

# The News - Banner

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

BLUFFTON, INDIANA • Wells County's Hometown Connection

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## Johnson delays vote on funding

Speaker postpones vote on a bill to avoid a partial government shutdown

By KEVIN FREKING  
WASHINGTON (AP) — Speaker Mike Johnson postponed a vote Wednesday on a temporary spending bill that would keep federal agencies and programs funded for six months as opposition from both parties thwarted his first attempt at avoiding a partial government shutdown in three weeks.

The legislation to continue government funding when the new budget year begins on Oct. 1 includes a requirement that people registering to vote must provide proof of citizenship. Johnson, R-La., signaled that he was not backing off linking the two main components of the bill.

“No vote today because we’re in the consensus building business here in Congress. With small majorities, that’s what you do,” Johnson told reporters. “We’re having thoughtful conversations, family conversations within the Republican conference and I believe we’ll get there.”

Congress needs to pass a stop-gap spending bill before Oct. 1 to avoid a federal shutdown just weeks before the election. The

(Continued on Page 2)



### A walk of honor and a Patriot Day breakfast

Bluffton High School celebrated first responders with a breakfast Wednesday morning. Above, the students celebrated the group by forming a tunnel for them to walk through. In front, from left to right, are Bluffton Police Chief Kyle Randall, Wells County Sheriff Scott Holliday, Bluffton Deputy Chief Andrew Ellis and Wells County Chief Deputy Randy Steele. Police Officer Jason Baker and 911 Director Mike Miller are also pictured. At right, Jessica Curtis, left and Lonnie Biberstein talk with other first responders. (Photos by Jonathan Snyder)



## Thousands in the dark as Hurricane Francine strikes

MORGAN CITY, La. (AP) — Hurricane Francine slammed into the Louisiana coast Wednesday evening as a dangerous Category 2 storm that knocked out electricity to more than a quarter-million customers and threatened widespread flooding as it sent a potentially deadly storm surge rushing inland along the Gulf Coast.

Francine crashed ashore in Terrebonne Parish, about 30 miles (50 kilometers) southwest of Morgan City, the National Hurricane Center announced at 4 p.m. CDT. Packing top sustained winds near 100 mph (155 kph), the hurricane then battered a fragile coastal region that hasn’t fully recovered from a series of devastating hurricanes in 2020 and 2021.

Morgan City Fire Chief Alvin Cockerham said the hurricane quickly flooded streets, snapped power lines and sent tree limbs crashing down.

“It’s a little bit worse than what I expected to be honest with you,” Cockerham said of the onslaught. “I pulled all my trucks back to the station. It’s too dangerous to be out there in this.”

There were no immediate reports of deaths or injuries.

TV news broadcasts from coastal communities showed waves from nearby lakes, rivers and Gulf waters thrashing sea walls. Water

poured into city streets amid blinding downpours. Oak and cypress trees leaned in the high winds, and some utility poles swayed back and forth. As Francine continued its trek inland, it spread drenching rains over New Orleans and surrounding areas, raising flooding fears.

Power outages in Louisiana topped 261,000 hours after landfall, spread widely across southeast Louisiana. Blackouts affected the majority of homes and businesses in coastal parishes nearest where the storm came ashore as well as their inland neighbors, according to the tracking site power-outage.us.

Sheltering at her mother’s home just outside Morgan City, Laura Leftwich said blasts of wind had swept away two large birdhouses outside. She had a generator powering an internet connection so she could video chat with friends, holding her computer to a window to show them water overflowing in the street.

If the storm had been any more intense, “I wouldn’t have the guts to look outside,” said Leftwich, 40. “It’s a little scary.”

The National Hurricane Center urged residents to stay sheltered overnight as the weakening hurricane churned inland. The storm’s projected path included

(Continued on Page 2)



### Here comes the fun

Units of this year’s edition of the Bluffton Free Street Fair began arriving in town Wednesday afternoon. Poor Jack’s Amusements are utilizing the city lot on West Spring Street to stage the equipment and rides that will begin setting up early Monday morning. The fair officially begins with the opening night parade Tuesday evening. (News-Banner photos)



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### Outside



Enjoy another sunny September day

Today	Friday	Saturday
High 87	High 82	High 84
Low 60	Low 62	Low 63

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Vol. 95 No. 266

THURSDAY  
September 12, 2024

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# 'Par & Below' to open Monday

Golf simulator business will be in Villa North Plaza

By JONATHAN SNYDER

A new golf simulator business is opening next to Tyeger's Pizza at 927 North Main St. in Bluffton

The new venue, called Par and Below, is owned by John Beeks and Craig Cantwell. Their love for golf led them down the path of opening a simulator venue, with Beeks stating that the simulators are an emerging market.

"I've always thought that Bluffton needed something else fun to do for families," Beeks said. "I enjoy golfing, and I've got friends that enjoy golfing, and so we thought that would work. The simulator business is kind of an emerging market so ... I threw it out to Craig, and he thought that was a great idea."

The simulators offer approximately 1,200 courses to play on, with official courses from across the world rendered into the simulators. Beeks stated that the simulators come with an impact screen, a projector and a high speed camera. The projector creates a realistic image of the course, and the high speed camera calculates the movement of both the club and the ball. The calculated path of the ball is then relayed on the screen to show where the ball would have landed if it was hit on the actual course.

"The higher quality simulators like ours create a very accurate simulation of what a golfer would normally see while they're hitting balls," Beeks said. "If you duff it, it's going to show a duff. So it's very vivid. It gives you that feeling that you're right there on a golf course."

Cantwell also stated that the simulators also offer realistic conditions. Players can choose to play in extremely windy and rainy conditions should they choose.

Par and Below offers five

simulator booths in total, three open booths and two private booths. Companies or other parties can rent out both private rooms for events and celebrations. The venue will also offer drinks and small snacks that the public can enjoy while they are golfing.

Parties that rent over two hours of play time are allowed to bring food into the facility, but there will be an extra charge for it. The snacks will be small, offering chips, pretzels, peanuts and other smaller foods. Par and Below is focusing on ensuring the simulators are maintained well and keeping the necessities available.

"Right now, we just want to focus on providing the golf and the basic necessities for golf," Beeks said.

In the future, Beeks and Cantwell stated their interest in partnering with golf coaches to help people improve their swing. The golf coaches would then use one of the private booths to teach and improve the mentee's swing. Beeks also wants to partner with the local courses to grow the game, so that other venues can benefit from the simulator's opening.

"We don't want them (other courses) to see us as competition, but as a partner in golf," Beeks said. "Together, we want to grow that love for the game. They're going to benefit from us just the same as we benefit from them. That relationship is something that we want to be a success."

Beeks stated that golfers can book the venue 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Tee times can be booked on the venue's website at [www.parandbelow.com](http://www.parandbelow.com). Golf leagues will open in October with mens, womens, seniors, scramble and couples leagues available.

"We do want to grow



Top photo: the lounge area is where golfers can wait for their tee times. The simulator screens can display one of about 1,200 courses from around the world. (Photos by Jonathan Snyder)

golf in the community," Beeks said. "When we get into our mission statement ... the first thing is to give our community something fun to do where they can

build shared experiences with friends and family. And then the second part of that is we want to grow golf in our community."

[jonathan@news-banner.com](mailto:jonathan@news-banner.com)

## Johnson delays

(Continued from Page 1)  
measure had been teed up for a vote on Wednesday afternoon, but Democrats are overwhelmingly opposed and enough Republicans had voiced opposition to raise serious doubts about whether the measure would pass.

The stopgap bill would generally continue existing funding through March 28. The GOP opponents of the bill argue that it continues spending at levels they consider excessive. And some Republicans simply won't vote for any continuing resolution, arguing that Congress

must return to passing its 12 annual spending bills separately rather than through the one or two catchall bills that have become the norm in recent decades.

Despite the dim prospects for the bill, Johnson had said just the day before he would push ahead with the vote. He has embraced concerns that some of the migrants who have entered the country at the U.S.-Mexico border in recent years could swing the elections, though it's illegal for noncitizens to vote and research has shown that such voting is extremely rare.

## Thousands in dark

(Continued from Page 1)  
New Orleans, where forecasters said the storm's eye could pass through.

The sixth named storm of the Atlantic hurricane season, Francine drew fuel from exceedingly warm Gulf of Mexico waters, strengthening to a Category 2 storm with winds exceeding 96 mph (155 kph) hours in the hours before landfall.

Still dangerous, the storm began weakening as it rushed inland. Three hours after landfall it barely remained a hurricane, with top sustained winds down to 75 mph (120 kph). Francine was moving northeast at a fast clip of 17 mph (28 kph) on a path toward New Orleans, about 50 miles (80 kilometers) away.

It was forecast to weaken further while pushing northward through Mississippi on Thursday, with widespread rains in the coming days bringing potential flash flooding to cities including Jackson, Mississippi; Birmingham, Alabama; Memphis, Tennessee; and Atlanta. It also raised the threat of spin-off tornadoes.

Much of Louisiana and Mississippi could get 4 to 8 inches (10 to 20 centimeters) of rain, with the possibility of 12 inches (30 centimeters) in some spots, said Brad Reinhart, a senior hurricane specialist at the hurricane center.

Louisiana Gov. Jeff Landry said the National Guard would fan out to parishes impacted by Francine.



Bluffton High School Tiger Football hosts Woodlan Friday for this year's Fall Festival. At halftime, a Fall Festival queen and king will be crowned. Members of this year's Senior Court are: (front row, left to right) Averi Petty, Isabella Stout and Elycia Herrada; (back row from left) Tavin Frees, Gabe Ball and Cameron Williams. (Photo provided)

## Weather

Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2024  
(24-hour observations at 10:28 p.m. Wednesday)  
High: 86; Low: 55; Precipitation: None  
Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.11 feet at 7:45 p.m. Wednesdayday

## Wells County forecast

**Thursday:** Sunny, with a high near 87. East wind 5 to 10 mph.  
**Thursday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 60. East wind 5 to 10 mph.  
**Friday:** Mostly cloudy, with a high near 82. East wind 5 to 10 mph.  
**Friday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 62. East wind around 5 mph.  
**Saturday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 84.  
**Saturday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 63.  
**Sunday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 84.  
**Sunday Night:** A 20% chance of showers after 2am. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 61.  
**Monday:** A 10% chance of showers before 8 a.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 83.  
**Monday Night:** A 20% chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 61.  
**Tuesday:** A 20% chance of showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 82.  
**Tuesday Night:** A slight chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 61.  
**Wednesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 80.

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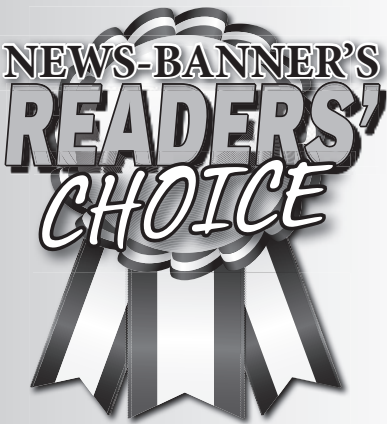
**ONLINE ONLY LAND AUCTION**  
9.27 ACRES IN NORTHERN WELLS COUNTY  
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PROPERTY LOCATION: 1200 N AND MARZANE RD. - TBD, ZANESVILLE, IN 46799

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OBITUARIES

**Jerry Andrews, 69**

Jerry Lee Andrews, 69, of Decatur, passed away on Sunday, Sept. 8, 2024 at Adams Woodcrest. Jerry was born in Decatur on April 25, 1955, to the late Noel and Frances (Smith) Andrews.

Jerry worked as a laborer for Franklin Electric/Weg in Bluffton for 43.5 years, retiring in 2020. He was an avid hunter, fisherman, archer and loved the outdoors. He was a big fan of the Green Bay Packers.

Jerry was a founding member of the Ouabache Archer's, a member of the Indiana Bowhunter's Association, and an instructor for Bowhunter Education Classes, along with volunteering where ever he could help. He also mentored anyone who wanted to hunt, fish or learn archery by devoting countless hours sharing his wisdom and talents with anyone from children to adults.

He is survived by his son, Jeremy (Kim) Andrews of Decatur; his daughter, Jennifer (Jeremy) Gerber of Goshen; a sister, Carolyn Meyer of Plainfield; three grandchildren, Andrew (Alexandria Wiesman) Gerber, Hannah Gerber and Henry Andrews.

Jerry was preceded in death by a brother, Albert Andrews.

Memorial visitation will be from 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, 2024, at Salem Magley Church in Decatur, followed by a 4 p.m. funeral service with Pastor Rocky Evans officiating.

Burial will be in Decatur Cemetery at a later date. Preferred memorials are to Hunt of a Lifetime.

Arrangements were entrusted to Haggard-Hirschky & Zelt Funeral Home.



# Indiana Supreme Court sets Dec. 18 execution date for Joseph Corcoran

By NIKI KELLY  
Indiana Capital Chronicle

The Indiana Supreme Court on Wednesday set a Dec. 18 execution date for a Fort Wayne quadruple murderer, but said he has other legal options to try to block the resumption of the death penalty in Indiana.

Joseph Corcoran's attorneys have argued that he should not be executed because he is "unquestionably seriously mentally ill," and that killing him would violate the Eighth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution as cruel and unusual punishment.

Corcoran's mental health has been a part of the decades-old case since its inception, with state and federal public defenders saying he continues to suffer from paranoid schizophrenia that causes him to experience "persistent hallucinations and delusions."

In a 5-0 decision, the court said it could consider previously undiscovered evidence but not past evidence of mental illness.

In 1999, a jury unanimously found Corcoran guilty of four counts of murder for killing his brother, James Corcoran; his sister's fiancé, Robert Scott Turner; and their two friends, Timothy Bricker and Douglas Stillwell. The jury recommended a death sentence, and that's what the Allen Superior Court imposed.

Corcoran's sentence has been upheld multiple times by state and federal courts.

The court said Corcoran does have other options, including raising claims of newly discovered evidence; filing a successive petition for post-conviction relief or filing a civil lawsuit to challenge the execution protocol.

But, until then, the court said, "the only issue properly before us is our administrative task" — to set an execution date.

That's Dec. 18, before the hour of sunrise.

Indiana's last execution was in 2009. Since then, the state has effec-

tively been forced to pause the death penalty. Increased scrutiny of lethal injection drugs led pharmaceutical companies to refuse to sell their products for use in executions.

It wasn't until June that Gov. Eric Holcomb, along with Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita, announced that the state's Department of Correction has obtained pentobarbital to carry out the death penalty.

It is unclear how the state obtained the pentobarbital. The governor's office has declined to say where the drug was acquired, citing state law. Lawmakers made information about the source of the drugs confidential on the last day of the 2017 legislative session.

Although no state-level executions in Indiana have used pentobarbital before, 13 federal executions carried out at the Federal Correctional Complex in Terre Haute have been carried out with the drug. Fourteen states have used pentobarbital in executions, too.

**Jane Searles, 72**

Jane Ann Searles, 72, of Bluffton, passed away on Friday evening, Sept. 6, 2024, at Parkview Regional Medical Center.

She was born on July 11, 1952, in Fort Wayne to Paul E. and Marjorie Lee (Joy) Breisch. A Bluffton High School graduate, Jane worked at Corning Glass, Keebler's, TI Automotive, and for the City of Bluffton in the wastewater office. She was an active part of the board that did the design and installation of the Angel of Hope Park in Bluffton. Jane was a longtime member of Mt. Etna United Methodist Church and recently a member the First Church of Christ in Bluffton.

On Sept. 9, 1972, in Mt. Etna, Jane and Ray L. Searles were married.

Survivors include her husband of 52 years, Ray L. Searles of Bluffton and children, Renea Searles of Fort Wayne, Travis (Kristi) Searles of Uniondale, and stepdaughter Amy Hedrick (Angela) of Mishawaka. Jane was a fun and loving grandma who enjoyed taking her family and grandchildren to the State Park: Kaleb, Rylee, Judah, Jax Searles, Caleb and Austin Geimer, Ismail and Mohammed Nashwan and Erin and Bryar Hedrick. She is also survived by a brother, Bill Breisch (Dawn), and twin sisters, Connie (Mike) Love of Van Buren and Bonnie (Mike) Foreman of Portland.

Jane is preceded in death by her parents, a grandson, Lathan Searles and two brothers, Rick and J. Breisch.

A celebration of life gathering will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 19, 2024, at the First Church of Christ in Bluffton.

Memorials may be made in Jane's memory to the First Church of Christ.

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



## Police Notebook

**INCIDENTS**

**City:**

Tuesday, 2:27 p.m., residence on Pine Grove Court. Report of harassing messages.

Tuesday, 4:33 p.m., Super-Puff. Report of verbal altercation between employees outside. Officer told there was a fire alarm, and a manager and employee had gotten into a verbal altercation when the employee had tried to leave.

Tuesday, 5:26 p.m., Hardees. Caller reported their vehicle was rear-ended.

Wednesday, 10:30 a.m., 200 block of North Oak Street. Trail cam stolen.

**County:**

Tuesday, 12:24 p.m., 7500 North S.R. 1, Ossian. Report of accident, driver did not stop.

Tuesday, 12:38 p.m., Fast Pace, Bluffton. Vehicle from previous accident was located, officer parked behind vehicle where the driver then backed up into the police vehicle.

Tuesday, 12:53 p.m., 11000 North Marzane Road, Markle. Caller complained of neighbor having a campfire every day since July.

Tuesday, 3:30 p.m., Wells County Jail. Protective order served to Stephen Butt.

Tuesday, 11:06 p.m., Ossian Subway. Driver

arrested for driving without a license.

Wednesday, 9:38 a.m., Wells County Courthouse. Subject detained after sentencing.

Wednesday, 10:37 a.m., Wells County Jail. Served warrant to Ella Gerardot.

**ARRESTS**

Edwin Urius Munos, 23, Fort Wayne; operating without ever obtaining a license, a Class C misdemeanor. Bond set at \$500.

Mason Lee Thompson, 19, Ossian; minor in possession of an alcoholic beverage, a Class C misdemeanor. Booked and released.

Mackenzie Ann Dykes, 19, Ossian; minor in possession of an alcoholic beverage, a Class C misdemeanor. Booked and released.

Tyler George Neff, 19, Fort Wayne; minor in possession of an alcoholic beverage, a Class C misdemeanor. Booked and released.

Isaac James Shawver, 30, Fort Wayne; operating a vehicle while intoxicated — endangerment, a Class A

misdemeanor. Bond set at \$1,500.

Alonso Isaias Zavala Lopez, 20, Bluffton; minor in possession of an alcoholic beverage, a Class C misdemeanor. Booked and released.

Travis Daniel Miller, 34, Zanesville; operating a vehicle while intoxicated — endangerment, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond set at \$1,500.

Elizabeth Ann Dorn, 32, Ossian; possession of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor, and possession of paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor. Booked and released.

**ACCIDENTS**

Tuesday, 12:24 p.m., S.R. 1. Larry Crayton, 30, Fort Wayne, was performing duties as an Amazon delivery driver with his Ram Pro-Master 3500 Van pulled off the side of the road. Sheldon Smith, 36, Berne, collided with Crayton's vehicle with his Ford Transit Van. Both mirrors were broken off. Smith did not stop for the

accident. No injuries. Damages did not exceed \$5,000.

Tuesday, 12:38 p.m., 1000 North Main Street. Sheldon Smith, 36, Berne, was backing up in the parking lot when his Ford Transit Van, which was involved in a previous incident that afternoon, backed into a police-issued Dodge Durango driven by Geoffrey Gilbert, 52, Bluffton. No injuries. Damages did not exceed \$10,000.

**FIRES**

Wednesday, 1:38 p.m., 10585 N 300 W, Markle. Grass fire.

**VISITATION & SERVICES**

**Constance (Connie) Joan Nichter**  
Calling: 10 - 11 a.m. Friday, September 13 at St. Joseph Catholic Church.  
Mass: 11 a.m. Friday, September 13 at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

**Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home**  
308 W. Washington St.  
824-3850  
www.thomarich.com

# Indiana judge rules against abortion providers fighting ban

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — An Indiana county judge ruled Wednesday against abortion providers who are seeking to broaden access to the procedure under the near-total ban state lawmakers passed after the U.S. Supreme Court ended federal protections in 2022.

The providers — including the regional Planned Parenthood affiliate — had sought a permanent injunction to expand the near-total ban's medical exemptions and to block its requirement that abortions can only be performed at hospitals.

Judge Kelsey Blake Hanlon, who conducted a three-day bench trial in late May in southern Indiana's Monroe County, denied the providers' request for the permanent injunction against both elements of the state's law, known as S.B. 1.

"Significant and compelling evidence regarding the policy implications of S.B. 1 and its effect on medical professionals in particular was presented. However, the Court cannot substitute its own policy preferences for that of the Indiana General Assembly," wrote Hanlon, an elected Republican from a different county who was appointed as a special judge in the case.

Indiana became the first state to enact tighter restrictions after the U.S. Supreme Court ended federal abortion protections by overturning Roe v. Wade in June 2022. Rare exceptions to the near-total ban include when the health or life of the mother is at risk as well as in cases of rape, incest and lethal fetal anomalies in limited circumstances.

The Indiana Supreme

Court upheld the state's ban in June 2023, ending a broader legal challenge brought by the same plaintiffs, but said the state's constitution protects a women's right to an abortion when her life or health is at risk.

Indiana's clinics stopped providing abortions ahead of the ban officially taking effect in August 2023.

The providers said that the ban's exceptions for protecting health are written so narrowly that in practice, many doctors won't end a pregnancy even when a woman's condition qualifies under the statute. The state defended the statute and said it sufficiently protects women when health complications arise in pregnancy.

When asked Wednesday if they plan to appeal the ruling, the plaintiffs said they "are still evaluating all options."

The Planned Parenthood Federation of America said in a joint statement with the ACLU of Indiana and other plaintiffs that the court's ruling means "lives will continue to be endangered by Indiana's abortion ban."

"Already, Hoosiers with serious health complications have been forced to endure unjustifiable suffering

due to miscarriages, ectopic pregnancies, and other pregnancy-related issues or leave the state to access appropriate care," the statement said.

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita praised the judge's ruling Wednesday. "Indiana's pro-life law is both reasonable and constitutional, and we're pleased the Monroe County Circuit Court upheld it," he said in a statement.

Planned Parenthood and the ACLU of Indiana did not immediately respond Wednesday to requests for comment on the ruling.

In a 50-page order, Hanlon said providers gave hypothetical scenarios but did not identify a situation where the health and life exemption or the hospital requirement prevented a woman from obtaining an abortion.

Hanlon agreed with the state's argument that the health and life exemption constitutionally protects pregnant patients with "serious health risks," but acknowledged the ill-defined standard has been challenging for physicians in a "politically charged environment" and under the threat of criminal liability.

## 2024 BLUFFTON Street Fair

Sept 17-21

### "Passport to Fun"

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**  
7pm - Grand Opening Parade  
Grand Marshal: Erin Prible

**WED, SEPT 18**  
5:45pm - Antique Tractor Parade  
6pm - Antique & Classic Car Parade  
6:15pm - High School Band Parade

**THURS, SEPT 19**  
6pm - Industrial Parade

**WEDNESDAY**  
12-5:30 pm - Antique & Classic Car Show - Along S. Main  
7-8:30 pm - Music-Community Worship Night Band - Stage

**THURSDAY**  
8-10 pm - Free Concert - Whoa, Man! - Stage

**FRIDAY**  
7-9 pm - FNX Wrestling - Stage

**SATURDAY**  
11 am - Diaper Derby- Baby crawl Race - Stage  
11:15 pm - OPTIMIST Tractor Pull - 3-7 Year old - W Washington  
11:30 pm - Kids Big Wheel Race- 6-8 Year old - W Washington  
6-8 pm - STREET FAIR IDOL - Main Event - Stage  
9 pm - CONCERT: The Ultimate Garth Brooks Tribute - Stage

For a Complete Schedule, Watch for the Special Section in the News-Banner on Monday, September 16th.

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all others take 3 or 4 tickets

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SATURDAY: \$18 - Unlimited Rides 11am - 5pm  
\$30 - Unlimited Rides 5pm - Close

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## Horrible memories of a horrible day



**Doug Brown**

Sept. 11 anniversaries seem to come around faster and faster every year. For no apparent reason this one hit harder than most.

Tuesday evening, Larisa, our friend John and I were sitting on our patio chatting about our health and how long we would hold on to it. That led to discussion about our parents, both living and dead. Lots of laughter, tears and reflection.

I often think of the words Jim Valvano, the former basketball coach for North Carolina State, spoke shortly before he died of cancer. He gave us three simple keys. “Number one is laugh. You should laugh every day. Number two is think, you should spend some time in thought. And number three is you should have your emotions moved to tears ... If you laugh, you think and you cry, that’s a full day. That’s a heck of a day.”

Truer words were never spoken.

Yesterday I listened to 9/11 tributes on the radio during my morning commute. Still in my mind set from the night before, it hit me.

It had been years since I relived the morning of Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2001. I was in charge of production at the Columbia City newspaper and we had an early morning press time.

Halfway through the run, our editor, Ruth, called to tell me a plane had hit the World Trade Center. I thought it was a joke. Ruth directed me to put her on hold and turn on the TV, which I did just in time to see the second plane hit.

We put Tuesday’s newspaper together the night before so Ruth wasn’t in the office but was on her way. The entire office was huddled around a tiny TV in the conference room. Many were crying. Our vending machine guy, Mark, was in the back corner watching events unfold with us. At some point we decided it was time to rebuild that day’s newspaper and get back on the press. Events were changing minute by minute but we couldn’t wait for the day to slow down. A newspaper is said to be the first draft of history and it was time to get moving on that draft. Everyone wiped their tears, bottled up their emotions and got to work — it was a mad dash to get that newspaper printed.

I vividly remember watching Mark, still sitting there alone, trying to process the events in New York and the additional chaos of our newsroom in full-bore production mode.

Once the newspaper was back on the press. We weren’t exactly sure what to do next. I remember sitting by myself in complete silence for quite a while. Eventually it was time for each of us to flip the switch and process our emotions like the rest of the country.

Back to yesterday, I realized that I hadn’t spoken to Ruth in years. Time slips away from you so easily. I sent her and our then-publisher, BJ, a text letting them know about how I was feeling and how much I appreciated working through such a traumatic event with both of them.

They had many of the same memories. Ruth noted that she had to keep her emotions in check while she sorted through hundreds of photos for the newspaper, trying not to see the humanity, but still seeing it. She did not remember Mark being there at all. It’s interesting how such a trivial detail stood out so vividly to me, but didn’t register at all with her.

BJ told me that each year he feels it as though it just happened. That singular event has forever bound that group together.

He is right. I feel the same. Coworkers have come and gone but that specific group has always been special to me as well. I never put those two things together until yesterday.

Reaching out to a few of them was the best medicine for me on such a somber occasion.

That 24 hour period this week was a full day. It was a heck of a day.

dough@news-banner.com

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- Drop-off: 125 N. Johnson St., Bluffton

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

## Today in History

**By The Associated Press**

Today is Thursday, Sept. 12, the 256th day of 2024. There are 110 days left in the year.

Today’s highlight in history: On Sept. 12, 2013, Voyager 1, launched 36 years earlier, became the first man-made spacecraft ever to leave the solar system.

Also on this date:

In 1857, the S.S. Central America (also known as the “Ship of Gold”) sank off the coast of South Carolina after sailing into a hurricane in one of the worst maritime disasters in American history; 425 people were killed and thousands of pounds of gold sank with the ship to the bottom of the ocean.

In 1940, the Lascaux cave paintings, estimated to be 17,000 years old, were discovered in southwestern France.

In 1958, the U.S. Supreme Court, in Cooper v. Aaron, unanimously ruled that Arkansas officials who were resisting public school desegregation orders

could not disregard the high court’s rulings.

In 1959, the Soviet Union launched its Luna 2 space probe, which made a crash landing on the moon.

In 1962, in a speech at Rice University in Houston, President John F. Kennedy reaffirmed his support for the manned space program, declaring: “We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard.”

In 1977, South African Black student leader and anti-apartheid activist Steve Biko, 30, died while in police custody, triggering an international outcry.

In 1994, truck driver Frank Eugene Corder piloted a stolen single-engine Cessna airplane into restricted airspace in Washington, D.C., and crashed it into the South Lawn of the White House.

In 2003, in the Iraqi city of Fallujah, U.S. forces mistakenly opened fire on vehicles carrying police, killing eight of them.

## “POLITICS MAKES STRANGE BEDFELLOWS” Hall-of-Fame



## Key state polls: Another mess in the making?

Who is leading the presidential race in the seven states considered most critical to victory in 2024: Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, North Carolina, Georgia, Arizona and Nevada?

The answer is we don’t really know. If you look at the RealClearPolitics average of state polls, you’ll see that Pennsylvania is exactly tied between Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump; in Michigan, Harris is up by 1.2 points; in Wisconsin, Harris is up 1.5 points; in North Carolina, Trump is up by 0.1 points; in Georgia, Trump is up by 0.3 points; in Arizona, Trump is up by 1.6 points; and in Nevada, Harris is up by 0.6 points.

Obviously, all those numbers are within the polls’ margins of error. So anyone who cites them is advised to be cautious. But even more caution is called for when you look at the performance of state polls in the 2020 presidential election.

The purpose of a polling average is to avoid some of the errors of individual polls by grouping a bunch of them together. So instead of looking at one or two particularly accurate or terrible polls, look at how the group performed. But some averages are better than others, and all can be wrong if the underlying polls they include are wrong. The following numbers from the 2020 race were compiled in a new article from the liberal Brookings Institution and apply to two of the averages, RealClearPolitics and FiveThirtyEight.

In Pennsylvania in 2020, the final RealClearPolitics average had Joe Biden up by 1.2 points. The FiveThirtyEight average had Biden up by 4.7 points. The final result was Biden winning by 1.2 points — exactly what the RealClearPolitics average said. You can’t get better than that. On the other hand, FiveThirtyEight was pretty far off.

In Michigan, the final RealClearPolitics average had Biden leading by 1.5 points, while the FiveThirtyEight average had Biden up by 7.9 points. The final result was Biden winning by 2.7 points — OK for RealClearPolitics but again way off for FiveThirtyEight.

In Wisconsin, the final RealClearPolitics average had Biden up by 6 points, while FiveThirtyEight had Biden up by 8.4 points. The final result? Biden won by 0.7 points. Both averages were terribly wrong, although FiveThirtyEight was more terribly wrong than RealClearPolitics. Both averages were polluted

by a late-in-the-race Washington Post-ABC News poll that showed Biden leading by 17 points. It was the kind of error that should make pollsters retire in embarrassment. In any event, it contributed to a really inaccurate average of a critical state’s polls before the election.

In North Carolina, the final RealClearPolitics average had Trump leading by 0.2 points, while the FiveThirtyEight average had Biden up by 1.8 points. The final result was Trump winning by 1.4 points. Neither average was miles off, except the FiveThirtyEight average got the winning candidate wrong.

In Georgia, the final RealClearPolitics average had Trump leading by 1.0 points, while the FiveThirtyEight average had Biden up by 1.2 points. The final result was Biden winning by 0.9 points — quite close for FiveThirtyEight, while the RealClearPolitics average got the winner wrong.

In Arizona, the final RealClearPolitics average had Biden up by 0.9 points, while the final FiveThirtyEight average had Biden leading by 2.6 points. The final result was Biden winning by 0.6 points.

Finally, in Nevada, the final RealClearPolitics average had Biden leading by 2.4 points, while the final FiveThirtyEight average had Biden up by 5.3 points. The final result was Biden winning by 2.4 points — another exact hit for RealClearPolitics but significantly off for FiveThirtyEight.

In the end, according to the Brookings calculation, the combined RealClearPolitics average missed a state’s final result by an average of 1.1 points, while the combined FiveThirtyEight average missed the final result by 2.1 points. (After all this, you can see why my column relies on the RealClearPolitics average, and not others, in analyzing various races.)

Now look at those numbers and apply them to today’s Harris-Trump race in the same seven states. Almost all of the poll averages are closer than the average error, even in the more accurate RealClearPolitics average and certainly in the less accurate FiveThirtyEight average. There’s just no safe way to say who is leading right now, much less who will win in November.

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**Byron York**

## Paper wasps and pollen balls

What does a honeybee do with pollen it collects for transporting back to the hive? It sticks it to its legs until globules form so large it must return to a hive to “door dash” its pollen delivery.

Flecks of pollen get caught in hairs all over the busy little bee. As it moves from one blossom to the next, pollen gets inadvertently deposited on necessary parts of the flowers. This activity provides the necessary element for the plant to reproduce. It’s the cycle of nature where fauna helps flora, and vice versa. It’s a fundamental aspect of reproduction in nature.

“Elementary, my dear Watson.” Easy for Sherlock to say.

Pollen and nectar are two words for the same item, right? “Wrong, Watson.”

Powder-like pollen from a plant’s male unmentionable part (stamen) needs to be transferred to the female part (pistil) for reproduction via producing seeds. Our pollinator insect friends help keep the landscape colorful and the breezes aromatic.

Former Wells County iris hybridizers, E.B. Williamson, Mary Williamson, Paul Cook, and the yet living award-winning hybridizers, Roger and Lynda Miller, now living in Oregon, all used this concept to move pollen from one variety to a specific different plant. They intentionally attempted the creation of a new variation of both.

Ironically, E.B. was criticized for gathering “mixed pollen” in small pill boxes to variety on the pistils of another select variety to create something new and exciting. His method more resembled the honeybee

## Angelkeep Journals

hybridizer’s mixed pollen, God’s plan. The natural method brings surprises, often pleasant joy.

Sweet nectar produced via photosynthesis by a plant attracts pollinators. Bees dine on it for needed energy. Any excess remains in their stomachs where it turns to watery honey. They place the diluted honey in comb cells. Workers wing-fan it to rid it of water. Presto. Via the magic of “barf” comes honey.

Bees mix nectar and pollen with saliva to create bee bread used to feed their Queen and bee larvae. Angelkeep loves its equivalent of cornbread slathered with honey butter.

“Elementary my dear Watson.” “I say, my dear Watson, has the maestro-newspaperman, Mark Miller, ever had a digression cover half a weekly column? Is this maximum-digression a first?”

What’s a pollen ball? Finally, Angelkeep writes of a subject in the headline. Pollen balls, or pellets, which to some look like saddle bags hanging on a bees’ hind legs, are the pollen-saliva mix intended as carry-out fast food to others in the hive. Bees load shopping carts (corbicula) with half again its own weight before flying hitherward.

Angelkeep observed a paper wasp resting on a bean leaf. Hanging from its mouth (mandibles) was a sight previously unseen. A yellow sphere.



**Alan Daugherty**

It appeared the wasp had stolen a wad of pollen from the leg of a bee. Angelkeep deduced, “that can’t be right.” Research begets knowledge.

“The Sign of Four,” my dear Watson.” Observation, deduction, and knowledge.

Google directed Angelkeep’s query to the “backyardnature” website. Angelkeep loves backyard nature. It seemed a proper place for enlightenment.

Backyard posted paper wasp pics holding yellow orbs that resembled the one in Angelkeep’s back yard. Apparently wasp species preyed on arthropod larvae. Backyard admitted its deductions only being “suspected” since scientific studies were as yet unpublished. Backyard thought the yellow objects were “meatballs” consisting of compacted caterpillar sections. A suspected intent involved placing meatballs in nest cells as food for eventual wasp larvae. Backyard’s author concluded “since the caterpillars probably are eating the trees’ leaves, this wasp nest may be of great service to the forest surrounding it.”

Backyard’s wasp nest received an attack by an enormous swarm of army ants. Cells were torn asunder and all larvae and pupae plundered. As it turned out his paper wasp with the yellow meatball had been photographed in Mexico.

Was Angelkeep’s paper wasp with a yellow meatball actually one entering the United States illegally? Or did the paper wasp have legitimate immigration papers?

“It’s yet a quandary, my dear Watson.”

Mr. Daugherty is a Wells County resident who, along with his wife Gwen, enjoy their backyard and have named it “Angelkeep.”

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**1,000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN**



Several children recently completed the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Program at the Wells County Public Library by reading and listening to 1,000 books with the help of family members. (Photos provided)

At left, Demi Fate (holding her prize book in the middle) is pictured with siblings, Zoie and Nico, and mom Kaylie.



At right, Mason and Emerson Dodge (holding their prize books "Welcome" and "Color Zoo") are pictured with their brother Jackson, mom Sarah, big sister Addison, and dad Mikael.



At left, Elijah Christman (holding his prize book "Peter and the Wolf") is pictured with his sisters Makayla and Mackenzie, brother Levi, and his parents, Mallory and Brian.



At right, Wade Moore (holding his prize book "Animals Living in Groups") is pictured with his brother Cooper, parents Trent and Caylyne, and sister McKenna.



At left, Laurel Kershner (holding her prize book "Color Zoo") is pictured with her mom Taylor.

The 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program is sponsored by the United Way of Wells County, the Wells County Foundation and the Friends of the Library. The program not only helps prepare children for school, but instills the value of reading and life-long learning. For more information visit the Wells County Public Library's website at [wellscolibrary.org](http://wellscolibrary.org) and click on the "Children" section.

**Harvest Festival at Salomon Farm Park**

Harvest Festival, a two day celebration of the American farm, will be held at Fort Wayne's Salomon Farm Park on Sept. 27 and 28. Admission is free with parking being \$5. Food, flowers, pumpkins, pony rides and face painting available for purchase. There

will be wagon rides, a children's maze and Barrel Train rides. Demonstrations include wheat threshing, saw mill, corn shredding and rock crushing. Hours on Saturday are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



**Ossian Class of 1962 luncheon**

The Ossian High School Class of 1962 had a luncheon in August at the Tavern at Coventry. Classmates attending in front row from left, Steve Venton, John Roembke and Rex Somers. Back row from left, Becky (Benson) Mawhorter, Lani (White) Mahnen-smith and Lois (Hillsmier) Northrup. (Photo submitted)

**Concerts on FW's Sweet Breeze**

A series of concerts are being offered on Fort Wayne's canal boat Sweet Breeze. Light refreshments are included.

The schedule includes:  
 • Dan Dickerson of Harp Condition & flautist Amber Fiechter: Saturday, Sept. 14; and  
 • The Raging Bunch: Saturday, Oct. 12.

Tickets may be purchased online at [ridesweetbreeze.com](http://ridesweetbreeze.com) or call 2260-427-6000.

**Swinney Homestead**

On Sept. 21 and 22 the Swinney Homestead Settler's Pioneer Village will be set up at the Johnny Applesed Festival in Fort Wayne. Entrance to the festival is free. Costumed Settlers will be demonstrating a variety of historic hand arts, life skills and music. Hours on Saturday are from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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# Rivera's wacky goal leads Bulldogs over the injury riddled Knights in soccer

By RYAN WALKER

Injuries crept up on the Norwell Knights yet again.

Three key players on the boys' soccer team caused the team's fifth-straight loss, falling 3-1 at New Haven in conference play Wednesday night.

Both teams were looking to get up off the mat in the Northeast 8 clash. Norwell's 4-4 record was once 4-0 to start the year (now 0-3 NE8), and New Haven holding a 1-4 record.

The Bulldogs, now 2-4, drilled the match's first goal just two minutes in by striker Leonardo Diaz. They controlled possession for the next 18 minutes, but Norwell, down three of its players, picked up the pace.

A few good stretches of possession turned into chances, and finally Zane Borne knotted things up at one goal apiece with 7:40 remaining in the first half.

It was tied 1-1 at the break, and the Knights seemingly caught up with their opponent to have a standing chance.

After Norwell's 4-0 record to open the season, it's been a whirlwind. Starting defender Camden Fisher went down with an injury that will sideline him for most of the season. Forward Noah Schamerloh is also out for an extended period and was supposed to be an X-factor on offense this season.

On top of those two, goaltender Philip Gaier was out due to illness. All three are important chunks to the team at all three levels from offense to defense.

The past two games have been the most frustrating for head coach Kiel Nunn, when the Knights fell to Belmont and Jay County 4-2. Parts of the first half and most of the second half on Wednesday were a positive though for Nunn.

"We're starting to find those pieces," Nunn said. "We've had about five or six different lineups trying to find what's going to work. I think that's what it comes down to is finding ourselves. When we play who we are and we pass and we possess that ball in

the middle, then we're fine. It's just when we get frustrated and we get out of sorts, then we kind of give up possessions."

The score remained tied for another 20 minutes. Both schools exchanged attempts at each goaltender, but both, including first-time goalie Jase Harmon for Norwell, stood firm.

That was until one of the worst possible ways to score happened.

New Haven's Oscar Rivera from in front of midfield sent the ball soaring into the air toward the net. For it to be called an intentional shot would be a long shot, but more so an arching pass. The ball was struck well and carried all the way to the top of the net, where it slid through the outstretched hands of Harmon and tucked away to the back of the net.

The Bulldogs cheered in astonishment at the goal after 23 minutes of hard work.

"That was a killer. It really was," Nunn said. "It was a dagger because of the time that it happened later in the second half ... (Harmon) did what he could, he's not in his normal position."

Norwell wouldn't have much of a chance after that, and credit to New Haven's quick and pesky defense playing keep away.

With 10 seconds remaining, Diaz netted his second goal of the night for the official dagger to even their conference record to 2-2.

Right now, Nunn is just trying to duct tape players together and compete at a high level in the time being. The game at New Haven showed that they are a talented group, but are looking forward to getting back to full strength when the Knights were 4-0.

"I think if I'm really honest with our guys, there's probably two losses that I'm not happy with, but I get it," Nunn said. "But the other two, we were just trying to figure out who we are, and I think we're slowly starting to figure that out."

Norwell will be at Bishop Luers at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12.

ryan@news-banner.com



New Haven's Leonardo Diaz (left) plays keepaway from Norwell defender Connor Reed Wednesday night at the Bulldog's home turf field. The Bulldogs ran away from the Knights to win 3-1 with Diaz's two goals. (Photos by Ryan Walker)



Knights' Asher Knell (right) presents the ball to Bulldogs' Oscar Rivera during the match. Rivera got the go-ahead goal late in the second half to seal the victory.



Southern Wells' Logan Leas, Rylan Leas, Chase Kirkwood, Colten Fiechter all pose post-race with their ribbons won for their performances at Wednesday night's race with Eastbrook. The top five finishers all came from the Raiders. (Photo submitted)

## Sports Roundup

### Knights shut out Bulldogs in Northeast 8 girls' soccer

Norwell crushed the visiting New Haven Bulldogs 9-0 in girls' soccer Wednesday night.

The Knights have now won four in a row, improving to a 6-4 record and 2-2 in Northeast 8 Conference play.

Grace Mann led the team with a hat trick and one assist. Karrigan Melcher, Kayleigh Hartup, Shae Brooks, Olivia Daniel, Elise Boomershine and Madison Mashuda all had one goal each. Other assists were by Maggie Neuenschwander and Ridley Sheets.

Abby Wagner, Neuenschwander and Garner all pitched the shut out as goalies.

Norwell will be at East Noble at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 16.

### Lions squeeze out girls' golf win over Knights

Norwell was barely defeated by Leo in girls golf, tying 194-194 but losing in the tiebreaker at Timber Ridge on Wednesday.

The tiebreaker went to the fifth golfer's score, and it was Annah Saylor topping Jordyn Schroyer by three strokes.

Savanna Simerman split the medalist honors with Leo's Alexa Bremer with 43s. The rest of the Knights were Ellie Gattton (47), Emma Burnau (51), Jessica Bynum (53) and Schroyer (58).

Norwell and Bluffton will meet at Timber Ridge next at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12.

### Tigers swept by Chargers in home boys' tennis match

Bluffton fell in boys' tennis at home against Carroll 5-0 on Wednesday.

The Tigers fall to 6-2 on the season.

#### Individual results:

- Andrew Jamison defeated Nolan Lambert 6-0, 6-0 at No. 1 singles.
- Tim Croft defeated Anthony Hartman 6-1, 6-1 at No. 2 singles.
- Alex Sznaza defeated Jacob Ribich 4-6, 6-3, (10-8) at No. 3 singles.
- Sam Nietert and Sam Mettler defeated Ben Maggard and Coy Lantz 7-6 (7-5), 6-2 at No. 1 doubles.
- Alex Holley and Jack Jones defeated Kade Abbett and Dane Schlagenhauf 6-4, 6-2 at No. 2 doubles.

Bluffton also fell in the junior varsity match 7-1.

#### Results for JV:

- Reid Abbett (B) defeated Joe Peterson 8-0.
- Boston Smith and Ethan Rattcliff defeated Alex Maggard and Lance Moser 8-6.
- Aidan Trier and Brodey Edsall defeated Jed Logan/ and Jackson Meyer 8-2.
- Porter Johnson and Thomas Barker defeated Lincoln Rodgers and Braden Lemler 8-4.
- Jasper Dolleni and Jack Hatfield defeated Grant Reifsteck and Graham Linderwell 8-4.
- Aidan Trier and Brodey Edsall defeated Jared Moser and Jace Draper 8-2.
- Porter Johnson and Thomas Barker defeated Chase Houser and Carter Williams 8-0.

• Jasper Dolleni and Jack Hatfield defeated Carter Lehman and Kenny Mercer 8-3.

Bluffton will start ACAC conference play at Jay County starting at 5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12.

### Knights topped by Barons in NE8 boys' tennis match

Norwell fell 4-1 to DeKalb in Northeast 8 Conference play in boys' tennis at home on Wednesday.

The loss puts the Knights' record to 5-4 on the season.

#### Individual results:

- Oliver Derrow (D) defeated Gavin Reynolds 6-0, 6-1 at No. 1 singles.
- Braylon Troutt (N) defeated Luke Seiler 6-1, 6-1 at No. 2 singles.
- Wyatt Knepper (D) defeated Landon Diver 6-2, 6-3 at No. 3 singles.
- Logan Hartsough and David Burton (D) defeated Eddie Archbold and Ayden Quintanilla 6-3, 6-4 at No. 1 doubles.
- Kayden Palumbo and Will Arney (D) defeated Rylan Heyerly and Ethan Williamson 7-5, 7-5 at No. 2 doubles.

Norwell won the junior varsity match 4-1 as well.

#### Results for JV:

- Dylan Randol and Levi White (N) defeated Bryce Page and Luke Kressler 6-4.
- Liam Schattler (D) defeated Ryan Ewing 6-1.
- Nolan Snyder (D) defeated Greyson Chavis 7-6, 7-5.
- Liam Schattler (D) defeated Jesper Kreigh 6-3.
- Bryce Page and Luke Keesler (D) defeated Carter DeWeese and Brady Watkins 6-3.
- Norwell will be at Belmont at 4 :30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12.

### Norseman defeat Knights in volleyball

Norwell's volleyball team fell on the road to Northfield in four sets Wednesday night.

The Knights fell by scores of 23-25, 25-16, 20-25 and 23-25. They're now an even 7-7 on the season.

Stat leaders: Mekynzi Beck with nine kills (Jaycie Grzych eight), Autumn Lee five aces and 16 digs, Emma Vachon 27 assists and Izzy Anderson three blocks.

Norwell swept the junior varsity match 2-0 (25-16, 25-22).

Norwell will be at Blackford at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12.

### Raiders split dual meet with Panthers in middle school XC

Southern Wells' junior high cross country teams ran in a dual meet with Eastbrook on Wednesday.

The boys' team had a perfect score, winning 15-46 over the Panthers. The top five finishers for the Raiders were Logan Leas, Rylan Leas, Chase Kirkwood, Colten Fiechter and Logan Rogers. Vance Mounsey and Rhett Tucker also finished in the top 10.

The girls fell in the race. Vance Aubree Neuenschwander placed second, while Tenley Fiechter, Grace Rogers and Parker Bryant finished in the top ten.

(Continued on Page 7)

## High School Calendar

#### 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 Belmont, 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.

Packers aren't ruling out QB Jordan Love for Colts game even as backup prepares to start

By STEVE MEGARGEЕ AP Sports Writer GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — Green Bay Packers coach Matt LaFleur still isn't ruling out the possibility Jordan Love could play Sunday against the Indianapolis Colts as the quarterback recovers from a knee injury that has kept him from practicing.

Love injured his left medial collateral ligament Friday on the third-to-last play of the Packers' season-opening 34-29 loss to the Philadelphia Eagles in Brazil. LaFleur said Love doesn't necessarily have to practice this week to be ready to play in Sunday's game.

"But at the same time, like I told you guys, he's got to be cleared," LaFleur said. "We've got to feel like he can protect himself, and he's got to be confident enough to go out there and do that. Until that happens, we are not even going to think about that."

While Love continues his recovery, Malik Willis is preparing for the likelihood he will start a game for Green Bay less than three weeks after the Packers acquired him from the Tennessee Titans.

Willis was asked Wednesday how much of the playbook he knows.

"I'm not sure I'd put a percentage on it," Willis said. "Just trying to, whatever we have in each day, try to come in, diagnose it, study it the night before and be able to go out there and execute."

LaFleur compared the situation to his 2018 stint as Tennessee's offensive coordinator, when the Titans turned to Blaine Gabbert after starting quarterback Marcus Mariota got injured in the season opener.

At least in that instance, Gabbert had been with the Titans throughout training camp. The Packers just added Willis in a trade that was finalized Aug. 27.

Willis' only three previous career starts came as a rookie with Tennessee in 2022. The Titans went 1-2 in those games, and Willis didn't top 100 yards passing in any of them.

He went 6 of 10 for 55 yards with an interception in a 17-10 victory at Houston, a game in which Tennessee attempted only one pass after halftime. He was 5 of 16 for 80 yards with no touchdown passes or interceptions in a 20-17 overtime loss at Kansas City. And he was 14 of 23 for 99 yards with two interceptions and no touchdown passes in a 19-14 home loss to the Texans.

"I wasn't ready yet, but I had to go in," Willis said Wednesday of that rookie experience. "I'm a different player than then."

Willis said he has learned plenty since and is more prepared for this second chance to start. Willis credits the way he worked last year while appearing in only three games as a reserve.

"You just prepare until you get an opportunity," said Willis, a 2022 third-round pick from Liberty. "That's the way this league works. You've got guys like Taylor Heinicke, you've got guys all over the league that have been in positions where they weren't starting or they weren't playing, and they just continued to work and work and work. And when they get the opportunity, they can put something good on tape. That's all you want to do, is put something good on tape for yourself and the opportunity to go out and perform the best that you can."

The Titans deemed Willis expendable after Mason Rudolph beat him out for the right to back up Will Levis. The Packers then acquired Willis for a 2025 seventh-round pick.

Little did they know at the time how soon they'd need him.

Green Bay's receivers say they have faith in Willis. Dontayvion Wicks says he already was familiar with him because they attended nearby colleges, with Wicks at Virginia and Willis at Liberty. Jayden Reed said he was impressed once he saw Willis' passes

"That he could spin it, that was just my first thought when I first saw him throw the ball," Reed said.

The real chance to make an impression should come Sunday. Willis is working overtime trying to establish a rhythm with these teammates he's just getting to know.

"At the end of the day, the reality is I just got here, so it's going to be a little bit in overdrive, not (like) a normal week as if I've been here the whole time," Willis said. "But we're definitely going to be taking it day by day and just doing what we can each day to prepare ourselves for Sunday."

NOTES: Love was the only Packer who didn't practice at all Wednesday. CB Corey Ballentine (oblique), DL Kenny Clark (toe), RB Josh Jacobs (back) and RB MarShawn Lloyd (hamstring) were limited. Lloyd didn't play against the Eagles.

Sports Roundup

(Continued from Page 6)

Tigers dismantle Starfires in middle school football

Bluffton shut out South Adams in both eighth and seventh grade football competitions Tuesday night.

The eighth grade team won 36-0 and is now 3-0 on the season. Chase Kistler went for 181 on the ground for three touchdowns on 13 carries. Quarterback Ethan Ribich threw 4-6 for 55 yards and a touchdown. Maddox White was the recipient of three catches, going for 62 yards and a score.

Ribich also went 3-5 on extra points. On defense, Jabraylon Harner had a pick six for the Tigers. Wyatt Holmes led the way with four tackles, and three tackles each from White, Croy Stout and Kistler. That defense allowed only 34 total yards of offense on 29 plays.

In the seventh grade game, the Tigers won 34-0 and is now 2-1 on the season.

Davin Drayer rushed for 136 yards and three touchdowns on only eight attempts. Riker Beste also scored on the ground. Kreigh Ault at quarterback completed two of his three passes for 37 yards and a score. Bear Sprunger caught the touchdown pass

and had 37 yards, while Easton Schipper caught one pass for 26 yards.

Kole Kiefer went 2-3 on extra points. Maddox Kauffman had a sack and three tackles to lead the defense, while Beste had three tackles.

The defense forced the Starfires to -26 total yards on 17 plays.

Knights split in middle school football to Braves

Norwell's middle school football teams split against Belmont in football on Tuesday.

The Knights seventh grade team shut out the Braves 19-0, while the eighth grade team fell 26-14.

Knights sweep Barons in middle school volleyball

Norwell won both middle school games against DeKalb on Tuesday.

In the eighth grade match, the Knights won 2-1 (23-25, 25-11 and 15-13). The team is now 4-1 on the season.

The seventh grade team won 25-21, 25-15 in straight sets and is still an unbeaten 5-0 on the season.

Mclroy says PGA-LIV exhibition match offers glimpse of possibilities

By DOUG FERGUSON AP Golf Writer

Rory Mclroy doesn't view the made-for-TV match between stars from the PGA Tour and LIV Golf as a message, more like a glimpse of the possibilities of what can happen, and what has been missing in golf since the great divide.

Mclroy and Scottie Scheffler are playing against Brooks Koepka and Bryson DeChambeau in December in Las Vegas. The only times they have competed in the same field this year were in the four majors.

Mclroy, once a fierce opponent of Saudi-funded LIV Golf, has been bullish about finding a solution to bring the top players together more often. He has won the PGA Tour board for a year, resigned and now is part of a negotiating committee.

"It's more we wanted to do something that, I guess, all golf fans could get excited about," Mclroy said Wednesday ahead of the Irish Open. "It's a way to show golf fans in the world that this is what could happen or these are the possibilities going forward. I've been saying this for a long time. I think golf and golf fans (should) get to see us together more than four times a year."

"I think we all thought it was a good idea and something that hopefully is a sign of things to come in the future."

A flight-tracking website reported that private planes of the PGA Tour and Aramco, formally known as the Saudi Arabian Oil Co., were in the New York area, and ESPN reported more meetings between the PGA Tour and the Public Investment Fund of Saudi Arabia. Tiger Woods also was in New York, first for a charity event.

"I don't know much about the talks that are going on. I know that there is, but

that's not something that I'm a part of," Mclroy said. "I think we are all in the game of golf trying to look for a solution to all this and try to move forward."

The PGA Tour starts the fall portion of its schedule, while LIV Golf wraps up its regular season at a public course in the Chicago suburbs. Jon Rahm, who signed with LIV in December, has a slight lead in the bid for the individual title and an \$18 million bonus.

Still unclear is Rahm's status with the Ryder Cup. He is required to play four European tour events to maintain his membership — the Olympics count as one — and Rahm says he has entered the Spanish Open next week.

But he is required to pay fines for playing LIV events against European tour events.

"Still talking to the DP World Tour. I intend to play in Spain," Rahm said Wednesday ahead of LIV Golf Chicago. "We entered a long time ago. Whether they let me play or not is a different thing. I'm not a big fan of the fines. I think I've been outspoken about that. I don't intend to pay the fines, and we keep trying to have a discussion with them about how we can make this happen."

Rahm said the European tour would be doing Spanish golf a disservice by not letting him play.

The European tour said in a statement: "Jon has outstanding sanctions for breaches of the DP World Tour's conflicting tournament regulation. Until those outstanding sanctions are resolved, he is ineligible to play in a DP World Tour event."

As for the PGA Tour-LIV match in Las Vegas, Rahm said he would be happy to be part of a similar event in the future.

"I think we could do some special things having both tours," he said.

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 W L Pct GB x-New York 30 6 .833 — x-Connecticut 26 10 .722 4 x-Indiana 19 18 .514 11½ Chicago 13 23 .361 17 Atlanta 12 24 .333 18 Washington 12 24 .333 18 WESTERN CONFERENCE W L Pct GB x-Minnesota 27 9 .750 — x-Las Vegas 23 13 .639 4 x-Seattle 21 14 .600 4½ x-Phoenix 17 19 .472 10 Dallas 9 27 .250 18 Los Angeles 7 29 .194 20 x-clinched playoff spot

Thursday's Games

Colorado (Feltner 2-10) at Detroit (Skubal 16-4), 1:10 p.m. Oakland (Spence 7-9) at Houston (Valdez 14-6), 2:10 p.m. Boston (Criswell 6-4) at N.Y. Yankees (Cortes 9-10), 7:15 p.m. Tampa Bay (Peipol 8-6) at Cleveland (Williams 3-8), 7:15 p.m. Texas (Rocker 0-0) at Seattle (Miller 11-8), 9:40 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division W L Pct GB Philadelphia 88 58 .603 — New York 80 66 .548 8 Atlanta 79 67 .541 9 Washington 65 80 .448 22½ Miami 54 92 .370 34 Central Division W L Pct GB Milwaukee 83 61 .576 — Chicago 75 70 .517 8½ St. Louis 73 72 .503 10½ Cincinnati 71 76 .483 13½ Pittsburgh 70 76 .479 14 West Division W L Pct GB Los Angeles 86 59 .593 — Arizona 82 64 .562 4½ San Diego 82 64 .562 4½ San Francisco 71 74 .490 15 Colorado 54 92 .370 32½

Tuesday's Games

Detroit 11, Colorado 0 Pittsburgh 6, Miami 4 Atlanta 12, Washington 0

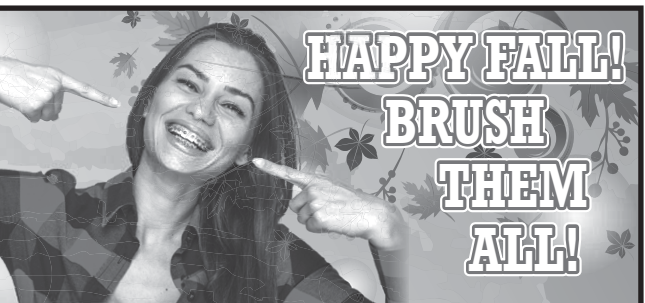
Philadelphia 9, Tampa Bay 4 Toronto 6, N.Y. Mets 2 Cincinnati 3, St. Louis 0 Milwaukee 3, San Francisco 2 Arizona 6, Texas 0 San Diego 7, Seattle 3 Chicago Cubs 6, L.A. Dodgers 3

Wednesday's Games Pittsburgh 3, Miami 1 N.Y. Mets 6, Toronto 2 Arizona 14, Texas 4 Philadelphia 3, Tampa Bay 2 Washington 5, Atlanta 1 Detroit 7, Colorado 4 St. Louis 2, Cincinnati 1 San Diego at Seattle, late Milwaukee at San Francisco, late Chicago Cubs at L.A. Dodgers, late

Thursday's Games Colorado (Feltner 2-10) at Detroit (Skubal 16-4), 1:10 p.m. Cincinnati (TBD) at St. Louis (Gray 12-9), 1:15 p.m. Miami (McCaughan 0-0) at Washington (Parker 7-9), 6:45 p.m. Milwaukee (Montas 6-10) at San Francisco (Birdsong 3-5), 9:45 p.m.

Midwest League

Midwest League Playoff Gance (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



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NASCAR CUP SERIES Go Bowling at The Glen

Site: Watkins Glen, New York. Schedule: Saturday, practice, 11:30 p.m.; qualifying, 1 p.m.; Sunday, race, 3 p.m. (USA Network). Track: Watkins Glen International. Last race: Two-time Cup Series champion Joey Logano began his try for a third title in strong fashion with a win in Atlanta and advanced him into the round of 12. Logano got a push from Team Penske teammate and defending champion Ryan Blaney on a final restart and took the checkered flag in overtime when a crash on the last lap ended the race with Logano out front. Daniel Suarez was second, Blaney third and Christopher Bell fourth.

Next race: Sept. 22, Bristol, Tennessee. NASCAR XFINITY SERIES Mission 200 at the Glen Site: Watkins Glen, New York. Schedule: Saturday, practice, 9:30 a.m.; qualifying, 10 a.m.; race, 3 p.m. (USA Network). Next race: Sept. 21, Bristol, Tennessee. NASCAR TRUCK SERIES Next race: Sept. 19, Bristol, Tennessee.

FORMULA 1 Azerbaijan Grand Prix Site: Baku, Azerbaijan. Schedule: Friday, practice 1, 5:30 a.m.; practice 2, 9 a.m.; Saturday, practice, 4:30 p.m.; qualifying, 8 a.m.; Sunday, race, 7 p.m. (ESPN). Next race: Sept. 22, Singapore.

INDYCAR Big Machine Music City Grand Prix Site: Lebanon, Tennessee. Schedule: Saturday, practice 1, 11 a.m.; qualifying, 2:15 p.m.; practice 2, 5:15 p.m.; Sunday, race, 3 p.m. (NBC). Last race: There was an unexpected winner in the Truck Series' opening playoff race with 22-year-old Layne Riggs winning his first ever race at the Milwaukee Mile three weeks ago. Riggs was not part of the 10-team playoff chase, but he held off championship contender Ty Majeski for the victory. Pep Boys NHRA Nationals, Mohnton, Pennsylvania. Next event: Sept. 20-22, Concord, North Carolina. WORLD OF OUTLAWS Nashville West Showdown, Bakersfield, CA; Federated Auto Parts Yosemite, Merced, CA. Next events: Sept. 20-21, Tulare, California.



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## EMPLOYMENT

### Help Wanted

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

**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](http://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.

## ENTRY

**NEED MORE EMPLOYEES?** Place a 20 word, line classified ad for a month for \$52. Add a graphic or photo for an additional \$5. Contact the Bluffton News-Banner office, (260) 824-0224, 125 N. Johnson St., or [www.news-banner.com](http://www.news-banner.com) and click on classifieds.

## Read & recycle

**Public Notice**  
In accordance with IC 3-11-14.5 and IC 3-11-13-22; 3-11-13-23; 3-11-13-24; 3-11-13-25; 3-11-13-26 A Public Test will be held at the Wells County Clerk's Office located at 102 W Market St. Suite 201, Bluffton, IN 46714 on October 1, 2024 at 2:00PM. This will be a test of the Electronic Voting System and the Automatic Tabulating Machine to ascertain that the machines and the components of the voting system will correctly count and tabulate the votes cast for all candidates and/or public questions for the 2024 General Election.  
Beth Davis  
Wells County Clerk  
oj, nb 9/12  
hspxlp

**NOTICE OF DETERMINATION**  
Pursuant to Indiana Code § 6-1.1-20-5, notice is hereby given that the Board of School Trustees of the Norwell Community Schools has preliminarily determined to issue bonds in one or more series in the aggregate amount not to exceed \$3,280,000 to fund the proposed renovation of and improvements to facilities throughout the School Corporation, including site improvements and the purchase of equipment, technology and buses.  
Dated: September 5, 2024  
/s/ Secretary,  
Board of School Trustees  
Norwell Community Schools  
oj, nb 9/5, 9/12  
hspxlp

## SUDOKU ANSWER

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

## Help Wanted

**BEST-ONE OF MONROE** is looking for individuals to perform tire related services as AG Tire Technicians. Duties include, but not limited to, mounting, balancing, rotating, and repairing AG Tires. This is a fast paced, strong customer service mindset and the ability to communicate with team members and customers effectively is a must. High School diploma or equivalent; valid driver's license; frequent lifting up to 75 pounds. Previous experience appreciated, but not required. Please forward resume and/or application to [HCook@bestoneofmonroe.com](mailto:HCook@bestoneofmonroe.com). We are an Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action Employer.

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## AUCTIONS

### Auctions

**414 N MERIDIAN ST. PORTLAND, IN 47371 3 RING AUCTION - SEPT. 14TH - BRICKER AUCTION HOUSE**  
Huge 3 ring auction on September 14th located at the Bricker Auction House in Portland, IN next to Wendy's. Ring 1 is live only @9:00, ring 2 is simulcast @10:00, ring 3 is live only at 11:00. Sep. 14 9:00 AM-4:00 PM Rain or Shine

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## Public Notices

**90C01-2409-EU-000028**  
STATE OF INDIANA  
} SS:  
COUNTY OF WELLS  
IN THE WELLS SUPERIOR COURT  
2024 TERM  
IN THE MATTER OF )  
THE ESTATE OF )  
STEPHEN SHAVER, )  
deceased )

**NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION**  
Notice is hereby given that Jada Haldeman was on the 9th day of September 2024, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Stephen Shaver, deceased, who died on January 20, 2024.

All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the clerk of this court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.

Dated at Bluffton, Indiana, this 9th day of September, 2024.  
Clerk, Wells Superior Court  
By Beth Davis  
Deputy

/s/ Cassee L Vivian  
Cassee L. Vivian, Attorney for Personal Representative  
221 NW Fifth Street  
Evansville, Indiana 47708  
[cassee.vivian@jacksonkelly.com](mailto:cassee.vivian@jacksonkelly.com)  
Indiana Attorney Number 35285-82  
nb 9/12, 9/19  
hspxlp

## NOTICE OF HEARING FOR BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

09/06/2024  
Notice is hereby given that the BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS will hold a Public Hearing in Conference Room 105 in the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St., in the City of Bluffton, IN at 7:00 o'clock P.M. on the 24th day of September, 2024, for the purpose of reviewing and hearing comments on the petition(s) listed below.  
1. Request of Jason & Cassandra Meyer, 208 Bittersweet Lane, Ossian, IN 46777 for the purpose of a Special Exception.  
**Current Zoning: R-1**  
**Proposed Special Exception:** To allow 2 apartments to be located within the existing structure.  
**Common Location:** The subject property is located along 10350 N SR 1, Ossian, Indiana, 46777

**Brief Legal:** The subject property is described as Lots 6-8 of D.W. Hoopinger Subdivision in the SE/4 9-28N-12E in Jefferson Township of Wells County.  
Dated this 6th day of September, 2024.

**WELLS COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**  
Michael Lautzenheiser, Jr., Director  
oj, nb 9/12  
hspxlp

## This Week's Garage Sales



**FRIDAY, SEPT. 13,** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 14, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2730 E 1050 N, Ossian. Tables, chairs, sofa, misc.

**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.

**3825 E 200 S ARNOLD/ANDERSON ANNUAL SALE** Boys Newborn-6M, 4T & 7-10. Girls 3-4T & 7-10. Womans S & M also Maternity L. Home Decor, Entertainment Center, Wingback Chairs, Wheelbarrow & Pull behind Garden wagon Sep. 13 8:00 AM-5:00 PM, Sep. 14 8:00 AM -12:00 PM Rain or Shine

**405 LINNWOOD DR. BLUFFTON MULTIFAMILY GARAGE SALE** Clothes (most \$1 or less) size 6/7 -16 Boys and girls, womens clothes, toys, games, bookshelves, metal bunkbed, something for everyone! No reasonable offer refused! Sep. 13 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, Sep. 14 9:00 AM-5:00 PM Rain or Shine

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## NOTICE OF HEARING FOR AREA PLAN COMMISSION

09/06/2024  
Notice is hereby given that the AREA PLAN COMMISSION will hold a Public Hearing in Conference Room 105 in the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St., in the City of Bluffton, IN at 7:00 o'clock P.M. on the 26th day of September, 2024, for the purpose of reviewing and hearing comments on the petition(s) listed below.

1. Request of Ian Walters, 5841 W 800 N, Markle, IN 46770 for the purpose of a Development Plan.  
**Current Zoning: A-1**  
**Proposed Development Plan:** Proposed LP Storage Tank and stone lot.

**Common Location:** The subject property is located at 5841 W 800 N, Markle, Indiana, 46770  
**Brief Legal:** The subject property is described as 30 acres in the SW/4 19-28N-11E in Union Township of Wells County.

2. Request of Chas M & Christen L Fiechter, 227 Leslie Ave., West Lafayette, IN 47906 for the purpose of a Rezoning.  
**Current Zoning: A-1**  
**Proposed Rezoning: B-3**  
**Common Location:** The subject property is located at east of 5049 N SR 1, Ossian, Indiana, 46777

**Brief Legal:** The subject property is described as 3 acres of the 64.72 acres SW/4 3-27N-12E in Lancaster Township of Wells County.

3. Request of Wells County Area Plan Commission, 223 W Washington St., Room 211, Bluffton, IN 46714 for the purpose of a Wells County Zoning Ordinance Amendment.

**Geographic Area Affected:** This potential ordinance revision affects all of Wells County, IN including incorporated areas that are under the jurisdiction of the Area Plan Commission.

**Subject Matter:** Update to the Heavy Industrial (I-2) Definition.  
**Examination of Proposal:** The proposed amendments will be available for examination at the Wells County Area Plan Commission office located at 223 Washington St. Bluffton, Indiana 46714.

**Written Objections:** Written objections to the proposal that are filed with the secretary of the commission will be heard at the public hearing.

**Oral Comment:** Oral comments on the proposal will be at the public hearing.  
**Continuation:** The public hearing can be continued from time to time as may be found necessary.

4. Request of Wells County Area Plan Commission, 223 W Washington St., Room 211, Bluffton, IN 46714 for the purpose of a Rezoning.  
**Current Zoning: A-R**  
**Proposed Rezoning: I-1**  
**Common Location:** The subject property is located at Lancaster St., Bluffton, Indiana, 46714 and is owned by Alanco Steel Products Corporation.

**Brief Legal:** The subject property is described as 34.5 acres of the 38.82 acres SW/4 33-27N-12E in Lancaster Township of Wells County.  
Dated this 6 day of September, 2024

**WELLS COUNTY AREA PLAN COMMISSION**  
Michael Lautzenheiser, Jr., Director  
oj, nb 9/12  
hspxlp

## Lottery Numbers

**Wednesday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY**  
Cash 5 — 17-32-33-35-38

**Lotto Plus — 3-13-18-31-39-42**  
**Cash4Life — 13-27-41-47-53, Cash Ball: 01**

**Quick Draw Midday — 4-5-7-9-12-13-15-17-29-31-35-41-44-46-47-49-52-54-59-69, BE: 46**  
**Daily Three-Midday — 01-03-02, SB: 02**  
**Daily Three-Evening — 5-1-2, SB: 8**

**Daily Four-Midday — 3-5-0-7, SB: 2**  
**Daily Four-Evening — 5-1-2-1, SB: 8**

**Quick Draw Evening — 2-3-6-12-32- 5-36-42-46-52-54-60-61-62-67-68-69-71-74-75, BE: 3**  
**Hoosier Lotto — 8-24-26-36-37-40**

**MEGA MILLIONS**  
Estimated jackpot (for Friday): \$20 million

**POWERBALL**  
10-12-55-65-67 Powerball: 3; Power Play: x3

## SUDOKU

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

### King Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty: ★★★

9/12

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Is my relationship doomed?

Dear Annie: My boyfriend and I have been in a relationship for 10 years. We've had a lot of trials but always managed to hold onto each other and weather the storms.

one thinks, when your entire letter says otherwise. Quit letting Kathy live rent-free in your head.

Dear Annie by Annie Lane



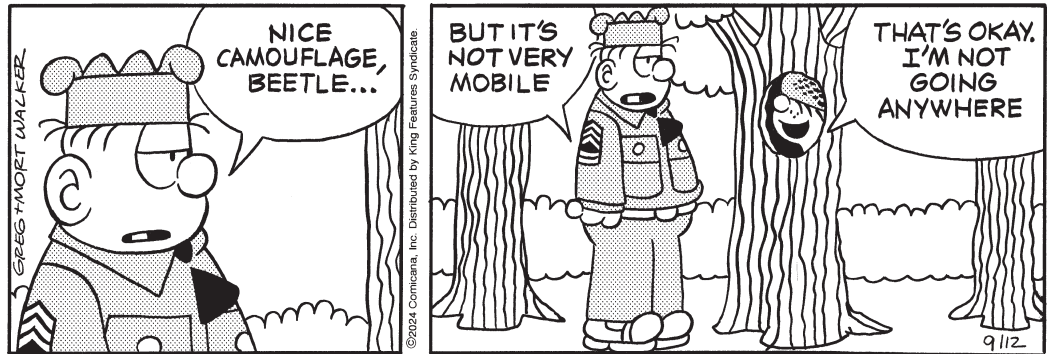
Dear Annie: I am a licensed professional counselor who has a private practice in Oklahoma. I read the letter from "Twice Bitten," who was terrified to kiss women after his last girlfriend intentionally bit his tongue just to be abusive.

Dear Guilt-Ridden: Betrayal hurts. Sometimes it inflicts wounds too deep for either partner to adequately treat on his or her own.

Dear Annie: Long story short, my husband has one sister who just thinks that she can do no wrong. "Kathy" and her husband are very strict with their kids and think we are not strict enough with ours.

Dear Big Sigh: It's interesting that you say you couldn't care less what any-

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My Answer



Suffering comes in all forms

By Dr. Billy Graham

Question: With more breakthroughs in medicine and having more knowledge than at any other time in history, why does suffering get worse instead of better? - W.S.

Answer: There's suffering in every country. People of every nationality experience untold pain. It's been like this since the beginning.

others, but all experience it because it's part of life.

Every generation sees their era as filled with the greatest despair. Nothing seems to satisfy. We are plummeting into a world where, in spite of wonder drugs and medical breakthroughs, suffering intensifies.

Without God's guidance, our response to suffering is a futile attempt to find solutions to conditions that cannot be solved.

While individual suffering has no respite and the collective suffering of our world continues, there are those who have found a refuge in the midst of the rubble.

ence between the paraplegic woman with the smile that lights a room and the millionaire with a suicide wish? Or what makes one person accept and keep his balance during a painful time and another become a self-pitying whiner?

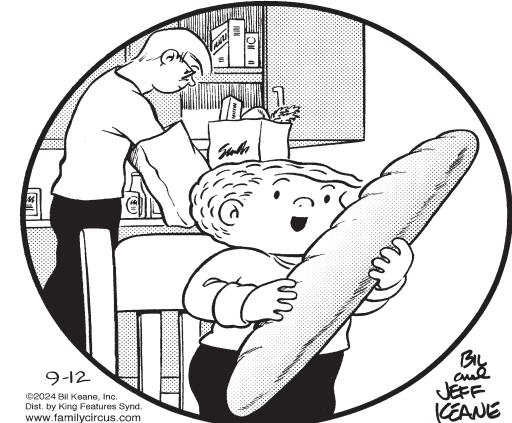
We cannot avoid suffering, but we can determine our response to it. God is not blind to our troubles and He waits to comfort us.

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

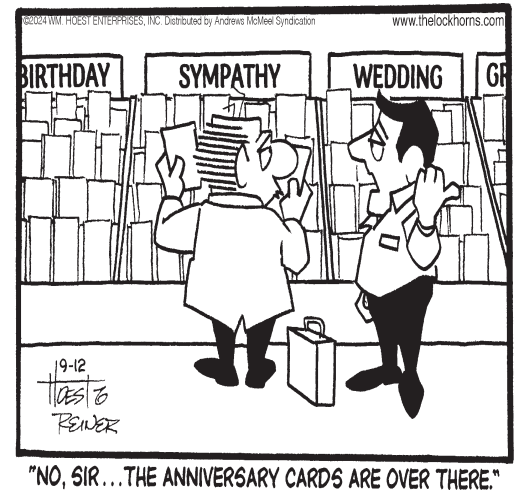
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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words. Includes solution time: 24 mins.

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

Table with 11 columns and 11 rows. Contains the crossword puzzle grid and the previous day's answer.

# 9/11 anniversary brings Biden, Harris and Trump together at ground zero

**By JENNIFER PELTZ and KAREN MATTHEWS**  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — With presidential candidates looking on, some 9/11 victims' relatives appealed to them Wednesday for accountability as the U.S. marked an anniversary laced with election-season politics.

In a remarkable tableau, President Joe Biden, former President Donald Trump and Vice President Kamala Harris stood together at ground zero just hours after Trump and Harris faced off in their first-ever debate. Trump and Biden shook hands, and former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg appeared to facilitate a handshake between Harris and Trump.

Then the presidential rivals stood only a few feet apart. Biden and Bloomberg between them, as the hours-long reading of victims' names began. At Trump's side was his running mate, Sen. JD Vance.

The image was one of putting politics aside at another solemn commemoration of the hijacked-plane attacks that killed nearly 3,000 people on Sept. 11, 2001. But some victims' relatives, after reading out names, delivered political messages of their own.

"We are pleading for your help, but you ignore us," Allison Walsh-DiMarzio said, directly challenging Trump and Harris to press Saudi Arabia about any Saudi official involvement in the attacks. Most of the 19 hijackers were Saudi, but the kingdom denies it was behind their plot.

"Which one of you will have the courage to be our hero? We deserve better," Walsh-DiMarzio said. She's a daughter of 9/11 victim Barbara P. Walsh, an administrative assistant.

Joanne Barbara was one of multiple readers who spoke out against a now-revoked plea deal that military prosecutors struck with alleged 9/11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and two fellow defendants.

"It has been 23 years, and the families deserve justice and accountability," said the widow of Assistant Fire Chief Gerard A. Barbara.

Biden, on his last Sept. 11 in office, and Harris were set to pay respects Wednesday at all three 9/11 attack sites: ground zero, the Pentagon and a rural part of Pennsylvania.

The president, vice president — and, separately, Trump — laid wreaths Wednesday afternoon at the Flight 93 National Memorial near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Biden and Harris spoke with victims' relatives and visited the local fire department; Trump and Vance went to a New York City firehouse earlier in the day.

The Flight 93 memorial stands where one of the

hijacked planes crashed after crew members and passengers tried to storm the cockpit. Trump described the site as an "incredible place" in brief remarks from afar to reporters.

The attacks killed 2,977 people and left thousands of bereaved relatives and scarred survivors. The planes took down the World Trade Center's twin towers and carved a gash in the Pentagon, the U.S. military headquarters.

While many Americans may not observe 9/11 anniversaries anymore, "the men and women of the Department of Defense remember," Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said Wednesday.

The attacks altered U.S. foreign policy, domestic security practices and the mindset of many Americans who had not previously felt vulnerable to foreign extremists.

Effects rippled around the world and through generations as the U.S. responded by leading a "Global War on Terrorism," which included invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq. Those operations killed hundreds of thousands of Afghans and Iraqis and thousands of American troops.

Communities around the country hold their own events on the anniversary, which Congress has titled both Patriot Day and a National Day of Service and Remembrance. Thousands of Americans commemorate it with volunteer work — among them Harris' running mate, Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz. He packed meals in St. Paul for people in need.

During early anniversaries at ground zero, presidents and other officeholders read poems, parts of the Declaration of Independence and other texts.

But the National Sept. 11 Memorial and Museum decided in 2012 to limit the ceremony to relatives reading victims' names.

If politicians "care about what's actually going on, great. Be here," Korryn Bishop said as she arrived to watch Wednesday's ceremony.

"If they're just here for political clout, that upsets me," added Bishop. She lost her cousin John F. McDowell Jr., who worked in finance.

Brandon Jones was glad politicians weren't on the podium.

"This should be a site for coming together to find feasible solutions and peace. This should not be a place to score political points to get brownie points to round up your base," said Jones. He's a cousin of victim Jon Richard Grabowski, an insurance firm technology executive.

In 2008, then-senators and presidential campaign rivals John McCain and Barack Obama jointly paid their respects at ground zero, which was still an open pit.

Over the years, some vic-

tims' relatives have used the forum to exhort leaders to prioritize national security, acknowledge the casualties of the war on terror, complain that officials are politicizing 9/11 and even criticize individual officeholders. Others bemoan Americans' divisions or appeal for peace.

But most stick to tributes and personal reflections. Increasingly they come from children and young adults who were born after the attacks killed one of their relatives.

Thirteen-year-old twins Brady and Emily Henry read names to honor their slain uncle, firefighter Joseph Patrick Henry.

"We promise to continue telling your stories," Emily said, "and we'll never let anyone forget all those lost on Sept. 11."

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Thank you for reading





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, *The Steffen Group Real Estate & Auctions*, 260-426-0633, [steffengrp.com](http://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. Preview: 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](http://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](http://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](http://halderman.com), 800-424-2324.

**SEPTEMBER 22-SEPTEMBER 29 - 2 p.m. - (Online Only Personal Property Auction) - The Estate of Elizabeth Ann (Carter) Aeschlman, 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.*, 260-824-3006, [www.steffengrp.com](http://www.steffengrp.com).

**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](http://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](mailto:rickj@halderman.com), [jasonj@halderman.com](mailto:jasonj@halderman.com), 260-273-9177, *Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management*, [halderman.com](http://halderman.com), 800-424-2324.

**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 out-buildings 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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*, 260-824-3006, [www.steffengrp.com](http://www.steffengrp.com).

**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.*, [www.steffengrp.com](http://www.steffengrp.com), 824-3006.

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



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