment.

"If we're not already putting them in the pipeline for the hiring process, there could be a gap between when they graduate and when they get a job offer, and that's where we lose people. Because it's hard for any graduate to go any length of time without income," Yeager continued. "For as long as I've been in this field, that gap in how long it takes to get hired is where we lose people that are interested in contributing to the mission of public health work."

Retention can also be difficult when employees don't feel like they have opportunities for pay raises. And small staff sizes often mean each employee does the work of several people at once.

Vigo County, for example, posted a position with its health department for a school liaison paying \$37,822. It lists two-dozen responsibilities, including promoting student health, advising parents on vaccines and procuring emergency medicines for schools. Applicants must be certified medical assistants or have an equivalent degree and have three years of experience.

But the listing, posted earlier this week, explicitly notes that the position is funded through Health First dollars, which the General Assembly has only funded

through 2025.

"The Vigo County Health Department makes every effort to ensure program sustainability but that is not guaranteed," the post concludes.

Improvements, but work remains

Still, Yeager did note areas of improvement.

The historic COVID-19 pandemic brought attention to the oft-maligned profession, exposing the greater public to the importance of public health as a career and attracting more students to relevant degree paths.

"(But) we aren't doing a good job of bringing those newly trained people into the profession in a government setting — they primarily go to non-governmental organizations and other organizations that hire faster and can pay better," Yeager said.

And there are many unknowns, Yeager added, including how long a localized, county-initiated hiring process takes compared to the federal process.

"They often don't get a lot of applications — maybe they're in a rural setting and the person or the type of expertise that they're looking for doesn't live in that area and people don't want to travel," Yeager added. "... But what I've heard from many locals is that they'll put a posting up and they'll get no applications. So even if you got it up faster, that doesn't help you get applicants."

Yeager said she and some colleagues had wondered if offering a hybrid or remote option might help attract candidates, since workforce habits and preferences have shifted following COVID-19.

Research prior to the launch of Health First outlined current workforce opening across 93 health departments, who collectively had 180 open positions. Yeager isn't involved with Health First.

School board

(Continued from Page 1)

Catherine Peterson is the sole candidate for Norwell Community Schools, filing for the Lancaster Township seat currently held by Angie Topp. No one has filed for Gene Donaghy's Jefferson Township seat.

For Southern Wells Community Schools, Todd Fiechter has filed to run for the Notting Township seat that he currently holds, and Gregory Vanover filed for

the Jackson Township seat currently occupied by Chad Roush.

The filing deadline is noon on Thursday, June 20, 2024, at the Wells County Clerk's Office. The office will be closed on Wednesday for Juneteenth.

Voter registration and ballot information can be found online at wellscounty.com/elections or indianavoters.in.gov.

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JUNE 22, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.

MODEL A CAR – CAR – TRUCK – MOWER – TOOLS

1931 Model A car with soft top, rumble seat, Parade ready, title; 1962 Galaxy car, VIN 2G6SW135933, non-running, title; 1986 Chevy flatbed truck, VIN 1GCGC24M8GF416240, non-running, title; Woods 5' – 3 pt. finish mower; John Deere LT160 – 16 hp 36" cut riding lawn mower; Craftsman electric start snowblower; buck saws; old pitching machine; metal wagon; hay fork; scales; traps; steel wheel; Wheelhorse 3 pt mower; Wheelhorse front plow; drill press; 2 wheel utility trailer; hand drill press; small anvil; log chains; platform scales; barrel pump; Clark 4 1/2" metal band saw; chain boomers; Stihl weed eater; Chrysler 3.6 outboard motor; aluminum and wood ladders; set of torch gauges; C clamps; Stihl circular saw; Stihl gas blower; 3' water hydrant (NIB); Arco 250 amp single phase welder; metal siding; Makita cordless drill; 10 gallon shop vac; shovels; rakes; fishing poles; tackle; Mikata angle grinder; Craftsman tool box; pry bars; saws; hammers; drill bits; Home Utility 1/2" drill press; Craftsman wrenches; Dayton 6" bench grinder; Rockwell hand router; Craftsman electric impact; Craftsman belt and vibrating sanders; scales; indexes; vise; channel locks; sockets; vise grips; tap & die sets; sledge; oil cans; jacks; gas cans; Craftsman electric hedge trimmers; bench grinder; Remington heater; log chains; pipe threader; forge; ramps; car parts; pipe cutter; reamers; hitch pins; and many other items not listed.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS – OLD ITEMS

Oak wall telephone (Chicago Supply Co., Elkhart IN); 3 drawer marble top dresser with mirror; 1941 US Navy boat clock (USS Dixie); glider rocker; Coca Cola cooler; White treadle sewing machine; Alladin green base lamp; oil lamp; vintage stop and yield signs; Coca Cola cardboard bottle carrier; old steering wheel; Noritake Gold Stein china, service for 12; Carnival Slag pitcher; Roger Bros. flatware; old newspapers; Naval military pictures; large windmill fan; organ stool with glass ball feet; Pyrex "Friendship" mixing bowl set; Longaberger baskets; Bulova wall clock; glass baskets; (2) Roseville crocks; 1 gallon crown crock; Indy 500 mugs; old trophies; tricycle; old books; metal mail box; Gulf oil can; wood pulleys; hubs; Moorman's sign; rotary telephone; metal horse head; implement seats; corn shellers; dinner bell; butchering kettle with bail; pitcher pump; Bluffton HS paddles; Oak table with 2 chairs; Smith Bros. 3 cushion sofa; (2) twin beds; 6 drawer dresser with mirror; knee hole desk; bar stools; occasional chairs; drum table; drop leaf lamp stand; hanging lamp; kitchen table with 4 chairs; wicker chair; sewing machine; BB guns; yearbooks; bedding; wood rocker; record albums; TV stand; brass pans; safe; Christmas tree; Corning Ware; Corning set of dishes; Amana microwave; Viking Husqvarna sewing machine and surger; cookware; electric skillet; food processor; cookbooks; flatware with case; canner; roasters; patio table; bicycles; ice cream freezer; bird houses; golf clubs; lawn chairs; lawn décor; coolers; croquet set; and many other items not listed.

AUCTIONEERS NOTE: This is only a partial listing of the many items that will be sold. Vehicles will be sold at 12:30 P.M. The vehicles will be offered both live and on Hi Bid.

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OBITUARIES

Grace Herman, 92

Grace M. Herman, 92, of Keystone, passed away Wednesday, June 12, 2024 at her home, surrounded by her family.

Grace was born on Oct. 28, 1931, in Adams County to Amos and Della (Nussbaum) Liechty. She graduated from Monroe High School in 1949. Grace was a housewife and was very active in the family farming operation for 53 years. She loved to garden, cook, bake and share her bounty with others. She was a member of Petroleum Community Church.

On Jan. 28, 1955, Grace and Donald Herman were married in Berne. They shared 53 years of marriage together before his passing in Dec. 20, 2008.

Survivors include her children, Steve (Viv) Herman, Brian "Boomer" Herman and Ed (Cindy) Herman, all of Keystone, Shar (Glen) Morgan of Ossian, Arlene Herman of Fort Wayne, and Joy Mygrant of Bluffton; a daughter-in-law, Linda Herman of Florida, along with 10 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and a sister, Leona Neuenschwander of Berne.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Donald, two sons, Jay and Ronald, a son-in-law, Michael



Mygrant, a grandson, J.D. Morgan, a grandson-in-law, Danny Privett, and a great-grandson, Peyton Privett. She is also preceded in death by her brothers Grover, Irvin, Ernie and Amos Liechty and her sisters Vera Gerber, Irena Sprunger, Marcella Scholl, Esther Neuenschwander, along with infants Justine and Ernestine Liechty.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at Petroleum Community Church with Pastor Greg Andrews and Pastor Steve Bard officiating.

Visitation will take place at 2-7 p.m. on Monday, June 17, 2024, at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home and for one hour prior to the service at the church.

Burial will be at Alberson Cemetery in Adams County.

Memorials may be made to Wells County 4-H Backpack Program or to Southern Wells Lunch Program, and directed to the funeral home.

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

Dawn D. Lewis, 65

Dawn D. Lewis, 65, passed away Friday morning, June 14, 2024, at her residence in Geneva, following an extended illness.

Dawn was born in Bluffton, on Oct. 18, 1958, to Paul L. and Vernie P. (Frank) Osborn, both parents preceded her in death. She married M. Douglas Lewis in Bluffton on June 18, 1977, he preceded her in death on Nov. 24, 2018, they shared 41 years of marriage together.

Dawn was a 1977 graduate of Bluffton High School and worked for the First Bank of Berne in the call center for several years, retiring in 2017. She was a member of the Liberty Center Community Church, Legion Riders and Ladies Auxiliary Legion 211 in Portland.

She is survived by two children, Jason Lewis of Ft. Wayne and Jacklyn Lewis of



Decatur; two grandchildren, Lily and Luna Lewis; four brothers, Jeff (Cheryl) Osborn of Liberty Center, James (Tami) Osborn of Bluffton, Dennis Osborn of Ft. Wayne and Ralph (Viola) Osborn of Uniondale.

Visitation will be Monday, June 17, 2024, from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., at Goodwin - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton. A funeral service will be held Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at 10:30 a.m., with visitation one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Pastor Diane Samuels will officiate. Burial will follow at the Fairview Cemetery in Bluffton.

Memorials can be made in Dawn's memory to Bi-County Service's or the Family in care of the funeral home.

Online condolences can be made at www.goodwincaleharnish.com.

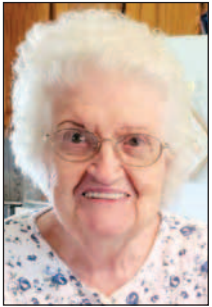
Beverly Tuttle, 90

Beverly J. Tuttle, 90, of Bluffton, passed away on Thursday morning, June 13, 2024, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was born on July 18, 1933, in Covington, Indiana, to Noah and Lucy R. (Pritchard) Allen. Beverly grew up in Covington and moved to Bluffton in 1965, where she worked at Corning Glass Works for 17 1/2 years before she retired. She was a long-time member of the Bluffton Church of God.

On July 24, 1978, in Bluffton, Beverly and Vernon L. Tuttle were married. They shared 46 years of marriage before he preceded her in death on Aug. 19, 1994.

Survivors include a son, Dennis A. (Teresa) Crowder of Berne, and a daughter, Lisa (Bill) Imel of Portland, along with 10 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.



She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, and two sons, Darrell W. Crowder and Duane E. Crowder, a brother, Rendall Allen, and a sister, Leah Rae Bowen.

Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, June 19, 2024, at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Funeral Services will take place at noon on Wednesday at the funeral home with Pastor John Roe officiating.

Burial will take place at Six Mile Cemetery in Bluffton.

Memorials may be made to the Bluffton Church of God.

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

Rex H. Myers, 73

Rex H. Myers, 73, of Bluffton, passed away Thursday, June 13, 2024, at Lutheran Hospital in Ft. Wayne.

Funeral arrangements are pending with Goodwin - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton.

Zane S. Nash, 30

Zane S. Nash, 30, of Bluffton, passed away on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, in Conneaut, Ohio.

Funeral arrangements are pending with Goodwin - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton.

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.

Bluffton Parks & Rec News Notes



By Brandy Fiechter

Destination Recreation

The weather has had some crazy temperature swings lately. As a rule of thumb, the Wells Community Pool will not open during regular business hours when it is not 70° by opening time. We will keep previously scheduled swim lessons and evening pool rental commitments.

This coming week is packed with great events. For more details, follow Bluffton Parks on Facebook.

Free tennis lessons: Monday-Friday in the afternoons at Lion's Park. Call 824-6069 for class times.

Free Picnic in the Park offers a free lunch every weekday from 10:30-12:30 p.m. at Roush Park.

Free Matchbox Car Play Day is from 10-11 a.m. on Monday, June 17, at Roush Park Pavilion.

Free Craft Club: June 17, color a wood spring wind chime at Roush Park from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Lap Swim: Monday, Wednesday, Friday (12:00 - 12:50 p.m.) - \$2.00.

Free Animal Explorers: Pet various animals on June 18, from 9-9:30 a.m. at Roush Park.

Summer Corn Program: On June 18 at 10 a.m., Wells Co. Farm Bureau will teach how corn is planted, cared for, and harvested and what products come from it.

5 in 5 5K: Join us at 7 p.m. on Tuesday nights for "just for fun" 5k walks or runs. Cost is only \$1.

Yoga In the Park: Mondays and Wednesdays at Washington Park from 6-7 p.m.

Free Farm Wagon: Free food every Tuesday at 9 a.m. at Life Community Church for families in need.

Free Intro to Pickleball: Tuesdays and Thursdays at Washington Park at 10 a.m.

Tot Time: June 20 is Puzzle Day at 9 a.m. at Roush Park.

Crafting for a Cause: Wednesday, June 19, to make a beaded craft at Roush Park from 11-11:45 a.m.

Free Fuse Bead Magnets: Wednesday, June 19 at Washington Park from 2-3 p.m.; pre-register at 824-6069.

Friendship Bracelets: Wednesday,

June 19 at Washington Park from 3-4 p.m.; pre-register at 824-6069.

Sunrise Yoga: Thursday, June 20 at 6:00 a.m. at Pickett's Run Park. Wake up with a 45-minute yoga flow followed by light breakfast snacks and juice. The cost is \$10.

Theater Thursday: for adults is at the Wells County Library on June 20 at 10 a.m.

Free Shaving Cream Fight: June 20 from 2-2:30 p.m. at the Pickett's Run Splash Pad. Bring your own shaving cream, sunglasses or goggles, and a towel.

Chicks Run: A "Just for the Girls" 5K Fun Run on Bluffton's River Greenway is Thursday, June 20 at 7 p.m. at Pickett's Run Park. <https://raceroster.com/events/2024/86896/chicks-run>

Free Rock Painting: Friday, June 21, from 10-10:30 a.m. at Roush Park.

Free Art in the Park: Every Friday at Roush Park from 10:30-11:30 a.m. On June 21st, kids will make a STEM Levitating fly craft.

Hot Diggity Dog Jog: Saturday, June 22 at 9 a.m. at Pickett's Run Park \$20 registration. For Dog Owners and dog lovers, the Hot Diggity Dog Jog is a casual 5k or 1-mile run / walk to raise money for the Bluffton Parks' K9 Kommons Dog Park. After the run/walk, stay for a fun-filled morning for the entire family, including your dog. Enjoy activities like a photo booth, dog wash station, agility course (for dogs and humans), foam machine, and more.

Fastest Kid in Town: Who is the fastest kid in Bluffton, Indiana? Let's find out when kids compete in this 100- or 50-meter sprint. Saturday, June 22 at 10:30 a.m. at Pickett's Run Park. Runners will compete in 5 age categories: 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10 and 11-12. Medals for the fastest three boys and girls in each age category will be awarded. Category winners will "Race Off" after the competition for the "Ultimate Fastest Kid in Town" award. Fastest Kid in Town Cost is \$5 in advance or \$7 on race day.

Happy Father's Day to all the dads in our community! Have a great week!

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City:

Thursday, 2:40 p.m., Dolar General South. Report of personal documents and cash turned into police department.

Thursday, 6:45 p.m., Comfort Inn and Suites. Officer requested to stand by for termination of employee.

Thursday, 6:45 p.m., First Bank of Berne. Report of young woman with backpack going up to vehicles at an ATM. Uncle to locate.

Thursday, 8:57 p.m., 200 North Johnson Street. Caller reported her identity was stolen.

Thursday, 9:18 p.m., 400 block of Cottonwood Court. Report of the smell of marijuana. Officer did not smell marijuana.

Friday, 12:53 a.m., Phil's One Stop. Semi driver advised not to use turn lane as parking spot.

County: Thursday, 2:31 p.m., S.R. 124 and North 500 West, Markle. Report of a shirtless man in middle of the road.

Thursday, 3:20 p.m., 5200 West 700 North, Markle. Report of a civil dispute.

Thursday, 5:37 p.m., East 350 South and S.R. 1, Bluff-

ton. Caller found a lunchbox with bank cards, ID and money. Lunchbox returned to owner who advised nothing was missing.

Thursday, 10:26 p.m., Wells County Jail. Warrant served to Trenton Puterbaugh.

Thursday, 5:34 a.m., S.R. 218 and South 200 West,

Bluffton. Driver cited for speeding 80 in a 55 mph zone.

Friday, 9:43 a.m., 7800 East 200 North, Craigville. Report of a stolen truck plate.

Ossian: Thursday, 5:08 p.m., U.S. 224 and North S.R. 1, Ossian. Caller reported obstruction in the Northbound lane.

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Indiana Trailer Sales	Decatur Ace Hardware, Inc.	J. Ruble and Sons
Krueckeberg Auction	Wiegmann Auctioneers	

GALATIANS 5:13-18 SATURDAY | JUNE 15

Do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. [GALATIANS 5:13]

HEART OF SERVICE

When my "uncle" Emory passed away, the tributes were many and varied. Yet all those honors carried a consistent theme—Emory showed his love for God by serving others. Nowhere was this more exemplified than during his World War II military service, where he served as a corpsman—a medic who went into battle without a weapon. He received high military honors for his bravery, but Emory was most remembered for his compassionate service, both during and after the war.

Emory's selflessness lived out Paul's challenge to the Galatians. He wrote, "You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love" (GALATIANS 5:13). But how? In our brokenness, we're hardwired to put self first, rather than others, so where does this unnatural selflessness come from?

In Philippians 2:5, Paul offers this encouragement: "In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus." Paul describes Christ's willingness to even experience death on a cross out of His great love for us. Only as His Spirit produces the mind of Christ in us are we set apart and enabled to sacrifice for others—reflecting the ultimate sacrifice Jesus made when He gave Himself for us. May we yield to the Spirit's work in us.

When has someone sacrificially served you? How can you serve others, perhaps beginning with your own family? Loving Father, thank You for the perfect example of Jesus and His sacrifice for me. Please help me to have the mindset of Jesus.

For further study, visit DiscovertheWord.org/series/the-compassion-of-jesus.

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From our family to you ...

The Reimschisel family at Family Ford of Bluffton hope that you will take a few moments at least once each week to spend some time with what really matters during these "interesting times."

This short essay is from

Our Daily Bread®

— a free publication we would love to share with you. Stop in anytime. There is no cost or obligation.

Family Ford of Bluffton
970 N. Main St., Bluffton
824-2300

Some taxing lessons as the plot thickens. Again.

Although the property tax issue has not been consciously put aside for the year, neither have I been actively pursuing it. But it keeps popping up.

- A co-worker will share a story they came across or a comment they heard from a friend.

- My weekly email from tax foundation.org will trigger another thought.

- Readers have sent me their personal history either as a question or a “look at this.”
- A friend will send me an email with something they’d found and ...

The plot thickens.

Whenever I use old adages or phrases, I often wonder where they come from. Turns out there’s a movie by that name, and the phrase apparently goes back 350 years, at least according to Wikipedia. Credit supposedly goes to poet George Villiers, the second Duke of Buckingham. While I digress, you’ve learned some use-less information.

A few updates seem in order:

- According to an Associated Press story earlier this month, our local experiences in rising property taxes and “tax shifting” are not unique. “Some states try to curb property taxes,” the headline reads.

Specific issues with familiar themes are playing out in Colorado, Alabama, Wyoming, Georgia, Kansas and Vermont. It’s a safe bet there are others.

Most if not all are looking at possible solutions in limiting growth of assessed values and/or limiting school and fire protection debt, which seem to be the most common causes. While Indiana’s constitution specifies the adherence to market values for assessed values, that does not appear to be the case in other states which would allow them to have carve-outs for such groups as senior citizens. Whether that’s a good idea or not is an interesting discussion, as are the variety of methods and rules used in property taxes in the different states that I’ve come across the past couple years.

The lesson here: We’re not alone. If that helps any.

- While I have cited property tax statistics from The Tax Foundation on several occasions, their weekly emails are more often about other taxes and how the states compare. Not relevant but interesting.

This week’s was about beer taxes. Indiana taxes beer at 12 cents per gallon, which computes to less than a penny per 12-oz. can and ranks us 43rd highest (or 7th lowest). Our neighbors are all higher: Ohio, 18¢; Michigan, 20¢; Illinois 23¢. Wyoming is the lowest at only two pennies per gallon while Tennessee tops the list at \$1.29, well more than a penny per serving.

The lesson here: Enjoying a cold brew on a summer day is relatively cheaper in Indiana. Prost.

- Alan Daugherty loves poking through old local newspapers. The Bluffton Chronicle, one of a number of News-Banner predecessors, is free online somewhere. He sent me a clipping recently from the April 8, 1886, edition which listed how personal property will be valued by the township assessors’ efforts that year.

There was a time when homeowners not only paid a real estate property tax but also a personal property tax on their possessions (also paid by renters, I believe). Each township had an assessor whose job it was to visit each household and farm for an annual assessment. Surely a social event everyone looked forward to.

The story reported the assessors’ countywide meeting, in the interest of consistency it appears, to determine assessed values for things such as farm machinery, pianos, watches, horses, wood (per cord), lumber, lard ... The list, amazingly, goes on. And on.

The plot thickens in some details here. Bricks, for example, were valued at \$3 per thousand, whether or not they were thrown at the assessor. Which surely happened from time to time. Stones were also taxed, measured by a “perch.” Google that one.

The lesson here: Property taxes could be worse. Or: Be careful when you wish for the “good old days.”

- One reader has kept records of his home’s property taxes dating back to 1998, when his annual total was \$1,158. It reached \$1,300 in 2002 but Indiana property tax reforms took that down to \$335 in 2009 and did not exceed \$700 again until 2020. Only this year did it finally surpass that 2002 total, despite a number of improvements he’s made through the years.

Not too long after the new assessments were posted a month or so ago, another reader suggested I check out the new assessments of apartment complexes. Just got around to that this past week.

One 32-unit complex on Bluffton’s north side went from an assessed value of \$252,700 to \$1,739,900 (589%). Another went from \$639,500 to \$3,438,000 (438%), but another from approximately \$1.4 million to \$1.65 million, just a 12.82% increase.

County assessor Laura Roberts can explain the reasons and the inconsistencies. No surprise, it’s complicated.

The lesson here is that the plot thickens. But not for the first time, methinks.

More importantly, what impact will this have on an already tight rental-housing market that, according to some at least, does not have enough “affordable” units as it is? Landlords will have to pass at least some of these increases on. But all that is complicated, too.

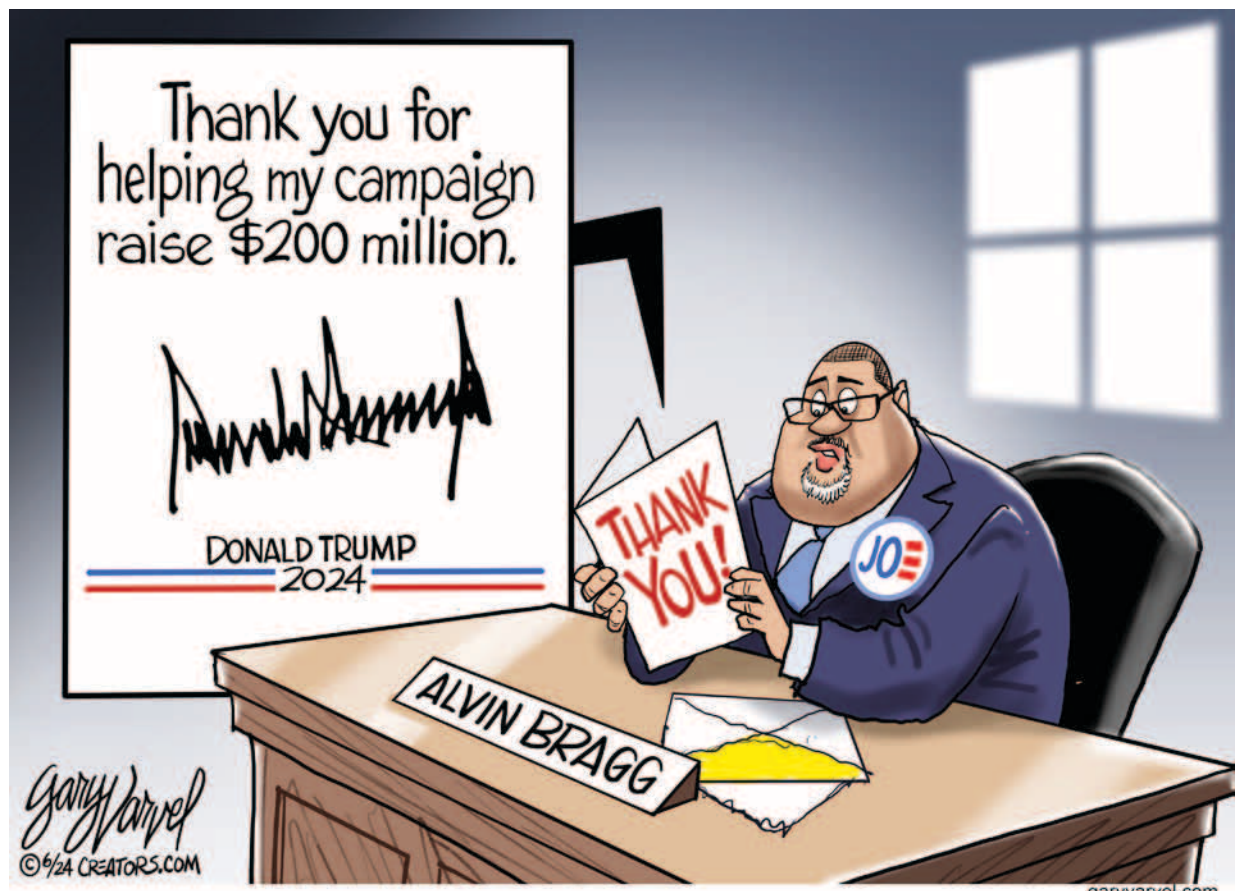
This deserves some more looking into although I sometimes wonder why I care. Maybe I just like thick plots.

miller@news-banner.com

Saturday’s Sub



Mark Miller



Electing prosecutors is a terrible idea. Trump’s conviction shows why.

In his contemplative moments, if there are such, Alvin Bragg, Manhattan’s elected district attorney, should ponder a 1940 speech given by a U.S. attorney general. Before Bragg’s next pirouette on the political stage — at former president Donald Trump’s July 11 sentencing, where he will recommend a punishment — he should consider Robert Jackson’s thoughts on the role of restraint in the prosecutor’s profession.

Bragg campaigned in 2021 promising to continue trying to hold Trump “accountable,” noting that in the New York attorney general’s office he had sued Trump “more than a hundred times.” In 2023, seven years after a particular Trump misbehavior, but just in time to influence this year’s election, Bragg indicted Trump for “34” felonies. One dead misdemeanor (falsifying business records; the statute of limitations has long since expired) was resuscitated and carved into 34 slices. These were inflated into felonies by claiming they were done to facilitate a crime. (Bragg often has a progressive’s penchant for reducing felonies to misdemeanors — e.g., some first-degree robberies are now charged as petty larcenies.) Bragg says:

Trump used bookkeeping dishonesty in 2017 (about paying hush money, which is not illegal) to influence the 2016 presidential election. (A puzzling understanding of causation.) He was a candidate in the 2016 election he is accused of somehow illegitimately trying to influence. This violated a federal campaign finance law. (Enforcement of which Congress assigned to the Federal Election Commission, not to local district attorneys.)

The 12 jurors might give 12 different answers concerning what Trump is guilty of. But what sentence might Bragg advocate next month?

He is an elected prosecutor (a terrible thing; read on), with constituents to mollify — constituents mostly hostile to his defendant. (Manhattan’s vote went about 86 percent for Hillary Clinton in 2016 and for Biden in 2020.) He likely has higher political aspirations. He demonstrably seeks the limelight. So, he might be tempted to recommend incarceration.

This, even though it is obvious that no one other than Trump would have been prosecuted under Bragg’s rickety scaffolding of quasi-legal theories. And even though no first-time offender not named Trump would be imprisoned for committing a felony that, even were it plausibly concocted, ranks among



George Will

the least serious (Class E) felonies. Now, note Jackson’s 1940 warning, before he became a Supreme Court justice and chief U.S. prosecutor at the Nuremberg war crimes trials.

“The prosecutor,” he said, “has more control over life, liberty, and reputation than any other person in America,” and “his discretion is tremendous.” He can have people investigated, perhaps with “veiled or unveiled” public intimations. He can order arrests, present cases to grand juries in secret sessions and secure indictments “on the basis of his one-sided presentation of the facts.” If his targets are convicted in trials, he can recommend

sentences.

“While the prosecutor at his best,” Jackson said, “is one of the most beneficent forces in our society, when he acts from malice or other base motives, he is one of the worst.” This is why federal district attorneys have been presidential appointees, requiring Senate confirmation. This process is designed to produce executive and legislative branch expressions of confidence in prosecutors’ characters — “the spirit of fair play and decency.”

Jackson noted that federal prosecutors have “now been prohibited from engaging in political activities.” A prosecutor should have “a detached and impartial” view of those in his community because law enforcement “isn’t blind.” The prosecutor has discretion to pick their cases; therein lies their “most dangerous power.” The prosecutor should select cases “in which the offense is the most flagrant, the public harm the greatest, and the proof the most certain.”

The law books, however, contain such a vast assortment of crimes, a prosecutor can pick a man “he dislikes or desires to embarrass,” Jackson wrote, and ransack the law books for a crime to pin on him. “It is here that law enforcement becomes personal, and the real crime becomes that of being unpopular with the predominant or governing group, being attached to the wrong political views, or being personally obnoxious to or in the way of the prosecutor himself.”

“Reputation,” Jackson said in 1940, “has been called ‘the shadow cast by one’s daily life.’” Bragg has chosen a flamboyant life in electoral politics. He probably is impervious to Jackson’s wisdom, for a reason Jackson understood: “The qualities of a good prosecutor are as elusive and as impossible to define as those which mark a gentleman. And those who need to be told would not understand it anyway.”

georgewill@washpost.com.

The Biden race card and his past.

As the saying goes, people in glass houses shouldn’t throw stones. In other words, those who have a particular flaw should avoid pointing out the same shortcoming in others.

For me, what I don’t appreciate is the ease with which President Biden plays the race card against his likely 2024 opponent, former president Donald Trump. Biden should know better, given his own spotty history with racial controversies going back decades.

Several polls show Biden losing support among Black voters. A recent survey by the New York Times, Siena College and the Philadelphia Inquirer of six crucial battleground states (Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, Arizona, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania) found Trump getting more than 20 percent of the Black vote. That would represent the highest level of Black support for any Republican presidential candidate in the past 60 years.

The White House is obviously worried, which is why the president has hit the road lately to try to win back some of that support.

Speaking recently at Girard College in Philadelphia, which has a predominantly Black student body, Biden touted what he considers his administration’s deliverables for Black Americans. The list includes giving record levels of funding to historically Black colleges and universities, wiping away federal student loan debt, creating economic gains, and lowering to 5.6% the Black unemployment rate. Biden also made history twice by nominating Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court,



Ruben Navarette

where she is the first Black female justice, and by picking Kamala Harris to serve as his running mate, making her the first Black woman to be vice president.

That’s all well and good. But whenever Biden talks about race, he has a tough time keeping the message positive. And so he warned a predominantly Black crowd that a second Trump presidency would worsen race relations and represent a setback for racial justice.

“This is the same guy who wanted to tear gas you as you peacefully protested George Floyd’s murder. The same guy who still calls the Central Park Five guilty, even though they were exonerated,” Biden said. “He’s that landlord who denies housing applications because of the color of your skin.”

Don’t get me wrong. I’m not a Trump apologist. Politics should be all about accountability. If someone wants to call Trump a racist, be my guest. At the very least, he is fluent in the code language of racism and thus able to converse easily with racists.

The problem is Biden is not the right person to make that case, given his own troubling record of awkward and cringe-inducing racial comments. Over the years, the liberal media has generously dismissed most of these verbal missteps as “gaffes.” But there is a disturbing pattern here.

To borrow a phrase, this is the same guy who as I’ve said before — during the 36 years he spent in the Senate — built his political career protecting White people from Black people.

In the 1970s, this meant fighting against forced busing of Black kids into White schools and being cozy with White segregationists. For both these things, Biden was essentially called a racist by a 2020 Democratic primary opponent who later became his vice president: Kamala Harris.

In the 1990s, it meant writing — with the help of largely White police unions — the 1994 crime bill, which many criminal justice experts have called “racist” because it encouraged mass incarceration of non-White offenders, especially young Black men. In a clumsy choice of words, Biden bragged at the time on the Senate floor that his bill did “everything but hang people for jaywalking.”

This is the same guy who condescendingly suggested during the primary race in 2019 that Black women didn’t know “how to raise their children” without White social workers who tell them to “make sure you have the record player on at night.”

This is the same guy who — as a lunch bucket Democrat with a knack for soothing White working-class voters — served in 2008 as the running mate for Barack Obama, whom he praised as “articulate” and “clean.”

This is the same guy who, at a rally in Danville, Va., in 2012, told a largely Black audience that, while freeing Wall Street from regulation, Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney’s policies would “put y’all back in chains.”

And now Biden is offended by the off-color remarks Trump makes?

The candidates should either talk honestly and fairly about race, or avoid the subject altogether. I vote for the latter.

crimscribe@icloud.com.

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Call to Worship

This page is dedicated to the building of a more spiritual and greater church-going people and is made possible by the Advertisers on this page who want as their return to see more people go to church.



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1970 S.-800E., Bluffton
9:45 & 11:45 a.m. - Worship.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH - NORTH
630 E. Dustman Rd.
9:45 & 11:45 a.m. - Worship.

ASBURY CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST
8013 W.-1100S.-90, Montpelier
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.

BETHEL (Independent Bible)
4500E-300S, Bluffton
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMS
6114E-750N, Ossian
bethlehemossian.org
9 a.m. - Divine Service. 10:15 - Adult Bible Class, Youth Bible Class & Sunday School. 11:30 - Voice of Bethlehem on 92.7 FM.

BLUFFTON CHURCH OF GOD
327 W. Cherry St.
10 a.m. - Sunday School. 11 a.m. - Worship. 6 p.m. - Service.

BOEHMER UNITED METHODIST
3467 S 600 W, Liberty Center
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9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:45 - Sunday School.

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1309 W. Washington St.
blufftonwesleyan.net
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 & 6:30 p.m. - Worship.

CALVARY LUTHERAN, ELCA
1532 N. Main St.
9 a.m. - Worship.

CHESTER CENTER
900S-300W, Poneto
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.

CHRISTIAN NEW LIGHT
1011 W. Washington St.
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship. 6 p.m. - Praise & worship.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
735 S. Marion St.
10 a.m. - Bible Study. 10:45 - Worship.

COVENANT CHAPEL
3550 S. SR 1
mycovenantchapel.org
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:15 - Worship. (Children's Church for ages 6-12).

DILLMAN UNITED BRETHREN
8888S-1100W-90, Warren
9 a.m. - Worship. 10 a.m. - Sunday School.

DOMESTIC CHURCH OF CHRIST
9 a.m. - Sunday school. 10 a.m. - Church service.

EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST
1204 W. Cherry St.
9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:40 a.m. - Sunday School.

FAIRVIEW CHURCH OF GOD
5511 W. Yoder Rd., Yoder
fairviewlife.com
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST
210 W. Townley
fbc-bluffton.com
10 a.m. - Worship. 11 a.m. - Discipleship.

FIRST BAPTIST
202 W. Cherry St.
fbcbluffton.com
10:15 - Worship.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF OSSIAN
1001 Dehner Dr.
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 a.m. - Worship. 6:30 - Service.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST
909 W. Spring St.
FCCfamily.com
9:30 & 11 a.m. - Worship.

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
1515 Clark Ave.
blufftonnazarene.org
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 9-10 a.m. - Free ESL classes. 10:15 - Worship. 6 p.m. - Service.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
215 E. Dustman Rd.
firstpcbbluffton.org
9:30 a.m. - Children/youth & Adult Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN (EVANGELICAL)
123 S. Jefferson St., Ossian
www.OssianChurch.com
8:45 a.m. - Sunday school. 10 a.m. - Worship.

LIVING FAITH MISSIONARY
17718 Bluffton Rd., Yoder
10 a.m. - Worship. 11:30 - Sunday School.

Time to Take a Devotional Break

GOD'S COURTROOM
With the court cases of well-known personalities in the news recently, I experienced a much less dramatic day learning valuable lessons as a first-time jury duty summons respondent.

With few exceptions, American citizens are expected to answer this call to service at some point. Highlighted in bold text were the words **serious legal consequences and Contempt of Court**, should I choose to ignore the official summons. Entering the Courthouse itself impresses the seriousness of the event as bags are searched and full body scans are required before proceeding to your destination.

The court bailiff organized and educated the group of potential jurors before the selection questioning began, and then continued to assist the judge during the hours in the courtroom. Two lawyers — one, the Prosecutor and the other representing the defendant — asked multiple questions before deciding to approve or remove potential jurors from the pool of community members.

A court recorder took notes of all that was said for later reference, the defendant watched from a chair next to his lawyer, and the

judge presided over the entire event after clarifying the process to those of us unfamiliar with the court system.

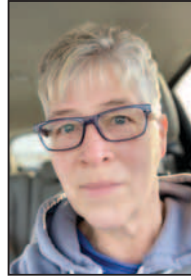
Did you realize that God provides both security and a specific process to begin a relationship with Jesus and to enter heaven upon our death? Not everyone will be allowed into heaven — only those who meet God's requirements by accepting salvation through the death of Jesus (John 3:16; Romans 10:9).

The Holy Spirit works as a heavenly bailiff, serving both the purposes of the Judge and assisting in the believer's successful walk of faith.

The prosecutor could be imagined to represent the accuser of our souls — Satan, who points to our failures and condemns us — while the defending lawyer is Christ, Himself, answering each condemnation with the Truth of His own sacrifice (Romans 8:34).

Earthly juries may deem us accountable for crimes based upon evidence presented by Satan, but believers can rest assured in the holiness and justice of God's ultimate plan for those who accept His Son. Be certain that YOUR outcome in His courtroom is decided before you arrive!

mpaxson99@yahoo.com



by Martha Paxson

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF BLUFFTON
301 W. Cherry St.
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
325 W. Washington St.
blufftonfirstumc.com
9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:45 - Sunday School.

FORGIVEN CHURCH
1409 S. Main St.
forgivenonline.org
9 a.m. - Worship.

GRACE BAPTIST
1621 S. 350 E. Stogdill Rd. Ext.
gbcbluffton.com
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. & 6 p.m. - Worship.

GRACE BIBLE
6626 Village Way, Berne
gracebibleberne.com
9 a.m. - Sunday classes. 10 a.m. - Collective Worship.

HARVEST TIME BIBLE
11015S-600E, Keystone
9:10 a.m. - Prayer. 10 a.m. - Worship.

HOPE MISSIONARY
429 E. Dustman Rd.
hope4thefamily.com
8 a.m., 9:30 & 11 a.m. - Service at Main Campus. 9:30 & 11 a.m. - Service, north campus, Ossian.

KEYSTONE CHURCH
10556S-200W
9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:30 - Sunday School.

KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
2803 N. Main St.
jw.org
10 a.m. - Worship.

LANCASTER CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST
4510 E 400N, Craigville
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 9:40 - Fellowship. 10 a.m. - Worship.

THE MEETING PLACE
115 E. Market St.
6:30 p.m. - Bible study.

LIBERTY CENTER BAPTIST
3071 W. Cherry St.
8:30 a.m. - Pastor/Deacon's Prayer. 9 - Sunday School. 9:55 - Fellowship. 10:15 - Worship.

LIBERTY CENTER COMMUNITY CHURCH
8:45 a.m. - Choir practice. 9 a.m. - Coffee, donuts, conversation. 9:30 - Worship w/infant nursery & children's church. 10:45 - Sunday School.

LIFE COMMUNITY
428 S. Oak St.
lifecommunity.net
10:30 a.m. - Service (Children's programs available).

LIVING WATER UNITED CHURCH
6486 S 700E, Bluffton
8:45-9 a.m. - Prayer. 9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

MARKLE CHAPEL HILL SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
470 E. Morse St.
Saturday: 9:30 a.m. - Worship. 10:45 - Sabbath School (Bible study).

MARKLE CHURCH OF CHRIST
455 E. Morse St.
marklechurch.org
9 a.m. - Adult Bible study groups. 10:30 - Worship. Children's & student programming both hours.

MARKLE RIVERSIDE 316
145 W. Morse St.
10 a.m. - Worship.

MURRAY MISSIONARY
1117 N. Washington St., Murray
murraymc.org
9:30 a.m. - Worship. 11 a.m. - Sunday School.

TURNPOINTE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
500 W. Logan, Markle
turnpointechurch.com
9:30 a.m. - Fellowship. 10 a.m. - Adult & Children's Worship.

NEW BEGINNING
2187 W. SR 218
10 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship.

NEW HOPE LUTHERAN (Missouri Synod)
8824 N. SR 1, Ossian
newhopelutheran-ossian.webs.com
9 a.m. - Sunday School & Adult Bible study. 10 a.m. - Worship.

NOTTINGHAM
1100 S. SR 1
9:30 - Sunday School. 10:30 & 6 p.m. - Worship.

OSSIAN CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
302 N. Metts St.
ossiannaz.org
9:15 a.m. - Bible study. 10:30 - Service.

OSSIAN UNITED METHODIST
201 W. Mill St.
ossianumc.org
9 a.m. - Worship, The Northmen & Cathy, Worship child care nurse. 10 a.m. - Fellowship. 10:15 - Adult Sunday School.

PARK COMMUNITY
617 S. Bennett St.
parkccbluffton.org
10 a.m. - Connection. 11 a.m. - Worship.

PETROLEUM COMMUNITY CHURCH
3625 E. 2nd St.
9 a.m. - Worship. 10:30 - Sunday School.

PONETO BAPTIST
Grape Street
8:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 9 a.m. - Worship.

PONETO FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH
36 E. Walnut St.
9 a.m. - Worship. 10 a.m. - Fellowship. 10:15 - Sunday School.

RIVER OF HOPE
1224 W. Central
11 a.m. - Worship & the Word.

RIVER OF LIFE
122 Lamar St.
Suite 108, 110
riveroflifebluffton.com
10:30 a.m. - Worship.

SIX MILE
4790 SE SR 116
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

SONLIGHT WESLEYAN
2350 S. SR 1
sonlightwesleyan.org
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School. 10:30 - Worship. Nursery & Children's classes available during Sunday School & Worship.

SOUTHERN WELLS COMMUNITY CHURCH
9450 S 300 W, Poneto
9 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship.

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC
1300 N. Main St.
Saturday: 7:45 a.m. - Prayer. 8 a.m. - Mass. 8:30 - Rosary. 4 p.m. or by appointment - Confessions. 5 p.m. - Mass. Sunday: 7:30 & 10 a.m. - Mass.

ST. LUKE CHURCH
4960W-100N, Decatur
stlukechurch.in
9 a.m. - Worship. 10:15 - Sunday School.

ST. MARK EV. LUTHERAN
16933 Thiele Rd.
stmarkfw.org
8:45 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

UNIONDALE COMMUNITY CHURCH
5867 N. Main St.
9 a.m. - Worship.

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN (NALC)
5912 N. Sugar St., Uniondale
10 a.m. - Worship. 10:15 - Children's Sunday School.

THE CHURCH AT MCNATT
9221 W 800 S-90, Montpelier
8:30 a.m. - Coffee fellowship. 9:15 - Worship.

TOWER LIFE CENTER
11811 N. Wayne St., Zanesville
towerlifecenter.com
9:30 a.m. - TLC Groups. 10:30 - Worship.

UNIONTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST
11419 N-200W, Ossian
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

VERA CRUZ FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER CCCU
2771 SE Mulberry St., Vera Cruz
9-10 a.m. - Sunday School. 10-10:30 - Fellowship. 10:30 - Worship.

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH
205 S. Adams St., Monroe
9 a.m. - Worship. 10:15 - Discipleship for adults & children.

ZANESVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF GOD
11984 N. Marzane Rd.
9 a.m. - Bible Class. 10 a.m. - Worship.

ZANESVILLE UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST
3092 W. Broadway
9 a.m. - Sunday School. 10 a.m. - Worship.

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Bluffton's junior golf leagues competes at Green Valley

Bluffton's Junior League competition at Green Valley has taken place, and there are plenty of winners and runners-up to go around.

Below are the photos of all the young individuals from the various age groups at the event. All photos are provided and identified from left to right.

Age 8-10 Winners



Boys Chipping champions (Boys): Reece Lautzenheiser, Niko Mateo, Carter Blinn, Kaleb Hartman and William MacNeill.



Girls Chipping champions: Ariel Smith, Zoe Powers, Samantha Mann and Natalia Bryan.



Boys Putting champions: Kamden Chamberlain, Gage Bush-ee, Amos Littell, Creighton Kolkman and Jonathan MacNeill.



Girls Putting champions: Emma Smith, Charleigh Pence and Olivia Adams.

Age 6-7 Winners



Girls Putting and Chipping Champions: Hazel Palmer, Jemma Gryzch and Saeler Grandlienard.



Boys Chipping and Putting Contest Winners: Marshall Stoller, Beckett Stoller, Lincoln Reimschisel and Blayne Dawson.



Girls chipping and putting 2 runners-up: Lydia Mossburg, Selah Falon and Ava Smith.



Boys Chipping and Putting Contest Winners: Vince Schumm, Grayson Heer, Clay Maller and Madden Pfister.

Age 11-13 Winners



Age 11-13 Putting winners: Ryker Engle, Leyton Chamberlain, Abe Atkins, Treyton Uptgraft, Gunner Bushee and Landon Clifton.



Age 11-13 Chipping winners: Kreigh Ault, Liam Yates, Landon Heer, Korbin Powers and Rylen Gates.

14 and Over Winners



Putting winners: Rylee Todd, Jace Draper and Carter Lehman.



Chipping winners: Will Ault, Willow Moser, Joah Moser and Denver Moser.



Putting and Chipping winners: Sophie Meeks, Lucy Palmer and Vada Palmer.

Gibson dominates as Cardinals beat Cubs 3-0

BY ANDREW SELIGMAN
AP Sports Writer

CHICAGO — Kyle Gibson pitched two-hit ball over seven innings, Pedro Pagés broke a scoreless tie when he led off the eighth with his first career homer and the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Chicago Cubs 3-0 on Friday.

Pagés, who has just four hits in 32 major league at-bats, picked the perfect moment to go deep. With his family on hand, the 25-year-old Venezuelan gave the Cardinals the lead with a drive to the left-field basket against reliever Hayden Wesneski (2-4).

Pagés said he and his dad later hugged and shed a few tears.

"It's just a big moment for us," he said. "We've been through a lot together

as a family. Being able to be here and be a part of it, it's amazing."

Michael Busch singled leading off the bottom of the eighth against Ryan Fernandez. Pinch runner Pete Crow-Armstrong stole second and went to third on a ground out but he was thrown out at home by second baseman Nolan Gorman trying to score on Miguel Amaya's one-out ground ball. JoJo Romero retired pinch hitter Patrick Wisdom on a fly to the left-field corner that Brendan Donovan caught just in front of the ivy.

The Cardinals scored two more runs in the ninth. Iván Herrera blooped an RBI double off a lunging second baseman Nico Hoerner's glove and Dylan Carlson drove him in with

a single.

Cardinals closer Ryan Helsley retired the first two batters in the ninth before walking Seiya Suzuki and Ian Happ. He then struck out Hoerner for his major league-leading 23rd save in 24 chances.

Gibson (5-2) struck out six and walked one. The veteran right-hander made it look like a breeze for the most part on a day when the wind might have kept a couple of balls in the park.

Chicago's Cody Bellinger hit a fly to the right-field warning track in the sixth, and the exit velocity on Wisdom's drive was 111 mph. Either way, the Cubs lost for the 15th time in 21 games.

Starter Jordan Wicks left the game in the second inning because of a

strained right oblique and will likely be placed on the injured list, manager Craig Counsell said. The left-hander walked off the field after giving up a two-out single to Carlson. Kyle Hendricks came in and retired Brendan Donovan on a grounder to second.

"He felt it a couple pitches before, and then after he threw a couple more pitches, knew he couldn't do any more," Counsell said. "So, we'll get imaging tomorrow and likely IL, and we'll go from there."

Wicks gave up two hits and struck out two in his first start and second appearance since returning from a strained left forearm. He was sidelined for six weeks.

Olympic swim trials begin today at Lucas Oil

By PAUL NEWBERRY
AP National Writer

The U.S. Olympic swimming trials will make a splash on their grandest stage yet — a temporary pool inside the massive domed stadium that is home to the NFL's Indianapolis Colts.

The American team will be determined over the nine-day, prime-time competition, which starts today at Lucas Oil Stadium with the spotlight on Katie Ledecky and her quest for a fourth trip to the Summer Games.

As usual, there are plenty of compelling storylines at a meet that many swimmers find more nerve-wracking than the actual Olympics. And the venue only adds to the feeling that this is the Super Bowl of swimming.

In a sign of how much the trials have grown, this will be the first time the meet has been held in Indianapolis since 2000 — when a then-unknown swimmer named Michael Phelps qualified for his Olympic debut.

That year, the trials were held at the 4,700-seat Indiana University Natatorium. The set-up at Lucas Oil Stadium can accommodate as many as 32,000 fans, which would be the largest crowds ever to attend an indoor swim meet.

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FOR SALE

Miscellaneous

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Lottery Numbers

Friday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY
Cash 5 — 14-20-31-36-43
Cash4Life — 02-14-17-40-60, Cash Ball: 02
Quick Draw Midday — 02-05-07-09-16-21-25-28-30-37-49-52-58-59-65-69-70-71-73-75, BE: 69
Daily Three-Midday — 07-05-00, SB: 08
Daily Three-Evening — 09-03-05, SB: 08
Daily Four-Midday — 09-03-09-05, SB: 08

Daily Four-Evening — 02-03-02-03, SB: 08
Quick Draw Evening — 03-25-29-30-31-35-40-42-47-49-54-59-63-65-72-74-75-77-78-79, BE: 47
Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$14.6 million
MEGA MILLIONS — 01-25-26-31-65, Mega Ball: 02, Megaplier: 3X
POWERBALL — Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$34 million

LINE CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINES:

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

This Week's Garage Sales

Clip & Save

609 OAKDALE DRIVE OSSIANS YARD SALE Antiques, collectibles, household items, jewelry gas stove, electric dryer, canoe and much more Jun. 14 10:00 AM-5:00 PM, Jun. 15 9:00 AM-5:00 PM Rain or Shine

ST. ALOYSIUS CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE St. Aloysius Church is hosting a Rummage Sale from 9-4PM on June 21-22 at the St. Aloysius Activity Center located at 14623 Bluffton Rd. Proceeds benefit ongoing Parish Projects with a portion being donated to St. Henry's Outreach Programs. Browse household goods, baby and children's clothing and toys, puzzles, garden accessories, etc. 260-622-4491 parish@stalyoder.org <https://www.stalyoder.org>

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MARV'S CONSTRUCTION Room additions, fix old saggy floors, all types remodeling. Redo bathrooms, old foundation repairs. Marv Schwartz: 260-525-8877.

Public Sale Calendar

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, [The Steffen Group Inc.](http://www.steffengrp.com), 260-426-0633, steffengrp.com.

JUNE 16-23 - (Online Only) - Estate of Marilyn McQueary, seller. 2023 GMC Terrain Denali, AWD Edition w/2,130 miles (like new), 1990 Cadillac Allante, modern furniture, antiques, collectibles, tools, home furnishings, stained glass decorations, leaded glass lamps, home decor, kitchen items, jewelry, clothing, designer purses, Christmas & Halloween decorations, swords, coins & silver, Glock 45 9MM, more. Preview & online bidding assistance June 18, June 20 from 3-6 p.m., 102 S. Jefferson St., Ossian. Sale manager Rod Fetters, 260-557-8451, [The Steffen Group Inc.](http://www.steffengrp.com), www.steffengrp.com, 260-426-0633.

BIDDING ENDS JUNE 17 - Online only firearm - Buroff and others, owners. Rifles, shotguns & handguns. Marlin, Winchester, Remington, Browning, Bush Master, Colt, Walther. Review all registration information before bidding. Sale Manager Isaac Stoller, 260-413-3515, [The Steffen Group Inc.](http://www.steffengrp.com), 260-824-3006, 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.

JUNE 22 - 10 a.m. - Charles Uptgraft, deceased, and Dee Uptgraft. 3295 E 450 S, Bluffton, Indiana. 1931 Model A

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THE CITY OF Bluffton Street Department is accepting applications for a Laborer/Truck Driver. The minimum educational requirement is a high school diploma or equivalent. Applicants must possess and maintain a CDL License or obtain one within the time limit. The City utilizes E-Verify and follows EEOC guidelines. Applications may be obtained from the Clerk Treasurer's office, 128 East Market St. Bluffton, IN between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm Monday-Friday or at www.blufftonindiana.net.

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Local Roundup

Solid Waste District board will meet Monday

The board of the Wells County Solid Waste District will meet at 4 p.m. Monday, June 17, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Financial report.
- Supervisor report.
- Hazardous Waste Day update.
- Discussion of 2025 budget.

County Drainage Board will meet Monday afternoon

The Wells County Drainage Board will meet at 4:30 p.m. Monday, June 17, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

Topics on the agenda include project updates and miscellaneous drainage matters.

Commissioners will meet Monday evening

The Wells County Commissioners will meet at 5 p.m. Monday, June 17, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Department reports from Sheriff Scott Holliday, Highway Supervisor Shawn Bonar, and County Engineer Nate Whitacre.
- Veterans Office 2023 activity report from Dewey Randall.
- Discussion of an alter-

nate plan for the Rock Creek Stone Quarry.

- Highway Garage letter of substantial completion.
- Discussion of the 2025 county commissioner budget.

- Monthly reports, miscellaneous business and right-of-way or utility agreements.

Bluffton-Harrison school board will meet Monday

The board of the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, June 17, in the school district's administration building at 803 E. Harrison St. in Bluffton.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Reports and announcements.
- Updates regarding the middle school roof replacement and improvements, high school building envelope project, athletic facility needs and OurTown Safety Village.
- Personnel and financial matters.
- Policy updates and handbook changes.

Bluffton Board of Public Works meets Tuesday afternoon

The Bluffton Board of Public Works and Safety will meet at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 18, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Personnel and financial matters.
- Updates on nuisance dog issues.
- Work and change orders.
- Ordinance Violation Discussion.
- Garbage complaints.
- Discussion of electric-

ity charges for plazas and alley ways.

County Election Board cancels June meeting

The Wells County Election Board will meet at their regular time, 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 18. The board is scheduled to meet next at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 16, in the clerk's office in the Wells County Courthouse, 102 W. Market St.

Bluffton Common Council will meet Tuesday evening

The Bluffton Common Council will meet at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 18, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Discussion of dangerous dog guidelines.
- Resolution 2024-06 SB 1 noncompliance AD home.
- Ordinance compliance and city code discussion.
- PILOT Ordinance 1622.
- CF-1 agreement with JR Wood Products.

Southern Wells school board will meet Tuesday

The board of the Southern Wells Community Schools will meet at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 18, in the high school media center of the SWCS campus.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Financial and personnel matters.
- Review of policy and procedures.
- Facility use requests.
- Conference requests.
- Superintendent information.

PSAP advisory board will meet Wednesday morning

The Public Safety Answer Point (911 Dispatch) Advisory Board will meet at 8 a.m. Wednesday, June 19, in the Bluffton City Courtroom inside of the police station, 204 E. Market St. in Bluffton.

Topics on the agenda include discussion of a grant for radio systems and the 2025 public safety budget.

Markle Town Council will meet Wednesday evening

The Markle Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 19, at the Markle Town Hall, 154 E. Morse St.

Topics on the agenda include:

- Consideration of an economic development consulting contract.
- Consideration of CF-1 agreements with Novae and Sortera.
- Town correspondence with Markle RDC, Ride2Provide and Gray Family.
- Reports from the operations manager and town marshal.
- HCUED report.
- Region 3-A report.

County health board will meet Thursday morning

The board of the Wells County Health Department will meet at 6:30 a.m. Thursday, June 20, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

Unsafe levels of E. coli found in Paris' Seine River before Olympic

PARIS (AP) — Water in the Seine River had unsafe elevated levels of E. coli less than two months before swimming competitions are scheduled to take place in it during the Paris Olympics, according to test results published Friday.

Contamination levels in the first eight days of June, after persistent heavy rain in Paris, showed bacteria such as E. coli and enterococci beyond limits judged safe for athletes.

The report was published by monitoring group Eau de Paris one day after a senior International Olympic Committee executive said there were "no reasons to doubt" races will go ahead as scheduled in a historic downtown stretch of the Seine near the Eiffel Tower.

The first Olympic event in the cleaned-up Seine is men's triathlon, including a 1.5-kilometer (under 1 mile) swim, on the morning of July 30. The women's triathlon is the next day and a mixed relay event is on Aug. 5.

Marathon swimming races over 6.2 miles for women and men are scheduled on Aug. 8 and 9, respectively, in waters that were historically polluted before a \$1.5 billion investment ahead of the Olympics.

"We are confident that we will swim in the Seine this summer," IOC official Christophe Dubi said Thursday at an online briefing after hearing an update Paris from city officials and Olympic organizers.

Despite the IOC's publicly expressed confidence, the final decision on approving the events safe for athletes should rest with the governing bodies of individual sports, World Aquatics and World Triathlon.



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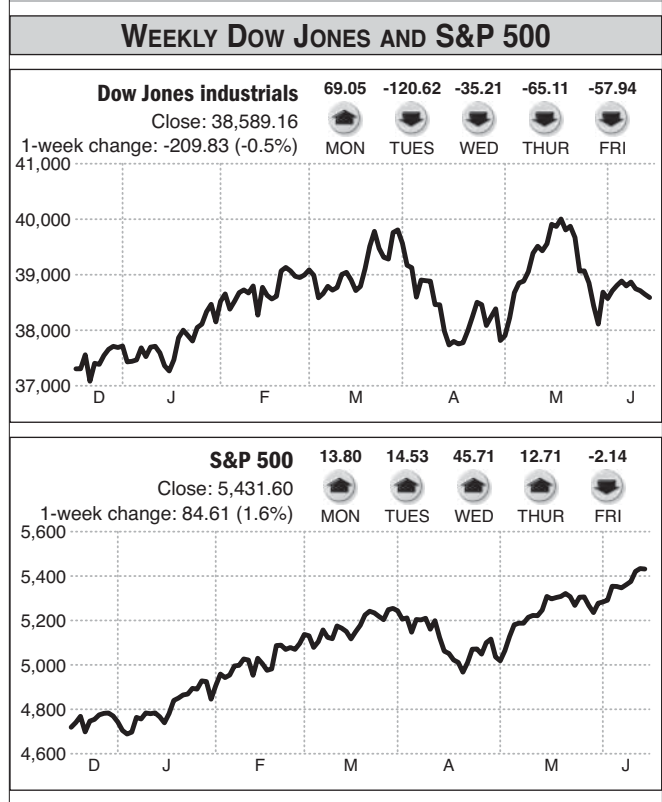
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THE WEEK IN REVIEW



STOCK MARKET INDEXES

52-Week High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Wk Chg	Wk %Chg	YTD %Chg	12-mo %Chg
40,077.40	32,327.20	Dow Jones Industrials	38,589.16	-209.83	-0.54	+2.39	+12.51
16,717.04	13,471.47	Dow Jones Transportation	14,807.47	-215.38	-1.43	-6.86	+1.0
958.67	765.47	Dow Jones Utilities	916.73	-3.39	-0.37	+3.98	-8.9
18,421.92	14,638.37	NYSE Composite	17,817.26	-168.36	-0.94	+5.72	+12.80
17,741.80	12,543.86	Nasdaq Composite	17,688.88	+555.76	+3.24	+17.84	+29.21
5,447.25	4,103.78	S&P 500	5,431.60	+84.61	+1.58	+13.87	+23.18
3,056.49	2,322.38	S&P MidCap	2,895.31	-25.39	-0.87	+4.09	+12.22
54,446.40	41,178.32	Wilshire 5000	54,101.02	+724.72	+1.36	+12.02	+21.65
2,135.46	1,633.67	Russell 2000	2,006.16	-20.39	-1.01	-1.03	+6.97
18,554.58	13,496.96	Lipper Growth Index	18,440.81	+445.31	+2.47	+13.72	+25.21

STOCK EXCHANGE HIGHLIGHTS

NYSE GAINERS (\$2 OR MORE)				NYSE LOSERS (\$2 OR MORE)				NYSE ACTIVES (\$1 OR MORE)			
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
GCT Semi	5.00	+1.96	+64.5	B&N Edr	8.65	-8.65	-50.0	GameStop	6118149	28.70	+4.8
LiCycle	4.24	+1.41	+49.8	VelosD	3.36	-1.65	-32.9	FordM	2691085	11.71	-4.4
TexPcLd	750.00	+167.93	+28.9	Corticiv	11.61	-3.81	-24.7	AMC Ent	2083331	4.99	+0.8
JuniaTch	9.29	+1.79	+23.9	Chegg	2.79	-0.91	-24.6	BioAm	1990574	39.24	-5.4
GpSuprv	7.17	+0.97	+15.6	BigLots	2.07	-0.59	-22.2	Pfizer	1764155	27.53	-1.05
NextHR	2.53	+0.32	+14.5	DeskPM	3.84	-1.06	-21.6	AT&T Inc	1541106	17.64	-4.6
EmerHdg	6.08	+0.76	+14.3	VicarSrg	8.12	-1.93	-19.2	Palantir	1528845	23.57	+2.6
HmnsHrs	23.75	+2.96	+14.2	SignetJwls	87.18	-18.55	-17.5	Carnival	1356644	15.34	-1.36
SpireGI	10.52	+1.31	+14.2	AnywhRE	3.19	-0.63	-16.5	Vale SA	1317173	11.26	-0.9
WileyJA	40.13	+4.60	+12.9	RingCentrl	28.65	-5.64	-16.4	Ambev	1213448	2.11	-0.6

NASDAQ GAINERS (\$2 OR MORE)				NASDAQ LOSERS (\$2 OR MORE)				NASDAQ ACTIVES (\$1 OR MORE)			
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Kaival	5.96	+4.37	+274.8	Volcon	4.73	-5.59	-54.2	Nvidia s	14013137	131.88	+11.00
Longever	3.19	+2.15	+206.7	Baijiayun	2.68	-2.77	-50.8	Apple Inc s	6344654	212.49	+15.60
ZappElec	2.17	+1.35	+164.0	VisDTC	2.85	-2.40	-45.7	Tesla	4059541	178.01	+5.3
Mediac	2.79	+1.73	+163.2	CNS Phr	2.79	-2.26	-44.8	Longever s	3630078	3.19	+12.5
Barfres	3.03	+1.57	+107.5	IntraStr	2.87	-2.33	-44.8	AMD	2387845	159.63	-8.24
CoreSci	5.25	+2.39	+83.6	CXO Inc	134.21	-85.79	-39.0	SoFiTech	2239739	6.46	-5.3
Wheeler	2.80	+1.19	+73.9	CareCloud	2.29	-1.36	-37.3	MarathDig	2116277	19.47	+2.0
WeTouch	2.96	+1.17	+65.4	Thorimun	3.35	-1.85	-35.6	SiriusXM	1995700	2.61	+0.5
iLearn	7.79	+3.04	+64.0	GorillaTc	3.05	-1.63	-34.8	Intel	1819618	30.45	-2.9
RebornCof	7.73	+2.99	+63.1	BoundBio	6.56	-3.06	-31.8	CleanSp	1681090	17.71	+2.13

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Name	Div	Last	Wk Chg	Wk %Chg	YTD %Chg	Name	Div	Last	Wk Chg	Wk %Chg	YTD %Chg	
AFLAC	2.00	87.04	-1.75	-2.0	+5.5	IBM	6.64	169.21	-8.0	-0.5	+3.5	
AMC Ent	...	4.99	+0.8	+1.6	-18.5	Kroger	1.16	50.38	-1.60	-3.1	+10.2	
AT&T Inc	1.11	17.64	-0.46	-2.5	+5.1	KwesstMc	...	5.8	+1.8	+44.3	-35.9	
AMD	1.60	159.63	-8.24	-4.9	+8.3	LincNat	1.80	30.44	-1.99	-6.1	+12.9	
AmAirlines	4.0	11.28	-0.22	-1.9	-17.9	Longever	...	3.19	+2.15	+206.7	-76.5	
AEP	3.52	88.00	-3.0	-3.3	+8.3	Lowes	4.60	223.35	+6.68	+3.1	+4	
Apple Inc s	1.00	212.49	+15.60	+7.9	+10.4	MarathDig	...	19.47	+2.0	+1.0	-17.1	
ApdMail	1.60	237.03	+15.30	+6.9	+46.3	McDnlds	6.68	253.58	-2.63	-1.0	-14.5	
BP PLC	1.74	34.89	-3.7	-1.0	-1.4	Microsoft	3.00	442.57	+18.72	+4.4	+17.7	
BkofAm	...	96	39.24	-5.4	-1.4	+16.5	NL Inds	...	3.2	6.70	-2.6	+3.7
BrMyS	2.40	41.20	-0.28	-0.7	-19.7	NautRobot	...	1.19	+0.4	+23.9	-71.7	
CampSp	1.48	43.99	+1.13	+2.6	+1.8	NiSource	1.06	28.17	-1.1	-0.4	+6.1	
Caterpillar	5.64	321.47	-7.47	-2.3	+8.7	Nikola	...	5.1	+0.1	+2.2	-42.1	
Chevron	6.52	152.57	-3.51	-2.2	+2.3	NorfolkSo	5.40	219.90	-4.17	-1.9	-7.0	
Cisco	1.60	45.68	-0.16	-0.3	-9.6	Nuburu	...	0.9	-0.6	-38.4	-38.0	
Citigroup	2.12	59.33	-2.45	-4.0	+15.3	Nucor	2.16	154.69	-6.31	-3.9	-11.1	
CleanSp	...	17.71	+2.13	+13.7	+60.6	Nvidia s	...	131.88	+11.00	+9.1	+166.3	
CocaCola	1.94	62.55	-0.87	-1.4	+6.1	PepsiCo	5.42	163.81	-7.23	-4.2	-3.6	
CrownElec	...	0.6	-0.3	-35.6	-60.8	Pfizer	1.68	27.53	-1.05	-3.7	-4.4	
Cyngn h	...	0.9	-38.6	PrestoAut	...	0.8	-0.1	-5.6	-84.2	
DxSOXB	...	21.62	-3.58	-14.2	...	PrUHQ	...	74.17	+7.05	+10.5	+46.3	
DxSOXB	...	60.10	+8.23	+15.9	+91.4	PShQQQ	...	8.43	-8.9	-9.5	-37.3	
Disney	3.0	99.97	-1.57	-1.5	+10.7	SPDRDJIA	3.98	386.46	-2.03	-0.5	+2.5	
Eaton	2.92	319.02	+4.19	+1.3	+32.5	S&P500ETF	4.13	542.78	+8.77	+1.6	+14.2	
ElLilly	5.20	878.45	+28.46	+3.3	+50.7	SelinHos	...	0.8	+0.1	+18.5	-56.7	
ExxonMbl	3.80	109.11	-3.64	-3.2	+9.1	SiriusXM	...	2.61	+0.5	+2.0	-52.3	
FardyFut	...	0.52	-1.0	-15.7	-25.7	SoFiTech	...	6.46	-5.3	-7.6	-35.1	
FordM	6.0	11.71	-0.44	-3.6	-3.9	SRIVARU	...	2.3	+0.5	+28.8	-36.3	
FrankElec	...	90	96.10	-0.30	-0.3	-6	SPDR FncI	...	4.6	40.65	-8.3	-2.0
FrtMcM												

Supreme Court strikes down Trump-era ban on rapid-fire rifle bump stocks, reopening political fight

By **LINDSAY WHITEHURST**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court on Friday struck down a Trump-era ban on bump stocks, the rapid-fire gun accessories used in the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history, in a ruling that threw firearms back into the nation's political spotlight.

The high court's conservative majority found that the Trump administration overstepped when it changed course from predecessors and banned bump stocks, which allow a rate of fire comparable to machine guns. The decision came after a gunman in Las Vegas attacked a country music festival with semiautomatic rifles equipped with the accessories.

The gunman fired more than 1,000 rounds into the crowd in 11 minutes, sending thousands of people fleeing in terror as hundreds were wounded and dozens killed.

The ruling thrust guns back into the center of the political conversation with an unusual twist as Democrats decried the reversal of a GOP administration's action and many Republicans backed the ruling.

The 6-3 majority opinion written by Justice Clarence Thomas found the Justice Department was wrong to declare that bump stocks transformed semiautomatic rifles into illegal machine guns because, he wrote, each trigger depression in rapid succession still only releases one shot.

The ruling reinforced the limits of executive reach and two justices — conservative Samuel Alito and liberal Sonia Sotomayor — separately highlighted how action in Congress could potentially provide a more lasting policy, if there was political will to act in a bipartisan fashion.

Originally, imposing a ban through regulation rather than legislation during Donald Trump's presidency took pressure off Republicans to act following the massacre and another mass shooting at a high school in Parkland, Florida. Prospects for passing gun restrictions in the current divided Congress are dim.

President Joe Biden, who supports gun restrictions, called on Congress to reinstate the ban imposed under his political foe. Trump's campaign team meanwhile, expressed respect for the ruling before quickly pivoting to his endorsement by the National Rifle Association.

As Trump courts gun owners while running to retake the presidency, he has appeared to play down his own administration's actions on bump stocks, telling NRA members in February that "nothing happened" on guns during his presidency despite "great pressure." He told the group that if he is elected again, "No one will lay a finger on your firearms."

The 2017 mass shooting in Las Vegas was carried out by a high-stakes gambler who killed himself, leaving his exact motive a mystery. A total of 60 people were killed in the shooting, including Christiana Duarte, whose family called Friday's ruling tragic.

"The ruling is really just another way of inviting people to have another mass shooting," said Danette Meyers, a family friend and spokesperson. "It's unfortunate that they have to relive this again. They're really unhappy."

Republican Nevada Gov. Joe Lombardo, the former county sheriff in Las Vegas who has refused to sign multiple gun control measures the Democrat-controlled Legislature has sent to his desk, said in a statement Friday, "While I have

always been a supporter of the Second Amendment, I have been a vocal opponent of bump stocks since my time in law enforcement, and I'm disappointed by the Supreme Court's decision today."

The opinion comes after the same Supreme Court conservative supermajority handed down a landmark decision expanding gun rights in 2022. The high court is also expected to rule in another gun case in the coming weeks, challenging a federal law intended to keep guns away from people under domestic violence restraining orders.

The arguments in the bump stock case, though, were less about Second Amendment rights and more about whether the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, a Justice Department agency, had overstepped its authority.

Bump stocks are accessories that replace a rifle's stock, the part that rests against the shoulder. Invented in the 2000s, they harness the gun's recoil energy so that the trigger bumps against the shooter's stationary finger, allowing the gun to fire at a similar speed as an automatic weapon.

The Supreme Court majority found that the 1934 law against machine guns defined them as weapons that could automatically fire more than one shot by a single function of the trigger. Bump stocks don't fit that definition because "the trigger must still be released and reengaged to fire each additional shot," Thomas wrote. He also pointed to over a decade of ATF's findings that claimed bump stocks weren't automatic weapons.

The plaintiff, Texas gun shop owner and military veteran Michael Cargill, applauded the ruling in a video posted online, predicting the case would have ripple effects by hampering

other ATF gun restrictions. "I'm glad I stood up and fought," he said.

In a dissent joined by her liberal colleagues, Justice Sotomayor said that bump stocks fit under the ordinary meaning of the law: "When I see a bird that walks like a duck, swims like a duck, and quacks like a duck, I call that bird a duck," she wrote. The ruling, she said, could hamstring the ATF and have "deadly consequences."

ATF Director Steve Dettelbach echoed the sentiment, saying that bump stocks "pose an unacceptable level of risk to public safety."



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DR. GARY CHAPMAN

THE 5 LOVE LANGUAGES

Join us for a banquet dinner with our guest, Dr. Gary Chapman, a well-known speaker and author of *The 5 Love Languages*, which has sold more than 20 million copies and is currently on *The New York Times* best-seller list. Dr. Chapman will teach us how to strengthen our relationship with God and others in order to experience deeper love.

TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2024
Event & Dinner 6:00 - 8:00 PM

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