

Bluffton fills economic development vacancy

By JONATHAN SNYDER

Jessica Beste has been officially hired by the Board of Public Works and Safety Tuesday as the new economic development director.

Beste's hire comes nearly seven months after the dissolution of the economic development branch within the Wells County Chamber of Commerce, which both the county and city governments partnered with. Board member Scott Mentzer said that the county is in agreement with the city that Beste is qualified for the position.

"It's exciting to get this position filled," board member Josh Hunt said. "I know that everybody wanted somebody that was local and that was a hard thing to try and match, so I'm excited to get moving on."

While Beste will be classified as a city employee, the county and city will draft an agreement for Beste's services, the nature of which is still unofficial. Beste will officially start on Oct. 28, and will have a consultant available to help her in the early days.

Beste previously worked at Stockton Mortgage in Bluffton as a mortgage lender. She has worked in finance as a mortgage lender for the last 17 years and is a current Chamber of Commerce ambassador. Beste will be paid \$97,000 a year and, tentatively, the county will shoulder slightly more expenses than the city. Mentzer stated that a meeting in the next couple of weeks will work out the exact split.

(Continued on Page 2)



Pictured are the three candidates running for two seats on the board of trustees for Norwell Community Schools — Jeremiah Tomlin, Cathie Peterson and Todd Nash. (Photo by Holly Gas-kill)

Norwell forum tackles tax rates, enrollment, policies

By HOLLY GASKILL

In a forum Tuesday evening, candidates for Norwell Community Schools' two open board seats were challenged on financial oversight, decision making and community relationships.

All three candidates were present for the forum — Cathie Peterson and Jeremiah Tomlin are both running to succeed Angie Topp in the Lancaster Township seat, and Todd Nash is unopposed for Gene Donaghy's Jefferson Township seat.

Moderator Erin Prible, executive director of the Wells County Chamber of Commerce, led with two questions about the district's tax rate and their perspective on community's tax dollars. I think we need to really just make sure that we're focusing more on needs and not necessarily wants."

Tomlin also referenced his experience as a construction at Hagerman, saying, "I've never seen construction costs drop, not once. In fact, (construction costs are) significantly more expensive in 2024 than in 2020 when everybody thought the world was ending. So I can't speak in favor of freezing all improvements and hoping for a sunnier day, because I just don't see it."

Alongside this, the candidates next discussed their perspectives on growing enrollment to increase a revenue source for teacher salaries and educational programs. Both Peterson and Tomlin acknowledged the desire to grow but believe the district should first consider students who live within the district and choose to attend school elsewhere. Tomlin referenced a conversation he had before the forum, where someone claimed 235 students in the Norwell district attend Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan Schools. "If 10% of our 2,300 kids are going to Bluffton, what can we do to make that five in two or three years?" he questioned.

Jefferson Township, Ossian boards continue stalemate with fire protection contract

By SYDNEY KENT

Heated arguments continued with no resolution between the Ossian Town Council and the Jefferson Township Advisory Board during Monday evening's council meeting.

The parties have been in negotiations for a new fire contract that would allow both sides to equally pay for the Ossian Fire Department's operating budget. The department provides an equal share of runs to both the town and the township.

Board member AJ Springer asked the council if they would be willing to pay the township and allow the township to pay the fire department. During a meeting earlier this month, member David Haiflich said a resident had posed the question.

The town held firm in its position to keep the contract as it is, with the town paying the fire department, and the township paying the town.

Council President Josh Barkley advised that the reason for this was the 10-monthlong feud between the parties. Township board president Tim Baker and council member Dennis Ealing argued over the semantics of the length of time they spent arguing before Barkley interjected. "At the last meeting, I asked multiple times if you had questions on the budget," Barkley said. "His response was no. And in the agreement, we made the changes that you asked for."

"You didn't have the fire budget at the time," Baker claimed. Haiflich agreed, stating that the board was not presented with the budget.

Multiple members of the council corrected the statement, reminding the board members that the fire budget had been presented at a joint meeting that both Baker and Haiflich chose not to attend. Springer, who attended the meeting and reviewed the fire budget with the council, advised his fellow board members did in fact receive the budget.

"I emailed you guys the budget the very next day," Springer said.

Several members of the council and board overlapped in an echo chamber of arguments that had been discussed at prior meetings for months.

"Do you have any other questions?" Barkley asked through the palavering. "You have a signed contract we've accepted and we're not going back on that contract. I am (Continued on Page 2)



recent facility projects. The district administration has echoed a desire to maintain the tax rate despite increasing assessed property values.

All three candidates gave similar statements — while maintaining facility improvements is important, the district must consider fiscal responsibility to taxpayers. Regarding recent improvements like the Ossian Elementary School "refresh," Nash commented that it was "cosmetics," and that "at the end of the day, that's not what makes your school great."

Peterson, a real estate broker, added, "I firmly believe in being good stewards of our

"If we create a culture that people want to be a part of, and where people are staying (Continued on Page 2)

Pictured left to right are Ben Renkenberger of United Way, Stacey Stumpf of Cancer Services of Northeast Indiana, Jennyfer Balkema of Camp Watcha Wanna Do and Vicki Bell of Wells Community Boys & Girls Club. (Photo by Barbara Barbieri)

LiGHT grants to 4 non-profits serving women and children

RSD identifies issues with sewer lines after rainfall

By JONATHAN SNYDER

Wells County Regional Sewer District Superintendent Lewis Brown discussed infiltration of rainwater throughout their sewer lines with the district board Tuesday.

Brown gave a report showing that increased rainfall has led to significantly higher sewage flow than normal. Throughout September, the average flow with no rainfall was approximately 43,000 gallons of sewage flow. Once steady rainfall hit from the Sept. 22-29, the average shot up to about 61,000 gallons.

The exact infiltration area is still unknown. Brown, and RSD member and Bluffton Utility Director Jon Oman are still discussing a potential smoke test on RSD lines to find the problematic areas. Oman stated that a discussion of time and monetary expectations from the RSD and the city need to be set out before any decisions are made, but noted that there will be a better understanding by the next meeting. Ryan LeFeld of Choice One Engineering is looking for companies that can do smoke tests, with the expectation that the tests will take about two weeks to complete.

Additionally, RSD attorney Mark Burry notified the RSD that it may need to raise its rates soon. Burry stated that the current rates have not changed since day one, and that Adams County is expected to raise its rates soon. Thanks to increases on treatment costs, future pump replacement fees and other maintenance fees down the road may force the RSD's hand.

Additionally, long lead times for equipment forces the RSD to budget long term for equipment replacement, according to Burry. (Continued on Page 2) Four non-profit groups serving women and children in Wells county were presented grants Monday evening as the members of LiGHT met and voted on the recipients for 2024.

By BARBARA

BARBIERI

This year \$8,300 was available for grant giving with the endowment fund tapped to bring the total to \$8,850. All those who had donated \$25 or more during the year were eligible to vote on recipients.

Presented grants were:

• Camp Watcha Wanna Do: \$1,550 to send three children diagnosed with cancer to camp for a week. Request presented by Jennyfer Balkema.

• Cancer Services of

Northeast Indiana: \$1,200 to provide mental health and emotional support services for Wells county mothers diagnosed with cancer. Requested by Stacey Stumpf. • United Way of Wells county: \$3,000 to provide funding for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, providing a book a month for chil-

ing a book a month for children in the county through age 5. Request presented by Ben Renkenberger.

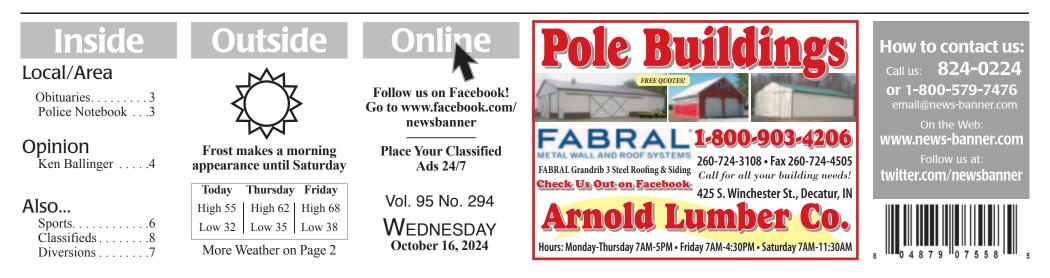
• Wells Community Boys & Girls Club: \$3,000 to provide funding for club wellness, providing services to combat depression and anxiety utilizing the Run Hard Rest Well program. Requested by Vicki Bell.

Representatives of all 10 groups were invited to give two-minute presentations explaining how their grant would be used if granted. The other requests included: Community Care of Northeast Indiana: \$2,023; Caylor-Nickel Foundation YMCA: \$1,127; Helping Hands Family Resource Center: \$2,450; New Life Christian School: \$1,630; Run Hard Rest Well: \$2,700; and YWCA of Northeast Indiana: \$2,500.

Kim Gentis welcomed the ladies to the evening and Jessica Beste introduced all of the presenters.

Other projects championed by the board of directors are the county's Prom Exchange, assistance to the Run Hard Rest and the Women in Leadership program.

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LOCAL/NATION

Economic development

(Continued from Page 1)

Also during the meeting, Police Chief Kyle Randall announced he is looking to replace a vehicle after it was involved in a September crash. Randall is looking for a 2024 Police Interceptor, stating that a straddled semi truck tire that was still on the rim hit the vehicle head on at road speed. The officer involved was uninjured, but the car is considered totaled by the police department's insurance company.

"We watched the video on the car and there was really nothing the officer could do," Randall said.

Randall stated that a replacement vehicle will cost about \$42,000, with insurance covering \$27,000 worth of cash expenses, the reinstallation of police equipment and decals. The board decided to pay for the expense out of Public Safety LIT funds and look into a transfer to replenish that fund at a future Common Council meeting.

The board also sent an issue about an unsafe building at 1325 West Cherry St. to the city attorney. Building Department Commissioner Richard Triplett stated that while the board initially heard about the issue on July 23, some legal concerns with the wording of the enforcement notice needed addressing by City Attorney Tony Crowell.

A shed with a collapsing roof is the target of concern for Triplett and the board, with a demolition order the next course of action for the city. Triplett further noted that the owners have not communicated with him about the issue, despite giving 120 days notice.

Additionally, the board approved a \$20,000 transfer from the 911 dispatch center's wages line item to its overtime line item. The lack of staff in the department has caused the need for the transfer, according to 911 Director Mike Miller. Miller also noted that two additional employees will be available in about a week and a half, which should ease the burden and carry them through the rest of the year.

The board also approved raises for

Wastewater Plant Supervisor Tony Fey and Electric Department groundman Josh Jellison. Additionally, a new schedule of wages for the Utility Department was approved, raising the maximum salaries for all employees by 3%. Police, fire and other city department entities received a three percent increase on salary maximums by the Common Council in its meeting afterwards.

The council also signed an interlocal agreement with Harrison Township that allows township funds to be used for parks improvements in the area. Bluffton's Park Board and Harrison Township's Board of Trustees both signed the agreement that gives the township the choice to help fund any projects they see fit. While the ordinance involving the agreement was passed, the agreement itself between township, city and park was not yet signed.

Additionally, the council approved the 2025 budget on second reading.

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Norwell forum

(Continued from Page 1) here, then other people are naturally going to want to gravitate to our community as well," Peterson stated. "Why are we losing our students to other local schools?"

Nash, on the other hand, acknowledged the balance between increasing enrollment and the additional costs associated with a growing student body.

The next set of questions addressed the authority of the board — "only in the context of school board meetings," and "policymaking not administrative," as was read from the prepared questions. The candidates were asked about the distinct role, how they would make decisions and any potential policy goals they had.

Peterson first acknowledged the importance of confidentiality with school board issues, but added, "We are elected officials, and I do believe that we have an obligation to our community members to be able to answer questions within reason, to be able to go back to the board and ask questions that are pertinent."

Not looking to revise any current policies yet, Peterson noted that the administrators and teachers working firsthand with students should inform the policy-making process.

"They're in the trenches,

our role is. I just need to believe that our policy-making is geared in the direction of what's best for everyone, not just for some, and that we're ultimately thinking about our children at the end of the day."

Nash similarly affirmed that confidential board matters shouldn't be discussed outside of meetings and that he felt the current board has balanced its functions well. "If they (administration) need somebody to basically watch over them, we probably need somebody different," he concluded.

Tomlin also acknowledged the "criticism" and "gossip" that follows board decisions and said he didn't want to be a part of that discourse. "As a new board member, I'm going to have to sit back, listen, do a lot of learning, have a lot of conversations with the existing board, with the community members, see what's not working before I decide I want to change something policy-related," he said.

The final questions tackled the candidates' perspectives on engaging with the community — the first of which addressed the board's response to unfair public criticism of the administration or staff members. In previous district strategic planning meetings, community members have included social media criticism

"Sometimes you've got to let things go," Nash said. "And at times, though, I think if it becomes large enough, or you think it's going to get worse, then you've got to step in."

Peterson differed, saying she didn't feel it is the board's responsibility to "police social media" and that conversations should happen in privacy.

The candidates then discussed how they would continue to "enhance transparency" within the district — all of whom immediately stated that finding the district's minutes and agendas online was not user-friendly. Peterson said she's begun posting the agendas and minutes on her social media to increase visibility.

Furthermore, Tomlin said it was unclear how and when to give comments during the board meetings. Nash, however, wanted to encourage people to speak directly with administration and teachers outside of board members, noting that the public speaking format is often intimidating. Peterson added she'd like more "town hall-style" meetings for general feedback.

The last prepared question allowed the candidates to share their perspectives on Norwell's partnership with organizations like Campus Life, Alive and Well, and LifeWise Academy, which were quite positive. Each Peterson summarized her campaign with three words: accessibility, transparency and accountability. She highlighted her desire to see her own children live in Wells County and hopes to see the district engage more with the community.

"I really feel now is the time that we need to focus on the good that we have, and focus on growing that," she said. "And as I said before, that's going to draw other people to the good that we have and make them want to be a part of what we have."

Tomlin expressed a similar hope for his children and referenced Winston Churchill, "First we build the buildings, and then the buildings build us." He stated he wants to offer specifically create opportunities for the bottom and top 25% of students, helping the highest achievers reach new heights and providing additional support to those who need it.

"I love where Norwell has continued to try to be better over the years, and I'm excited to be a part of it tomorrow," he concluded. Nash also shared his love

for the district, all that it has accomplished and the ways he sees it can still grow. "I just saw a need — I filled it," he said, referring to his decision to run for the vacant seat. "I think I bring to the table an ability to find problems and solve them. I don't have a large agenda." No one submitted questions during the open-ended time for audience participation.



Wednesday, October 16, 2024 (24-hour observations at 9:45 p.m. Tuesday) High: 51; Low: 40; Precipitation: 0.09 inches of rain Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.08 feet at 7:45 p.m. Tuesday

Wells County forecast

Today: Widespread frost, mainly before 9 a.m. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 55. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Tonight: Patchy frost after 1 a.m. Otherwise, partly cloudy, with a low around 32. Northwest wind around 5 mph becoming calm.

Thursday: Widespread frost before 9 a.m. Otherwise, sunny, with a high near 62. Calm wind.

Thursday Night: Areas of frost after 5 a.m. Otherwise, clear, with a low around 35. Calm wind.

Friday: Areas of frost before 9 a.m. Otherwise, sunny, with a high near 68.

Friday Night: Clear, with a low around 38. Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 71. Saturday Night: Clear, with a low around 41.



they're in the day-to-day and they know better than I do," Peterson said. "I think they know better than most of us ... As far as policy-making, I do believe that that's what

among the challenges the district faces.

Both Nash and Tomlin felt the board should assess the situation and respond or not respond accordingly.

has children involved in at least one of the groups.

In closing, each candidate spoke about their inspiration and vision for running for the board of trustees.

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Fire protection contract

(Continued from Page 1)

not going through this circus — this is a flat-out circus."

Haiflich reiterated that he asked for a sit-down meeting, to which Barkley reminded him he had a sit-down meeting scheduled last month. Ealing claimed Haiflich and Baker are attempting to stall negotiations until time runs out to sign the new contract — in hopes that the township only pays a portion of their responsibility for the fire budget once again.

"I am tired of you wasting the taxpayers' time," Barkley yelled through the noise. "The contract stands, along with our budget and the letter. Dec. 31,

we will need to know where to park the fire trucks."

"You'll know," Haiflich said before walking out of the meeting with Baker.

At the end of the meeting, a resident asked why the town was not willing to look at the township's contract.

"Why didn't we get a new contract three months ago if that was their intention?" member Jeff Kemper asked. "My problem is (that) we have a clerk and a whole staff that handles –"

"I'm talking about the contract they want to present," the resident interjected. "They have a new one and wanted to present it tonight."

Springer advised the woman that

the board had not drafted a new contract. Ealing reiterated that by the time the township board finalizes a contract to bring it to the town, it will be too late.

"They also had the opportunity to bring us those suggestions at last month's meeting," member Stephanie Tucker noted. "We made changes they specifically wanted, and they should have asked for that in that meeting."

The Jefferson Township Advisory Board is scheduled to meet at 6 p.m. on Thursday at the Northern Wells Central Office.

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Sewer line issues

(Continued from Page 1)

No figures were stated at the meeting.

"We report our balance on the books and everybody says, 'You're flushed with cash, why are you worrying about the budget?" RSD member Andy Stoller said. "We know that we have massive expenses coming, it's as sure as we're sitting here that we have massive outgoings and capital that we need to have to maintain an operational district that has to operate."

Reported smell issues in Murray were also discussed by the RSD. Brown stated that he and Oman will be working to decipher the problems there, with Oman stating that there are some methods, at a shared cost for both city and the RSD, to address the smell if it continues. Brown theorized that there may be some smell problems coming from Kingsland due to the longer times that sewage lays in those lines. Brown hopes that with more connections, the smell will dissipate a little bit.

Furthermore, Brown announced that the RSD truck has new tires installed, but information on the RSD's request for SRF to fund a crane on the truck has not been given to the RSD. Insuring main lift stations and generator sets for the RSD were also discussed as well as a drop box for the RSD.

Brown reported that nine houses are yet to connect in Craigville, with four of them vacant. Kingsland has 10 houses yet to connect with three scheduled. Brown also stated that 2026 is the earliest for a potential Tocsin project, after SRF

denied the RSD's funding requests. jonathan@news-banner.com



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LOCAL/AREA

OBITUARIES

Roslyn Seabury Collins, 93

Roslyn Seabury Collins, 93, of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, died Aug. 11, 2024.

She is survived by her children, Jean Collins Seabury of St. Paul, Minnesota, Glenn H. Collins (married to Temma M. Collins) of Cleveland Heights, and Mark E. NeuCollins (married to Ryan E. NeuCollins) of Atlanta; as well as by eight grandchildren and two great-granddaughters. She was pre-

ceded in death by her husband of 55 years, Jack T. Collins, M.D.; parents, John and Elsie Seabury of Long Island, New York, and sisters, Ginny Appelt and Beryl Connery.

Ros attained a B.A. in English and journalism, graduating with honors from Ohio Wesleyan University. She worked as an advertiser copywriter for Halle Bros, Ohio, as an editor for the League of Women Voters of Indiana, as an editorwriter for Bluffton Wells County Visitors

Arno Sonnenberg, 84

Arno Kent Sonnenberg, 84, passed away into the arms of Jesus, his Savior on Oct. 14,2024.

He was born in Fort Wayne to Robert Dale and Mabel Mae (Shady) Sonnenberg on Sept. 24, 1940. He met his wife, Ella Marie (Cookie) Aeschliman at the Dutch Mill restaurant in Bluffton, where Arno worked as a cook and Cookie as a car hop. They were married at Uniondale UMC on Aug. 25, 1962.

Arno was employed at International Harvester, later Navistar, retiring in 2000 after 41 years of service. He loved his job as product engineer in the paint lab where he tested paints and helped solve production problems at Harvester manufacturing sites.

Arno and Cookie had a family of four loving sons and six grandchildren. He adored his grandchildren and often wrote letters and funny stories about animals to them while he was in Wolverine, Michigan, for the winter.

Arno and Cookie enjoyed their seasonal home in Wolverine where they snowmobiled with their friends and family well into their late 70s. They also enjoyed hunting for morels, hunting Petoskey stones on Lake Michigan beaches, riding ATV's and side by sides and simply loved God's beautiful creation of Northern Michigan.

At home, they raised Arabian horses and attended many horse shows. He also restored and painted several International Scouts over the years with his sons as well as Cub Cadet garden tractors and full size tractors. He also painted many other cars and trucks for family and friends. Arno loved baking pies, cookies



Council, and as a medical writer for Caylor Nickel Hospital and Foundation.

For 18 years, she was the county division treasurer of the American Heart Association, served on the executive committee for the revitalization of Bluffton, was a founding member of the Wells County Arts Council, was president of the Fork and Hoe Garden Club, and was an active participant in many civic endeavors.

Throughout her long life, Ros was known for her devotion to and practice of the arts, for her gregarious upbeat personality and wonderfully infectious laugh, for her 75-year involvement with her Theta sisters; and for her long-standing commitment to the Methodist Church. She was an inspiration to many.

Services were held on Aug. 29, 2024 at Church of the Savior in Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

and cakes during his retirement years. Arno also enjoyed hunting for Indian artifacts and as usual it was a family affair. He passed a love of all these things to his sons, daughters and grandchildren.

Arno was a member of Murray Missionary Church where he served as a trustee on the board, he served as an usher and was a VBS volunteer for several years.

Survivors include his beloved wife Ella Marie (Cookie) of 62 years; sons, Kent Douglas Sonnenberg, Michael Dale (Ange-la) Sonnenberg and Steven Lee (Andrea) Sonnenberg; grandchildren, Emma Katheryn Sonnenberg, twins Samantha Marie (Parker) Braun and Madelyn Louise (Nicolas) Alles, Avery Brynn Sonnenberg, Nolan Christopher Sonnenberg, and Mollee Nicole Sonnenberg; and a sister, Cinda Gater.

Preceding him in death were a son Chris Allen Sonnenberg in 1986, his parents and his brother, Werden Sonnenberg.

Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. to noon on Friday, Oct. 18, 2024 at Murray Missionary Church. A celebration of life service will be held at noon at the church. Pastor Mike Gilbert will officiate services. Burial will take place at Oaklawn Cemetery in Ossian at a later date.

Memorial contributions can be made in Arno's memory to the American Heart Association, American Cancer Society or National Kidney Foundation.

Online condolences can be made atwww.goodwincaleharnish.com.

Goodwin - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel have been entrusted with funeral arrangements.

Ossian Rotary to host local traveling registered veterinary technician

BLUFFTON HIGH SCHOOL EXCHAINCE IS EXPECTED HERE .

Principal for a Day

Bluffton High School Principal Steve Baker has hosted "Principal for a Day" nearly every school year since 2000 to give community members and local/state officials an inside look at programs and classes at BHS. After announcing his retirement for the

end of this school year, Baker hosted three special guests today for his last "Principal for a Day" event: his family.

His children are Bluffton High School graduates - Amy (Class of 2010) and Nathan (Class of 2008) - and Mrs. Loni Baker is a retired educator of 30 years. They toured BHS together and visited with students before sharing their experiences as educators (and children of educators) to the education career pathway students.

The family is pictured above, and at right, Baker and his family talk with Adam Atkins' Child and Adolescent Development class. (Photos provided)



Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City: Monday, 2:08 p.m., Expert Transmission. Report of unwanted party. Monday, 3:11 p.m., Bud-

get Inn. Report of harass-

Monday, 5:23 p.m., 400 block of West Washington

Street. Report of cell phone

located in yard, owner

Baldwin and West Market

streets. Driver cited for no

block of North Wausau

Court. Report of people rid-

ing ATVs in roadway.

Monday, 5:44 p.m., North

Monday, 5:52 p.m., 100

Monday, 5:57 p.m., Bud-

Monday, 6:11 p.m., 600

get Inn. Caller reported

harassment via social media.

block of West Arnold Street.

Welfare check requested for

ment.

informed.

valid license.

child.

Markle. Report of intoxicated subject refusing to leave. Saturday, 5:37 a.m., 700

Maple Heights.

block of Countryside Drive, Markle. Problem with loose dog in area.

block of Countryside Drive,

Saturday, 5:28 p.m., 6700 South Meridian Road, Poneto. Caller reported subject pointed gun at his head after he accidentally pulled out in front of him.

Saturday, 6:02 p.m., 5900 North Miller Street, Uniondale. Report of missing X-box.

Saturday, 7:35 p.m., 2300 North East Street, Craigville. Report of teens smashing windows with BB gun.

Sunday, 11:26 a.m., West 100 N and 200 W, Bluffton. E 700 N, Ossian. Caller Caller complained about driver all over road, officer residence.

did not observe bad driving.

Monday, 10:14 p.m., Saturday, 12:30 a.m., 600 2600 West Woodview Drive, Zanesville. Report of custody issue.

> Tuesday, 6:42 a.m., East 500 S and South 200 E, Bluffton. Report of stop sign and mailbox down.

Ossian:

Saturday, 9:54 p.m., 600 block of North Jefferson Street, Ossian. Protective order served on Owen Bisel.

Monday, 5:52 a.m., 2300 E 700 N, Ossian. Caller reported suspicious activity from passerby.

Monday, 3:40 p.m., North 100 E and 700 N, Ossian. Report of driver evading police by turning down long road. Maria De Los Angeles Aguilera arrested.

Tuesday, 4:46 a.m., 2300 reported vehicle outside of

ARRESTS



Ossian Rotary will hear from Lauren Smith, registered veterinary technician, at its regularly scheduled meeting Thursday morning, Oct. 17. She has been a registered vet tech for 27 years, and began doing home appointments three years ago.

A veterinary technician assists in many procedures while caring for animals, including physical examinations, dental procedures, surgeries, immunizations, euthanasia as well as client education, marketing and inventory maintenance. Technicians may also see their own appointments for procedures such as suture removal, nail trim, lab work, surgery admission and discharge, and boarding entrance exams. Being a registered vet tech requires a working knowledge of pharmaceutical drugs and common diseases - their symptoms, means of transmission, treatment and prevention - and other basic preventative health care recommendations.

Smith was born and raised in Michigan, the oldest of three girls. She played soccer, and has a black belt in taekwondo. She loves the outdoors and her hobbies include wildlife rehab and her children's sports.

Anyone is welcome to attend Ossian Rotary this Thursday morning, at 7:30



Lauren Smith

at First Baptist Church of Ossian, 1001 Dehner Drive, for this program. Please note that if Norwell Schools has a weather delay or cancellation due to weather, Ossian Rotary will cancel its meeting for that day.

For more information, please contact Matthew Gullion, Ossian Rotary President, at mwgullion@gmail.com.

Legion to host dinner Friday

The American Legion Post 111 in Bluffton will hold its monthly dinner on Oct. 18 from 5-7 p.m. at the post home at 111 W Washington St. The meal includes

a loaded baked potato, side salad and dessert. Tickets are required and cost \$12. Contact Bob Buehl, 260-341-1828.

Obituary Policy

The News-Banner and "basic" obituaries free of charge for "local" deaths. "Basic" obituaries Ossian Journal publishes "basic" obituaries free of 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.



Monday, 7:12 p.m., West Perry and North Johnson N 500 W Bluffton. Caller streets. Report of car with trunk open.

Monday, 7:45 p.m., Hiday Motors. Report of subject riding bike on Main Street with no lights.

Monday, 11:22 p.m., 600 block of West Cherry Street. Officer advised subjects to turn vehicle music down, they complied.

Monday, 9:01 a.m., 1000 Hollyhock Lane. Report of hit and run, white paint transfer left.

County:

Friday, 1:03 p.m., Save On Liquor South. Multiple subjects taken into custody during traffic stop.

Friday, 2:36 p.m., 300 W and 800 N, Markle. Report of gasoline in roadway in can. Removed.

Friday, 8:44 p.m., Bluffton Regional Medical Center. Transported subject to

Sunday, 1:35 p.m., 1200 reported neighbor's pig eating their flowers. Pigs are scheduled to be food soon too.

Sunday, 5:41 p.m., S.R. 116 and 250 N, Bluffton. Occupants were lost and needing direction, officer was the man for the job.

Sunday, 8:38 p.m., 7200 S 300 W, Poneto. Report of deer in driveway, caller asking to shoot it.

Monday, 3:18 a.m., Wells County Jail. Warrant served at the jail.

Monday, 9:20 a.m., 3400 W 250 S, Liberty Center. Report of dog chained outside without shelter. Owner advised to provide shelter.

Monday, 2:10 p.m., Wells County Jail. Warrant served to Alixx Angus.

Monday, 7:07 p.m., 9300 Southeast Jeff Road, Warren. Report of harassment.

Kristopher Alan Souter, 38, Bluffton; battery – serious bodily injury, a Level 5 felony. Bond set at \$5,000.

Thad Martin Eley Jr., 28, Bluffton; assisting a criminal, a Level 6 felony, possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony, and possession of paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor. Bond set at \$10,500.

Jason Oliver Juillerat, 44, Ossian; stalking, a Level 5 felony, and intimidation, a Level 6 felony. No bond set.

Heather Angel Fitzsimmons, 49, Bluffton; possession of controlled substance, a Class a misdemeanor. Bond set at \$1,500.

Tyler Andrew Sapp, 31, Ossian; operating a vehicle with an ACE of .15 or more, a Class C misdemeanor, and operating while intoxicated endangerment, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond set at \$2.500



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Newspapers, education funding, and elections

Twice daily I quick-step to the end of the driveway where I retrieve my newspaper. In the morning it is the Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette and in the afternoon the Bluffton News-Banner. I cannot drink my morning coffee until my newspaper is carefully unfolded and prepared for proper perusal. Soon, jelly stains, toast crumbs and brown coffee cup impressions litter the pages as I lean in out of necessity to read through 73-year-old eyes.

As a kid it was the Marion Chronicle that delivered essential daily reports and statistics on my beloved Milwaukee Braves and my favorite players. Today I spend more time in the editorial sections than anywhere



else. Here my spirits are buoyed by opinions and writers who promote ideas I agree with, and I am disgusted and weary of those that displease. However, I do try to read both. I especially like reading Letters to the Editor in the JG. Some are insightful, and others just plain crazy. Some are kind, and some are cruel.

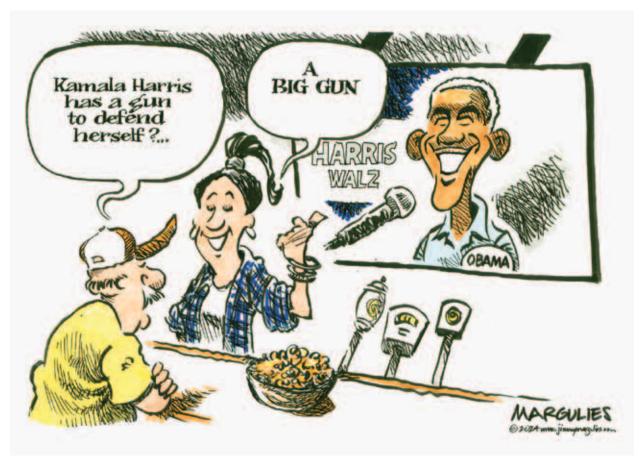
I can believe, for reasons we know well, the newspaper business must be a tough business. The pressures of delivering the news everyday or six times per week must at times be crushing. The Marion Chronicle of my youth is now just a shell of its former self. On Sunday mornings I sit and stare through the mailbox window and pine for the Sunday Journal-Gazette that never comes. What am I to do?

So, forgive me if I perform my old man whine as I visit the warm and loving homes of my beloved children and find no newspapers for casual survey, or even for packing material. It's a sign of the times. One more thing I cannot control. Admittedly, I am a failure as a parent. They say, "Dad, no one gets the paper anymore." As they flash their iPhones in my face.

As defense and example, I learned from the pages this week that 93% of all K-12 students in Indiana attend public schools. Private, mostly religious, schools educate 7% of Indiana students, but will receive 36% of new money. Since 2011, the percentage of the state budget allocated to K-12 education has dropped by 5%. Indiana's private school voucher (subsidy) program is available to any family of four that earns up to \$220,000 per year, while the median annual income for school age families is only \$67,000. The voucher system has cost taxpayers over \$1 billion since its beginning. All compliments of our Republican legislative super majority.

Many articles detail Indiana's Career and Technical Education opportunities as a practical and profitable choice for students. I am in favor of such opportunities; however, as Ball State economist Michael Hicks and others tell us weekly in the NB and JG, Indiana's college graduation rate is falling, especially among boys, and our biggest impediment to future economic success is that we have the lowest bachelor's degree attainment level (42nd nationally) among citizens of all Upper Midwestern states. The result is a lack of human capital (college graduates) necessary for attracting high income paying corporations in search of qualified employees. Good luck in finding all of that in one place on your iPhone.

As close as I can tell, I (we) have subscribed to the News-Banner for 49 years. And even though the opinion page is more conservative than I would prefer, I plan on maintaining my subscription as long as I can read, and maybe longer. The News-Banner is an invaluable asset in our community, and we are fortunate to have a daily newspaper. I have known and respected the work of many there throughout the years, their names too many to mention. Thank you to them all, past and present. Here's The Thing: What about the election? As we approach November 5th, I have feelings of great anticipation and great dread. As for previous writings I have penned critical of Donald Trump, I make no apologies. I have received much support from readers who encourage me to continue saying what they cannot. I am grateful for their support.



Obama to the rescue

"If you have a problem figuring out whether you're for me or Trump, then you ain't black.' - Joe Biden on "The Breakfast Club," 2020

"We have not yet seen the same kinds of energy and turnout in all quarters of our neighborhoods and communities as we saw when I was running."

Barack Obama, last week

The condescension inherent in these remarks is one reason why especially young Black men are moving away from the Democratic Party to which Blacks have been joined at the hip since the Franklin Roosevelt administration. This kind of tribal "group think" is designed to keep certain demographics in line and voting in perpetuity for Democrats.

Former President Obama, the only former president in my lifetime not to leave Washington after his administration ended (some believe he has been behaving as a third- term president behind the scenes of the Biden-Harris administration), has revealed by his comments there is much worry in the party that even a small departure of young Black voters could spell doom for Democrats in the coming election.

Obama is right to be concerned. According to the 2024 National Black Voter Project Longitudinal Study, a growing number of young Black voters are becoming more conservative than their Civil Rightsera parents and grandparents.

The survey shows that the highest percentage of Black conservatives, at 22.2 percent, are actually those between the ages of 18 to 29. The 30 to 44 age group makes up 18.9 percent, 45 to 64 are at 10.1 percent, and the oldest who are 65 and over come in at 4.3 percent.

Obama's chiding of young Black men is not likely to sit well with them. That Democrats have taken the Black vote for granted is a given, but more are starting to ask "what have you done for us?"

When Obama won the presidency, I wrote that he



could have a life- changing influence on African Americans by endorsing school choice. Black parents in especially inner cities like Chicago have told pollsters they want to send their children to better schools, but Democrats have ignored them because of the influence (and money) of the teacher's unions.

African Americans have been disproportionately and negatively affected for decades by Democrat policies from the welfare state, to failed public schools, high crime in their neighborhoods and the highest abortion rate of

any demographic group. Many have said politicians care about their vote (and show up at Black churches) only in an election year and then never keep their promises.

It's the same with "women's issues." The very term implies that all women think — or should think — alike, especially when it comes to abortion. Contrary views are ignored or mocked by the major media. This, too, is condescension and a form of misogyny

If Republicans can solidify even a small percentage of young Black voters, they will have secured for themselves victories up and down the ballot in this election and possibly for many elections to come. This assumes they will follow through on their promises, especially on the economy and education.

One possible line Republicans might use is "why are Democrats pro-choice when it comes to abortion, but anti-choice for educating children who are born?"

Another is a quote from the African-American economist Thomas Sowell: "Barack Obama's political genius is his ability to say things that will sound good to people who have not followed the issues in any detail - regardless of how obviously fraudulent what he says may be to those who have.'

tcaeditors@tribpub.com



Cal

Thomas

ken.ballinger@yahoo.com

Editor's Note: This is one of a series of articles and opinions written by a group of retired and current teachers — Ken Ballinger, Billy Kreigh, Kathy Schwartz, and Anna Spalding. While the columns normally appear on the Community Page, this week's "Here's the Thing" was moved to the Opinion Page due to its political nature.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Oct. 16, the 290th day of 2024. There are 76 days left in the year.

Today's highlight in history: On Oct. 16, 1962, the Cuban Missile Crisis began as President John F. Kennedy was informed that reconnaissance photographs had revealed the presence of nuclear missile bases in Cuba.

Also on this date:

In 1793, during the French Revolution, Marie Antoinette, the queen of France, was beheaded.

In 1859, radical aboli-

Election Letters Policy

The News-Banner accepts Letters to the Editor concerning local election candidates and issues. All letters must be signed; the writer's address and phone number must be included in case verification is desired. Letters are subject to editing for brevity, clarity and length; letters are limited to 500 words.

There is a limit to one letter per writer per campaign period. The editor reserves the right to refuse publication of any lefter at all times. • An appearance of a letter-writing campaign will be deemed as such and discontinued. • Letters pertaining to the Nov. 5, 2024 election must be received by Sat., Oct. 26, with the exception of responses by a candidate to any letter published on or after that date.

Submit your Letters to the Editor via: • Our website link (Submit Your Letter) • E-Mail: email@news-banner.com • Mail: PO Box 436, Bluffton IN 46714 • Drop-off: 125 N. Johnson St., Bluffton. (There is a 24-hour drop-slot available.)

tionist John Brown led a raid on the U.S. arsenal at Harpers Ferry in what was then a part of western Virginia.

In 1934, Chinese Communists, under siege by the Nationalists, began their "long march" lasting a year from southeastern to northwestern China.

In 1964, China set off its first atomic bomb, codenamed "596," on the Lop Nur Test Ground.

In 1978, the College of Cardinals of the Roman Catholic Church chose Cardinal Karol Wojtyla to be the new pope; he took the name John Paul II.

Nuclear submarines, crucial for **U.S. defense and in short supply**

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. -The nuclear submarines built here at Newport News Shipyard and at General Dynamics Electric Boat works in Groton, Conn., stealthily carry vast lethality that can deter occasions for unleashing it. The submarines are assembled to completion in both places. They are magnificent examples of applied intelligence, with a beauty akin to that of oldtime clipper ships, those elegant mergers of form and function.

A potentially lethal problem is that U.S. submarines might be too few to keep global peace during today's multifront assault on geopolitical rationality. Jerry Hendrix, retired Navy captain and senior fellow at the Sagamore Institute, wrote in American Affairs that the U.S. nuclear submarine fleet was 140 boats at its Cold War high, when everywhere Soviet submarines turned, they "found themselves being monitored and tracked" by U.S. submarines.

The most recent figures are that the U.S. submarine fleet now numbers 68, only 50 of which are of the hunter-killer "fast attack" category. And 20 of those are, Hendrix says, "in drydocks or tied to piers" because of the Navy's three-year maintenance backlog. So, "the Navy is currently short three drydocks and the workforce that goes with them." No entirely new shipyard has been built in a century.

In 1988, John Keegan, a British military historian, said the nuclear submarine was the ultimate instrument of deterrence. Deterrence depends on a capacity to prevent an adversary from believing that it can inflict a disarming first strike, leaving the attacked nation without the ability to retaliate.

Of the U.S. nuclear triad, land-



George Will

silos can be targeted, and bombers carrying nuclear weapons can be attacked. But unless the oceans become transparent, which new technologies (e.g., swarms of underwater drones; abilities to detect faint wakes or radiation) might someday make them, ballistic-missile sub-

based ICBMs in their

marines - they are called "boomers" but are masterpieces of silence - are the most dependable components of deterrence.

A former U.S. admiral has said, "It's easier to find a grapefruit-sized object in space than a submarine at sea." This, even though a boomer is nearly two football fields long. Protected by fast-attack submarines (which also menace an adversary's undersea nuclear weapons), boomers thwart an enemy's ability to locate and target all U.S. nuclear-weapon launchers — the U.S. capacity to retaliate against a nuclear attack.

There are 50 U.S. attack submarines; the Navy considers 66 requisite for today's missions and possible eventualities. Hendrix says China has anti-access/area-denial missiles and other weapons to hold at bay most U.S. military platforms. If China attacks Taiwan, most U.S. forces could not go to its defense. "But American submarines can.'

Under the trilateral AUKUS agreement, Australia is to receive up to eight nuclear-powered, conventionally armed submarines. We need a forward-based submarine force, and a submarine surge capacity for the Indo-Pacific. The nation can afford this - it cannot afford not to afford it but the industrial capacity to build

it does not exist.

An analyst at the Congressional Research Service told the Wall Street Journal last year that it could take three to five years to train a welder for working on nuclear submarines. Everything, down to sound-suppressing wrappings on pipes, must serve silence.

And the boats' complexity is incomprehensible to all but a few. The F-35 Joint Strike Fighter requires more than 8 million lines of code; nuclear submarines and their weapons require even more.

Across the nation, workers at the 2,500 suppliers of submarine components - pipes, valves, gauges, and on and on — sometimes say, "I don't know what submarines do. I just sit here and make this part." The Navy, concerned about competing for help in a tight labor market, tries to infuse its suppliers with a motivating sense of importance, telling them: "Here is what is happening in the world and how your part fits in the larger picture.'

The Apprentice School at this shipyard receives up to 4,000 applications a year (about 14 percent from people with college degrees) for about 250 places. Those admitted receive a free education of at least four years, and a chance for a job at the shipyard, where more than 80 percent of the school's graduates hired are still working 10 years later.

Those who say America "doesn't make anything anymore" should see the submarines and aircraft carriers materializing here. The shipyard is 30 miles from Yorktown, where George Washington commanded the climactic battle of the war that secured America's independence. Preservation of the nation depends heavily on what 27,000 shipbuilders do here. georgewill@washpost.com.

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FEST YLE



Above left, the painting crew at the little covered bridge on the River Greenway included left to right George Babcock, Tim Hartigan, Mike Morrissey, Bill Johson (kneeling), Dan Lautzenheiser and Ken Yake. Above right, securing the rock base of the cov-ered bridge on the River Greenway were left to right Jim Van Winkle, Tim Hartigan and Bill Johnson. (Photos provided)

'Day of Caring' at seven sites by volunteers from six churches

By BARBARA BARBIERI

Over 40 volunteers from six churches combined their talents to assist with projects at seven sites in the county during a recent "Day of Caring" three-day period.

The churches included St. Joseph Catholic Church, First Presbyterian Church, First United Methodist Church, First Church of he Nazarene, Apostolic Christian Church and First Reformed Church

The projects took place for the following groups or sites:

Bluffton Parks Department: Painting of the Red Covered Bridge and the removal

of rock from the base at site along the River Greenway.

Community Care Thrift Store: Sorting of clothes.

Grace & Mercy: Painting of interior walls and trim.

Boys & Girls Club: Landscaping of property.

Forgotten Children: Sorting of clothes. Family Centered Services: Sorting of clothing.

Family Centered Services: Landscap-

Several children recently completed the 1,000 Books Before

Kindergarten Program at the

Wells County Public Library by

reading and listening to 1,000 books with the help of family

At left, Delsi Gerber (holding her

prize book "May There Always Be Sunshine") is pictured with baby sister Halyn, mom Jenae,

Coordinating the projects this year were Jeff Miller and Dr. George Babcock.

1.000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN



Painting and shelf repair were the projects at Grace & Mercy's reception room. Workers were Dan Lautzenheiser, at left, and George Babcock on the ladder at right.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Lana Selah Rhoton

Joshua and Brittany Rhoton of Keystone, are the parents of a girl, Lana Selah Rhoton, born at 11:29 p.m. Sept. 3, 2024. She weighed 6 pounds, 5 ounces at birth and was 21 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Mike and Keely Nelson. Paternal grandparents are Jav and Lisa Rhoton. Maternal greatgrandparents are Ingrid Hughes, William Evans and Ruth Evans. Paternal greatgrandparents are Carl Rhoton, Martelle Rhoton, Herb Wade and Peggy Wade.



Fall Festival at Ouabache State Park

Friends of Ouabache State Park will be hosting a Fall Festival on Saturday, Oct. 19, with events throughout the day.

8-10 a.m.: Pancake and Sausage Breakfast, Trials End Shelter. Free will donation.

8 a.m.-4 p.m.: Santa's Shop, Trails End Shelter. Hand crafted items to remember your visit to Ouabache State Park. (Check and cash only.)

Noon-4 p.m: Halloween Scavenger Hunt beginning at the Trials End Shelter. No fee to participate. Come to the shelter to receive a clue card to locate signs of the season throughout the park taking a selfie at each site and return the completed card for a chance to win prizes.

1 p.m.: Cider Press at the Campground Shelter's west end. Watch the press in operation and have a free

sample of the cider.

2 p.m.: Cornhole Tourney at the Bouche Ball Court in the Campground. Names will be drawn to form teams once everyone is registered at 2 p.m. No fee to enter and winners will be awarded prizes.



At right, Asher Moser (holding his prize book "Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?) is pictured with his family, from left grandmother-Liz Moser; dad-Jaron Moser; sister- Aubrie Moser; mom-Jacie Moser; and grandfa-



members.

and sister Gintrie

Norwell ICE Spotlight award lan Todd

Senior Ian Todd has been selected to receive the Norwell ICE (Interdisciplinary Cooperative Education) Student of the Week award. Ian is employed at Ginger Fresh in Ossian with owner Anna Mae Graber. He is the son of Josh and Jenny Todd of Ossian.

Ian is a huge help with unloading trucks and stocking merchandise. He also assists customers by bagging and transporting groceries to the customers vehicles.

the New Hope Lutheran

Church in Ossian on Thurs-

be a "Salute to Our Vet-

erans" with the program

to be presented by Arlene

Theme for the day will

day, Nov. 7, at 11:30 a.m.

Ian Todd

After graduation, Ian plans to study Agribusiness at Huntington University.

Senior dinner to salute veterans

A Senior Citizen's Din-Stoller. ner will be hosted by

A free will offering will defray the costs. Reservations please to 260-415-1462 or 250-223-4830 calling or texting.

The church is located at 8824 N State Road 1, Ossian.

ther-Terry Moser



Brantley Arnold (holding his prize book "Follow the Moon Home) is pictured with his mom, April. Not pictured is dad, Dustin Arnold.

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

PFW's Omnibus speakers announced

This will be the 29th year for Purdue University Fort Wayne to sponsor the free Omnibus Lecture Series presented at the Auer Performance Hall at Purdue University in Fort Wayne.

Speakers have been selected including a political journalist, an author who has written about grief and a marketing professor/executive.

Oct. 24: Michael Barbaro, New York political journalist (tickets available now)



Ready for a fall family photo? Fall may just be the perfect time to catch a photo of the grand-kids or the family and Ouabache State Park has just the right place to pose for it. Near the shelter by the lake they have set up a fall "photo booth" for just such an opportunity. (And some of the leaves are beginning to color as well.) (Photo by Barbara Barbieri)



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Nov. 19: Luke Russert, (son of Tim Russert of Meet the Press fame), dealing with grief

Feb. 17: Marcus Collins, marketing information

Tickets to the programs are free and available two weeks before the date with more information at pfw. edu/omnibus.

White Bird: A Wonder Story Thursday, October 17th 6pm Friday, October 18th 6pm & 8:40pm Saturday, October 19th 2:40pm, 5:20pm & 8pm Sunday, October 20th 2pm & 4:40pm

Average Joe

Thursday, October 17th 6:20pm Friday, October 18th 6:20pm & 9pm Saturday, October 19th 3pm, 5:40pm, & 8:20pm Sunday, October 20th 2:20pm & 5pm

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Bluffton graduate Jamie Branyan to enter Manchester University athletic Hall of Fame for tennis

be receiving the highest honor from Manchester University for his time on the tennis courts next week.

The 1995 Bluffton graduate will be etched in the Spartans' Hall of Fame class on Oct. 25-26 and will be honored during Homecoming.

During his four seasons at Manchester, Braynan was a 1999 conference most valuable player, No. 3 singles and No. 1 doubles conference champion.

At Bluffton, Banyan was the 1994 MVP. In 1991, he and doubles teammate Mike

Bluffton graduate Jamie Branyan will Hoy went 17-1 and fell in the regional finals and helped the Tigers win the sectional championship.

> He wasn't just a tennis star in high school, but he was also a decorated athlete in baseball and swimming, lettering four times in baseball, three in tennis and once in swimming. As a baseball player, Branyan was all-ACAC in 1995 and won the team's MVP. He also won the Tigers' Most Improved Award.

> His athletic success earned him the 1995 Rotary Club National Athletic Scholarship Society award.

Knights get 5 soccer players on NE8's all-conference award list

Norwell netted five members to the Northeast 8 Conference boys' soccer award list.

Kyler Morris picked up first team at forward, while three were on the second team: Hudson Gerbers (midfield), Eli Randol (defender) and Philip Gaier (goalie). Noah Schamerloh was honorable mention.

The Knights finished 2-5 in the conference overall.

the trade a few hours later.

"Obviously, I'm really excited,"

said Rodgers, who spoke to Adams

a few hours after the Jets' 23-20

loss to Buffalo on Monday night

and the wide receiver told him he

added. "He's a phenomenal play-

"I love Tae," the quarterback

was joining him in New York.

Raiders trade WR Davante Adams to Jets, reunites with his former Packers' QB Aaron Rodgers

By DENNIS WASZAK Jr. **AP Pro Football Writer**

Aaron Rodgers and Davante Adams are finally reunited after more than two years of separation and one year of speculation - and now they'll try to save the New York Jets' sinking season.

The Jets acquired the disgruntled Adams from the Las Vegas Raiders on Tuesday, sending a conditional third-round pick in next year's draft, which could become a second-rounder.

"We're back, man," Adams said while briefly joining Rodgers at the Jets' facility in Florham Park, New Jersey, for the quarterback's weekly appearance on "The Pat McAfee Show." "We're back."

The deal was agreed upon Tuesday morning and was contingent on Adams passing his physical. The teams announced



Davante Adams

er and a dear friend." The 31-year-old Adams immediately boosts a Jets offense that

has been inconsistent through the first part of the season. The three-time All-

Pro joins Garrett Wilson to give Rodgers two No. 1-caliber wide receivers to throw to, complementing fellow receivers Mike Williams, Allen Lazard and Xavier Gipson, tight end Tyler Conklin and running backs Breece Hall and Braelon Allen.

"It's on us now," Rodgers said. "We're going all in.'

New York Yankees jump ahead 2-0 on Cleveland Guardians in the ALCS

By RONALD BLUM ÅP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) - Aaron Judge hit a two-run drive into Monument Park for his first home run of this postseason, and the New York Yankees beat the Cleveland Guardians 6-3 on Tuesday night to take a 2-0 AL Championship Series lead.

hits and is 3 for 7 in two games since returning from a pair of fractured fingers that caused him to miss the Division Series.

Rookie shortstop Brayan Rocchio and right fielder Will Brennan committed runscoring errors for the Guardians.

Rocchio dropped Judge's first-inning popup, allowing Torres to score. After Cleveland closed to 3-2, Brennan bobbled the ball when he tried for a barehand pickup of Rizzo's sixth-inning double that caromed off the low wall down the right-field line. Anthony Volpe, who had been on first, sprinted home.

High School Calendar

WEDNESDAY, OCT 16 No events scheduled.

7:30 p.m.; Columbia City at Norwell, 7 p.m.; South Adams at Southern Wells, 7 p.m. SATURDAY, OCT 19

CROSS COUNTRY (co-ed): (Sectional) Bluffton, Norwell, Southern Wells at Taylor, 10 a.m.

VOLLEYBALL: New Haven at Norwell, 10 a.m.

in a controversial trade

from Houston, had strongly

denied the allegations. The

29-year-old has previously

settled nearly two dozen

Cleveland after the Browns

traded a slew of draft picks

to get him and gave him a

\$230 million guaranteed

contract. The Browns are

1-5 this season and some

fans are calling for the team

to bench Watson in favor of

backup Jameis Winston.

Watson has struggled in

civil lawsuits.

Commissioner Roger Goodell says league still reviewing latest claims against Deshaun Watson

By ROB MAADDI AP Pro Football Writer

ATLANTA (AP) NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said the league is still reviewing the latest claims of sexual assault and battery against Deshaun Watson.

The Cleveland Browns quarterback resolved the civil lawsuit filed against him by the woman but that doesn't preclude him from being disciplined by the league.

We're continuing our review like we would," Goodell said Tuesday at the conclusion of the league's fall meeting. "As you know, we take the personal conduct policy seriously so our people are working diligent-

The league, per standard procedure, has sought to interview the plaintiff

Unbeaten Hoosiers, Cignetti and QB dominate B10 midseason awards

By ERIC OLSON **AP College Football Writer**

First-year coach Curt Cignetti promised a new and improved Indiana, and he has delivered with the unbeaten Hoosiers off to their best start since 1967.

The Hoosiers have already doubled their win total from last season, and for that they earned four of the 10 Associated Press Big Ten midseason awards.

Nine AP writers who cover the conference voted 16th-ranked Indiana the most surprising Big Ten team of the first half of the season, Cignetti the top coach and quarterback Kurtis Rourke the top first-year transfer and most surprising player.

Since 1968, the season after its only Rose Bowl appearance, Indiana has finished with just 12 winning records and never won more than eight games. The Hoosiers went 14-7 in 2019-20 but slipped back to 9-27 the next three seasons.

Enter Cignetti, who at 63 has his first head coaching job in a power conference. He arrived after going 52-9 in five seasons at James Madison and flipped the Indiana roster with 54 newcomers, half of them transfers. Of the 27 transfers, 13 followed him from James Madison. The one who has made the biggest impact came from Ohio: Rourke, a sixthyear player who has made a better-thanexpected transition from the Mid-American Conference to the Big Ten. His 292 yards passing per game rank second in the league, he's tied for the lead with 14 touchdown passes, and his 73.8% completion rate is third in the country. He's the first Indiana quarterback to throw for three TDs in three Big Ten games since Harry Gonso in that magical '67 season.

through her lawyer, Tony Buzbee.

Watson was suspended for the first 11 games in 2022 for violating the league's personal conduct policy after more than two dozen women accused him of sexual assault and inappropriate conduct during massage therapy sessions.

Watson was also fined \$5 million and had to undergo mandatory evaluation before he was reinstated by the league.

The latest lawsuit was filed on Sept. 9 in Harris County, Texas. The unidentified woman alleged Watson had sexually assaulted her in 2020 while on a dinner date in her apartment. She was seeking damages in excess of \$1 million.

Watson, who is in his third season with Cleveland after being acquired



attempts) is tied for fifth-best among the power-conference quarterbacks with at least 200 attempts, according to Sportradar.

Last week, he threw for 341 yards and two touchdowns and ran for another score in the second-ranked Ducks' 32-31 win over Ohio State in a top-five matchup.

TOP DEFENSIVE PLAYER

Mason Graham, Michigan. The defensive tackle has lived up to his preseason AP All-America billing and is building his NFL draft stock. He regularly has contended with double-teams and, according to Pro Football Focus, has played no fewer than 46 snaps in five of the Wolverines' six games. He played more than 46 in only one game last season.

Graham, who teams with Kenneth Grant to form one of the nation's top defensive line duos, has 3.5 sacks, four tackles for loss and 21 tackles. His PFF rating is eighthhighest among FBS interior linemen and third-highest in the Big Ten.

THURSDAY, OCT 17 VOLLEYBALL: (Sectional) Bluffton vs. Whitko at Woodlan, 6 p.m.; Southern Wells at Daleville, 7:30 p.m. FRIDAY, OCT 18

FOOTBALL: Franklin County at Bluffton,

Judge, who entered with just one RBI in the playoffs, hit a sacrifice fly in a two-run second that put the Yankees ahead 3-0. With New York leading 4-2 lead in the seventh, the likely AL MVP drove a fastball at the letters from Hunter Gaddis 414 feet to center for his 14th career postseason home run.

In a matchup of aces who had off nights, Cleveland's Tanner Bibee got just just four outs in the shortest start of his professional career and an erratic Gerrit Cole was chased after four walks in 4 1/3 innings.

Winner Clay Holmes, Tim Hill and Tommy Kahnle combined for 3 2/3 scoreless innings. José Ramírez hit a ninth-inning home run off Luke Weaver, just the second earned run New York's bullpen has allowed over 23 1/3 innings in six postseason games.

After a day off, Game 3 is Thursday in Cleveland. The Yankees lead the ALCS 2-0 for the first time since 2009 against the Los Angeles Angels.

New York's Gleyber Torres reached base leading off for the fifth time in the playoffs and had three hits. Anthony Rizzo had two

Steven Kwan extended his Clevelandrecord postseason hitting streak to 12 games.

Alex Verdugo had a opposite-field RBI double in the two-run second that glanced off a shoulder of left field umpire Vic Carapazza and went down the line.

Cleveland closed to 3-2 in the fifth when Josh Naylor hit a sacrifice fly and, after Holmes relieved with the bases loaded, Will Brennan grounded into a run-scoring forceout.

Cleveland went 0 for 7 with runners in scoring position and stranded 11 runners.

Cole escaped two-on, one-out trouble in the third and then a bases-loaded, one-out jam in the fourth when pinch-hitter David Fry fouled out and Rocchio took a knuckle curve at the top of the strike zone for a called third strike in a nine-pitch at-bat.

Holmes struck out Austin Hedges on low sinker to leave the bases loaded in the fifth.

Rourke operates an offense that averages 516 yards and 48 points per game and leads the Big Ten with 32 pass plays of 20 yards or longer.

TOP OFFENSIVE PLAYER

Dillon Gabriel, Oregon. The quarterback who transferred from Oklahoma for his final season has completed 76% of his passes for 298 yards per game. He's thrown for at

TOP TRUE FRESHMAN

Jeremiah Smith, Ohio State. The wide receiver averages 17.3 yards on his 32 catches and 92 yards per game, the second-best numbers by a freshman behind Alabama star Ryan Williams. Physical and able to pick up yards after the catch, Smith caught a seasonhigh nine balls for 100 yards and a touchdown last week while being covered by top Oregon CB Jabbar Muhammad.

MOST DISAPPOINTED TEAM

Southern California has found life in the Big Ten challenging, to say the least. The season started out with a neutral-site win over LSU, but now the Trojans are 3-3 overall, 1-3 in the Big Ten and out of College Football Playoff contention.

USC was No. 11 in the AP Top 25 just two weeks ago after erasing a double-digit deficit to beat Wisconsin. But a bad loss at Minnesota was followed by last week's home overtime loss to Penn State in a game in which it led or was tied the final 49 minutes of regulation. This week the Trojans go to Maryland for their longest road trip of the season.

News-Banner Scoreboard

FOOTBALL

High School
AP Poll Class 6A 1. Brownsburg (8-0) 2. Lawrence North (8-0) 3. Crown Point (8-0) 4. Westfield (7-1) 5. Indpls Cathedral (5-2) 6. Warren Central (7-1) 7. Elkhart (7-1) 8. Columbus North (7-1) 9. Center Grove (5-3) 10. Carroll (Fort Wayne) (6-2) Others receiving votes: 11, Franklin Central 24. 12, Hamilton Southeastern 2.
Class 5A 1. Concord (8-0) 2. Lafayette Jeff (8-0) 3. Merrilville (7-1) 4. Decatur Central (5-2) 5. Plainfield (7-1) 6. E. Central (6-2) (tie) Castle (7-1) 8. Bloomington North (6-2) 9. Valparaiso (5-3) 32 9 10. Warsaw (5-3) 28 NR Others receiving votes: 11, Floyd Central 12. 12, Chesterton 6. Class 4A 1. New Palestine (7-0) 2. Martinsville (8-0) 3. Indpls Chatard (6-1) 4. E. Noble (7-1) 5. Columbia City (7-1) 6. Mishawaka (6-2) 7. Indpls Brebeuf (6-2) 8. Leo (6-2) 9. Ev. Reitz (6-2) (tie) Danville (7-1) Others receiving votes: 11, Logansport 18. 12, Culver Academy 14. 13, Greenfield 10. 14, Indpls Ron- calli 10. 15, Northview 8. Class 3A

Evansville Memorial (8-0) Heritage Hills (7-1) 2 Mississinewa (8-0) Garrett (8-0) 122 3 Lawrenceburg (7-1) Ev. Mater Dei (7-1) 5 6. Maconaquah (8-0) Cascade (8-0) 9. Gibson Southern (6-2) W. Noble (7-1) 10. Others receiving votes: 11, Griffith 20. 12, Ft. Wayne Luers 10. 13, Heri-tage 8. 14, Southridge 4. Class 2A Brownstown (8-0) Lafayette Catholic (7-0) 2 3 Indpls Lutheran (7-1) Adams Central (7-1) Paoli (8-0) Western Boone (7-1) (tie) S. Vermillion (8-0) Triton Central (6-2) 9 Linton (6-2) 9. Linton (6-2) 10. Northeastern (8-0) 40 NR Others receiving votes: 11, N. Posey 26. 12, Heritage Christian 26. 13, Mon-rovia 14. 14, Rochester 14. Class 1A N. Judson (8-0) Providence (7-0)) Carroll (Flora) (8-0) Madison-Grant (8-0) (tie) N. Decatur (7-1) Springs Valley (7-1) 5. 6. S Putnam (6-2) Frontier (7-0) Triton (6-2) N. Vermillion (7-1) 22 NR 10. Others receiving votes: 11, Pioneer 12. 12, Milan 6. 13, Tri 4. NFL AMERICAN CONFERENCE East W L T 4 2 0 2 3 0 Pct PF PA .667 165 126 .400 60 113 Buffalo Miami

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don, GBR Baltimore 30, Washington 23 Green Bay 34, Arizona 13 Houston 41, New England 21 Indianapolis 20, Tennessee 17 Philadelphia 20, Cleveland 16 Tampa Bay 51, New Orleans 27 L.A. Chargers 23, Denver 16 Pittsburgh 32, Las Vegas 13 Atlanta 38, Carolina 20 Detroit 47, Dallas 9 Cincinnati 17, N.Y. Giants 7 Open: Kansas City, Miami, L.A. Rams, Minnesota Monday's Games Buffalo 32, N.Y. Jets 20 Thursday, Oct. 17 Denver at New Orleans, 8:15 p.m Sunday, Oct. 20 New England vs Jacksonville at London, GBR, 9:30 a.m. Cincinnati at Cleveland, 1 p.m. Detroit at Minnesota, 1 p.m. Houston at Green Bay, 1 p.m. Miami at Indianapolis, 1 p.m. Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m. Seattle at Atlanta, 1 p.m. Tennessee at Buffalo, 1 p.m. Carolina at Washington, 4:05 p.m Las Vegas at L.A. Rams, 4:05 p.m. Kansas City at San Francisco, 4:25 p.m N.Y. Jets at Pittsburgh, 8:20 p.m Open: Chicago, Dallas Monday, Oct. 21 Baltimore at Tampa Bay, 8:15 p.m. L.A. Chargers at Arizona, 9 p.m. **BASKETBALL WNBA**

WNBA Finals (Best-of-5) No. 2 Minnesota 1, No. 1 New York 1

Thursday, Oct. 10: Minnesota 95, New York 93, OT

Sunday, Oct. 13: New York 80, Minnesota 66

Wednesday, Oct. 16: New York at Minnesota, 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 18: New York at Min-nesota, 8 p.m.

x-Sunday, Oct. 20: Minnesota at New York, 8 p.m.

BASEBALL

MLB

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES (Best-of-7)

American League New York 2, Cleveland 0 Monday, Oct. 14: New York 5, Cleveland 2

Tuesday, Oct. 15: New York 6, Cleveland 3

Thursday, Oct. 17: New York (Schmidt 5-5) at Cleveland, 5:08 p.m. (TBS, truTV, and Max) Friday, Oct. 18: New York (Gil 15-7) at Cleveland, 8:08 p.m. (TBS, truTV, and Max)

and Max)

x-Saturday. Oct. 19: New York at Cleveland, 8:08 p.m. (TBS, truTV, and Max)

x-Monday, Oct. 21: Cleveland at New York, 5:08 p.m. (TBS, truTV, and Max) x-Tuesday, Oct. 22: Cleveland at

New York, 7:38 p.m. (TBS, truTV, and Max)

National League

Los Angeles 1, New York 1 Sunday, Oct. 13: Los Angeles 9,

New York 0 Monday, Oct. 14: New York 7, Los Angeles 3 Wednesday, Oct. 16: Los Angeles (Duchlor 4 C) of New York (Covering

(Buehler 1-6) at New York (Severino

(Buenner 1-6) at New York (Sevenn 11-7), 8:08 p.m. (FS1) Thursday, Oct.17: Los Angeles (Yamamoto 7-2) at New York, 8:08 p.m. (FOX and FS1)

Friday, Oct. 18: Los Angeles at New York, 5:08 p.m. (FOX and FS1) x-Sunday, Oct. 20: New York at Los Angeles, 8:08 p.m. (FOX and FS1) x-Monday, Oct. 21: New York at Los Angeles, 8:08 p.m. (FOX and FS1)

HOCKEY

NHL

Monday's Games New Jersey 3, Utah 0 Florida 4, Boston 3 Ottawa 8, Los Angeles 7, OT N.Y. Rangers 4, Detroit 1 Pittsburgh 6, Montreal 3 N.Y. Islanders 6, Colorado 2 Tuesday's Games Carolina 4, New Jersey 2 Washington 4, Vegas 2 Tampa Bay 4, Vancouver 1 Florida 4, Columbus 3 Minnesota 4, St. Louis 1 San Jose at Dallas, late Seattle at Nashville, late Chicago at Calgary, late Philadelphia at Edmonton, late

Wednesday's Games Buffalo at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m. Los Angeles at Toronto, 7:30 p.m. Boston at Colorado, 9:30 p.m. Utah at Anaheim. 10 p.m.

Thursday's Games Buffalo at Columbus, 7 p.m. Dallas at Washington, 7 p.m. Los Angeles at Montreal, 7 p.m. New Jersey at Ottawa, 7 p.m. Vancouver at Florida, 7 p.m. Vegas at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m. N.Y. Rangers at Detroit, 7:30 p.m. Edmonton at Nashville, 8 p.m. N.Y. Islanders at St. Louis, 8 p.m. San Jose at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.

Philadelphia at Seattle, 10 p.m. Friday's Games Carolina at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.

DIVERSIONS

Feeling forgotten

Dear Annie: I have read the letters from the grandmothers who are feeling left out. I am in the same situation. My mother always told me that may feel left out, when your son marries, he will be but putting the more connected with the wife's family. I have found that it is true. They have not forgotten us. We get our can strain things share of holidays and are acknowledged on birthdays, anniversaries, etc. But while their house has a wide an adult, and selection of photos of her parents, nieces and nephews, etc., and all the events and trips they take together, there's none of my son's side of the family. I have had everyone at photo shoots and paid for pictures for everyone. but they are nowhere to be seen. Perhaps they are hanging in a closet.

I love my son, daughter-in-law and grandson but do feel we are not equal to the other side. I am glad my mother warned me, and I just love them my husband to stay connected. I often and take what we get. I did bring him up to be independent, and we don't interfere but are always there when needed. I am glad they are happy and will never bring this up for fear of causing them a problem. - A Son's Mother.

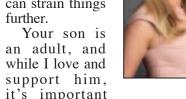
Dear Son's Mother: You sound like a wonderful mother, and I want to share your letter to remind sons to reach out to their moms. It's not just the responsibility of their wives. Below is a letter that highlights what a daughter-in-law might be thinking.

Dear Annie: I've seen several letters from grandmothers who feel hurt because they don't see their grandchildren as much as they'd like. Often, the daughters-in-law are blamed for this, but the sons are rarely mentioned.

As a daughter-in-law, here's something I wish I could share:

Your son is not always making

plans or staying in touch. I understand that you blame on your daughter-in-law further.



Dear

Annie

by Annie Lane

to remember that he is fully capable of managing his own relationships, including the one with you. Expecting me to handle it on his behalf not only creates unnecessary tension but also diminishes his role in the relationship.

I value my in-laws and encourage suggest visiting for the holidays, but ultimately, the decision is his. If he took the initiative, I would be more than happy to go along. But it's important that he takes the lead when it comes to his family.

Like many, I juggle work, household duties and children, and it can be overwhelming at times. Please know it's not a lack of care on my part, but it's difficult to maintain everything. If you're feeling hurt, the best person to talk to is your son.

"How Can I Forgive My Cheating Partner?" features favorite columns on marriage, infidelity, communication and reconciliation. It is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit http://www.creatorspublishing. com for more information. Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

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My Answer By Dr. Billy Graham

Question: Is it wrong to look on the bright side of life when things go bad? My friends say I live in a fantasy world but it seems like we need to try harder to see that good can even come out of bad things. Is that fantasy or hope? – F.H.

Answer: Some equate hope as a fanciful wish. But the word explodes with confidence to

Good things can come out of bad situations

to lack of faith in what God wants to accomplish in each person's life. After all, hope is a gift. When hope is present, despair departs.

We know that darkness does not remain, for the sun breaks through the night. Every morning without fail the sun peeks over the horizon. God is the Light and creates the light whether in the flicker of a flame, a sunray, a moonbeam, or

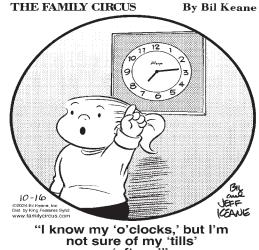
not returned. This philosopher believed a new document of promise was needed for hope to exist again. But there is

a document of promise that has never grown old. It's new every morning. Jesus is Earth's only hope. He came to unlock the door of our souls. "My flesh also will rest in hope" (Psalm 16:9, NKJV).

Hope is an unseen commodity that pays dividends while we still live. God bless those who live in hope, for it pleases the Lord.



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



or 'afters.

The LOCKHORNS



"I'LL BE GLAD WHEN BOSS'S DAY IS OVER."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer ACROSS 37 Nevada 58 Watch 20 Sicilian 1 Arr

believe in something greater than ourselves. Hope is not found in things, but in God who is the Giver of hope.

Good things can come out of bad situations. While it is wise to be realistic, we must be careful not to dampen the spirit of hope due the twinkle of the stars in the heavens. And the flicker of life in the soul is hope.

A contemporary philosopher, the late Richard Rorty, claimed that hope placed in the promise of Jesus Christ returning to Earth has failed because Jesus has

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

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All ads are searchable at classifieds.news-banner.com...

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, open 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 contacts. Please include resume.

THE NEWS-BANNER IS looking to hire an individual for fast pace jobs including labeling, inserting and delivering bundles of newspapers. Must be willing to work from 4 a.m.-9 a.m. Monday-Saturday. Some heavy lifting, and an Indiana drivers license required. Mail resume, or fill out an application, to News-Banner, P.O. Box 436, 125 N. Johnson St., Bluffton, IN 46714.

LOOKING TO HIRE full or part time for general carpenter. Must have reliable transportation, general construction knowledge, and own tools. Call Scott at 260-353-9339.

THE CITY OF Bluffton is hiring for the Tree Crew of the Electric Department. The minimum educational requirement is a high school diploma or equivalent. Applications and a job description may be obtained in the Clerk Treasurer's Office, 128 E Market St, Bluffton, IN

VEHICLES Campers/RV's

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

SERVICES

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

HANDYMAN SERVICES, NO job too big or too small, 260-353-9339.

WESLEY FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 877-329-1207 (I)

CONSUMER CELLULAR - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/ month. For more information, call 1-855-572-5165 (I)

GET A BREAK on your taxes! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, nocost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-833-587-2145 today! (I)

THE BATHROOM OF your dreams in as little as 1 day. Limited Time Offer - \$1,000 off or No Payments and No Interest for 18 months for customers who qualify. BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Call Today! 1-855-699-1308 (I)



ESTATE SALE AT 222 W. Wiley from 9 a.m.to 2 p.m Friday & Saturday.

THURS. & FRI., Oct. 17 & 18, 8 am-6 pm, Sat., Oct. 19, 8 am -2 pm (free from 2-4pm), Ossian United Methodist Church. Ossian United Methodist Women's projects.

MOVING SALE OCT. 15 through Oct. 20, 9 a.m. to dusk, 338 E. St. Rd. 124, Bluffton. Household items, craft items, some antique glassware, horse tack, garden stuff, tools, etc. some furniture.

Receive a free garage sale kit when placing a three day line classified ad.

Services

SAFE STEP. NORTH America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-855-743-1911 (I)

REPLACE YOUR ROOF with the best looking and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer - up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-866-781-6023 (I)

Public Sale Calendar

Lottery Numbers

Tuesday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY Cash 5 - 02-12-22-28-

29 **Cash4Life** — 03-10-24-26-48, Cash Ball: 04

Quick Draw Midday — 07-11-14-16-17-22-24-30-33-34-35-38-48-49-50-64-65-72-79-80, BE: 30

Daily Three-Midday – 04-06-04, SB: 08

Daily Three-Evening — 05-00-00, SB: 07 Daily Four-Midday —

04-09-00-01, SB: 08 Daily Four-Evening —

07-08-02-05, SB: 07 Quick Draw Evening

- 06-11-12-18-28-35-38-41-42-51-53-57-62-64-65-67-70-75-76-78, BE: 35

Hoosier Lotto — Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$25.6 million

MEGA MILLIONS 22-34-44-54-62; Mega Ball: 03; Megaplier: 3X. POWERBALL

Estimated jackpot (for Wednesday): \$408 million



Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains

every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

King Classic Sudoku

Read & recycle this newspaper



from 8:00 am-4:30 pm Monday -Friday or on the City website www.blufftonindiana.net

RENTALS Office Space Rental

MAKE YOUR AD STAND OUT! Add a graphic or photo to a line classified ad for an additional \$5. Contact the News-Banner office at 125 N. Johnson St., Bluffton, (260) 824-0224, or submit online to www.news-banner.com and click on classifieds.

Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA

) SS: COUNTY OF WELLS IN THE WELLS CIRCUIT COURT CAUSE NO: 90C01-2409-EU-000032 IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF: HENRY LEROY HARSHMAN

(Deceased)) <u>NOTICE OF UNSUPERVISED</u> ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATION Notice is hereby given that Adelbert Harshman, Darwin Harshman, and Darol Harshman were appointed as Personal Representatives of the estate of Henry LeRoy Harshman, deceased, on September 23, 2024, who died on the 16th day of August, 2024. All persons who have claims

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

Dated September 23, 2024 Beth Davis CLERK

COLDREN, FRANTZ & SPRUN-GER Attorneys at Law 940 N. Meridian St. Portland, IN 47371 260-726-4220 nb 10/9. 10/16

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erty - Brandon Steffen, seller. Outstanding luxury home furnishings. Restoration Hardware dining room table and chairs, Restoration Hardware bedroom furniture, pottery, barn furniture, Crate and Barrel furniture, Kimball baby grand piano, Restoration Hardware leather cigar sofa, fine rugs, wall art, lamps and lighting, home decor and mirrors, outdoor patio furniture, concrete garden fountain, planters, exercise equipment, pet accessories, kitchenware, household. Auction preview Oct. 17, 4-6 p.m., 915 W. Wayne St., Fort Wayne, IN. Sale manager Brandon Steffen, 260-710-5684, *Steffen Group Real Estate & Auctions*, 260-426-0633, steffengrp.com.

BIDDING ENDS OCTOBER 20 - (Online Only) - Estate of Larry N. Curry, seller. 1997 Chevy Express Conversion van, 2013 Chevy Impala LTZ w/73,000 miles, John Deere LA115 riding lawn mower, rare vintage Schwinn bikes, large quantity of hand and power tools, lawn and garden, modern and vintage furniture, household, games, toys, flat screen TV & home decor. Open house Oct. 17 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 419 W. Roe St., Ossian. Sale manager Rod Fetters, 260-557-8451, *The Steffen Group*, www.steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

OCTOBER 24 - 9 a.m.-6 p.m. - (Online Only) - Estate of Larry Curry, seller. Excellent 1,398 SF, 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch home in Rose Ann Heights neighborhood on .52 acre lot, 2 car attached garage. Home has a ton of potential. "Explore the Possibilities." Open house: Oct. 17 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., Oct. 22 from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., 419 W. Roe St., Ossian. Sale managers, Brandon Steffen, 260-710-5684, Rod Fetters, 260-557-8451, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 824-3006, www.steffengrp.com.

Steffen Group Inc., 824-3006, www.steffengrp.com. BIDDING STARTS CLOSING OCTOBER 27 - 6 p.m. EST -Chester & Phyllis Smith, owner. Online only real estate & personal property! Real Estate 6 p.m.: Three or four bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, 1,512 sq. feet, full basement, large detached 2-car garage, beautiful corner lot w/mature trees, Adams Central Community Schools. Personal Property 6:30 p.m.: Machinist tools, Kennedy toolbox, vintage Fisher-Price toys, primitives, TV trays, NIB air purifier, furniture, treadmill, Pyrex, Corelle dishes, stove, refrigerator, 100 pieces Currier and Ives dishes, 50+ jewel, tea, dishes, luggage, blankets, scrapbooking, History of Adams County books, tillers, bicycles, swing & more! Pick up Oct. 28, 1-5 p.m. EST, Oct. 29, 10 a.m.-noon, 318 E. Jackson Street, Monroe. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, 260-724-7402, Kjauction.

BIDDING NOW OPEN & ENDS OCTOBER 29 - 10 a.m. EST - Christine Pierce, owner. 526 E Market Street, South Whitley, IN. Online only apartment complex auction! Four duplex buildings, 8 units, 2 bedroom, 1 bath units, electric baseboard heat, wall AC units, 1,456 sq. foot buildings, new roofs in 2021, year built 1990, income producing! 100% rent capacity, .86 acre parcel, Whitko Community Schools. Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC, 260-724-7402, Kjauction.com.

LLC, 260-724-7402, Kjauction.com. **NOVEMBER 3-10** - (Online Only) - Estate of Elizabeth (Carter) Aeschliman & others, seller. Ladies diamond wedding ring, ladies diamond cluster ring, diamond earrings, Sapphire necklace & earrings, Ig. assortment of costume jewelry, Howard Miller china cabinet, cherry finish china cabinet, 2019 GE window air conditioner, collectibles, glassware, vintage silver-plate flatware sets, marbles, Anri Italy wood carved figurines, holiday decor, household. Open houses Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 3-6 p.m., 117 W. Craig St., Ossian. Sale managers Bobby Perry, Patrick Carter, *The* Steffen Group, www.steffengrp.com 260-824-3006

St., Ossian. Sale managers Bobby Perry, Patrick Carter, *The Steffen Group*, www.steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006. **NOVEMBER 13 - 6:30 p.m. ET - (Live and online) - Gary and Jennifer Weilbaker, farm.** American Legion, 118 N. Broadway Street, Butler. Property location: Along and/or near CR 26 and CR 79 in Troy Twp. (Tract 1, North Part Tract 2) and Stafford Twp. (Tracts 2-4). Tracts 5-6 located near CR 20 and CR 27 in Smithfield Township. Adjoining tracts, road access, tile outlets, 264.651+/- acres, 6 tracts, DeKalb Co. Jon Rosen, 260-740-1846, Neal Wolheter, 260-336-2219, *Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management*, halderman.com, 800-424-2324.

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