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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2024 BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection \$1.00

Board members cite billing as issue with fire protection contract

No agreement reached between Ossian, Jefferson Township

By SYDNEY KENT
Residents of Jefferson Township outside of Ossian still have no answers regarding the future of their fire protection in 2025. The township advisory board and trustee Larry Heckber met on Tuesday evening to discuss the township's 2025 budget, including the budget for fire protection. The meeting was

held at the Norwell Central Office in anticipation of the large crowd. Heckber opened the meeting by explaining that the new fire agreement was not the purpose of the meeting, however, anyone could stay and ask questions after the budget was discussed. The first argument between the board occurred only five minutes into the meeting

when the board discussed the Aug. 26 meeting minutes mention of member Tim Baker leaving the discussion. Heckber then went through a line-by-line breakdown of each category on the budget for 2025, with several adjustments made in the areas of township assistance and the general fund. For a portion of the budget with the costs associ-



Jefferson Township board member David Haiflich addresses an audience member's question about fire protection billing on Tuesday. The board met at the Norwell Central Office to accommodate the expected crowd. Pictured are board members AJ Springer, Haiflich, Tim Baker and trustee Larry Heckber. (Photo by Holly Gaskill)

ated with the fire department, one line item read the township's approximately \$125,000 obligation to the

fire department. Baker took issue with this. "You said last night you would pay 50% of the bud-

get," Heckber told Baker. "That's right," Baker responded. "But there are (Continued on Page 2)

Norwell adopts resolution for Purple Star designation

By HOLLY GASKILL
Norwell Community Schools are seeking an Indiana Purple Star Designation to signify the school's commitment to active service members, veterans and their families. To do so, the district will have a dedicated page on its website, create a public military display, host an annual Veterans Day program, assign a point of contact for military families, interview all veterans and their families who meet job posting requirements, and adopt a resolution outlining the district's commitment to the previ-

ously mentioned points. The board of trustees approved a resolution for this 4-0 Tuesday; members Korey Krug, Angie Topp, Chad Kline and Gene Donaghy were in favor, and Traci Neuenschwander was absent. Norwell High School Assistant Principal Holly Morgan stated the district would proceed with these commitments regardless of whether the district would receive the designation. Award notification will be Nov. 8. The special meeting on Tuesday was held during the school day at NHS, allowing the board to



Norwell High School Kam Myer (right) speaks with the Norwell Community Schools board about the school's programs. Assistant Principal Holly Morgan is at left. (Photo by Holly Gaskill)

hear an update on the school from Morgan and Principal Kam Meyer. The group also toured several career-technical classrooms and the new e-sports room.

One of the biggest changes coming to the school is the state's new diploma path, which aims to equip students with one year of (Continued on Page 2)

Ossian council OKs the purchase of rifles and police vehicle

By SYDNEY KENT
The Ossian Police Department will soon see much-needed new rifles. The council approved a motion to pay \$5,470 for rifles from Vance's Law Enforcement. Ossian Police Commissioner Caleb Chichester also requested approval to order a new police vehicle so that it could be received one year later. The council approved a motion to order the new vehicle at \$49,525. The Ossian Town Council accepted a motion to send a letter discontinuing fire protection services to Jefferson Township residents outside of Ossian beginning Jan. 1 should the board fail to sign the contract. The topic was discussed briefly during Monday's council meeting, which followed an hour-long meeting between the township board and the council. "I don't know what else to do," Barkley said. "The town of Ossian can't keep subsidizing Jefferson Township and that's what it comes down to." No updates were received from (Continued on Page 2)

Israel says it likely killed a U.S. activist by mistake

The U.S. condemns its ally

By JACK JEFFERY
Associated Press
RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — The Israeli military said Tuesday an American activist killed in the West Bank last week was likely shot "indirectly and unintentionally" by its soldiers, drawing a strong rebuke from U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and the activist's family. Israel said a criminal investigation has been launched into the killing of Aysenur Ezgi Eygi, a 26-year-old activist from Seattle who was taking part in a demonstration against settlements in the Palestinian territory. Doctors who treated Eygi, who also held Turkish citizenship, said she was shot in the head.

Blinken condemned the fatal shooting when asked about it at a news conference in London, and said the U.S. would make clear to its ally that such actions are "not acceptable." "No one — no one — should be shot and killed for attending a protest," he said. "Israeli security forces need to make some fundamental changes in the way they operate in the West Bank." Eygi's family in the U.S. released a statement saying "we are deeply offended by the suggestion that her killing by a trained sniper was in any way unintentional." During Friday's demonstration, clashes broke out between Palestinians throwing stones and Israeli

troops firing tear gas and ammunition, according to Jonathan Pollak, an Israeli protester who witnessed the shooting of Eygi. Pollak said the violence had subsided about a half hour before Eygi was shot, after protesters and activists had withdrawn several hundred meters (yards) away from the site of the demonstration. Pollak said he saw two Israeli soldiers mount the roof of a nearby home, train a gun in the group's direction and fire, with one bullet hitting Eygi. Israel said its inquiry into Eygi's killing "found that it is highly likely that she was hit indirectly and unintentionally by (Israeli army) fire which was not aimed at her, but aimed at the key instigator of the riot." It expressed its "deepest regret" at her death.

International Solidarity Movement, the activist group Eygi was volunteering with, said it "entirely rejects" the Israeli statement and that the "shot was aimed directly at her." The killing came amid a surge of violence in the West Bank since the Israel-Hamas war began in October, with increasing Israeli raids, attacks by Palestinian militants on Israelis, attacks by Israeli settlers on Palestinians and heavier military crackdowns on Palestinian protests. Israel says it thoroughly investigates allegations of its forces killing civilians and holds them accountable. It says soldiers often have to make split-second decisions while operating in areas where militants (Continued on Page 2)

Harris and Trump face off in only debate before election

By STEVE PEOPLES,
JONATHAN J. COOPER
and NICHOLAS RICCARDI
Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) — Donald Trump and Kamala Harris faced each other on the debate stage Tuesday night for the first — and possibly the last — time. The Democratic vice president opened the faceoff with a power move, marching across the stage to Trump's lectern to shake his hand.

"Kamala Harris," she said, introducing herself as the pair met for the first time ever. "Let's have a good debate." "Nice to see you. Have fun," the former Republican president responded. The exchange set the tone for the 90-minute debate to come: Harris controlled the conversation at times, baiting Trump with jabs at his economic policy, his refusal to concede his 2020 election loss and even his performance at his

rallies. Trump, while measured early on, grew more annoyed as the night went on. Some takeaways on a historic debate: **From the opening handshake, Harris took the fight to Trump in a way that Biden could not** In her first answer, the former prosecutor said Trump's tariffs would effectively create a sales tax on the middle class. She soon accused Trump of presiding

over the worst attack on American democracy since the Civil War — the Capitol riot on Jan. 6, 2021. She charged him with telling women what they could do with their bodies. And she mocked Trump's praise of dictators "who would eat you for lunch." Harris effectively controlled much of the conversation with such attacks and baited Trump into responses that were at times vents, and at others, reminders of his wild rhetoric and fixation on

the past. "You did in fact lose that election," Harris said of the 2020 race that Trump lost to Democrat Joe Biden but still insists he won. "Donald Trump was fired by 81 million people," she said, referring to Biden's winning vote total. But Harris may have got under her opponent's skin the most when she went after his performance at his rallies, noting that people often leave early. (Continued on Page 2)

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Fire protection contract

(Continued from Page 1)

different line items that need to be split up.”

“The town saves me a lot of work because they want to pay these bills,” Heckber said.

“You’re paid \$13,000 a year to do this work,” Baker replied. “The bill will come directly from the vendors to Larry.”

Board member AJ Springer later suggested that Heckber break down the budget further to include a line item for each purchase outside of manpower. “If it’s going to solve the issue right now,” Springer said. “Let’s break down the line items. I know it’s stupid, but to get this going — let’s do it.”

“The whole problem is control,” Ossian Town Council member Jeff Kemper interjected. “This is ignorant. I’m not going to let (someone’s) house burn, I don’t care if I live in Ossian or whose truck it is. One of you said it was mandated by the state to pay directly to the vendors — it’s not anymore. It’d be like hiring two accountants for the same business.”

Baker asked Fire Chief Ben Fenstermaker why he cared whether he gave purchase receipts to the town or the township.

“I don’t, but I am not the one making the call,” Fenstermaker said. “It’s not a contract between me and you, it’s a contract between you and the town. The town wants it that way because it took you 10 months to spend the budget for this year.”

The township board previously refused to pay for manpower, which left approximately \$34,000 of their promised \$79,000 of the 2024 budget unable to be accessed by the department. Heckber used the funds to pur-

chase a fire hydrant rental, a decision not allowed by the prior contract. The town was required to refund the money and amend the contract for the funds to be spent. The process took months.

Darlene Moore suggested the parties switch sides, with the township paying the vendors directly and giving the town receipts. Baker agreed to the proposal.

Kemper said he would take it to the board before leaving the meeting shortly after. Fenstermaker followed suit.

“It’s all control,” Kemper said during the meeting. “I am talking to a wall.”

“Unfortunately, it’s exactly how I expected it to go ... I’ve been fire chief since 2011, and I’ve argued about every purchase I’ve wanted to make with Jefferson Township,” Fenstermaker said afterward. “I take it personally that they can’t even listen to me ... They need to put their constituents first and their ego aside.”

Carol Baker, Tim Baker’s mother, later criticized Heckber’s leadership. “I was at the meeting (with the Ossian Town Council) last night,” Baker said to Heckber. “You gave these fellas the budget at 2:30 p.m. and my son was out ditching all day. I think you have to work better with your board. They have your best interest in mind, they also have been elected to represent the township.”

Tim Baker also criticized Heckber for not properly representing the township board.

“Your board is telling you what to propose to the town,” Baker said. “You keep going back to the town that wants this, the town wants that — you need to work with your board with what they want to present to the town.”

“Your job is not to do what the town

wants,” a man yelled from the back of the room. “It is to do what the constituents want.” His comment garnered a round of applause.

“Whoever the vendors are, why don’t you have them split the bill?” a woman asked. “That way it’s not a problem. My dad would roll over in his grave if he heard this (expletive).”

Heckber stated that with the agreement the town had signed, this wouldn’t be possible.

“If you would calculate moving the township fire department out of this building,” Gene Donaghy said. “Find your own building, pay two or three full-time firemen at \$25 an hour, and run your own department. That \$125,000 is pretty cheap.”

“It’s simple,” Baker explained. “(The town) wanted us to fund half the budget. We agreed to fund half the budget, but they want us to just cut them a check ... That’s where it’s at.”

“I’ve lived in Ossian for 53 years, this is the first board meeting I’ve come to,” Dan Kaehr replied. “Who pays the bills for the town?”

Heckber responded that Angie Ealing, the clerk-treasurer, pays the bills for the town while he pays the bills for the township.

“Could it be as simple as all the even months of the year this person pays that,” Kaehr asked. “And this person pays that?”

“You’re not an accountant either, are you?” Heckber asked.

“I just want my mother’s house covered,” Kaehr concluded. “So if it doesn’t go through — is it going to be because of ... the billing?”

“You’re exactly right,” Heckber confirmed.

sydney@news-banner.com

Weather

Wednesday, September 11, 2024

(24-hour observations at 11:15 p.m. Tuesday)

High: 84; Low: 51; Precipitation: None

Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.12 feet at 7:45 p.m. Tuesday

Wells County forecast

Today: Sunny, with a high near 86. Calm wind becoming southeast around 5 mph in the afternoon.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 55. East wind around 5 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 87. East wind 5 to 10 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 62. East wind around 5 mph.

Friday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 81.

Friday Night: A 20% chance of showers after 2 a.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 62.

Saturday: A slight chance of showers before 8 a.m., then a slight chance of showers after 2 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 82. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

Saturday Night: A 30% chance of showers, mainly after 8 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 62.

Sunday: A 40% chance of showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 83.

Sunday Night: A 40% chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 61.

Ossian council

(Continued from Page 1)

the Ossian Parks Department and no members were present during the meeting.

Phil DiNovo and Rod Fetters of Rod’s Rustics asked the council to consider the business’s potential concerns during demolition and a new construction project. DiNovo noted that the closing of West Craig Street would obstruct the flow of traffic for customers’ vehicles and that construction vehicles would need a place to park and could potentially hinder customers’ vehicles.

Fetters noted that the business has brought new people to Ossian from other states, and is now on the

Antique Road Tour Map along with other small surrounding cities.

The council also:

- Approved pay application number four to Wayne Asphalt for \$260,055.76.

- Approved a motion to pay Fleming Construction \$13,851.

- Approved payment to VTF Excavations for work on Baker Drive for \$238,466.44.

- Approved a utility adjustment for \$192.17.

- Approved a payment to Quality Greenwood Services for \$33,371.18.

- Adopted a plan for the use of ARPA recovery funds.

sydney@news-banner.com

Purple Star designation

(Continued from Page 1)

college credits upon graduation. While the district is well on its way with dual-credit and advanced placement class opportunities, Meyer said the administration and counseling staff feel uncertain about the upcoming year as the state’s requirements have not been finalized.

“But the scary part, I guess as an administrative team, is that the final draft (of the diploma track) going to come out in December when we start our planning process now for next year’s schedules,” Meyer said. “So we don’t really know what our freshmen (next school year) are going to be looking at.”

Even so, Meyer highlighted the 1,132 credits NHS students received in the 2023-24 school year. Fifty-five new college

courses are being offered at NHS, including six classes in software development, principles of teaching, culinary arts, and higher-level courses in English and Spanish.

Meyer also celebrated seven students who became certified nursing assistants through the high school’s program, which he said was the only place in Wells County to receive certification apart from Bluffton Regional Medical Center.

He estimated this represented a nearly \$1 million total savings for the average college credit price. Some dual credit and AP classes come with a fee, but significantly less so than if students were taking the same course elsewhere.

Additionally, the Class of 2024 had a 98% graduation rate and the Class of 2025 tested in the top 20% of Indi-

ana schools testing proficient in both math and English on the SAT. That said, the state average for proficiency in both subjects is 23%. Meyer attributed this partially to the fact that all juniors are now required to take the test, and students who already know they’re not attending college may be less likely to put in effort on the test.

Morgan also highlighted several developments in student support efforts, including new digital social and emotional skill building lessons being used by the school and the role of the Alive & Well curriculum on abstinence, drugs and other topics.

Athletic Director Kelby Weybright similarly highlighted a program he’s begun offering for athletes, “Champions 101”, to discuss the mental strengths of an athlete. Weybright report-

ed 588 athletes were on the roster for 2023-24, 60 of which were three-sport athletes. Weybright also plans to add boys’ volleyball to the spring sports lineup and has recently posted the coaching position.

Also during the meeting, the board:

- Accepted the resignation of Shelby Schaufelberger, NHS intense intervention assistant.

- Approved employment recommendations for John Cox as OES teaching assistant, Madison Casey as LES youth authors coordinator, and Madison Casey and Jeffery Smith as LES Spell Bowl co-sponsors.

- Accepted donations of \$920 from Bluffton Family Eye Care for the high school volleyball program and \$500 from Park Community Church for school lunches.

holly@news-banner.com

Presidential debate

(Continued from Page 1)

Growing visibly irritated, Trump insisted that his rallies were larger than hers.

A smiling Harris frequently shifted her message from Trump back to the American people.

“You will not hear him talk about your needs, your dreams and your needs and your desires,” Harris said. “And I’ll tell you, I believe you deserve a president who actually puts you first.”

Trump had a label for Harris: ‘She is Biden’

Trump was often on defense, but he did drive the core message of his campaign: inflation and immigration are hammering Americans.

Immigrants, Trump said, have “destroyed the fabric of our country.”

He repeatedly tied Harris to Biden.

“She is Biden,” he said.

“The worst inflation we’ve ever had,” Trump added. “A horrible economy because inflation has made it so bad. And she can’t get away with that.”

Harris responded: “Clearly, I am not Joe Biden and I am certainly not Donald Trump. And what I do offer is a new generation of leadership for our country.”

Trump on race and Harris on the attack

ABC moderator David Muir asked Trump point blank about his allegation last month that Harris had belatedly “turned Black.” Harris is Black and South Asian and a graduate of Howard University a historically Black school in Washington.

Trump tried to play down the matter. “I don’t care what she is, you make a big deal out of something, I couldn’t

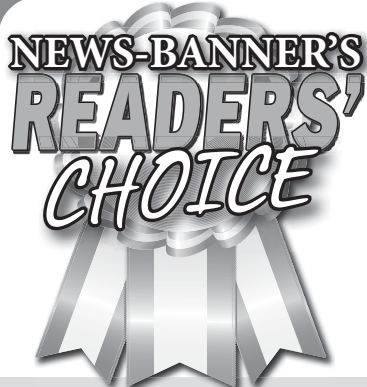
care less,” Trump said.

Harris, however, had her opening and she rattled off a long list of Trump’s racial controversies: his legal settlement for discrimination against prospective Black tenants at his New York apartment buildings in the 1970s; his ad calling for the execution of Black and Latino teenagers — who were wrongly arrested — in the Central Park jogger case in the 1980s; and his false claims that former President Barack Obama was not born in the United States.

“I think the American people want something better than that, want better than this,” Harris said.

Trump accused Harris of trying to “divide” people and dismissed her claims as dated and irrelevant.

“This is a person that has to stretch back 40, 50 years ago because there’s nothing now,” he said.

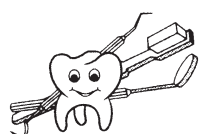


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OBITUARIES

Rachael Polston, 67

Rachael Polston, 67, passed away peacefully at Paddock Springs in Warsaw, Indiana, on Sept. 9, 2024, following a four-year journey after suffering a stroke in 2020.



She was born on June 4, 1957, in Bluffton to Lorraine Merle (Conrad) Moser McInerney and Dr. Arthur Moser. Rachael was a young bride of 21 when she was married on July 29, 1978, to her best friend and love of her life, Randy William Polston. Together they celebrated 46 years of marriage before Rachael passed away. Their lives were blessed with raising two children, and later they shared the joy of becoming grandparents multiple times.

Rachael was an OB nurse for 26 years, dedicating her life to caring for others. She was a natural caretaker, often making homemade meals and treats for her friends and family. She never met a stranger — she loved people, and her home was always a place where everyone was welcome, whether it was for a meal, a chat or a month-long stay.

Family meant everything to Rachael, and she cherished every moment with them. Her grandkids were the light of her life. She made their childhoods magical with bedtime lullabies, birthday trips and picnics, creating lasting memories that they will always cherish.

Rachael enjoyed worshipping alongside her church family at Warsaw Community Church. Her love for Jesus was central to her life, and she was a true light to others, showing kindness and compassion to everyone she met. To know Rachael was to love her. She will be dearly missed by her family, friends and everyone whose life she touched.

She will be lovingly remembered by her husband, Randy Polston of Warsaw; son, Nathan William (Krista) Polston of Warsaw; daughter, Tiffany Leigh (Alex) Smith of Carmel; and four grandchildren, London and Livia Smith and Maddox and Nash Polston. Also surviving is her mother, Lorraine Moser McInerney of Cocoa Village, Florida; two brothers, Ted (Nicole) Moser of Oakland, California, and Randy (Mary Ann) Moser of Orlando; and her sister, Wendy (Steve) Ellis of Cocoa Village, Florida. She was preceded in death by her father, Dr. Arthur Moser in 2021.

Friends and family may visit from 4-7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 12, 2024, at Warsaw Community Church, 1855 S. County Farm Rd. in Warsaw, as well as an hour prior to the service on Friday from 10-11 a.m. Rachael's life will be celebrated with a service at 11 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 13, 2024, at Warsaw Community Church and officiated by Pastor Jeff Pfeifer. She will be laid to rest at Oakwood Cemetery of Warsaw.

Arrangements were entrusted to Redpath-Fruth Funeral Home, 225 Argonne Road, Warsaw, Indiana.

Memorial donations may be directed to Leesburg Elementary School, 6250 N. Old State Road 15, Leesburg, IN 46538.

Janet Louise Ramseyer, 83

Janet Louise Ramseyer, 83, of southern Wells County, passed away on Monday, Sept. 9, 2024, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.



Janet was born and raised in rural Jay County, and graduated from Poling High School. She married Gale "Fred" Ramseyer on July 31, 1965. Fred preceded her in death on Nov. 19, 2007.

Janet was a stay-at-home mother while raising her children, Terry and Michelle. Janet then worked for CTS in Berne for over 15 years and recently retired earlier this year after working for over 20 years at Heritage Pointe in Warren. Janet enjoyed sewing, gardening and being outside. She was very proud of her collection of Campbell's Soup memorabilia. Janet attended Petroleum Community Church and will be remembered as a loving and supportive mother, grandmother, and friend.

Janet was preceded in death by her husband Gale Ramseyer; in-laws, Elmer and Irene Ramseyer; her parents, Dwight and Doris Murray; and her siblings, Max Murray and Bruce Murray.

Loving survivors include her children, Terry Ramseyer and Michelle Ramseyer; grandchildren, Dustin Ramseyer, Trey (Victoria) Ramseyer, Alacia (Tyler) Doty and Cayden Ramseyer; and 4 great-grandchildren.

Friends and family may gather to share and remember on Monday, Sept. 16, 2024, at Walker & Glancy Funeral Home located at 109 W Windsor St. Montpelier, IN 47359, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., with a funeral service beginning at 5 p.m. A graveside service will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2024, beginning at 11 a.m. at Miller Cemetery in rural Wells County with Pastor Greg Andrews officiating.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Walker & Glancy Funeral Home in Montpelier, Indiana.

Online condolences can be made by visiting glancyfuneralhomes.com.

Investigators probe plane crash that killed pilot, 82

HENRY COUNTY, Ind. (AP) — An 82-year-old man was killed when the small plane he was piloting crashed during takeoff Tuesday in central Indiana, authorities said.

The Indiana State Police said in a news release that the 1975 Stewart Bowers Flybaby plane crashed in a field around 2 p.m. while taking off from an airfield near Sulpher Springs. The pilot, David Michael Province of Middletown, was pronounced dead at the scene. He was the plane's only occupant.

No one on the ground was injured, the state police said in a news release.

The state police said they're assisting the Federal Aviation Administration in an investigation.

Obituary Policy

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

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

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



Pictured from left are Wells County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Erin Prible, Kevin Pritchard of Ruoff Mortgage, Danielle Thompson of Flagstar Bank, Ben Renkenberger of the United Way of Wells County, Hattie Wondercheck of the Wells County Chamber of Commerce, Chrystal Eltzroth of Mr. Kool Heating & Cooling, Kevin Sills of Farm Bureau Insurance, Christopher Duckwall of Mr. Kool Heating & Cooling, Keith Muhlenkamp of First Merchants Bank, Ron Kenworthy of Mr. Kool Heating & Cooling, Noah Thompson of Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance, Tina Faller of Mr. Kool Heating & Cooling and Jessica Beste of Stockton Mortgage. (Photo submitted)

Wells County Chamber honors Mr. Kool Heating & Cooling as September Member of the Month

The Wells County Chamber of Commerce, along with its staff and Ambassadors, is pleased to announce Mr. Kool Heating & Cooling Services as the September Member of the Month. The Chamber commends Mr. Kool Heating & Cooling Services for their outstanding commitment to serving the community with quick and efficient service.

Founded by Eric Hoffman in 2016, Mr. Kool Heating & Cooling began operations out of Eric's barn in Van Buren, Indiana before expanding to its current location in Bluffton, following the acquisition of Schwartz Plumbing & Heating. Under the leadership of Eric Hoffman, along with managers Ron Kenworthy and Christopher Duckwall, the company has grown significantly, doubling its staff since 2021 and building a reputation for responsiveness and reliability.

"We strive to get to our customers as quickly as possible," said Ron, who has managed operations since fall

2021. "When people call us, it's often an emergency—whether it's a water leak, sewer backup, or HVAC issue. We aim to respond promptly because we understand the urgency of these situations."

Christopher Duckwall, who has also been with the company since July 2021, shared insights about the daily operations and challenges faced by the team. "We manage calls, schedule jobs, and handle inventory, often filling in ourselves when needed. It can be hectic, but it's a labor of love. Our primary focus remains on serving the people of Bluffton and the surrounding areas."

Mr. Kool Heating & Cooling Services specializes in both HVAC and plumbing, with a strong emphasis on customer service and community involvement. The company handles everything from routine maintenance and minor repairs to large-scale installations and remodels. Their dedication to quality work and community spirit

has garnered recognition and appreciation from local residents and businesses.

"We're honored to receive this recognition from the Wells County Chamber of Commerce," said Ron. "Our team takes pride in being part of this community, and we strive to offer the best service possible. It's nice to know our efforts are valued."

The Wells County Chamber of Commerce commended Mr. Kool Heating & Cooling Services for their exceptional commitment to quality service, community involvement, and customer care. The Chamber presented Mr. Kool Heating & Cooling Services with the Member of the Month award, along with recognition signs for display.

To learn more about Mr. Kool Heating & Cooling and their services, visit their website at www.mrkoolheatingandair.com or call 260-824-2817 or stop by their location at 610 N. Main St. Bluffton.

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City:

Monday, 2:44 p.m., 1400 block of Hunter Road. Caller found door open in garage but didn't see anyone attempt to enter.

Monday, 8:21 p.m., 600 block of West South Street. Report of stolen kittens.

Monday, 8:36 p.m., 600 block of Beth Avenue. Report of a verbal altercation between a group. One male arrested on warrant out of Huntington County.

Monday, 10:12 p.m.,

Budget Inn. Caller reported a man walking into her room. Man advised to stop bothering other residents.

Monday, 10:37 a.m., Bluffton High School. Stray cat in vehicle apparently not friendly.

Monday, 11:07 a.m., 700 block of Clark Avenue. Report of a residential door wide open. Young child was without parents and waiting with Electric Department.

Monday, 2:54 p.m., S.R. 116 and East 300N, Bluff-

ton. Subjects told officers they were in the area Geocaching for a few days. Pamphlet available for more information.

Monday, 3:47 p.m., 5800S 500E, Bluffton. Caller reported threatening email demanding money. Requested to be added to the house watch list.

Monday, 4:09 p.m., South Main and East Market streets, Petroleum. Driver cited for speeding 75 in a 55 mph.

Tuesday, 8:12 a.m., 1500

Greenfield Lane, Bluffton. Officer requested for eviction.

ACCIDENTS

City:

Friday, 6:03 p.m., Westfield Drive at Kimberly Street. The owner of a 2018 Ford Escape SUV reported that their vehicle had been sideswiped while parked on the side of the road. There was damage starting at the rear passenger side wheel all the way to the front where the front side mirror was broken. Damage did not exceed \$5,000.

Report: Indiana's tax system costs manufacturing, life sciences companies but competitive in HQs

By LESLIE BONILLA MUÑIZ

Indiana Capital Chronicle

The Hoosier state's tax system makes it less competitive in capital-intensive industries like manufacturing and life sciences, the Indiana Chamber of Commerce found in a report released Monday.

That's compared to 14 neighboring and competitive benchmark states: Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah and Wisconsin.

Indiana has a higher effective tax rate for such businesses because it taxes personal property, according to the chamber. Property and business entity taxes impact these companies the most.

But the state is more competitive with headquarters because of its relatively low sales and business entity taxes — which are a bigger part of the tax burden headquarters typically pay.

"Indiana ranks fifth lowest among benchmark states for total effective business tax rate at 3.8%, well below the U.S. average of 5.0%," said David Ober, senior vice president of business operations and finance, in a news release. "We are well-positioned as a leader in overall business tax competitiveness."

"However, when you focus on specific industries for which Indiana is known, such as manufacturing and life sciences, the data shows opportunities for improvement," he continued. "By addressing these areas, we can further sharpen our competitive advantage and continue to drive economic

growth."

The chamber's report also examines state property, sales and individual income tax, along with local impositions.

Ernst & Young, an Indianapolis-based consultancy, conducted the study.

Other taxes

The chamber found that Indiana's total tax burden — state and local — has been consistently under the U.S. average.

Hoosier taxes per capita totaled \$5,600 in the 2022 fiscal year, compared to about \$7,100 nationally. Indiana's combined tax burden was about 9.6% of personal income, lower than the 10.8% U.S. average and in the middle of the bench-

mark states.

But, the chamber said, Indiana "stands out" for getting a relatively high share of state and local revenue from individual income and sales tax, with a lower share from corporate income and other taxes. That's without the

option for a local sales tax.

Property taxes have been a major Hoosier constituent complaint and political problem. They provided 23% of Indiana's state and local revenue — lower than the U.S. average of 29% and lower than 11 benchmark states.

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Balances cover shortfalls in Indiana's state budget

Closeout day in the Indiana Statehouse is near and dear to the number crunchers among us. That's the day the state comptroller and the State Budget Agency tell us about revenues, expenditures and balances for the just-ended fiscal year. The 2024 closeout came on Tuesday, July 23, about a week later than usual because of some convention happening in Milwaukee. You can find the closeout documents on the Budget Agency's website. (www.in.gov/sba)



Larry DeBoer

In fiscal 2024, revenues were 1.4 percent higher than in 2023. That's much slower growth than the 9.3 percent annual average from the past three years. That rapid growth was due to federal pandemic aid to taxpayers and governments, and that's over.

Hoosier Opinions

Individual income tax revenue grew 6.9 percent, which makes sense in a growing economy. But sales tax revenues fell 0.9 percent, which doesn't make so much sense with consumers spending more and inflation at 3 percent. One reason: the closeout reports general fund sales tax revenue, and we've been moving sales taxes on gasoline from the general fund to highway maintenance funds. Another reason: In Indiana most goods are sales taxable; most services are not. Consumers switched their spending from services to goods during the pandemic, and now they're switching back. They're spending more on untaxed services.

Corporate income tax revenue fell by 21.6 percent in 2024. Corporate taxes are especially unstable, which is just a way of saying "who knows why?" Indiana manufacturing employment has been falling since mid-2022, though, and Indiana is a manufacturing state. Perhaps the corporations doing business here have been less successful lately. The decline in corporate taxes was more than offset by the rise in interest earnings on state balances. They nearly doubled as a result of higher interest rates.

Another way to look at revenues is in comparison to what we thought we'd get when the 2024 budget was passed. The current two-year spending plan was passed in the 2023 session of the General Assembly, based on a forecast of revenues for 2024 and 2025. Back then we thought we'd raise \$21.9 billion in 2024. According to the closeout, we actually got \$21.5 billion. Revenues fell short by \$369 million.

We knew that was coming. Revenue forecasts are revised every December, and seven months ago expected revenues for 2024 were cut by \$355 million. The closeout showed that the December forecast was off by only one-tenth of one percent. There were no new shortfalls in the closeout.

The worst news last December, though, was a \$1 billion increase in estimated Medicaid spending. Medicaid is an entitlement program, so spending depends on how many people qualify for care, and how much that care costs. Future service demand and costs have to be estimated, and the original budget estimates were too low.

That problem shows up in a closeout document called "General Fund Combined Statement of Estimated Unappropriated Reserve." Or, more concisely, state balances. Balances are money that has been collected in taxes but are not scheduled to be spent. They are invested to earn interest revenue.

About halfway down the document is a category called "Augmentations." That's spending not anticipated when the budget was passed. The footnote lists "Estimated Medicaid shortfall" at \$255 million for 2024 and \$458 million for 2025. That's \$713 million in total, which is less than \$1 billion but still a big hit on the budget. The state is looking for ways to save money while continuing to provide needed care.

The legislature passed a spending plan for 2024, but revenues fell short and costs were unexpectedly high. This could be a big problem, except the state began the fiscal year with \$2.9 billion in balances. One reason to keep balances is to maintain budgeted spending in the face of forecast errors. Total balances at the end of fiscal 2024 were down to \$2.55 billion. That's still 11.6 percent of the budget, in the middle of what's sometimes called the "prudent range" of 10 to 12.5 percent.

Balances are expected to fall again in 2025, to \$2.3 billion, which is 10.6 percent of the budget. Still prudent, but a little closer to that lower limit. That will be on the minds of legislators when they debate the 2026-27 budget, starting next January.

Larry DeBoer is a Purdue University economist. He wrote this for Indiana newspapers.

Letters to the Editor

All politics are local

I totally agree with Holly Gaskill's comments about the deterioration of some board meetings. These meetings are public forums and should be open to the public's input. However, as people become more aware, get involved and begin to finally push back, they are forgetting decorum. I will include myself at times in this. Any taxpayer has the right to have their thoughts heard by their elected officials — but in a respectful way.

I am thrilled to hear some of these boards are garnering more public participation. The public has sat back and let politicians do as they please for too long.

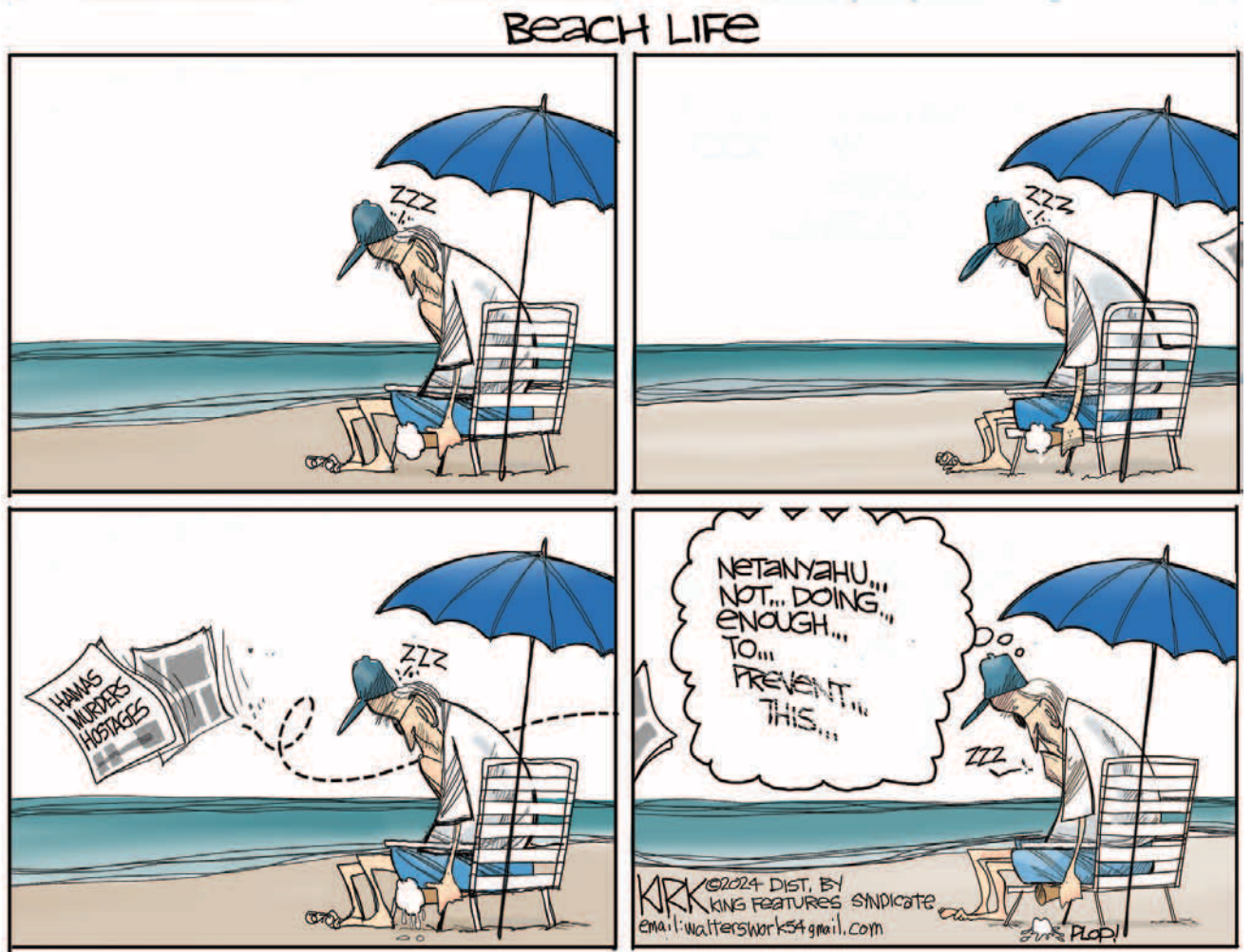
I agree there should be more structure at some of these meetings — but do not want to see that end up meaning no public comments.

And FYI, I was the one who curtly said I wouldn't

give my name for the paper, as I had sat through the entire meeting and only recall maybe two people identifying themselves. At the last two Jefferson Township meetings the firemen sat in the back of the room and shouted at the board for nearly the entire meeting — and I didn't hear a single one of them identify themselves "for the media". That behavior is very unprofessional — no matter how vested you are in the outcome of what is being discussed.

I've also served on a board before, and it's an extreme balancing act between responsibilities to your constituents and your own beliefs. The public doesn't always know every detail that a board knows. Board members are serving us and it's tough work. They need our support but also our input.

Peggy Eschenbacher
Rural Ossian



What happened to national honor?

Famously, a message from President Theodore Roosevelt's Secretary of State, John Hay, electrified the 1904 Republican convention: "This Government wants Perdicaris alive or Raisuli dead."

Ion Perdicaris, a wealthy Greek-American, had been kidnapped in Morocco by a bandit named Ahmed al-Raisuli. Hay's line served as a U.S. ultimatum to bring the affair, after the United deployment of the U.S. Navy to Morocco and drawn-out negotiations, to a conclusion.

We've come a long way from the time when the kidnapping of one American, whose citizenship was actually a little murky, elicited a thunderous reaction as a matter of national principle.

Needless to say, no one is ever going to mistake Joe Biden for TR, one of the most compelling figures in American history, but the president couldn't be a better representative of our attenuated sense of national honor.

A terrorist group killed and kidnapped U.S. citizens and is still holding them in horrific conditions, and the U.S. government has been doing a tap dance between the terrorists and an Israeli government fighting and bleeding to try to save them.

U.S. officials condemn Hamas, yet there is none of the righteous fury one would expect of a government whose citizens have been subjected to such grotesque mistreatment.

When Hamas murdered Hersh Goldberg-Polin in cold blood, President Biden blamed Israeli Prime Minister Bibi Netanyahu for his recalcitrance in negotiations — even though Hamas took the hostages, Hamas has refused to release them, Hamas has a policy of killing them if there is some chance they could get rescued, and Hamas threatens to do the same again.

We've imposed no significant consequences on Iran for its sponsorship of a terror group with American blood on its hands.

We are mealy-mouthed and skittish, a super power constrained by its unwillingness to fully take its own side in a fight.

We should feel a profound sense of national embarrassment, but Joe Biden doesn't embar-

ass easily. He left U.S. citizens behind in Afghanistan and has failed to neutralize a rag-tag band of rebels who continue to disrupt shipping in the Red Sea despite the presence of the U.S. Navy.

Back in 1904, when Perdicaris was released and saw U.S. vessels in the water outside Tangier, he exulted at "such proof of his country's solicitude for its citizens and for the honor of its flag."

Biden is now falling short not just of the TR standard, but that set by Lord Palmerston, the great British foreign secretary, under much less provocation. In 1850, Palmerston sent the Royal Navy to vindicate the interests of David Pacifico, a British citizen and Jew born in Gibraltar, who was seeking recompense from the Greek government for the destruction of his property.

Responding to his critics, Palmerston delivered a nearly five-hour speech describing the question in the matter as, "whether, as the Roman, in days of old, held himself free from indignity, when he could say Civis Romanus sum [I am a Roman citizen]; so also a British subject, in whatever land he may be, shall feel confident that the watchful eye and the strong arm of England, will protect him against injustice and wrong."

Of course, the sentiments of Hay and Palmerston are from long ago. It is likely that Joe Biden and the people around him feel about those attitudes the way John Kerry felt after Vladimir Putin went into Ukraine the first time in 2014: "You just don't, in the 21st century, behave in 19th century fashion."

National honor, in any robust sense, presumably strikes them as atavistic and chauvinistic, too simplistic and unyielding for the demands of our complicated times. Hamas, though, isn't playing by 21st century rules. It is acting by the same bloody-minded imperatives of barbarians from any time or place. We may think we are responding with great subtlety and sophistication, but we shouldn't be surprised if they consider us weaklings and fools.

Rich Lowry is on Twitter @RichLowry



Rich Lowry

Cash alone proves inadequate to solve the problems of the poor

In recent years, a growing number of people have decided that the smart way to tackle poverty is with cash.

This idea assumes that most of what ails lower-income people is their lack of funds. Without money, a broken-down car or an eviction can cascade into a job loss and other financial crises, and the stress involved can lead to health issues and other problems.

Rather than try to solve these crises and problems, why not just plug the money hole? If people are groaning under medical debt, buy up the debt at pennies on the dollar, as the nonprofit Undue Medical Debt (formerly RIP Medical Debt) does, and then forgive it. If people are stuck in bad neighborhoods or bad jobs because they can't save up enough for an apartment deposit or a better vehicle, why not give them a chunk of cash? Better yet, why not a universal basic income (UBI) that would provide the security of knowing that, no matter what, some money will be coming into the kitty every month.

Opponents of this strategy retort that, if you pay people simply for breathing, they will stop working and become burdens on the public fisc. Theoretically, though, the opposite could happen: People could use the breathing room to invest in things that help them earn more money — things such as a reliable car, more education or a new business. At least, people might have more money or time to spend on child care or elder care.

This vision of poverty assistance has many virtues: It treats people with money problems as fellow citizens rather than science projects. It empowers them to make their own decisions. And the programs are easy to administer compared with complicated schemes to incentivize personal improvement; all that's needed is a check.



Megan McCauley

The trouble is, much recent evidence suggests that giving people cash doesn't actually solve their problems — at least not in the way it's intended.

For instance, when economists Raymond Klender, Neale Mahoney, Francis Wong and Wesley Yin partnered with Undue Medical Debt to study the effect of debt forgiveness on its recipients, they found

no improvement in utilization of health care, no relief from financial distress and no improvement in overall mental health. In fact, the most indebted people appeared to become more distressed, not less, after their debt was forgiven. Another group of researchers looked at the effect of unconditionally granting people one-time cash grants of up to \$2,000 (two months' worth of household income, on average) and found that, while the recipients' consumption increased, they experienced no improvement in their financial health, their psychological well-being, their cognitive capacity or their physical condition.

Meanwhile, in a test of basic income, low-income households were given up to \$1,000 a month — a roughly 40 percent income boost — and here, too, the benefits were exceedingly modest. While the recipients' savings increased somewhat, so did their debt, so that their household worth improved very little. Other measures of financial health such as credit delinquencies, bankruptcies, foreclosures and credit utilization were unchanged, and a temporary increase in self-reported financial health eventually evaporated.

Nor did recipients, as was hoped, use the cash cushion to find better jobs, invest in their own ability to earn, or pursue entrepreneurship. What did increase significantly was their consumption, while their work hours decreased — so that participants

ended up earning about \$1,500 less per year, net of the transfer, on average. Most of their extra time was spent on leisure, not care work.

When this study was published in July, a valiant effort was made to spin the findings positively. They provide new insight into what people value, economists said, as though a study were needed to reveal that people prefer relaxing and socializing to punching a time card. Anyway, proponents of UBI argued, isn't it good when people can work less and enjoy more leisure? Everyone loves leisure! Yes, they do, but I doubt this can persuade taxpayers to fund other people's time off.

Of course, one can always point to the limitations of a single study, and the reasons that more assistance nevertheless might help. Perhaps, paying off medical debt failed to produce measurable benefits because much has already been done to ease that burden (for example, by leaving it out of credit scores). Or perhaps the problem is that people with a lot of medical debt are quite sick, which makes them unhappy and less able to earn the money they need to be financially stable.

Maybe handing people a chunk of cash that is large but still not adequate to cover all their unmet needs only creates new stress — as it forces them to decide which hole to plug in a very leaky boat. And maybe the reason that \$1,000 a month didn't generate more benefit is that people got the money for only a few years. Would permanent payments have longer-term positive effects?

Or did these ideas just not pan out? Taken together, the new findings are a blow to the just-give-people-cash school of thought. Willing as they are to give the needy a helping hand, Americans would like to know that the money is actually, you know, helping — with something other than a chronic shortage of leisure time.

Follow Megan McCauley @asymmetricinfo on X.

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Staving off cognitive decline with brain games

If you get a group of people that are closer to the end of their lives rather than the beginning, one common thread of conversation is the quality of life a person will experience at the end. It is accepted that the body will wear



Kathy Schwartz

Our brain is a mystery to most of us. It's the thing that tells the rest of the body what to do, how to react to stimuli, when to feel pain, and so much more. The essence of our being is housed within the chambers of the brain. Our memories that continue to add up though the years and the past occurrences that contributed to who we are this minute lay claim to our sense of wellness and belonging. We cry when we remember loved ones that have passed and events that

meant so much to us. The brain is a massive storehouse.

We worry when we witness our friends and family who are beginning to show signs of fading away. We also worry that it may be happening to us. Every time we forget someone's name or where we put the keys, we stop and offer up a small prayer that this is normal, and we are fine. I for one cannot use this criterion for I have always had trouble finding my keys.

There are some that prey upon this fear. If you watch television for any amount of time, you are faced with commercials that want you to try the latest remedy for memory. You see smiling faces and active seniors. Then there are the ones that picture an angry elderly patient that is striking out at her loved ones. There is a fix for that one too. The reality of the situation only fuels our fears.

One bit of advice that I have taken to heart is the challenge of giving my brain a workout every day. I challenge myself to a variety of games that makes me use my



Here's the Thing

memory to solve different types of problems. I do not sit and do crossword puzzles in a book. I have several games on my phone. Yes I am one of those people that wake my

brain up before I get out of bed. My daily challenge of Wordle appeals to my background as a teacher. Words are my thing. I just passed the 600 attempts milestone at solving the daily puzzle in the New York Times. I have maintained a 100% success rate. For the sake of complete transparency, that is an average, as I have missed 3 out of the 600 but the average is rounded to the nearest percent. Two of the three words I missed were words I had never heard of, so I plead ignorance on those two words.

My love of playing cards is satisfied in the playing of Euchre. This brings back many fond memories of sitting around our kitchen table with my dad and learning the strategies behind the game. I must admit my computer partner is an idiot. Some evenings I am found shouting at my phone trying to get

an answer to WHY he made clubs trump with only one club in his hand.

The word search games are fun and relaxing. I don't get too excited over a win. After all, the words are there; you just must find them.

I learned to shuffle sitting at my kitchen table. I would play Solitaire for hours. I seldom would clear the board but found solace in the arrangement of the different suits. There are many types of Solitaire available on the phone and I don't have to shuffle.

When games are not working my brain, I turn to my computer and write. Yes, this column is a brain exercise. I find peace in trying to put my thoughts on paper, metaphorically speaking. I have written a book to my children and filled it with thoughts of my childhood and family. My children did not know my family, and I do not live in the area where I was born. I wanted to share some of the things that were important in making me who I am. My son read the book and said he was surprised how much he didn't know about me. Mission accomplished!

My latest brain exercise is the challenge of learning a foreign language. My adopted grand-

daughter is of Hispanic descent, and my daughter wanted to encourage her to keep in touch with her roots. So as a family, we are learning Spanish. For an hour a day, I study this language. My pronunciation is greatly affected by my English phonics, but I can read the given exercises with some proficiency. It has given me a sense of accomplishment. I must confess I couldn't roll my r's if my life depended upon it.

Here's the thing: I am not sure if my brain is benefiting from my many brain games, but as I daily recognize the weakening of my body, I am bolstered with a feeling I am still holding my own when it comes to cognitive awareness. So if you see me hobbling along with my walker, stop and say Hola. I will answer back with the fact that the train station is near. My vocabulary is limited but growing every day!

Editor's Note: This is one of a series of articles and opinions written by a group of retired and current teachers — Ken Ballinger, Billy Kreigh, Kathy Schwartz, and Anna Spalding. Their intent is to spur discussions at the dinner table and elsewhere. You may also voice your thoughts and reactions via The News-Banner's letters to editor.

Frog & Toad and other 'beasts' visit the library

By BARBARA BARBIERI

Wells County Public Library played host to Beth from Indiana Wild as she brought both a frog and a toad, and a variety of other "beasts," for a recent visit.

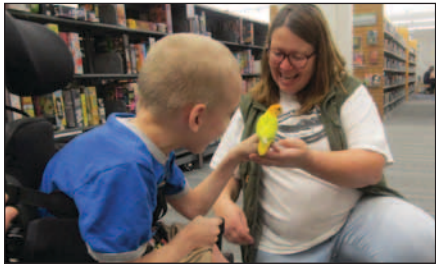
Her visit was part of the library's programming for the One County One Read book, "Frog and Toad." As each animal was introduced and told about a member of the audience was invited to help with the presentation.

The evening concluded with everyone invited to pet or "touch" the animals that included a rabbit, two tortoises (one large/one small), an African Bald Python snake, a tree frog, a millipede, a bird and an alligator in addition the frog and a toad.

Indiana Wild is located in Woodburn and gives homes to animals from rescue situations. Their programs stress the need for giving pets good homes and doing the research for what a pet needs before securing one.



Sadie, at right, assisted Beth from Indiana Wild to introduce Pete the Belgium Hare to the audience. (Photos by Barbara Barbieri)



Xiaver, at left, met Peep, a Lovebird, up close as he felt the bird's feathers.



Robbie, at left, was the assistant in displaying Monty, an African Bald Python snake.



Becket was given the task of holding Moe the larger tortoise.



Hannah, at left, was one of the three young people who met Goochie, the alligator being held by Beth from Wild Indiana.

Fremion exhibit at Fort Wayne Museum of Art

The art by Indiana artists and work chosen for the "Artists of the Hoosier Salon From the Permanent Collection" show will continue through Oct. 6, at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art. Among the artists are Wells county artist Joel Fremion.

Other Fort Wayne area artists included are Peggy Brown, Jim McBride, John Hrehov and John Kelty

A lecture about the exhibit will be presented on Friday, Sept. 27, at 7 p.m. by Mark Ruschman, Senior Curator of Art and Culture, Emeritus, for the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites. (Reservations needed to fwmoa.org/events, \$15 members or

\$20 non-members).

Other exhibits and their of closing dates are:

"Sam Gilliam: His Art of Printmaking" will be on view through Oct. 27. Thirty-four of his prints will be shown."Diverse Directions: Rethinking the Landscape" featuring natural landscapes will be hung through Dec. 8.

Gallery Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday (until 8 p.m. on Thursdays) and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$10 adults, \$8 students and seniors, \$25 per family and free Thursdays from 5 to 8 p.m.

Family Tours Sept. 14 at 10:30 a.m., free with general admission

and RSVP to fwmoa.org/events. Tours for families with children PreK-12.

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Sunday, September 15th 2pm & 4:30pm

Reagan
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Concert in the Woods Saturday

All ages are welcome to a free Concert in the Woods on Sunday, Sept. 14, 4-6 p.m. at the Lindenwood Nature Preserve.

Adam Baker and his guitar will be the program presenter. Direct questions to forwayneparks.org.

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Dinosaurs invade Fort Wayne's Children's Zoo

Dino Days will be celebrated at the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo on the weekends of Sept. 14-15 and 21-22 with an archeological dig, wild Dinosaur Encounters and more.

The encounters are free with regular admission.

Also available are Wild Encounters that allow families to get a closer look at the workings of the zoo and meet favorite zoo animals up close and learn about their daily care and the team who take care of them. Registration required at kid-zoo.org.

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Bluffton drops fifth set to Jay County to open ACAC

By RYAN WALKER

That dreaded fifth set strikes again. The Bluffton Tigers narrowly fell to Jay County 3-2 to open conference play Tuesday night at The Tiger Den. The Tigers took the first set, but fell in back-to-back spots in the second and third by scores of 19-25, 12-25.

Final scores from the match were 25-22, 19-25, 12-25, 25-22 and 9-15.

It's the fourth time in as many tries that the Tigers (2-9, 0-1 ACAC) have fallen short in the fifth set, doing so against Huntington North, Adams Central, Mississinewa and now Jay County.

But after an uncharacteristic middle sets, the Tigers played as well and as inspired as they did all night in the fourth. They got off to a strong start and never looked back, carrying a 25-22 win to the fifth. But, it did not carry over.

In the fifth, Jay County took an 8-5 lead and distanced themselves away to take Game 1 of the ACAC season 15-9.

"We went in waves," Bluffton head coach Caylee Pyle said. "It was tricky again, and that's just the thing that we're still working on — breaking the mentality and learning how to play for your team and not for yourself. We too often internalize our mistakes, and we don't figure out how to properly manage them and work through them in a game. And it's such a hard sport for these young girls to understand that I don't care one mistake after one mistake after one mistake. I want them to look forward and play that next ball."

With the Tigers falling to 2-9 on the season, it's a wonder what they could look like

if those games went their way. A complete flip-around makes it a 6-5 record. Finding a way to get the young players and the upper-classmen could level the water and show the true potential of the team.

Last year, a larger senior class fell 3-0 to the Patriots. That Tigers' team went 11-20, a better pace than this current team's.

Pyle has seen the improvement between the one year's difference between taking Jay County from three sets to five, and there is room to reach a higher level with this current unit.

"Our passing, I still stand by that. Our passing, I think, has increased tenfold," Pyle said. "We are now making better defensive plays. We are reading the ball a little bit better, and some of that comes from our block."

"When they add that unnecessary pressure, that's when we when we really hit our speed bumps," Pyle said. "We want to win, obviously we want to win, but I also want them to grow and develop, because when they grow and develop, then the wins will come."

Bluffton will host South Adams at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12.

Stat leaders: Maryn Schreiber 19 kills, Isla Gibson 33 assists and two aces, Marly Drayer 34 digs and Alexandria Koby five blocks.

Bluffton won the junior varsity match 2-1 (25-13, 23-25 and 15-7).

Stat leaders: Bridgett Steffen seven kills, Kamryn Ault 12 assists, Ava Trexler nine aces, Jaida Mills 11 digs and Steffen two blocks.

ryan@news-banner.com



Bluffton's Maryn Schreiber (left) and Rori Drayer (middle) held defend a spike by Jay County's Mya Kunkler at The Tiger Den during the first ACAC match of the season. The Patriots stole away the fifth set 15-9 and went away with a victory. (Photos by Ryan Walker)



Tigers' Sophie Eisenhut (spiking) takes a shot at two Patriot blockers.

Sports Roundup

Knights claim third straight girls' soccer win

Norwell notched its third straight victory in girls' soccer on Tuesday.

The Knights won 5-0 at Wayne, led by Grace Mann's four goals and one assist. Mann now had 12 goals on the season and is averaging two per game. Aubrey Meyer scored a goal and Hallie Smith added an assist.

Head coach Dan Batdorf noted defenders Emerson Meredith, Elise Boomer-shine, Addison Roembke, Haley Williamson, Adrienne Wagner, Smith and Madison Mashuda contributing to the Knights' second straight shutout. Abby Wagner and Maggie Neuenschwander were the goalies.

The defense and goaltending has allowed one goal over their past three contests.

Norwell will be at home next hosting New Haven at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 11.

Raiders top Norseman in girls' golf match

Southern Wells won another girls' golf match on Tuesday.

The Raiders took the trip to Northfield and shot a 195 to the Norseman's 204.

Kolbie Beavans was the top scorer for the Raiders with a 46, followed by Callie Ripperger (47), Sophie Meeks (49) and Erika Beavans (53).

Southern Wells will be at Canterbury at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12.

Knights pick up NE8 girls' golf win over Eagles

Norwell took down Northeast 8 Conference foe Columbia City in girls' golf at Timber Ridge on Tuesday.

The Knights shot a 176 to the Eagles 232. Ellie Gatton was the medalist with a 39, followed by Savanna Simerman (44), Jessica Bynum (45), Jacquelyn Mayer (48) and Emma Burnau (49).

Norwell also had two golfers for junior varsity: Jordyn Shroyer with a 43 and Kylee Nevius 49.

Norwell will host Leo at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 11.

Tigers follow loss with win over Apaches in boys' tennis

Bluffton got back on track in boys' tennis on Tuesday.

At Wabash, the Tigers won 4-1 after falling in their first match of the season to Leo the night before. Bluffton is 6-1 now on the season.

Individual results

• Nolan Lambert (B) defeated Eli Matern 7-6 (7-4), 4-6, 6-2.

• Cooper Long (W) defeated Anthony Hartman 7-6 (7-5), 6-2.

• Jacob Ribich (B) defeated Ashton Coffman 7-5, 4-6, 7-6 (7-4).

• Ben Maggard and Coy Lantz (B) defeated Mark Pence and David Shepler 6-0, 6-0.

• Dane Schlagenhaut and Kade Abbett (B) defeated Spencer Tracy and Kaden McKenzie 6-0, 6-0.

Bluffton will host Carroll at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 12.

Raiders fall to Starfires in volleyball ACAC opener

Southern Wells fell in its first ACAC matchup of the season on the road to South Adams on Tuesday.

The Raiders fell 25-18, 25-8 and 25-13. Southern Wells is now 7-7 on the season.

Abbie Powell had nine kills, nine digs and three blocks. Kaylea Coffel had 12 digs and McKenna King nine digs.

Southern Wells will be at Lakeland Christian at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14.

Knights drop in three sets to Saints in volleyball

Norwell fell to Dwenger in straight sets in volleyball at The Castle Tuesday night.

Scores were 25-23, 25-20 and 25-23. The Knights are now 7-6 on the season.

Stat leaders: Mekynzi Beck six kills, Emma Vachon 15 assists, Autumn Lee 20 digs, Vanessa Rosswurm three blocks and Lee and Rebecca Settle one ace.

Norwell fell in both the junior varsity match 2-0 (25-16, 25-18) and freshman match 2-1 (25-15, 16-25, 12-15).

Norwell will be at Northfield at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 11.

High School Calendar

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 11
BOYS SOCCER: Norwell at New Haven, 6 p.m.

BOYS TENNIS: Carroll at Bluffton, 5 p.m.; DeKalb at Norwell, 5 p.m.

GIRLS GOLF: Eastbrook at Bluffton, 5 p.m.; Leo at Norwell, 5 p.m.

GIRLS SOCCER: New Haven at Norwell, 5:30 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL: Norwell at Northfield, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 12
BOYS SOCCER: Norwell at Luers, 7 p.m.

BOYS TENNIS: Bluffton at Jay County, 5 p.m.; Norwell at Belmont, 4:30 p.m.

GIRLS GOLF: Bluffton, Norwell at Timber Ridge,

4:30 p.m.; Southern Wells at Canterbury, 4:30 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL: South Adams at Bluffton, 7 p.m.; Norwell at Blackford, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 13
FOOTBALL: Woodlan at Bluffton, 7 p.m.; Norwell at Bellmont, 7 p.m.; Southern Wells at Wes-Del, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 14
BOYS TENNIS: Bluffton at Madison Grant Invitational, 9 a.m.

CROSS COUNTRY (co-ed): Bluffton, Norwell, Southern Wells at Wildcat Invitational, 9 a.m.

GIRLS GOLF: Bluffton, Southern Wells at ACAC

meet (Cross Creek), 2 p.m.; Norwell at NE8 meet (Cross Creek), 9 a.m.

VOLLEYBALL: Southern Wells at Lakeland Christian, 3:30 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPT. 16
BOYS SOCCER: East Noble at Norwell, 7 p.m.

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

GIRLS SOCCER: Norwell at East Noble, 5:30 p.m.

NFL investigating alleged sexual assault lawsuit filed against Browns quarterback Deshaun Watson

By TOM WITHERS

AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) — Deshaun Watson is again under a spotlight away from the field.

The NFL said Tuesday it is investigating the latest civil lawsuit filed against the Cleveland Browns quarterback for an alleged sexual assault that took place in 2020 while he played for Houston.

On Monday, a woman in Texas accused Watson of sexually assaulting her during an incident at her apartment four years ago. She claims Watson sexually forced himself on her for several minutes. She's seeking \$1 million in damages, according to the suit.

"We are reviewing the complaint and we will look into the matter under the personal conduct policy," league spokesperson Brian McCarthy said. "Not looking at the commissioner's exempt list as there's been no formal charges and the league's review has just begun."

The exempt list allows Roger Goodell to place a player on paid leave while reviewing his case or unusual circumstances.

Browns rookie defensive tackle Mike Hall Jr. has been in the exempt list while his criminal charge for domestic violence plays out.

Watson, who is in his third season with Cleveland, was previously suspended 11 games by the league in 2022 after more than two dozen women accused him of sexual assault and inappropriate conduct during massage therapy sessions. Watson was also fined \$5 million.

He settled 23 of 24 civil lawsuits brought by the women in 2022 before being disciplined by the league.

It's not known if Watson disclosed the newest allegation to the league — or the Browns — prior to the lawsuit being filed in Harris County, Texas. The woman's lawyer is Tony Buzbee, who represented most of the other therapists in their claims against

the QB.

The Browns, who traded five draft picks — three in the first round — to the Texans for the three-time Pro Bowler, also released a statement.

"We will respect the due process our legal system affords regarding the recently filed civil suit and follow the NFL's guidelines on this matter," the team said.

Watson's star-crossed career in Cleveland began with the team giving him a fully guaranteed \$230 million contract.

The Browns' hopes that he can become a long-term answer at quarterback for them has been sidetracked by his legal issues, the lengthy suspension and a shoulder injury that limited Watson to just six starts last season.

He also hasn't played up to expectations in 13 starts. The Browns made the playoffs last season after signing free agent Joe Flacco for the final month.

On Sunday, the 28-year-old Watson had a rough performance in his first game since breaking a bone in his throwing shoulder in November and undergoing surgery.

Watson, who didn't play at all in the pre-season, completed 24 of 45 passes for 169 yards with one touchdown and two interceptions in a 33-17 loss to the Dallas Cowboys. He was also sacked six times and took several more hard shots.

At this point, Watson is expected to play this week when the Browns visit the Jacksonville Jaguars on Sunday. Watson typically talks to the media on Wednesdays during game week.

Watson's shaky performance against the Cowboys did little to diffuse concerns the Browns erred in signing him. He was also dealing with some personal hardship following the death of his biological father and a former Clemson teammate in the days leading up to the opener.

Despite numerous distractions, coach

(Continued on Page 7)

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(Excludes Pop)

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News-Banner Scoreboard

FOOTBALL

NFL

Monday's Games
San Francisco 32, N.Y. Jets 19
Thursday, Sept. 12
Buffalo at Miami, 8:15 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 15
Cleveland at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Green Bay, 1 p.m.
L.A. Chargers at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Las Vegas at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Washington, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
New Orleans at Dallas, 1 p.m.
San Francisco at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Seattle at New England, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Detroit, 1 p.m.
L.A. Rams at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.
Cincinnati at Kansas City, 4:25 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Denver, 4:25 p.m.
Chicago at Houston, 8:20 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 16
Atlanta at Philadelphia, 8:15 p.m.

BASKETBALL

WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE				GB
W	L	Pct		
x-New York	30	6	.833	—
x-Connecticut	25	10	.714	4½
x-Indiana	19	17	.528	11
Chicago	13	22	.371	16½
Atlanta	12	24	.333	18
Washington	11	24	.314	18½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				GB
W	L	Pct		
x-Minnesota	27	9	.750	—
x-Las Vegas	22	13	.629	4½
x-Seattle	21	14	.600	5½
x-Phoenix	17	19	.472	10
Dallas	9	27	.250	18
Los Angeles	7	28	.200	19½

x-clinched playoff spot
Monday's Games
No games scheduled.
Tuesday's Games
Minnesota 76, Atlanta 64
New York 105, Dallas 91
Connecticut at Los Angeles, late
Wednesday's Games
Las Vegas at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Washington at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Seattle at Los Angeles, 10 p.m.

Thursday's Games
New York at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Friday's Games
Chicago at Minnesota, 7:30 p.m.
Las Vegas at Indiana, 7:30 p.m.
Seattle at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Connecticut at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

BASEBALL

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
New York	83	62	.572	—
Baltimore	83	63	.568	½
Boston	73	72	.503	10
Tampa Bay	71	74	.490	12
Toronto	69	77	.473	14½
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Cleveland	83	62	.572	—
Kansas City	80	66	.548	3½
Minnesota	77	68	.531	6
Detroit	74	71	.510	9
Chicago	33	113	.226	50½
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Houston	77	66	.538	—
Seattle	73	71	.507	4½
Texas	70	74	.486	7½
Oakland	62	82	.431	15½
Los Angeles	60	85	.414	18

Monday's Games
Philadelphia 2, Tampa Bay 1
N.Y. Mets 3, Toronto 2
Boston 12, Baltimore 3
N.Y. Yankees 10, Kansas City 4
L.A. Angels 6, Minnesota 2
Cleveland 5, Chicago White Sox 3
Tuesday's Games
Detroit 11, Colorado 0
Philadelphia 9, Tampa Bay 4
Kansas City 5, N.Y. Yankees 0
Baltimore 5, Boston 3
Toronto 6, N.Y. Mets 2
Minnesota 10, L.A. Angels 5
Cleveland 5, Chicago White Sox 0
Oakland at Houston, late
San Diego at Seattle, late
Texas at Arizona, late
Wednesday's Games
Cleveland (Boyd 2-1) at Chicago
White Sox (Martin 0-3), 2:10 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Manaea 11-5) at Toronto

(Francis 8-4), 3:07 p.m.
Texas (Bradford 5-2) at Arizona
(Kelly 4-0), 3:40 p.m.
Colorado (TBD) at Detroit (Mize 2-6), 6:40 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Baz 2-3) at Philadelphia
(Wheeler 14-6), 6:40 p.m.
Kansas City (Ragans 11-9) at N.Y. Yankees (Gil 13-6), 7:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Kremer 7-9) at Boston
(Pivetta 5-10), 7:10 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Kochanowicz 2-4) at Minnesota (Matthews 1-3), 7:10 p.m.
Oakland (Estes 6-7) at Houston
(Brown 11-7), 8:10 p.m.
San Diego (King 12-8) at Seattle
(Woo 7-2), 9:40 p.m.
Thursday's Games
Colorado at Detroit, 1:10 p.m.
Oakland at Houston, 2:10 p.m.
Boston at N.Y. Yankees, 7:15 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Cleveland, 7:15 p.m.
Texas at Seattle, 9:40 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Philadelphia	87	58	.600	—
Atlanta	79	66	.545	8
New York	79	66	.545	8
Washington	64	80	.444	22½
Miami	54	91	.372	33
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Milwaukee	82	61	.573	—
Chicago	74	70	.514	8½
St. Louis	72	72	.500	10½
Cincinnati	71	75	.486	12½
Pittsburgh	69	76	.476	14
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Los Angeles	86	58	.597	—
San Diego	81	64	.559	5½
Arizona	80	64	.556	6
San Francisco	71	73	.493	15
Colorado	54	91	.372	32½

Monday's Games
Cincinnati 1, Atlanta 0
Pittsburgh 3, Miami 2
Philadelphia 2, Tampa Bay 1
N.Y. Mets 3, Toronto 2
Chicago Cubs 10, L.A. Dodgers 4
Tuesday's Games
Detroit 11, Colorado 0
Pittsburgh 6, Miami 4
Atlanta 12, Washington 0
Philadelphia 9, Tampa Bay 4

Toronto 6, N.Y. Mets 2
Cincinnati 3, St. Louis 0
San Diego at Seattle, 9:40 p.m.
Texas at Arizona, 9:40 p.m.
Milwaukee at San Francisco, late
Chicago Cubs at L.A. Dodgers, late

Wednesday's Games

Miami (TBD) at Pittsburgh (Falter 7-7), 12:35 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Manaea 11-5) at Toronto
(Francis 8-4), 3:07 p.m.
Texas (Bradford 5-2) at Arizona
(Kelly 4-0), 3:40 p.m.
Colorado (TBD) at Detroit (Mize 2-6), 6:40 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Baz 2-3) at Philadelphia
(Wheeler 14-6), 6:40 p.m.
Atlanta (Fried 9-8) at Washington
(Irvin 9-12), 6:45 p.m.
Cincinnati (TBD) at St. Louis (Lynn 6-4), 7:45 p.m.
San Diego (King 12-8) at Seattle
(Woo 7-2), 9:40 p.m.
Milwaukee (Rea 12-4) at San Francisco
(Snell 2-3), 9:45 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Wicks 2-3) at L.A. Dodgers (Miller 2-4), 10:10 p.m.

Midwest League

Midwest League Playoff Glance
(x-if necessary)
Division Series
East Division
Lake County 1, Dayton 0
Tuesday, Sept. 10: Lake County 4, Dayton 3
Thursday, Sept. 12: Dayton at Lake County, 6:35 p.m.
x-Friday, Sept. 13: Dayton at Lake County, 6:35 p.m.
West Division
Wisconsin 1, Quad Cities 0
Tuesday, Sept. 10: Wisconsin 1, Quad Cities 0
Thursday, Sept. 12: Quad Cities at Wisconsin, 7:40 p.m.
x-Friday, Sept. 13: Quad Cities at Wisconsin, 7:40 p.m.
Championship
Sunday, Sept. 15: TBD

Deshaun Watson

(Continued from Page 6)

Kevin Stefanski said Monday he doesn't feel Watson has lost any confidence.

"Deshaun's played at a very, very high level," Stefanski said. "He's won

at every level of football. He does not lack for confidence."

NOTES: As expected, the Browns signed WR Kadarius Toney to their practice squad. Toney was released by Kansas City in August after two

seasons. A star in one of the Chiefs' Super Bowl wins, Toney gives Cleveland some experienced depth. ... CB Justin Hardee Sr. and WR Tulu Griffin were released from the practice squad.

Larson will again run the Indy 500 but NASCAR and the Coca-Cola 600 will be his commitment

By JENNA FRYER
AP Auto Racing Writer

CONCORD, N.C. (AP) — With NASCAR and the Coca-Cola 600 the promised priority, Kyle Larson will again attempt the Indianapolis 500 next season with the caveat he must leave if rain again ruins his bid to complete "The Double."

Larson in May became the fifth driver in history to attempt to complete 1,100-miles of racing on the biggest day in motorsports. But the start of the Indy 500 was delayed several hours by rain, and because Hendrick Motorsports had spent so much money on the effort, they decided to keep him at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

"It was unfinished business," team owner Rick Hendrick said. "Weather just cost us a lot."

Larson was a total star all of May, where he qualified fifth but a late-race speeding penalty took him out of contention and he finished 18th. He was still named top rookie of the race.

By the time Larson arrived at Charlotte Motor Speedway, the 600 had been stopped by rain and never resumed. He never turned a lap, received zero points for the event, and it took a prolonged dispute between Hendrick officials and NASCAR before NASCAR granted Larson a waiver to participate in the playoffs despite missing a race.

In the end, missing the 600 did cost Larson as he fell a single point short of beating Tyler Reddick for NASCAR's regular-season championship — a title worth 15 additional playoff points. Larson could use those points after an early crash Sunday in NASCAR's playoff opener erased almost his entire lead in the Cup standings.

"We couldn't control the weather,

but it was never intended for us to have to pick and choose, but we did have to make that decision," Hendrick Motorsports vice chairman Jeff Gordon told The Associated Press. "It was a group effort, and not necessarily the way NASCAR wanted it to be. But it was his first time doing it, our first time doing it, and I think Indy had to be the priority."

"A second time, it's just not going to be the same case. NASCAR knows he'll be at the 600. We don't want to spot Reddick another entire race."

Hendrick said that Tony Kanaan, sporting director for Arrow McLaren, would replace Larson in the car at Indy if Larson has to leave for Charlotte. By the reaction on Kanaan's face, that was news to him.

"We're going to run the 600, we will be here for the 600 if that means having to cut the race short in Indy, we will," Hendrick said. "My commitment is to NASCAR, that's where we're in, that's where we run for the championship. And so if weather catches us, Tony will get in the car."

Larson followed John Andretti, Tony Stewart, Robby Gordon and Kurt Busch in attempting both races on the same day. Stewart is the only driver to complete all 1,100 miles and only did it in one of his two attempts.

Larson, who is again partnering with Arrow McLaren Racing, not only wants to complete the full 1,100-miles but wants to win at least one — if not both — of the races.

"I knew as soon as it was over that I wanted to do it again. I didn't get a chance to complete 'The Double' and that's important," Larson told the AP. "But I also want to win the Indy 500 and I want to win the Coca-Cola 600 on the same day. I feel very fortunate

to have this opportunity."

Larson, the 2021 Cup Series champion, won the Coca-Cola 600 in 2021 in what was the 269th career Cup victory for Hendrick — the win that passed Petty Enterprises for the most Cup wins in NASCAR history.

The announcement Tuesday was made at Charlotte Motor Speedway, where Larson's Cup Series No. 5 Chevrolet and his No. 17 Arrow McLaren Indy car were both displayed. On hand was Hendrick Motorsports owner Rick Hendrick and McLaren chief executive officer Zak Brown, who flew in from London and came directly to the news conference.

"We have some unfinished business to try to win the the Indy 500 and of course the NASCAR race a couple hours later," Brown said. "Having a legend in our race car is a privilege and an honor."

The initial deal with Larson was for two years, but 2025 was an option year and Hendrick Motorsports had a three-month window to make the decision. Larson told the AP that he knew before the NASCAR race at Indianapolis in late July that he'd be back for the 500 in 2025.

Brown said McLaren will give Larson as much testing as he needs, but does not plan to enter him in any races besides the Indy 500.

For now, Larson has work to do in NASCAR.

Initially the points leader at the start of Sunday's race at Atlanta, Larson plummeted to 10th in the standings. Four drivers will be eliminated from the 16-driver playoff field following the Sept. 21 race at Bristol Motor Speedway.

NASCAR races this Sunday on the road course at Watkins Glen, New York.

WNBA playoff picture still jumbled as Chicago, Atlanta, Washington vying for 8 seed

By DOUG FEINBERG
AP Basketball Writer

The WNBA playoff picture is still jumbled with the final postseason spot coming down to three teams — Chicago, Atlanta and Washington.

All three teams will play each other at least once over the last nine days of the season. The Mystics face both the Sky and Dream this week, including a home-and-home set against Atlanta. Chicago visits Atlanta next Tuesday.

The Sky have a one-game advantage over the Dream and a two-game lead over the Mystics, though they lost star rookie Angel Reese for the season with a wrist injury.

The reward for securing the eighth seed is most likely a trip to New York to face the Liberty. New York has a three-game lead on second-place Minnesota with five games to play. The two teams will meet Sunday in New York.

Making the playoffs also has other implications for Chicago and Atlanta. The Dallas Wings have the option to swap first round picks with Chicago from an earlier trade. Atlanta traded its first round pick to Washington.

The eighth spot isn't the only seed still up for grabs. The rest of the playoff picture is slowly starting to come into focus. The Lynx have a one-game lead over Connecticut for the No. 2 seed. Las Vegas has a one-game advantage over Seattle for the fourth spot.

Caitlin Clark has helped Indiana rise to the No. 6 seed. The Fever trail Seattle by 1 1/2 games for the fifth seed and lead Phoenix by two games.

AP WNBA POLL

New York remains in the top spot in this week's AP WNBA power poll with Minnesota right behind them. Las Vegas flipped places with Connecticut to move up to third. Indiana, Seattle and Phoenix stayed in fifth, sixth and seventh. Chicago and Washington were next with Atlanta, Dallas and Los Angeles rounding out the poll.

CAITLIN CORNER

Clark had another strong week, averaging 25 points, 10 assists and 7.7 rebounds to help the Fever win two of their three games. The star rookie helped Indiana rally from a double-digit deficit in the third quarter. Indi-

ana hosts a pair of games against Las Vegas and one against Dallas this week.

ROOKIE IMPACT

Leonie Fiebich has routinely been on the court to close out games for the New York Liberty. The 6-foot-4 rookie from Germany provides length on the defensive end and a solid all-around offensive game. She averaged 6 points, 4.5 rebounds and three steals in New York's close wins over Seattle and Las Vegas last week.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Napheesa Collier had another impressive pair of games to earn AP Player of the Week honors as the Lynx star averaged 22.5 points, 11 rebounds and 1.5 blocks to help Minnesota win both its games and remain in the hunt for the No. 1 seed. Indiana's Aliyah Boston and Las Vegas' Kelsey Plum also received votes.

GAME OF THE WEEK

Washington vs. Atlanta, Friday and Sunday. The teams will play a home-and-home set on Friday and Sunday with the first game in Atlanta. They split the first two meetings this season with each winning on the road.

Public Notice

NOTICE OF REAL PROPERTY TAX SALE

Wells County Indiana
Beginning 10:00 AM Local Time,
October 30, 2024

Courthouse
Wells County

Pursuant to the laws of the Indiana General Assembly, notice is hereby given that the following described property is listed for sale for delinquent taxes and/or special assessments. The county auditor and county treasurer will apply on or after 10/11/2024 for a court judgment against the tracts or real property for an amount that is not less than the amount set out below and for an order to sell the tracts or real property at public auction to the highest bidder, subject to the right of redemption. Any defense to the application for judgment must be filed with the Wells County Circuit Court and served on the county auditor and treasurer before 10/11/2024. The court will set a date for a hearing at least seven (7) days before the advertised date of sale and the court will determine any defenses to the application for judgment at the hearing. The county auditor and the county treasurer are entitled to receive all pleadings, motions, petitions, and other filings related to the defense to the application for judgment.

Such sale will be held on 10/30/2024 at the Courthouse and that sale will continue until all tracts and real property have been offered for sale. At the discretion of local officials, the tax sale may switch to an online format. If those measures are taking place, the public auction will be conducted as an electronic sale under IC 6-1.1-24-2 (b) 10 at www.zeusauction.com commencing on the same date/time listed above. All location updates will be posted at www.sriservices.com prior to the tax sale.

Property will not be sold for an amount which is less than the sum of:

(A) the delinquent taxes and special assessments on each tract or item of real property; and

(B) the taxes and special assessments on the real property that are due and payable in the year of the sale, whether or not they are delinquent; and

(C) all penalties due on the delinquencies; and

(D) an amount prescribed by the county auditor that equals the sum of:

(1) twenty-five dollars (\$25) for postage and publication costs; and

(2) any other costs incurred by the county that are directly attributable to the tax sale; and

(E) any unpaid costs due under IC 6-1.1-24-2(c) from a prior tax sale.

No property listed below shall be sold if, at any time before the sale, the Total Amount for Judgment is paid in full. If the real property is sold in the tax sale, the amount required to redeem such property will be 110% of the minimum bid for which the tract or real property was offered at the time of sale, if redeemed not more than six (6) months after the date of sale, or 115% of the minimum bid for which the tract or real property was offered at the time of sale, if redeemed more than six (6) months after the date of sale, plus the amount by which the purchase price exceeds the minimum bid on the real property plus five percent (5%) per annum interest on the amount by which the purchase price exceeds the minimum bid on the property. All taxes and special assessments upon the property paid by the purchaser subsequent to the sale, plus five percent (5%) per annum interest on those taxes and special assessments, will also be required to be paid to redeem such property.

In addition, IC 6-1.1-25-2 (e) states the total amount required for redemption may include the following costs incurred and paid by the purchaser or the purchaser's assignee or the county before redemption: (1) The attorney's fees and cost of giving notice under IC 6-1.1-25-4.5; (2) The costs of title search or examining and update the abstract of title for the tract or item of real property. The period of redemption shall expire on Thursday, October 30, 2025 for certificates sold in the tax sale. For certificates struck to the county, the period of redemption may expire Thursday, February 27, 2025.

If the tract or item of real property is sold for an amount more than the minimum bid and the property is not redeemed, the owner of record of the property who is divested of ownership at the time the tax deed is issued may have a right to the tax sale surplus.

The Auditor and Treasurer specifically reserve the right to withhold from the sale any parcel which has been listed in error, or which otherwise becomes ineligible for sale either prior to 10/30/2024 or during the duration of the sale.

This notice of real property tax sale, and the tax sale itself are undertaken and will be conducted pursuant to the requirements of the laws of the State of Indiana which regulate the sale of land for delinquent taxes, pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1-24-1 et seq.

The County does not warrant the accuracy of the street address or common description of the property, and a misstatement in the key number or street address does not invalidate an otherwise valid sale.

Minimum bid amounts are prescribed by law and are subject to change prior to the auction date.

Pursuant to IC 6-1.1-24-3(e), property descriptions may be omitted for properties appearing on the certified list in consecutive years. A complete property list may be obtained at www.sriservices.com or in an alternative form upon request.

Registration For Bidding On the Tax Sale:

If you are interested in bidding on the tax sale for an Indiana county, you may register online at https://sriservices.com/. This registration is good for all counties that SRI services. You need to register only once for all counties. Make sure to bring the completed form with you to each sale. This will speed up the registration process for you the morning of the sale. If you do not have access to a computer with internet service you may register the morning of the sale.

Please arrive the morning of the tax sale at least 30 minutes before the beginning time to be assured you will receive your bid number before the start of the sale. Please bring your registration form and W9 form with you the morning of the tax sale. You will be able to print these forms from the registration web site.

Pursuant to IC 6-1.1-24-5.1 a business entity that seeks to register to bid at the Wells County Tax Sale must provide a Certificate of

Existence or Foreign Registration Statement in accordance with IC 5-23 from the Secretary of State to the Wells County Treasurer.

Dated: 09/11/2024

902400001 001-00004-00
\$945.31 Miller, Tony R/Jennifer A
8685 S 400 W Poneto 46781

902400002 001-00045-00
\$260.60 Cook, Steven C 200 W
Keystone 46759 001-00045-00,
001-00192-00, and 001-00289-
00 are to be sold and redeemed
together.

902400003 001-00181-00
\$697.91 Stuff, Nicholas 9830 S 200
W Poneto 46781

902400004 001-00192-00
\$1,695.73 Cook, Steven C 10363
S 200 W Keystone 46759 001-
00045-00, 001-00192-00, and
001-00289-00 are to be sold and
redeemed together.

902400006 001-00241-00
\$624.86 Capper, Carla L Ohio Key-
stone 46759

902400008 001-00289-00
\$260.60 Cook, Steven C 200 W
Keystone 46759 001-00045-00,
001-00192-00, and 001-00289-
00 are to be sold and redeemed
together.

902400009 001-00342-00
\$245.99 Hess, Sara Elizabeth 200
W Keystone 46759

902400010 001-00344-00
\$262.87 Hess, Sara Elizabeth 200
W Keystone 46759

902400012 002-012

Keep your relationship problems private

Dear Annie

by Annie Lane



Dear Annie: My boyfriend and I have been talking about moving in together for a very long time. I became pregnant and had our baby, but he didn't move in with me because he was upset that I was talking to other people about our problems.

Well, finally, almost a year later, he has moved in his dresser and bookshelf. But he is mad at me again because he did it all on the weekend, unannounced, and that upset me, and I told my dad that it concerned me. Apparently, my dad asked him about it, and he is upset with me again.

This is driving me crazy because he stays over here 80 percent of the time, but when he is mad, he just takes off. He told my brother he is done. I'm so tired of this, but I love him. It's constant back and forth.

I want stability and not to suffer. He has done this even before we had kids. He just takes off, and we can't talk through our issues without him getting mad. At this point, I am wondering, should I continue to work on things — to keep trying? Is the pain and suffering going to be worth it in the end? — Highly Frustrated

Dear Highly Frustrated: Regardless of if you stay or go, you and your boyfriend will experience some pain and uncomfortable feelings. The real question is, can you make that pain and discomfort productive? The best way to do that is to get into counseling for the two of you.

With the help of a professional, he can't just storm off when he is upset; he has to stay in the room and work through his feelings. I know you are going through a hard time, and talking to your father about it might feel like a nice relief in the moment, but it doesn't really help your relationship with your boyfriend. Try to keep the problems in your relationship between you and your boyfriend and your therapist. In the end, you owe it to your baby and yourself to try to work it out.

Dear Annie: Please pass along the information that extremely strong body

odors often occur as the result of a nutritional deficiency: zinc. I found my problem had been solved after less than a week on this regimen.

Also, if you are wildly attractive to mosquitoes, vitamin B complex will make them lose interest.

A good multivitamin/mineral tablet taken daily will keep both problems at bay. — Getting All My Vitamins

Dear Vitamins: Eating or taking vitamins and minerals, within recommended guidelines, is always a good idea for your health, but who knew that they can help with body odor and bugs? Thank you for telling us about these additional benefits.

Dear Annie: In response to "One Grieving Grandmother to Another," who was upset about not seeing her children and grandchildren on holidays, I was thinking she could try making her own "holidays" or special Sundays. If invited ahead of time, her family might come together and be with her. Competition on regular holidays makes it hard for grown children to see all the family. If there are birthday celebrations for grandkids, I think it's perfectly OK to ask ahead if she may join the festivities, instead of waiting for them to extend the favor. Sometimes, we just have to be proactive. — Understanding Grandma

Dear Understanding Grandma: Being proactive and creative is always a good thing. Thank you for your suggestion.

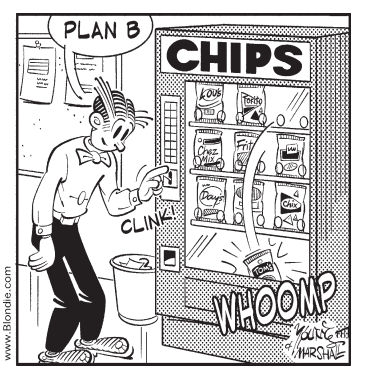
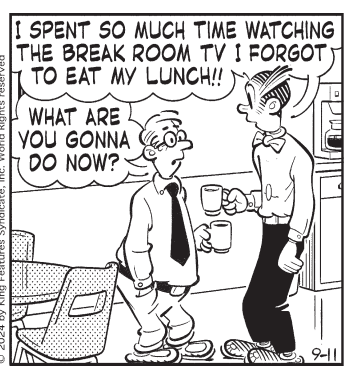
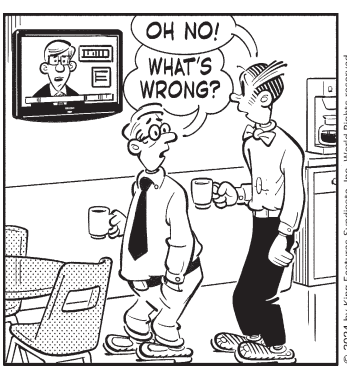
"How Can I Forgive My Cheating Partner?" is out now! Annie Lane's second anthology — featuring favorite columns on marriage, infidelity, communication and reconciliation — is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit <http://www.creatorspublishing.com> for more information. Send your questions for Annie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

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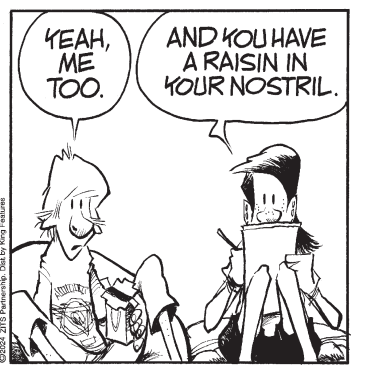
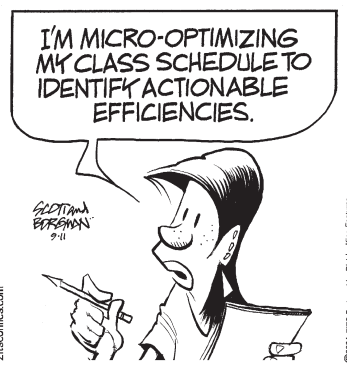
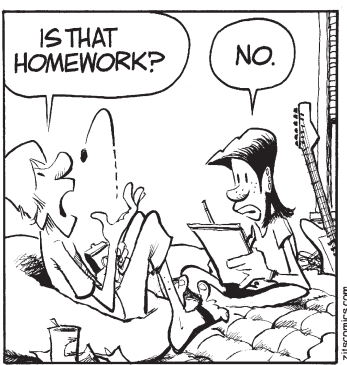
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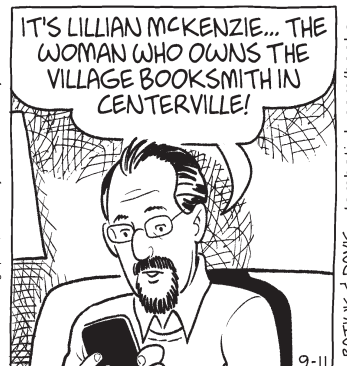
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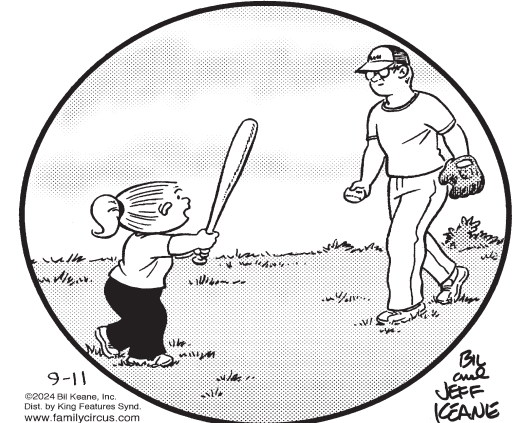
CRANKSHAFT



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

The LOCKHORNS



My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



The cross can be of comfort to people's spirits

Question: My children's generation was ruined by 9/11 and I don't think they will ever recover from the mess that this tragedy has done to their hearts. — D.P.

Answer: Every generation witnesses terrifying world events. The 21st century was inaugurated with the horrific 9/11 tragedy that set the whole world on edge. Today nations are in turmoil as governments struggle with how to defeat global terrorism.

People are frantic, searching for solutions. The only solution is found in the righteous ruler — the Man of peace. He will strengthen us to stand strong in the face of trials

and disappointments. In the midst of cataclysmic events, there is peace that passes understanding. People think they want peace in the world, but what they really need is peace in their souls.

Many powerful stories came out of the 9/11 tragedy. A firefighter said, "We thought the devil was here, but with this cross, we know God is here." Among the rubble in the aftermath of 9/11, a 20-foot steel-beam cross was uncovered. Though people watched in terror as the World Trade Center towers in New York collapsed, the sight of a cross brought hope to many — and terror to some. Atheists demanded that the cross, later displayed, be removed from the privately

operated National September 11 Memorial and Museum. They claimed that many people were "injured" when they saw it.

To some the cross of Christ brings cheer; to others it incites fear. The cross can be of comfort to people's spirits, or it can reveal the corruption of the human heart and bring conviction of sin. When you see a cross, let it always remind you of the tremendous gift that Jesus gave us, but never forget that it was because of our sin that Christ had to die there.

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

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"This time try not to miss my bat."

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 41 Archipelago part
- 1 Scratch the surface?
- 4 Snare
- 8 Banister
- 12 Pub drink
- 13 Gushing review
- 14 Thompson of "Love Actually"
- 15 Doctrine
- 16 James Brown memoir
- 18 Faithful
- 20 Arctic explorer John
- 21 Sweet wine
- 24 Hogwarts professor
- 28 Justice Marshall
- 32 Tea carrier
- 33 Where Lux is
- 34 Asana practitioners
- 36 Browns, on scoreboards
- 37 Harvest
- 39 Fulfilled, with "on"

- 23 Roman robes
- 25 With the bow, musically
- 26 — Alto, Calif.
- 27 Ogled
- 28 Actress Hatcher
- 29 Colorations
- 30 Russian river
- 31 Conn of "Grease"
- 35 Feudal system
- 38 Wrote
- 40 Baseball's Hodges
- 42 Label
- 45 Hollywood clashers
- 47 Praiseful poems
- 48 Evict
- 49 Profound
- 50 Use a shovel
- 51 Sean — Lennon
- 52 401(k) alternative
- 53 Vein contents
- 54 Inseparable

Solution time: 23 mins.



Yesterday's answer 9-11

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
12			13				14					
15			16				17					
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50	51	52					53	54			55	
56							57				58	
59							60				61	

09/11	M	A	D1	D2	5 PM	5:30	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM	12:30	
WINM (12)	11	26	63		Washington Watch With Tony Perkins	News-at-5	News-at-6	CBS News (N)	Creflo Dollar	Joseph Prince (N)	Turning Point	TCT Today	Joyce Meyer	The 700 Club	Life Today with Robert Jeffress	Jewish Jesus	Andrew Womack	Ask the Pastor	Foundation		
CBS WANE (15)	2	2	15	15	News (N)	Inside Edition (N)	News at 6 (N)	CBS News (N)	Wheel of Fortune (N)	Jeopardy!	Big Brother (N)	The Real CSI: Miami "The Catch"	The Real CSI: Miami "Out of Thin Air"	Nightcast (N)	(35) Late Show-Colbert	(35) After Miers	(35) After Miers	(35) After Miers	(35) After Miers	(35) After Miers	
Antenna-2 WANE-2 (352)	106	20			Blue Bloods "Cellar Boy"	Blue Bloods "The Blue Templar"	Blue Bloods "Mercy"	Blue Bloods "Friendly Fire"	Blue Bloods "The Millionaire"	Who Wants to Be a Millionaire	Got Talent	Twelve acts take the stage live; America can vote for six acts to advance to the finale.	Dateline	Dateline	Seinfeld	The Conners	The Conners	The Conners	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	
ABC WPTA (21)	4	3	21	21	ABC21 News at 5 (N)	ABC21 (N)	ABC World News (N)	Ent. Tonight (N)	Who Wants to Be a Millionaire	Got Talent	Twelve acts take the stage live; America can vote for six acts to advance to the finale.	Dateline	Dateline	Seinfeld	The Conners	The Conners	The Conners	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	
NBC WPTA-2 (212)	7	8		14	Family Feud	25 Words or Less	News (N)	NBC News (N)	Family Feud	Family Feud	Got Talent	Twelve acts take the stage live; America can vote for six acts to advance to the finale.	Dateline	Dateline	Seinfeld	The Conners	The Conners	The Conners	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	
MNT WPTA-3 (213)	10	9	56	34	Bob Hearts Abishola	Bob Hearts Abishola	Modern Family	News (N)	WNBA Basketball Las Vegas Aces at Indiana Fever	WNBA Basketball Las Vegas Aces at Indiana Fever	WNBA Basketball Las Vegas Aces at Indiana Fever	WNBA Basketball Las Vegas Aces at Indiana Fever	Dateline	Dateline	Seinfeld	The Conners	The Conners	The Conners	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	
FOX WISE (38)	8	4	33	33	The Steve Wilkos Show	TMZ Live (N)	TMZ (N)	True Crime News (N)	Sullivan's Crossing "Aftershock"	Police 24/7 "You Again"	Friends	Friends	TMZ (N)	Dish Nation (N)	True Crime News	Chicago P.D.	Chicago P.D.	Chicago P.D.	Chicago P.D.	Chicago P.D.	
PBS WFWA (39)	13	5	39	39	Ancient Invisibles "Cairo"	PBS News Hour (N)	BBC News America	LIFE Ahead	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Texas"	NOVA "Eagle Power"	Secrets "Archaeology at Althorp"	Amanpour and Company (N)	Amanpour and Company (N)	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Texas"	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Texas"	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Texas"	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Texas"	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Texas"	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Texas"	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Texas"	
PBS WFP (48)	3	6			Call the Midwife	Context	Indiana	PBS News Hour (N)	PBS News Hour (N)	NOVA "Eagle Power"	Secrets "Archaeology at Althorp"	Amanpour and Company (N)	Amanpour and Company (N)	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Texas"	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Texas"	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Texas"	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Texas"	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Texas"	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Texas"	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Texas"	
FOX WFTT (55)	6	6	55	55	WFFT Fox News at 5 (N)	WFFT Fox News at 6 (N)	Big Bang	Big Bang	MasterChef Amateur chefs compete to become a culinary master and earn the title MasterChef. (N)	MasterChef Amateur chefs compete to become a culinary master and earn the title MasterChef. (N)	MasterChef Amateur chefs compete to become a culinary master and earn the title MasterChef. (N)	MasterChef Amateur chefs compete to become a culinary master and earn the title MasterChef. (N)	Young Sheldon	Young Sheldon	Neighbor	Neighbor	Neighbor	Neighbor	Neighbor	Neighbor	
CABLE CHANNELS																					
LIFE	23	113	108	252	Castle "Recoil"	Castle "Reality Star Struck"	Castle "Target"	Castle "Hunt"	Castle "Scared to Death"	(05) Castle "The Wild Rover"	(05) Castle "The Wild Rover"	(05) Castle "The Wild Rover"	(05) Castle "The Wild Rover"	(05) Castle "The Wild Rover"	(05) Castle "The Wild Rover"	(05) Castle "The Wild Rover"	(05) Castle "The Wild Rover"	(05) Castle "The Wild Rover"	(05) Castle "The Wild Rover"	(05) Castle "The Wild Rover"	
FX	24	132	136	148	Movie	Free Guy (21) Jodie Comer, Joe Keery, Ryan Reynolds.	The Avengers (12) Chris Evans, Mark Ruffalo, Robert Downey Jr.	Iron Man 3 (13) Robert Downey Jr., Chris Evans, Mark Ruffalo, Robert Downey Jr.	The King of Queens	The King of Queens	The King of Queens	The King of Queens	The King of Queens	The King of Queens	The King of Queens	The King of Queens	The King of Queens	The King of Queens	The King of Queens	The King of Queens	
TVLAND	25		106	304	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond	Everybody Raymond
E!	26	142	114	236	Sweet Home	The Notebook (2004, Romance)	Rachel McAdams, James Garner, Ryan Reynolds	Sweet Home Alabama (2002, Romance)	Josh Lucas, El Nino	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	
PARMT	30		241	241	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	
ESPN	31	50	140	206	Around (N)	Pardon (N)	ESPN Films	ESPN Original Documentaries Sports	ESPN Original Documentaries Sports	ESPN Original Documentaries Sports	ESPN Original Documentaries Sports	ESPN Original Documentaries Sports	ESPN Original Documentaries Sports	ESPN Original Documentaries Sports	ESPN Original Documentaries Sports	ESPN Original Documentaries Sports	ESPN Original Documentaries Sports	ESPN Original Documentaries Sports	ESPN Original Documentaries Sports	ESPN Original Documentaries Sports	
ESPN2	32	54	143	209	NFL Live (N)	Around (N)	Pardon (N)	Wm. Volleyball Florida at Georgia Tech (L) (N)	Wm. Volleyball Houston at Texas (L) (N)	NFL Live	NFL Live	NFL Live	NFL Live	NFL Live	NFL Live	NFL Live	NFL Live	NFL Live	NFL Live	NFL Live	
FSMW	33		418	671	(4:00) MLB Baseball	Golf Life	Cardinals Insider	Cardinals	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at St. Louis Cardinals	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at St. Louis Cardinals	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at St. Louis Cardinals	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at St. Louis Cardinals	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at St. Louis Cardinals	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at St. Louis Cardinals	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at St. Louis Cardinals	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at St. Louis Cardinals	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at St. Louis Cardinals	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at St. Louis Cardinals	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at St. Louis Cardinals	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at St. Louis Cardinals	
USA	34	133	105	242	Law-SVU "Counselor, It's Chinatown"	Law-SVU "Can't Be Held Accountable"	Law-SVU "Must Be Held Accountable"	The Fast and the Furious (2001, Action)	Paul Walker, Michelle Rodriguez, Vin Diesel.	2 Fast 2 Furious (2003, Action)	Tyrese Gibson, Eva Mendes, Paul Walker.	Secrets "Archaeology at Althorp"	Amanpour and Company (N)	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Tokyo"	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Tokyo"	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Tokyo"	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Tokyo"	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Tokyo"	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Tokyo"	Nature "Big Bend: The Wild Frontier of Tokyo"	
DISC	35	72	182	278	Expedition X "What Lurks in Loch Ness"	Expedition X "The Madhouse"	Expedition X "Trapped in the Asylum"	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	
TLC	36	73	183	280	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	Untold Stories of ER	
HST	37	77	120	269	Force One	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam
ABC	39	134	118	265	Savoring Paris (2024, Romance)	Stanley Weber, Ben Wiggins, Bethany Joy Lenz.	Split (2016, Thriller)	Anya Taylor-Joy, Betty Buckley.	Halloween Kills (2021, Horror)	Judy Greer, Anthony Michael Hall, Jamie Lee Curtis. (P)	The Ark "Cycle of Violence" (N)	Jeepers Creepers 3 (2017, Horror)	Stan Shaw, Gina Philips, Jonathan Breck.	Beauty and the Beast (2017, Children)	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam
HALL	40	117	185	312	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"
SYFY	41	135	122	244	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang
TBS	43	130	139	247	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"	Supernatural "Good Intentions"
AMC	45		131	254	Goodfellas	The Departed (2006, Thriller)	Matt Damon, Jack Nicholson, Leonardo DiCaprio.	Blow (2001, Crime Story)	Penelope Cruz, Franka Potente, Johnny Depp. (P)	Donnie Brasco (1997) Al Pacino.	Donnie Brasco (1997) Al Pacino.	Donnie Brasco (1997) Al Pacino.	Donnie Brasco (1997) Al Pacino.	Donnie Brasco (1997) Al Pacino.	Donnie Brasco (1997) Al Pacino.	Donnie Brasco (1997) Al Pacino.	Donnie Brasco (1997) Al Pacino.	Donnie Brasco (1997) Al Pacino.	Donnie Brasco (1997) Al Pacino.	Donnie Brasco (1997) Al Pacino.	Donnie Brasco (1997) Al Pacino.
COM	47	107	249	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced
FS1	48	64	150	219	Speak Jay Taylor, Keyshawn Johnson and Paul Pierce discuss the biggest sports topics of the day.	On Balance (L)	Cuomo (L) (N)	Dan Abrams Live (L) (N)	Banfield (L) (N)	Cuomo	NCSI	NCSI	NCSI	NCSI	NCSI	NCSI	NCSI	NCSI	NCSI	NCSI	NCSI
WE	53		307	260	Vargas Report (L) (N)	The Hill (L) (N)	NCIS "Marine Down"	NCIS "Left for Dead"	NCIS "Eye Spy"	NCIS	NCSI	NCSI	NCSI	NCSI	NCSI	NCSI	NCSI	NCSI	NCSI	NCSI	NCSI
WGN	57		128	260	NCIS "Sub Rosa"	NCIS	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games
FOOD	59	153	110	231	Guy's Grocery Games	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA
BRavo	60	140	129	237	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar LA
NICK	68		170	299	SpongeBob	Fairly Odd	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob
DISN	69	30	172	290	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey	Bluey
FREEFORM	70	32	180	311	The Other Woman (2014, Romance)	Leslie Mann, Kate Steenburgh, Sandra Bullock.	The Proposal (2009, Romance)	Ryan Reynolds, Mary McCormack, Sandra Bullock.	Superman Returns (2006, Adventure)	Catherine Bos											

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

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

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Difficulty: ★★★

9/11

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.

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Tuesday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY

Cash 5 — 10-20-23-29-37
Cash4Life — 01-02-14-21-32, Cash Ball: 03
Quick Draw Midday — 01-03-05-16-20-21-26-30-37-39-40-47-50-66-69-72-73-74-76-78, BE: 21
Daily Three-Midday — 09-06-08, SB: 09
Daily Three-Evening — 07-09-09, SB: 08
Daily Four-Midday — 01-09-04-03, SB: 09
Daily Four-Evening — 05-01-07-07, SB: 08
Quick Draw Evening — 04-05-07-15-23-26-32-34-38-39-40-41-45-49-51-5-56-66-69-72, BE: 56
Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$21.2 million

MEGA MILLIONS

01-02-16-24-66; Mega Ball: 06; Megaplier: 4X.
POWERBALL
Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$134 million

LINE CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINES:

Monday editions: Friday by 4 p.m.; Tuesday-Friday editions: day-before by 3:30 p.m.; Saturdays: Friday by 11:30 a.m.

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Public Notices

STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF WELLS)
IN THE WELLS)
CIRCUIT COURT)
CAUSE NUMBER:)
90C01-2407-JC-000024

IN THE MATTER OF:
HM - DOB 5/20/2022
A CHILD ALLEGED TO BE
A CHILD IN NEED OF SERVICES
AND
GAGE KIDWELL (ALLEGED FATHER)
KATIE MCAFFEE (MOTHER) AND
ANY UNKNOWN ALLEGED FATHERS

SUMMONS FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION & NOTICE OF CHILD IN NEED OF SERVICES HEARING

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

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Judge of the Wells Circuit Court, 102 Market Street, Bluffton, IN 46714 - 260-824-6485 for a(n) Fact Finding/Disposition on 10/31/2024 at 1:00 PM.

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

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

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

Beth Davis
Clerk
Holly N Smith, 31840-49
Attorney, Indiana Department of Child Services
c/o Wells Co DCS
221 W Market St
Bluffton, IN 46714
Office: 260-824-3530
nb 9/11, 9/18, 9/25
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STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF WELLS)
IN THE WELLS)
CIRCUIT COURT)
CAUSE NUMBER:)
90C01-2407-JC-000023

IN THE MATTER OF:
GM - DOB 12/10/2020
A CHILD ALLEGED TO BE
A CHILD IN NEED OF SERVICES
AND
JASON KING (ALLEGED FATHER)
KATIE MCAFFEE (BIOLOGICAL MOTHER) AND
ANY UNKNOWN ALLEGED FATHERS

SUMMONS FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION & NOTICE OF CHILD IN NEED OF SERVICES HEARING

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

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Beth Davis
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Holly N Smith, 31840-49
Attorney, Indiana Department of Child Services
c/o Wells Co DCS
221 W Market St
Bluffton, IN 46714
Office: 260-824-3530
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This Week's Garage Sales

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3 SALES - 1520, 1703 & 1725 Sutton Circle Dr., Bluffton. Antiques, Collectibles, Boys 3T-5T, Toys, Christmas, Household, Lot of Misc. Sept. 12th & 13th 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

HUGE END OF season garage sale Sept. 13 & 14, 8-4, 4900 W 200 S, Liberty Center. Chest freezer, furniture, 2 dryers, puzzles, wedding decorations, kids & adult clothes, toys, new water softener, wicker furniture, doors & windows, exercise equipment & misc.

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Declassified memo sheds light on Ethel Rosenberg's Cold War spy case

By ERIC TUCKER
Associated Press
 WASHINGTON (AP) — A top U.S. government codebreaker who decrypted secret Soviet communications during the Cold War concluded that Ethel Rosenberg knew about her husband's activities but "did not engage in the work herself," according to a recently declassified memo that her sons say proves their mother was not a spy and should lead to her exoneration in the sensational 1950s atomic espionage case.

The previously unreported assessment written days after Rosenberg's arrest and shown to The Associated Press adds to the questions about the criminal case against Rosenberg, who along with her husband, Julius, was put to death in 1953 after being convicted of conspiring to steal secrets about the atomic bomb for the Soviet Union.

The couple maintained their innocence until the end, and their sons, Robert and Michael Meeropol, have worked for decades to establish that their mother was falsely implicated in spying. The brothers consider the memo a smoking gun and are urging President Joe Biden to issue a formal proclamation saying she was wrongly convicted and executed.

Historians have long regarded Julius Rosenberg as a Soviet spy. But questions about Ethel Rosenberg's role have simmered for years, dividing those who side with the Meeropols and say she had zero role in espionage from some historians who contend there's evidence she supported her husband's activities.

The handwritten memo from Meredith Gardner, a

linguist and codebreaker for what later became known as the National Security Agency, cites decrypted Soviet communications in concluding that Ethel Rosenberg knew about Julius' espionage work "but that due to ill health she did not engage in the work herself."

Ethel Rosenberg went on trial with her husband months after the memo was written despite Gardner's assessment, which the Meeropols believe would have been available to FBI and Justice Department officials investigating and prosecuting the case.

"This puts it on both sides of the Atlantic — in other words, both the KGB and the NSA ended up agreeing that Ethel was not a spy," Robert Meeropol said in an interview. "And so we have a situation in which a mother of two young children was executed as a master atomic spy when she wasn't a spy at all."

The Meeropols recently obtained the Aug. 22, 1950, memo from the NSA through a Freedom of Information Act request and provided it to the AP.

"This piece of documentation, juxtaposing my father's work with her not doing the work, it seems to me nails it," Michael Meeropol said.

Secretive findings

The document was written more than a week after Ethel Rosenberg's arrest — her husband was arrested a month earlier — presumably to summarize what was known about a Soviet spy ring operating in the U.S. at the height of the Cold War and associated with the development of the atomic bomb.

It refers to Julius Rosenberg, who worked as a civil engineer, by his Soviet code

names — first "Antenna" and later "Liberal" — and characterizes him as a recruiting agent for Soviet intelligence.

In a separate paragraph titled, "Mrs. Julius Rosenberg," Gardner describes a decoded message as saying Ethel Rosenberg was a "party member" and "devoted wife" who knew of her husband's work but didn't engage in it.

Harvey Klehr, a now-retired Emory University historian, said this week that the memo notwithstanding, his position is that Ethel Rosenberg conspired to commit espionage even if she did not spy herself or have access to classified information.

"Ethel may not have been a spy — that is, she might not have actually passed on classified information — but she was an active participant in her husband's spy network, not just someone who happened to agree with her husband about politics," Klehr wrote in a 2021 piece for Mosaic Magazine.

Another historian, Mark Kramer of Harvard University, said this week that the interpretation of the Rus-

sian communication was debatable and that in any event other documents contain "damning evidence" of Ethel Rosenberg's involvement in spying, and her participation in tasks, even "if she was not directly participating in the way Julius Rosenberg was."

The Meeropols adamantly dispute that, insisting the evidence is clear that the Soviets never considered their mother an asset and that she had no role in recruiting spies or assisting her husband's espionage.

A brother's account

The memo is the latest information that Ethel Rosenberg's supporters say casts doubt on her criminal conviction and the narrative of her as a spy. For instance, previously deciphered Soviet cables showed that she, unlike her husband, was not given a code name. The Meeropols also point to a separate memo from Gardner stating Ethel Rosenberg did "not work," a presumed reference to espionage.

In a 2001 television interview, Ethel Rosenberg's brother, David Greenglass, acknowledged that he lied

on the stand about his sister to assure leniency for himself and keep his wife out of prison so she could care for their two children. A fellow communist sympathizer, he was indicted as a co-conspirator and served 10 years in prison.

In 2015, secret grand jury testimony from Greenglass was unsealed that contradicted damaging statements he made during the Rosenbergs' trial that helped secure their convictions.

Greenglass claimed at trial that he had given the Rosenbergs research data he obtained while working as an Army machinist at the Los Alamos, New Mexico, headquarters of the Manhattan Project, where the first atomic weapons were produced. He also said he

recalled seeing his sister using a portable typewriter at the Rosenbergs' apartment to type up handwritten notes to give to the Soviets.

But in his grand jury testimony, which a judge unsealed after Greenglass' 2014 death in response to a request from historians and archivists, he never implicated his sister.

Greenglass told the grand jury that Julius Rosenberg was adamant he should stick with his Army service so Greenglass could "continue giving him information." But when Greenglass was asked whether his sister was similarly insistent, he replied, "I said before, and say it again, honestly, this is a fact: I never spoke to my sister about this at all."

Inflation-adjusted incomes rebounded to pre-pandemic levels in '23

WASHINGTON (AP) — The inflation-adjusted median income of U.S. households rebounded last year to roughly its 2019 level, overcoming the biggest price spike in four decades to restore most Americans' purchasing power.

The proportion of Americans living in poverty also fell slightly last year, to 11.1%, from 11.5% in 2022. But the ratio of women's median earnings to men's widened for the first time in more than two decades as men's income rose more than women's in 2023.

The latest data came Tuesday in an annual report from the Census Bureau, which said the median household income, adjusted for inflation, rose 4% to \$80,610 in 2023, up from \$77,450 in 2022. It was the first increase since 2019, and is essentially unchanged from that year's figure of \$81,210, officials said. (The median income figure is the point at which half the population is above and half below and is less distorted by extreme incomes than the average.)

"We are back to that pre-COVID peak that we experienced," said Liana Fox, assistant division chief in the Social, Economic and Housing Statistics Division at the Census Bureau.

The figures could become a talking point in the presidential campaign if Vice President Kamala Harris were to point to them as evidence that Americans' financial health has largely recovered after inflation peaked at 9.1% in 2022. On Wednesday, economists predict that the government will report that inflation fell from 2.9% in July to 2.6% in August. The Federal Reserve, whose target level for inflation is 2%, is poised to start cutting interest rates next week.

Public Sale Calendar

BIDDING ENDS SEPTEMBER 14 - Online Only Personal Property - Gregory Brandt living trust, seller. Horizon 210 Four Winn speed boat, 2007 Yamaha jet ski, pontoon boat with trailer, life jackets, towables, Detro dump trailer, Crown forklift, Cyclone leaf vacuum system, tools, Craftsman riding lawn mower, furniture, bikes, household & much more! Sale manager Brandon Steffen, 260-710-5684, Steffen Group Real Estate & Auctions, 260-426-0633, steffengrp.com.

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

SEPTEMBER 15-22 - 2 p.m. - (Online Only) - Estate of Jeffrey W. Brown, seller. Collectible vehicles, (3) 1967 Dodge Darts, 1971 Dodge Challenger, 1967 Cornet R/T, 1988 Ford Ranger, Dune Buggy, Chop Top Baja Beetle, 1991 JD 670 diesel tractor, Allis Chalmers tractor, John Deere 640 tractor, pull type mower, riding lawn mowers, Mopar parts, automotive parts, name brand shop & power tools, air operated tools, automotive shop supplies, chain saws, assorted hardware, lawn & garden, aluminum fishing boat, log splitter, antique furniture, collectibles, Hot Wheels, beer signs, more. Preview Sept. 12 & 19 from 3-6 p.m., 7271 N 300 W-90, Markle. Sale managers Pat Carter, 260-273-8294, Brandon Steffen, 260-710-5684, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.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. Rick Johnloz, 260-827-8181, Emma Barr, 260-494-0992, Jason Johnloz, 260-273-9177, *Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management*, halderman.com, 800-424-2324.

SEPTEMBER 22-SEPTEMBER 29 - 2 p.m. - (Online Only Personal Property Auction) - The Estate of Elizabeth Ann (Carter) Aeschliman, seller. 2004 Lexus 4-door sedan, exceptionally clean modern furniture, patio furniture, collectibles, home interior decor items, various holiday decorations, household, lawn & garden, tools, much more. Preview: Sept. 19, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Sept. 26 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 406 Goldenrod Ct., Bluffton, IN. Sale manager Pat Carter, 260-273-8294, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, www.steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

SEPTEMBER 23-SEPTEMBER 30 - (Online Only) - Various consignors, seller. Firearms consisting of Springfield, Hopkins & Allen, Colt, Browning, Stevens, Glock, Winchester. Open House Sept. 28 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., 215 E Market St, Bluffton, IN. Sale manager, Isaac Stoller, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.com.

SEPTEMBER 24 - 2 p.m.-6 p.m. ET - Online - Don A. Heckber, farm. Property location: 11648 N SR 1 Ossian, 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, rickj@halderman.com, Jason Johnloz, jasonj@halderman.com, 260-273-9177, *Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management*, 800-424-2324, halderman.com.

SEPTEMBER 24 - 9 a.m.-6 p.m. - Online Only - The Estate of Jeffrey Brown. Two story country home situated on 2.41+/- acre lot with 2 outbuildings totaling 866 SF, Wells County. This 1,876 SF home features 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 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. Sale managers Brandon Steffen, 260-710-5684, Pat Carter, 260-273-8294, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

SEPTEMBER 24-OCTOBER 1 - (Online Only) - Grover, seller. Tractor, mower, tools, woodworking, primitives. Open House Sept. 28 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., 8726 S 600 W-90, Warren, IN. Sale manager, Isaac Stoller, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-824-

3006, www.steffengrp.com.

SEPTEMBER 25 - 9 a.m.-6 p.m. - Online Only - The Estate of Jeffrey Brown. 9.27+/- acre prime building site in Union Twp., Northern Wells County. Property features open land, wooded acreage, 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., 1200 N (Scott Street) and Marzane Rd. - TBD, Zanesville, IN. Sale managers Brandon Steffen, 260-710-5684, Pat Carter, 260-273-8294, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-824-3006, steffengrp.com.

BIDDING NOW OPEN & STARTS CLOSING SEPTEMBER 29 - 6 p.m. EST - Max & Vivian Minnich, owners. Online only real estate auction! Five bedroom, 1 full bath, 2,178 sq. feet home, hardwood floors throughout, full basement, 2 car detached garage, 20'x42' pole barn, 2,055 acres, Marion Township, Allen County, Indiana, East Allen County School Corporation. Auction preview Sept. 16, 5-6 p.m. or by appointment, 13045 Wayne Trace, Hoagland. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.

SEPTEMBER 29-OCTOBER 6 - (Online Only) - The Estate of Wayne E. Penrod, seller. Artifacts, tools, furniture, household. Open house Oct. 5 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., 69 W 1st St., Poneto, IN. Sale manager, Isaac Stoller, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.com.

OCTOBER 2 - 6 p.m. - Ruby Johnson, Brant Johnson, owner. Auction location: Lighted Gardens Reception Hall, 10794 N. State Road 1, Ossian. Property location: 14631 Smith Rd., Yoder. 48+/- acres offered in 4 tracts and combinations. Productive tillable land, excellent road frontage and access along Smith Rd., 2,400+ sq. ft. sprawling brick ranch home on full basement with 20x30 outbuilding, Allen County. Inspection Sept. 16, 5-7 p.m. Auction manager Jared Sipe, 260-750-1553, *Schrader Real Estate and Auction of Fort Wayne, SchraderFortWayne.com*, 866-340-0445.

OCTOBER 5-OCTOBER 12 - Private Family Collection, sellers. Fine art work including William P. Silva oil paintings, 2006 Pontiac Torrent, 2005 Toyota highlander, sterling silver, primitive and early American antique furniture, country primitives; glassware, early collectibles. Open houses Oct. 8 and Oct. 10 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 102 S. Jefferson St., Ossian, IN. Rod Fetters, sale manager, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, www.steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

OCTOBER 12 - 6 p.m. - (Online Only) - The Estate of Robert McNabb, seller. Spectacular 7,700 SF lake front home on 1.32 acres w/200' of lake frontage on Hamilton Lake. Luxury home features 5 bedrooms, 7 baths, expansive entertaining space, 4-car attached garage. Selling absolute at or above 1.4 million dollars. Seller's have over 4.5 million invested in this one of kind lake property. Open houses Sept. 21, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Oct. 1, 5-7 p.m., Oct. 12, 9 a.m.-noon, 1180 LN 150 Hamilton Lake, Hamilton, IN. Brandon Steffen, sale manager, 260-426-0633, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, www.steffengrp.com.

OCTOBER 13-OCTOBER 20 - (Online Only) - The Estate of Larry N. Curry, seller. 1997 Chevy Express Conversion van, 2013 Chevy Impala with 73,000 miles, John Deere LA115 riding lawn mower, rare Schwinn bikes, tools, furniture, household. Open houses Oct. 15 and Oct. 17 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 419 W. Roe St., Ossian. Rod Fetters, sale manager, *The Steffen Group*, www.steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

OCTOBER 24 - (Online Only) - The Estate of Larry N. Curry, seller. Excellent 1,400 SF, three bedroom, 2 bath ranch home in Rose Ann Heights on 1/2 acre lot. This home has a ton of potential. "Explore the Possibilities." Open houses: Oct. 15, Oct. 17 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Oct. 22 from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., 419 W. Roe St., Ossian. Brandon Steffen and Rod Fetters, sale managers, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 824-3006, www.steffengrp.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.*, 260-724-3499, heartlandauctionrealty.com.