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MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2024

BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection

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PCI conducts second sting at Bluffton Kroger

By SYDNEY KENT

A man from Fort Wayne was arrested for attempting to solicit a child for sex in Bluffton.

32-year-old Williams Perez Hernandez was charged with one count of child solicitation, a Level 4 felony.

According to a probable cause affidavit, police were dispatched to Kroger in Bluffton around 8:28 p.m. on June 16. Hernandez was reportedly located in the chip aisle, along with several members from Predator Catchers Indianapolis.

PCI is well-known for acting as a decoy online, facilitating in-person meetings with adults who attempt to solicit the decoy for sex. Hernandez is the group's 15th arrest in Wells County in recent years.

Hernandez claimed to be simply shopping for groceries after returning from a day at the lake. Screenshots of text messages, provided by PCI, indicated otherwise.

The text messages, captured from the website "Grindr", allegedly detail an interaction between Hernandez and who he believed to be a 14-year-old male. Hernandez allegedly offered to meet the decoy for sexual purposes one day after the conversation began.

Hernandez reportedly initiated the conversation and requested to meet the child the same day.

Hernandez preliminarily pled not guilty to the charges during his initial hearing last week, where the court determined that he did not qualify for a public defender. He is scheduled for a status of counsel hearing in the matter at 8 a.m. on July 2.

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Sun, STEM and sweet treats

Zesto's Ice Cream and Kate's Kart hosted an ice cream social event Sunday. Children were given free STEM books along with commemorative bags, stickers and cups as a part of the event. Above left, Laney and Christine Hauptert, and Andrea Ainsworth finish setting up the display table. Above right, Hudson Cain picks out his preferred book and bag while his guardian David Howell looks on.

At left, Ainsworth, left, passes out a sticker and a cup to Joyce Ellsworth, a donor. Nicole, left and Hannah Burt look on in the background. (Photos by Jonathan Snyder)



A mural of William Wells is being painted on the south-facing side of a Wells County Lock-Up storage building on State Road 1. (Photo by Holly Gaskill)

Mural of William Wells joins southern Bluffton

By HOLLY GASKILL

A new mural featuring Wells County's namesake is joining the south side of Bluffton.

The public art in progress is being painted on the side of a Wells County Lock-Up storage building. Manager Brandon Harnish wanted to bring aesthetic value to the building from State Road 1. A neighboring mural depicts the American flag and bison.

Wishing to harken back to the rich history of Wells County and the man who the

county was named after, Harnish landed on a portrait of Captain William Wells.

Wells served as a scout for General Anthony Wayne and is considered to have played an instrumental role in "civilizing" Indiana. He was eventually killed by Pottowattomi Indians in battle, but it's recorded that Wells was so revered as a warrior that his heart was consumed in hopes of absorbing his courage.

"William Wells was a pretty obvi-

(Continued on Page 2)

Parents of medically complex children decry newest FSSA barrier

By WHITNEY DOWNARD
Indiana Capital Chornicle

Several parents of medically complex children raised alarms Thursday about a new barrier implemented by the state government for personal attendant hours, part of the ongoing struggle between the groups over changes to government support for families.

The assembled group, part of Indiana Families United 4 Care, contend that the Family and Social Services Administration added a new condition for families on Tuesday, just 11 days before qualifying Medicaid recipients and their caretakers must make the transition to the Structured Family Caregiving program.

"Families are scrambling once again due to FSSA changing the rules at the last minute," said Jennifer Dewitt, a mom whose son has complex medical needs. "These last-minute decisions have real consequences for Indiana families and the small business owners that this is impacting..."

FSSA, however, said there have been no policy changes.

"FSSA has not told waiver members and their families that the same individual could be both the paid principal caregiver of Structured Family Caregiving and the paid provider of Home Health Services. Medicaid has never allowed the use of taxpayer dollars to pay the same person twice for delivering essentially the same service," the

agency said in a release.

Previously, the families said certified parents could fulfill home health aide or skilled nursing services for their children for a set number of hours and still participate in the Structured Family Caregiving program, the latter of which compensates parents for unskilled caretaking like bathing or feeding.

But parents say the new guidance from the state agency bars the same family member from providing both skilled care hours and Structured Family Caregiving starting July 1.

Dewitt said that providers and FSSA had assured families they could retain their skilled care coverage and certification for such services, which requires hours of training to obtain, and also use Structured Family Caregiving. Parents also said that FSSA didn't announce the change explicitly, but rather updated a two-month old document.

"Changing the rules at the eleventh hour and burying the changes in a two-month old document and not directly notifying providers is unconscionable. Parents are trying to manage an already difficult and complex situation, and having a state agency that can't seem to decide on the rules we have to abide by creates unnecessary pain, anxiety and confusion," Dewitt said.

"This latest curve ball is going to harm these families; there is no good faith left with us when it comes to the Holcomb

(Continued on Page 2)

Israel offensive into Lebanon risks an Iranian military response

By LOLITA C. BALDOR
Associated Press

ESPARGOS, Cape Verde (AP) — The top U.S. military officer warned on Sunday that any Israeli military offensive into Lebanon would risk an Iranian response in defense of the powerful Hezbollah militant group there, triggering a broader war that could put U.S. forces in the region in danger.

Air Force Gen. CQ Brown, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Iran "would be more

inclined to support Hezbollah." He added that Tehran supports Hamas militants in Gaza, but would give greater backing to Hezbollah "particularly if they felt that Hezbollah was being significantly threatened."

Brown spoke to reporters as he traveled to Botswana for a meeting of African defense ministers.

Israeli officials have threatened a military offensive in Lebanon if there is no negotiated end to push Hezbollah away from the border.

Just days ago, Israel's military said it had "approved and validated" plans for an offensive in Lebanon, even as the U.S. works to prevent the months of cross-border attacks from spiraling into a full-blown war.

Netanyahu said Sunday he hoped a diplomatic solution could be achieved but said he would solve the problem "in a different way" if needed. "We can fight on several fronts and we are prepared to do that," he said.

U.S. officials have tried to broker a diplomatic solution to the conflict. The issue is expected to come up this week as Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant visits Washington for meetings with U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin and other senior U.S. officials.

U.S. President Joe Biden's senior adviser, Amos Hochstein, met with officials in Lebanon and Israel last week in an effort to deescalate tensions. Hochstein told

reporters in Beirut on Tuesday that it was a "very serious situation" and that a diplomatic solution to prevent a larger war was urgent.

Brown also said the U.S. won't likely be able to help Israel defend itself against a broader Hezbollah war as well as it helped Israel fight off an Iranian barrage of missiles and drones in April. It is harder to fend off the shorter-range rockets that Hezbollah fires routinely across the border into Israel, he said.

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Outside



Don't put away the sunscreen just yet

Today	Tuesday	Wed.
High 84	High 92	High 84
Low 65	Low 71	Low 58

More Weather on Page 2

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Vol. 95 No. 199

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William Wells mural

(Continued from Page 1)
ous choice (for the mural),” Harnish said. “He’s our county’s namesake. At least that I ever recall, I don’t think I was ever taught that he was a war hero. This is something we can share — this is who we are.”

The mural is being completed by Indiana native artist Jeff Pilkinton, who also painted the flag mural at the facility. The final image is still “taking shape,” Harnish explained, but will be finished by early July.
“This is ours — this is something that belongs to us as a people,” Harnish

said. “As long as you’re a resident of Wells County, this art belongs to you, and the meaning behind it belongs to you.”
Wells is also depicted in a mural at the intersection of Main and Market streets in downtown Bluffton.
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Newest FSSA barrier

(Continued from Page 1)
administration’s FSSA. What they are doing has zero to do with what is best for these children, and they have little concern for what the shabbily planned changes do to families,” Dewitt continued. “Simply put, they are balancing the budget on the backs of the most medically complex children in Indiana.”
In a statement, FSSA said additional information had been shared in an FAQ earlier this week, part of ongoing efforts “to make sure waiver members and their families were aware of the existing policy.”
“FSSA has been directly communicating with waiver members, their families, and advocacy organizations through webinars, newsletters, direct phone calls from FSSA representatives and through meetings to share information and receive questions and feedback so that the members have the supports they need to make decisions, if they are transitioning to Structured Family Caregiving or to a new attendant care provider. Additionally, families continue to be encouraged to reach out to their care managers for support and information and can also contact FSSA,” the agency said.
Dewitt and families fired back at the agency in an evening statement, saying, “Our families are living this nightmare in real time—these experiences aren’t figments of our imagination. We are STILL waiting for FSSA to do the right thing by waiver recipients.”

attendant care services for families.

Previously, FSSA paid parents an hourly wage that included benefits through an attendant care program for unskilled services they provided to their medically complex children. In January, the agency announced that families would move to Structured Family Caregiving, a program that pays a fixed per diem at a far lower rate.

Later, the agency revealed that the attendant care program included few guidelines on maximum hours worked and that some families had received hundreds of thousands of dollars for the services they provided.

Parents rallied at the Statehouse repeatedly, hoping to convince lawmakers to protect the program but legislators punted in the last hour. Since the General Assembly concluded the 2024 session, families have coalesced to bring their concerns to FSSA en masse and coordinated advocacy efforts.

Six moms met with the Holcomb administration in April, sharing ten requests in advance of the July 1 transition. The families said all but one of these concerns were either outright denied or “minimally addressed,” including the sharing of key criteria guidelines for receiving pay under Structured Family Caregiving.

What this leaves families
The latest news was another blow for families making the transition from attendant care to Structured Family Caregiving, both of which are designed to compensate for unskilled care.

But Dewitt noted that families often perform the skilled tasks they’re not paid for under those programs, such as administering certain medical treatments or inserting a gastrostomy

tube, a type of device that brings nutrients directly to the stomach. But she said they can be paid for those tasks as home health aides, licensed practical nurses or registered nurses.

“There are things that you are compensated to do as a home health aide, an LPN or an RN that are not covered under the structured family care per diem,” she said. “We’re still allowed to do it, but we can’t technically be compensated for that or, quite frankly, (for) any of the other skilled care we do.”

“Really, what it comes down to is paying us less to do a whole lot more,” she continued.

Having parents trained and licensed also relieves the statewide nursing shortage, which families say prevents them from hiring a nurse to perform those skilled duties. Dewitt said that her son is approved for 45 hours a week but she can only secure staffing for 25 of those.

Additionally, families not using their approved skilled nursing services could lose them and potentially lose access to the Structured Family Caregiving waiver, which is designed as a last resort option for families.

“... the single-parent families who are trying to meet all these requirements at the same time, they’re put in this position of saying, ‘Now I can’t do both structured family care and be the one to work (as a home health aide). But I don’t have anyone else,’” said Rachel Mattingly, another parent of a medically complex child. “So how do I fulfill that (skilled nursing) requirement to be able to utilize waiver services? There’s so many other waiver services that the families need — like home modifications — even if they

weren’t going to use structured family care.”

The Mattingly family found out about the change while waiting for their son’s open heart surgery in Cincinnati, pivoting to license the father under Structured Family Caregiving before the deadline.

“(The surgery) happened to get canceled, which has bought us now a week and a half of extra time to get my husband trained, because we were planning on being in Cincinnati for probably three weeks with this surgery,” Mattingly said. “I’m fortunate that my son’s surgery got canceled and rescheduled for July 2 so that I can rush to get my husband trained for something that he should have had since January to do.”

“Because we should have had all the pieces to the puzzle from the very beginning, and we didn’t.”

The lives of medically complex children are already uncertain. Unplanned hospitalizations can dim a child’s future prospects while a revolutionary treatment can extend dismal life expectancy predictions. Families like Dewitt have gone bankrupt trying to provide care to their children and the state’s attendant care program provided a rare opportunity for financial stability for many while it existed.

She concluded by saying families needed a steady program, something that wasn’t “constantly... in flux” and that also acknowledged the need to pay parent caregivers a living wage.

“This is a massive change; this isn’t just something small. And it’s going to impact these families in such a negative way,” Dewitt continued. “... We’re literally setting these families up for failure and it didn’t have to be this way.”

Weather

Monday, June 24, 2024
(24-hour observations at 10:09 p.m. Sunday)
High: 83; Low: 69; Precipitation: 0.98 inches
Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.40 feet at 7:45 p.m. Sunday

Wells County forecast

Today: Sunny, with a high near 84. Northwest wind around 5 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 65. Calm wind becoming south around 5 mph after midnight.

Tuesday: A 40% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 92. Heat index values as high as 98. Southwest wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Tuesday Night: A chance of showers and thunderstorms, then showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm after 2 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 71. Southwest wind around 10 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70%. New rainfall amounts between a half and three quarters of an inch possible.

Wednesday: Showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm before 8 a.m., then a chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 84. Chance of precipitation is 60%. New rainfall amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch, except higher amounts possible in thunderstorms.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 58.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 81.

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

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 87.

Friday Night: A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 73.

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

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

Sunday: A slight chance of showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 85.

Israel offensive

(Continued from Page 1)
Asked if the U.S. has changed its force posture in the region to better assure troops are protected, he said the safety of the force has been a priority all along and noted that no U.S. bases have been attacked since February.

Brown said the U.S. continues to talk with Israeli leaders and warn against widening the conflict. He said a key message is “to think about the second order of effect of any type of operation into Lebanon, and how that might play out and how it impacts not just the region, but how it impacts our forces in regions as well.”

Pentagon officials have said that Austin has also raised concerns about a broader conflict when he spoke to Gallant in a recent phone call.

“Given the amount of

rocket fire we’ve seen going from both sides of the border, we’ve certainly been concerned about that situation, and both publicly and privately have been urging all parties to restore calm along that border, and again, to seek a diplomatic solution,” said Maj. Gen. Pat Ryder, the Pentagon press secretary, last week.

A war between the two heavily armed foes could be devastating to both countries and incur mass civilian casualties. Hezbollah’s rocket arsenal is believed to be far more extensive than Hamas’.

Israel and the Iranian-backed Hezbollah have exchanged fire across Lebanon’s border with northern Israel since fighters from the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip staged a bloody assault on southern Israel in early October that set off the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza.

LGBTQ+ librarians respond to attacks on books – and on themselves

By **CLAIRE SAVAGE**
Associated Press

Idaho librarian June Meissner was closing up for the day at the downtown Boise Public Library when a man approached her asking for help.

As an information services librarian, answering patrons’ questions is part of Meissner’s day-to-day work, and serving the community is one of her favorite parts of the job.

But when the man got close enough, “he took a swing at me and tried to punch me in the head,” said Meissner, a transgender woman. “I blocked it and he started yelling slurs and suggesting that he was going to come back and kill me.”

Worldwide Pride Month events are well underway to celebrate LGBTQ+ culture and rights. But it is coming at a time when people who identify as LGBTQ+ say they are facing increasing difficulties at work, ranging from being repeatedly misgendered to physically assaulted.

Gender nonconforming library workers in particular, like Meissner, are also grappling with growing calls for book bans across the U.S., with books about gender identity, sexual orientation and race topping the list of most criticized titles and making the attacks all the more personal.

“When we see attacks on those books, we have to understand that those are attacks on those kinds of people as well,” said Emily Drabinski, who is the president of the American Library Association and is gay. “To have my identity weaponized against libraries and library workers, the people and institutions I care about the most, has made it

a difficult and painful year.”

The ALA said it documented the highest-ever number of titles targeted for censorship in 2023 in more than 20 years of tracking — 4,240. That total surpassed 2022’s previous record by 65%, with Maia Kobabe’s coming-of-age story “Gender Queer” topping the list for most criticized library book for the third straight year.

Lawmakers are increasingly considering lawsuits, fines, and even imprisonment for distributing books some regard as inappropriate, including in Meissner’s home state of Idaho. Lawmakers there passed legislation that empowers local prosecutors to bring charges against public and school libraries if they don’t keep “harmful” materials away from children. The new law, signed by Idaho Gov. Brad Little in April, will go into effect on July 1.

“I do think that a lot of that political speech around it does make things more dangerous and worse for me,” Meissner said. “It is so much politicking and getting the general public riled up.”

Meissner’s own attacker was arrested and convicted, and she says that while the vast majority of her interactions at work are positive, she still struggles to let her guard down and is constantly assessing whether a situation could turn unsafe.

“As somebody who is working face to face with the public and trying to help people as much as possible, that really does get in the way,” she told The Associated Press, describing how she waits to make eye contact with a patron “and then, based on what I see when they look at me, that’ll tell me whether or not I should just be on edge, be wary.”

Florida-based conservative nonprofit Moms for Liberty, which describes itself as a parental rights organization and refers to its members as “joyful warriors,” has been at the forefront of a nationwide push to remove books that deal with race and gender identity.

But co-founder Tiffany Justice says the organization — which she says has more than 300 chapters in 48 states and more than 130,000 active members — is not anti-LGBTQ+, although Justice herself told the AP she thinks that the Q in the acronym, which stands for queer or questioning, “needs to go into the trash bin.” And according to the ALA’s Office for Intellectual Freedom, about 38% of book challenges that “directly originated” from Moms for Liberty activity have LGBTQ+ themes.

Justice said Moms for Liberty challenges books like Gender Queer — a graphic

novel about a young person’s struggle with gender identity that contains illustrations of sexual contact, masturbation and a sex toy — because they view the material as sexually explicit, not because they cover LGBTQ+ topics.

Despite the thousands of petitions to censor books about gender and sex, legal standards for deeming materials obscene or harmful to minors — and therefore not protected speech under the First Amendment — are very specific and high, and courts have historically sided with libraries, according to Vera Eidelman, a staff attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union who focuses on rights to free speech in the digital age.

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OBITUARIES

Larry N. Curry, 87

Larry N. Curry, 87, of Ossian, passed away Saturday morning, June 22, 2024, at Ossian Health and Rehabilitation Center.

Larry was born in Bluffton on Oct. 29, 1936, to Robert N. and Mary "Evelyn" (Kumfer) Curry. He married Carol J. Werling in Ossian on Aug. 25, 1956. She preceded him in death on Aug. 13, 2020.

During his teenage years, Larry was one of the first two boys in Wells County to be awarded Eagle Scout. He graduated from Ossian High School in 1954 and later served in the United States Air Force from 1954 until 1958, and then the Indiana Air National Guard from 1958 until 1962.

Larry was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church and co-owned and operated L & C Engraving in Ossian along with his wife, for 26 years, before retiring in 2004. He served as a volunteer for the Ossian Fire Department for many years and enjoyed



woodworking, camping, and traveling. He and Carol traveled to all 48 continental U.S. states, along with six provinces of Canada, and Jamaica.

Survivors include two daughters, Katrina (Richard) Drillien of Bluffton and Heather (Bruce) Bultemeier of Ossian; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; along with a brother, William (Coleen) Curry of Fort Wayne.

In addition to his wife and parents, Larry was preceded in death by a brother, Danny Curry.

Visitation will be held on Friday, June 28, 2024, from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m., at Goodwin - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton. Private family burial will be held at a later date at Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery in Wells County.

Memorial contributions may be made to Bethlehem Lutheran Church of Ossian.

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

Martha R. "Rosie" Swartz, 96

Martha R. "Rosie" Swartz, 96, of Bluffton, passed away on Saturday evening, June 22, 2024, at River Terrace Estates in Bluffton, surrounded by her loving family.

She was born on May 22, 1928, in Bluffton to George Martin and Alice Sadie (Niblick) Lautzenheiser. A 1946 graduate of Bluffton High School, Rosie was a talented piano player and gave piano lessons for many years out of her home. She was the bookkeeper for many years with her husband, Snag, in the family business, Swartz Electric in Bluffton. Rosie also worked at the Wells County Chamber of Commerce Office. She was a longtime member of the First Presbyterian Church in Bluffton and a member of Tri Kappi in Bluffton. Rosie enjoyed putting together puzzles and enjoyed knitting afghans.

On August 15, 1948, in Bluffton, Rosie and Robert L. "Snag" Swartz were married. They shared 48 years of marriage before he preceded her in death on April 22, 1996.

Survivors include her children, Terry (Mary Lynn) Swartz of Ocala, Fla. and Jo Ellen (Barry "Cros") Crosbie of Bluffton. She was loving Grandma to six grandchildren; Kimberly (Bill) Fish, Tyler (Steph) Williams, Nicole (Brook Coratti) Bustos, Elizabeth (Norman) Jordan, Jessica (Hector) Biarnes and Whitney (Ariel) Rodriguez; 12 great-grandchildren, James Curran II., Dylan Curran, Treyton and Cooper Bustos, Briell and Barrett Coratti, Theo Williams,



Penelope, Carmen and Victoria Biarnes and Cayson and Bailey Rodriguez; and one great-great-granddaughter, Annsley Curran.

Rosie is preceded in death by her parents; husband Snag; a daughter, Sue H. Cabbage on Jan. 25, 2024; and her eight siblings, Bob, Harold, George Jr., William "Bill" Lautzenheiser, Mary Reed, Maxine Starr, Helen Shatto and Eileen Liby.

Funeral services will take place at 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 29, 2024, at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton with Pastor Gary Aupperle officiating. Burial will follow at Fairview Cemetery in Bluffton.

Visitation will be held from 12 to 3 p.m. on Saturday, prior to the service at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made in Rosie's memory to the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation or to Wells County Creative Arts Council for Music Education and can be sent to the funeral home.

For friends who will not be able to attend Rosie's service in person, you can watch her service by a Zoom Meeting. The Meeting I.D. is 820 4529 6106, and you can login after 2:45 p.m. on Saturday.

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

Indiana treasurer puts BlackRock on ESG watchlist

By LESLIE BONILLA MUÑIZ
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Indiana Treasurer Daniel Elliott announced Friday he placed BlackRock — one of the world's largest asset managers — on a state watchlist, accusing the firm of making illegal environmental, social or governance commitments. The public retirement system will decide whether to remove the company from its investment portfolio.

Lawmakers in 2023 empowered Elliott's office to enforce a new ban on ESG investing in the state's pension system. The investment practices have become a culture war flashpoint, with advocates arguing the ban will keep "politics out" of state finances and opponents defending ESG as risk management.

"We shouldn't accept actions that put Hoosier retirees at risk," Elliot said in a news release.

"ESG commitments hurt investments when employed by financial institutions," he continued. "We must protect our public servants from having their hard-earned savings affected by ESG decisions made by large corporations such as BlackRock."

BlackRock pushed back in a statement to the Capital Chronicle.

"Contrary to the Treasurer's assertion, BlackRock has been singularly focused on delivering performance for INPRS, consistent with their objectives," the company said.

"We take direction from our clients, as our business is grounded in our fiduciary obligation to provide our clients with choice."

"On behalf of our clients, BlackRock has invested approximately \$95 billion in Indiana, and we are helping more than 415,000 Indiana residents retire with dignity. We are proud of our contribution and remain committed to Indiana," it added.

INPRS confirmed that it would, in accordance with its anti-ESG policy, put BlackRock on an "investments watchlist."

The allegations

Daniel's office alleged that BlackRock "prioritizes risky ESG engagement over its fiduciary duty to its clients," citing the company's own disclosures to the federal government.

Also in those disclosures, BlackRock has described its commitments as potential threats to its reputation and ability to attract and retain clients, Elliott's office added.

The office additionally said BlackRock "acknowledges" that using third-party providers for "ESG data" — which may not be complete or accurate — "poses significant risks to its earnings."

And it asserted that BlackRock's membership in the NetZero Asset Management Initiative, intended to cut emissions and limit global warming, "shows a commitment to ESG despite BlackRock's claims otherwise."

Wells Court Docket

Wells Superior Court Criminal Cases

Rita Ann Bollenbacher, 52, Berne, was sentenced to one year in the Indiana Department of Correction with all but four days suspended. Bollenbacher was sentenced after she pled guilty to one count of operating a vehicle as a habitual traffic violator, a Level 6 felony. She is also ordered to serve 361 days of probation and pay court costs and filing fees in the amount of \$189.50.

Gisela Gonzalez, 50, Bluffton, was sentenced to 12 days in jail — time served, after she pled guilty to one count of domestic battery, a Class A misdemeanor. Charges for battery and disorderly conduct, both Class B misdemeanors, were dismissed as part of a plea agreement. Gonzalez is required to pay court costs and fees in the amount of \$189, as well as a domestic violence fee in the amount of \$50.

Susan Louise Wright,

43, Claypool, was sentenced to 545 days in the Indiana Department of Correction with all but 32 days suspended. Wright pled guilty to one count of operating a vehicle while intoxicated with a prior conviction, a Level 6 felony, with one charge for operating without financial responsibility being dismissed. She is also ordered to serve 180 days on home detention, 513 days of probation, and pay court cost and filing fees in the amount of \$389.50.

Indiana Supreme Court weighs discovery of cell phone data with right to privacy

By MIA HILKOWITZ
Indiana Capital Chronicle

The Indiana Supreme Court is considering how to balance the discovery of cell phone information with privacy rights following a hearing Thursday where a car accident victim wanted access to phone data of the driver who struck him.

The victim, Charles Jennings, argued a lower trial court abused its discretion when prohibiting him from inspecting the phone data.

During Thursday's oral argument, a lawyer for Jennings said the exclusion of the requested evidence could have contradicted the driver's deposition and impacted the outcome of a jury trial. Jennings sought phone data showing whether the person driving was using the navigation application "Waze" during the accident.

"If this jury knew that she was lying about having Waze on, at the end of the day they would say 'okay we don't trust her,'" said Bryan Babb.

However, a lawyer for the driver, Jessica Smiley, said allowing the man to access her unlocked phone posed overwhelming privacy concerns.

"A smartphone contains far more information than a personal diary," said Bob Durham.

Background of the case

Smiley was driving in Carmel in December 2019 when she struck Jennings, who was walking across the street at the time of the accident. According to an Indiana Court of Appeals opinion, Jennings had stepped into the street from behind a box truck, which had blocked Smiley's view of him. Jennings sued Smiley in February 2020, arguing she had been "negligent" while driving. In her answer to Jennings' complaint, Smiley claimed Jennings had been "contributorily negligent."

A year later, Jennings moved to compel discovery of Smiley's cellphone data, seeking to find out if she was using Waze at the time of the accident. Smiley had previously said in a deposition that she had been using the app when she started her drive, but was not using it during the accident.

Although the trial court initially granted Jennings' motion, Smiley asked the court to reconsider due to privacy concerns. In September 2021 the trial court overrode its prior decision and denied the motion to compel.

In January 2023 a jury found Jennings had been 90% at fault and Smiley had been 10% at fault for the accident after experts testified Jennings had not crossed at an intersection or crosswalk, and that there was limited evidence Smiley was distracted or driving recklessly. The trial court ruled in Smiley's favor and the Indiana Court of Appeals affirmed that decision.

Balancing discovery and privacy

During Thursday's hearing, Babb argued the trial court's decision to deny the requested discovery constituted a reversible error. He said if his client finds data showing Smiley was using the navigation app at the time of the accident, the jury's judgment should be reversed and vacated.

Babb said Jennings needed access to Smiley's phone to see if she was using the application within an hour of the accident. If they found Waze was running, Babb asserted they could then investigate further to find out if Smiley was interacting with the app — which allows users to tap on their screens to report traffic delays and accidents. Since Smiley said in her deposition she wasn't using the app, just that she

had checked the app before starting her drive, Babb said contradicting data would prove she was "a liar" — something he believes would influence a jury's decision.

However, Indiana Supreme Court Justice Geoffrey Slaughter said Jennings could have gotten that same information without accessing the phone, such as by contacting Waze to obtain the user data.

"It's not obvious to me you couldn't have gotten it from an alternative source," Slaughter said.

Additionally, Durham, Smiley's attorney, said the characterization of his client was not central to the case.

"The question for the jury was 'was she negligent?' not 'is she a liar?'" Durham told the court.

The justices asked both parties' attorneys about the privacy implications of allowing cell phone discovery in civil cases. Durham said that even if the other party was only looking for the hour of Waze data, there are no safeguards to prevent them from accessing texts, emails and other personal information.

"Discovery in its very nature is intrusive," Justice Derek Molter said in response to Durham.

Elizabeth Ann (Carter) Aeschliman
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Funeral: 10 a.m.
Wednesday, June 26 at the funeral home.
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Monday, June 24 at the funeral home and one hour prior to the service at the church.
Service: 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday, June 25 at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Uniondale.
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What is an Indiana Republican now?

Following Micah Beckwith's surprising lieutenant governor nomination and Jim Bopp's startling assessment of how it impacts the governor's race, I have seen a lot of shade thrown about establishment Republicans and RINO's.

Hearing Bopp — the Hoosier most directly responsible for Indiana's anti-abortion moves in the last two decades and an ultra-conservative powerhouse lawyer — called a "Republican in name only" shocked me.

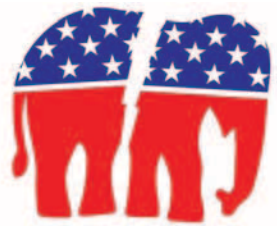
I wondered: what exactly is a Hoosier Republican these days and why are party members so divided?

So, I spent the last few days talking to delegates from the state convention to understand the split that has resulted in two consecutive repudiations of key GOP candidates.



Niki Kelly

Hoosier Opinions



Dissecting the convention vote and divide in the party

First, delegates in 2022 nominated Diego Morales over Gov. Eric Holcomb's appointee, sitting Secretary of State Holli Sullivan.

And this year, the delegates chose Beckwith over Rep. Julie McGuire, the choice of Republican gubernatorial nominee Mike Braun.

I spoke to around 20 delegates from around the state: large cities to rural

towns; men and women; old and young. I spoke to those who supported Beckwith and people backing McGuire.

I did the interviews on background to allow them to speak freely, though many said they had no problem being quoted. They were candid and introspective. And I came away with four takeaways about the state of the Indiana Republican Party.

A personal touch

It was clear that Beckwith used a much more personal approach with delegates. This was buoyed by being able to campaign for months rather than weeks.

More than one delegate said they had multiple phone calls and in-person meetings with him. And when Beckwith saw them on the convention floor Saturday, he addressed them by name.

Couple that with the fact that Beckwith gave a strong speech, while Braun and McGuire were flat at best.

"I never really knew where Julie stood on those issues. Think about the floor speeches. Beckwith laid it out plain as day. Julie didn't give a reason to vote for her other than she was Braun's pick," one delegate said.

Generational divide

A number of longtime Republicans believe the divide is somewhat generational.

The old guard are more polite and avoid harsh criticism, while younger Republicans are adopting a more aggressive nature. Donald Trump is an example of that, though several I talked to are not necessarily supporters of him. But they do think it's time for a more outspoken GOP.

Policy basics

More than any other issue that arose in my talks was that the party's establishment — interchangeably linked to those in the Indianapolis bubble — is focusing too much on growth and economic development and not enough on values, farmland, personal freedom and more. The controversial LEAP project is the poster child for this but certainly not the last of it.

"The establishment is focused on economics over the issues which Hoosier Republicans care most about," one delegate said. "How about we focus those billions the IEDC is spending on small town/rural private businesses here in Indiana? We'd get a bigger bang for our buck and Hoosier families would benefit, not corporations."

No respect

My last takeaway was brought up the most often by delegates unhappy with the recent Republican party leadership. But it has nothing to do with public policy.

Delegates described a top-down approach, in which they're told by county chairs to get in line and not given respect for the grassroots efforts they make. They are the ones staffing phone banks and hauling yard signs around. And they see the leaders of the party as bought and paid for by corporations and businesses.

Beckwith was an outsider with no allegiance to that inner sanctum and delegates liked that.

"Many in the GOP don't want to be led around by the nose. That doesn't mean there is a 'divide,' it means the people are standing up for what they believe in, which should make our party stronger, not weaker, moving forward," one delegate told me.

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

Submit your Letters to the Editor via:

- Our website link (Submit your Letter)
- E-Mail: email@news-banner.com
- Mail: PO Box 436, Bluffton IN 46714
- Drop-off: 125 N. Johnson St., Bluffton

All letters must be signed and must include a phone number or address in case verification is desired. Letters are edited for brevity and clarity. Letters must be no more than 500 words. Please mark your correspondence as a "Letter to the Editor," or if you wish to express an opinion to us but do not want it published, please mark as "Not for Publication."

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Will Beckwith be a Braun team player or a wild card?

INDIANAPOLIS — After his second unsuccessful congressional run, Mike Pence launched his radio and TV shows where he and his bipartisan guests weighed in on the issues of the day throughout the 1990s.

Pence would win a congressional seat in 2000, spending 12 years in Congress before his run for Indiana governor and then as Donald Trump's vice presidential choice in 2016. But to find the audio/video trail of Pence's observations, thoughts, assertions and criticisms as he rose to national prominence would prove elusive. Most of these archives have since disappeared. By design, he wouldn't be answering about something he said on air in 1997.

Last weekend Indiana Republican delegates nominated Noblesville pastor Micah Beckwith for lieutenant governor, upsetting gubernatorial nominee Mike Braun's preferred choice. Beckwith is an unusual candidate. He ran independently for an office that traditionally had been the choice of the standard bearer. His public service record was confined to a brief stint on the East Hamilton Library Board, where he made headlines by seeking to ban children's books he deemed as "pornographic."

And Beckwith along with Nathan Peternel has produced the podcast "Jesus, Sex & Politics," which they describe as a discussion about "all the topics surrounding our culture that scare you and that you're not allowed to talk about at the Thanksgiving dinner table." They delve into the happenings around the culture in 118 episodes. For political opposition researchers, this will be a treasure trove of commentary.

Already, there has been much scrutiny over a Jan. 7, 2021 podcast about the U.S. Capitol insurrection the day before when Beckwith said God had told him, "Micah, I sent those riots to Washington. What you saw yesterday was my hand at work."

Indiana Democratic Chairman Mike Schmuhl described the Beckwith "baggage" that's "just going to keep coming."

"The biggest thing is this belief that Jan. 6 is something that God wanted to happen, that it was divinely inspired, that God spoke to them to send them to the Capitol," Schmuhl said. "That is not just something rejected by the vast majority of Americans; it's rejected by the vast majority of Hoosiers."

Braun made it clear who will be calling the shots. "There's no doubting this — I'm in charge," Braun said at a media scrum after the convention. "Micah is going to be someone who works with me. If he doesn't, I think that means that it will probably be less fruitful what we are able to get done."

"My running mate can say whatever he wants," Braun said. "If it doesn't make sense, if it doesn't resonate, remember, I'm going to be the governor."

On WIBC-FM's "Kendall & Casey" show on Monday, Beckwith said, "He's right — he's the governor. I'm not trying to be the governor. I'm not going to try



Brian Howey

to get out ahead of that in any way, shape or form.

"But," Beckwith continued, "I will say we now have the people's voice in two of those offices within the executive branch. If there's ever an issue, I know what hills I'm willing to die on, what hills I'm not willing to die on. If he runs off course, and I don't expect him to do that, but, God forbid, what (Gov. Eric) Holcomb did in 2020, I would be there to say, 'Hey, you can't do this.'"

The challenge for the Braun campaign will be the fold Beckwith into the operation, something that was a work in progress earlier this week. Normally, a gubernatorial campaign forms distinct talking points and the nominees stick to them. Gov. Pence was legendary for never deviating from a very strict set of talking points.

GOP delegates have given Team Braun a free-lancer in Beckwith, and it will be fascinating to see whether the pastor becomes a team player, or a wild card.

An example came when Democratic nominee Jennifer McCormick and Chairman Schmuhl called Beckwith a "Christian nationalist," adding, "He sees the church as the state."

Asked about the tag, Beckwith said on WIBC's "Kendall & Casey" last Monday, "People in the media say, 'He's a Christian nationalist.' I don't let the left redefine words. I am because I love Christ and I love my nation. Christianity and nationalism are good things. That's what Saturday was — it was God's hand moving."

Terre Haute attorney Jim Bopp Jr., a conservative who has helped shape Indiana's current abortion restrictions, sees Beckwith as a danger to Braun. In a memo to the Braun campaign last Sunday, Bopp writes, "Beckwith's nomination as Lt. Gov poses a serious threat to the Braun candidacy, election and administration. By running against Beckwith, the Democrats will be able to [raise] unlimited funds from their left wing allies and billionaire liberal supporters. In taking down Beckwith, they take down Braun. And they will paint the whole ticket, including [Attorney General] Todd [Rokita], with this brush."

"Braun will be asked, and held in account, for every statement Beckwith has ever made," said Bopp. "So how does Braun respond? If he is viewed to be repudiating Beckwith or even distancing himself from him, he loses support from hardcore Beckwith supporters, and if he [embraces] Beckwith, he feeds into the Democrat campaign."

The Braun campaign characterized the Bopp memo as "one man's opinion."

"It's gonna be about Mike Braun," senior advisor Josh Kelley said.

Or as the zen master would say, "We'll see."

Howey is a senior writer and columnist for State Affairs/Howey Politics Indiana. Follow him on X @hwypol.

Politicking

Who's a 'threat to democracy'?

People of a certain age will recall a time when after an election the losing side would usually accept the results and initially give support to a new president during what was then called the "honeymoon" stage. Richard Nixon conceded to John Kennedy in 1960, although he believed the election was "stolen" by Kennedy operatives in Cook County, Illinois. Al Gore conceded to George W. Bush in the razor-close 2000 election. Hillary Clinton conceded in 2016, despite strong evidence of election interference by Russia, while Donald Trump is still in denial that he lost 2020 by more than 7 million votes.

The days of concession "for the good of the country" are gone. Not only is there no honeymoon, the "divorce" occurs first.

While claiming that Donald Trump would be a "threat to democracy" should he win in November, Democrats and the left are plotting how to oppose his every policy, including Trump's plan to deport millions of migrants. To Democrats, apparently, it doesn't matter if President Biden's margin of victory is small or large, they believe they have a standing and perpetual right to govern, even if a majority vote differently. Damn the



Cal Thomas

voters.

One might arguably conclude such behavior makes them the real threat to democracy.

A New York Times story reveals their strategy, including lawsuits to prevent deportations and Democrat governors who are stockpiling the abortion pill. What is it about Democrats and abortion?

Let me see if I have this right. If Trump wins, he will be a threat to our Constitution, the law, the environment and just about everything else. We are a constitutional republic, not a pure democracy, but since Democrats keep using the word, let's look at its definition: "government by the people; a form of government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised directly by them or by their elected agents under a free electoral system."

Are Democrats saying that if a majority of Americans vote for Trump and/or a majority of electoral votes go to the former president, that is not democracy, but if Biden wins, that is democracy? Those are contradictions, aren't they?

This is the arrogance of the left which believes it has a divine right (if they believed in the divine) to rule perpetually regardless of the outcome of an election. Yes, we witnessed

some of the same attitude demonstrated by Trump supporters during the attack on the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, but those people, many of whom were arrested and sentenced to prison terms, do not seem to be plotting lawsuits and other strategies to thwart a second Biden term.

In the not-too-distant past the losing side in an election would lick their wounds, study what went wrong, and live to fight another day. Those days are over. It's now year-round warfare. It is not good for the country and emboldens our adversaries.

From the Times article: "Steven Cheung, a Trump campaign spokesman, denounced these efforts as a way to pre-empt Mr. Trump from being able to implement a legitimate policy agenda."

"It's not surprising Biden and his cronies are working overtime to stymie the will of the American people after they vote to elect President Trump and his America First agenda," Mr. Cheung said. "Their devious actions are a direct threat to democracy."

Whether one is pro or anti-Trump, Mr. Cheung has a point. Elections can't be legitimate only if your side wins and illegitimate if the other side is victorious. That attitude is the fastest way to undermine the United States into divided states and a perpetually divided people."

icaeditors@tribpub.com

Events at the Creative Arts Council of Wells County

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

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

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

Summer Theater - June 2024
Disney Jungle Book Kids (Ages 8-11)
Performances:
June 28 at 7 p.m.
June 29 at 3 p.m.
Tickets: \$11.00 - purchased online at: <https://tickets.artstix.org/>

Fall Registration for Creative Arts Dance Academy opens July 1st!
Information regarding our dance schedule, tuition, and performance opportunities can be found on our website at: <https://www.wellscocreativearts.com>

If you would like to receive a fall dance packet or have specific questions, please call (260) 824-5222

Fall dance classes begin September 3rd!
Audition Announcement
We are eager to announce that our Fall Theater Production will be Mark Twain's "Tom Sawyer!" This is a play adaptation of the classic story that is sure to draw in actors and audiences, both young and old! For more information on specific informa-



tion please visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/373432615684636>

Auditions:
Thursday, August 1 from 6 to 8 p.m.
Friday, August 2 from 6 to 8 p.m.
Saturday, August 3 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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

Ongoing Activities
Creative Crew: Tuesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All forms of creativity welcome: painting, drawing, needlework and more.... spend the morning working on your craft and socialize with other artists. Enter Door 1 or Door 10 at Life Community Church, the creative crew meets in the cafe.
Readers' Brown Bag Luncheon: Meeting the last Tuesday of the month at noon at Life Community Church, enter door 10. All readers are welcome. Feel free to call the office for more information.

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

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

Zanesville News

by Melba Edwards

Activities in Zanesville:
The Zanesville Youth Program (ZYP) will have games, snacks, stories and crafts at the church June 25. Wear old clothes and non-marking gym shoes (no flip flops). Stillwater Retreat is the field trip Thursday, June 27. Wear your bathing suit, sunscreen and ZYP shirt to enjoy swimming, boating, swings and games. Bring \$5 if you can. Parent help is needed.

Centershot is an eight-week faith-based archery training program designed by the International Ministerial Fellowship for youth ages 10 and older. Participants can expect quality archery training, Bible study, take-home string bow plus lots of fun and a chance to make new friends! The goals are teaching students the fundamentals of archery as it is taught by the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) and the

fundamentals of living their life for God through His Son Jesus Christ! No archery experience is required! Sign up by July 1! Spots are limited. Choose one of two location! Zanesville Community Church of God, 11972 Marzane Rd., Zanesville, Mondays, July 8 through Aug. 26, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Contact Pastor Steve at 260-638-4239 or pastor@zanesville.cggc.org. Nine Mile United Methodist Church, 6303 Winters Rd., Fort Wayne, Tuesdays, July 9 through Aug. 27, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Contact Lori Slee at 260-452-9869 or lorim66@aol.com.

Coming soon is a rummage sale at the Zanesville Lions Club, 3088 W Vanhorn St., Friday June 28 and Saturday, June 29 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Come and pick out what you want and leave a reasonable donation. Only some things will

be marked with a suggested minimum donation. All proceeds to the Zanesville Lions for expenses at the properties.

Celebrating this 200 years of Allen County, Zanesville will receive a large sculpture to be placed on the Allen County side of the incorporated town limits.

Thanks to Exterior Services of Decatur, Indiana, and Sis & Bub's Kitchen in Zanesville for donation of the dumpster at cleanup day here in town.

Sis, of our inside dining restaurant here in town at the 4-way stop, is adding on "Shannya's Sweet Treat!" as they now have soft serve ice cream, popsicles, candies and more. Sis and Shannya want to express the gratitude to the family that wants to remain anonymous for a large donation and the customers that donated to make this addition possible.

Patriotic Pops concerts by the FW Philharmonic

Wells County will not be the site of a Fort Wayne Philharmonic Patriotic Pops concert this summer, but several are being presented in the area.
The schedule includes:
Pokagon State Park:

Wednesday: June 26, 7:30 p.m.
DeKalb Outdoor Theater: Friday, June 28, 7 p.m.
Muensterberg Plaza/Clock Tower in Berne: Saturday, June 29, 7 p.m.
Oakwood Resort at Syr-

acuse: Sunday, June 30, 7 p.m.
Parkview Field in Fort Wayne: Tuesday, July 2, 8:30 p.m.
Bixler Lake Park in Kendallville: Thursday, July 4, 8:30 p.m.

Jefferson Homemakers' June meeting notes

The meeting was opened by Jean Reef, vice-president, thanking Vivian Rohr, Judy Schindler, and Sharon Snow for serving as hosts.

Jean shared the thought of the month: "You can throw mud and hurt but you cannot make it stick." This is especially true of gossip.

The inspiration was given by Vivian from her booklet on "Peace and Quiet" by reading "A Little Bit of Heaven" written by Kate Huffman.

The pledge to the flag and the Homemaker's Creed was led by Vivian.

Roll call was answered by nine ladies responding to "What do you remember about your father?"

An article prepared by president Mary Ann Ripperger was read by Jean Reef on the background of Father's Day. It was initially started in June 1910 by a woman, S.S. Dodd, in Washington State and became a National Holiday in 1972 and by 2021 was widely celebrated as Father's Day.

In the absence of Sharon Jump, health & safety leader, Jean warned people to do outside work before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m. and at all times drink plenty of fluids and stay hydrated.

The secretaries minutes of the May 8th meeting were read by Carol Baker and approved as read.

The treasurer's report given by Margie Huss. The

report was accepted as presented.

Words of Wisdom from actress Betty White were shared: "I don't know how people can get so anti-something. Mind your own business, take care of your affairs, and don't worry about other people so much."

Thirty cents each was collected by the nine ladies giving five cents for each letter in SPRING.

Cards were signed for two members that were not feeling well today.

Judy Schindler and Charlotte Steffen were wished Happy Birthday having birthdays on the same day, June 7.

Under local happenings: The Farmer's Market is now open for the summer, Huntington Heritage Days are being celebrated June 12-15, and Hoagland Days are celebrated June 13-15.

Old Business: Mary Ann had prepared a list of possibilities and menus for our Club Christmas luncheon. The list was given to each and Judy Schindler volunteered to send it to four people not present. We will vote at the July picnic.

New Business: Many years ago the Wells County Homemaker's gave \$500 to the 4-H Association to put toward purchasing a lighted sign. This was never used but was set aside. The Wells County Homemaker's

voted on adding another \$500 and therefore will be sharing \$1,000 from the County Homemakers for the replacement of the HVAC that is much needed.

In order to continue to rent the Ossian Library for our meetings, the majority agreed, at this June meeting, to pay \$5 each in September to cover the cost of renting the Library.

Wells County Extension Homemaker had no scholarships awarded this year. However, we agreed to get the applications out in December instead of late March.

Our summer donations will be given to Grace & Mercy and Hannah's House. A list of items needed were given to each member and they will be received at the July picnic.

Again the Homemaker's will be helping the 4-H Fair by being hostesses in the Exhibit Hall. Ladies were encouraged to volunteer for this duty.

Also the sign up sheet for host and hostess for Jefferson Club meetings was passed around for the coming year.

Jean Reef gave a lesson on "My Plate for Older Adults" and "Recipes for Air Fryers."

The next meeting will be held on July 10th at the home of Carol Baker with the annual auction being held. The lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. Guests are welcome.

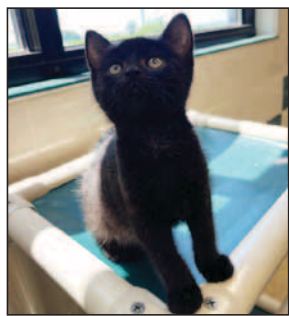
A Talk with Tego



Callie is a nine-week-old female.



Chica is a nine-week-old female.



Chloe is a nine-week-old female.



Tego

Tego's Tips: Lit and unused fireworks can be a danger to pets.

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

Upcoming Events

Concerts at Foellinger Theatre

Foellinger Theatre is located at 3411 Sherman Blvd., near the FW Children's Zoo. In addition to the free concerts these will be offered:

Free Concerts

July 9, 7:30 p.m.: FW Area Community Band
July 17, 7:30 p.m.: New Millennium Jazz Orchestra
July 26, 7 p.m.: Fort Wayne Children's Choir

Other Concerts

Aug. 2: Rockin' the 80's (Great White, Slaughter & Vixen)
Aug. 13: Blue Monster Tour (Blues Traveler with Big Head Todd & the Monsters
Aug. 21: High Kings & Gaelic Storm
Aug. 22: Night Light (Fort Wayne Rescue Mission)
Sept. 13, 8 p.m. & Sept. 14, 12 a.m.: The Rocky Horror Show
Sept. 21: Indiana Jones & the Raiders of the Lost Ark/FW Phil
Sept. 23: TESLA
Tickets through Ticketmaster.com.

Concerts at Fort Wayne's riverfront

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

All concerts will begin at 6 p.m. and snacks and drinks will be available for purchase from Ted's Snacks and the bar in the Promenade Park Cafe. The schedule includes:
July 10: School of Rock

July 24: We Are Checkmark
Aug. 7: Rachel Brooke
Aug. 21: Left Lane Cruiser

Headwaters Park events

Events scheduled at Headwaters Park, Clinton & Superior St. in Fort Wayne include the following:
July 12-20: Three Rivers Festival
July 26-27: Pride Festival
Aug. 10: Fiesta Fort Wayne
More information at fortwayneparks.org.

FW's Salomon Farmers' Market

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The farm is located at 817 West DuPont Rd. in Fort Wayne.

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There are three black and white films remaining in the Fort Wayne Embassy Theatre's Black & White Silent Film Series.

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Aug. 11: "Greed" with Dennis Scott as organist.

Aug. 25: "Girl Shy" with Clark Wilson as organist.

All the Sunday showings will begin at 3 p.m. and free popcorn will be given each ticket holder. Tickets are \$10, but free to those 12 and younger, seniors over 65 and Embassy members.

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With new North Korea pact, Russia raises stakes with the West over Ukraine

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Behind the smiles, the balloons and the red-carpet pageantry of President Vladimir Putin's visit to North Korea last week, a strong signal came through: In the spiraling confrontation with the U.S. and its allies over Ukraine, the Russian leader is willing to challenge Western interests like never before.

The pact that he signed with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un envisions mutual military assistance between Moscow and Pyongyang if either is attacked. Putin also announced for the first time that Russia could provide weapons to the isolated country, a move that could destabilize the Korean Peninsula and reverberate far beyond.

He described the potential arms shipments as a response to NATO allies providing Ukraine with longer-range weapons to attack Russia. He bluntly declared that Moscow has nothing to lose and is prepared to go "to the end" to achieve its goals in Ukraine.

Putin's moves added to concerns in Washington and Seoul about what they see as an alliance in which North Korea provides Moscow with badly needed

munitions for its war in Ukraine in exchange for economic assistance and technology transfers that would enhance the threat posed by Kim's nuclear weapons and missile program.

A landmark pactThe new agreement with Pyongyang marked the strongest link between Moscow and Pyongyang since the end of the Cold War.

Kim said it raised bilateral relations to the level of an alliance, while Putin was more cautious, noting the pledge of mutual military assistance mirrored a 1961 treaty between the Soviet Union and North Korea. That agreement was discarded after the Soviet collapse and replaced with a weaker one in 2000 when Putin first visited Pyongyang.

Stephen Sestanovich, senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations noted that when Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev signed the deal with Pyongyang in 1961, he also tested the world's biggest nuclear bomb, built the Berlin Wall and probably started thinking about moves that led to the Cuban missile crisis in 1962.

"The question for Western policymakers now is whether Putin is becoming comparably reckless,"

Sestanovich said in a commentary. "His language in North Korea -- where he denounced the United States as a 'worldwide neocolonialist dictatorship' -- might make you think so."

South Korea responded by declaring it would consider sending arms to Ukraine in a major policy change for Seoul, which so far only has sent humanitarian assistance to Kyiv under a long-standing policy of not supplying weapons to countries engaged in conflict.

Putin insisted Seoul has nothing to worry about, since the new pact only envisions military assistance in case of aggression and should act as a deterrent to prevent a conflict. He strongly warned South Korea against providing lethal weapons to Ukraine, saying it would be a "very big mistake."

"If that happens, then we will also make corresponding decisions that will hardly please the current leadership of South Korea," he said.

Asked whether North Korean troops could fight alongside Russian forces in Ukraine under the pact, Putin said there was no need for that.

Potential weapons for Pyong-

yangLast month, Putin warned that Russia could provide longer-range weapons to others to hit Western targets in response to NATO allies allowing Ukraine to use its allies' arms to make limited attacks inside Russian territory.

He followed up on that warning Thursday with an explicit threat to provide weapons to North Korea.

"I wouldn't exclude that in view of our agreements with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea," Putin said, adding that Moscow could mirror the arguments by NATO allies that it's up to Ukraine to decide how to use Western weapons.

"We can similarly say that we supply something to somebody but have no control over what happens afterward," Putin said. "Let them think about it."

Sue Mi Terry, senior fellow for Korea studies at the Council on Foreign Relations, warned that Moscow could share weapons technologies with Pyongyang to help improve its ballistic missile capabilities, noting there is evidence of this happening already, with Russia possibly providing help to North Korea with its successful satellite launch in November, two months after Kim last met Putin.

"This is deeply concerning because of the substantial overlap between the technologies used for space launches and intercontinental ballistic missiles," Terry said in a commentary. "Russia can also provide North Korea with critical help in areas where its capabilities are still nascent, such as submarine-launched ballistic missiles."

While raising the prospect of arms supplies to Pyongyang that would violate U.N. sanctions, Putin also said Russia would take efforts at the world body to ease the restrictions -- an apparent signal that Moscow may try to keep arms supplies to Pyongyang under the radar and maintain a degree of deniability to avoid accusations of breaching the sanctions.

Russia and North Korea have rejected assertions by the U.S. and its allies that Pyongyang has given Moscow ballistic missiles and millions of artillery shells for use in Ukraine.

Going 'to the end' in a confrontation with the WestBy explicitly linking prospective arms shipments to Pyongyang to Western moves on Ukraine, Putin warned Kyiv's allies to back off as he pushes his goals in the war -- or face a new round of confrontation.



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Pennville Soccer Club finishes its regular season with the league tournament nearing

Pennville's Soccer League wrapped up its regular season over the weekend and is now preparing for the league tournament next week on June 29.

Below are the results, standings and goal leaders from all three age divisions.

Stinger Division

Patriot Sportswear Hornets 3, AgBest Express Bees 0. Ian Kaehr two goals.

A Place to Grow Wasps 1, Ag Best Express Bees 0. Kenna Penrod one goal.

Standings

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.

Scoring leaders

Mabel Leonhard 11 goals, Kenna Penrod 9, Grant Cosner 6.

Space Division

Ohio Valley Gas Stars 1, New Beginnings Holiness Church Rockets 0. Madalyn Malyska one goal.

Brow Shadow Meteors 2, Dave's Heating and Cooling Asteroids 0.

Neymar Carreno and Lian Phipps one goal each.

Vinson Rental Properties Galaxy 3, New Beginnings Holiness Church Rockets 0. Carter Love, Calvin Minch and Alexandra Vinson one goal each.

Standings

1. Bro Shadow Meteors 6-0-0, 18 points.

T2. Dave's Heating and Cooling Asteroids 2-2-2, 8 points.

T2. Vinson Rental Properties Galaxy 2-2-2, 8 points.

T2. Ohio Valley Gas Stars 2-2-2, 8 points.

3. New Beginnings Holiness Church Rockets 0-6-0, 0 points.

Scoring leaders

Neymar Carreno 13 goals, Liam Phipps 8, Owen Ehrhart 6.

Wild Cat Division

Portland Insurance Cougars 1, Penrod Monuments Jaguars 0. Lyle Beiswanger one goal.

POET Biorefining Cheetahs 3, Pennville General Store Tigers 2. Gage Jeckman, Jax McClain, Liam Thompson, Blake Jellison and Kyland Teegarden one goal each.

WPGW Lions 2, Portland Insurance Cougars 1. Charlee Peters, Jade Westgerdes and Beiswanger one goal each.

Standings

1. WPGW Lions 5-0-1, 16 points.

T2. Penrod Monuments Jaguars 1-1-4, 7 points.

T2. Pennville General Store Tigers 2-3-1, 7 points.

3. Portland Insurance Cougars 2-4-0, 6 points.

4. POET Bioprocessing Cheetahs 1-3-2, 5 points.

Scoring leaders

Kyle Beiswanger 11 goals, Charlee Peterson 7, Blake Jellison 6.

Alex Palou continues mastery of Laguna Seca with pole-winning run at California road course

MONTEREY, Calif. (AP) — Two-time IndyCar champion Alex Palou continued his mastery of Laguna Seca Raceway by winning the pole Saturday in a qualifying session dominated by Honda drivers.

It was the second pole of the season for the Chip Ganassi Racing driver who has finished on the podium in all three of his previous starts on the permanent road course in Monterey, California. He won the race in the 2022 season finale in what many believe was a catalyst in his decision not to leave Ganassi to join Arrow McLaren Racing.

"It was really tight all of qualifying. I am really happy, the car was on rails," Palou said. "I think always starting up front is the best spot. Hopefully we can have a clean start, clean first couple of laps and hopefully there is not a lot of cautions that can screw our strategy."

Kyle Kirkwood of Andretti Global qualified second in his best qualifying effort of the season. Five of the top six drivers in qualifying were powered by Honda.

Felix Rosenqvist of Meyer Shank Racing qualified third and was followed by Colton Herta of Andretti.

Alexander Rossi of Arrow McLaren was the highest qualifying Chevrolet driver in fifth. Christian Lundgaard of Rahal Letterman Lanigan rounded out the top six in another Honda.

IndyCar points leader Will Power, who holds the series record with 70 top starting spots, did not advance out of first qualifying group. Power earned his first win in over two years when he won two weeks ago at Road America in Wisconsin.

"I probably waited in the pit too long," he said of his qualifying strategy. "You can't screw around. Had the pace, just didn't put it together."

It was a trend for Team Penske, which had won two of the last three IndyCar races, as Scott McLaughlin was the only driver to advance into the second qualifying round. Two-time Indianapolis 500 winner Josef Newgarden was also eliminated in the first round.

"I think it's just me today, I think our car



Alex Palou

was really good. I was just really struggling to put it together," Newgarden said. "Our car was really good. I don't think that's the issue."

McLaughlin was then eliminated in the second round — meaning a Team Penske driver failed to advance to the Fast Six pole-shootout.

"I had a little slide through one of the corners and when you lose that momentum going up the hill, it really hurts you," McLaughlin said. "You just can't make a mistake."

David Malukas in his season debut, advanced out of first qualifying group with new team Meyer Shank Racing. Malukas was supposed to drive for Arrow McLaren this season but broke his wrist a month before the season-opener, and when he missed four races it triggered a clause in his McLaren contract that allowed the team to fire him.

He was hired to replace Tom Blomqvist, who appears headed back to full-time sports car racing after crashing on the opening lap of the Indianapolis 500 in a failed switch to IndyCar. Malukas said he felt total relief just to be back in the car and to start 12th on Sunday.

"So many different question marks going into it," Malukas said. "Just got a little bit fatigued being out of the car so long."

Nolan Siegel, the 19-year-old surprisingly hired earlier this week by Arrow McLaren, also did not advance out of the first qualifying group in his debut with his new team. Siegel, who was part of the winning LMP2 class at the 24 Hours of Le Mans last week, is the youngest driver on the IndyCar grid. Siegel is in the car Malukas had been hired to drive before his injury.

"We're thrown into a really difficult situation here, we've had very little time to prepare," Siegel said. "I didn't know I was driving here until a few days ago, so it's tough. None of us know each other. We're getting better every session. We're getting to know each other better, I'm getting to know the car better. It's just a lot of new things and it's tough. IndyCar is super competitive."

Christopher Bell wins on rain tires in the NASCAR Cup race

Christopher Bell mastered the NASCAR Cup Series' first race ever that ended with cars running on rain tires and pulled away after over a 2 hour delay to beat darkness and the field and win Sunday at New Hampshire Motor Speedway.

Bell won his third Cup race of the season and swept the weekend at New Hampshire following Saturday's

win in the Xfinity Series.

On Friday, Bell spoiled the reveal that Chase Briscoe is joining him at Joe Gibbs Racing in 2025. Then he ruined Briscoe's best shot at his first win of the season, holding him off over the final two laps of the overtime finish.

With darkness falling, Bell cruised past Josh Berry and Briscoe and remained the

driver to beat at New Hampshire. He has four wins in the Xfinity Series at Loudon and won a Cup race at the track for a second time.

Cubs unveil statue depicting Hall of Famer Ryne Sandberg in a familiar defensive crouch

CHICAGO (AP) — Ryne Sandberg hopes Cubs fans remember him as an alert and active defensive player.

That's exactly how they'll see him from now on when they enter Wrigley Field.

The club unveiled a statue of the Hall of Fame second baseman outside the historic ballpark before Sunday's series finale against the New York Mets. The 64-year-old Sandberg said the ceremony was especially touching after his cancer diagnosis earlier this year.

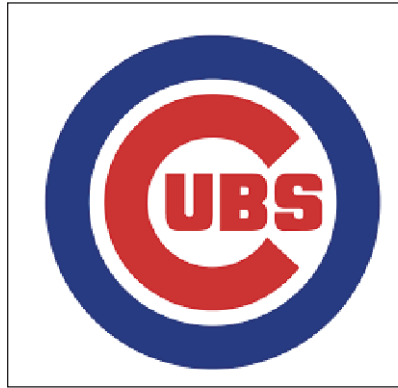
"My life changed a lot in 1984," Sandberg said of his MVP season, "but it was nothing like what happened six months ago."

"My thoughts today are love, life, family and friends."

There was no shortage of friends there as the statue, depicting Sandberg crouched and waiting for a grounder, was dedicated. Some teammates from Chicago's 1984 and '89 NL East champions were there, along with the Cubs' current players, who watched the ceremony from the lower-deck concourse railing.

Bob Costas emceed the ceremony, which also drew Hall of Famers Andre Dawson, Ferguson Jenkins and Billy Williams. Actor Bill Murray, a visible and vocal Cubs fan for decades, made the trip.

"I can't really say it's what I thought; it's more than what I thought," Sandberg said. "To see all those guys come out, it



was very touching."

Sandberg came to the Cubs from Philadelphia after the 1981 season as an add-on to a trade that sent Larry Bowa to Chicago for Ivan De Jesus. He made sure to thank Bowa, who was on the dais Sunday, for being "disgruntled" enough to want to leave the Phillies and demand the swap.

Two seasons later, Sandberg was the league MVP and helped the Cubs end a nearly three-decade postseason drought with the NL East title.

Sunday's ceremony took place 40 years to the day he hit a pair of late homers in a nationally televised win over St. Louis.

He played all but 13 games during his 16-year career with the Cubs and finished with a .285 batting average, 282 home runs, 1061 RBIs and nine Gold Gloves. The club retired the 10-time All-Star's No. 23 in 2005, the same summer he was inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Sandberg announced earlier this year that he had been diagnosed with metastatic prostate cancer. He's kept well-wishers updated on his progress through an Instagram account and said last month that scans showed no signs of cancer.

The statue took its place next to bronze tributes to fellow Hall of Famers Jenkins, Williams, Ron Santo and Ernie Banks. Groundskeepers cut Sandberg's number into the center field grass before the start of the weekend series against the Mets.

Scheffler outlasts protest on 18th green to take 6th win

By JIMMY GOLEN
AP Sports Writer
CROMWELL, Conn. (AP) — Scottie Scheffler had to wait out a climate



Scottie Scheffler

protest on the 18th green and Tom Kim's tying birdie on the last hole of regulation.

Those events only delayed what seems to be inevitable on the PGA Tour this season: the best golfer in the world walking off with the trophy.

Shrugging off a protest that interrupted the tournament on the 72nd hole while the leaders were lining up their putts, Scheffler won the Travelers Championship on the first hole of sudden death on Sunday for his sixth win of the year, the most in one season on the PGA Tour since Tiger Woods had six in 2009.

"When something like that happens, you don't really know what's happening. So it can kind of rattle you a little bit," Scheffler said.

"That can be a stressful situation, and you would hate for the tournament to end on something weird happening because of a situation like that," he said. "Tom and I both tried to calm each other down so we

could give it our best shot there on 18."

Scheffler closed with a 5-under 65 and a 22-under 258 total at the TPC River Highlands, and Kim matched him with a final-round 66.

Tom Hoge and Sungjae Im tied for third, two shots back, with Patrick Cantlay, Tony Finau, Justin Thomas and Akshay Bhatia tied for fifth at 18 under. Bhatia was also in the final group that was disrupted by the protest.

"I was scared for my life," he said. "I didn't even really know what was happening. ... But thankfully the cops were there and kept us safe, because that's, you know, that's just weird stuff."

(Continued on Page A2)

Tennessee forces CWS finals to 3rd game in win over Texas A&M

By RICH OLSON
AP Sports Writer
OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Tennessee's prodigious home run prowess arrived too late in Game 1 of the College World Series finals.

It showed up right on time in Game 2.

Tennessee's Dylan Dreiling hit the go-ahead homer in the seventh inning. Cal Stark went deep in the eighth and after Nate Snead turned back a scoring threat by Texas A&M in the bottom of the ninth, the Volunteers had forced a deciding third game with a 4-1 victory Sunday.

One of the teams will win its first national title in baseball and become the fifth straight champion from

the Southeastern Conference when they meet Monday night.

"I felt we were more true to who we were today in pregame, in the dugout, during the game," Vols coach Tony Vitello said. "It's easy to say that because we end up doing OK on the scoreboard. But I'd rather go into battle with that group the way they showed up today, and hope they do the same tomorrow."

Tennessee (59-13) is trying to become the first No. 1 national seed to win the championship since Miami in 1999. The Vols were down seven runs when Dreiling and Hunter Ensley hit back-to-back homers in the seventh inning of a 9-5

loss Saturday.

They trailed just 1-0 in the seventh Sunday when Dreiling sent Kaiden Wilson's 1-1 pitch 390 feet into the right-field seats to give the Vols a much-needed jolt after they left the bases loaded twice and managed just four hits through six innings.

The Vols had been 2 for 20 with runners in scoring position over the first two games of the finals when Dreiling connected. Tennessee was up three runs when Stark, its No. 9 batter, homered in the eighth. He had been 0 for 16 with nine strikeouts in the CWS before he launched a pitch from Wilson over the left-

(Continued on Page A2)

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Scheffler outlasts protest

(Continued from Page A1)

It was Scheffler's fourth victory of the year in the tour's \$20 million, limited-field signature events, earning him a payday of \$3.6 million. He also won the Masters and The Players Championship.

And Scheffler still has two months to go. "As much as I love him, I would have loved to take that away from him," said Kim, who shares a birthday and a friendship with Scheffler. "But I'm happy for him, and after I tapped out, after he tapped out, he said some really nice words and it meant a lot to me."

Scheffler had a one-stroke lead heading to the 18th green on Sunday when six people stormed the course, waving smoke bombs that left a red and white powdery residue on the putting surface. Some wore white T-shirts with the words "NO GOLF ON A DEAD PLANET" in black lettering.

They were tackled by police and taken off. The activist group Extinction Rebellion, which has a history of disrupting events around the world, claimed responsibility for the protest. In a statement emailed to The Associated Press, the group blamed climate change for an electrical storm that injured two people at a home near the course on Saturday.

After a delay of about five minutes, when tournament officials used towels and blowers to remove the powder and any other marks that might affect play, Scheffler left a 26-foot putt from the fringe on the edge of the cup and tapped in for par.

Kim then made a 10-foot birdie putt for a 66 to match Scheffler.

"Obviously it is a disruption and you don't want it to happen, but for me it just kind of slowed things down," Kim said. "It took the meaning of the putt away for a second. Because for the past 17 and a half holes all you're thinking about is golf, and suddenly when that happens your mind goes into a complete — like, you're almost not even playing golf anymore. I thought it was a dream for a second."

The hole location on the 18th was moved for the playoff to avoid the parts of the green affected by the protesters.

Scheffler hit his approach in the playoff to 11 feet while Kim found a greenside bunker. Kim's blast from a plugged lie ran 36 feet past the hole, leaving Scheffler with an easy two-putt par for the victory. Afterward, his wife, Meredith, met him on the green, carrying their 6-week-old son, Bennett.

"It's fun competing against your friends," Scheffler said. "But at the same time, it's difficult. Because part of me wants him to miss the putt and part of me wants him to make the putt. ... But he should remember that putt he made on 18, because it was pretty special. And he's a great player and a great champion."

Coming off a tie for 41st in the U.S. Open — by far his worst finish of the year — Scheffler trailed Kim by three strokes after the first round, by two after the second round and by one heading to the tee on Sunday.

Scheffler took a one-shot lead over Kim with three straight birdies on Nos. 13-15 — he had putts for eagle on two of them. While Hoge signed for a 62 to finish at 20 under, and Im joined him there, Scheffler and Kim matched pars over the next two holes to set up the surprising finish.

Scheffler and Kim share a June 21 birthday — Scheffler is six years older — and they celebrated with New Haven pizza before the tournament about 30 miles north. The Dallas-area residents played together in the final group on Sunday, chatting and joking around.

But only one of them could hold the trophy at the end.

And just like it's been so often, it was Scheffler.

Kim said being in a pack of leaders with his birthday buddy allowed him to focus on his own game.

"You don't need to worry about him, because he's going to play well," Kim said. "Obviously he's a phenomenal player, world No. 1, all those titles. But at the same time for me he's just Scottie Scheffler, he's just a good friend."

"To come down with someone that I play a lot of golf with, who beats me a lot at home — and, unfortunately, he beat me in the playoff too," Kim said. "But it definitely made it a lot more enjoyable out there."

Tennessee forces Game 3

(Continued from Page A1)

field bullpen.

"We always know we're one inning away," Stark said. "We keep stacking quality at-bats together and good things will end up happening. The kid to my right (Dreiling) put a good swing on the ball and gave us a lot of momentum going late into the game."

Snead, who earned his sixth save, was called on after the Aggies' first two batters singled in the bottom of the ninth. He got a groundout and flyout before Kavares Tears went to the warning track to catch pinch-hitter Ryan Targac's fly that stayed in the park with the help of the wind blowing in.

This will be the fifth CWS finals since 2018, and second straight, to go three games.

"To think you're going to roll right through it in two games would be ... That would have been nice," Aggies coach Jim Schlossnagle said. "We get to play the last college baseball game of the season, and that's awesome."

The Vols, who lost the finals opener 9-5 Saturday, haven't dropped consecutive games since March 16-17 at Alabama.

Jace LaViolette's team-leading 29th homer of the season, 50th of his career and first of the CWS put the Aggies up 1-0 in the first inning. It also was the first RBI in five games for LaViolette, who has been playing

on a sore right hamstring.

"In the moment, that felt great," LaViolette said. "Would it have felt a lot better if we had won that? It's baseball. There's ebb and flows. You try not to ride the highs and lows and I feel I've been riding the low a little too much."

The Aggies had only one runner reach second against Drew Beam before Aaron Combs (3-1) took over with no outs in the fifth. Combs worked out of trouble in the sixth and left with one out in the ninth.

Schlossnagle, having won Saturday, decided to make it a bullpen day in order to save Justin Lamkin for a possible Game 3. Lampkin has thrown eight shutout innings over two CWS starts.

Zane Badmaev, who hadn't started since he was at then-Division II Tarleton State in 2020, did his part as an opener. He was lifted for Chris Cortez after he gave up a single leading off the second inning. Cortez left in the sixth after a four-pitch walk. He blamed dehydration.

Wilson (0-2) came on and coaxed Stark's inning-ending double play, but he couldn't hold off the nation's top home run-hitting team in the seventh and eighth.

Dreiling's homer was his 22nd of the season and second of the CWS. Stark went deep for the 11th time. Tennessee has 182 homers for the year, six behind the 1997 LSU team's NCAA record of 188.

Dressel and Ledecy win again at U.S. Olympic swimming trials

By PAUL NEWBERRY

AP National Writer
INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Caeleb Dressel locked up his second individual race in Paris, giving him another chance to shine after his stellar performance at the last Olympics.

Keep an eye on Kate Douglass, too. She could be one of the the biggest American stars at the pool.

And, of course, Katie Ledecy will be swimming a whole bunch of events.

Dressel, the winner of five gold medals at the Tokyo Games, touched first in the men's 100-meter butterfly at the U.S. Olympic swimming trials Saturday night.

Dressel followed up his triumph in the 50

freestyle with a winning time of 50.19 seconds, giving him a chance to defend another of the gold medals he captured in Tokyo.

"I think all of my swims, I executed as well as I could," he said.

Douglass locked up her third individual event at the Olympics with a victory in the 200-meter individual medley.

She was neck and neck with Alex Walsh at the final turn, but no one could keep up with Douglass on the freestyle leg.

She finished in 2:06.79, while Walsh held on for the second Olympic spot in 2:07.86.

Douglass has lived up to her billing as one of the world's most versatile swimmers, also claiming trials victories in the 200 breaststroke and 100 freestyle.

News-Banner Scoreboard

BASKETBALL

NBA
FINALS, Boston wins the series over Dallas 4-1
Thursday, June 6
Dallas at Boston, 8:30 p.m.
Sunday, June 9
Dallas at Boston, 8 p.m.
Wednesday, June 12
Boston at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Friday, June 14
Dallas at Boston, 8:30 p.m.
Monday, June 17
Boston 106, Dallas 88

WNBA
EASTERN CONFERENCE
W L Pct GB
New York 15 3 .833 —
Connecticut 13 3 .813 1
Atlanta 6 9 .400 7½
Chicago 6 9 .400 7½
Indiana 7 11 .389 8
Washington 4 13 .235 10½
WESTERN CONFERENCE
W L Pct GB
Minnesota 13 3 .813 —
Seattle 10 6 .625 3
Las Vegas 8 6 .571 4
Phoenix 8 8 .500 5
Los Angeles 4 13 .235 9½
Dallas 3 13 .188 10

Saturday's Games
Washington 97, Dallas 69
New York 98, Los Angeles 88
Minnesota 73, Phoenix 60
Sunday's Games
New York 96, Atlanta 75
Seattle 72, Connecticut 61
Washington 92, Dallas 84
Chicago 88, Indiana 87
Monday's Games
No games scheduled.
Tuesday's Games
Minnesota at New York, 8 p.m. (2024 Commissioner's Cup Final)
Wednesday's Games
No games scheduled.

Oakland 29 51 .363 16
Saturday's Games
Chicago White Sox 5, Detroit 1
Pittsburgh 4, Tampa Bay 3
Houston 5, Baltimore 1
Texas 6, Kansas City 0
Cleveland 6, Toronto 3
Seattle 9, Miami 0
Minnesota 10, Oakland 2
Boston 4, Cincinnati 3
N.Y. Yankees 8, Atlanta 3
L.A. Dodgers 7, L.A. Angels 2
Sunday's Games
Atlanta 3, N.Y. Yankees 1
Tampa Bay 3, Pittsburgh 1
Miami 6, Seattle 4
Detroit 11, Chicago White Sox 2
Boston 7, Cincinnati 4
Houston 8, Baltimore 1
Texas 4, Kansas City 0
Cleveland 6, Toronto 5
Minnesota 3, Oakland 0
Monday's Games
Cleveland (Bibee 5-2) at Baltimore (Povich 0-1), 6:35 p.m.
Philadelphia (Nola 8-3) at Detroit (Mize 1-5), 6:40 p.m.
Seattle (Woo 3-1) at Tampa Bay (Bradley 2-4), 6:50 p.m.
Toronto (Bassitt 6-6) at Boston (Houck 7-5), 7:10 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Paxton 7-1) at Chicago White Sox (Crockett 6-6), 8:10 p.m.
Miami (Muñoz 1-2) at Kansas City (Ragans 4-5), 8:10 p.m.
Texas (Lorenzen 4-3) at Milwaukee (Peralta 5-4), 8:10 p.m.
Oakland (Medina 1-2) at L.A. Angels (Canning 2-8), 9:38 p.m.
Tuesday's Games
Cleveland at Baltimore, 6:35 p.m.
Philadelphia at Detroit, 6:40 p.m.
Seattle at Tampa Bay, 6:50 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
Toronto at Boston, 7:10 p.m.
Colorado at Houston, 8:10 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers at Chicago White Sox, 8:10 p.m.
Miami at Kansas City, 8:10 p.m.
Texas at Milwaukee, 8:10 p.m.
Oakland at L.A. Angels, 9:38 p.m.
Minnesota at Arizona, 9:40 p.m.

Midwest League

High-A Midwest League Glance

East Division
W L Pct GB
West Michigan 3 0 1.000 —
Fort Wayne 2 1 .667 1
Great Lakes 2 1 .667 1
x-Lake County 1 2 .333 2
Dayton 0 3 .000 3
Lansing 0 3 .000 3
West Division
W L Pct GB
Beloit 3 0 1.000 —
Cedar Rapids 2 1 .667 1
South Bend 2 1 .667 1
Peoria 1 2 .333 2
Quad Cities 1 2 .333 2
x-Wisconsin 1 2 .333 2
x - First Half winner

HOCKEY

NHL
FINALS, series tied at 3 (Best-of-7)
Saturday, June 8
Florida 3, Edmonton 0
Monday, June 10
Florida 4, Edmonton 1
Thursday, June 13
Florida 4, Edmonton 3
Saturday, June 15
Edmonton 8, Florida 1
Tuesday, June 18
Edmonton 5, Florida 3
Friday, June 21
Edmonton 5, Florida 1
Monday, June 24
Edmonton at Florida, 8 p.m. Game 7

NATIONAL LEAGUE
East Division
W L Pct GB
Philadelphia 51 26 .662 —
Atlanta 43 32 .573 7
Washington 38 39 .494 13
New York 37 39 .487 13½
Miami 27 50 .351 24
Central Division
W L Pct GB
Milwaukee 45 33 .577 —
St. Louis 39 37 .513 5
Pittsburgh 37 40 .481 7½
Chicago 37 41 .474 8
Cincinnati 36 41 .468 8½
West Division
W L Pct GB
Los Angeles 48 31 .608 —
San Diego 41 41 .500 8½
Arizona 38 40 .487 9½
San Francisco 36 42 .462 11½
Colorado 27 51 .346 20½

BASEBALL

MLB
AMERICAN LEAGUE
East Division
W L Pct GB
New York 52 28 .650 —
Baltimore 49 28 .636 1½
Boston 42 36 .538 9
Tampa Bay 38 40 .487 13
Toronto 35 42 .455 15½
Central Division
W L Pct GB
Cleveland 49 26 .653 —
Minnesota 43 35 .551 7½
Kansas City 42 37 .532 9
Detroit 36 41 .468 14
Chicago 21 58 .266 30
West Division
W L Pct GB
Seattle 45 35 .563 —
Houston 38 40 .487 6
Texas 37 40 .481 6½
Los Angeles 30 46 .395 13

Saturday's Games
St. Louis 9, San Francisco 4
Chicago Cubs 8, N.Y. Mets 1
Pittsburgh 4, Tampa Bay 3
Philadelphia 12, Arizona 1
Seattle 9, Miami 0
Boston 4, Cincinnati 3
N.Y. Yankees 8, Atlanta 3
San Diego 6, Milwaukee 4
Colorado 8, Washington 7
L.A. Dodgers 7, L.A. Angels 2
Sunday's Games
Philadelphia 4, Arizona 1
Atlanta 3, N.Y. Yankees 1
Tampa Bay 3, Pittsburgh 1
Miami 6, Seattle 4
St. Louis 5, San Francisco 3
Boston 7, Cincinnati 4
Washington 2, Colorado 1
Milwaukee 6, San Diego 2
N.Y. Mets 5, Chicago Cubs 2
Monday's Games
Philadelphia (Nola 8-3) at Detroit (Mize 1-5), 6:40 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
Major League Baseball
MLB — Suspended Toronto INF Orelvis Martinez 80-games for violation of Major League Baseball's Joint Drug Prevention and Treatment Program.

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This special feature made possible by these community minded businesses:

Public Sale Calendar

JULY 11 - 10 a.m. - Online only - Secured creditors & various consignors, owners. 100+ skid loader attachments, tool boxes, workbenches, iron gates, chains & binders, 1 trip 40' high side shipping container w/side doors, dome shelter container, various truck take off parts, dump trucks, 2012-2014 Freightliner M2106 box trucks, day cabs, sleepers, utility trucks, bucket trucks, utility & semi trailers, SUV's, pickup trucks, 100+ skid steer attachments & much more! Accepting consignments, 815 Adams St., Decatur. *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, Commercial Cyclone Rake. Preview: July 11 and 18 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 540 W US 224, Uniondale. Pat Carter, sale manager, 260-273-8294, *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. Tract 3: 5+/- acres. Open House by appointment: Rick Johnlzo, 260-827-8181, Neal Wolheter, 260-336-2219, Jason Johnlzo, 260-273-9177. *Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management*, halderman.com, 800-424-2324.

JULY 20 - 9 a.m. - Charles (Chuck) Bertsch Estate, owner. 3898 E 400 N, Bluffton. Hit & Miss engines (Fairbanks Morse 5 hp, Fairbanks Morse 1½ or 2 hp, more), oil well display, 25 to 30 long guns and pistols, ammo, drill press, mill, snow blowers, trailer, M80 Military hot water heater, chain saws, welders, industrial 3 phase motors, tandem bike, yard tools, hand tools, Dixon ZTR zero turn mower, 11- garden tractors, rear tine tiller, lots more. Miz Lehman Realtors/Auctioneers, Berne, www.mizlehman.com, 260-589-2903.

Silence after tragedy comes off as carelessness

Dear Annie: We would like to respond to your answer to "Retired and Busy," the grandparent who complained about overscheduled grandkids. To us, your answer was spot-on. We never felt "gaslit." At 80 and 76, we are still traveling to see our young adult grandchildren doing what they love, from five-hour trips to see a play to driving to another state to see rugby playoffs.

We have missed very few of our grandchildren's events, and when we pass by areas where events occurred when they were younger, we feel blessed to have participated as fans of what they enjoyed. So we are still on the road, and they love seeing us there.

So to us, our grandchildren are a source of joy and love in our lives and memories. I hope other grandparents have the same in their lives. — Nana and Papa

Dear Nana and Papa: You sound like wonderful grandparents, and your grandkids are lucky to have you. Keep going. If a car just sits, it rusts, so keep it moving. The same is true for humans!

Dear Annie: My name is "Clara." I am a 42-year-old female and have been married for 19 years. We live on the West Coast, about 10 hours by car from both of our families. We have a decent relationship with my husband's family — not bad at all, though we just don't get to see them very often. I thought they were all OK with me and liked me.

My dad passed away 20 years ago. My mom passed away from pancreatic cancer six months ago. My husband's parents didn't say anything to me when she first passed and still haven't. No personal messages to me or anything. One of his sisters texted me, which I really appreciated, but his other sib-

lings said nothing.

They do a Zoom call every other week together, and on the call they had after my mom passed away, it sounds like they all told my husband to "tell Clara we are sorry" and "send Clara our love." He relayed their messages to me, which I appreciated, but not one of them has reached out to me or said anything to me personally. I know it can be awkward to know what to say, but even a little text message is better than not saying anything at all.

I still feel hurt by this but know I need to let it go. Maybe my story can help other readers know how important it is to reach out when someone has suffered a loss. — Very Hurt

Dear Very Hurt: I am so sorry for your loss. You are correct that people feel awkward around the topic of death, but that is no excuse not to reach out to you. Thank you for your letter, and I am printing it in the hopes that other family members reach out to those who have lost people close to them to help comfort them. Don't hesitate to show this letter to your husband.

"How Can I Forgive My Cheating Partner?" features favorite columns on marriage, infidelity, communication and reconciliation. It 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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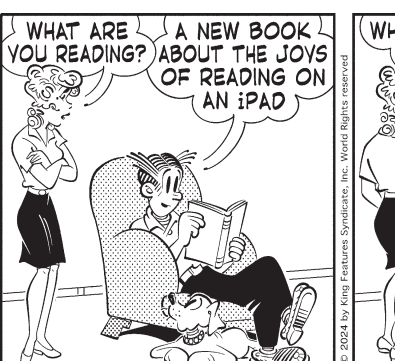
Dear Annie by Annie Lane



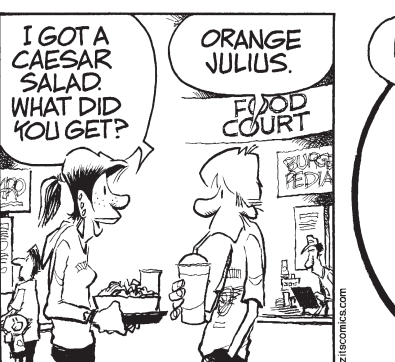
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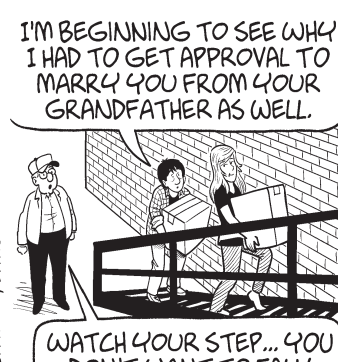
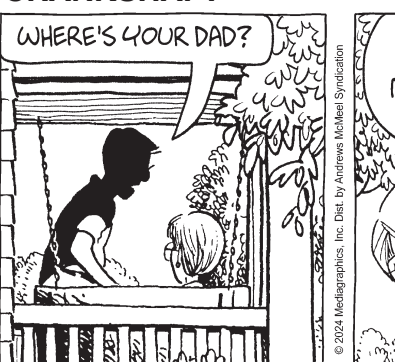
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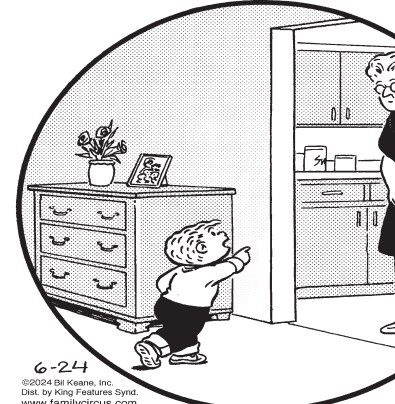


CRANKSHAFT



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



The LOCKHORNS

By Eugene Sheffer



My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



Only God knows our hearts

Question: I know that my best friend isn't saved even though she says she is. My mother said that I should not judge her salvation but she can't give me a reason why. — G.J.

Answer: Only God knows our hearts and He alone has the right to judge who is genuinely saved or lost. The Bible says, "He shall judge the world with righteousness, and ... His truth" (Psalm 96:13, NKJV).

God is the just and all-knowing judge, and we must never try to put ourselves in His place. None of us knows what happens between God and an individual. Even in the last breaths of life, someone can turn in faith to Christ and be saved.

A reporter for a national magazine once con-

fessed, "My grandmother didn't accept Jesus as her Savior before she died, and she was the most perfect person I've ever known. I can't imagine eternity without my grandmother, so since she died without forgiveness of sin, I will not repent either because I want to spend eternity with the most wonderful person I've ever known." A colleague explained, "When you reach your eternal destination, you may find that your grandmother is in Heaven because in the last moments of her life she may have called on the Lord and was miraculously saved. You will then find yourself eternally separated from the most wonderful Person you could ever know — Jesus Himself!"

We also should not presume that people will

go to Heaven just because they claim to be a Christian. Jesus said, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven" (Matthew 7:21, NKJV). We must take seriously the Bible's admonition, "Examine yourselves as to whether you are in (2) to (2) whether you are in the faith" (2 Corinthians 13:5, NKJV).

Set your eyes on the One who died for you. Seek Him; He will save you. Live for Him; He will open up Heaven's door for you.

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

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"I'll hide in the closet, Grandma. But try not to find me right away."

BUY IT SELL IT RENT IT FIND IT FILL IT GET IT DO IT IN THE CLASSIFIEDS! Place Your Ad 24/7/365! www.news-banner.com

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 35 Salt 58 Long 20 Terrible 1 AOL, formula 59 Sailor 21 Country for one 36 Queried 22 "Les Étais—" 4 Play the banjo head 38 Convent 1 Squid 23 Betrays 9 Walgreens 40 Bikini top 2 Six, in Sicily 4 Aromas 27 Kyoto 12 Museum-funding org. 45 Hand warmer 6 Vitamin stat 29 Beige 13 Sierra — 47 Distant 7 City-based 32 Passion subj. 48 Notre Dame coach 8 Untidy states 34 Gasson battle 15 Fitness model's "six-pack" 49 Alaskan shellfish 9 Forensics facilities 37 Stylish One of the B vitamins 17 Writer on and on 10 — Beach, Fla. 11 Balkan native 42 Type of navel 18 H.S. math peak 16 Back muscle, briefly 44 Spike's warning 24 Campbell of "Scream" 57 Mensa stats 45 Crèche trio 46 Persian Gulf land 50 Stop — dime 26 Hog haven 51 Play segment 28 Red-tag events 52 Feathery wrap 31 Opulent 53 Damascus is its cap. 33 "Game, —, match!"

Solution time: 21 mins.

Crossword grid with Saturday's answer 6-24

Crossword grid with Saturday's answer 6-24

Table with 24 columns (time slots) and 24 rows (channels) listing TV programs and their start times.

The Classifieds

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SUDOKU

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

King Classic Sudoku

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

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Difficulty: ★

6/24

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

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Swiss Village is now seeking a Full-Time Healthcare Activities Assistant to participate in the coordination, development, and implementation of comprehensive therapeutic recreation services and program for Swiss Village residents. Position will be 40 hours/week, with varying daytime hours. Minimal evening and weekend hours required. Candidates must have an outgoing personality and excellent interpersonal skills. Must be able to push wheelchairs and spend a majority of the workday walking. Seeking candidates willing to be flexible. Computer skills preferred.

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 Swiss Village | 1350 W. Main St. | Berne, IN 46711
 or email: careers@swissvillage.org
 EOE

LINE CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINES:
 Monday editions: Friday by 4 p.m.
 Tuesday-Friday editions: day-before by 3:30 p.m.
 Saturdays: Friday by 11:30 a.m.

SELL YOUR STUFF!

All Classified Line Ads automatically appear on the News-Banner website at NO ADDITIONAL CHARGE!

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 ADD A PHOTO
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 One item per ad

GUARANTEED SOLD

Your ad runs 'til your item is sold! (6-month maximum) Private party only, one-item in ad. Limited to "For Sale" and "Automotive" categories (Real Estate excluded)

HOT DEAL!

20 words \$39
 Add'l Lines: 88 cents each
ADD A PHOTO!
 Your "Guaranteed Sold" ad (up to 20 words) with a Photo: \$44
 Add'l Lines, 88 cents each

GARAGE SALES

Put your Garage Sale in Wells County's Easy-to-Use Garage Sale Guide!

Get a **FREE GARAGE SALE KIT** when you place your Garage Sale ad in The News-Banner for 3 days or more.

SELL YOUR WHEELS!

HOT DEAL!

20 Words, 10 Days
 just \$25
 ADD A PHOTO
 for just \$5 more
 One item per ad

GUARANTEED SOLD

Your ad runs 'til your item is sold! (6-month maximum). Limited to one-item, private party only.

HOT DEAL!

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 Add'l Lines: 88 cents each
ADD A PHOTO!
 Your "Guaranteed Sold" ad (up to 20 words) with a Photo: \$44
 Add'l Lines, 88 cents each

SERVICES SPECIAL!

Advertise Your Services EVERY DAY in Wells County's Most Popular Daily Marketplace!
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Add a photo or artwork to any ad! You can also add a headline or other attention-getters for less than you'd expect! Place your ad ON-LINE and explore the possibilities!

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Services
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 A 20 word, line classified in the Bluffton News-Banner for two months is \$97. Contact the office at 125 N. Johnson St., 260-824-0224 or submit online to www.news-banner.com and click on classifieds.

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

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Lottery Numbers

Saturday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY
 Cash 5 — 08-23-28-36-41
 Cash4Life — 01-08-12-34-55, Cash Ball: 04
 Lotto Plus — 11-12-14-21-24-25
 Quick Draw Middy — 01-12-20-21-24-36-40-42-44-47-49-50-52-57-64-73-75-76-78-79, BE: 40
 Daily Three-Middy — 04-03-08, SB: 03
 Daily Three-Evening — 06-02-03, SB: 08
 Daily Four-Middy — 06-06-07-03, SB: 03
 Daily Four-Evening — 03-03-02-00, SB: 08
 Quick Draw Evening — 05-16-18-22-23-34-38-39-43-45-48-57-58-64-65-68-69-72-75-77, BE: 64
 Hoosier Lotto — 08-10-13-20-28-31

POWERBALL
 04-05-15-32-62; Powerball: 21; Power Play: 2X

Sunday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY
 Cash 5 — 13-16-32-33-41
 Cash4Life — 09-16-27-37-57, Cash Ball: 2
 Quick Draw Middy — 02-07-10-14-15-16-17-19-21-28-30-37-39-58-63-67-71-73-74-76, BE: 15
 Daily Three-Middy — 02-08-03, SB: 05
 Daily Three-Evening — 08-06-08, SB: 03
 Daily Four-Middy — 07-04-07-05, SB: 05
 Daily Four-Evening — 00-08-02-00, SB: 03
 Quick Draw Evening — 04-05-07-10-26-31-34-36-37-44-48-52-54-57-60-62-69-74-77-78, BE: 36
 Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$15.2 million
MEGA MILLIONS
 Estimated jackpot (for Tuesday): \$97 million
POWERBALL
 Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$84 million

VEHICLES

Campers/RV's
 2018 THOR HURRICANE, Model 31Z, Class A RV, \$79,000, 260-307-3225.

EMPLOYMENT Help Wanted

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

FOR SALE

Hot Deals
 1982-94 VINTAGE G.I. JOE figures and vehicles, Ninja Turtle/Ghostbuster figures, vehicles and playsets. 824-9069

Pets



FOR SALE MINI DACHSHUNDS Looking for loving homes for mini male dachshunds puppies they are very playful and loving they have good personalities each their own. I will be giving them their first shots and deworming and vet check on Monday. Releasing them on July 5th. Asking \$500.00 260-273-7436 ipchicka77@yahoo.com

Public Notice

NOTICE
 In accordance with Indiana Code 5-15-6-3 requiring prior notification to individuals when records 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 9, 2024 if you wish to receive copies of your special education records. All records requested for pick-up and not picked up and non-requested 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 so. Records must be picked up by the person who received services unless otherwise legally designated.
 nb 6/18 through 8/7
 hspaxlp

SUDOKU ANSWER

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

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As a resident of the Wells County community for decades, Attorney, Gerret J. Swearingen, has devoted his legal practice to assisting clients in preserving the family assets from the high cost of Nursing Home and In-Home Healthcare.

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 1645 Hillcrest Dr., Suite 2A
 Ossian, IN 46777
 Attorney Gerret J. Swearingen

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- Estate Planning & Deeds
- Special Needs Trusts
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