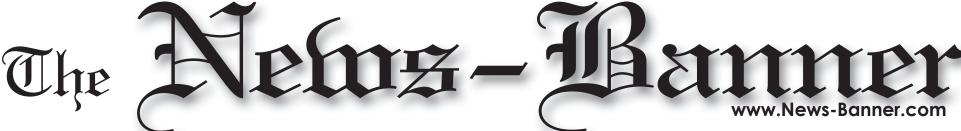
4 gardens featured in Saturday garden walk

Bluffton Bullets win state championship

Page 1a



Holland moves, steps down from BHMSD board



Bruce Holland

By JONATHAN SNYDER

Bruce Holland has submitted his resignation from the board of trustees for the Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District.

Superintendent Brad Yates announced Monday that Holland is moving out of the school district's boundaries, which prompted the resignation. Holland served on the board as its district two member for five and a half years.

Holland's resignation called for a new appointee for the District 2 seat, which was filled by board Vice President Angie Sheets after unanimous approval from the board, with Sheets abstaining.

Sheets' move from the At-Large position to District 2 appointee leaves a vacancy for the At-Large position on the board. Yates advised that the Indiana School Board Association requires that a board vacancy be filled within 30

Yates recommended that the district wait until after the filing deadline for school board elections at noon on June 20 to review candidates for the vacancy. Three positions are up for election in November — At-Large, District 1 and District 3.

The appointee will finish the At-Large term through Dec. 31.

"If we hold on any action at that point until after Thursday, then I can

communicate with you (the board) who's filed and what that will look like," Yates said. "The board can decide at that point what the next actions will be for that vacancy.

Yates stated that the board is free to create a formal application process online or receive letters of intent to fill the role. Yates further noted that any inperson candidate interviews have to be public meetings.

(Continued on Page 2)



Matchbox meetup

Roush Park hosted a matchbox car event on Monday. Cardboard and plastic pieces were set up as makeshift ramps for kids to send their cars down. (Photos by Jonathan Snyder)





Indiana's driver's test and high failure rates draw criticism

By MIA HILKOWITZ

Indiana Capital Chronicle

Indiana has the highest failure rates for its driver's license test in the U.S., with more than 1,362,100 Hoosiers failing the test from 2020 to 2023, according to a recent USA Today report. The inability to pass

the test can harm residents in Indiana, one of the most car-dependent states in the country.

"Everybody gets the idea, 'well, I'll just go in there and take the test," said Mike Clouse, president of the Indiana Driver Education Association. "Everyone who

does that, most of them do not pass it."

There are two tests Indiana residents must pass to receive their driver's license: a written knowledge test and an in-car driver's

(Continued on Page 2)

County will consider alternate route for **500W at Rock Creek**

By HOLLY GASKILL

A portion of County Road 500 West may be diverted around Rock Creek Stone Quarry as a potential compromise between the business and local residents.

The quarry has filed a petition to vacate CR 500W from CR 100N past the Whitelock Ditch, approximately 1,650 ft. in total. Last December, a large group of area residents spoke against the petition at a public hearing, particularly citing concerns about access to State Road 124. The matter was tabled as the business considered other options.

Representing the quarry on Monday, Chase Fiechter proposed travel be diverted east just before the Whitelock Ditch rather than create a dead end. A map presented to the commissioners showed this new road continuing east for a short jog, crossing over the ditch with a new bridge culvert, and turning north toward 100N.

Fiechter plans to expand the quarry across the road and wishes to avoid the burdens and hazards of moving equipment across the road. To accomplish this, attorney Jon Bomberger said the business would foot the bill for the new

road, built to the county's specifications.

Additionally, Bomberger stated approval of the road closure would be contingent upon the new road's completion. He proposed this would occur no earlier than December 2025.

Commissioner Blake Gerber and Mike Vanover were receptive to the proposal but did not vote on the matter — they stated they wanted to wait until Commissioner Jeff Stringer and new County Engineer Nate Whitacre could familiarize themselves with the proposal. Stringer was absent from Monday's meeting.

County Attorney Ted Storer also suggested the quarry present design specifications.

Think the idea that we would fully engineer the road before it's approved is kind of tough," Bomberger responded.

Fiechter added, "We just, more or less, are trying to get approval so we know which direction we're going because there's a lot of dotting the I's and crossing T's there's a lot more work. It'd be nice to know at the end of this

(Continued on Page 2)

Construction work is full steam ahead at BHMSD schools

By JONATHAN SNYDER

Construction upgrades to Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District's middle and high schools are on schedule, Superintendent Brad Yates reported.

The district has a full slate of projects for the summer and looking toward the fall, which all came with updates during Monday's board meeting.

Already this summer, turf has been replaced at Bluffton High School's football stadium has been finished. The track around the field has also been re-asphalted, and crews are now waiting for the asphalt to cure, a 30-day process, before they put the new track surface on top. Yates reported that the asphalt on the south end between the concession stand and locker rooms was re-sealed. The turf area beyond the south endzone was also striped with lines as a practice area for the football teams.

"They moved fast on that," board member Mike Murray commented.

Yates announced that the roof access improvement and science room renovations for the middle school are expected to be completed before Aug. 1. Canopy improvements have also begun for the high school roof replacement. Yates said that the upper roof portion above the gym has been replaced, and crews are now moving to the longer piece of the roof next to the gym. Window replacements are scheduled for July.

Yates stated that the district is sending designs for bathroom modifications at the middle school to the state for approval. The bathroom renovations were taken off of the initial renovations scheduled in 2022 due to cost concerns at the time. There is no current timeline for the bathroom improvements but is expected to be completed during a fall or winter break.

The district has also received responses for the groundwork project for the Our Town Safety Village project. Yates said a con-(Continued on Page 2)

Local/Area

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Opinion Justin Peeper 4

Also... Sports. 6-1a Classifieds 3a Diversions 2a



Wear sunscreen and be sure to stay hydrated

Wed. Thursday High 95 | High 96 High 93 Low 72 | Low 73 | Low 72

More Weather on Page 2



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Alternate route

(Continued from Page 1) rabbit hole that there's an opportunity to get approval, we're just trying to understand where you guys are."

At the December hearing, residents expressed concerns about closing the road with regular travel, school bus routes and emergency response, among other items. Local volunteer firefighters also advised that the closure could impact response times in the area and were apprehensive about crossing neighboring bridges with their fire trucks.

Storer advised the commissioners that there would not have to be another hearing since, but said, "There is certainly nothing that would prevent the commissioners from notifying the public about this alternative at another public hearing.'

Vanover and Gerber stated they planned to revisit the discussion with Stringer at their next meeting, July 1,

with plans to consider it for an additional 30 days.

Also during the meeting, Whitacre notified the commissioners that he's completed Employee in Responsible Charge training and will be able to take over projects from Highway Supervisor Shawn Bonar, excluding projects considered overlapping with Whitacre's time with the Indiana Department

of Transportation. The commissioners also signed off on the substantial completion of the new highway department garage, which the county began to use in March. There are still several items being completed or repaired, which Project Manager Conor Jackson said would not be affected.

Bonar reported that the open house of the building went well, with many people complimenting the new facility. Bonar also stated that employees have begun mowing side ditches, but the task has taken more effort due to heavy spring rains. Bonar plans to present a list of prospective summer road conversions at the commis-

sioners' next meeting. Meanwhile, Sheriff Holliday said Havel of Fort Wayne will soon inspect the Wells County Jail to identify the root of a sewer issue. The administrative portion received repairs earlier this year, but issues have continued throughout the building.

On Monday evening, Holliday reported 82 inmates were housed in the jail, which included 40 pre-trial holds for the Circuit Court, 25 pre-trial holds for the Superior Court, five from the Department of Correction and one Level 6 felon.

In other updates:

• Dewey Randall spoke about the Veterans Office services, reporting a slight decline in activity. However, Randall noted that the office

has served roughly 30 out-ofcounty veterans who are not included in activity totals.

• The board for the Solid Waste District, Drainage Board and commissioners discussed their 2025 budgets with no significant changes. Surveyor Jarrod Hahn discussed changing billing for the board attorney — County Attorney Ted Storer but no changes were made at that time.

· Auditor Lisa McCormick reported 401 vehicles showed up for the county's HazMat Day. During the Solid Waste District's board meeting, which precedes the commissioners', board members Vanover, Gerber, John Whicker and Vicki Andrews were present; Stringer, Scott Mentzer and Stephanie Tucker were absent.

• The Drainage Board agreed to cancel their July 1 meeting, as Hahn will be out of office.

holly@news-banner.com

No mail delivery Wednesday, so N-B delivery will be delayed for a day

Due to Wednesday, June 19, being a federal holiday, Juneteenth, the mail will not be delivered and therefore home delivery of The News-Banner will be delayed one

This means Wednesday's newspaper will be delivered with Thursday's newspaper. If you are a subscriber who would like Wednesday's newspaper on Wednesday, stop by The News-Banner office at 125 N. Johnson St. where you can get a copy of the paper at no additional cost in the foyer.

Our website will be updated with Wednesday's content and e-edition as usual that day as well.

Newspapers will be available for sale on newsstands and at The News-Banner office, which is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Weather

Tuesday, June 18, 2024 (24-hour observations at 10:53 p.m. Monday) **High:** 96; **Low:** 75; **Precipitation:** None

Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.44 feet at 8:45 p.m. Monday

Wells County forecast

Today: A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms after 11 a.m. Partly sunny and hot, with a high near 93. Southwest wind 10 to 15 mph.

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 72. South wind 5 to 10 mph.

Juneteenth: A slight chance of showers before 11 a.m., then a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Partly sunny and hot, with a

high near 95. Heat index values as high as 98. Southwest wind around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 73. Southwest wind around 5 mph becoming calm in the eve-

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

cloudy, with a low around Friday: Sunny and hot,

with a high near 97.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around

Saturday: Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 97. Saturday Night: A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 75.

Sunday: A 40% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny and hot, with a high near 92.

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

Holland steps down

(Continued from Page 1)

Since BHMSD's next scheduled board meeting falls outside the 30-day window, a special meeting was added for July 16.

Holland, who was absent Monday because of a training session, was invited to be recognized in person during the district's next meet-

"While we are sad to see

him leave our board, we are deeply grateful for the significant contributions Mr. Holland has made during his time with BHMSD," Yates said. "We have much appre-

ciation for not only his years of service on the board, but to our district as a resource officer as he continues to do that," board member Mike Murrav said

jonathan@news-banner.com

BHMSD construction

(Continued from Page 1)

tractor would be selected by the end of next week. Later during the meeting, the board

approved changes to its classified handbook. Some highlights include the addition of flexible workweek schedules during the summer months for all-year personnel, the addition of remote working provisions, a change from daily to hourly increments for paid time off, the paid holiday on President's Day moving to Independence Day, and a 2% increase to wages. The board also approved a change to

paid time off accrual from a 12-month waiting period to a 90-day waiting period. In response to the new change, a onetime stipend of \$500 will be awarded to every employee hired under the old PTO accrual system to compensate them.

In his report, Yates notified the board that budget preparation for the 2025 year will begin in July. Yates also announced that the district is looking at creating a part-time position for a clerical support role for special education students. Yates stated that a "considerable" amount of teachers' time is spent communicating with parents to schedule progress meetings. The new position will help coordinate conferences between parents and teachers for those meetings.

'Instead of having a teacher go back and forth (with parents) ... to try and find the best date and time, or reschedule, it would go through one party,"

The board also approved the following personnel recommendations:

• Teaching staff: Grace Dunmoyer as a third grade teacher, Amy Shane as speech-language pathology assistant, Kim Gerber as childcare supervisor, Lydia McConnell as substitute teacher, Mitchel Bertsch as substitute teacher, Tiffany Winebrenner as full-time Pre-K instructional assistant, Rachel Kinsey as high school special education instructional assistant, Jolleen Turner as high school library instructional assistant and ISS supervisor, and Sue Elzey as middle school special education instructional assistant.

 Coaching staff: Brent Kunkel as high school head football coach with Todd Morgan, Bryan Bowman, Casey Kolkman, Adam King, Tim Millspaugh Alex Schantz and Bryce Bonewit as assistant coaches; Jeramy Fendel, Jacob Summers, Ty Kinsey, Brandon Lockwood and Scott Ribich as middle school football coaches; Robert Vanderkolk as high school boys' head tennis coach with Hunter Cunningham, Spencer Schwartz, Jared Grandlienard and Ashlee Xayyachack as assistant coaches; Adam Atkins as high school boys' golf head coach with Steve Abbett as assistant coach; Brent Kunkel as high school boys' track head coach and Michael Vanderkolk as assistant coach; Tara Cocanower as high school Girls' golf head coach and Jody Ault

and Krista Baxter as assistant coaches; Caylee Pyle as high school volleyball head coach; Erica Bluhm as high school cheerleading head coach with Sara Runyon as assistant coach; Abigail Fillers and Michaela Rinehart as high school and middle school cheerleading assistant coaches; Cheyanne Penrod as middle school cheerleading coach with Emily Burchett as assistant coach; Tyler Sonnigsen as high school softball head coach with Lauren Brinneman, Karley Nash, Luke Petty and Jeff Olson as assistant coaches; Sebastian Baxter as high school boys' track head coach with Bob Dahl and Tara Cocanower as assistant coaches; Robert Vanderkolk as assistant athletic director; Michael Vanderkolk as high school cross country coach with Bob Dahl as assistant coach; and Bethany Clem as middle school cross country assistant coach.

• Summer employment: Darcy Isch for summer work hours; Annette Clark, Karen Kelly, Nikki Nash and Paris Davis as BHES summer camp instructional assistants; Brent Kunkel as summer high school head football coach; and Doug Curtis as high school girls summer basketball head coach.

· Resignations for Jason Pierce, fourth grade teacher and head baseball coach; Kierra Kinsey, middle school intense intervention instructional assistant; and Laken Etzler, middle school digital citizenship teacher.

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Indiana's driver's test

Residents must pass the written knowledge test to apply and renew their learner's permit. USA Today reported that 43% of test takers from 2020 to 2023 passed this knowledge test.

Hoosiers also need to take an in-car driving test, which assesses a driver's ability to safely operate a vehicle, use defensive driving habits and park. 80.4% of test takers passed the skills test.

The Indiana Capital Chronicle contacted the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles on June 4 requesting data and comment but agency officials did not respond by publication.

Barriers to the test

Rep. Becky Cash, R-Zionsville, has heard her constituents and co-workers talk about struggling to pass the written test, even if they have driver's licenses in other states. She said some Hoosiers take the test up to six times before they're able to pass the test.

"I'll talk to people my own age and they'll say, 'oh my gosh, I moved here from Massachusetts, and I nearly failed the Indiana test when I moved here' or 'I failed it the first time and I've been driving for 25 years," Cash

People who recently moved to Indiana from another country or are trying to renew an expired license or have six or more points on their driver record also have to take the written test. If someone moves to Indiana from a different state and needs to renew their license, they must also take this test. The test consists of multiple choice questions on traffic maneuvers and types of traffic signs, and test takers must get 80% or higher correct answers to pass the exam.

Cash also said some people may face additional barriers to taking the written test. For instance, she said her daughter, who has a learning disability, strug- the paper?" gied to take the test on the BMV's computer. She failed the test twice on the computer before being offered paper copy, which she passed the first time.

"Why can't anybody ask for a paper copy from the first time they take the test?" Cash said. "Why do they have to fail it on a computer twice if they know that they have a learning disability that makes it so they need to be able to physically have

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In Indiana, students must be at least 16 years and 270 days old to obtain a driver's license. The Indiana BMV allows students who are 16 years and 90 days of age to take the test with a licensed driver training provider, if they have successfully completed a driving training program with that provider. Cash believes this law can disadvantage students whose families cannot afford to pay for a driving

training program, which can often cost more than \$400 per student.

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OBITUARIES

Doris Donaghy Jones, 97

Doris Donaghy Jones, 97, of Ossian, passed away on Wednesday, June 12, 2024 at Ossian Health and Rehabilitation Center, surrounded by her four children.

Doris was born in Chatsworth, Illinois, on Dec. 14, 1926, daughter of the late James and Myrtle (Lewis) Morgan. She previously lived with her twin sister at the Royal Palms, in Florida. The twins

were very spiffy, loved by all and never forgotten by anyone that knew them. She was a graduate of Lafayette Central High School.

Doris and late husband Richard owned Donaghy Builders and Contractors in the Fort Wayne area. In retirement, they were the owners of Seven Pines Mobile Home Park in Florida. She also owned and managed the Ogden Place apartments in Ossian.

Doris was a longtime member of the Ossian United Methodist Church. She enjoyed life, traveling, time with her many friends and loving family.

Doris is survived by her four children, Richard (Monica) Donaghy, Marsha Allen, Linda (Glen) Motley and Thomas (ReAnn) Donaghy; stepchildren, Gary (Diane) Jones, Greg (Angie) Jones, and Diane Swan; 12 grandchildren; nine step-grandchildren; 30 greatgrandchildren; three greatstep-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in passing by her loving first husband of 35 years, Richard Clayton Donaghy (father of their

children); previous husband of 31 years, Bill C. Jones; four sisters, Lillian Stoppenhagen, Juanita Walker, Joyce Hunter; and her twin, Dorothy Clark; stepdaughter, Carol Parker; and her twin granddaughters, Amy and Emily Motley.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, June 21, 2024, at Ossian United Methodist Church, 201 West Mill St. in Ossian, with visitation one hour prior. Visitation will also be held from 3-7 p.m. on Thursday, June 20, 2024, at Elzey-Patterson-Rodak Funeral Home 120 West Mill St. in Ossian. Burial to follow the service at Oak Lawn Cemetery. Contributions in Doris' memory may be made to Ossian United Methodist Church.

Jeanne Gaylan Smith, 61

Funeral services for Jeanne Gaylan (Record) Smith, 61, will be 10 a.m. (CST), Wednesday, June 19, 2024, at First United Methodist Church in Mansfield, Louisiana. Officiating the services will be Pastor Joseph Guo, Pastor Kathy Fitzhugh, and Mary Jo Babcock.

A visitation will be held at Kilpatrick's Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Mansfield, LA on Tuesday, June 18, 2024 from

5-7 p.m. (CST). Burial will be held 10 a.m. (EST), Friday, June 21, 2024, at West Newton Cemetery in Indianapolis.

Jeanne was born Dec. 23, 1962, in Martinsville, Indiana, to William J. Record, Jr. and Jo Ann (Kixmiller) Record. She passed away June 12, 2024, at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

Jeanne was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Mansfield where she served as Lay Leader, treasurer for the Women of Faith, a delegate to the annual conference, and active in all missions and projects for her church. She was a founding chairperson who served two consecutive terms for the SEAP, Special Education Action Committee, and a parent representative on the committee for the DOVE program. She was a 1981 graduate of Bluffton High School in Indiana and received her Bachelor of Science in Education from Indiana University in 1985. She was an avid sports fan loving and cheering on the Saints, I.U. sports, Astros and Indy 500. She was a proud supporter of North DeSoto Athletics in Louisiana.

In her high school and earlier years,

Elizabeth A. Aeschliman, 88

Elizabeth A. Aeschliman, 88, of Bluffton,

passed away Monday, June 17, 2024, at

Margaret J. "Jo" Spade, 99

17, 2024, at Heritage Pointe in Warren.

Margaret J. "Jo" Spade, 99, of Warren, passed away on Monday afternoon, June

her residence.



she was a star swimmer on her community and school swim teams, played clarinet in concert band and french horn in marching band, and taught swimming to special needs children and adults at Wells Community Pool.

Preceding Jeanne in death were her father, William J. Record, Jr; grandparents Clara (Kroft) and William J. Record, Sr.; and Gayle (Hill) and Dr.

John L. Kixmiller; two aunts Laura Ann (Record) Ervin and Mabel Mae Record.

Those left behind to cherish her memory are her huband, Frank Smith; sons, Joseph and wife Hannah; Travis; daughters, Stephanie and Molly; mother, Jo Ann (Kixmiller) Record; sister, Robin (Record) Sundstrom and husband Robert; brother, Bill Record, Ill and wife Elissa; uncle, John Kixmiller and wife Katie; nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Honoring the life of Jeanne as pallbearers will be Wil Delafield, Bo and Sam Odom, Zach Chandler, Trey Williams, Matt Kixmiller, Paul Schaefer, Rajeev Bhalla, Bob, Bronte and Owen Sundstrom.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to Angelman Syndrome Foundation, 3015 E. New York, St. Ste A2-285 Aurora, IL 60504. www. angelman.org

The family would like to express special thanks to the doctors and staff of MD Anderson Cancer Center, Acute Palliative Care and Supportive Care Unit, and Dr. Maxwell McDonald with Willis-Knighton North Cancer Center.

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

family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler in Bluffton.

Funeral arrangements are currently pending under the direction of the Lemler

Ossian Rotary to hear from Erin Prible of Wells Chamber of Commerce

At its regular weekly meeting on Thursday, June 20, Ossian Rotary will hear from Erin Prible, executive director of the Wells

County Chamber of Commerce.
Erin is a seasoned professional with over 25 years of experience in the nonprofit sector, skilled at managing boards of directors, marketing, public awareness, volunteer recruitment, and special events. She has served as the executive director of the Wells County Chamber of Commerce for the past twelve years, where she also coordinates the

Wells County Leadership Academy.
Erin holds certifications in Institute for Organization Management and Real Colors, a distinctive personality assessment that

she delivers through engaging and interactive workshops. Outside of her professional commitments, Erin enjoys spending time by the water and in the sunshine, gardening, reading books, and cherishing moments

with her family.

Anyone is welcome to attend Ossian Rotary this Thursday morning, at 7:30 at First Baptist Church of Ossian, 1001 Dehner Drive.

For more information, please contact Jeremy Penrod, Ossian Rotary President, at jeremy.penrod@edwardjones.com.

Next week's meeting will be a meeting of the Wells County Chamber of Commerce Business Before Hours program. All are welcome.

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Learning all about nature at Ouabache

Thirty-seven young people ages 8 to 17 participated in the Teen/Junior Indiana Master Naturalist Camp at Ouabache State Park this past week. Staff for the camp were members of the Friends of Ouabache State Park with Jody Heaston, head of the state's program as the camp director. Activities included learning about wild turkeys, opening geodes, hiking to view wild flowers and the bison, crafts, fishing and boating and of course climbing the fire tower. The campers included: Jace Draper, Clayton Gentis, Cora Gentis, Brooklyn Gentis, Laken Heaston, Milo Kensell, Violet Larr, Harrison Larr, Veronica Lincoln, Arabella Lincoln, Coltin Lincoln, Klay Markley, Anna McBride, Lucy McBride, Everlee Stronczek, Janie Stronczek, Raelynn Yardley, Gabby Grasmick, Grace Grasmick, Peter Andrews, Louis Andrews, Nasira Sweat, Selah Sweat, Karoline Powell, Kerrigan Powell, Cohen Leach, Rose Miller, Denise Miller, Isaac Stauffer, Grace Bender, Carson Bender, Eli Bender, Graham Barnhart, Sephora Alfreus, Hunter Hill, Leo Cincotta and Cole Stafford. (Photo by Barbara Barbieri)

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

County: Friday, 4:10 p.m., Wells

County Jail. Protection order served to Joshua Huffman.

Friday, 8:06 p.m., West Otto Avenue and North Lincoln Avenue, Uniondale. Report of a juvenile on bike threatening to fight other children. Saturday, 4:21 a.m.,

North Bond and West Lancaster streets, Bluffton. Traffic stop conducted for suspended license. Driver taken into custody.

Saturday, 9:50 a.m.,

3900S 600E, Bluffton. Report of a dead deer on property.

Saturday, 1:26 p.m., Elm Grove Cemetery. Report of a man taking photos of a woman. Unable to locate. Saturday, 5:15 p.m.,

Crossroads Pantry. Coty Newnum transported to jail for warrant. Saturday, 7:42 p.m., Ouabache State Park. Caller

reported domestic altercation.

Sunday, 2:36 a.m.,
3600W 1000S, Poneto. Caller reported subjects walking around property with cam-

era.
Sunday, 6:48 p.m., 2900
North Main Street, Bluffton.
Officers assisted city units

North Main Street, Bluffton. Officers assisted city units with missing subject.
Sunday, 7:54 p.m., 10

block of East Washington Street, Poneto. Report of several small dogs on property. Dogs reportedly didn't care for the caller's children. Sunday, 9:21 p.m., 11

block of East Washington

Corrections and clarifications

Catherine Peterson filed for the Lancaster Township seat on the board of trustees for Norwell Community Schools currently held by Angie Topp. Street, Poneto. Report of a loose dog. Dog returned to owner, advised of ordinance. 31, Andrews; operating with an ACE of .15 or more, and operating while intoxicated

Monday, 6:29 a.m., S.R. 124 and North Meridian Road, Bluffton. Driver cited for driving 75 in a 55 mph zone.

Monday, 9:47 a.m., 1000S 1100W, Marion. Driver reported traffic is too fast for his liking.

Monday, 11:37 a.m., Wells County Jail. Warrant served to Jamin A. Parrish. ACCIDENTS

County:

Saturday, 10:14 a.m., C.R. 600E and C.R. 900N. Andrew Todd, 37, Decatur, was driving straight when his Chevrolet Silverado collided with a Toyota Camry driven by Evan Szczepaniak, 17, Fort Wayne. Szczepaniak failed to yield as Todd had the right of way. Damages did not exceed \$10,000.

ARRESTS illiams Perez F

Williams Perez Hernandez, 43, Fort Wayne; child solicitation, a Level 4 felony. No bond set.

Jamin Artemas Parrish, 27, Auburn; battery — on a person less than 14-years-old, a Level 5 felony. Bond set at \$5,000.

Allen Thomas Newnum,

an ACE of .15 or more, and operating while intoxicated — endangerment, both Class A misdemeanors. Bond set at \$1,500.

Anthony D. Johnson, 32, Bluffton; operating with an ACE of .15 or more, and operating while intoxicated — endangerment, both Class A misdemeanors. Bond set at \$1,500.

Drew Nicholas White, 21, Bluffton; driving while suspended — prior, a Class A misdemeanor. Booked and released.

Carissa Monta Smith, 48, Bluffton; possession of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor, and operating a vehicle while suspended, a Class C misdemeanor. Booked and released.

Rex Harvey Myers

Calling: 1 - 3 p.m.
Tuesday, June 18.
Funeral: 3 p.m.
Tuesday, June 18 at the funeral home.

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A Father's Day fuel-pump fiasco in Alaska

It was August 2004, and my two friends and I were camping in a gas station parking lot in the town of GlennaÎlen, Alaska — not because we wanted to but because we were

Glennallen is a small place with fewer than 500 residents. It is located on the western side of the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve, which is where we had been earlier in



Justin Peeper

As luck would have it, we happened to be in a town later that day and near a gas station moments after the Jeep's fuel pump went out. Somehow we managed to coast into the station that had a mechanic on duty.

The good news was that the mechanic knew it was the fuel pump and he would be able to repair it.

The bad news was that it would take two days for the part to make it to Glennallen from Anchorage once he ordered it.

There was a hotel near-by, but we were on a twomonth road trip from Arizona to Alaska and had spent every night so far camping. We didn't want to break that streak — or our budget, as all three of us had just graduated college and were trying to stretch the money we had saved for this trip as far as we could.

We decided we would pitch our tent at dusk behind our car where no one could see it and that we would have it put away at dawn before the town's 500 residents were out and about. What can I say ... we were in our early 20s and on a shoestring budget.

Once we knew we were going to be guests of Glennallen for a few days, I dug out my cell phone from the glovebox.

My dad and I got matching flip phones earlier that summer before I left home to drive to Arizona to meet my friends for our road trip; our phones came with new numbers that were just one digit apart. We have the same phone numbers 20 years later.

I hadn't spoken with my dad in several days and decided to call to check in. He answered on the first ring and quickly asked where we were and how the trip was going.

"At the moment we're stuck in a small town in Alaska because the fuel pump went out in the Jeep," I shared with my dad. It just so happened that he was with my grandpa and my uncle at my grandpa's house in Bluffton as I shared our bad news.

"Do you need us to head that way to help? We can be there in about four days," he said. In the background, I heard my uncle and grandpa saying the same thing.

My friends and I laughed and said thanks but no thanks, as we expected to be back on the road in a couple of days.

"Your dad was joking, right?" one of my friends asked after we finished the call. Yes he was; but no he wasn't, I told them.

You see, my dad would have packed up the car and driven to Alaska to get us if I needed him to. And my grandpa and uncle would have been in the car as well. It would have taken him 59 hours to drive the 3,571 miles from Bluffton to Glennallen, but he would have done it without hesitation. My grandpa and uncles would have done the same because family always comes first.

A day doesn't pass that I don't stop and think about how lucky I am to have a dad who sacrificed so much for his family as he taught us a myriad of virtues and what matters in life — to work hard, to be thankful, to put family first, and so many more. The values that my grandpa instilled in my dad and my uncles are the same ones he has taught me over the years.

I wouldn't be who I am today without my dad because of all of the time he put into preparing me for life — skills that continue to serve me well to this day.

I only wish that I would have learned from him how to replace a fuel pump in case I ever got stuck in a small town in rural Alaska because he could do such a task faster than it probably took me to write this column. I guess it's not too late.

Happy belated Father's Day, Dad.

jdpeeper2@hotmail.com

Today in History

By The Associated Press Today is Tuesday, June 18, the 170th day of 2024. There are 196 days left in the year. This is Father's

Day.
Today's Highlight in History: On June 18, 1983, astronaut Sally K. Ride became America's first woman in space as she and four colleagues blasted off aboard the space shuttle Challenger on a six-day

On this date:

In 1812, the War of 1812 began as the United States Congress approved, and President James Madison signed, a declaration of war against Britain.

In 1815, Napoleon Bonaparte met defeat at Waterloo as British and Prussian troops defeated the French in Belgium.

In 1940, during World War II, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill urged his countrymen to conduct themselves in a manner that would prompt future generations to say, "This was their finest hour."

In 1971, Southwest Airlines began operations, with flights between Dallas and San Antonio, and Dallas and Houston.

In 1979, President Jimmy Carter and Soviet President Leonid I. Brezhnev signed the SALT II strategic arms limitation treaty in Vienna.

In 1986, 25 people were killed when a twin-engine plane and helicopter carrying sightseers collided over the Grand Canyon.

The News-Banner

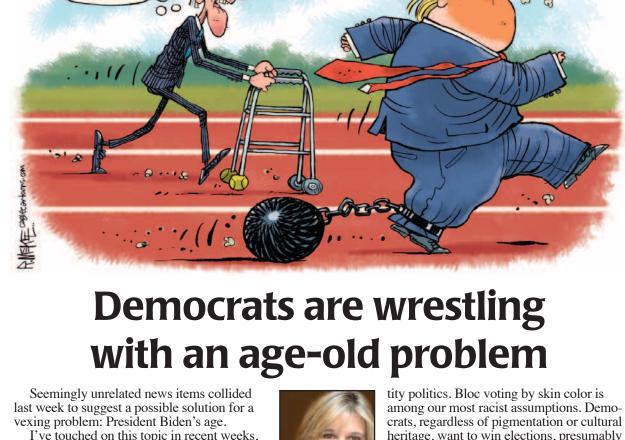
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> Holly Gaskill, Editor Mark Miller, Opinion Page Editor



I've touched on this topic in recent weeks, but with no clear vision for a fix. To sum up, Americans, including Democrats, are concerned about Biden's age and the increasing probability that he wouldn't be able to complete a second term. If he wins reelection, Biden will be 82 on Inauguration Day.

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M

osing to this

GUY...

The problem isn't his numerical age. People age in different ways. In some cases, people hardly age at all, they're so physically fit and mentally astute. But even the most robust 80-year-old would be challenged to keep pace with the White House job. Far younger presidents have turned gray in the Oval Office.

Biden's steady decline the past few years — his stumbles, his search for words, his occasional blank stare — has been impossible to ignore. Such change isn't a reflection of character; it's part of the natural order of life, and it isn't ageist to take note. But Biden and former president Donald Trump, 78, have forced the issue to the forefront of our politics.

Thus, we see North Dakota's recently approved ballot measure to establish an upper age limit for congressional candidates — the nation's first serious attempt to grapple with America's perceived gerontocracy. Until someone challenges the measure as unconstitutional, as expected, you can't run for Congress in North Dakota if you would turn 81 during your term. Neither Biden nor Trump could run for Congress in North Dakota.

For now. Under a 1995 Supreme Court ruling, states cannot create eligibility restrictions beyond what's in the Constitution. Of course, a solid argument can be made that elections take care of the age question. If candidates are deemed too old, voters don't

Inarguably, a significant obstacle to a Biden win is Kamala Harris, whose low popularity has not been improved by her lackluster performance as vice president. More independents and disenchanted Republicans might swing for Biden if it weren't for the prospect of a President Harris — not because of her sex, race or any other demographic category, but because of her competency, or lack thereof.

The question now is, how risky would it be for Democrats to replace her? Some worry that a change would jeopardize Black votes. It was never clear, however, that Harris was a draw for Black American voters, even if some Black women celebrated her rise. When she dropped out of the presidential race in 2019, she was polling below Pete Buttigieg in South Caro-

Moreover, does anyone really think any Democrats are going to suddenly turn to Trump because Biden changes running mates to improve his chances of reelection? Herein lies one of the problems with iden-



Kathleen **Parker**

heritage, want to win elections, presumably to advance a worldview consistent with their values. I'm not alone in suggesting that Biden

replace Harris, perhaps in exchange for a key role in his administration. Serving as attorney general at least would be in her wheelhouse. Several alternative candidates have been suggested, including Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, Illinois Sen.

Tammy Duckworth and, needless to say, Taylor Swift. (Kidding, though her outspoken contempt for Trump isn't nothing.)

By now, you've probably forgotten about the second part of the news collision earlier mentioned. It was a brief story Wednesday alleging a controversial development in a New York congressional race: Hillary Clinton had endorsed Westchester County Executive George Latimer for the House seat currently held by

incumbent "squad" member Jamaal Bowman.
In a post on X, Clinton wrote: "With Trump on the ballot, we need strong, principled Democrats in Congress more than ever. In Congress, @LatimerforNY will protect abortion rights, stand up to the NRA, and fight for President Biden's agenda — just like he's always done."

The controversy seems to stem mostly from the vitriol between the two candidates. Bowman has alleged that Latimer is an anti-Muslim racist controlled by Republican billionaires who want to end voting rights. (Now that's a mouthful.) During a recent debate, Latimer claimed that Bowman looks out only for people of color and ignores other constituents.

These volleys have come amid divisions over Israel's continued military operations in Gaza. Latimer is supported by the pro-Israel AIPAC, while his supporters accuse Bowman of using antisemitic tropes. As for Clinton, the question is, why now? Why would she suddenly get involved in a congressional race?

We are left to speculate about motive, but the effect of Clinton inserting herself into the news cycle is to remind voters that, but for her defeat in 2016, we wouldn't be stuck in this old-White-men dilemma. She is also reminding people of her relative centrism, her support for Israel and her broadly respected role as secretary of state.

No one has mentioned her as a possible running mate for Biden far as I know, but why not replace Harris with Clinton? At 76, she might want no part of it, but it's hard to retire when you feel your job isn't done. If Biden needs to step down, even those who didn't vote for Clinton would have confidence in her ability to keep the country on track. It's just a thought, but worse ideas have met with regrettable success.

kathleenparker@washpost.com.

A Charlottesville every day

president inside.

And on it goes. At Cali-

fornia State University Los

an administration building

and barricaded the school's

In New York City, the

townhouse of the Jewish

president of the Brooklyn

Museum was splashed with

Angeles, a rabble vandalized

Every day is a Charlottesville now, but hardly anyone notices.

The small central Virginia city is a metonymy for the 2017 white nationalist "Unite the Right" rally that created national shock waves and rocked the presidency of Donald J. Trump.

The antisemitic rhetoric and menacing nature of that event — in a different, leftwing form — are being replicated all over the country in openly hateful pro-Hamas protests.

Outside the White House last weekend, anti-Israel protestors wore terrorist headbands; chanted for Hamas and Hezbollah to "kill another solider now," and "kill another Zionist now"; held up signs urging another "intifada," or intense period of terrorist attacks on the Jewish state; and vandalized statues.

A few days later, a mob showed up outside a New York City exhibit memorializing the 10/7 terror attack on the Nova music festival. They waved Hezbollah and Hamas flags, and held up banners saying, "Long live October 7th," and "The Zionists are not Jews and not humans." On a subway car, members of the mob demanded to know if there were any "Zionists" present, offering them a "chance to get out."

Meanwhile, at UCLA, a mob set up an encampment and assaulted an independent journalist and rabbi, who was told that he is a pedophile and that he should go back to Poland or



red paint and emblazoned

Rich with an upside down red Lowry triangle, another Hamas symbol. The Unite the Right rally featured brawls between the white nationalists and counterprotesters, and a homicide when one enraged

member of the alt-right rammed into counterdemonstrators with his car. The mayhem at the pro-Hamas rallies hasn't reached that level, but the content and conduct are broadly the same as the "tiki torch" march on the grounds of the University of Virginia the night before the main Charlottesville rally. The pro-Hamas slogans aren't any

better than the infamous "Jews won't replace us" chant of the tiki-torchers, and, in fact, are more openly genocidal and violent. And there are the same angry confrontations with bystanders and threatening behavior. In other words, most of the pro-

Hamas actions are on the order of a KKK rally that isn't intensely violent, but results in property destruction and various altercations, with covid masks to hide the identity of the perpetrators substituting for white hoods.

Yes, there have been denunciations of the pro-Hamas protests, includ-

ing from the White House and even Squad member Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (the hideous protest outside the NYC music-festival exhibit was too much even for her).

Still, there's not the same sense of national crisis as there'd be if white supremacists were showing up all over the country and agitating against Jews and vandalizing property. Can you imagine the headlines and nightly news reports? Nor is there the same overwhelming media drumbeat condemning anyone associated with the protesters or their worldview. Substitute swastikas or confederate flags for the pro-terrorist symbols, chants of "blood and soil" for "from the river to the sea," and calls for "Anschluss" for calls for "intifada," and it'd be a very different situation. The backlash would be intense and irresistible it'd be all anyone was talking about, and excuses for, or coddling of, the protesters would be considered intolerable.

Instead, because not all Jew hatred, political extremism and support for terrorism are viewed the same, the pro-Hamas protests are more or less background noise. While the White House has distanced itself from the excesses, it has also clearly shifted its Israel policy to try to accommodate the pro-Hamas protestors.

So, to be more precise, the anti-Israel agitation is like Charlottesville if that event spawned disruptions all over the country and succeeded in shifting national policy in its direction, rather than discrediting its own

odious cause. Rich Lowry is on Twitter @RichLowry

BATH

Master Gardeners host garden walk on Saturday

By BARBARA BARBIERI

On Saturday, June 22, from noon to 4 p.m. four area gardens will be open to visitors, with hosts and hostesses to be the Wells County Master Gardeners.

A \$5 ticket will get admission to any of the four in any order. (Rain date will be Sunday, June 23, noon to 4 p.m.)

The gardens include: Rick & Beth Fiechter: 11722 S SR 1, Montpelier (1st

Kathy Geisel: 1008 Ranch Rd. Bluffton (Riverview) Jerry & Kathy Rauch: 1550 Treyburn Ct. (Bell Brook)

Kerry & Carol Schamerloh: 2176 E 350 N, Bluffton The photos below are from the Fiechter and Rauch gardens. (Photos of the other gardens will be featured in tomorrow's News-Banner.)

Rick & Beth Fiechter — 11722 S SR 1, Montpelier



Above, look closely in the Fiechter's front yard flower garden and you will see the antique iron fence that was salvaged from the Nottingham Church's cemetery. This garden also houses a colorful array of poppies, many that have been shared from other gardeners. Top right, some colorful hollyhocks have planted themselves along one of the Fiechter's barns. Bottom right, Flowers now receive more thought as Beth explains she can hardly wait to check each morning to see what colorful blooms have popped up over night. The varieties include poppies, cosmos, snapdragons, sunflowers, hollyhocks and more. There is a vegetable garden too, however. And just out of sight, at the left in this photo, is a small playhouse that has entertained the Fiechter's 20 grandchildren over the years. (Photos by Barbara Barbieri)





Jerry & Kathy Rauch — 1550 Treyburn Ct., Bluffton





Above left, a vegetable garden, at the right, is located between the stone path to the back yard seating area and the Rauch's home, at right, in the Bell Brook area of Bluffton. A view of a wooded area is visible from the area that features a small cafe table and chairs. Above right, stone steps lead down to a spacious yard that gives access to a small pond. On the covered patio a grill is set up for sharing picnic fare with family and friends. As many of the other gardeners the Rauch's were not sure what would be in bloom during the walk. Right, several small succulent plantings are located along the side of the Rauch home and here is just one of them. (Photos by Barbara Barbieri)

Ossian Presbyterian Church to host Vacation Bible School

The Ossian Presbyterian Church will host a Vacation Bible School for children in preschool through Grade 5 during the 2024-

25 school year. This year's theme is will dive deep into an is really all about.

amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love and friendship of God. At SCUBA VBS, kids will be immersed in the Word and SCUBA VBS. Children discover what living water

The dates for the VBS are Sunday, June 23, through Thursday, June 27. Classes will be held from 6

to 8 p.m. each evening. Register at ossianchurch.com under the 'pro-

Those attending are

asked to wear blue on Sunday, red on Monday, pink/ purple on Tuesday, yellow on Wednesday, and green on Thursday.

An offering will be collected each evening with proceeds going to Karing

Gloria describes the process of Amish ordination

Are you familiar with Amish ordinations? An ordination is a service where a new minister, deacon, or bishop is ordained.

We have several examples in the New Testament of ways they ordained a church leader. We follow the example they used in Acts to ordain Matthias.

The weeks before the ordination are a time of spending time with God in prayer and seeking His guidance and will. There are also special topics the day before, as well as the day of, the ordination that pertain to the role of a minister, deacon, or bishop, depending on what the ordination will be for. In most Amish churches you'll find four ordained leaders working together, leading out. These brothers spend many hours talking and praying behind the scenes, then sharing with the church what they have found. Many times, there are discussions among the brethren before a final decision is made. No one is forced to be a member, we voluntarily choose to help build the church together and serve where we can.

It's been 15 years since our last ordination which is when Daniel's brother John was ordained deacon. The deacon serves as one who is specifically called to be on the look out for needs to be met and take care of the church money, as well as help make decisions, and take their turn preaching.

Tomorrow we'll be ordaining a minister. The minister plays a vital role in preaching, making decisions, and helping lead out in the church.

Ordinations are not a time of campaigning, however on the day of the ordination they privately take votes from all lay members of the church of who each person has on their hearts that may be the one God is calling. The brothers in church that have four or more votes are then in what we call the lot. The number of people in the lot will be matched with the number of books that are to be used.

Each brother in the lot then picks out a book from the row that has been placed upfront, each with a rubber band placed around it. There are some intense moments as every person in the room waits expectantly, knowing that God himself will choose the new

The Amish Cook

by Gloria Yoder

minister. When they take their seats in front, their wife is seated next to them. The bishop will then open the books, one at a time, one of which will be found the paper with the calling of the minister. This brother is then asked to stand, and the bishop will place his hand on the man's head and read the paper and commission him with the calling at hand.

After he's been ordained the church people take turns go up to greet the newly ordained couple and show their support.

You know what? Our waiting period for the ordination is coming to a close. Our overnight guests, who are here for tomorrow's ordination, are coming anytime. Hopefully, by tomorrow night, I'll have an update to let you know how things turned out.

Our children have never been to an ordination before so this is all new to them. While being a minister is not a coveted undertaking, Daniel would tell his children he's willing to do whatever God has for him. Now that God has called Daniel home there has been a shift, we miss him during times as these, still we know that God does all things well, so it really is okay.

It happened. Wow, what a day! There were two men in the lot. You may remember hearing me talk about my cousin Josh and his wife who spent time talking and praying with me every week since Daniel went to heaven. Josh was the one who drew the book with the paper and now received the calling of a minister. They have an interesting life with five children, farm animals, fish to sell, and Josh and his oldest son working at Vernon's sawmill. While we do not pay our ministers a salary, it is our goal to be there to show our support, by helping them as needed.

The children were quite intrigued with the thought of having Josh get up to preach. When we stopped by their house little Joshua giggled, saying, "We are going to the preacher's

Their lives will be changing with their new calling, still it will be okay. In Josh's calm demeanor he had expressed himself the evening before the ordination when he said,"I told God a long time ago that he can do with my life what he wants, so it's up to him."

Their hearts to serve without thinking of themselves has blessed me many times. Josh's wife Joyce has made supper for us numerous times when we went to their house for the evening. Joyce made these drop doughnuts a while ago, they were a hit right off the bat for all of us. They taste much like the regular homemade doughnuts, but



Drop Doughnuts

½ cup mashed potatoes

½ cup sugar

1 egg, beaten ½ cup sour cream

2 teaspoons vanilla 1½ cup flour

½ teaspoon baking soda

1/4 teaspoon baking powder In a bowl combine first five ingredients. Next mix together all dry ingredients then stir into potato mixture. Drop by tablespoons in hot lard, and deep fry in hot oil or lard for a few minutes or until golden brown. When done roll in powdered sugar. Best served warm.







*Special price is for first Lawn service only. Requires purchase of annual plan, for new residential EasyPay, MonthlyPay, or PrePay customers only. Valid at participating TruGreen locations. Availability of services and/or products may vary by geography. Not to be combined with or used in conjunction with any other offer or discount. Additional restrictions may apply. Consumer responsible for all sales Xxx *Guarantee applies to annual plan customers only. BBB accordited since 07/01/2012, @2024 TruGreen Limited Partnership, All rights reserved, in Connecticut, B-0153, B-1380, B-0127, B-0200, B-0151.



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If you can't stay indoors during the heat wave, here are a few ideas

FARMINGTON HILLS, Mich. (AP) — It's hot and getting hotter for workers and everyone else outdoors as the first significant heat wave of the year makes its way eastward across the United States. More than 70 million people were under extreme heat alerts Monday.

What's more, the heat will move in and sit. Excessive humidity will make it feel even more oppressive. "The duration of this heat wave is notable and potentially the longest experienced in decades for some locations," the National Weather Service said over the weekend.

That's dangerous. Emergency medical services across the U.S. already deployed for heat-related

FARMINGTON HILLS, Mich.

AP) — It's hot and getting hotfor workers and everyone else atdoors as the first significant tracker.

emergencies more than 2,400 times between June 1 and June 14, according to a government data tracker.

From gardeners to builders, not everyone can stay indoors. Here's some advice on how to cope from some of the people who will be working outside this week.

Watch yourselves, and others

Last year the U.S. had the most heat waves — abnormally hot weather lasting more than two days — since 1936.

Now, "we are going to be looking at some record high temperatures on a daily basis in some locations," said Andrew Orrison, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service. Temperatures will be near 100 degrees in the

Boston, New York and Philadelphia corridor.

Do what you need early

From Southern California to parts of New England and from the Canadian border south to the Florida Keys, temperatures this week are expected to top 90 degrees and even over 100 in some places, according to the National Weather Service.

Chris Sander operates Powder Monkey Fireworks, which is already preparing for the Fourth of July in Missouri. Sales begin this week, and workers have started setting out the merchandise.

Sander said his employees do the hardest physical work early in the morning, before the heat grows. The tents are vented but not air-conditioned.

"We have a bunch of fans, so you'll pour bottled water on your head and stand in front of a 30-inch fan every five or 10 minutes, take a lot of breaks," Sander said. Workers can also go to an air-conditioned camper. Sander encourages lunch at a restaurant to help them cool off.

If needed, he'll send them nome.

"If you see somebody a little lethargic or not with it, tell them, 'You're done for the day. Come back tomorrow," he said.

Know your limits

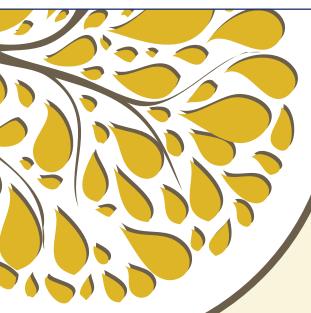
Urban areas are going to sizzle. Chicago is expected to reach 95 degrees Monday. The Detroit area could see 97 degrees on Thursday.

Knoxville, Tennessee, could have 96 degrees by Friday.

Work supervisors with the Oakland County Road Commission in southeastern Michigan try to restrict workers' hours in the direct sun, said spokesman Craig Bryson.

On some jobs, shifts are staggered. Crews work during the cooler mornings and resume in the evening to avoid the hottest part of the day.

It's also important to teach workers how to recognize there's an issue in each other, Brooks said: "Generally, people who are experiencing heat exhaustion aren't going to recognize it as heat exhaustion because they get tunnel vision."



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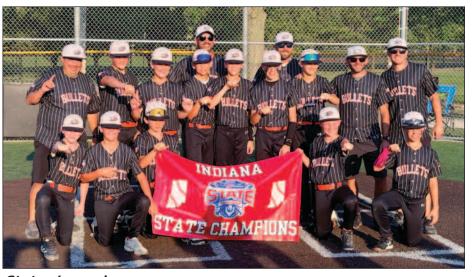


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State champions

This weekend the Bluffton Bullets won the USSSA 12U AA State Championship, going 7-0. Pictured front row, from left, Bear Sprunger, Easton Schipper, Nolan Fields, Kreigh Ault and Brayden Carroll; middle, from left, Justin Carroll, Kole Kiefer, Riker Beste, Clark Evans, Chandler Hirschy, Jace Reinhard, Harrison Buroker, Ben Sprunger and Casey Robins; and back row, from left, Andy Evans and Spencer Harris. (Photo provided)

Sports Roundup

Two records broken for **Wells summer swim team**

Kenzie Kopp broke the 50 freestyle in the 9/10 age group. The team record was set in 2019 by Vivian Reidenbach. The new record is 18.82.

Ellie Coyne broke the 25 freestylle 13/14 age group. The team record was set in 2023 by herself. The new record is 40.26.

Pennville Soccer League Week 4 results

Week No. 4 of the Pennville Soccer League finished off for the three age groups over the weekend at Pennville Park. Below are the results from each league and the scoring leaders.

Stinger Division (ages 4-6)

Patriot Sportswear Hornets 3, AgBest Express Bees zero. Grant Cosner had 2 goals and Ian Kaehr 1.

A Place to Grow Wasps 6, AgBest Express Bees zero. Mabel Leonhard had 4 goals and Harper Love had 2.

Patriot Sportswear Hornets 3, A Place to Grow Wasps, 1. Grant Cosner had 2 goals and Ian Kaehr 1 for the Hornets and Leonhard had 1 for the Wasps.

Space Division (ages 7-9)

Bro Shadow Meteors, 4, Ohio Valley Gas Stars, 2. Liam Phipps had 3 goals and Neymar Carreno had 1 for the Meteors. Wesson Laurence and Vinny New each had 1 goal

Vinson Rental Properties Galaxy, 3, Dave's Heating and Cooling Asteroids, 3. Raul Martinez had 2 goals and Nery Molina 1 for the Galaxy, and Owen Ehrhart, Addi McClain and Jordan Wendel each had 1 goal for the Meteors.

Ohio Valley Gas Stars, 2, New Beginnings Holiness Church Rockets, zero. Jude Cline and Vinny New each had one goal.

Wild Cat Division (ages 10-12) Pennville General Store Tigers, 3, POET Biorefining Cheetahs, 2. Blake Jellison had 2 goals and Luke Jellison 1 for the Tigers, and Jax McClain and Zyler White each had

1 goal for the Cheetahs. Penrod Monuments Jaguars, 3, Portland Insurance Cougars, 1. Gabrielle Gibson had 2 goals and Brielle McConnell 1 for the Jaguars, and Lyle Beiswanger 1 goal for the

WPGW Lions, 7, POET Biorefining Cheetahs, 2. Charlee Peters had 3 goals, Karsen Kuhn 2, Payson Rickard 1 and Jackson Westgerdes 1 for the Lions, and Jax McClain and Liam Thompson each had 1 goal for the Cheetahs.

Standings

Stinger: 1. Patriot Sportswear Hornets 4-1-1, 13 points. 2. A Place to Grow Wasps, 3-2-1, 10 points. 3. AgBest Express Bees, 1-5-0, 3 points

Space: 1. Bro Shadow Meteors, 5-0-0, 15 points. 2. Dave's Heating and Cooling Asteroids, 2-1-2, 8 points. 3. Vinson Rental Properties Galaxy, 1-2-2, 5 points. 3. Ohio Valley Gas Stars, 1-2-2, 5 points. 4. New Beginnings Holiness Church Rockets, 0-4-

Wild Cat: 1. WPGW Lions, 5-0-1, 16 points. 2. Penrod Monuments Jaguars, 1-0-4, 7 points. 3. Pennville General Store Tigers, 2-2-1, 7 points. 3. Portland Insurance Cougars, 1-3-0, 3 points. 4. POET Bioprocessing Cheetahs, 0–3-2, 2 points.

Texas A&M holds Kentucky in 5-1 College World Series win

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Texas A&M scored all of its runs in the sixth inning, Ryan Prager held Kentucky hitless into the seventh and the Aggies are off to their best start in a College World Series after their 5-1 win Monday night.

The Aggies (51-13) are 2-0 in the CWS for the first time in eight all-time appearances and have taken control of Bracket 2. They'll await the winner of a Tuesday elimination game between Florida and Kentucky (46-15) in the bracket final Wednesday. They would have to lose twice to be kept out of the best-of-three finals.

Prager (9-1), the season-long No. 1 pitcher for A&M, wiggled out of trouble twice before Ryan Nicholson lined the ball over second base for the Wildcats' first hit with two outs in the seventh. Nolan McCarthy followed with a double, putting runners on the corners, and then reliever Josh Stewart came on to strike out Patrick Herrera.

Prager, rocked for six

super-regional start against

Oregon, threw only 10 pitches in a 1-2-3 first inning against the Wildcats, and he retired 13 in a row from the second to sixth

inning. The sophomore lefthander walked one, hit a batter and struck out four.

Not everything went smoothly. A&M catcher Jackson Appel made a huge play with two outs in the second when James McCoy bunted to the left side with Nick Lopez heading home from third. Appel ran down the ball and fired to first to get McCoy on a close play upheld on review.

The Wildcats had two runners on with one out in the sixth after a walk and error. Prager got out of the inning when Kaeden Kent fielded Devin Burkes' sharp grounder down the thirdbase line, tagged the bag and threw to first for an

runs in 1 2/3 innings in his inning-ending double play. Texas A&M scored five

times in the sixth to take control. Jace LaViolette walked leading off against Mason Moore (9-4), Appel doubled into the right-field corner and both

came home on Hayden Schott's single into left field. Cameron O'Brien came on in relief and gave up an RBI double to Ali Camarillo and a two-run single to Kent.

Kentucky ended the Aggies' bid for a nationleading 12th shutout when Nicholson homered with one out in the ninth.

The only down side for the Aggies was an injury to LaViolette, who hobbled on his right leg crossing home plate in the sixth. LaViolette leads the Aggies with 28 homers and 77 RBIs, and he was the hero of their CWS-opening win over Florida when his catch at the fence robbed the Gators of a go-ahead homer in the ninth inning.

A night for familiar names: Murphy, King head to their 3rd Olympics

By PAUL NEWBERRY **AP National Writer**

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) It was a night for familiar names at the U.S. Olympic swimming trials.

American backstroke star Ryan Murphy is headed to his third Olympics. So is breaststroke queen Lilly

And how about Katie Grimes? She'll be swimming indoors and outdoors at the Paris Games.

In a hectic session featuring five finals, Murphy won the men's 100-meter backstroke Monday to continue a run of excellence that dates to his breakout at Rio de Janeiro in 2016.

The 28-year-old Floridian touched in 52.22 second and now gets a chance to

add to his already impressive resume, which includes four golds, one silver and one bronze. "I think I enjoy it a little

bit more than I used to," Murphy said. "I used to feel like I was going to throw up before every race.' Hunter Armstrong

claimed the likely second Olympic spot in 52.72 edging Jack Aikins by twohundredths of a second.

The 27-year-old King thrilled her home-state fans at Lucas Oil Stadium, by taking the 100 breaststroke in 1 minute, 5.43 seconds,

She has said that her third Olympics will be her last. She's already got two gold, two silvers and one bronze in her stellar career.

"This is unbelievably spe-

cial," King said. "You can hear your voice echo in here. I love swimming here.'

Emma Weber was the

runner-up in 1:06.10 edging Tokyo gold medalist Lydia Jacoby by 0.27, which means the Alaska native won't get a chance to defend her title in Paris. Grimes has already

clinched a spot in open water, which will be held in the Seine River. She added a pool spot with a victory in the women's 400 individual medley.

Grimes built a big lead through the butterfly and backstroke legs, surrendered the top spot to Emma Weyant on the breaststroke, but rallied in the freestyle to take the guaranteed spot for Paris in 4:35.00.

Kansas lawmakers to debate if wooing the Chiefs with new stadium is worth the cost

By JOHN HANNA

Associated Press

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Kansas legislators trying to lure the Kansas City Chiefs to their

state argue that helping the Super Bowl champions build a new stadium could bring Kansas millions of dollars in income taxes from players and coaches, which are currently going to Missouri.

Some economists are dubious that new revenues from "jock taxes" would be significant for Kansas, and a debate over the question emerged ahead of a special session of the Kansas Legislature set to convene Tuesday. Lawmakers expect to consider a plan to authorize state bonds to help the Chiefs and professional baseball's Kansas City Royals finance new stadiums on the Kansas side of their metropolitan area, which is split by the border with Mis-

Professional athletes and touring entertainers pay income taxes not only in their home states but also other states where they perform, if those states impose income taxes. For athletes, Kansas taxes a percentage of their income based on how many games they play in the state — so that if a visiting minor-league infielder has 12 of his team's 120 games each season in Wichita, 10% of their income is

Economists who've studied pro

sports teams for decades have concluded that subsidizing their stadiums isn't worth the cost for their communities. But supporters of bringing the Chiefs

and Royals to Kansas believe that skepticism doesn't properly consider taxes from the large incomes of the best professional players.

"The 53 players are making approximately \$250 million, and that continues to

go up, and that doesn't include any of the executives, the coaching staff or rest of the team out there," Korb Maxell, a Chiefs attorney, told legislators during an informational hearing Monday at the Statehouse. "You have all of the other visiting teams that are coming and always paying in those taxes as well."

Kansas already collects some income taxes from professional athletes, though the state Department of Revenue does not have figures. The state is home to NASCAR's Kansas Speedway, professional soccer's Sporting KC and several minor league baseball and hockey teams.

Missouri is home for the Chiefs, the Royals, Major League Baseball's St. Louis Cardinals and the National Hockey League's St. Louis Blues, plus two minor-league baseball teams.

Missouri has collected nearly \$34 million in income taxes from professional athletes during the current budget year that began July 1, up

9% from the \$31 million collected the previous year, according to the state. However, during the current budget year, when the Chiefs won their third Super Bowl in five years, taxes from football players jumped 39% from about \$14 million to \$19

It's not clear how much of Missouri's revenue would come to Kansas if its lawmakers succeed in attracting the Chiefs, the Royals or both.

Geoffrey Propheter, an associate professor of public affairs at the University of Colorado Denver who regularly publishes papers on sports economics, predicted that the figure for the Chiefs would be "trivial," only a few million dollars, even if they also moved practice facilities to Kansas.

He also said lawmakers should consider additional issues that come with a new stadium, such as traffic congestion, light pollution and how rising property values make housing less affordable to local residents.

"On the Kansas side of the river, they get access to the team without paying the cost," he said. "That's a fantastic situation to be in."

Others' figures for potential new income tax revenues are millions of dollars higher.

One potential issue is whether Kansas' rule could withstand a court chal-

Edward Zelinsky, a professor at Yeshiva University's Cardozo School of Law in New York City, said such rules unfairly over-tax athletes.



Hole-in-one

Over the weekend Chase Gibson of Bluffton achieved a hole-in-one on Hole 2 at Etna Acres Golf in Andrews, Indiana. Gibson is pictured at right in the above photo, with his dad, Heath. (Photo provided)







Tips for staying sober

Dear Annie: I wanted to offer a you have quit. few thoughts for your readers regarding alcohol awareness. The truth is improved selfthat any method that helps someone respect. reduce their alcohol consumption has to be commended. People with alcohol be enslaved. dependency come from all walks of life and demographics.

These phrases are the basis of Allen Carr's "Easy Way to Quit" and Holly Whitaker's "Quit Like a Woman" (based in part on the first program). They have been my mantra for more than two years. The two methods helped me to cut my alcohol dependency completely. I have them written on an index card. At first, I read it every day. While that became less necessary after the first year, I still occasionally reread them and maintain my commitment to being a non-drinker.

Fundamentals to Abstinence: Make a vow to quit forever. Define yourself as a non-drinker. Take away the desire to drink. There's no such thing as one drink. One drink is all it takes to hook you. Never doubt your decision to quit. To stop feeling the need, stop use.

Definition of Alcohol: It's not a weakness; it's a trap. It doesn't bring pleasure or a crutch. You cannot control alcohol; it con-

It's an addiction, not a habit. The tendency is to drink more, not

Cutting down results in drinking more.

It's a poison.

Advantages to Quitting: Choose a life of health/happiness. You have everything to gain. Start with a feeling of elation that

Dear Annie by Annie Lane have





Drinking Disadvantages:

more money, time and clarity.

Rejoice to not

have

You

You

It removes your ability to know when you're dull, rude, obnoxious.

It takes away your power.

It impairs your sleep.

It makes you more stressful and fearful.

It causes a deterioration of looks.

It causes horrendous hangovers.

It causes arguments/violence.

It causes dread.

It is your worst enemy.

Your ability to deal with stressful situations is reduced.

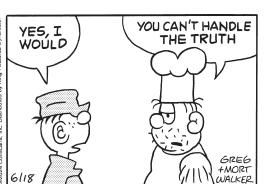
 Alcohol Awareness Dear Alcohol Awareness: Thank you for sharing some of the teachings that have helped you stay sober for two years. Other readers have used different messages, particularly the 12 steps from Alcoholics Anonymous. As you say, any method that helps an alcoholic get sober is good for that person.

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

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'ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT' IS WITH MASON JARRE AT THE PREMIERE OF THE NEW BLOCKBUSTER STARBUCK JONES MOVIE!







My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham

Question: A monumental task is in front of me: to find all the promises of God, particularly regarding affliction. I'm exploring Scripture on an old question: why God allows suffering and how much He permits people to bear. In these progressive times, I do believe we as a people have gotten soft and can't deal with the slightest hardship. Many people simply cannot trust in God because of this unanswerable mystery. Yet, don't we have a responsibility to bring our cares to Him and trust Him as He guides us? -

Answer: Estimates as to the number of promises in the Bible range all the way from 8,000 to 30,000.

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300 501 (:25) House of the Dragon

310 515 (4:30) ♀★★★ Source Code Jake Gyllenhaal.

MAX

PARSHO

God concerned about every aspect of our lives

and societies change as new ideas emerge. But one thing is certain: God does not change. "I the Lord do not change" (Malachi 3:6, ESV). John Bunyan wrote, "Afflictions are governed by God, both as to time, number, nature, and measure. Our times, and our conditions [are] in the hand of God, [so] are our souls and bodies, to be kept and preserved from evil while the rod of God

God is interested in and concerned about every aspect of our lives – physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual. The Bible makes it clear that nothing that concerns us is beneath God's concern.

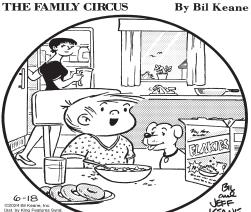
We must remember that there are only two kinds of people: those

who trust in God, and those who do not. God's promises are for His people. God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1, NIV). However, we often allow bitterness to keep Him at a distance when He wants to bring us near. If we will make our sorrow and trouble an occasion for learning more of God's love and of His power to aid and bless, we will grow more confident of His providence. As a result, the brightness of His love will fill our lives.

(This column is based on the words and writings of the late Rev. Billy Gra-

ham.) ©2024 Billy Graham Literary Trust. Distributed by Tribune Content Agencv. LLC.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I love wakin' up every morning now and remembering that there's no school

The LOCKHORNS



I USED TO LEARN SOMETHING NEW EVERY DAY. NOW I FORGET SOMETHING NEW EVERY DAY."

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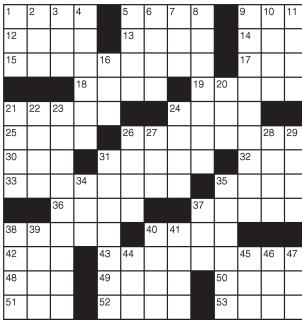
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King Classic Sudoku													
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Help Wanted

EMPLOYMENT

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 of-128 East Market St, Bluffton, IN between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm Monday-Friday or

FOR SALE

at www.blufftonindiana.net.

Miscellaneous

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

Read & recycle

STATE OF INDIANA SS COUNTY OF WELLS IN THE WELLS CIRCUIT COURT CAUSE NUMBER 90C01-2405-JC-000020 IN THE MATTER OF: MM - DOB 12/7/2020 A CHILD IN NEED OF SERVICES UNKNOWN ALLEGED

SUMMONS FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION & NOTICE OF CHILD IN NEED OF SERVICES HEARING
TO: Any Unknown Alleged Father

Whereabouts unknown NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to Any Unknown Alleged Fathers whose whereabouts are unknown that the Indiana Department of Child Services has filed its Veri-fied Petition Alleging the child to be in Need of Services, in accordance with I.C. 31-34-9-3, and that an adjudication hearing has been scheduled with the Court.

YOU ARE HEREBY COM-MANDED to appear before the Judge of the Wells Circuit Court, 102 Market Street, Bluffton, IN 46714 - 260-824-6485 for a(n) Fact Finding/Disposition on 8/8/2024 at

At said hearing, the Court will consider the Petition and evidence thereon and will render its decision as to whether the above named minor child is child in need of services and shall enter adjudication accordingly. Your failure to appear after lawful notice will be deemed as your default and waiver to be

present at said hearing.

UPON ENTRY OF SAID
ADJUDICATION, A DISPOSITIONAL HEARING will be held in which the Court will consider (1) Alternatives for the care, treatment or rehabilitation for the child; (2) The necessity, nature, and extent of your participation in the program of care, treatment, or rehabilitation for the child; and (3) Your financial responsibility for any services provided for the parent, guardian or custodian of the child including

child support.
YOU MUST RESPOND by appearing in person or by an attorney within thirty (30) days after the last publication of this notice, and in the event you fail to do so, an adjudication on said petition, judgment by default may be entered against you, or the court may proceed in your absence, without further notice.

Beth Davis Clerk Holly N Smith, 31840-49 Attorney, Indiana Department of Child Services c/o Wells Co DCS 221 W Market St Bluffton, IN 46714 Office: 260-824-3530 nb 6/11, 6/18, 6/25

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Public Notices

STATE OF INDIANA IN THE WELLS COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

90C01-2405-MI-000013 IN RE THE MATTER OF: Melissa Denise Velasquez

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

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

Denise Velasquez.

Notice is further given that the hearing will be held on said Petition

on: 7-25-24 at 2:30 pm Melissa Denise Velasquez Petitioner Beth Davis Wells County Clerk nb 6/4, 6/11, 6/18 hspaxlp

Attention
Pursuant to IC 4-32.0-4-13 the Loyal Order of Moose Lodge 242 is publishing notice that an application for annual Bingo activities has been filed by: Loyal Order Moose

120 N. Main, Bluffton In. 46714

Location of Bingo Activities: Loyal Order of Moose Lodge

120 N. Main Bluffton In. 46714

Operators: Lona Taylor, Mike

Officers of Organization: Mike Okeley-Administrator Brian Paxson- President Todd Shady- Vice President Andrea Simpson-Treasurer Doug McCormick- Chaplain Joe Stoody- Trustee Tony Kipfer- Trustee Justin Adams- Trustee

Protest Letters should be sent

Indiana Gaming Commision Attn.: Mark Mason Charity Gaming Division East Tower Suite 1600, 101 W. Washington St. Indianapolis, In. 46204

nb 6/18 hspaxlp

SUDOKU ANSWER

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Lottery Numbers

Monday's Drawings HOOSIËR LOTTERY Cash 5 — 10-13-18-19-

21 **Cash4Life** — 07-10-34-49-56, Cash Ball: 03

Quick Draw Midday -02-16-25-31-32-33-34-43-44-47-52-53-54-59-62-63-64-73-74-79, BE: 79

Daily Three-Midday — 05-04-05, SB: 03

Daily Three-Evening — 09-02-05, SB: 02

Daily Four-Midday — 05-07-06-03, SB: 03 Daily Four-Evening -

06-02-06-02, SB: 02 **Ouick Draw Evening** - 01-02-06-09-10-24-26-30-33-43-46-48-50-52-54-56-61-63-68-70, BE: 26

Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$14.8 million

MEGA MILLIONS Estimated jackpot (for Tuesday): \$61 million

POWERBALL 30-48-53-58-66 Powerball: 09; Power Play: 2X

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NOTICE

In accordance with Indiana Code 5-15-6-3 requiring prior notification to individuals when cords will be destroyed:

Notice to any individuals born in the year 2002, who received special education services in Adams and/or Wells Counties.
Please contact Adams Wells Special Services no later than August opies of your special education records. All records requested for pick-up and not picked up and nonrequested records for persons born in the year 2002 will be permanently destroyed after August 16, 2024. If you wish to request records, you must call (260)824-5880 to do Records must be picked up by the person who received services ss otherwise legally desig nated.

nb 6/18 through 8/7 hspaxlp

STATE OF INDIANA SS: COUNTY OF WELLS IN THE WELLS CIRCUIT COURT CAUSE NUMBER 90C01-2405-JC-000018

IN THE MATTER OF LC - DOB 1/19/2016 A CHILD ALLEGED TO BE A CHILD IN NEED OF SERVICES

ASHI FY MCAI KICH (MOTHER) SUMMONS FOR SERVICE

BY PUBLICATION & NOTICE OF CHILD IN NEED OF SERVICES HEARING TO: Ashley McAlkich

Whereabouts unknown
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the above noted parent whose whereabouts are unknown, that the Indiana Department of Child Services has filed its Verified Petition Alleging the child to be in Need of Services, in accordance with I.C. 31-34-9-3, and that an adjudication hearing has been scheduled with

the Court.
YOU ARE HEREBY COM-MANDED to appear before the Judge of the Wells Circuit Court, 102 Market Street, Bluffton, IN 46714 - 260-824-6485 for a(n) Fact Finding/Disposition on 8/8/2024 at

At said hearing, the Court will consider the Petition and evidence thereon and will render its decision as to whether the above named minor child is child in need of services and shall enter adjudication accordingly. Your failure to appear after lawful notice will be deemed

as your default and waiver to be present at said hearing.

UPON ENTRY OF SAID ADJUDICATION, A DISPOSITIONAL HEARING will be held in which the Court will consider (1) which the Court will consider (1) Alternatives for the care, treatment, or rehabilitation for the child; (2) The necessity, nature, and extent of your participation in the program of care, treatment, or rehabilitation for the child; and (3) Your financial responsibility for any services provided for the parent, guardian or custodian of the child including

child support.
YOU MUST RESPOND by appearing in person or by an attorney within thirty (30) days after the last publication of this notice, and in the event you fail to do so, an adjudication on said petition, judgment by default may be entered against you, or the court may proceed in your absence, without further notice.

Clerk Holly N Smith, 31840-49 Attorney, Indiana Department of Child Services c/o Wells Co DCS

Beth Davis

221 W Market St Bluffton, IN 46714 Office: 260-824-3530 nb 6/11, 6/18, 6/25



Now Seeking: Kinder Haus Daycare

Kinder Haus Daycare at Swiss Village is now seeking a Full-Time Team Teacher to work 32+ hours/week! Varied hours from 6am-5pm M-F. Responsibilities include providing high quality childcare services and assisting the Lead Teacher with supervision of the classroom. Must have a high school diploma or GED and be at least 21 years of age. Strong desire to work with children required. Educational background in early childhood is preferred.

Apply online at www.swissvillage.org or send Resume to: Kayla Reilly, HR Specialist Swiss Village | 1350 W. Main St. | Berne, IN 46711 or email: careers@swissvillage.org



Contracted Evening Swimming Lesson Instructor

Contracted Swimming Lesson Instructor position opening at the Arthur & Gloria Muselman Wellness Pavilion. Evening hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and some Wednesdays. Previous teaching experience preferred; must enjoy teaching children; must be comfortable in water. Next available teaching opportunity would be October 2024. Application deadline: July 14, 2024

Interested applicants may send resumes to: **Briana Eicher, Director** Arthur & Gloria Muselman Wellness Pavilion | 1201 Emmental Drive | Berne, IN 46711

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Indiana farmer featured in ad selling soybeans in South Korea

When the U.S. Soybean Export Council was looking for a farmer to represent American farmers who grow soybeans using environmentally sustainable techniques, Jim Douglas volunteered.

Douglas is a farmer from Flat Rock, Ind., and a director for the United Soybean Board, the national soybean checkoff program. For nine years, Douglas was a board member of the Indiana Soybean Alliance, the state's soybean checkoff program. Now, he is featured on billboards and in commercials in South Korea as USSEC's representative of a responsible U.S. farmer who produces healthy

"I've spent my entire life cultivating this piece of land. When I first realized that soybeans are turned into an extraordinary variety of food products and served on dining tables all around the world, I felt a tremendous responsibility," Douglas said in one of the commercials. "This crop provides growing children in countless countries with the nutrients and nourishment they need. It is for this reason that I decided to adopt sustainable cultivation techniques. I want to conserve this land and pass it on to future generations.'

USSEC's consumer outreach campaign in South Korea features Douglas promoting sustainably grown U.S. soybeans. The campaign aims to raise awareness about the sustainability of U.S.-grown soybeans among general consumers as well as the food industry. The campaign includes billboards and signs that have been running on buses in Seoul and its suburbs that may reach as many as 260,000 people.

As a result of this advertising in South Korea, Sajo Daerim, a major food manufacturer, has expanded its Sustainable U.S. soy-labeled soy food products. Ourhome, another major food manufacturer and food service



Indiana farmer Jim Douglas. (Photo by Indiana Soybean Alliance)

provider, launched tofu products with the Sustainable U.S Soy logo label this year. From January through April of this year, 67,000 metric tons of U.S. food-grade soybeans worth \$57 million were exported to Korea. USSEC also launched a digital campaign on YouTube focusing on U.S. Soy sustainability.

Douglas is the fifth generation to work his farm in southern Shelby County. He grows corn with his son, James, in addition to soybeans. Through a partnership with the Mark Legan family of Putnam County called D & L Pork, Douglas Farms also finishes more than 30,000 hogs per year. He and his wife, Kay, have five children and 12 grandchildren. The couple now lives about 15 minutes from the homestead house where they first moved after their wedding in 1980.

Through his involvement with ISA and related organizations such as USSEC, Douglas learned about the mechanics of international trade, domestic markets, and product devel-

"Before I got involved in ISA, I

took for granted that all these things happen, and I think many farmers sit back, busy with their lives and family while all this takes place behind the scenes," Douglas said. "ISA is there every year with a dedicated staff to promote not only soybeans, but industries that use them. ISA is in there plugging along helping with those industries. In the end, they're going to use more beans because of that.'

He recommends farmers to get involved with trade organizations to put a voice to American ag, though he realizes that means balancing such involvement with farming and raising a family. Douglas said family time is precious, but working in time to get involved is valuable, too. He believes any given person involved in ISA or a similar organization will likely get more out of the organization than they

"Back when I started out, we were hardly reliant on our trade ties, but now we're completely reliant on our trade partners and business more than our domestic needs, so the roles and importance of these organizations have really stepped up," he said.





Call 1-877-798-0270

Corn growers and auto dealers unite to sue EPA over EV mandate

By AGDAILY

A diverse coalition of industry partners, including farmers and auto manufacturers, has united to challenge federal environmental

The National Corn Growers Association, American Farm Bureau Federation, and six auto dealers — representing 16 brands and operating numerous dealerships in major markets nationwide have teamed up with the American Petroleum Institute. Together, they filed a lawsuit today in the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals. Their challenge targets the U.S. Environmental Protection Agen-

um-duty vehicles set for model years 2027-2032 The groups said the EPA exceeded its congressional authority with the regulation and rendered a decision that values one tool for fighting climate change

cy's emissions standards for light-duty and medi-

over others. "By approving tail-pipe standards that focus exclusively on electric vehicles, EPA has ignored the proven benefits corn ethanol offers in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and combatting climate change," Minnesota farmer and National Corn Growers Association President Harold Wolle said. "While it could take decades to get enough electric vehicles on the road to significantly lower GHG emissions, ethanol is

a critical and effective climate solution that is available now. We have tried to make this case to EPA to no avail, and now we will make our case in court."

The groups also noted that EPA's standard will hurt America's farmers.

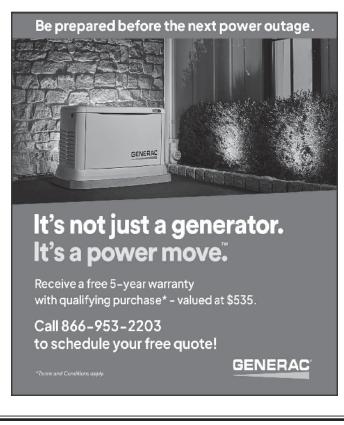
"Farmers answered the call to help America be more sustainable by growing the crops necessary for renewable fuels. Now, the rug is being pulled out from underneath them with unrealistic emissions goals that put years of investment at risk," American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall said. "Impractical standards for light-duty and mediumduty trucks will drive up the cost of farm vehicles and force farmers to rely on a charging network that does not yet exist in rural areas.'

Leaders at API emphasized the impact the agency's standards would have on American con-

"Today, we are taking tion to protect American consumers, U.S. manufacturing workers, and our nation's hard-won energy security from this intrusive government mandate," API Senior Vice President and General Counsel Ryan Meyers said. "EPA has exceeded its congressional authority with this regulation that will eliminate most new gas cars and traditional hybrids from the U.S. market in less than a decade. We look forward to making our case in court.'

In March, the Biden administration finalized new federal vehicle emissions standards for lightand medium-duty vehicles. These standards require 68 percent of new passenger vehicles and 43 percent of new medium-duty trucks and vans to be electric by







Public Sale Calendar

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, 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 car with soft top, rumble seat, 1962 Galaxy, nonrunning, 1986 Chevy flatbed truck, non-running, Chrysler 3.6 outboard motor, mowers, tools, Craftsman tool box, Arco 250 amp single phase welder, lawn and garden, household, furniture, ice cream freezer, Noritake Gold Stein china, service for 12, old items, many other items. Vehicles will be sold at 12:30 p.m. both live and on Hi Bid. Loy

BIDDING ENDS 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., 260-426-0633, steffengrp.com.
BIDDING ENDS JUNE 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., www.steffengrp.

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.*, www. steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

JUNE 23 - 4 p.m. - Multiple consignors, own-

ers. 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, 260-724-

7402, kjauction.com.

JULY 14-JULY 21 - (Online Only Auction) Dave and Brenda Double, seller. 40 Year collection of trains, 2 realistic model train railway layouts, professionally milled lumber, downsizing custom craft store, shop tools, porcelain & other dolls, antiques, furniture, McCoy cookie jars, Hull pottery, Sure-Trac utility tractor. Preview: July 11 and 18 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 540 W US 224, Uniondale. Pat Carter, sale manager, Steffen Group, www. steffengrp.com, 824-3006. JULY 16 - 2-6 p.m. ET - (Online) - Farm: William C. Lee Trust. Property Location: 6 miles south of Angola, IN, along E 700 S in Pleasant Lake, IN. 156+/- total acres, tillable farmland, timber, recreational, pole barn, chicken barn, Steuben Twp., Steuben Co. Tract 1: 101+/- acres. Tract 2: 50+/- acres. Open House by appointment: Rick Johnloz, 260-827-8181, Neal Wolheter, 260-336-2219, Jason Johnloz, 260-273-9177. Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management, halderman.com, 800-424-2324.