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The Hemz-Banner.com

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 202

BLUFFTON, INDIANA · Wells County's Hometown Connection

64 00

Bluffton Free Street Fair offers 'Passport to Fun'

By HOLLY GASKILL

The signs of the season are all there — leaves on trees are starting to turn, welcome flags wave through downtown, and commuter routes are changing. The Bluffton Free Street Fair is just around the

corne

This year's theme, "Passport to Fun," was chosen in honor of the grand marshal, Erin Prible. Prible has been the executive director of the Chamber of Commerce for 12 years, where she has encouraged

economic growth and community connections.

Similar to the Chamber's Shop Local Passport program, Street Fair encourages popping from one vendor, shop or event to the next, connecting with both members of the community and visitors.

At her surprise announcement as grand marshal in July, Prible tearfully shared her shock and appreciation for the honor, as well as her love for Street Fair. "To me, Street Fair is like a reunion — you

see people you haven't seen for so many years, and you run into them," Prible smiled. "My husband and I take great joy in just walking up and down the streets. Being able to reconnect with peo-

(Continued on Page 2)



Ossian Days

Ossian Days wrapped up Saturday after an eventful few days around downtown Ossian.

At top, Dave Furey and his wife, Joan Furey (pictured) were ushered through the annual Ossian Days parade in style. (Photo by Sydney Kent)

At right, competitors in the 10th annual donut hole eating contest put up a strong effort, with Josh Hanson eating the most donuts of the day at 31 in two minutes.

More photos on Page 12.

(Photo by Holly Gaskill)





Scarlet Pedroza and her mom, Amber, ride the merry-go-round at Ossian Days Saturday afternoon. (Photo by Holly Gaskill)



Kaylee Belcher sits on the back of a classic car with her grandparents, Sharon and Lee Friend, driving. (Photo by Jonathan Snyder)



Drew Buescher drives a miniature fire truck, while Spencer Kolkman drives a mini-taxi. (Photo by Jonathan Snyder)



Detective Cliff Thomas passed out some highlyanticipated Tootsie Rolls to excited children and reporters. (Photo by Sydney Kent)

911 Dispatch Center pursuing encrypted radios

By JONATHAN SNYDER

With a recent law prohibiting sensitive personal information being shared over police scanners, Wells County is seeking funding to purchase new radios that can encrypt radio frequencies.

911 Dispatch Center Director Mike Miller stated that date of births, juvenile names and social security numbers can not be broadcast this way.

An official request for matching grant funding has not been sent in to the Northeast Indiana Strategic Development Commission yet, as both county and city are determining their matching funds.

This need comes alongside the 911 Dispatch Center's desire to add a fourth radio console. Miller stated they have everything they need to install the console, except for the radio itself. However, the department must replace all new (Continued on Page 2)

State officials say chronic absenteeism rates are improving

By CASEY SMITH, Indiana Capital Chronicle

Indiana's top education officials applauded the state's improved chronic absenteeism rates on Wednesday but conceded that too many Hoosier students are still missing a "significant" number of school days.

The latest attendance numbers released by the Indiana Department of Education reported that 17.8% of K-12 students — roughly 219,00 kids — were "chronically absent" during the most recent 2023-24 school year, meaning they missed at least 18 days.

It's the second year in a row that the number of chronically absent students went down, dropping from 19.2% in 2023, and 21.1% in 2022.

"It's an improvement — and we always want to celebrate improvements and data moving in the right direction— but we still have some work to do," said John Keller, IDOE's chief information officer, during Wednesday's State Board of Education meeting.

(Continued on Page 2)

FBI: Trump was the subject of apparent assassination attempt

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER, COLLEEN LONG, ERIC TUCKER, ZEKE MILLER and STEPHANY MATAT

Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Donald Trump was the target of what the FBI said "appears to be an attempted assassination" at his golf club in West Palm Beach, Florida, on Sunday, just nine weeks after the Republican presidential nominee survived another attempt on his life. The former president said he was safe and well, and authorities held a man in custody.

U.S. Secret Service agents stationed a few holes up from where Trump was playing noticed the muzzle of an AK-style rifle sticking through the shrubbery that lines the course, roughly 400 yards away.

An agent fired and the gunman dropped the rifle and fled in an SUV, leaving the firearm behind along with two backpacks, a scope used for aiming and a GoPro camera, Palm Beach County Sheriff Ric Bradshaw said. The man was later stopped by law enforcement in a neighboring county. (Continued on Page 2)

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A beautiful week for a street fair

| Today | Tuesday | Wed. |
|---------|---------|---------|
| High 86 | High 82 | High 80 |
| Low 52 | Low 58 | Low 58 |

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Online

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September 16, 2024

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Bluffton street fair

ple is probably the greatest joy for us as adults during the Street Fair. It's such a staple in our community and such a great asset."

While vendors will open at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Prible will formally commence the fair's festivities in the opening parade at 7 p.m. Float awards will also be announced after the parade.

On Wednesday, the annual antique and classic car show will take place from noon to 5:30 p.m., and the antique tractor and car parade follow at 5:45 p.m. Local bands will be on parade at 6:15 p.m. A community worship night will

be held at the Main Stage from 7-8:30 p.m.

Prepare to walk away with a number of goodies on Thursday — the industrial parade will be at 6 p.m., featuring numerous local businesses and groups. A free "Whoa, Man!" concert will follow on the Main Stage from 8-10 p.m.

Festivities begin earlier on Friday, with wristband rides available from 1-7 p.m. The Creative Arts Council will host a student performance on the Parlor City Plaza at the courthouse from 5-6 p.m. For a first to the fair, the fire department will perform a car rescue demonstration at 6:30 p.m. in the parking lot across

from the city building.

FNX wrestling will take over the Main Stage for their annual throwdown from 7-9 p.m. At the same time, local artists will perform at the Parlor City Plaza.

Saturday morning is for the kids, with a "diaper derby" crawling race kicking things off at 11 a.m. at the Main Stage. The kids' tractor pull follows at 11:15 a.m., then a big wheel race at 11:30 a.m. At noon, the community will crown its new Street Fair prince and princess at the Parlor City Plaza.

Another kid-focused event — and a new edition to this year's line-up — will be "Dinosaur Dimensions,"

2 p.m. and 4 p.m. at the Parlor City Plaza. This event will give kids the opportunity to "interact" and take photos with their favorite

At the 4-H park Saturday, the annual pony pull begins at 11 a.m. and the heavyweight horse pull is at 1 p.m.

The beloved "Street Fair Idol" singing contest will be from 6-8 p.m. at the Main Stage, with a variety of local talent and music vying for first place. The fair will close with a free Garth Brooks tribute band concert at 9 p.m.

More events and information are listed on Pages

holly@news-banner.com

Weather

Monday, September 16, 2024 (24-hour observations at 10:51 p.m. Sunday) High: 89; Low: 58; Precipitation: None

Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.08 feet at 8:45 p.m. Sunday

Wells County forecast

Today: Sunny, with a high near 86. East wind 5 to 10 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 52. East wind around 5 mph.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny,

with a high near 82. Calm wind becoming east around 5 mph in the morning.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 58. Northeast wind around 5 mph becoming calm after mid-

Wednesday: Partly sunny, with a high near 80.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 58. Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 81.

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

high near 84. Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 59.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 86.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 60.

911 Dispatch Center

(Continued from Page 1) consoles to keep everything on the same system.

"They (the provider) will make sure that those new radios are encrypted, so that

we're in compliance with

through grants.

Whicker emphasized

that this is meant to be only for private informa-

"People need to have open access to that (radio), I know some people will say, 'Oh, the government's trying to block us.' No. what we have to start to do is (consider) what's private with that individual. I know I wouldn't want my Social Security number over the airways." Whick-

Miller added, "Not having this is not keeping us from doing our job at all. It's just something that we have to do by law. It would be very hard to do it without having at least an encrypted channel, because we don't want somebody accidentally saying something that they shouldn't."

jonathan@news-banner.com

"Passport to Fun"

BLUFFTON STREET FAIR OPENING NIGHT PARADE 2024

Main Street Between **South & Riley** Bluffton Police & Wells Co. Sheriff

2. American Legion Color Guard

3. Bluffton Fire Department 4. Chester Fire Department 5. Liberty Center Fire Department

6. Markle I Uniondale Fire Department 7. Nottingham Fire Department

8. Ossian Fire Department 9. Poneto Fire Department 10. Ossian Police 11. Wells County EMS 12. Bluffton Street Fair

13. Bluffton Street Fair Grand Marshal- Erin Prible West Riley Street 14. Bluffton High School Cheerleaders 15. Bluffton Bengal Brigade

16. Viet Nam Veterans of America Chapter 698 Bluffton **East Riley Street** 17. Rising Stars Twirling Academy

18. Bluffton City Officials 19. Wells County Officials 20. Street Fair Band Main Street Between Riley

& Central 21. 2024 Prince & Princess Court 22. ABC Studio & Activity

Center

23. Float - Wells County Historical Society 24. Southern Wells Raider Force Marching Band 25. PAX Program of Academic Exchange

26. Float - 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten WCPL 27. Committee For New Downtown Christmas Lights 28. EMA I Wells County Amateur Radio Club 29. Float - Wells County Girl

Scouts Service Unit 229 Main Street Between Central & Wiley 30. Norwell Marching Knights

31. Little Miss Wells County

32. Float - Pawfect Cuts

Groomery

33. Par & Below 34. Float-Bluffton Elk's 796 35. Creative Arts Council of Wells County 36. Float - Markle Health & Rehab

37. Wells County Scouts 38. Float - Bi County Services of Adams & Wells Counties Main Street Between Wiley & Ohio

39. Wells County Republicans 40. 2024 Miss Wells County-Eve McElhaney 41. 2024 Miss Wells County Teen - Sophia Meeks 42. Northern Indiana Road

Riders 43. Caliope Circus Wagon 44. Santa Claus

Chronic absenteeism

(Continued from Page 1)

absences vary, but "the interpretation of the

'why' is really going to have to be a locally

sure that there are no insights in the data

that remain unturned. But what we're doing

is holding up the mirror on this attendance

data and allowing schools to slice it any

way they can possibly think of," Keller said.

"I'm guessing there are probably different

approaches that we use to address the most

chronic of the chronic absenteeism, versus

things that are maybe a little bit more epi-

sodic and not as much of a long-term pat-

tern. But that's what we're trying to look at

dance Insights" dashboard that breaks

down weekly habitually truant and chronic

absenteeism rates at the local and school

levels. The state has already made the tool

available to Hoosier school officials and

plans to launch a public version later this

who are coming to school 94% of the time

are doing better, significantly," said Indiana

A deeper look at the data

Student absences have been on the rise

Secretary of Education Katie Jenner.

"It is statistically significant — students

determined thing.'

with broader analysis.'

month.

Keller maintained that the reasons for

"Our general focus has been making

not allow us to add a newer radio to the existing radios that we have, because they operate differently," Miller said. "In order for us to add the fourth radio console, we have to replace all of our radio consoles, which also includes one that is used at the Sheriff's Department, because they're all on the same system. In the process of doing that, then we will

what we need to be in compliance with, as far as the law goes."

The new radios cost approximately \$80,000 each, according to Miller. Wells County Council member Seth Whicker said upfitting the radios with encryption adds another \$500 per radio. Whicker stated one channel would be dedicated to encryption, adding that the city and county would pay \$125,000 each and \$750,000 could be paid

since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in Indiana and across the nation. Chronic absenteeism surged during the pandemic, nearly doubling to peak at 21.1% in 2022, according to IDOE. Keller said the latest data suggests Indi-

ana has "turned the corner" and appears to be reversing from its high-absence period during the pandemic. He emphasized that all grades levels improved their chronic absenteeism rates in 2023-24 by one to two percent when compared to the year prior. According to the 2023-24 data, 23.7% of

students who receive free or reduced lunch were chronically absent — nearly 11% higher than their peers. English language learners were also slightly more likely to miss class; 18.5% of English learners were chronically absent during the last school year, compared to 17.7% of non-English language learners.

The Indiana Code specifically defines chronic absenteeism as being absent 18 or more days within a school year for any reason a higher standard than "habitual truancy," which is ten or more days without an excuse.

Under the "compulsory education" laws in Indiana, children must regularly attend school from the time they're seven years old until they turn 18, with some exceptions.

But unless they're excused, students who cut class too often could end up under a juvenile court's supervision. Built-up absences could also prompt prosecutors to file misdemeanor charges against Hoosier parents, given that they are legally responsible for

Keller took notice of "consistent, dramatic differences" in academic performance for students who are chronically absent versus

who are chronically absent are significantly less likely to read by third grade, master key ELA and math skills, or be college-ready.

Educators around the state have pointed to family challenges some students face at home, along with hard-to-break tendencies to keep kids home when even mildly unwell - a habit borne out of the pandemic — as Schools are getting creative to try to combat the growing problem, like increasing communication with parents and incentivizing absence-prone students to come to class. IDOE officials are also working on responses to improve school attendance, including development of a new "Atten-

making sure their children go to school.

those with better attendance. IDOE officials further noted that students

Assassination attempt

(Continued from Page 1)

He had a calm, flat demeanor and showed little emotion when he was stopped and didn't question why he was pulled over, according Martin County Sheriff William Snyder.

'He never asked, 'what is this about?' Obviously, law enforcement with long rifles, blue lights, a lot going on. He never questioned it," Snyder said.

It was the latest jarring moment in a campaign year marked by unprecedented upheaval. On July 13, Trump was shot during a rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, and a bullet grazed his ear. Eight days later, Democratic President Joe Biden withdrew from the race, giving way for Vice President Kamala Harris to become the party's nominee.

And it spawned new questions about Secret Service protective operations after the agency's admitted failures in preventing the assassination attempt this summer.

He returned to Mar-a-Lago, his private club in Palm Beach where he lives, according to a person familiar with Trump's movements who was not authorized to discuss them publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

It was not immediately clear whether the development would affect his campaign schedule. Trump was set to speak from Florida about cryptocurrency live on Monday night on the social media site X. He planned a town hall Tuesday in Flint, Michigan, followed by a rally Wednesday on New York's

Long Island. An email to Trump campaign staffers obtained by AP said, "This is not a matter that we take lightly. Your safety is always our top priority. We ask that you remain vig-

ilant in your daily comings and goings." Biden and Harris were briefed on the matter and Harris said in a statement that 'violence has no place in America.'

Biden echoed that thought in his own statement and said he had directed his team to ensure the Secret Service "has every resource, capability and protective measure necessary to ensure the former President's continued safety."

In the aftermath, Trump checked in with allies, including running mate Ohio Sen. JD Vance, South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham and several Fox News hosts. House Speaker Mike Johnson said Sunday evening he had spent the past few hours with Trump and called him "unstoppable."

Fox News host Sean Hannity recounted on air his conversation with Trump and the former president's golf partner, Steve Witkoff.

They told Hannity they had been on the fifth hole and about to go up to putt when they heard a "pop pop, pop pop." Within seconds, he said Witkoff recounted, Secret Service agents "pounced" on Trump and "covered him" to protect him.

The man in custody was Ryan Routh, three law enforcement officials told the AP. The officials who identified the suspect spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the ongoing investigation.

Records show Routh, 58, lived in North Carolina for most of his life before moving to Hawaii in 2018. In 2020, he made a social media post backing Trump's reelection, but in more recent years his posts have expressed support for Biden and Harris.

Snyder, the Martin County sheriff, said the suspect was apprehended within minutes of the FBI, Secret Service and Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office putting out a "very urgent BOLO" — or "be on the lookout" alert.





OBITUARIES

Dixie Lee Snider, 86

Dixie Lee Snider, 86, of Bluffton, passed away on Sept. 12, 2024 at Coventry Meadows Nursing Home in Fort Wayne. She was born on Aug. 15, 1938 at Wells Community Hospital in Bluffton, IN. Dixie attended Lancaster in Wells County from 1st through 10th grade and graduated from Warren High School in 1956. On April 12, 1958, she married Edwin L. Snider and they had four chil-



Dixie was a rural mail carrier for the United States Post Office in Markle, and retired in 2004. She was a member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Uniondale, and was involved in many church activities, including VBS and Church Board. She and her husband Ed enjoyed traveling with friends and spending time with the grandchildren.

Surviving are son, Michael (Dianne) Snider: daughter. Lynette Mankey; granddaughter, Aarika (Noah) Miller; and grandsons, Peyton Mankey, Austin, Ryan, and Logan Snider, all of Fort Wayne.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jesse "Earl" Elzey and Lucille (nee Nichelson) Myers; husband, Edwin Snider; son, Murray Snider; and daughter, Laurie Ann Snider.

Visitation will be on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2024, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Elzey – Patterson – Rodak Funeral Home, 120 West Mill Street, Ossian, IN. Funeral services will be at the funeral home on Thursday, Sept. 19, 2024, at 11:00 a.m., with viewing one hour prior. Burial will follow at Oak Lawn Cemetery in Ossian.

Memorials may be given to St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 5912 N Sugar Street, P.O. Box 175, Uniondale, IN 46791 or The Parkinson's Foundation. Please visit www.elzey-pattereson-rodak.com to leave condolences.

Lawrence "Lornie" Stabler, 84

Lawrence "Lornie" W. Stabler, 84, of rural Bluffton, passed away Thursday evening, Sept. 12, 2024, at Stillwater Hospice Home in Fort Wayne.

Lornie was born in Wolf Lake on July 8, 1940, to Albert and Nora (Smith) Stabler. He married Suzanne "Suzie" Stroman in Fort Wayne on Nov. 11, 1960; she survives.

Lornie attended Elmhurst High School and later served in the

U.S. Army. For 40 years he worked at Joslyn Steel in Fort Wayne which later became Slater Steel, until retir-

Lornie was a lifelong cowboy and horseman who even at a young age loved horses and enjoyed bull riding. Throughout his entire life he bought and sold horses and was still riding horses into his late 70s. He loved camping and trail riding with the horses, alongside his family and friends, and will especially be remembered for his love of "Hobo Stew." His grandchildren and great-grandchildren were the center of his life and were very special to him.

In addition to his wife, Lornie is survived by a daughter, Kelly (Dave) Norris of Markle; a son, Rick Stabler (Dan Riedl) of Wauwatosa, Wisconsin; a son-in-law, Tim Dreyer; four grandchildren, Erin (Rick) Baumgartner, Mike Dreyer, Nick (Alexia) Norris and Jason (Amber) Norris; along with eight great-grandchildren, Elias, Rhea, Karsyn, Camden, Crew, Paige, Chase and Faith.

Aside from his parents, Lornie was preceded in death by a daughter, Jill Dreyer, and a brother, Sanger Stabler. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Good-

win - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton has been entrusted with the arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to Riley Hospi-

tal for Children or Stillwater Hospice of Fort Wayne.

Online condolences may be shared at www.goodwin caleharnish.com.

Janice A. Anderson, 82

Janice A. Anderson, 82, of Craigville, passed away Sunday morning, Sept. 15, 2024, at Markle Health and Rehabilitation Center.

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

Lee E. Kershner, 79

Smoked Pork Chops

Lee E. Kershner, 79, of Bluffton, passed away Sunday morning, Sept. 15, 2024, at Ossian Health and Rehabili-

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

Obituary Policy

The News-Banner and Ossian Journal publishes "basic" obituaries free of charge for "local" deaths. "Basic" obituaries will include the deceased's name, age, community of record, date and place of death, basic genealogical information, the date, time and location of calling hours and services and the name of the funeral home handling arrangements. If additional information and/or a photo is desired to be included, or if the deceased does not meet the definitions of a "local" person, there is a charge.

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





Ossian parade float winners

As part of the Ossian Days parade Saturday, winners of the best decorated floats were announced. First Place, above left, went to Rod's Rustics. Pictured left to right are parade announcer AJ Reynolds, and Paris and Rod Fetters. Second place, above right, went to Church of the Nazarene in Ossian, with Lillian (middle) and Emily Roop receiving the award. Third Place, below left, went to the Lions Club float, with Jim Ottjes receiving the plaque.

Below right, Platinum Sponsor F&M Bank representative Angela Miller accepts a gift for their contribution, with Ossian Days Treasurer Rose Barrick at right. (Photos by Jonathan Snyder)





Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

County:

Tuesday, 3:45 p.m., 1500W S.R. 218, Poneto. Caller reported man with no shirt and jeans shorts on walking around aimlessly. Man was looking for missing piece from his mower.

Tuesday, 4:11 p.m., 400 W and S.R. 218, Poneto. Report of semi on the side of the road smoking.

Tuesday, 8:02 p.m., 700 S and 200 E, Bluffton. Stop sign down.

Tuesday, 8:40 p.m., Troxel Equipment. Car vs deer. Tuesday, 9:15 p.m., 900 N and 100 W, Uniondale.

Car vs deer. Thursday, 12:02 p.m., 1200 N 500 W, Bluffton. Report of two pigs in yard.

Pigs were put back.

Thursday, 9:11 p.m., West 700S and South 600W, Warren. Car vs deer.

ARRESTS

Trace Allen Moser, 19, Craigville; minor in possession of an alcoholic beverage, a Class C misdemeanor. Booked and released.

Ella Jade Gerardot, 21, Ossian; providing alcohol to a minor, a Class B misdemeanor. Bond set at \$1,000.

Trisha Dawn Bullock, 34, Berne; operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 or more and operating while intoxicated — endangerment, both Class A misdemeanors. Bond set at \$1,500.

Stephanie Ann Gerber, 39, Bluffton; battery bodily injury, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond set at

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Local schools receive state funding boost for safety upgrades

Wells County schools recently received more than \$123,000 for safety upgrades through the state's Secured School Safety Grant Program

The funding is part of the state's biennial budget passed in 2023, which made investments in school safety. In all, 499 schools across Indiana's 92 counties received \$24 million total in state matching grants.

Area schools receiving grants include:

- Bluffton-Harrison MSD \$26,779
- Northern Wells Community Schools \$62,058 • Southern Wells Community Schools \$34,701
- "Having our students and staff feel safe while at school is a top priority," said State Rep. Matt Lehman (R-Berne). "Secured school safety grants give administrators the ability to make much-needed security updates like adding school resource officers, and upgrading building security and technology."

The funds can be used for a wide range of safety needs like support for resource officers, equipment and technology, active-event warning systems, threat assessments, and student and parent support services programs.



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

7pm - Grand Opening Parade - Midway Grand Marshal: Erin Prible

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2024 5:45pm - Antique Tractor Parade - Midway 6pm - Antique & Classic Car Parade - Midway

6:15pm - High School Band Parade - Midway THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

6pm - Industrial Parade - Midway

Entry Forms: www.blufftonstreetfair.com

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Lessons from a Congressional run

We have lost the art of thoughtful debate.

Every time I heard this question "Do you support Donald Trump?" I knew I had lost a vote in my effort this past spring to win the Republican nomination to Congress. If you cared to ask about my position on former President Trump, odds were I was neither MAGA enough nor anti-Trump enough for your liking. My most memorable (and humor-

ous) time receiving this question



Grant **Bucher**

was after I spent half an hour with a 90-year-old man agreeing on most every policy we could think to discuss. I left the meeting with instruction to tell everyone at an upcoming event that I had his support. The next day I received a call from his daughter saying her dad wanted to know if I supported Trump. I shared my stance, she relayed it, and then she apologetically said that her father could no

longer support me. Losing a vote rarely bothered me — it was bound to happen because I refused to be inauthentic to garner support. What did bother me was the frequent unwillingness to have a conversation about things that we differed on. Don't get me wrong, I had many excellent, refining discussions about policy positions with people I differed from during the campaign, but even more were dismis-

If there is one thing I learned from my experience of running for Congress, it is that as a society we have lost our ability to genuinely listen, debate, and be open to thoughts/ideas that differ from our own. So, I have been contemplating both "why" that is and "what" we have become as a result.

First, "why." Based on personal observations, I would speculate that our unwillingness to converse about alternative ideas is due primarily to two things: 1) An absence of thoughtful debate and proper training in recognizing cognitive fallacies (something that should be present in our school systems and homes) and 2) our homophilous society that has been catalyzed by social media algorithms (think echo chambers / the belief that "Everyone agrees with me.")

These two things lead to the questions: "When most every good person agrees with me anyway, why should I care about listening to what others say?" "Why should I hone debating skills?" "Why should I allow my worldview to be challenged?"

I have asked myself these same questions. The best answer I can offer: When we mindfully allow our views to be challenged, either they are changed, or they are refined — each can be positive. And perhaps just as important, we begin to push back on the "what" we have become.

Because our society has lost its ability, or even interest in, genuinely listening, debating, and being open to new ideas, we have forfeited one of the most incredible traits of being human — the ability to communicate. In the United States today, 59% of people find talking to others about political differences stressful (according to Pew Research). More heartbreaking, 1 in 6 Americans are not speaking with a family member because of politics (according to Harvard Professor Arthur Brooks). That statistic doesn't say, 1 in 6 avoid speaking about politics, it says 1 in 6 have completely shut family out of their lives over an inability to navigate these conversations in a manner seasoned with thoughtfulness and covered by grace.

Throughout our campaign I stated, "America needs renewal, and I believe that northeast Indiana must lead the way in inspiring it." I believe these words as much today as ever before. Neither Donald Trump nor Kamala Harris will rouse it—it must come one loving and truthful human interaction at a time, with the blessing of God's favor. And in the meantime, let's do the best we can to be informed on policy positions, economic plans, competency in the role, history of decisions made, and character as we decide whom to cast our votes for at all levels of government this November.

Be well!

Grant Bucher is a Bluffton native who was a candidate for the Republican nomination for the 3rd Congressional seat in the May primary. He wrote this for the News-Banner.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Sept. 16, the 260th day of 2024. There are 106 days left in the year.

Today's highlight in history: On Sept. 16, 1893, the largest land run in U.S. history occurred as more than 100,000 white settlers rushed to claim more than 6 million acres of land in what is now northern Oklahoma.

Also on this date: In 1810, Catholic priest Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla called on his parishioners to join him in a rebellion against Spanish rule, marking the beginning of the Mexican War of Indepen-

In 1908, General Motors

igan, by William C. Durant.

In 1940, Samuel T. Rayburn of Texas was first elected speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; he would hold the post for a record 17 years, spanning three separate terms.

In 1966, the Metropolitan Opera officially opened its new opera house at New York's Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts with the world premiere of Samuel Barber's "Antony and Cleopatra."

In 1974, President Gerald R. Ford signed a proclamation announcing a conditional amnesty program for Vietnam war deserters and draft evaders.

The News-Banner

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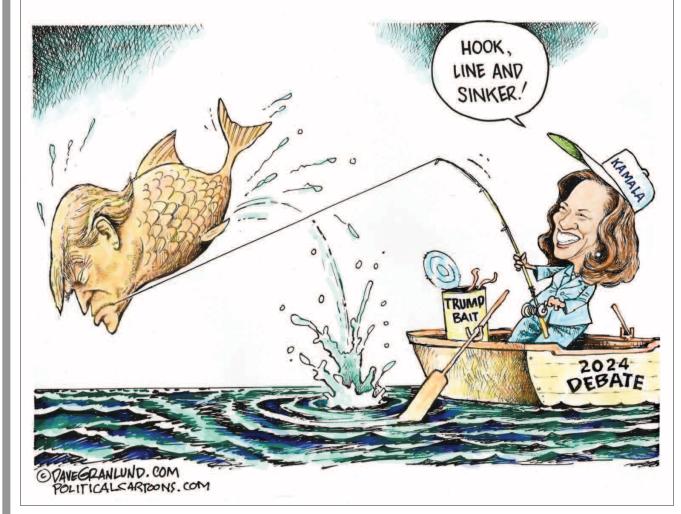
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Post-debate, the optimum 2024 political outcome comes into view

The past eight years

have illustrated the

impossibility of having

just one healthy party.

Hours before Tuesday's debate, the Congressional Budget Office released a report that, were the CBO not scrupulously nonpolitical, would have seemed impertinent. It presented, in the bland language of a weather report, data that the debate moderators evidently considered too trivial to mention, a gross misjudgment for which both candidates probably were grateful.

Without saying so, the CBO report implicitly forecast stormy political weather. It said that in August the government added \$381 billion to the nation's debt, and that by Sept. 30, the end of the fiscal year, the one-year deficit will exceed \$2 trillion. Predictable developments (debt service, which already exceeds defense spending, precluding proper defense and other spending) and divisive choices (about pruning the entitlement state and addressing national security needs) within a decade will convulse U.S. politics.

But through the rhetorical fog in Philadelphia, one could glimpse a tantalizing possibility, a precondition for coping with the coming turbulence. The restoration of normal politics will require two things: The removal of Donald Trump — that Krakatau of volcanic, incoherent, factfree bombast — from public life. And the rekindling of an irrepressible conflict.

It is between progressivism, of which Kamala Harris is full to overflowing, and actual conservatism, about which Trump is contemptuous. As he ages, he mimics progressivism's politics of throwing government's weight around.

Harris arrived in Philadelphia prepared to talk coherently, a departure from three years of public appearances during which she seemed oblivious of the need to prepare. To critics who say she seemed "scripted," the sensible response is: At last she has accepted her need for scripts. She has shed her misplaced confidence in her ability to forego forethought.

In the debate, she achieved three things. First, to the substantial portion of the television audience who knew next to nothing about her, and nothing at all about her proclivity for rhetorical gaseousness, she resembled a plausible president — more so than the former president. Second, she befuddled him into repetitious digressions about his abhorrence of immigrants — and his admiration of foreign strongmen who are in awe of his strength. Third, she imparted fresh momentum to her somewhat flagging "golly, this is fun" one-note campaign.

This election pits someone whose current persona is obviously synthetic against someone whose dishonesty in the service of his egotism is scarily authentic. Now, however, traditional conservatives can envision the least unpalatable November outcome. They have

an unenthralled understanding of government's proper scope and actual competence. So, their preferred outcome would be the election of Harris, and of a Republican Senate to regularly remind her that most Americans disagree with most of what she

Disbelieve almost everything she has said for weeks in disavowing almost every thing she said for years while reciting progressivism's catechism. She seems to have no more agency than does an iron filing drawn to a magnet. The pull of her party's progressive base, whose Bay Area faction incubated her political persona, means that she would be a progressive president.

Or as much of one as the Supreme Court (progressives since Woodrow Wilson have disrespected the separation of powers) and a Republican Sen-

ate would permit. Then, in 2028, Republicans could offer a choice, not a Trumpian echo of progressives' executive highhandedness, fiscal profligacy and economic intrusiveness: his industrial policy (protectionism) against theirs.

The past eight years have illustrated the impossibility of having just one healthy party. If one of them, drunk on 100-proof grievance populism, careens into a ditch, the other, sensing an opportunity to go on a bender of condescending progressivism, finds its own ditch. ("Are you deplorables too dense to understand that your cars, stoves, air conditioners and hamburgers are murdering the planet?")

If in 2028 Democrats have held the presidency for eight years, and for four years Republicans have stopped inhaling Trump's fetid fumes, the momentous contest for the Republicans' 2028 nomination will decide: Will meaningful two-party politics be restored by the revival of traditional conservatism?

The good news about bad presidencies is that Americans' unhealthy expectations for presidents as visionaries, prophets, economic savants, society's healers and political pastors — might collapse under the weight of childish hopes. A nation that entrusts the presidency to Harris after consigning it to Trump and then Joe Biden might lower its expectations for that office, making them commensurate with the capacities of recent occupants.

Americans who say they hate politics actually hunger for it — for the normal give-and-take of bargaining. They are embarrassed by Trump's infantile comportment, and especially his insistence that the America they love is a "failing nation."

georgewill@washpost.com.

And the winner was... ances about the 2020 elec-

You could see where this was headed from the start when debate co-host David Muir asked Vice President Kamala Harris the question Ronald Reagan asked Americans to ponder when he debated Jimmy Carter in October 1980: "Are you better off than you were four years ago?"

A confident Harris would have answered "yes," but knowing the polls show a large majority of Americans would answer "no," Harris pivoted to a personal story and pivoted again to how much more she would "invest" (code word for spend) while again trashing "billionaires" as Democrats like to do in their promotion of envy, greed and entitlement.

What viewers saw was a version of the "new Nixon." Sen. Bernie Sanders, the Vermont "Democratic-Socialist", was right when he suggested Harris has moved more to the center to win votes, but if elected

will return to her "progressive" ways. Overnight conversions may have some credibility when it comes to religion, depending on one's consistency, but in politics it appears to be pandering to voters. How many times have we seen politicians run one way and govern another?

Let's start with the optics. It was good they shook hands at the start, but Harris was far more positive, energetic and optimistic than Trump, who regurgitated his familiar griev-



Thomas

tion, which he lost, but still can't accept the fact. Trump never looked at Harris and had a dour expression on his face throughout. Harris sometimes appeared condescending and occasionally had an expression like you would have if you thought someone was sad and pathetic. Trump never smiled. Harris did.

As for substance, David Muir and Linsey Davis sometimes fact-checked Trump, but never Harris. They especially did not ask Harris if she still wants to impose price controls on everyday items, like food and gasoline, when controls have never worked. That was a missed opportunity.

There were no questions about the record \$35 trillion debt or Trump's suggestion of an outside auditor to trim the size and cost of the federal government. Other than eliminating the Department of Education, where would he begin and since Social Security and Medicare are the main drivers of the debt, how would they reform these programs before they run out of money?

Trump scored on Afghanistan and the unwieldy withdrawal that caused the death of 13 service members. Harris scored when Trump talked about crime being up, much of it he said due to migrants. She retorted that it's "so rich coming from someone who has been prosecuted for

national security crimes," and found guilty of 34 felonies with more trials involving national security possibly

to come. Trump got in the "I'm talking" line he thought Harris wanted to use against him, along with the "are you better off" zinger borrowed from Reagan. Harris scored by accusing Trump of cuddling up to dictators who flatter his ego.

I thought Harris was weak on Israel and Gaza. She repeated the stale line about a "two-state solution," which is only a solution for Israel's enemies who have vowed to destroy the Jewish state. Trump claimed, without evidence, that Harris "hates Israel."

Trump scored when he pointed out Harris' many flips on issues, most of which are recent, including doing away with private health insurance, causing one to question her sincerity.

Trump closed by asking the obvious question: Why hasn't Harris done in three and a half years what she promises to do if elected president? Harris closed with another obvious statement: "We have different visions for the future."

That's why there should be a second debate. A top Harris campaign official seemed to agree to one in October. The public deserves to hear more. I'd call this one a plus for Harris when it came to image and a plus for Trump on issues. In other words,

tcaeditors@tribpub.com

Historical gifts for county's museum



An antique cradle that was used by both the mother and grandmother of Wells county resident Opal Bernice Johnson Witzeman was gifted to the Wells County Historical Museum by Kathy Bolin, center. Accepting the item, along with some antique baby clothes, were Historical Society officers Connie Brubaker, vice president, at left, and Jim Sturgeon, president, at right. (Photos by Barbara Barbieri)



Wells County's Historical Society, represented by Lynn Elliott, at right, was presented a copy of "The Early History of Vera Cruz Indiana 1838-1910" by the author Charles Joray, at left, on a recent Saturday morning at the Historical Museum. The book, priced at \$45. For more information email Joray at charles@joray.org or call 765-210-0913. On Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 6:30 p.m. Joray will be presenting a program about Vera Cruz at the Wells County Public Library. Registration would be appreciated for the program.

Events at the Creative Arts Council of Wells County

428 S. Oak Street in Bluffton 260-824-5222

www.wellscocreativearts.com creativeartscouncil@gmail.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/ wellscocreativearts

Instagram: @creativeartscouncil Creative Arts office hours — Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday (by appointment only).

Creative Arts 50th Anniversary Gala – A Fundraiser Celebrating our Past, Present and Future Saturday, Oct. 5

Cocktails and Hors d'oeuvres at 5:00, Dinner served at 6:00

Tickets are \$50 per person and can be purchased online at www.wellscocreativearts.com

Event held at Wells County Chamber & Visitor's Centre, 211 Water Street, Bluffton

Creative Arts Dance Academy

Dance classes have begun, but registration is still open for certain classes. Information regarding our dance schedule, tuition, and performance opportunities can be found on our website at https://www.wellscocreativearts.com/creative-movement

New six week session of "Foundations in Dance" beginning Nov. 2

Ages: Students 5-8 years old Saturdays from 10:00-10:45 a.m. Dates: Nov. 2, Nov. 9, Nov. 16, Nov. 23, Dec. 7 and Dec. 14 (no class

Nov. 30 due to Thanksgiving) Tuition: \$40 for the 6 week session Register for this upcoming session

at https://www.wellscocreativearts. com/foundations-in-dance or call the office at (260) 824-5222

Excerpts from "The Nutcracker" Creative Arts Youth Dance Company proudly present excerpts from "The

Performances: Dec. 6 at 7:00 p.m. and Dec. 7 at 3:00 p.m.

Creative Arts School of Music

· Voice Lessons with Lynne Niermeyer, Tuesday afternoon/evenings, \$30/half hour lesson

Guitar Lessons with Mike Needler, Tuesday afternoon/evenings, \$35/half hour lessons

· Drum Lessons with Alex Cornett, Monday Evenings, \$25/half hour les-

· Beginner Drum Class with Alex Cornett (6 weeks), Mondays at 6:00-6:45, Oct. 28 thru Dec. 2. Tuition:

For more information regarding the music lessons above, please call the office at (260) 824-5222 for lesson times and availability.

Creative Arts Theater

2024/25 Creative Arts Theater season has been announced

· Mark Twain's Tom Sawyer – Oct. · "The BEST Christmas Pageant

Ever" – December 12-14 "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" – March 6-8,

· Disney Newsies JR – June 13-14, 2025

· Disney Artistocats Kids – June 27-28, 2025

Tickets: \$15.00 per person Auditorium: 428 S. Oak Street in

Mark Twain's "Tom Sawyer" Performances:

Thursday, Oct. 10 at 7:00 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11 at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12 at 3:00 p.m.

Tickets (\$15) on sale now at: https://tickets.artstix.org/TheatreManager/1/tmEvent/tmEvent4201.html Auditorium, 428 S Oak St, Bluffton **CREATIVE** COUNCIL OF WELLS COUNTY

Auditions for "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever"

Auditions will be held Oct. 15 from 5 to 8 p.m. at Creative Arts Council. Call backs will be Oct. 17 at 6 p.m..

Performances: Dec. 12-14

For more information on auditions/ roles visit: https://www.wellscocreativearts.com/holiday-production

Ongoing Activities

Creative Crew: Tuesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All forms of creativity welcome: painting, drawing, needlework and more.... spend the morning working on your craft and socialize with other artists. Enter Door 1 or Door 10 at Life Community Church, the creative crew meets in the

Readers' Brown Bag Luncheon: Meeting the last Tuesday of the month at noon at Life Community Church, enter door 10. All readers are welcome. Feel free to call the office for more information.

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

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

'Trail of courage' history festival in Rochester September 21-22

This will be the 48th year for the annual Trail of Courage, living history festival presented at the Fulton County Historical Society at Rochester on the weekend of Sept. 21-22.

by Melba Edwards

Step back in time to the pre-1840's to food cooked over wood fires, muzzleloading contests, teepees and Wigwams, Travois dogs, historic crafts, hawk throwers, pre-1840 tracing, Indiana dances (2-3 p.m.), historical programs on 2 stages (bagpipes, fife & drum corps, Aztec dancers and music).

Admission is \$10 adults, \$5 children 6-11 and free for

those 5 and younger. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. More information at fultoncountyhistory.

Zanesville News

Just as busy as I was last column I am snowed under with many things to do yet

I always go with family to the opening of the Bluffton Street Fair which is on Tuesday, Sept. 17. The fair last until Saturday, Sept. 21.

in the month of September.

Then also on Saturday,

Sept. 21, daughter Robin and I will be vendors at the Pioneer Festival at Hiers Park in Huntington. We will be in the main building for both Saturday and Sunday. Stop in and see us.

In the midst of all this we have a grandson's wedding!

Robin and I decided to in a movie we wanted to see. This movie was devel-University and based on Carpenter's Prayer." It is a great movie so don't miss

go to Huntington and take oped in Huntington by the a true story. It is titled "A seeing it.

Bluffton High School class of 1979 reunion The Bluffton High School class of 1979 meeting room. Email ShadyL8dy@yahoo.com for more

will hold their 45th class reunion on Saturday, September 21 from 2-7 p.m. in the 4-H

details.



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A Talk with Tego



Oliver is a 12-week-old, orange/white, domestic short hair male.

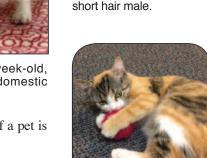
information call 824-6063.



Ollie is a 12-week-old. white/orange, domestic short hair male

Tego's Tips: Use social media or post fliers if a pet is missing.

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



Tego

tiger striped, domestic



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Tigers repeat as ACAC champs, Raiders finish 3rd

By RYAN WALKER

DECATUR — All the Bluffton Tigers did was come away with the ACAC girls' golf championship, individual awards and school records.

Saturday's ACAC conference meet at Cross Creek was nothing but a success for Bluffton, and its counterpart in the county, Southern Wells, also had a great day on the course.

The Tigers won the meet for the second straight season, hitting a 391, the school's record for 18 holes. As individuals, the Tigers had four earn all-conference honors: Emma Schwartz first-team, and the trio of Piper Morgan, Eve Corkwell and Addison Kauffman earned second-team.

Southern Wells comes in third place with a score of 400, just one stroke behind second-place South Adams. The Raiders though had the top golfer in the county with Sophie Meeks' third overall finish at 90, earning first-team all-conference with teammate Kolbie Beavans, finishing fifth with

The win for the Tigers was a total team effort, leaning on their No. 1 in Schwartz to lead, but it was the rest of the group that stepped up in the right moment.

Bluffton's No. 3 and No. 5 golfers in the lineup, Morgan and Kauffman, took the event by storm. Morgan shot a 98 and Kauffman a 101, both improving their scores from the beginning of the season when they played Cross Creek at the Bellmont Invitational.

Morgan improved by eight strokes, and Kauffman by 19. Eve Corkwell even shredded 10 strokes off of her game in

"I told the girls during practice this past week that if we won ACAC again it would be because we were mentally tough through adversity," Bluffton head coach Tara Cocanower said. "Piper and Addi really bought into focusing on the next shot being the most important one today. Piper put some work into putting drills going into ACAC and watching her on the greens showed that it paid off. Addi is so strong and her ball-striking was great. Having two sophomores step up like that today reminded me of Eve and Emma last year.'

The team's efforts reflected on the history of Bluffton girls' golf forever, and the Tigers needed it.

Even with a fourth-place finish, Cocanower admitted that Schwartz's day was tough. The junior shot an 80 at the Bellmont Invitational compared to the 91 on Saturday.

(Continued on Page 7)



Bluffton won its second consecutive ACAC championship in girls' golf this weekend, taking home first place at Cross Creek Golf Course in Decatur. Above, the girls hold their respective hardware achieved. Pictured from left to right are: Addison Kauffman, Tressa Renner, Piper Morgan, Emma Schwartz and Eve Corkwell. (Photo provided)



The Bluffton boys' cross country team snap a picture together after winning the Wildcat Invitational's Grey Race at Indiana Wesleyan University on Saturday. (Photos provided)



Above, Tigers' freshman Abigail Ramseyer (left) and Cora Kunkel proudly show off their medals earned at the meet. The two were medalists for the grey races for the girls' side.

All six county schools compete at Wildcat Invite; Tiger boys take 1st place in Grey Race

Bluffton, Norwell and Southern Wells' cross country teams all participated at the Wildcat Jackson Classic at Indiana Wesleyan University on Saturday.

The Tigers and Raiders were together in the grey race, while the Knights were in the red race.

The Bluffton boys won the event overall with a team score of 72, topping Lakewood Park Christian by 15 points. Levi Johns and Jude Baumgartner placed second and fourth overall to lead the team.

The girls placed sixth with a team score of 175. Cora Kunkel and Abigail Ramseyer were the top Tigers with places of eighth and 12th.

The Southern Wells boys placed in seventh with a team score of 209. Their top runner was Kelton Barr in 20th. The girls finished in 14th with a score of 312. Marianna Pease was the top runner

In the red race, the Norwell girls finished 10th with a team score of 297. The Knights' top runners were Ashley Tucker in 44th and Mia Kurtz in 52nd. The boys finished 21st with a team score of 518. Their top finisher was Gavin Threewits in 71st and Gage Reinhard in 72.

Boys results Grey Race

Bluffton: Levi Johns second (16:26.5), Jude Baumgartner fourth (16:51.8), Aidan Graves 14th (17:56.0), Jackson Rockwell 22nd (18:17.7), Griffin Linderwell

30th (18:30.2), Ryan Schlagenhauf

32nd (18:31.6), Manning Nash

41st (18:50.1), Andy Baumgartner

47th (19:17.6), Clayton Brubaker

48th (19:19.1), Owen Lesh 55th (19:29.9) and Brett Kuhlenbeck 65th (19:42.5). Junior varsity race: Azimjon Bahronov second at 21:11.7 and Jimmy Borabo Hower

12th at 23:19.5. Southern Wells: Kelton Barr 20th (05:51.4), Jarin Frauhiger 29th (18:28.3), Colter Kiel 44th (19:00.1), Peyton Ellis 61st (19:37.1), Miles Garrett 63rd (19:38.1), Daniel Isasi Escudero 68th (19:44.0), Braden Yencer 90th (20:31.9) and Kane Jenkins 94th (20:35.6).

Team scores: 1. Bluffton (72), 2. Lakewood Park Christian (87), 3. Kokomo (136), 4. Heritage Christian (143), 5. Adams Central (193), 6. Logansport (199), 7. Southern Wells (209), 8. Wisdom Builders (228), 9. Faith Christian (242), 10. Woodlan (288),

11. Horizon Christian (290), 12. Cowan 305), 13. West Central (325), 14. Caleville (336), 15. Mississinewa (352), 16. Connersville (403), 17. Anderson (420), 18. Peru (434), 19. Appleseeds (484) and 20. Indianapolis Arsenal

Technical (527). Red Race

Norwell: Individual results: Gavin Threewits 71st (05:36.2), Gage Reinhard 72, (05:36.5), Caiden Petrie 158th (06:04.7), John Baxter 179th (06:10.9). Zathan Westfall 191st (06:18.1), Elijah Jacob 202nd (06:27.9), Greyson Shoemaker 219th (06:42.3), Kale Meredith 221st (06:43.2), Parker McCartney 225th (06:50.8) Wyatt Lukins 271st (24:11.4), Parker Behning 272nd (24:12.4) and Chase Behning 276th (24:17.7)

(Red Race): 1. Noblesville (48), 2. Homestead (91), 3. Hamilton Southeastern (137), 4. Penn (173), 5. Lake Central 177), 6. Westfield (198), 7. Yorktown (211), 8. West Lafayette (232), 9. Harrison (284), 10. Columbia City (299), 11. Greenfield-Central (300), 12. LaPorte (305), 13. Fishers (411), 14. Marion (417), 15. Hamilton Heights (457), 16. New Haven (462), 17. Lafayette Jefferson (473), 18. East Noble (475), 19. South Bend St. Joeseph (492), 20. Bellmont (506), 21. Norwell (518), 22. South Bend Riley (583) and 23. Huntington North (648).

Girls results

Grev Race

Bluffton: Cora Kunkel eighth (20:32.7), Abigail Ramseyer 12th (21:01.3), Amarah Robles (Continued on Page 7)

Sports Roundup

Knights place 2nd at NE8 girls' golf meet

Norwell had quite the Northeast 8 Conference girls' golf meet on Saturday.

The team finished second overall with a team score of 362, behind DeKalb at 331, who won the conference title for the second straight year. The course was at Cross Creek in Decatur.

Ellie Gatton earned first-team all-NE8 and tied for first overall, losing the playoff round to Grace Pfiester of DeKalb to earn her second place officially. Her score of 80 gave her first-team all-conference.

Savanna Simerman followed Gatton with an 87, good for second-team. Jordyn Schroyer was honorable mention for the Knights at 92.

Results Individuals

Norwell: Ellie Gatton (80, second overall), Savanna Simerman (87, ninth overall), Jordyn Schroyer (92, 12th overall), Jessica Bynum (103) and Emma Burnau (104).

Team scores

1.DeKalb 331, 2. Norwell (362), 3. Leo (368), 4. East Noble (377), 5. Huntington North (369), 6. Bellmont (423), 7. Columbia City (427) and 8. New Haven (496).

Raiders notch winning record in volleyball with win

Southern Wells defeated Lakewood Christian on the road in straight sets on Sat-

The scores were 25-23, 25-23 and 25-15. The Raiders' record is now 8-7 on the sea-

Abbie Powell led the team with 17 kills, 17 digs, five aces and 3.5 blocks. Kila Shelley had 10 kills, nine digs, four aces and two blocks. Kaylea Coffel had 14 digs and McKenna King 11 digs.

(Continued on Page 7)

High School Calendar

MONDAY, SEPT. 16 BOYS SOCCER: East Noble at Norwell, 6:15 p.m.

BOYS TENNIS: Norwell at Bluffton, 4:30

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

VÖLLEYBALL: Eastbrook at Norwell, 7:30

TUESDAY, SEPT. 17

BOYS TENNIS: New Haven at Norwell, 5 GIRLS GOLF: Jay County at Southern

Wells, 4:30 p.m. GIRLS SOCCER: Nowell at Eastbrook, 7

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

at Heritage, 7 p.m. WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 18

BOYS TENNIS: Luers at Bluffton, 5 p.m. GIRLS GOLF: Luers/South Adams at Norwell, 4:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 19 BOYS TENNIS: South Adams at Bluffton, 5 p.m.; Norwell at East Noble, 5 p.m. GIRLS GOLF: Bluffton at Woodlan, 4:30

tational, 9 a.m.

GIRLS SOCCER: Norwell at South Adams,

VOLLEYBALL: Bluffton at Southern Wells, 7 p.m.; Norwell at Leo, 7 p.m. FRIDAY, SEPT. 20

GIRLS GOLF: (Sectional) Norwell at Chest-

nut Hills, 9 a.m. FOOTBALL: Jay County at Bluffton, 7 p.m.;

New Haven at Norwell, 7 p.m.; Southern Wells at Woodlan, 7 p.m. SATURDAY, SEPT. 21

CROSS COUNTRY (co-ed): Bluffton, Southern Wells at South Adams Invitational, 9 a.m.; Norwell at Riverview Heath Invitational (Westfield), 9 a.m.

GIRLS GOLF: (Sectional) Bluffton at Arbor

Trace, 9 a.m. VOLLEYBALL: Bluffton at Canterbury Invi-

MONDAY, SEPT. 23 BOYS SOCCER: Norwell at DeKalb, 6:30

BOYS TENNIS: Adams Central at Bluffton, 5 p.m.; Norwell at Snider, 4:30 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL: South Side at Norwell, 7:30

Tigers win ACAC

(Continued from Page 6)

The team knows she will have better days, and has a chance to prove that with the sectional and regional meets coming soon, but the team helped picked her up and took home first under the spotlight.

"I've been quoting Billie Jean King saying 'Pressure is a privilege' this week because it's hard to repeat after such an amazing win last year," Cocanower said. "Throughout our season, we've relied on Emma's scores to carry us a little. Emma would be the first to tell you that today was a struggle and she fought for her scores all day, but credit to her teammates for stepping up. It was truly a team effort today."

For Southern Wells, it was another fantastic season.

The girls finished sixth in the conference last year following their 2022 ACAC and sectional title season. The Raiders shot a 465 that day and improved by a whopping 65 strokes one season later with the same roster.

Head coach Ross Palmer and his five girls have certainly made themselves known in the conference and overall and will have a chance in the sectional to prove more.

Bluffton will be at Woodlan next at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19.

Southern Wells will be at home to face Jay County for a chance at the ACAC regu-

lar season outright title. The match will start at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 17.

Results All-conference

1. Londyn Smith (87, AC), 2. Julia Arnold (87, SA), 3. Sophie Meeks (90, SW), 4. Emma Schwartz (91, BLU), 5. Kolbie Beavans (92, SW), 6. Sophia Kever (94, WL), 7. Paige Wylie (94, WL), 8. Piper Morgan (98, BLU), 9. Brooklyn Green (101, SA), 10. Eve Corkwell (101, BLU), 11. Addison Kauffman (101, BLU), 12. Lilly Hurst (102, AC), 13. Madelynn Snow (103, JC), 14. Kendal Minger (104, SA).

Individual teams

Bluffton: Emma Schwartz (91, fourth overall), Piper Morgan (98, eighth overall), Eve Corkwell (101, 10th overall), Addison Kauffman (101, 11th overall) and Tressa Renner (111, 22nd overall).

Southern Wells: Sophie Meeks (90, third overall), Kolbie Beavans (92, fifth overall), Erika Beavans (106, 15th overall), Collena Reeves (122, 25th overall) and Callie Ripperger (112, 26 overall).

Team scores

1. Bluffton (391), 2. South Adams (399), 3. Southern Wells (400), 4. Woodlan (404), 5. Adams Central (411), 6. Jay County (448) and 7. Heritage (458).

Wildcat XC Invite

(Continued from Page 6)

(24:19.4), Reagan Harris 58th (24:36.7), Kierstynn Reed 63rd (24:51.1) and Dakota Lee (26:09.5).

Southern Wells: Marianna Pease 16th (21:23.0), Sarah McFarren 51st (24:12.9), Keely Miller 94th (26:35.0), Gracie Reeves 97th (26:35.0), Shaylinn 109th (28:19.3) and Chanie Mounsey 113th (29:44.9).

Team scores

1. Western (64), 2. Heritage Christian (118), 3. Adams Central (141), 4. Faith Christian (144), 5. Woodlan (172,) 6. Bluffton (175), 7. Logansport (185), 8. West Central (212), 9. Mississinewa (246), 10. Lakewood Park Christian (255), 11. Carroll Flora, (261), 12. Wisdom Builders (262), 13. Kokomo (293), 14. Southern Wells (312), 15. Daleville (339) and 16. Indianapolis Arsenal Technical (383).

Norwell (Red Race): Ashley Tucker 44th (20:48.7), Mia Kurtz 52nd (21:12.4), Ashley Waldman 62nd (21:28.1), Macy Oatess 81st

(21:51.5), Reagan Wilson 90th (22:02.1), Brooklyn Meyer 99th (22:21.3), Mya Oatess 134th (23:04.0) and Addison Meyer 165th (23:58.5).

Red Reserve Race: Mariah Kline 20th (24:08.6), Teagan Leslie 40th (25:16.6), Adalynn Fausz 41st (25:18.5), Lyanna Kelley 45th (25:21.9), Alana Cady 59th (25:47.9), Kylee Hannie 61st (25:55.4) and Hattie Lewis 116th (29:12.0).

Team scores: (Red Race) 1. Lake Central (59), 2. Penn (84), 3. Valparaiso (89), 4. Hamilton Southeastern (113), 5. Harrison (147), 6. Columbia City (169), 7. Hamilton Heights (234), 8. Noblesville (246), 9. Huntington North (280), 10. Norwell (297), 11. LaPorte (314), 12. South Bend St. Joseph (317), 13. Yorktown (358), 14. East Noble (404), 15. West Lafayette (434), 16. Warren Central (445), 17. Fishers (456), 18. Lafayette Jefferson (502), 19. South Bend Riley (525), 20. Culver Academies (590), 21. Bellmont 622) and 22. New Haven (653).

Sports Roundup

(Continued from Page 6)

Southern Wells will be at Heritage at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 17.

Knights host first middle school volleyabll invite

Norwell completed in the first annual Norwell Invitational for middle school on Saturday. Both the eighth grade and seventh grade

teams played the same teams coincidentally

finished 1-1 in group play and lost the final game for placement for fourth place. Yorktown swept both grades in first-place.

In the eighth grade games, Norwell defeated Heritage and fell to Blackhawk Christian. It then fell to St. Joseph in the third-place game.

In the seventh grade games, Norwell beat Heritage and lost to Blackhawk Christian. In the third match, they lost in two sets to St.

News-Banner Scoreboard

FOOTBALL

NFL

Thursday's Games Buffalo 31, Miami 10 Sunday's Games Cleveland 18, Jacksonville 13 Green Bay 16, Indianapolis 10 L.A. Chargers 26, Carolina 3 Las Vegas 26, Baltimore 23 Minnesota 23, San Francisco 17 N.Y. Jets 24, Tennessee 17 New Orleans 44, Dallas 19 Seattle 23, New England 20, OT Tampa Bay 20, Detroit 16 Washington 21, N.Y. Giants 18 Arizona 41, L.A. Rams 10

Arizona 41, L.A. Rams 10
Kansas City 26, Cincinnati 25
Pittsburgh 13, Denver 6
Houston 19, Chicago 13
Monday's Games
Atlanta at Philadelphia, 8:15 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 19
New England at N.Y. Jets, 8:15 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 22
Chicago at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.

Chicago at Indianapolis, 1 p.m. Denver at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m. Green Bay at Tennessee, 1 p.m. Houston at Minnesota, 1 p.m. L.A. Chargers at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m. N.Y. Giants at Cleveland, 1 p.m. Philadelphia at New Orleans, 1 p.m. Carolina at Las Vegas, 4:05 p.m. Miami at Seattle, 4:05 p.m. Baltimore at Dallas, 4:25 p.m. Detroit at Arizona, 4:25 p.m. San Francisco at L.A. Rams, 4:25

Kansas City at Atlanta, 8:20 p.m. **Monday, Sept. 23** Jacksonville at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m. Washington at Cincinnati, 8:15 p.m.

College

NCAA Football Scores

Buffalo 34, Umass 3 Coastal Carolina 28, Temple 20 Pittsburgh 38, West Virginia 34 **SOUTH**

Appalachian St. 21, East Carolina 19 Auburn 45, New Mexico 19 Duke 26, Uconn 21 FAU 38, FIU 20 Georgia 13, Kentucky 12 Georgia St. 36, Vanderbilt 32 Georgia Tech 59, VMI 7 LSU 36, South Carolina 33 Liberty 28, UTEP 10 Maryland 27, Virginia 13 Memphis 20, Florida St. 12 Miami 62, Ball St. 0 Mississippi 40, Wake Forest 6 Mississippi 40, Wake Forest 6 N. Dakota St. 38, ETSU 35 NC State 30, Louisiana Tech 20 North Carolina 45, NC Central 10 South Florida 49, Southern Miss. 24

Tennessee 71, Kent St. 0 Texas A&M 33, Florida 20 Toledo 41, Mississippi St. 17 Virginia Tech 37, Old Dominion 17 MIDWEST

Akron 31, Colgate 20 Alabama 42, Wisconsin 10 Alabarra 42, Wisconsin 10 Butler 53, Hanover 0 Cincinnati 27, Miami (Ohio) 16 Duquesne 28, Youngstown St. 25 E. Michigan 37, Jacksonville St. 34,

Illinois 30, Cent. Michigan 9 Illinois St. 51, W. Illinois 34 Indiana St. 24, Dayton 13 lowa 38, Troy 21 Nichigan 28, Arkansas St. 18 Michigan St. 40, Prairie View 0 Minnesota 27, Nevada 0 Missouri 27, Boston College 21 Nebraska 34, N. Iowa 3 Northwestern 31, E. Illinois 7 Notre Dame 66, Purdue 7 Ohio 21, Morgan St. 6 Valparaiso 20, Indiana Wesleyan 17

W. Michigan 59, Bethune-Cookman 31 SOUTHWEST Arkansas 37, UAB 27 Baylor 31, Air Force 3 Cent. Arkansas 45, Austin Peay 17 Grambling St. 35, Texas A&M Commerce 28, OT

Houston 33, Rice 7 Oklahoma 34, Tulane 19 Oklahoma St. 45, Tulsa 10 Texas 56, UTSA 7 Texas Tech 66, North Texas 21 UCF 35, TCU 34 FAR WEST

BYU 34, Wyoming 14 California 31, San Diego St. 10 Colorado 28, Colorado St. 9 Fresno St. 48, New Mexico St. 0 Indiana 42, UCLA 13 Oregon 49, Oregon St. 14 Utah 38, Utah St. 21 Washington St. 24, Washington 19

BASKETBALL

WNBA

Saturday's Games No games scheduled. Sunday's Games Minnesota 88, New York 79 Indiana 110, Dallas 109 Atlanta 76, Washington 73, OT Las Vegas 84, Connecticut 71 Phoenix 93, Chicago 88 Seattle 90, Los Angeles 87 Monday's Games
No games scheduled.

BASEBALL

MLB AMERICAN LEAGUE Saturday's Games Kansas City 5, Pittsburgh 1 Boston 7, N.Y. Yankees 1 Toronto 7, St. Louis 2 Cleveland 6, Tampa Bay 1 Baltimore 4, Detroit 2 Cincinnati 11, Minnesota 1

Cincinnati 11, Minnesota 1
Chicago White Sox 7, Oakland 6
Seattle 5, Texas 4
Houston 5, L.A. Angels 3
Sunday's Games
Detroit 4, Baltimore 2
Minnesota 9, Cincinnati 2
Toronto 3, St. Louis 2 Cleveland 2, Tampa Bay 0 Chicago White Sox 4, Oakland 3 Pittsburgh 4, Kansas City 3 N.Y. Yankees 5, Boston 2

Seattle 7, Texas 0 Houston 6, L.A. Angels 4 Monday's Games Minnesota (López 15-8) at Cleve-land (Boyd 2-1), 6:40 p.m. Detroit (Mize 2-6) at Kansas City (Lugo 16-8), 7:40 p.m.

(Lugo 16-8), 7:40 p.m.
Oakland (Estes 7-7) at Chicago
Cubs (Imanaga 13-3), 7:40 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Cannon 3-10)
at L.A. Angels (Detmers 4-6), 9:38 p.m.
Houston (Arrighetti 7-12) at San
Diego (Darvish 5-3), 9:40 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE NATIONAL LEAGUE
Saturday's Games
Kansas City 5, Pittsburgh 1
Toronto 7, St. Louis 2
Washington 4, Miami 1
Philadelphia 6, N.Y. Mets 4
Cincinnati 11, Minnesota 1 Atlanta 10, L.A. Dodgers 1 Colorado 6, Chicago Cubs 5, 10

innings Milwaukee 15, Arizona 8 San Diego 8, San Francisco 0 Sain Plaids Constitution of the Constitution o Toronto 3, St. Louis 2 Pittsburgh 4, Kansas City 3 Chicago Cubs 6, Colorado 2 San Diego 4, San Francisco 3, 10 innings

Arizona 11, Milwaukee 10, 10 innings L.A. Dodgers 9, Atlanta 2 LA. Doogers 9, Atlanta 2

Monday's Games

Washington (Irvin 10-12) at N.Y.

Mets (Manaea 11-5), 7:10 p.m.

L.A. Dodgers (Yamamoto 6-2) at

Atlanta (Fried 9-9), 7:20 p.m.

Oakland (Estes 7-7) at Chicago

Cubs (Imanaga 13-3), 7:40 p.m.

Philodelphia (Sufara 12-6) at Mili Philadelphia (Suárez 12-6) at Milwaukee (Civale 6-8), 7:40 p.m.

Pittsburgh (Skenes 10-2) at St. Louis (Pallante 6-8), 7:45 p.m.
Arizona (Nelson 10-6) at Colorado (Senzatela 0-0), 8:40 p.m. Houston (Arrighetti 7-12) at San Diego (Darvish 5-3), 9:40 p.m.





The Tuesday Green Valley golf championship was last week. Above, winners Dave Willits, Rick Oatess, Mike Pursifull, Joe Langel and Scott DeHoff pose as winners for the individual awards. (Photo submitted)

Green Valley Golf League wraps up with its final tournament

The results are in for the 2024 Senior Green Valley Club Championship.

The overall winners were Jim Calvisky, Tom Hon, Aden Wickey and Elijah Sonni-

Individual winners were

Dave Willits, overall winner; Rick Murphy, runner-up; Rick Oatess, "A" Flite winner; George Thomas and Mike Pursiful, "B" Flite winners; Joe Langel, "C" Flite winner; Scott DeHoff, "D" Flite win-

Anthony Richardson throws 3 picks in Colts' loss to the Packers

By STEVE MEGARGEE AP Sports Writer

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) Anthony Richardson figures to produce numerous electrifying plays and youthful mistakes in his first full season as a starter.

The Indianapolis Colts quarterback delivered too many of the latter on Sunday as the Colts remained winless after losing 16-10 to the Green Bay Packers. Richardson threw three interceptions, the last coming when Evan Williams picked off his Hail Mary pass on the game's final play.

Richardson went 17 of 34 for 204 yards with one touchdown pass to go along with the three INTs. He rushed for 37 yards on four carries.

The fact the Colts still had a chance in the closing seconds is a testament to Richardson's playmaking ability.

Richardson showcased his extraordinary athleticism

by staying inbounds long enough to run 11 yards down the sideline on a fourthand-10 play to keep the Colts in the game. On the next play, the Colts scored their lone touchdown on Richardson's 4-yard pass to Alec Pierce with 1:47 left in the game.

Indianapolis had the ball on its own 41-yard line for the game's final play, but the Packers weren't taking anything for granted after Richardson already had thrown a 60-yard touchdown pass to Pierce that traveled 63 yards in the air a week ago when the Colts fell 29-27 to the Houston Texans.

Those types of plays explain why the Colts have so much confidence in their future as long as Richardson can stay healthy. After the Colts selected the former Florida quarterback with the No. 4 overall pick in the 2023 draft, Richardson played just four games as a rookie before undergoing season-ending shoulder surgery.



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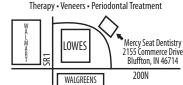
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3:00 PM Vendors and Concession Food Open

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Musiclectics

Performance - Main & Market

7:00 PM National Anthem by Musiclectics - Main & Market

7:00 PM Grand Opening Parade & Grand Marshal - Midway

(Float Award announcement after Parade) - Main & Market

8:00 PM Street Fair Band - Johnson & Washington

9:30 PM Street Fair Band - Main & Market

Wed. • **Sept.** 18

(\$25 Wristbands rides 5:00 p.m. to Close)

12:00 PM- 5:30 PM Antique and Classic

Car Show (Line up & Judging begins at noon — Awards at 5:30 PM) - *Along S. Main*

5:45 PM Antique Tractor Parade - *Midway* 6:00 PM Antique & Classic Car Parade -Midway

Wednesday Cont...

6:15 PM High School Band Parade - *Midway* 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Community Worship Night (Local Church Worship Bands play) - Ruoff Main Stage — W Washington

7:30 PM Street Fair Band - Main & Washington **9:00 PM** Street Fair Band - Market & Johnson

Thurs. • Sept. 19

(\$25 Wristbands rides 5:00 p.m. to Close)

6:00 PM Industrial Parade - *Midway*

8:00 PM - 10:00 PM Free Concert: Whoa, Man! Sponsor: Rouff Home Mortgage -Ruoff Main Stage — W Washington

7:30-8:15 PM Street Fair Band - *The Rotary* Club Stage at the Parlor City Plaza

9:00 PM Street Fair Band - Main & Market

Fri. • Sept. 20

(\$18 Wristbands rides 1:00 to 7:00 p.m.)

2:00 PM Street Fair Dixieland Band - Main & Market

3:30 PM Street Fair Dixieland Band - Market & Johnson

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Creative Arts Dance (Ballet Students Performance) - The Rotary Club Stage at the Parlor City Plaza

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Friday Cont...

6:00 PM Concert: Street Fair Band - Kiddie Area

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM FNX Wrestling - *Ruoff Main Stage — W Washington*

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Live Music (Local Artists will perform) - *The Rotary Club Stage at the* Parlor City Plaza

7:30 PM Street Fair Band - Market & Marion 9:15 PM Street Fair Band - Main & Market

Sat. • **Sept.** 21

(\$18 Wristbands rides 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - \$30 Wristbands rides 5:00 p.m. to Close)

11:00 AM Diaper Derby (Baby crawl Race) Sponsor: The Mattress & Furniture Store -Ruoff Main Stage — W Washington

11:00 AM Pony Pull - *4-H Park*

11:15 AM OPTIMIST Tractor Pull (3-7 year olds) - W Washington

11:30 AM Kids Big Wheel Race (6-8 Year olds) - W Washington

12:00 PM Prince & Princess Crowning (4-6 year olds) - The Rotary Club Stage at the Parlor City Plaza

1:00 PM Heavyweight Horse Pull - 4-H Park 2:00 PM Street Fair Dixieland Band - Market & Marion

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Saturday Cont...

2:00 PM Dinosaur Dimensions (Come experience an interactive event with your favorite dinosaurs & get a photo with one too!) - The Rotary Club Stage at the Parlor City Plaza

3:30 PM Street Fair Dixieland Band - The Rotary Club Stage at the Parlor City Plaza

4:00 PM Dinosaur Dimensions (Come experience an interactive event with your favorite dinosaurs & get a photo with one too!) - The Rotary Club Stage at the Parlor City Plaza

6:00 PM Street Fair Band - The Rotary Club Stage at the Parlor City Plaza

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM "Street Fair Idol" - Ruoff Main Stage — W Washington

9:00 PM Free Concert: "The Ultimate Garth Brooks Tribute" Sponsor: Ruoff Home Mortgage - Ruoff Main Stage - W Washington

7:30 PM Street Fair Band - Marion & Market 9:00 PM Street Fair Band - Main & Market

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How can I be included in my son's new family?

Dear Annie: My son is married missing out," is to a wonderful young woman, and they've recently started a family. She comes from a very large family; she's the youngest of nine. Our family is much smaller, consisting only of myself, my son and my daughter. We don't have any extended relatives like grandparents, aunts, uncles or cousins. It's just the three of us.

My daughter-in-law frequently hosts her family and friends for vacations, family gatherings and trips. Unfortunately, neither my daughter nor I are ever invited to these events. Since I live three hours away, I have to ask her permission to visit, and most of the time, they have plans with her own family or friends.

I often feel jealous and hurt, especially for my daughter, as she has only my son and me in terms of family. When I try to discuss this with my son, he tells me that I'm overreacting, exaggerating and being jealous. He implies that if I want to be involved in my grandchild's life, I have to accept whatever time they offer. With baby number two due in November, I'm finding it increasingly difficult to improve for you and your family. stay quiet.

approach this situation or what I umns on marriage, infidelity, commight say to improve the situation. — Green-Eyed Nana

Dear Green-Eyed Nana: It's completely understandable to feel left out and jealous when you see others enjoying family gatherings while you're excluded. FOMO, or "fear of

Dear Annie by Annie Lane real. Open com-



your one-on-one time, you might find yourself included in more events that involve her fam-

munication with

your son is key.

Express to him

how much you

would like to be

more involved in

family activities.

While it might

not increase

Since you've already noted that your daughter-in-law is wonderful, she might not realize how much you'd appreciate being included. It might help to let her know that you'd love to join more family gatherings.

Additionally, with the arrival of baby number two, there may be opportunities for you to help. Make sure to communicate your willingness to assist, emphasizing your desire to be supportive rather than focusing on feeling left out.

Best of luck, and I hope things

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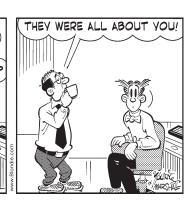


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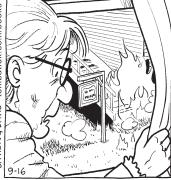




CRANKSHAFT







My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham

Question: How can we know the soul and conscience are real? They have never been seen – not even by medical experts. What is the key to this phenomenon? -S.C.

Answer: God has put within each one of us something that cries aloud against us; it bears witness whenever we do that which we know to be wrong (see Romans 1:19, 2:15). The conscience is the detective that watches the direction of our steps and decries every conscious transgression. It is not imagination but rather a vigilant eye before which each imagination, thought, and act, is held up for either censure or approval.

"And the Lord God formed man ... and **Every human being** is a living soul with a conscience

man became a living soul" (Genesis 2:7, KJV). Likewise, the 'conscience also [bears] witness" (Romans 2:15, KJV).

Every human being is a living soul with a conscience (described as the light of the soul in Proverbs 20:27), not to be confused with the Holy Spirit which resides only in those who belong to God through salvation in His Son, Jesus Christ.

The conscience causes a warning light to go on inside when we do wrong. It wants to steer us away from evil and toward good. Even when the conscience is dulled or darkened by sin, it can still bear witness to the reality of good and evil and to the holiness of God.

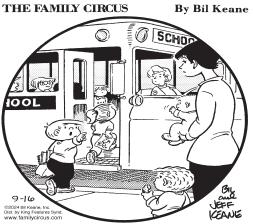
The German philosopher Immanuel Kant once stated that there were two things that filled him with awe: the starry heavens above and the human conscience within.

Persistent sin can dull or even silence our conscience. On the other hand, persistent attention to God's Word will sharpen our conscience and make us more sensitive to moral and spiritual danger. We are instructed to "cleanse [our] conscience" (Hebrews 9:14, NKJV), "not with fleshly wisdom but by the grace of God" (2 Corinthians 1:12,

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

Graham.) ©2024 Billy Graham Literary Trust. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



.. and when you find my homework, Mommy, be sure to email it to me right away."

The LOCKHORNS



"YES, THEY WERE GREAT SEATS, BUT I WISH THEY HADN'T BEEN RIGHT BEHIND THE BAND!"

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EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted

TOWN OF WARREN, Indiana Hiring Utility Manager. An application period for the position of full time Utility Manager is now through October 15, 2024, due to retirement. Departments to oversee include water, sewer, electric, parks and streets. Duties include employee management, project planning, maintenance of positive relationships with the public, all employees and officers of the Town, representation at workshops and meetings, scheduling of regular day to day and long term operations. The position is a mix of office and field work. Must hold at least a WT3 or DSM license, have at least eight years experience with managerial a plus. Knowledge of Electric Utility also a plus. Base pay of \$28.50 per hour adjusted upward based on experience. Benefit Package available. For information contact Lee Poulson, Utility Manager, at 260-375-3424 or

utility1@citznet.com or Clerk

Treasurer Marilyn Morrison at

townofwarrenin@gmail.com

at 260-375-2656. Application form can be found at

warrenindiana.us or by requesting through above con-

tacts. Please include resume.

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@bestoneofmon roe.com. We are an Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action Employer.

Lottery Numbers

Saturday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY Cash 5 - 04-12-19-32-

Cash4Life — 14-31-38-39-55, Cash Ball: 02 **Lotto Plus** — 11-12-18-

Quick Draw Midday —

01-04-05-07-09-12-13-21-26-36-39-52-57-58-60-65-66-67-72-76, BE: 76 Daily Three-Midda

03-05-06, SB: 00

Daily Three-Evening -00-09-09, SB: 05

Daily Four-Midday —

02-04-08-06, SB: 00 Daily Four-Evening —

01-05-04-04, SB: 05 **Quick Draw Evening**

03-05-15-16-28-35-38-55-56-57-60-63-64-67-70-72-73-74-78-80, BE: 56

Hoosier Lotto — 02-04-14-30-35-44

POWERBALL 29-34-38-48-56; Power-

ball: 16; Power Play: 2X

Sunday's Drawings HOOSIËR LOTTERY Cash 5 - 17-23-24-35-

Cash4Life — 05-15-40-51-57, Cash Ball: 02

37

Quick Draw Midday -12-15-16-17-24-30-32-37-50-52-54-55-60-70-71-74-76-77-78-79, BE: 79

Daily Three-Midday — 07-01-06, SB: 09

Daily Three-Evening — 00-06-09, SB: 00

Daily Four-Midday —

00-08-01-01, SB: 09 **Daily Four-Evening** —

08-01-08-07, SB: 00 **Quick Draw Evening**

02-06-11-12-15-17-19-26-29-31-38-46-48-52-54-59-63-64-77-78, BE: 78

Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednes-

day): \$21.6 million **MEGA MILLIONS**

Estimated jackpot (for Tuesday): \$31 million POWERBALL

Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$165 million

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Help Wanted

ENTRY LEVEL

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 and click on classifieds.

RENTALS

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BLUFFTON SENIOR VILLAS 55+ Affordable Apartments 1 & 2 Bedroom Units Available Call 260-824-5820

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Services

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

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As a resident of the Wells County

As your guide through the "Medicaid Planning"

the 'Medicaid Planning' process, Swearingen Elder Law will provide the right path to both protect your life savings and receive the quality of care we all deserve.

-OSSIAN-

1645 Hillcrest Dr., Suite 2A Ossian, IN 46777

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

Attorney Gerret J. Swearinger

• In-Home Healthcare Planning

Wills, Living Wills, & Advance Healthcare

September / 3

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Services

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VEHICLES

Campers/RV's 2018 THOR HURRICANE, Model 31Z, Class A

\$79,000, 260-307-3225.

9/16

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

King Classic Sudoku

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Public

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 1: 40.4 A 3: 18.3+/-A. Tract 4: 7.1+/-A, potential building site, 42'x56' barn, 30'x31' barn. Tract 5: 63+/-A, 55.28+/- classified forest. Tract 6: 19+/-A, 18.7+/- classified forest. Timber value appraisal available. Rick Johnloz, 260-827-8181, Emma Barr, 260-494-0992, Jason Johnloz, 260-273-9177, Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management, halderman.com, 800-424-2324.

BIDDING ENDS SEPTEMBER 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. 19 from 3-6 p.m., 7271 N 300 W-90, Markle. Sale managers Pat Carter, 260-273-8294, Brandon Steffen, 260-710-5684, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.com.

SEPTEMBER 22-SEPTEMBER 29 - 2 p.m. - (Online Only Personal Property Auction) - The Estate of Elizabeth Ann (Carter) Assorbliman, seller, 2004, Lexus 4-door sedan, exceptionally

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

SEPTEMBER 23-SEPTEMBER 30 - (Online Only) - Various

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

SEPTEMBER 24 - 2 p.m.-6 p.m. ET - Online - Don A. Heckber, farm. Property location: 11648 N SR 1 Ossian, IN. 31.63+/-total agrees, agriculture prime farmland, 31.5+/- tillable, 0.13+/-

total acres, agriculture prime farmland, 31.5+/- tillable, 0.13+/non-tillable, Topography: Level, Zoning: Agricultural, School District: Norwell Community Schools. Rick Johnloz, 260 827 8181, rickj@halderman.com, Jason Johnloz, jasonj@halderman.com, 260-273-9177, Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management, 800-424-2324, halderman.com.

SEPTEMBER 24 - 9 a.m.-6 p.m. - Online Only - The Estate of Jeffrey Brown. Two story country home situated on 2.41+/-acre lot with 2 outbuildings totaling 866 SF, Wells County. This 1,876 SF home features 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large living room, eat-in kitchen, utility room and 1 car garage. Open house: Sept. 19 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 7721 N. 300 W. Markle, IN. Sale managers Brandon Steffen, 260-710-5684, Pat Carter, 260-273-2204. The Steffen Gray Inc., steffengers com. 360-824, 2006. 8294, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006. SEPTEMBER 24-OCTOBER 1 - (Online Only) - Grover, sell-

er. Tractor, mower, tools, woodworking, primitives. Open House Sept. 28 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., 8726 S 600 W-90, Warren, IN. Sale manager, Isaac Stoller, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.com.

SEPTEMBER 25 - 9 a.m.-6 p.m. - Online Only - The Estate of Jeffrey Brown. 9.27+/- acre prime building site in Union Twp., Northern Wells County. Property features open land, wooded acreage, 24'x48' pole building. Perfect home site, country estate. "Explore the potential of this property." Open houses: Sept. 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.

SEPTEMBER 28 - 9 a.m. - Charles (Chuck) Bertsch. 3898
East 400 North, Bluffton. This is the 3rd and final auction for

the Bertsch Estate. Chuck was an avid collector of engines, motors and anything electrical. This auction has some hit and miss engines, over 100 motors, gas engines (4 hp to 12 hp), Honda 6500 generator, Aqua Blast hot water pressure washer, brass bell, Maytag motors, lots of lawn mower parts, scrap iron, Hammer drill, welder, anvil and lots more. Preview Sept. 27, 4-6 p.m. Miz Lehman Realtors/Auctioneers, 260-589-2903, www.

BIDDING NOW OPEN & STARTS CLOSING SEPTEMBER 29 6 p.m. EST - Max & Vivian Minnich, owners. Online only real estate auction! Five bedroom, 1 full bath, 2,178 sq. feet home, hardwood floors throughout, full basement, 2 car detached garage, 20'x42' pole barn, 2.055 acres, Marion Township, Allen County, Indiana, East Allen County School Corporation. Auction preview Sept. 16, 5-6 p.m. or by appointment, 13045 Wayne Trace, Hoagland. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.

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

824-3006, www.steffengrp.com.

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

OCTOBER 3 & 4 - 9 a.m. - Secured creditors & various consignors, owners. 815 Adams St., Decatur. Two day truck & equipment auction. Day 1 (Online bidding only): Over 300+ lots including skid loader attachments, tool boxes, workbenches, iron gates, chains & binders, 1 trip 40' high side shipping container w/side doors, dome shelter containers, & much more! Day 2 (Onsite and Online bidding): Offering 600+ lots! 100+/- municipal units! Cars, SUV, 1/2 ton & 3/4 ton pickup trucks, cargo & passenger vans, large group of Chevy Impalas, Tahoes, & Dodge Chargers, dump trucks, large group of box trucks, day cabs, sleepers, utility trucks, bucket trucks, mobile food trailer (like new), utility & semi trailers, SUV's, pickup trucks, 100+ vari-

ous skid loader attachments & much more! Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.

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,

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, Ham-

ilton, IN. Brandon Steffen, sale manager, 260-426-0633, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, www.steffengrp.com.

OCTOBER 13-OCTOBER 20 - (Online Only) - The Estate of Larry N. Curry, seller. 1997 Chevy Express Conversion van, 2013 Chevy Impala with 73,000 miles, John Deere LA115 riding lawn mower, rare Schwinn bikes, tools, furniture, household. Open houses Oct. 15 and Oct. 17 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 419 W.

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

Roe St., Ossian. Brandon Steffen and Rod Fetters, sale managers, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 824-3006, www.steffengrp.com. NOVEMBER 14 - 6 p.m. - Becher Family Farms LLC, sellers. Auction location: Adams Co. 4H Expo Hall, 160 W. Washington St., Monroe, IN. Four tracts, Washington Township, Adams County. Tract 1: 82.88 acres, County Rd. 200 West, Sec 18. Tract 2: 80.2 acres, County Rd. 450 North, Sec 8. Tract 3: 35.05

acres, County Rd. 450 North, Sec 9. Tract 4: 39.97 acres, Coun-

ty Rd. 400 North, Sec 9. Heartland Auction & Realty, Inc., 260-

724-3499, heartlandauctionrealty.com.

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OSSIAN DAYS 2024



Drew Ritchie and his daughter, Adelaide, enjoy the merry-go-round during the festival. (Photo by Sydney Kent)



At left are the division winners - Hanson for 26 years and older, Alexander Dudgean for 15-25 year-olds, Carson Power for 10-15 yearolds and Timmy Fromm for nine and younger. (Photo by Holly Gaskill)



Pictured from left to right, Melanie Marshall, Samantha Krider and Seryniti Seale are part of a baton twirling group. (Photo by Jonathan Snyder)



Jaxson Yoguelet (pictured) runs back to his grandma to show off his candy. (Photo by Sydney Kent)



As part of the Ossian Days Festivities, a race of big wheel tricycles was held near F&M Bank on Saturday. Crew Wolff, back, attempts to chase down race leader Keegan Clark, left, and Sophia Bristol. (Photo by Jonathan Snyder)



John Smith helps his granddaughter, Liberty Smith, catch a plastic fish at one of the Ossian Days games. (Photo by Holly Gaskill)

NATO military committee chair, others back Ukraine's use of long range weapons to hit Russia

PRAGUE (AP) — The head of NATO's military committee said Saturday that Ukraine has the solid legal and military right to strike deep inside Russia to gain combat advantage — reflecting the beliefs of a number of U.S. allies — even as the Biden administration balks at allowing Kyiv to do so using American-made weapons.

"Every nation that is attacked has the right to defend itself. And that right doesn't stop at the border of your own nation," said Adm. Rob Bauer, speaking at the close of the committee's annual meeting, also attended by U.S. Gen. CQ Brown, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Bauer, of Netherlands, also added that nations have the sovereign right to put limits on the weapons they send to Ukraine. But, standing next to him at a press briefing, Lt. Gen. Karel Řehka, chief of the General Staff of the Czech Armed Forces, made it clear his nation places no such weapons restrictions on Kyiv.

"We believe that the Ukrainians should decide themselves how to use it,' Řehka said.

Their comments came as U.S. President Joe Biden is weighing whether to allow Ukraine to use Americanprovided long-range weapons to hit deep into Russia. And they hint at the divisions over the issue.

Biden met with British Prime Minister Keir Starmer on Friday, after this week's visit to Kyiv by their top diplomats, who came under fresh pressure to loosen weapons restrictions. U.S. officials familiar with discussions said they believed Starmer was seeking Biden's approval to allow Ukraine to use British Storm Shadow missiles for expanded strikes in Russia.

Biden's approval may be needed because Storm Shadow components are made in the U.S. The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity to share the status of private conversations, said they believed Biden would be amenable, but there has been no decision announced yet.

Providing additional support and training for Ukraine was a key topic at the NATO chiefs' meeting, but it wasn't clear Saturday if the debate over the U.S. restrictions was discussed.

Many of the European nations have been vigorously supportive of Ukraine in part because they worry about being the next victim

of an empowered Russia. At the opening of the meeting, Czech Republic President Petr Pavel broadly urged the military chiefs gathered in the room to be "bold and open in articulating your assessments and recommendations. The rounder and the softer they are, the less they will be understood by

the political level." The allies, he said, must "take the right steps and the right decisions to protect our countries and our way of

The military leaders routinely develop plans and recommendations that are then sent to the civilian NATO defense secretaries for discussion and then on to the nations' leaders in the alliance.

The U.S. allows Ukraine to use American-provided weapons in cross-border strikes to counter attacks by Russian forces. But it doesn't allow Kyiv to fire long-range missiles, such as the ATAC-MS, deep into Russia. The U.S. has argued that Ukraine has drones that can strike far and should use ATACMS judiciously because they only have a limited number.

Ukraine has increased its pleas with Washington to lift the restrictions, particularly as winter looms and Kyiv worries about Russian gains during the colder months.

"You want to weaken the enemy that attacks you in order to not only fight the arrows that come your way, but also attack the archer that is, as we see, very often operating from Russia proper into Ukraine," said Bauer. "So militarily, there's a good reason to do that, to weaken the enemy, to weaken its logistic lines, fuel, ammunition that comes to the front. That is what you want to stop, if at all possible."

Brown, for his part, told reporters traveling with him to the meeting that the U.S. policy on long-range weapons remains in place.

But, he added, "by the same token, what we want to do is - regardless of that policy — we want to continue to make Ukraine successful with the capabilities that have been provided" by the U.S. and other nations in the coalition, as well as the weapons Kyiv has been able to build itself.



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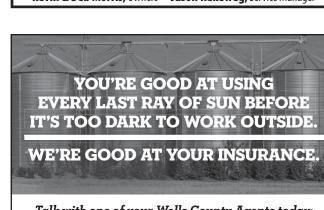


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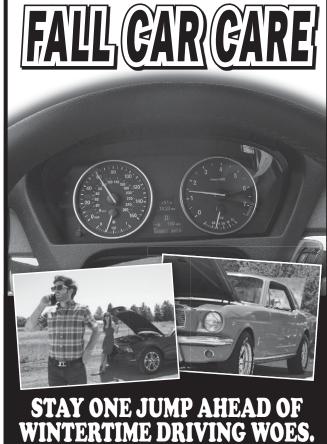
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