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MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2024

BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection

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Furey named 2024 Ossian Days Grand Marshal

By SYDNEY KENT

In ambulances, firetrucks, classrooms and school buses — Dave Furey has spent over half a century serving the Ossian community. According to the Ossian Days Committee, Furey's dedication to helping those around him made him a perfect candidate for this year's Parade Grand Marshal.

"Dave Furey is an exceptional selection," Committee President AJ Reynolds said. "His decades of service and dedication to our community make him an ideal choice to lead our annual celebration of all things Ossian. Dave's contributions have left a lasting impact. It is our honor to recognize him in this special way."

Transportation, the theme of this year's

beloved Ossian Days festival, is a special nod to Furey's career. Furey was one of the first volunteer medics in the Ossian Emergency Medical Services in 1975, volunteering as an EMT until 1979. He then began a 14-year tenure at the Ossian Fire Department just two years later. He served as the fire chief from 1992-1999.

While taking an active role in both fields, Furey was also a teacher with Northern Wells Community Schools. He then worked as a bus driver for the district before he retired.

"My first year teaching was at the Lancaster campus," Furey explained. "I moved into the present building in the fall of 1968."

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Above, Natalie, left, and EJ Tackett are proud of the new look. Behind them, new scoring tablets sit next to one of the ball dispensers. More photos on Page 2. (Photo by Jonathan Snyder)

Bluffton's EZ Bowl finishes first phase of renovations

By JONATHAN SNYDER

EZ Bowl reopened Monday after two months of renovations, with a revamped floor plan, new scoring additions and a new pin setting system.

EJ and Zac Tackett, both of whom own EZ Bowl, were given ownership of the business from their parents in 2018. EJ, the current number one ranked bowler in the world, stated that the renovations mark "phase one" of the brothers plans for EZ Bowl, with more ideas coming in later months. EJ stated that the renovations are meant to make the place more welcoming for customers walking in and give Bluffton residents another option for entertainment while in town.

"The biggest thing that we want to do,

and why we're doing all this ... I love small communities," EJ said. "It's what this is always going to come back to. I wanted to put money into our community, to give our people somewhere that they could come, they could enjoy and do anything that they wanted here. We have a lot of stuff planned for the future to make it better, but this is the first phase of doing that, and trying to get people ... to stay in our community, rather than go outside of it."

EJ said that they repainted the walls on the inside and outside, while adding in new scoring monitors on the floor next to the lanes. EJ also noted that the pro shop has moved down towards the right end of the

(Continued on Page 2)



Chris Garrett, third from left, with Huntington University Dean of Arts Lance Clark who is the producer and subject of "A Carpenter's Prayer," a movie in which Garrett was an extra. The photo was taken recently at the Huntington Theaters where the movie is currently playing. Garrett took along several of her Wells County friends for a viewing including, from left, Kris Rinehart, Clark, Garrett, Gwen Rice, Holly McAfee and Angie Klarke. (Photo provided)

Bluffton woman had a moving movie experience

By MARK MILLER

A posting on Facebook resulted in "an unbelievable experience" for Bluffton resident Chris Garrett.

"I just want people to know about this movie and hear the message," she says. "And that is that everyone can experience the grace of God."

Sometime in early 2022, Garrett came across a call for extras for a movie written and directed by Matt Webb, who teaches film production at Huntington University. Being an alumni — "back when it was Huntington College in 1979," Garrett says — and having participated in theater dur-

ing her student years, she submitted her name.

"The process of that, how things worked, it was just an amazing experience," she continues. She was notified of her acceptance with instructions of what kind of wardrobe and hairstyles would work. Garrett found some clothes at area Goodwill and Salvation Army stores.

"We filmed the last week of May and first week of June," she recalls. In the wake of the pandemic, Screen Actors Guild requirements still mandated masks when not filming. Those recruited as extras reported to what was called a "base

camp" where they changed clothes, ate meals and waited to be bussed to the scenes in which they would appear.

All of the filming was done in Huntington County with the exception of the church scenes which took place in a church on the Huntington-Wabash County line — but on the Wabash side.

The film was initially named "Wayfaring Stranger" and debuted in April 2023 at Huntington University. It won several awards from the International Christian Visual Media Association including Best Actor, Best Evangelical Film and Best Soundtrack.

Garrett shares the synopsis of the film:

"In 1970s rural America, a 12-year-old pastor's son and his family befriend a middle-aged, broken-down, country singer who helps the boy embrace his musical calling and the pastor build a new church. The former country singer, Glenn Frank, becomes a part of the Clark family by secretly teaching young Lance to play the guitar and working side-by-side with Pastor Doyle, all while wrestling with his demons of alcohol abuse. His untimely death brings the community together to finish the project and unite a new church family."

The film, she adds, is (Continued on Page 2)



Touch A Truck

Big trucks and some sports cars were on display for kids to see and enjoy next to the Wells County Public Library Saturday. Above, Emberleigh Hefner sits in one of the trucks. At left, Haisley Conant sits in a winged sprint race car, with Brayden Williams helping her get in and out. Bottom left, Noelle Ospron looks over the inside of an ambulance, with EMS worker Courtney Pilling showcasing some of the equipment inside. At bottom right, Ricky Potts honks the horn on one of the trucks. (Photos by Jonathan Snyder)



"A Carpenter's Prayer" is now playing at the Huntington 7 Theaters complex on Hauenstein Road, currently slated to be available through Thursday, Aug. 29. It is also scheduled to be shown at the ABCinema in Decatur Sept. 13, 14 and 15. Additional locations and times for outside of the area can be found at www.acarpentersprayer.com

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Outside



High heat indexes until Tuesday, then rain

Today	Tuesday	Wed.
High 92	High 96	High 92
Low 72	Low 73	Low 68

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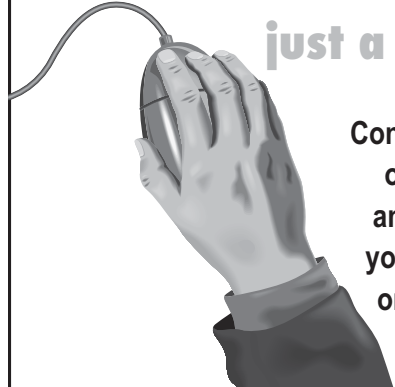
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EZ Bowl renovations

(Continued from Page 1)

building and that the bar and kitchen have moved closer to the center. Additionally, Natalie Tackett, EJ's wife, added that quick five frame games are available to grab attention for kids who may be bowling, the food menu has healthier options available and quality of ingredients has improved.

"We've touched just about everything in here," EJ said.

"Now it is our turn to do the aesthetic stuff, to revamp what the customer experience is going to look like," Natalie said.

EJ also stated that he installed string machine pinsetters that will replace the older mechanical system that sorted pins via machines behind the lane wall. While Tackett acknowledged the lack of popularity with string machine setters, he stated the cost savings on replacement parts and maintenance will help the lanes stay open in the long-term future.

"In my opinion, I think this is where bowling is headed," Tackett said. "There's a lot of people that don't like them. Some people don't care. There's definitely some traditionalists that aren't a huge fan. But I think it's really going to help bowling centers stay open. The machines that were in here ... they were old, and finding replacement parts was getting impossible ... They just don't make them anymore. So, you have to find them from a bowling center that is either doing



Above is the sitting area, complete with vending machines and some arcade games. Below is a look at the revamped kitchen and bar area (Photos by Jonathan Snyder)

what we did or is closed, and selling everything that they have."

With the renovations comes an opportunity for new events surrounding the reworked lanes. EJ brought up that Oct. 4-6 will be their sixth year hosting a Professional Bowlers Association Regional Tour event, with the public able

to interact and bowl with PBA bowlers that Friday. On Sept. 7, from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m., the public can bowl for free. EJ stated that this will allow the public to get a look at EZ Bowl's new look and have a chance to see the changes for themselves.

"We've put all of our eggs in the basket and tried

to do the best that we can make the place look as good as possible," EJ said. "And try to do some things a little bit differently than my parents did, and try to be more in tune with the world and the generations that have a little bit of extra money and want to come spend it on entertainment."

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Movie experience

(Continued from Page 1)

based on the true story of Lance Clark, a professor in film and the Dean of Arts at Huntington University who was also the movie's producer. Garrett, as did other cast members, got to know Clark during and after the filming.

"He was the 12-year-old pastor's son," Garrett says, "and he still has the gutiar he learned to play."

The film was renamed "A Carpenter's Prayer" for national release this year.

The story, Garrett adds, is about the building of a church in Michigan. Clark's father had a vision to unite four congregations and build a new church debt-free. In October of last year, the church depicted in the movie held a 50-year anniversary and showed the film. Garrett decided to go.

"It was thrilling to be where the actual church at the center of the film was located," she shares. "I met the current pastor of the church and his cousin and her daughter. I talked at length with the cousin and daughter and told them the film is excellent and that I was an extra in the movie. It was as if I told them I had a major part in the movie. They wanted their picture with me and asked if they could sit with me, which I did. When I was seen in the movie they would point to the screen. It was fun and still gives me a chuckle when I think about it."

Garrett can be seen "up close" in four scenes and is in the background in "a couple of other scenes," she says, and is also seen in the movie's promotional trailers. She has a number of stories about the experience both posi-



Bluffton resident Chris Garrett, left, in a scene from the movie "A Carpenter's Prayer." "The lady in the pink next to me," Garrett shares, "is Lance Clark's mother Janet who played a major character in the movie." (Photo provided)

tive and sad. She befriended another extra who later was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and passed this past November. "I am able to remember the fun times we had on the set," she says.

Garrett, a native of Huntington County, moved to rural Ossian in 1995 and then to Bluffton in 2008. Retired now from a career in social services, she continues to work part time at Family Centered Services.

"It was fun on set and being able to see what really happens when making a film," she explains. "I learned that the production schedule is very tight which makes sense with how many

people are on set, and that all scenes for a location are filmed when at that location. "In a movie, you will see a plot progress from one location to another and then back to the first location," she continues.

"All the filming is done at the construction site, the church, etc. in the same day or two," she adds. "I gained a better sense of how someone editing a film would have a big job just putting them in the right order. It has also been so much fun each time I have taken friends and family to see the film. It truly has been a purely fun and joyful experience."

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NASA decides to keep 2 astronauts in space until February, nixes return on troubled Boeing capsule

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — NASA decided Saturday it's too risky to bring two astronauts back to Earth in Boeing's troubled new capsule, and they'll have to wait until next year for a ride home with SpaceX. What should have been a weeklong test flight for the pair will now last more than eight months.

The seasoned pilots have been stuck at the International Space Station since the beginning of June. A cascade of vexing thruster failures and helium leaks in the new capsule marred their trip to the space station, and they ended up in a holding pattern as engineers conducted tests and debated what to do about the flight back.

After almost three months, the decision finally came down from NASA's highest ranks on Saturday. Butch Wilmore and Suni Williams will come back in

a SpaceX capsule in February. Their empty Starliner capsule will undock in early September and attempt to return on autopilot with a touchdown in the New Mexico desert.

As Starliner's test pilots, the pair should have overseen this critical last leg of the journey.

"A test flight by nature is neither safe nor routine," said NASA Administrator Bill Nelson. The decision "is a result of a commitment to safety."

Nelson said lessons learned from NASA's two space shuttle accidents played a role. This time, he noted, open dialogue was encouraged rather than crushed.

"This has not been an easy decision, but it is absolutely the right one," added Jim Free, NASA's associate administrator.

It was a blow to Boeing,

adding to the safety concerns plaguing the company on its airplane side. Boeing had counted on Starliner's first crew trip to revive the troubled spacecraft program after years of delays and ballooning costs. The company had insisted Starliner was safe based on all the recent thruster tests both in space and on the ground.

Boeing did not participate in Saturday's news conference by NASA, but released a statement: "Boeing continues to focus, first and foremost, on the safety of the crew and spacecraft." The company said it is preparing the spacecraft "for a safe and successful return."

Rand Corp.'s Jan Osburg, a senior engineer who specializes in aerospace and defense, said NASA made the right choice. "But the U.S. is still left with egg on its face due to the Starliner design issues that should

have been caught earlier."

Wilmore, 61, and Williams, 58, are both retired Navy captains with previous long-duration spaceflight experience. Before their June 5 launch from Cape Canaveral, Wilmore and Williams said their families bought into the uncertainty and stress of their professional careers decades ago.

During their lone orbital news conference last month, the astronauts said they had trust in the thruster testing being conducted. They had no complaints, they added, and enjoyed pitching in with space station work.

Wilmore's wife, Deanna, said she and their daughters, along with family and friends, "were praying for a safe return on whatever spacecraft that may be." While they are disappointed that he will be away longer, "we know that it's the Lord's plan," she said via text.

Weather

Monday, August 26, 2024

(24-hour observations at 10:02 p.m. Sunday)

High: 91; Low: 67; Precipitation: None

Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.07 feet at 8:45 p.m. Sunday

Wells County forecast

Today: Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 92. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 72. South wind around 5 mph.

Tuesday: Sunny and hot, with a high near 96. Heat index values as high as 104. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Tuesday Night: A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly clear, with a low around 73. Southwest wind around 5 mph.

Wednesday: A 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2 p.m. Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 92.

Wednesday Night: A 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly before 8 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 68.

Thursday: A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2 p.m. Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 91.

Thursday Night: A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 70.

Friday: A 40% chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 2 p.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 89.

Friday Night: A 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 63.

Saturday: A 10% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Sunny, with a high near 84.

Ossian Days

(Continued from Page 1)

He spent over three decades teaching — an experience he has in common with his wife, Joan Furey. Furey said that Joan worked as a teacher at Ossian Elementary School for 31 years.

"She's going to ride in the car with me," Furey added proudly, referencing the upcoming parade. "I married her in 1967. We've been married going on 58 years this coming March."

Furey was selected as the Grand Marshal after his daughters nominated him in a letter sent to the Ossian Days Committee.

"He definitely has had a positive impact on the town of Ossian and the students he has taught over the past 56 years," Furey's daughters wrote after outlining his many achievements. "Thank you for your consideration."

This year's festival is scheduled to take place Sept. 12-14. Reynolds said that more volunteers are needed to continue to make the festival a reality. Anyone interested in volunteering may contact the committee on their Facebook page, online at ossiandays.com, or by email at info@ossiandays.com.

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OBITUARIES

Richard L. Kolkman, 85

Richard "Dick" L. Kolkman, 85, of Bluffton, passed away peacefully at home on Saturday morning, Aug. 24, 2024.



Dick was born in Fort Wayne on Aug. 6, 1939, to the late Edgar and Helen (Jung) Kolkman. He graduated from Birmingham High School in Reseda, California, where he moved with his family in 1954. After graduation Dick returned to Fort Wayne where he opened Dick's Deli at Five Points. After several years in the deli business, he transitioned into the Forest Products Industry, where he worked for many years before retiring in 2004. He also served on the Wells County Area Plan Commission from 2010 until 2016.

Dick was an avid reader and collector of all things World War II. His greatest joy was his grandchildren. He had a story to tell about them to anyone who would listen. Dick was there for sporting events, day trips, eating out, sleepovers and the many Subway runs.

Dick is survived by his wife, best friend, and caregiver of 38 years, Debbie (Keidel) Kolkman; sons, Matthew (Lisa) Markley, Richard Kolkman Jr., and Russell Kolkman; grandchildren, Dylan (Malerie) Markley, Paige (Dakotta) Crankshaw, and Austin (Tori) Markley; three great-grandchildren, Harper Crankshaw, Maverick Markley, and Colter Markley; a sister, Sue Ellen Bixler; and brother-in-law, Jack Keidel.

In addition to his parents, Dick was preceded in death by his stepfather (dad), Jerry Lahrman, and brother-in-law, Bill Bixler.

The family would like to extend their gratitude to their Stillwater Hospice team and the helpers who came into their home to assist with Dick's needs. "You all made our journey easier with your loving care and emotional support."

Visitation will be Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2024, from 2:00 until 7:00 p.m., at Goodwin - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton. Services will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 28, at 10:00 a.m., at the funeral home, with one hour of visitation prior to the service at the funeral home. Doyle Frauhiger will officiate. Burial will follow at Oak Lawn Cemetery in Ossian.

Memorial contributions in memory of Dick may be made to Rock Steady Boxing (for Parkinson's) or Stillwater Hospice of Fort Wayne.

Online condolences may be shared at www.goodwin-cale-harnish.com.

Michael R. Benson, 56

Michael R. Benson, 56, of Markle, and longtime paramedic for Wells County E.M.S., passed away on Saturday evening, Aug. 24, 2024, at his residence, surrounded by his family.

Funeral arrangements are currently pending with the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.

Bobbie L. Handshoe, 57

Bobbie L. Handshoe, 57 of Bluffton, passed away on Sunday afternoon, Aug. 25, 2024, at Parkview Hospital - Randallia, in Fort Wayne.

Funeral arrangements are currently pending with the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.

Mary Lou Sprunger, 93

Mary Lou Sprunger, 93, of Seymour, Indiana, passed away Sunday afternoon, Aug. 25, 2024, at Schneck Medical Center in Seymour.

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

Indy police fatally shoot man inside motel room

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Police fatally shot a man Friday as he struggled with a SWAT team inside a motel room, the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department said.

The man was shot about 10:30 a.m. at a motel on the northeast side of Indianapolis and was pronounced dead at a hospital, a department statement said.

The wanted man, whose name has not been released, "was known to be armed and dangerous and in possession of narcotics," the statement said.

The SWAT team officers serving a search warrant with assistance from IMPD detectives made several announcements outside the motel room using a public address system and police sirens "in an attempt to get the suspect to peacefully surrender," according to the statement.

Officers then forced their way inside and found the man and a woman emerging from the room's bathroom. Officers repeatedly ordered the pair to get on the floor, police said.

The woman complied, but the man did not and as officers were trying to handcuff him, he struggled with them, pulled away and retrieved a firearm, police said.

The man "continued to physically resist the officers' attempts to handcuff" him before he was shot, police said. IMPD said two firearms were later found in the room.

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

County:

Thursday, 2:59 p.m., 300 West and 100 North, Markle. Driver cited for speeding 49 in a 30 mph.

Thursday, 3:21 p.m., Wells County Jail. Victor Vazquez served warrant.

Thursday, 8:17 p.m., South Main and East Market streets, Petroleum. Caller reported vehicle swerving in road. Driver arrested for operating while intoxicated and oper-

ating with a suspended license.

Thursday, 10:58 p.m., S.R. 124 and 500W, Markle. The cows are back.

Thursday, 11:08 p.m., First Church of the Nazarene, Bluffton. Subject flagged officer down to ask advice about his wife spending too much money.

Friday, 8:08 a.m., S.R. 1 and 1100S, Montpelier. Driver cited for driving while suspended.

Ossian:

Thursday, 12:35 p.m., 5800 East North Street, Ossian. Report of civil issue with missing money after renters death.

Thursday, 12:37 p.m., 11000 North S.R. 1, Ossian. Report of landscaping damage. There was no damage but some sod that fell off of a vehicle.

ARRESTS

Victor Vazquez, 58, Fort Wayne; operating with an ACE of .15 or more, a Level 6 felony, and operating while

intoxicated — engagement, a Level 6 felony. No bond set.

Brendon Roger Coleman, 31, Bluffton; operating with an ACE of .15 or more, a Class A misdemeanor. No bond set.

Ethan Cranfell, 28, Dunkerk; driving while suspended, a Class A misdemeanor, and operating with an ACE of .15 or more, a Class C misdemeanor. Bond set at \$2,000.

Wells Court Docket

Wells Superior Court Criminal Cases

Krysta Lynn Graft, 23, Ossian, was sentenced to 547 days in the Indiana Department of Correction with 535 days suspended and 12 days of jail credit towards her sentence. Graft was

sentenced after pleading guilty to one count of possession of cocaine or narcotic drug, a Level 6 felony. One count of possession of paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor, was dismissed pursuant to a plea agreement. Graft is required to serve 547 days

on probation and pay court costs and filing fees in the amount of \$389.

Brendon Roger Coleman, 30, Bluffton, was sentenced to one year in the Wells County Jail with 345 days suspended and two days of jail credit towards

his sentence. Coleman pled guilty to one count of operating a vehicle with an alcohol concentration equivalent to .15 or more, a Class A misdemeanor. Coleman is also required to serve 345 days on probation and pay court costs and filing fees in the amount of \$439.50.



Parlor City shine

Roy Browne is pictured at the Parlor City Market on Saturday. Browne began his shoe shining business earlier this year and said he hopes to make his customers smile. (Photo by Sydney Kent)

Union Township Trustee arrested on felony charges

An elected Union Township Trustee was arrested by the Adams County Sheriff's Office on Aug. 23.

Nathan Mihm, rural Decatur, was arrested Friday on seven felony charges.

With the help of investigations by the Indiana State Police and the Indiana State Board of Accounts, Mihm has been charged with perjury, a Level 6 felony, four counts of conflict of inter-

est, a Level 6 felony and two counts of theft, a Level 6 and Level 5 felony.

Mihm is being held with no bond. An initial hearing is scheduled for Aug. 29 at 8:15 a.m.

Indiana secretary of state targets BlackRock for alleged fraud over ESG funds

By CASEY SMITH, Indiana Capital Chronicle

Indiana Secretary of State Diego Morales sent a cease and desist letter on Thursday to BlackRock — the world's largest asset manager — for alleged securities fraud, accusing the company of making "false and misleading statements" about their environmental, social or governance funds and allocation focus.

Morales issued the letter via the Indiana Securities Division, an arm of the secretary of state's office that's tasked with regulating the securities industry. The letter is nearly identical to one issued by Mississippi Secretary of State Michael Watson in March.

The Indiana Securities Division alleges BlackRock, "through its assertions relating to ESG products and offerings, has repeatedly made false and misleading statements to Hoosier investors," Morales said.

The company is accused by Morales of telling clients their financial prospects and outcomes would be better in the long run through ESG-backed funds. The secretary of state emphasized in his letter that there is "little to no evidence" to back that up, although Morales offers no evidence of his own to substantiate the allegations.

"Investment companies that engage in fraudulent activities not only betray the trust of their clients but undermine the integrity of our financial markets," Morales said Thursday in a written statement. "My office is committed to rigorously enforcing the law and strengthening our regulatory frameworks to ensure Hoosier investors are protected and that those who exploit the system are held accountable."

Morales said further that BlackRock, meanwhile, claims

their funds that "are not marketed as ESG do not follow an ESG investment strategy."

"However, BlackRock has issued several statements and actions in commitment of using all assets under its management to incorporate ESG considerations, including advancing the environmental goals of net zero carbon emissions," Morales continued.

In a statement, a BlackRock representative told the Indiana Capital Chronicle Morales' letter amounts to "a politically motivated attack that completely mischaracterizes BlackRock's approach to investing."

"We are only focused on helping hundreds of thousands of Hoosier clients achieve their investment goals," the statement continued. "We intend to defend ourselves and our clients against this arbitrary use of state power."

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Property taxes vs. local income taxes

Property tax cuts continue to be a topic in Statehouse circles and among local leaders. Calls to further reduce the growth in property tax collections or reduce property tax collections below current levels, will require a reduction in expenditures or an increase in local income taxes.

It is important to remember that those property tax collections fund salaries for police

officers, firefighters, jailers, teachers, prosecutors, public defenders, court employees, local road departments and the operation of government buildings including school buildings.

Starting in 2020, abnormal, temporary market forces created an atypical growth in home values resulting in shifts in who is paying the property tax burden. Home values, increasing faster than the values of other classes of property, paid a larger portion of the property tax liability pie.

Recognizing those changes, the General Assembly with approval of the Gov. Eric Holcomb, took action through an expanded homestead credit and supplemental deduction to decrease the property tax liability of homesteads, shifting some of the property tax burden back to other classes of property. Some actions by the state slowed the growth in property tax collections to the benefit of all property owners through a lower levy increase.

However, I have yet to attend a public meeting where the public is asking for less spending for the services that are funded through property taxes. Is anyone asking for fewer police officers, larger student-teacher ratios or slower responses to 911 calls? With less property tax collections, those are some of the options.

The most likely replacement revenue if property taxes are cut significantly is the local income tax. Changing the funding of local services to income taxes sounds easy but the local income tax presents its own transparency issues and shifts in tax liability.

In most counties, the county fiscal body, which is the county council, adopts a local income tax rate that every resident of the county pays. However, distribution of revenue from the local income tax is not determined by the adopting body, usually the county council, rather it is distributed by a state mandated formula allowing entities who never vote for a tax increase to receive more tax revenue. This creates a transparency issue.

Transparency and unfairness

In the counties where the county council does not have the power to increase the local income tax but the authority rests with a multitude of fiscal bodies of the municipal and county governments, a taxpayer could encounter a scenario where a unit of government which they do not elect can increase their income tax. That is more than a transparency issue, it is a question of taxation without representation. Changes to the local income tax are needed if local units of government are expected to replace property taxes with income taxes.

Also, workers who are employed outside of their county of residence create government expenditures in their county of employment such as the need for better roads and more public safety; however, the out-of-county workers are not contributing to the funding of government services. A business property owner that attracts employees outside of the county is paying property taxes; however, if the business owner has a reduced property tax burden the residents of the county where the business is located will end up paying higher property taxes or face the potential for a higher local income tax.

The same is true for communities that have secondary homes or rental property. If the owner of rental property or a secondary vacation home receives a property tax cut but does not pay income taxes in the county where the property is located, the residents of the county will most likely pay higher property tax rates or income tax rates.

Previous substantial property tax relief has included the state paying for more services such as school funding and welfare costs. We recognize that the property tax system has flaws but so does the local income tax.

A balance is needed and abandoning the property tax system will not create the perfect system for funding local services. Local units of government recognize the need for balance between property taxes and local income taxes to fund local services and they should be trusted to listen to their voters.

DAVID BOTTORFF

Bottorff is the Executive Director of the Association of Indiana Counties, an organization representing county government and county officials.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Aug. 26, the 239th day of 2024. There are 127 days left in the year.

Today in history: On Aug. 26, 1944, French Gen. Charles de Gaulle braved the threat of German snipers as he led a victory march in Paris, which had just been liberated by the Allies from Nazi occupation.

Also on this date:

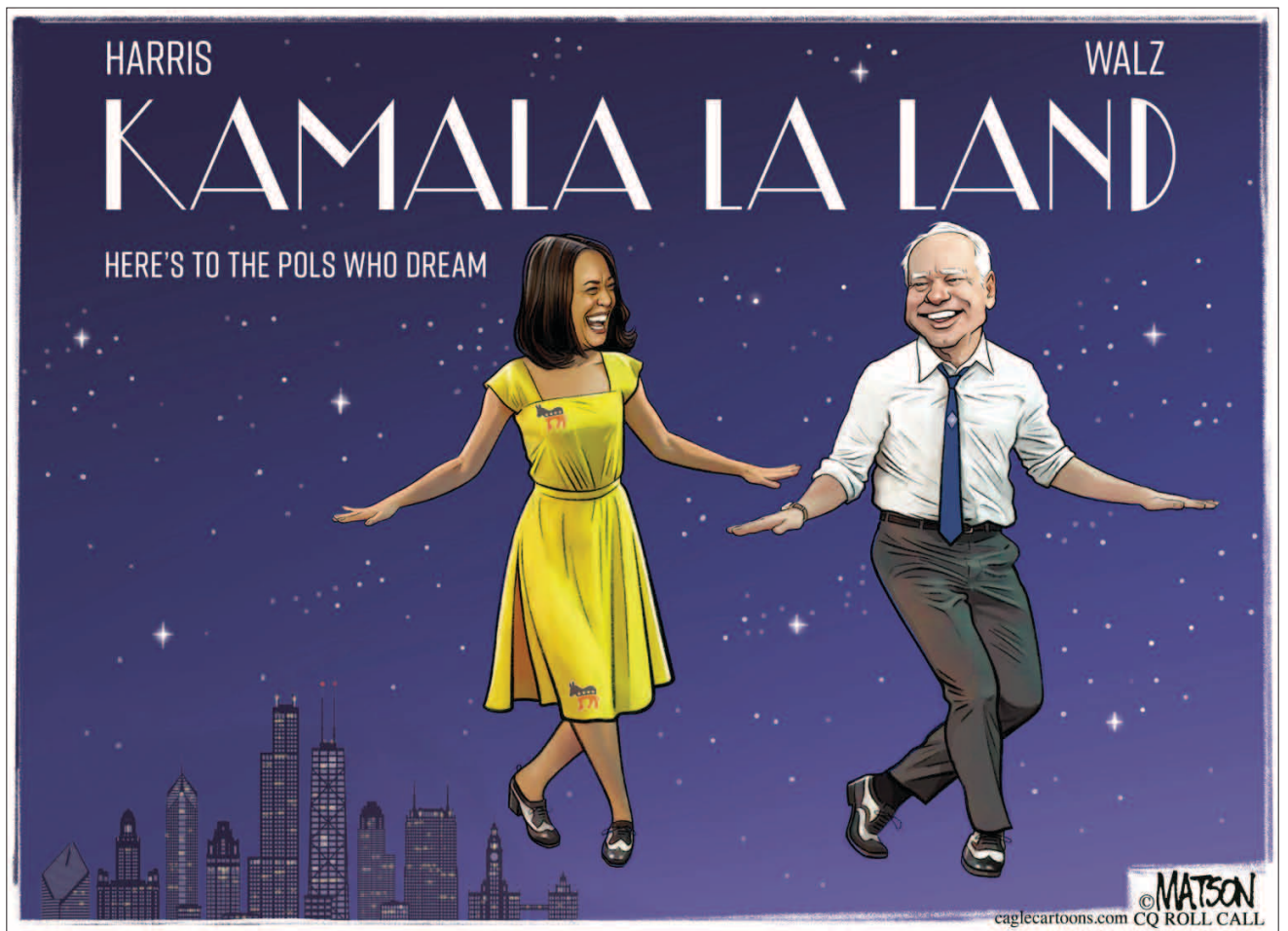
In 1958, Alaskans went

to the polls to overwhelmingly vote in favor of statehood.

In 1968, the Democratic National Convention opened in Chicago; the four-day event that resulted in the nomination of Hubert H. Humphrey for president was marked by a bloody police crackdown on anti-war protesters in the streets.

In 1972, the summer Olympics opened in Munich, West Germany.

Hoosier Opinions



Hoosier mayoral advice for Kamala Harris

CHICAGO — Until last November, Indiana was home to just one Black female mayor, Gary's Karen Freeman-Wilson, who served two terms before she was defeated in 2019.

Last November, the so-called glass ceiling began cracking and falling away in earnest across Indiana. Democratic Vanderburgh County Councilwoman Stephanie Terry won the open seat in Evansville, the state's third-largest city, while Democratic Councilwoman Angie Nelson Deutch defeated Republican Michigan City Mayor Duane Parry with 60% of the vote the same day. In Lawrence, Councilwoman Deb Whitfield topped Republican Deputy Mayor David Hofmann.

Last April, following the death of Fort Wayne Mayor Tom Henry, Councilwoman Sharon Tucker won the Democratic caucus to become the first non-white woman to serve in Indiana's second-largest city.

These four mayors have, thus, opened a new era in Hoosier politics.

Vice President Kamala Harris will become only the second woman to win a major party nomination in American history. The first, Hillary Clinton, told the DNC on Monday: "Together, we've put a lot of cracks in the highest, hardest glass ceiling and tonight so close to breaking through once and for all."

I asked Mayors Tucker and Nelson Deutch this question at Indiana delegation breakfasts this week: If you were to have a conversation with Vice President Harris about what you've just been through and what is in front of her, what would you tell her?

"I would tell VP Harris the same thing she told me a month ago," Mayor Tucker responded. "She grabbed my hands, imploring me to surround myself with people who believe in her and who want to make sure her vision and mission for these great United States is carried out."

Mayor Nelson Deutch added, "I've done the work already. I have the experience. I did two different terms on the council, but more than that, I was an engineer; I have a masters in public affairs, but people still questioned."

Why is that? "I went into engineering school when there were no women engineers," the Michigan City mayor said. "It takes time. Companies change; governments change. I just think it's slower in government."

Nelson Deutch was president of the Michigan City Council when she ran in 2023. She operates I&D Squared, a consulting firm focusing on inclusion and diversity. Her leadership certifications, management experience and all-around tenacity allow her to reach, understand and meet people where they are without judgment.

Tucker's community engagement has also been extensive with Advancing Voices of Women and the NAACP and Summit City Entrepreneur and Enterprise District. Before she was elected to the Fort Wayne

Council, voters had sent her to the Allen County Council.

At March's Democratic caucus, Tucker's fiery speech won the room. "I'm the only candidate who stands before you who has all those boxes checked on her résumé," Tucker said. "You see, as 6th District representative, I have had the pleasure of sitting at the table with developers and investors and telling them how great our city is and encouraging them to make investments. I fully understand government."

After she won the caucus on the second ballot, defeating Indiana House Minority Leader Phil GiaQuinta, a jubilant Tucker said, "Today you had the opportunity to make history by electing the first 5-foot-3 mayor. To be in a place where they're fed, loved and cared for, that's my vision for our community."

Mayor Tucker had this advice for Vice President Harris: "Enjoy the journey as she travels on. Being the first carries a lot of weight, but it also matters in all of the success of her activity and the things that she does day to day throughout the process."

I asked Tucker another question: What has it been like to break that glass ceiling in Fort Wayne?

"It's been both exciting and stressful," Tucker replied. "I know there are a lot of people who are looking at me to see how I will respond and react to multiple things, where most of the time when there's a man in charge, people can automatically assume the response. Coming from a female — an African American female — people are wondering what the responses will be until they get a chance to get used to me and how I serve."

"And so Vice President Kamala Harris as president will have the same people looking at her to see what her responses and reactions will be," Tucker continued. "But at the end of the day, she is a leader like I am, so I really believe she will lead us with grace and dignity."

Mayor Nelson Deutch added, "I've run departments, I've managed multiple units across multiple states, and yet it's still one of those things where you have to prove yourself, even though I've already proved it. You've got to make sure your team is ready to deal with those things, because as a Black woman in a nontraditional role there's always a question."

Has the Michigan City Council and her constituency been open to her leadership?

"Yes," Mayor Nelson Deutch responded. "Our council is one of the most diverse councils with all age groups. They understand I have an open door. I make sure they understand their roles and responsibilities and how to communicate."

A new era has opened in Indiana, and, possibly, America.

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

Politicking

Kamala Harris is no investor

Kamala Harris took a few brief minutes on the campaign trail to answer a couple of questions from reporters, and flash her policy chops.

When asked how she is going to pay for her lavish spending plans, the vice president explained that it would be covered via those indispensable fiscal tools — pixie dust and magical thinking.

The expansion of the child tax credit, which will cost \$1.2 trillion? According to Harris, "the return on that investment, in terms of what that will do and what it will pay for, will be tremendous."

Tax credits generally, including a \$150 billion expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit? "We know that there's a great return on investment."

Subsidies for home ownership, costing \$200 billion? "When we increase homeownership in America, what that means in terms of increasing the tax base, not to mention your property tax base, and what that does to fund schools. Again, return on investment."

In general, the vice president opined, "I think it's a mistake for any person who talks about public policy to not critically evaluate how you measure the return on investment."

Because, she continued, "when you were strengthening neighborhoods, strengthening communities, and in particular the economy of those communities and investing in a broad-based economy, everybody benefits and it pays for itself in that



Rich Lowry

way."

Clearly, someone mentioned "return on investment" to her in a policy briefing somewhere along the line, and the phrase stuck. Now, Harris thinks she's the Warren Buffett of deficit spending.

The concept of investment tends to be inapt in the context of government spending. In the private sector, when someone takes the risk of investing in a business or product and if it doesn't work, he or she pays the price. This ensures a measure of accountability and rigor that is lacking in government.

There's a reason that no one ever confuses the Department of Health and Human Services with Apple Inc.

That doesn't mean that some projects don't create real returns. By making New York the country's most commercially vibrant city, opening up the West to settlement and drastically reducing transportation costs, the Erie Canal was indeed a great investment.

Spending \$330 billion during World War II to defeat the Axis powers and to make the United States the world's preeminent power was worth it by any measure.

These are the exceptions, though. There's been so much so-called investment by the federal government in general and the Biden administration in particular, it's a wonder that the budget hasn't already balanced itself. Instead, the deficit is nearly

\$2 trillion a year, and the debt is \$34 trillion.

Where's the return? There is some, no doubt, but it is overwhelmed by the geyser of spending on every priority, from the Administration for Children and Families to the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

Harris is proposing to layer on another \$1.7 trillion in deficit spending. It's not just that there will be no return to almost all of it, government intervention often has the opposite of its intended effect by driving up prices. There's a reason that health care, higher education and housing cost so much. Regardless, the answer from the likes of Kamala Harris is always more intervention. An element of her program is more subsidies "to help Americans afford health insurance on the Affordable Care Act marketplace." Wasn't that what the ACA itself was supposed to do?

So, no, the Harris spending program won't pay for itself any more than the Biden program did, or for that matter, the Trump, Obama or Bush program did. Magical realism — or magical unreality — in budgeting is an entrenched, bipartisan phenomenon in Washington. That's why we've gotten so much "investing" with so little return, except an ever-escalating debt and a series of worthless pledges about impending fiscal probity.

Like any huckster working in a boiler room, Harris is hoping to find people credulous enough to believe what's too good to be true.

Rich Lowry is on Twitter @RichLowry

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What's happening at the Wells County Public Library

The Wells County Public Library takes its mission to "provide the community with access, knowledge and growth" very seriously and offers a variety of events each week for kids, teens, and adults. Registration is preferred at most events. To signup, go to www.wellscollibrary.org, click on the Library Event Calendar, navigate to the date of the event, and view more to get to the registration screen. Alternatively, call 260-824-1612 (Bluffton) or 260-622-4691 (Ossian) to register.

Mini Vases: Try It Night
At the Main Library (Bluffton): Monday, August 26 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Adults and teens. Turn salt and pepper shakers into mini vases, using chalk paint and a few different supplies. Registration required. Space is limited.

Calming Coloring At Ossian
At the Ossian Branch Library: every Tuesday from 1 to 3 p.m.

Adults. Stress busting afternoon featuring coloring in a restful setting with soft music and snacks. Drop-in program.

LEGO Drop-in At Ossian
At the Ossian Branch Library: Tuesday, August 27 from 4 to 7 p.m.

School-age kids can create LEGO masterpieces using the library's LEGO blocks during this drop-in event.

Teen Advisory Board
At the Main Library (Bluffton): Wednesday, August 28 from 6:00 to 6:45 p.m.

Grades 6-12. Do you wish you had a say in Teen Programming at the Library? Do you need volunteer credit? Join the Teen Advisory Board! You don't need to sign up—just show up for the TAB meetings on the last Wednesday of each month.

Library Closed for Labor Day
The Main Library (Bluffton) and the Ossian Branch will be closed on Saturday, August 31 and Monday, September 2 for Labor Day.

One Book One County September-October
This community read program for Wells County is designed to create a countywide discussion by encouraging all residents to read the same book. This year's title is the book "Frog and Toad Together" by Arnold Lobel.

Genealogy/Local History Club
At the Main Library (Bluffton): Thursday, September 5 from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

Ages 12+. Members help each other learn new things and obtain a greater appreciation for local history and genealogy research. Bring your own laptop or share one of ours. Registration appreciated.

Animal Friends with Indiana Wild
At the Main Library (Bluffton): Thursday, September 5 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
All ages. In honor of Frog and Toad,

Indiana Wild will be bringing a few of their amphibians and other animals to the library for you to see up close and personal in this fun and educational program for One Book One County. Registration appreciated, but not required.

Brown Bag Book Club
At the Main Library (Bluffton): Monday, September 9 at 1:30 p.m.

Adults. Pick up a copy of the book-of-the-month at the library before the discussion each month. The book for discussion is "The Bookshop of Yesterdays" by Amy Meyerson. Registration appreciated.

Bingo with Jason
At the Main Library (Bluffton): Monday, September 9 from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.

Adults. Enjoy a lively game of Bingo for a chance to win a candy bar with everyone's favorite librarian named Jason! Registration required.

Crafty Kids At Ossian
At the Ossian Branch Library: Monday, September 9: 3:30-5:30 p.m.

School-age kids. Drop-in for a different craft each month. No registration needed.

Teen Gaming Club
At the Main Library (Bluffton): Monday, September 9: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Grades 6-12. Enjoy a variety of different games each month, including video games, trading card games, and board games. No



registration needed.
Library Hours
At the main library in Bluffton — Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
At the Ossian branch library — Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon.
Access the library online at www.wellscollibrary.org for digital books, magazines, online databases, event info, and more.

ANNIVERSARY

Gerald and Ruth Moreland



to them with four wonderful children (Rachel Smith, Angela Denney, Sarah Hubert and Luke Moreland), nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Gerald and Ruth Moreland will be celebrating 60 years of marriage on Friday, August 30. They were married in 1964 in Nashport, Ohio after five years of "letter writing" and courtship in high school and college.

Ruth was a school teacher for 24 years and Gerald has had 60 years as a minister in the Lord's service. They both celebrated "80 year birthdays" this year. They also celebrated 20 years of ministry in Warren with Ruth retiring 20 years ago from Salomonie School and Gerald retiring in April from his Chaplaincy at Heritage Pointe of Warren for 14 years. They have resided in a townhome at Heritage Pointe for the last 14 years.

They are celebrating with a week in Shipshewana, 12 days in Branson Missouri and a week in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

They both feel God has been so good

Zanesville News

by Melba Edwards

As you know every time you take some time off from your life, even if it is a couple of days, you seem to have way more to do when you get back!

Soon it will be September and lots of things happen in that month. Upcoming

is the Bluffton Free Street Fair, Pioneer Days in Huntington and lots of school activities. We also have a family wedding and begin to make plans for our family Christmas. I'm sure you are busy too!

Bluffton High School class of 1979 reunion

The Bluffton High School class of 1979 will hold their 45th class reunion on Saturday, September 21 from 2-7 p.m. in the 4-H meeting room. Email ShadyL8dy@yahoo.com for more details.

Huntington County Genealogy meeting

The Huntington County Genealogical Society will meet on Wednesday, September 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the Keefer Center of the Huntington City-Township Public Library. The topic will be "Reading the Census" with the Keefer Center's Mikay-leigh Clark. Online access will be through Zoom. Call or email the Keefer Center for virtual meeting access at 260-356-0824 or email genealogy@hctpl.info for more information.

The program will explain what is contained in the U.S. census and why it is important to genealogists. Clark is a Fort Wayne native who has been working as an assistant in the Keefer Center since March 2023 after receiving a Bachelors in History and Theology from Holy Cross College in South Bend.

Blood Drive at the Bluffton YMCA

The Red Cross is partnering with the Caylor-Nickel Foundation Family YMCA to host a blood drive Tuesday, September 3 from 1 to 6 p.m. in the YMCA's Community Room. The Y is located at 550 W Dustman Rd. in Bluffton.

To schedule your blood donation appointment please visit RedCrossBlood.org and search sponsor code BLUFFTONYMCA. You may also schedule via the Blood Donor App with the same code or call 1-800-RED-

CROSS. Receive a Red Cross raglan shirt, while supplies last.

Whole blood is the most flexible type of donation. It can be transfused in its original form, or used to help multiple people when separated into its specific components of red cells, plasma and platelets.

Every day, whole blood donations help save the lives of children and adults fighting to survive cancer, blood disorders, traumatic injuries and more.

Fall events at Muncie's Emens Auditorium

Programs coming to Ball State University's Emens Auditorium this fall will be the following:

- The Princess Bride: An inconceivable evening with Cary Elwes: Sept. 14
- David Crowder: Sept. 20
- Malevo: Sept. 23
- Book of Morman: Sept. 24
- Hadestown: Oct. 22

- Homecoming Air Jam: Oct. 24
- Jazz Concert (Byron Stripling & Carmen Bradford): Oct. 26
- CirqueMusicaHoliday Wonderland: Dec. 8
- Dear Evan Hansen: Dec. 13
- Oak Ridge Boys (Christmas Farewell Tour): Dec. 21
- Kodo One Earth Tour

- 2025: Warabe: Feb. 19
- Minozil Brass: Feb. 27
- Dance: March 21-23
- Come From Away: March 24
- University Singers 61st Spectacular: April 4-5
- R.E.S.P.E.C.T.: April 9
- Emens Box Office 765-285-1539 open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Manchester University announces lineup for fall 2024 speaker series

Manchester University offers more than a dozen presentations in its Values, Ideas and the Arts series for Fall 2024. Presentations are at 11 a.m. on Mondays in Wine Recital Hall at the North Manchester campus unless otherwise noted. Presentations are free and open to the public.

Sept. 4: Mark Mccoy, assistant professor of psychology at MU, discusses the science of polling and controversies related to predicting the outcomes of elections.

Sept. 9: Dr. Jyotika Saksena, professor of international relations at the University of Indianapolis, presents on her photovoice project featuring Congolese refugee women in Indiana.

Sept. 16: Hispanic Heritage Month panel.

Sept. 23: Dr. Martin P. Wattenberg, political science professor at the University of California, Irvine, discusses the new edition of his book, Is Voting for Young People?, which examines the crucial role of young people in elections.

Sept. 30: Diversity in the Workplace - LGBTQ.

Oct. 7: Dr. Doug Tallamy, professor of agriculture

at the University of Delaware, discusses the simple steps that each of us can - and must - take to reverse declining biodiversity, why we must change our adversarial relationship with nature to a collaborative one, and why we, ourselves, are nature's best hope. Held in Cordier Auditorium.

Oct. 21: Faculty from Manchester's chemistry department share stories of the personal lives of scientists and the histories of their discoveries.

Oct. 28: Faculty and students discuss political ideologies and other salient topics in this electoral season.

Nov. 4: Presentation to kick off Focus on Faith Week.

Nov. 11: A panel discussion with Manchester students and faculty on mental health issues. Their stories seek to inform, educate and empower as these challenges become increasingly prevalent.

Nov. 18: Diversity in

the Workplace - Political Views.

Nov. 25: Janzin Cripe, owner of Chillz Ice Cream and Donuts in North Manchester, discusses entrepreneurship in a small town.

Dec. 2: Diversity in the Workplace - Interfaith.

Manchester's VIA programming broadens students' cultural experiences, enriches students intellectually and aesthetically, provides opportunities to experience the arts, promotes dialogue about ideas and values, and embodies in its presentations the values expressed in the University Mission. VIA features speakers, musicians and dramatic performers from the University community, across the country and around the globe.

Manchester University, in North Manchester and Fort Wayne, provides vibrant and transformative student experiences. Learn more at www.manchester.edu/about-manchester.



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10/15—GiveHear

11/19—Helping Hands

12/17—Christmas Gift Exchange/Carry In

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Questions? Contact Beth McConn at 260-565-9622 or beth_mcconn@fwymca.org

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County teams compete at three different XC invitationals

All of the cross country teams in Wells County ran separately at different invitationals on Saturday.

Below are the team results for both boys and girls along with individual finishers.

Bluffton

The Tigers ran at the Taylor University Invitational. The boys placed fourth while the girls placed sixth.

Levi Johns placed seventh overall for the Tiger boys, along with Jude Baumgartner in 11th and Jackson Rockwell 20th. Cora Kunkel placed 15th overall for the girls.

Individual results

Boys

Levi Johns finished seventh with a time of 17:01.0, Jude Baumgartner 11th (17:11.9), Jackson Rockwell 20th (18:00.6), Aidan Graves 32nd (18:26.2), Manning Nash 56th (19:14.2), Ryan Schlagenauf 66th (19:25.1), Griffin Linderwell 73rd (19:40.3), Andy Baumgartner 76th (19:44.9), Brett Kuhlbeck 89th (20:09.0), Owen Lesh 91st (20:15.3), Clayton Brubaker 106th (21:05.0) and Jimmy Borabo-Hower 150th (24:47.9).

Girls

Cora Kunkel finished in 15th with a time of 21:32.6, Reagan Harris 42nd (24:15.2), Kierstynn Reed 55th (24:44.0), Dakota Lee 60th (25:22.3), Briana Ortiz 61st (25:24.4), Amarah Robles 73rd (26:32.5), Juaneliz Rivera Torres 85th (27:25.2), Chloe Lesh 97th (29:17.5) and Namine VanHyfte (31:28.7).

Team Scores

Boys

1. Wapahani (98 team points), 2. Convoy Crestview (111), 3. Pendleton Heights (122), 4. Bluffton (125), 5. Van Wert Lincolnview (136), 6. Lakewood Park Christian (144), 7. Adams Central (203), 8. South Adams (210), 9. Delta (214), 10. Muncie Central (256), 11. Lapel (256), 12. Heritage Christian (216), 13. Easterbrook (276), 14. Madison-Grant (295), 15. Daleville (422), 16. Winchester Community (464) and 17. Alexandria Monroe (474).

Girls

1. Pendleton Heights (43 team points), 2. Van Wert Lincolnview (88), 3. Heritage Christian (136), 4. Adams Central (136), 5. Eastbrook (146), 6. Bluffton (203), 7. Wapahani (203), 8. Delta (211), 9. South Adams (237), 10. Lakewood Park Christian (265), 11. Convoy Crestview (276), 12. Winchester Community (291), 13. Alexandria Monroe (308), 14. Daleville (334) and 15. Muncie Central (375).

Bluffton will be at the Oak Hill Invitational at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 31.

Norwell

The Knights ran at the Huntington North Invitational. The girls finished in seventh while the boys placed 12th.

Gage Reinhard finished in 14th for the boys while Mia Kurtz was the top finished in 35th for the girls.

Individual results

Boys Gage Reinhard finished 14th with a time of 17:06.63, Kayden Robbins 75th (19:06.48), Zathan Westfall 80th (19:26.03), James Springer 87th (19:41.41), Kale Meredith 97th (20:18.54), Parker McCartney 102nd (20:57.14) and Greyson Shoemaker 150th (21:14.03).

Girls

Tigers host first boys' tennis invite; finishes 3rd and Knights 6th

Bluffton hosted its first annual Bluffton Invitational for boys' tennis on Saturday.

The event saw eight participating teams in a series of five tournament brackets representing all three singles and two doubles teams.

Bluffton finished the event in third place, while Norwell finished sixth. Westview was the top finisher and Warsaw second.

Below are the results for each part of the lineup

Bluffton

• Nolan Lambert finished fourth at No. 1 singles. He won 6-3, 6-3 over Norwell, fell 6-3, 6-3 over Bishop Luers, and fell 6-1, 6-0 to Warsaw.

• Jacob Ribich finished in second at No. 2 singles. He fell in the title match to Warsaw 6-0, 6-3. Ribich won the first match over Bishop Dwenger 6-0, 6-0 and won the second over Bishop Luers 2-6, 7-6 (11-9) (10-5).

• Anthony Hartman finished seventh at No. 3 singles. Hartman fell to Warsaw 7-5, 6-4, fell 6-3, 6-3 to Blackhawk, and defeated Manchester 8-1.

• Ben Maggard and Coy Lantz finished second, falling in the title match to Westview 6-3, 7-6 (7-4) at No. 1 doubles. The duo won in the first match over Manchester 1-6, 7-5 (10-6), won the second over Blackhawk 6-3, 7-6 (7-4).

• Kade Abbett and Dane Schlagenhauf finished in fifth at No. 2 doubles. The duo lost the first match 6-4, 6-4 to Warsaw, won 6-0, 6-0 over Manchester and won 8-4 over Bishop Luers in the third.

Norwell

• Gavin Reynolds finished sixth at No. 1 singles. He fell in the first match to Bluffton 6-3, 6-3, won the second 7-6 (7-4) 6-4 to Manchester and fell 6-2, 6-1 to Bishop Dwenger.

• Braylon Troutt finished in seventh at No. 2 singles. He fell in the first match to Manchester 6-0, 7-5, fell in the second to Westview and won the third against Bishop Dwenger 8-4.

• Landon Diver finished in third at No. 3 singles, win-

ning in the third place match 6-4, 6-1. He won the first match over Bishop Dwenger 6-4, 7-5, fell in the second 6-2, 6-4 to Bishop Luers.

Team scores

Boys

1. Carroll (60 team points), 2. Yorktown (77), 3. Concordia (80), 4. Columbia City (115), 5. Angola (167), 6. Bishop Dwenger (185), 7. Fairfield (202), 8. West Noble (204), 9. East Noble (211), 10. Northrop (231), 11. Leo (272), 12. Norwell (303), 13. Huntington North (388) and 14. Canterbury (432) Incomplete: Whitko and Oak Hill.

Girls

1. Concordia (49 team points), 2. Columbia City (62), 3. East Noble (110), 4. Bishop Dwenger (124), 5. Carroll (126), 6. Northrop (174), 7. Norwell (228), 8. Yorktown (255), 9. Leo (267), 10. Fairfield (269), 11. Huntington North (276), 12. West Noble (290), 13. Canterbury (335), 14. Oak Hill (252) and 15. Angola (424) Incomplete: Whitko.

Norwell will be at the Taylor University Invitational at 9 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 31.

Southern Wells

The Raiders ran in the Monroe Central Invitational. The boys finished in second behind New Haven and the girls placed third.

Kelton Barr was the top runner for the Raiders in seventh place overall. Jarin Frauhiger placed 13th and right behind him was Colter Kiel in 15th. Marianne Pease finished in sixth place overall and Sarah McFarren 13th.

Individual results

Boys

Kelton Barr finished in 7th with a time of 19:01.5, Jarin Frauhiger 113th (19:39.1), Colter Kiel 15th (19:41.9), Peyton Ellies 32nd (20:03.6), Miles Garrett 27th (20:31.4), Kane Jenkins 34th (21:06.33), Daniel Isasi Escudero 48th (22:08.1) and Braden Yencer 68th (23:46.7).

Girls

Marianna Pease finished in 6th place with a time of 23:17.8, Sarah McFarren 13th (24:59.3), Keely Miller 24th (26:59.1), Kameron Hawkins 28th (29:03.4), Gracie Reeves 32nd (29:21.5), Chanie Mounsey 36th (31:33.1) and Adeline Sabinske 43rd (34:08.7).

Team Scores

Boys

1. New Haven (58 team points), 2. Southern Wells (77), 3. Monroe Central (89), 4. Northeastern (112), 5. Muncie Burris (148), 6. Randolph Southern (151), 7. Cowan (157), 8. Anderson (184), 9. Union County (205) and 10. Union (262) Incomplete: Blackford, Eastern Hancock, Taylor and Union City, Sheridan.

Girls

1. Monroe Central (25 team points), 2. Randolph Southern (58), 3. Southern Wells (74), 4. Northeastern (78) and 5. New Haven (99) Incomplete Cowan, Muncie Burris, Blackford, Union City, Eastern Hancock, Anderson, Sheridan.

Southern Wells will be at the Taylor University Invitational at 9 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 31



Southern Wells' cross country teams competed at the Monroe Invitational at Monroe Central High School on Saturday. It was a good day for the Raiders, as the boys (above) finished second and the girls (below) third. (Photos submitted)



High School Calendar

MONDAY, AUG 26

BOYS TENNIS: Bluffton at Blackford, 5 p.m.; South Side at Norwell, 5:15 p.m.

BOYS SOCCER: Manchester at Norwell, 5:30 p.m.

GIRLS GOLF: Jay County at Bluffton, 4 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL: Mississinewa at Bluffton, 7:30 p.m.; Blackhawk at Norwell, 7:30 p.m.; Southern Wells at Union City, 6 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUG 27

BOYS TENNIS: Leo at Bluffton, 5 p.m.; Norwell at South Adams, 4:30 p.m.

GIRLS GOLF: Bluffton at Southern Wells, 5 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL: Bluffton at Blackford, 7 p.m.; Southern Wells at Monroe Central, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUG 28

BOYS SOCCER: Norwell at Leo, 7 p.m.

GIRLS GOLF: Norwell at East Noble, 5 p.m.; Southern Wells at Adams Central, 4:30 p.m.

GIRLS SOCCER: Leo at Norwell, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUG 29

BOYS TENNIS: Norwell at Adams Central, 5 p.m.

GIRLS GOLF: Delta at Southern Wells, 5 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL: Bluffton at Churubusco, 7 p.m.; Woodlan at Norwell, 7:30 p.m.; Mississinewa at Southern Wells, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUG 30

BOYS TENNIS: Norwell at Blackhawk, 4:30 p.m.

FOOTBALL: Bluffton at Manchester, 7 p.m.; Delta at Norwell, 7:30 p.m.; Madison-Grant at Southern Wells, 7 p.m.



Bluffton's tennis program hosted its first annual invitational on Saturday. The eight team-field featured three ranked programs that included champion Westview and runner-up Warsaw. No. 6 in District 2 Bluffton finished third while Norwell placed sixth. At left Tigers' No. 2 singles player Jacob Ribich forehands back to his opponent in the morning. At right, Knights' No. 1 single player Gavin Reynolds forehands back to opponent Nolan Lambert of Bluffton. (Photos by Ryan Walker)



6-2, 6-1, fell in the second 5-7, 7-5, 10-7, and won the third 8-3.

The junior varsity event was at Norwell High School. Westview also won that event with Blackhawk Christian in second. Bluffton's black and red teams tied for third and Norwell's seventh.

Bluffton will be at Blackford at 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 26. Norwell will host South Side at 5:15 p.m. Monday, Aug. 26.

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Raiders sweep Monroe Invitational for middle school cross country

Southern Wells finished its first middle school meet of the year on Saturday, competing in the Monroe Central Invitational.

The boys and the girls both swept the invite in first place.

The girls finished with a team score of 43 to Union County's 67. The boys won with a score of 57 to Lapel's 71.

Aubree Neuschwander was the top runner for the girls and finished second overall with a time of 12:18. Tenley Fiechter 12th (13:36), Parker Bryant 13th (13:45), Grace Rogers 14th (13:46), Anna McFarren 15th (13:48), Ellie Nichols 28th (14:49) and Alexis Sunderman in 34th (15:04).

For the boys, Logan Leas finished in third overall with a time of 10:43. Rylan Leas 10th (11:16), Chase Kirkwood 12th (11:30), Colten Fiechter 13th (11:40), Vance Mounsey 23rd (12:27), Logan Rogers 24th (12:28) and Rhett Tucker 35th (12:57).

ter 12th (13:36), Parker Bryant 13th (13:45), Grace Rogers 14th (13:46), Anna McFarren 15th (13:48), Ellie Nichols 28th (14:49) and Alexis Sunderman in 34th (15:04).

Georgia Tech stuns No. 10 Florida State with game-winner in CFB

DUBLIN (AP) — Avery Boyd, Chase Lane and Malik Rutherford stepped in front of their Georgia Tech teammates, who were passing around the Aer Lingus College Football Classic trophy, and decided to let loose.

There was one dance fitting for the moment: an Irish jig.

They delivered. It was their second perfect performance of the day at Aviva Stadium.

Aidan Birr made a 44-yard field goal as time expired, and Georgia Tech upset No. 10 Florida State 24-21 on Saturday in the first major college football game of the season.

The win was Georgia Tech's first over a top-10 opponent since a 22-16 victory over the Seminoles in October 2015.

Jamal Haynes ran for 75 yards and two touchdowns for Georgia Tech, while Haynes King threw for 146 yards and ran for 54 yards. The Yellow Jackets (1-0, 1-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) were able to control the line of scrimmage and accumulate 190 rushing yards and 5.3 yards per carry.

"Really proud of the offensive line," coach Brent Key said. "Shocking there, right? Really proud of those guys and how they were prepared."

Coming off an undefeated regular season and with a remade roster, the Seminoles tied the game with 6:33 left in the fourth quarter on a 15-play touchdown drive that included two fourth-down conversions by DJ Uiagalelei.

Florida State (0-1, 0-1), which was favored to win by 10 1/2 points according to BetMGM Sportsbook, never touched the

ball again. Birr came on with 5 seconds left to hit the winner that just stayed inside the left upright.

Uiagalelei completed 19 of 27 passes for 193 yards in his Florida State debut, completing mostly shorter passes until the late fourth-down completions.

Ryan Fitzgerald made a 59-yard field goal, a career long and the second longest in school history, just before halftime to tie the game at 14. Fitzgerald had a 52-yarder earlier.

The teams had just seven drives apiece. Georgia Tech's final two drives were among the best, an 11-play, 89-yard touchdown drive and then the 12-play, 49-yard drive to set up Birr's kick.

"Very limited possessions," Florida State coach Mike Norvell said. "The importance of every snap in that game was monumental."

Florida State was able to build four scoring drives, but just one in the second half. While Lawrance Toafili and Roydell Williams had rushing touchdowns, the ground attack stalled as Georgia Tech's defense held FSU to 98 yards on 31 carries.

"We're not trying to prove anything to anyone," Key said. "We're not trying to go out and impress people. All we're trying to do is play as hard as we can possibly play — as a team, as a family."

Coming off a 7-6 season, Georgia Tech certainly impressed, sending quite the message to the rest of the ACC.

Florida State fans packed Aviva Stadium for the Aer Lingus College Football Classic, the third straight Week 0 opener in Dublin.



Southern Wells was dominant at the Monroe Invitational on Saturday, winning both the boys and the girls middle school races as a team. Above, the boys' team poses with the first-place trophy. Pictured from left to right are Randy Frauhiger, Mack Frauhiger, Colten Fiechter, Liam Leas, Chase Kirkwood, Logan Rogers, Rylan Leas, Vance Mounsey, Logan Leas and Zane Gates. Below, the girls team holds their first-place trophy. Pictured from left to right are: Ellie Nichols, Raven Mounsey, Alexis Sunderman, Avy Kirkwood, Hazel Leas, Carly Pease, Grace Rockwell, Aubree Neuschwander, Grace Rogers, Anna McFarren, Parker Bryant, Annie Herr and Tenley Fiechter. (Photos submitted)



News-Banner Scoreboard

FOOTBALL

College

Major Scores			
SOUTH			
Florida A&M 24, Norfolk St. 23			
Georgia Tech 24, Florida St. 21			
SE Missouri 37, North Alabama 15			
SOUTHWEST			
Tarleton St. 26, McNeese St. 23			
FAR WEST			
Hawaii 35, Delaware St. 14			
Montana St. 35, New Mexico 31			
SMU 29, Nevada 24			

BASKETBALL

WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE			
W	L	Pct	GB
x-New York	25	5	833
x-Connecticut	22	7	759
Indiana	13	16	448
Chicago	11	18	379
Atlanta	10	18	357
Washington	7	22	241
WESTERN CONFERENCE			
W	L	Pct	GB
x-Minnesota	22	8	733
Seattle	18	10	643
Las Vegas	18	11	621
Phoenix	16	14	533
Dallas	7	22	241
Los Angeles	6	24	200
x-clinched playoff spot			

Saturday's Games			
Connecticut 72, New York 64			
Minnesota 90, Indiana 80			
Sunday's Games			
Las Vegas 77, Chicago 75			
Dallas 113, Los Angeles 110			
Monday's Games			
Indiana at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.			
New York at Phoenix, 10 p.m.			
Washington at Seattle, 10 p.m.			
Tuesday's Games			
Las Vegas at Dallas, 8 p.m.			
Wednesday's Games			
Connecticut at Indiana, 7 p.m.			
Washington at Chicago, 8 p.m. ()			
Atlanta at Seattle, 10 p.m.			
Minnesota at Phoenix, 10 p.m.			
New York at Los Angeles, 10 p.m.			

BASEBALL

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE			
East Division			
W	L	Pct	GB
New York	77	54	588
Baltimore	76	56	576
Boston	67	62	519
Tampa Bay	65	65	500
Toronto	63	68	481
Central Division			
W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	75	55	577
Kansas City	72	58	554
Minnesota	72	58	554
Detroit	65	66	496
Chicago	31	100	237
West Division			
W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	70	60	538
Seattle	66	65	504
Texas	60	71	458
Oakland	56	75	427
Los Angeles	54	77	412
Saturday's Games			
Colorado 9, N.Y. Yankees 2			
Toronto 3, L.A. Angels 1			
Baltimore 3, Houston 2			
Arizona 4, Boston 1			
Milwaukee 9, Oakland 5			
San Francisco 4, Seattle 3			
Minnesota 6, St. Louis 0			
Cleveland 13, Texas 5			
Philadelphia 11, Kansas City 2			
Detroit 13, Chicago White Sox 4			
Tampa Bay 9, L.A. Dodgers 8, 10			
Sunday's Games			
Cleveland 4, Texas 2			
Arizona 7, Boston 5			
Toronto 8, L.A. Angels 2			

N.Y. Yankees 10, Colorado 3			
St. Louis 3, Minnesota 2			
Philadelphia 11, Kansas City 3			
Detroit 9, Chicago White Sox 4			
L.A. Dodgers 3, Tampa Bay 1			
Oakland 4, Milwaukee 3			
Seattle 4, San Francisco 3			
Houston 6, Baltimore 3			
Monday's Games			
Kansas City (Ragans 10-8) at Cleveland (Sandlin 7-0), 1:10 p.m., 1st game			
Toronto (Rodriguez 0-2) at Boston (Crawford 3-7), 2:05 p.m., 1st game			
Houston (Blanco 9-6) at Philadelphia (Wheeler 12-6), 6:40 p.m.			
Kansas City (Marsh 7-7) at Cleveland (Allen 8-4), 6:40 p.m., 2nd game			
N.Y. Yankees (Cortes 7-10) at Washington (Parker 7-7), 6:45 p.m.			
Toronto (Berrios 12-9) at Boston (TBD), 7:10 p.m., 2nd game			
Atlanta (Fried 7-7) at Minnesota (Ober 12-5), 7:40 p.m.			
Detroit (Madden 0-0) at Chicago White Sox (Martin 0-2), 8:10 p.m.			
Tampa Bay (Peplot 7-5) at Seattle (Miller 9-7), 9:40 p.m.			
Tuesday's Games			
Houston at Philadelphia, 6:40 p.m.			
Kansas City at Cleveland, 6:40 p.m.			
L.A. Angels at Detroit, 6:40 p.m.			
Oakland at Cincinnati, 6:40 p.m.			
N.Y. Yankees at Washington, 6:45 p.m.			
Wednesday's Games			
Toronto at Boston, 7:10 p.m.			
Atlanta at Minnesota, 7:40 p.m.			
Texas at Chicago White Sox, 8:10 p.m.			
Tampa Bay at Seattle, 9:40 p.m.			
Baltimore at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.			

NATIONAL LEAGUE			
East Division			
W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	76	54	585
Atlanta	70	60	538
New York	68	63	519
Washington	59	72	450
Miami	47	83	362
Central Division			
W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	75	55	577
St. Louis	65	65	500
Chicago	65	66	496
Cincinnati	63	68	481
Pittsburgh	62	68	477
West Division			
W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	78	53	595
Arizona	75	56	573
San Diego	74	58	561
San Francisco	66	66	500
Colorado	48	83	366
Saturday's Games			
Colorado 9, N.Y. Yankees 2			
Chicago Cubs 14, Miami 2			
Arizona 4, Boston 1			
Milwaukee 9, Oakland 5			
San Francisco 4, Seattle 3			
Cincinnati 10, Pittsburgh 2			
Minnesota 6, St. Louis 0			
Atlanta 4, Washington 2			
Philadelphia 11, Kansas City 2			
N.Y. Mets 7, San Diego 1			
Tampa Bay 9, L.A. Dodgers 8, 10			
Sunday's Games			
Washington 5, Atlanta 1			
Arizona 7, Boston 5			
Miami 7, Chicago Cubs 2			
Pittsburgh 4, Cincinnati 3			
N.Y. Yankees 10, Colorado 3			
St. Louis 3, Minnesota 2			
Philadelphia 11, Kansas City 3			
L.A. Dodgers 3, Tampa Bay 1			
Oakland 4, Milwaukee 3			
Seattle 4, San Francisco 3			
San Diego 3, N.Y. Mets 2			
Monday's Games			
Chicago Cubs (Taillon 8-8) at Pittsburgh (Keller 11-7), 6:40 p.m.			
Houston (Blanco 9-6) at Philadelphia (Wheeler 12-6), 6:40 p.m.			
N.Y. Yankees (Cortes 7-10) at Washington (Parker 7-7), 6:45 p.m.			
Atlanta (Fried 7-7) at Minnesota (Ober 12-5), 7:40 p.m.			
San Diego (TBD) at St. Louis (Gibson 7-5), 7:45 p.m.			
Miami (Cabrera 2-5) at Colorado			

(TBD), 8:40 p.m.

Tuesday's Games			
Chicago Cubs at Pittsburgh, 6:40 p.m.			
Houston at Philadelphia, 6:40 p.m.			
Oakland at Cincinnati, 6:40 p.m.			
N.Y. Yankees at Washington, 6:45 p.m.			
Atlanta at Minnesota, 7:40 p.m.			
San Diego at St. Louis, 7:45 p.m.			
San Francisco at Milwaukee, 8:10 p.m.			
Miami at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.			
N.Y. Mets at Arizona, 9:40 p.m.			
Baltimore at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.			

Midwest League

High-A Midwest League			
East Division			
W	L	Pct.	GB
Dayton	35	19	648
West Michigan	29	24	547
Great Lakes	28	24	538
x-Lake County	24	24	538
Lansing	24	30	444
Fort Wayne	19	35	352
West Division			
W	L	Pct.	GB
x-Wisconsin	31	22	585
Peoria	29	25	537
Quad Cities	28	26	519
Beloit	25	29	463
Cedar Rapids	25	29	463
South Bend	20	34	370
x-First Half winner			
Saturday, Aug. 24			
Lansing 8, Quad Cities 7			
Cedar Rapids 7, Dayton 4, 10 innings			
Beloit 6, South Bend 4			
Great Lakes 7, Wisconsin 0			
Lake County 4, West Michigan 3			
Fort Wayne 3, Peoria 2			
Sunday, Aug. 25			
Dayton 7, Cedar Rapids 2			
Wisconsin 5, Great Lakes 2			
Quad Cities 3, Lansing 1			
Lake County 5, West Michigan 3			
South Bend 3, Beloit 2			
Fort Wayne 8, Peoria 5			
Monday, Aug. 26			
No games scheduled.			
Tuesday, Aug. 27			
West Michigan at Dayton, 7:05 p.m.			
Fort Wayne at Lansing, 7:05 p.m.			
Peoria at Beloit, 7:35 p.m.			
Quad Cities at Wisconsin, 7:40 p.m.			
Wednesday, Aug. 28			
Fort Wayne at Lansing, 7:05 p.m.			

Sports Roundup

Knights top Braves for first girls' soccer victory

Norwell picked up its first girls' soccer victory of the season in a 4-2 win over Blackhawk on the road Saturday.

Grace Mann scored two goals for the Knights, while both Ridley Sheets and Karrigan Melcher scored as well. Addison Roembke had an assist.

Norwell had Abby Wagner, Emma Garner and Maggie Neuschwander in net.

Both teams tied in the junior varsity game 1-1. Kaylee Bennett scored the one goal for Norwell. Garner, Neuschwander and Shae Brooks were in net.

Norwell will host Leo for its first Northeast 8 Conference meeting of the year at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 28.

Bluffton ranked No. 6 in boys' tennis poll for District 2

For the first time in Robert Vanderkolk's

21-year coaching career, the Bluffton Tigers are ranked in boys' tennis.

The Indiana High School Tennis Coaches Associated put the Tigers No. 6 in District 2 for their first weekend poll of 2024.

Bluffton capped off a 2-0 weekend with wins over Union City and Bellmont while taking third at its own invitational over the weekend, where other ranked schools like Westview and Warsaw placed ahead of them.

Tigers drop all 3 volleyball matches at Argyll Invite

Bluffton fell in all three of its matches at the Argyll Invitational for volleyball at Madison-Grant High School on Saturday.

The Tigers fell 2-0 to the hosts in Game 1, fell 2-1 to fellow ACAC member Adams Central 2-1 in Game 3 and lost 2-0 to Muncie Burriss in Game 3. Individual stats were not sent at the time of print.

Bluffton will host Mississinewa at 7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 26.

Richardson struggles Colts' preseason win over Bengals

By MITCH STACY AP Sports Writer

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Anthony Richardson led a touchdown drive on his first series against Bengals backups Thursday night, but the rest of his night was a struggle.

The Colts quarterback got his first significant chunk of playing time with the rest of the offensive starters in the final preseason game. He showed he still has work to do on his accuracy and consistency.

The fourth overall pick in the 2023 draft played the first five offensive series, finishing 8 for 14 for 86 yards in Indianapolis'

27-14 victory over Cincinnati.

Most of it came on the first drive after a Cincinnati punt when Richardson directed an 80-yard drive, completing 7 of 8 passes for 65 yards and finishing it with a 9-yard scoring toss to Adonai Mitchell.

His one incompletion was a throw that sailed through the hands of tight end Drew Ogletree in the end zone.

It got worse from there.

Bengals safety Jordan Battle picked off Richardson's pass and went in 9 yards for a TD. The third drive stalled when Richardson missed Mitchell on third-and-6 from the Colts 35.



SPECIALS

Juicy Lucy

Tues., Aug. 26 & Wed., Aug. 27



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

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Difficulty: ★ 8/26

Help Wanted

BLUFFTON POLICE DEPARTMENT Now Hiring! The Bluffton Police Department is accepting applications for the position of police officer. Applicant must be 21 years of age by close of application date, but less than 40; have a high school diploma; two-year college degree or equivalent (60 hours), or three years of work experience in police related field or an ILEA Basic graduate or equivalent. Must provide college transcripts. Applicant must possess and maintain a valid Indiana driver's license and responsible work experience. Applicant must pass a background investigation, written test, physical agility test, oral interview, voice stress examination, required statewide baseline physical and psychological examination and drug test. Applications may be picked up at the Clerk-Treasurer's Office, 128 E Market St., Bluffton, IN, between the hours of 8 am-4:30 pm Mon-Fri. or online at blufftonindiana.net. If you have questions about the application process, you may call the Bluffton Police Department at 260-824-3320, Kyle Randall, Chief of Police. Last day to accept applications will be September 30, 2024

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EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - Purdue Extension Wells County is now accepting applications for a full-time administrative assistant. Application and job description available online at www.extension.purdue.edu/wells or contact the Extension Office at 824-6412 or hoover21@purdue.edu. Application deadline August 30.

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Lottery Numbers

Saturday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY
Cash 5 — 20-22-34-38-42
Cash4Life — 01-10-37-45-49, Cash Ball: 02
Lotto Plus — 01-21-24-29-40-45
Quick Draw MIDDAY — 06-07-08-11-15-21-30-33-35-43-46-47-49-50-57-58-71-73-75-76, BE: 07
Daily Three-MIDDAY — 09-08-05, SB: 01
Daily Three-EVENING — 05-04-06, SB: 06
Daily Four-MIDDAY — 04-05-04-03, SB: 01
Daily Four-EVENING — 01-02-06-08, SB: 06
Quick Draw Evening — 05-09-20-29-33-34-36-43-45-54-57-58-63-65-67-69-73-74-75-79, BE: 57
Hoosier Lotto — 07-11-12-14-31-42
POWERBALL
05-15-21-24-43; Powerball: 17; Power Play: 3X

Sunday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY
Cash 5 — 03-20-21-33-43
Cash4Life — 04-16-29-35-55, Cash Ball: 04
Quick Draw MIDDAY — 03-07-14-32-34-39-41-47-48-50-51-53-56-58-60-62-71-72-76-78, BE: 41
Daily Three-MIDDAY — 02-05-05, SB: 01
Daily Three-EVENING — 02-07-02, SB: 09
Daily Four-MIDDAY — 09-07-02-07, SB: 01
Daily Four-EVENING — 06-00-01-00, SB: 09
Quick Draw Evening — 03-14-18-19-21-22-26-30-38-42-43-44-48-50-54-63-67-68-72-77, BE: 48
Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$21.1 million
MEGA MILLIONS
Estimated jackpot (for Tuesday): \$575 million
POWERBALL
Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$44 million

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Help Wanted

WELLS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE is currently seeking applicants for the position of Full Time Deputy Sheriff. Applicants must be a US Citizen, at least 21 years of age upon graduation from police academy, possess a high school diploma or equivalent as well as a valid Indiana Operators License. Applicant can't have any felony convictions. Applicants must pass all aspects of the hiring process including physical agility testing, written examination, background investigation, oral interview, polygraph and psychological evaluation. Selected applicant must be able to graduate from the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy. ILEA certified applicants do not have to attend the physical agility and written examination portion of the process. 20-year matrix salary range for a Deputy Sheriff (no rank) is \$56,600 - \$68,400. Years of service and experience will be honored for a starting salary up to five years in the pay matrix. Application can be found on our website at www.wellscountysheriff.com. Once application is completed, details on the testing date and location will be emailed to the applicant. The application must be completed by September 13th, 2024.

Mark your Calendar for this event

UPCOMING EVENT HAPPENING?
A 20 word, line classified ad for six days is only \$24.50. Contact the Bluffton News-Banner office at 125 N. Johnson St., 260-824-0224, or submit online to news-banner.com and click on classifieds.

Public Notices

NOTICE
Wells County Community Corrections will hold the next Advisory Board Meeting on September 10, 2024 at 11:30 am in the Wells County Community Corrections Training Room: 102 W Market Street, Suite 107, Bluffton, IN 46714

Public Notice
The Harrison Township Advisory Board will be holding a meeting on Monday, Sept. 9, 2024 at 6:30 PM in the Harrison Township Trustees Office in the Annex Building located at 223 West Washington Street. Agenda is 1. Budget First Reading, 2. Inter-local Agreement, City of Bluffton for Parks, 3. Report Fire Territory 4. Township Assistance Report
Kyle Hunt, Harrison Twp. Trustee

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7	8	1	2	9	3	6	8	9
2	9	9	2	6	7	3	6	1
6	2	3	1	9	8	2	9	7
3	9	2	6	7	9	1	2	8
2	6	9	3	8	1	9	7	2
8	1	7	9	2	2	6	9	3
1	7	6	8	2	2	9	3	9
9	3	2	7	1	9	8	2	6
2	2	8	9	3	6	7	1	2

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sept. deadline is Tues., Aug. 20!

Israel-Hamas cease-fire, hostage talks to continue after meetings stall

JERUSALEM (AP) — A round of high-level talks in Cairo meant to bring about a cease-fire and hostage deal to at least temporarily end the 10-month Israel-Hamas war in Gaza ended Sunday without a final agreement, a U.S. official said. But talks will continue at lower levels in the coming days in an effort to bridge remaining gaps.

The official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the talks, said lower level “working teams” will remain in Cairo to meet with mediators the United States, Qatar, and Egypt in hopes to addressing remaining disagreements. The official called the recent conversations, which began Thursday in Cairo and continued through Sunday, as “constructive” and said all parties were working to “reach a final and implementable agreement.”

The talks included CIA director William Burns and David Barnea, the head of Israel’s Mossad intelligence agency. A Hamas delegation was briefed by Egyptian and Qatari mediators but did not directly take part in negotiations.

The development came after Israel and the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah traded heavy fire early Sunday but backed off from sparking a widely feared all-out war, as both sides signaled their most intense exchange in months was over.

Hezbollah claimed to hit an Israeli military intelligence site near Tel Aviv as part of a barrage of hundreds of rockets and drones, and Israel claimed its dozens of strikes had been preemptive to avert a larger attack. Neither offered evidence.

Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah said the attack, a response to Israel’s killing of a top militant commander in Beirut last month, had been delayed to give the Gaza

cease-fire talks a chance, and so fellow Iran-backed groups could discuss with Iran whether to attack Israel all at once. Israeli and U.S. military deployment also played a role.

“We will now reserve the right to respond at a later time” if the results of Sunday’s attack aren’t sufficient, Nasrallah said, adding that allied Houthi rebels in Yemen -- and Iran itself -- had yet to respond. But he told the Lebanese people: “At this current stage, the country can take a breath and relax.”

Israel and Hezbollah said they aimed only at military targets. Israel said no military target was hit by Hezbollah but that one soldier with its navy was killed and two others were wounded either by an interceptor for incoming fire, or by shrapnel from one. Two Hezbollah fighters and a militant from an allied group were killed, the groups said.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the military eliminated thousands of rockets that were aimed at northern Israel and shot down drones heading for the center of the country.

“I repeat — this is not the end of the story,” he added.

Flights diverted as air raid sirens wail

Air raid sirens were reported throughout northern Israel, and Israel’s international airport closed and diverted flights for about an hour.

Israel’s military spokesperson, Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari, said about 100 Israeli planes struck 270 targets, 90% of them rocket launchers aimed at northern Israel. He said they were investigating the percentage of incoming rockets and drones intercepted but said the “vast majority” were thwarted.

Hezbollah said its attack involved more than 320 Katyusha rockets aimed at multiple sites in Israel and a “large number” of drones.

Some Israelis were shaken. In the northern city of Acre, retired teacher Saadia Even Tsur, 76, said he was at the synagogue and arrived home five minutes after his bedroom was damaged.

Lebanon’s caretaker Economy Minister Amin Salam, after an emergency government meeting, said officials were “feeling a bit more optimistic” about a de-escalation after both sides confirmed that the operations had ended.

President Joe Biden was “closely monitoring events in Israel and Lebanon,” according to Sean Savett, a spokesman for the National Security Council. The Pentagon said Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin spoke with his Israeli counterpart, Yoav Gallant, and ordered both U.S. carrier strike groups in the region to stay. The U.S. military has been building up its forces across the region in recent weeks.

The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. CQ Brown, arrived in Israel late Sunday for meetings on what the Israeli military called “joint preparations in the region as part of the response to threats in the Middle East.”

All-out war apparently averted for now

Danny Citrinowicz, an expert at Israel’s Institute for National Security Studies, said Hezbollah might be trying to “balance the equation without escalating into war.” Each side hopes their narrative will be sufficient for them to declare victory and avoid a wider confrontation, he said.

Hezbollah began attacking Israel almost immediately after the start of the war in Gaza, which was triggered by Hamas’ Oct. 7 attack into southern Israel. Israel

Israel says more polio vaccines delivered to Gaza

By The Associated Press

Polio vaccines for more than 1 million people have been delivered to Gaza, Israel’s military said Sunday, after the first confirmed case of the disease in the territory in a quarter-century.

It was not immediately clear how, or how quickly, the more than 25,000 vials of vaccine would be distributed in Gaza, where ongoing fighting and unrest have challenged humanitarian efforts during more than 10 months of war.

Other polio cases are suspected across the largely devastated territory after the virus was detected in wastewater in six different locations in July.

Aid groups plan to vaccinate more than 600,000 children under age 10 and have called for an urgent pause in the war to increase vaccinations. The World Health Organization and the United Nations children’s agency have said that, at a minimum, a seven-day pause is needed.

The U.N. has aimed to bring 1.6 million doses of polio vaccine into Gaza, where hundreds of thousands of displaced Palestinians are crowded into tent camps lacking clean water or proper disposal of sewage and garbage. Families sometimes use wastewater to drink or clean dishes.

Polio is highly contagious and transmits mainly through contact with contaminated feces, water or food. It can cause difficulty breathing and irreversible paralysis, usually in the legs. It strikes young children in particular and is sometimes fatal.

The new statement by the Israeli military body responsible for Palestinian civilian affairs said five trucks with special refrigeration equipment for vaccine storage were brought into Gaza on Friday in coordination with the U.N. The vaccines arrived Sunday.

The statement said vaccinations will be conducted by international and local medical teams at “various locations” in Gaza, in coordination with Israel’s military as part of “routine humanitarian pauses” to allow people to reach health centers.

and Hezbollah have exchanged fire almost daily, displacing tens of thousands of people on both sides of the border.

Hezbollah, which fought Israel to a stalemate in 2006, is believed to be far more powerful now. The United States and Israel estimate it has some 150,000 rockets and is capable of hitting anywhere inside Israel. The group has also devel-

oped drones capable of evading Israel’s defenses, as well as precision-guided munitions.

Israel has vowed a crushing response to any major Hezbollah attack. It has an extensive multi-tiered missile defense system, and it is backed by a U.S.-led coalition that helped it shoot down hundreds of missiles and drones fired from Iran earlier this year.

Kroger and Albertsons hope to merge but will face a skeptical U.S. government in court first

By DEE-ANN DURBIN
AP Business Writer

The largest proposed grocery store merger in U.S. history is going to court.

On one side are super-market chains Kroger and Albertsons, which say their planned merger will help them compete against rivals like Costco. On the other side are antitrust regulators from the Federal Trade Commission, who say the merger would eliminate competition and raise grocery prices in a time of already high food price inflation.

Starting Monday, a federal district court judge in Portland, Oregon, will consider both sides and decide whether to grant the FTC’s request for a preliminary injunction. An injunction would delay the merger while the FTC conducts an in-house case against the deal before an administrative law judge.

Kroger, based in Cincinnati, Ohio, operates 2,800 stores in 35 states, including brands like Ralphs, Smith’s and Harris Teeter. Albertsons, based in Boise, Idaho, operates 2,273 stores in 34 states, including brands like Safeway, Jewel Osco and Shaw’s. Together, the companies employ around 710,000 people.

Here’s what to know ahead of the hearing, which is expected to last until Sept.

13. Why do Kroger and Albertsons want to merge?

Kroger and Albertsons — two of the largest grocery chains in the U.S. — announced in October 2022 that they planned to merge. The companies say the \$24.6 billion deal would hold down prices by giving them more leverage with suppliers and allowing them to combine their store brands. They say a merger also would help them compete with big rivals like Walmart, which

now controls around 22% of U.S. grocery sales. Combined, Kroger and Albertsons would control around 13%.

Why does the FTC want to block the merger?

Antitrust regulators say the proposed merger would eliminate competition, leading to higher prices, poorer quality and lower wages and benefits for workers. In February, the FTC issued a complaint seeking to block the merger before an administrative judge at the FTC. At the

same time, the FTC filed the lawsuit in federal court in Oregon seeking the preliminary injunction. The attorneys general of Arizona, California, the District of Columbia, Illinois, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon and Wyoming all joined the federal lawsuit.

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Public Sale Calendar

AUGUST 31 - 10 a.m. - (Onsite) - Aaron & Lydiann Schmucker, owners. 9036W 800S, South Whitley, 50±A, tillable land, home, Whitley County. Offered in 4 Tracts. Tract 1: 20±A tillable productive farmland, Pewamo, Blount, Shoals, Sloan loam, Morley Clay soils. Tract 2: 20±A tillable productive farmland, Coesse, Sloan loam, Glynwood, Blount, Shoals soils. Tract 3: 4±A w/ approx. 3,184 sq. ft. 2-story home w/full walkout basement, 6 bedrooms, open concept layout, in-floor heat, outside deck, barn w/stalls, calf barn, straw shed, small utility type buildings. Tract 4: 6±A “Swing Tract”, tillable, mostly Pewamo, Blount soils. Must be purchased w/another tract or by adjoining land owner. Sale manager Ritter Cox, 260-609-3306, *Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc.*, 800-451-2709, *Schrader Auction.com*.

BIDDING ENDS SEPTEMBER 1 - Online Only Personal Property - Spaulding, seller. John Deere X304 riding lawn mower, household, modern furniture, vintage collectibles & Christmas, machinist tools, vintage patio furniture, machinist tool boxes, vintage boat motors, power tools, much more. Auction preview & online bidding assistance Aug. 27, 4-6 p.m., 27 Hi Lo Drive, Bluffton, IN. Sale manager Nick Huffman, 260-827-8255, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-426-0633, steffengrp.com.

SEPTEMBER 7 - 9 a.m. - Various consignors, sellers. Lehman Feed Mill, 5111 S 000 Rd., Berne, IN. Farm Machinery Consignment Auction. Tractors, hay wagons, grain carts, discs, planters, plows, trucks, trailers, semis, livestock trailers, tools, lawn & garden equipment, shop equipment, livestock equipment & more! Consign anytime Sept. 4, 5, or 6 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Call Heartland to advertise your items! *Heartland Auction & Realty, Inc.*, 260-724-3499, heartlandauctionrealty.com.

SEPTEMBER 8-SEPTEMBER 15 - (Online Only Auction) - Private Collector, seller. Outstanding collection of 2,000-plus comic books, large assortment of 8-Tracks, cassettes, CD’s & DVD’s, Star Wars figures, DJ lighting, vintage books, dolls, large Nativity set, toys, collectibles. Previews: Sept. 5 and Sept. 12 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 117 W. Craig St., Ossian. Pat Carter, sale manager, 260-273-8294, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.com.

BIDDING NOW OPEN & STARTS CLOSING SEPTEMBER 9 - 6 p.m. EST -Susan Pollock estate, owner. Two bedroom, 1 full bath, 1,264 sq. feet, basement, 8’x12’ utility shed, Root Township, Section 34, Adams County, Indiana, North Adams Community Schools. Open house Aug. 28, 5-6 p.m., 520 Nuttman Ave., Decatur, IN. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.

SEPTEMBER 10 - 10 a.m. EST - (Live and Online) - Norman & Norwin Bauermeister. 815 Adams Street, Decatur, IN. Bauermeister Brothers retirement farm equipment auction! Tractors, tillage & grain handling equipment, skid loader, JD 5320, JD 6300, JD 4240, JD 7820 FWA, JD 980 23’ field cult., 24’ UM dual wheel single rolling basket w/harrow, 1965 Dodge D600 & 1974 Chevy C60 grain truck, J&M 425 hopper wagon, 8’x52’ Mayrath swing auger, 3 point attachments & much more! For questions on equipment please call Butch, 260-246-3656. Preview Sept. 3, 4-6 p.m., 7845 N 650 E, Ossian, IN. Checkout and pick up Sept. 10, 3-5 p.m. Sept. 11, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.

SEPTEMBER 17 - 2-6 p.m. ET - Online - Greenbush, Inc., farm. Property location: 1231 N 740 E, Marion. 242.9+/- acres, classified forest, barns, quality farmland, timber, Van Buren Twp., Grant Co. Tract 1: 80+/-A, barns. Tract 2: 55.5+/-A. Tract 3: 18.3+/-A. Tract 4: 7.1+/-A, potential building site, 42’x56’ barn, 30’x31’ barn. Tract 5: 63+/-A, 55.28+/- classified forest. Tract 6: 19+/-A, 18.7+/- classified forest. Timber value appraisal available. Open house Sept. 7, 1-4 p.m., Steve Goodwin (forester) present. Rick Johnloz, 260-827-8181, Emma Barr, 260-494-0992, Jason Johnloz, 260-273-9177, *Haldeman Real Estate & Farm Management*, haldeman.com, 800-424-2324.

SEPTEMBER 24 - 2 p.m.-6 p.m. ET - Online - Don A. Heckler, farm. Property location: 11648 N SR 1 Oessian, IN. 31.63+/-total acres, agriculture prime farmland, 31.5+/- tillable, 0.13+/- non-tillable, Topography: Level. Zoning: Agricultural, School District: Norwell Community Schools. Rick Johnloz, 260 827 8181, rjckj@haldeman.com, Jason Johnloz, jasonj@haldeman.com, 260-273-9177, *Haldeman Real Estate & Farm Management*, 800-424-2324, haldeman.com.

SEPTEMBER 24 - 6 p.m. - Online Only - The Estate of Jeffrey Brown. Two story country home situated on 2.41+/- acres with outbuildings. This 1,876 SF home features 3 bedrooms, large living room, eat-in kitchen, utility room and 1 car garage. Open houses: Sept. 12 and 19 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 7721 N. 300 W. Markle, IN. *The Steffen Group Inc.*, steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

SEPTEMBER 25 - 6 p.m. - Online Only - The Estate of Jeffrey Brown. Land location: 1/4 mile west of Marzane Rd on Wells County Rd 1200 N (Scott Street), Zanesville. 9.27+/- acre prime building site in Union Twp., Northern Wells County. Property features open land, wooded acreage, a 24’x48’ pole building. Perfect home site, country estate. “Explore the potential of this property.” Open houses: Sept. 12 and 19 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-824-3006, steffengrp.com.

SEPTEMBER 27 - 9 a.m. - Huntington University, owner. Civic Center, 339 S. Main St., Montpelier. Online bidding available. Property: From Montpelier, 1 mile east to CR 600E, north 3 miles to CR 1000S, 3 miles east. 256±A productive land, buyer will have 2025 farming rights, Wells County, Nottingham Township. Offered in 5 tracts, any combinations, tracts. Tract 1: 40±A mostly tillable, CR 1000S, CR 100E road frontage. Tract 2: 88±A mostly tillable, CR 1000S road frontage. Tract 3: 7±A mostly tillable, CR 1000S road frontage, potential building site! Tract 4: 104±A mostly tillable w/7±A woods, CR 1000S, CR 200E road frontage. Tract 5: 17±A mostly tillable, CR 200E road frontage. Inspection Aug. 29, 4-6 p.m., Sept. 7, 10 a.m.-noon, Tract 1. Auction managers Al Pfister, 260-760-8922, RD Schrader, 800-451-2709, *Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc.*, schraderauction.com.

NOVEMBER 14 - 6 p.m. - Becher Family Farms LLC, sellers. Auction location: Adams Co. 4H Expo Hall, 160 W. Washington St., Monroe, IN. Four tracts, Washington Township, Adams County. Tract 1: 82.88 acres, County Rd. 200 West, Sec 18. Tract 2: 80.2 acres, County Rd. 450 North, Sec 8. Tract 3: 35.05 acres, County Rd. 450 North, Sec 9. Tract 4: 39.97 acres, County Rd. 400 North, Sec 9. *Heartland Auction & Realty, Inc.*, heartlandauctionrealty.com, 260-724-3499.

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