



Eric Gerber, far right, talks with a group of Bluffton-Harrison Middle School students about one of the products ready for shipment at Edge Manufacturing. (Photos by Mark Miller)

Students get a glimpse of local career options

More photos on Page 2 **By MARK MILLER**

The Adams Wells Manufacturing Alliance held its first Manufacturing Day of the 2024-25 school year, as the eighth-grade class of Bluffton-Harrison Middle School toured four local facilities to get a sampling of careers available in Wells County.

This matches up with the new 'College and Careers' class that all middle school student now take," Joe Elkins, executive director of the group explained. "We're just trying to expose them to the many career options we have right here at home so as they begin to think about what they might want to do after high school, they have (Continued on Page 2)



Chris Murphy, buyer at Almco Steel Products, gave the students a slide presentation overview of the company prior to the students touring the plant.

All gubernatorial candidates meet on debate stage

A final exchange is scheduled for Oct. 24

By CASEY SMITH, Indiana Capital Chronicle

In night two of back-to-back debates, Indiana's three candidates for governor shared the same stage for the first time. While some of the topics had previously been discussed at length, questions around private school vouchers and government restructuring drew novel responses from the trio.

This round, Republican Mike Braun and Democrat Jennifer McCormick were joined by Libertarian Donald Rainwater.

Braun and McCormick sparred in the first general election gubernatorial debate Wednesday evening, but Rainwater did not meet the standards set by Fox59 and CBS4 to appear.

Thursday's debate, which aired live from the WISH-TV studios in downtown Indianapolis, lasted one hour. It took place just days before early voting is set to begin in the Hoosier state.

Moderators additionally asked about property taxes, immigration, abortion, marijuana legalization, workforce preparedness and affordable housing.

While the Democrat and Libertarian teamed up to criticize Braun's voting record on immigration in the U.S. Senate, a question about Indiana's private school voucher system also pitted candidates against one another.

McCormick, specifically, was also targeted by her competitors over her tenure as Indiana's superintendent of public instruction - a role she held from 2016 to 2020 when she previously identified as a Republican.

Even so, both McCormick and Braun declared victory at the debate's conclusion. Both candidates made the same claim the night before.

Public vs. private education

Braun, who lists "universal school choice" high among his platform points, emphasized that Indiana "has been on the leading edge of choice and competition ... where we're putting the parent as the main stakeholder in his or her kid's education.

"That's the way it should be. When you have one-size-fits-all, it's called a monopoly," he said, adding that while his family has access to a "great public school district," not all Hoosiers have "that same advantage." At one point, (Continued on Page 2)

Lawmaker calls on Indiana



legislature to boost K-12 tuition spending in 2025

Bv CASEY SMITH Indiana Capital Chronicle

As the 2025 legislative session draws nearer, longtime Democratic lawmaker Rep. Ed DeLaney is flagging funding concerns across all Indiana schools - public and private — and called for the next state budget to increase tuition support.

DeLaney, of Indianapolis, made public a new legislative analysis on Wednesday that showed the overall dollar amount spent on K-12 has grown each year but its share of the state budget has dropped.

For instance, tuition support for all

school types has grown from \$6.2 billion to \$8.7 billion from 2011 to 2025.

Dollars sent to Hoosier schools accounted for 44.3% of the Indiana budget in the 2011 fiscal year and rose to 45.3% in 2013. Since then, however, schools' budget share has declined to 39.8% and is expected to "remain flat" in Fiscal Year 2025, according to the fiscal analysis.

"As a legislator, I'm very frustrated," DeLaney said during a Wednesday news briefing. "As an experienced lawyer, when I argue in favor of public education in the

(Continued on Page 2)



Search for missing hits snags as Helene's death toll tops 200

By JEFF AMY and JOHN SEEWER **Associated Press**

PENSACOLA, N.C. (AP) - Rescue crews and volunteers facing obstacles at every turn in North Carolina's remote mountains paddled canoes across swollen rivers and steered horses past mudslides in the rush to reach those stranded or missing by Hurricane Helene's rampage that killed more than 200 throughout the Southeast.

Now a week since the storm first roared onto Florida's Gulf Coast, the search continued for people who have yet to be heard from in places where phone service and electricity were knocked out. Pleas for help came from people running low on medicine or in need of fuel for their generators.

How many people are missing or unaccounted for isn't clear. The death toll soared to 215 people on Thursday as more victims were found, making Helene the deadliest hurricane to hit the mainland U.S. since Katrina in 2005. Roughly half the victims were in North Carolina, while dozens more were killed in South Carolina and Georgia. (Continued on Page 2)

OCAL/NATION



Career options

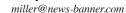
(Continued from Page 1) at least some knowledge or exposure."

The students toured American Axle and Manufacturing, WEG Commercial Motors, Edge Manufacturing and Almco Steel Products. Southern Wells eighth-graders will have the experience in November while the Norwell students are slated for a February event.

Elkins also works with the Adams County Econom-

ic Development executive director to give students at that county's three middle schools a similar experience.

The event is a joint project of AWMA and the Wells County Chamber of Commerce. Each student received a commemorative T-shirt. The students concluded their morning at the chamber building where a lunch was provided by the Wells County Foundation.





Gubernatorial candidates

(Continued from Page 1)

Braun additionally pointed to public schools in southern Indiana's Pike County, which he criticized for previous financial mismanagement. The solution, he said, was a charter school. Charters, however, are not private schools.

Rainwater wasn't far off, saying that he's "been around long enough to know our public school system is failing." The Libertarian made clear he believes "thoroughly" in universal school choice.

McCormick refuted.

"We have a lot of people in Indiana who profess to be education experts, and it's unfortunate, because I believe in fiscal responsibility, and I believe we're going to have a program that puts \$1.6 billion into private education," she said, referring to Indiana's Choice Scholarship program. "We should be looking at the results, and the results aren't good. Also, make no mistake, this is not about parents choosing. This is about a school choosing.'

McCormick said in particular that private schools' admission policies should be scrutinized, given that voucher schools are allowed to reject students for their religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or academic ability, among other reasons.

She also called out the current income ceiling for voucher-seeking raised in 2023 to roughly families \$220,000 for a four-person household saying a limit that high "is certainly not serving Hoosiers.' "If I show up with a child, and the school does not like the academic performance or the color of their skin, or how they identify - LGBTQ - ortheir religious belief, they do not have to take them," she continued. "Our state constitution is clear. It says to fund common schools, which are determined to be public schools. Public dollars need to go to public schools. That whole program needs to be reviewed." Her comments led Braun and Rainwater to attack her previous work over-

seeing Indiana's educational performance. 'If you were in charge for four years and results never got any better,

I think you've got to be held accountable when that's the one thing you did in state government," Braun said of McCormick.

Rainwater alleged that standardized testing protocols McCormick set - and changed — during her time in office were a "waste of time."

But McCormick pushed back, saying was not responsible for setting rules, but rather was tasked with implementing Republican policies.

"I wasn't the one responsible to change the state law to make us keep changing standards and keep changing assessments," McCormick said. "That's not fair, and it's not accurate. That's on the 20 years of Republicans leading our state.'

Thoughts on reducing administrative government

Opinions later swirled around ideas to restructure and reduce funding for Indiana's governmental agencies.

"I'm guessing there's not an agency there that doesn't have room to be run more efficiently," Braun said. "For me, I did that for 37 years in a small business — scaling it into a regional and then a national company. That will be easy to do. We'll find those things to reduce costs and actually make them run more efficiently."

Senate in 2018.

At the time, the Associated Press reported that "lawsuits filed against his companies — backed up by federal trucking and labor records - present a picture of a boss who has overworked and underpaid employees.'

Joe Elkins, executive

director of the Adams

Wells Manufacturing Alliance, speaks to the

Bluffton students in the Chamber of Commerce building about career

opportunities in Wells

the welding and elec-

trical trade programs

available at Bluffton

High School. (Photos

The 2024 Manu-

tour for Bluffton-

Harrison Middle

graders included

chamber of com-

merce building

provided by the

Wells County

Foundation.

School eighth-

a lunch at the

facturing Day

County. Part of the presentation was about

"It's super interesting that Mr. Braun keeps bringing up his business as an example of how he successfully did it, when he had problems with overtime wages that everybody knew about," McCormick said. "But for me, it's about efficiency and effectiveness and making sure that we are being due diligent with taxpayer dollars.

Rainwater pointed to his 25 years as a software engineer, during which he contracted with "several" state agencies.

"We need to look at our state government, all 50 some agencies, and we need to identify where we are managing contracts badly, where overpayments exist, where the money is going out the back door, so that we can then determine what we need to do from there," Rainwater said.

McCormick doubled down that she's "the only candidate who's been in charge of a state agency."

"That experience will serve me well when I am reviewing and making those decisions about state agencies," she said. "We've got a lot of great people in the state of Indiana that work in those state agencies, and they have great ideas. Why would we not listen to them and say to bring some practical solutions to the table, and let's get some savings for Hoosiers?" In a final rebuttal, Rainwater maintained that "unfortunately, someone may have years of experience, but when they've never actually fixed anything, that concerns me." The deadline for Hoosiers to register to vote is Oct. 7. One's voter registration status can be checked online at indianavoters.in.gov.

Weather

Friday, October 4, 2024 (24-hour observations at 10:49 p.m. Thursday) High: 80; Low: 47; Precipitation: None Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.20 feet at 8:45 p.m. Thursday

Wells County forecast

Today: Mostly sunny, with a high near 76. Calm wind becoming north around 5 mph in the afternoon.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 47. North wind around 5 mph becoming calm in the evening.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 76. Southeast wind around 5 mph.

Saturday Night: Clear, with a low around 59. South wind 5 to 10 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 80.

Sunday Night: Clear, with a low around 46.

Monday: Sunny, with a high near 67.

Monday Night: Clear, with a low around 42. Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 68.

Tuesday Night: Clear, with a low around 41. Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 69.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 43.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 71.

K-12 tuition

(Continued from Page 1) Statehouse, no one argues against it. In principle, no one says, 'I'm against it. It's not valuable. We don't need it.' They just don't do it. And in fact, they've converted the money.'

DeLaney suggested budget writers should primarily focus on a new spending scheme that accounts for a teacher pay minimum boost to \$60,000 per year. He said that greater tuition support, generally, would also help schools depend less on referenda and property taxes and ultimately bring much sought-after relief to homeowners.

Most importantly, DeLaney continued, student performance will improve, and high school graduates will be more likely to attend college. The lawmaker said that

a sea change will likely require leadership from Indiana's next governor, however.

At ballot boxes next month, Hoosier voters will choose between Republican Sen. Mike Braun who has suggested the state should restructure, rather than increase, its school spending plan — and Dem-ocratic challenger Jennifer McCormick, who formerly served as Indiana's Secretary of Public Instruction and whose platform calls for additional funding for early education. Both Braun and

in January, they'll have to address last year's forecast that missed the mark by nearly \$1 billion.

As the proportion of state spending on education has decreased, DeLaney further suggested that property taxpayers have simultaneously been "gouged," in part because of school referenda.

Data shows that about \$2,600 in schools' per-student funding came out of local property taxes in 2011. That has since increased to almost \$4,000.

'We need to get serious about that and figure out how to put more state money into our schools in a way that relieves the pressure on property taxes," DeLaney said. "The extent that we reduce the need to rely on property taxes - the system is complex — but it could free up money for other purposes, like police, fire, the roads in Indianapolis, whatever else people need.'

DeLaney calls

for spending boosts

DeLaney said "there are options" to accommodate new school spending.

"For example, the House has understood for years that we could make hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue by taxing cigarettes at a normal level," he said. "Send that money over to the health side of the budget, freeing up cash for education."

He recommended that the state finance new construction projects — like for buildings on university campuses - rather than paying in cash, which is currently preferable to most Republicans.

Braun's response prompted McCormick to take on Braun's touted record as a business owner.

She called out past issues of unpaid overtime to workers at Meyer Distributing, Braun's Jasper-based autopart distribution. It's been a talking point for Democrats since Braun ran for U.S.

Search for missing

(Continued from Page 1) Each road presents a new challenge for rescuers

Along the Cane River in western North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains, rescuers from the Pensacola Volunteer Fire Department were cutting their way through trees at the top of a valley nearly a week after a wall of chocolate-milk colored water swept through for hours.

Pensacola, which sits a few miles from Mount Mitchell, the highest point east of the Mississippi River, lost an untold number of people, said Mark Harrison, chief medical officer for the department.

"We're starting to do recovery," he said Thursday. "We've got the most critical people out."

Harrison was helping dispatch volunteers driving all-terrain vehicles on supply runs to people still on ridgetops. Many don't want to leave their houses, while others lost their vehicles and need help getting to town.

Bradley Billheimer, who hiked down to the fire station to access the internet, said he just talked to his mom for the first time since the storm. He feared his house will be without power for months.

In another county that sits alongside the Tennessee state line, crews were just finishing clearing main

routes and reaching side roads that wind through switchbacks and cross small bridges that can be tricky to navigate even in the best weather. Each road presented a new challenge.

"Everything is fine and then they come around a bend and the road is gone and it's one big gully or the bridge is gone." said Charlie Wallin, a commissioner in Watauga County.

Most people the crews come across turn out to be fine and just in need of water, but every day there are new requests to check on someone who hasn't been heard from yet, Wallin said. When the search will end is hard to tell, he said.

A week into the search and rescue operations in Buncombe County, which includes the hard-hit tourist city of Asheville and where more than 72 have been killed, the county doesn't have an official tally of people who are unaccounted for or missing.

The county sheriff said his office believes more than 200 people are missing, although other officials said the number is constantly changing when crews make contact with people who hadn't been accounted for or receive new names of people who may be missing.

Frank Johnson, who owns a company that makes robotic cutting machines in Mars Hill, North Carolina, said he feels like he is running a relief mission on his own. He's using his own workers, volunteers and supplies and know-how from his company to get water, food, fuel and other supplies to his neighbors.

"I've been hearing there are entire neighborhoods gone. I'm still not sure people have the whole grasp of what we're dealing with," Johnson said.

Electricity is being slowly restored, as the number of homes and businesses without power dipped below 1 million for the first time since last weekend, according to poweroutage.us. Most of the outages are in the Carolinas and Georgia, where Helene struck after coming into Florida on Sept. 26 as a Category 4 hurricane.

Heartbreaking deaths across the Southeast

John Savage said his grandparents were found hugging one another in their Beech Island, South Carolina, home where one of the biggest trees on the property crashed on top of their bedroom and killed them.

The family thinks it was God's plan to take them together, rather than one suffer without the other, he said.

"When they pulled them out of there, my grandpa apparently heard the tree snap beforehand and rolled over to try and protect my grandmother," Savage said.

Two firefighters killed when a tree fell on their truck also were among at least 40 people killed across South Carolina.

Month-old twin boys, born in mid-August, were the youngest known victims. Khyzier and Khazmir Williams died alongside their 27-year-old mother Kobe Williams when a large tree fell through the roof of their home Monday in Thomson, Georgia.

Other young victims of the storm include a 7-yearold girl and a 4-year-old boy from Washington County, Georgia.

Biden back in the disaster zone

President Joe Biden spoke with survivors and first responders and surveyed damage Thursday in Keaton Beach, Florida, walking past mountains of splintered wood, demolished homes and massive pieces of siding crumpled like paper. Biden met with people who had lost homes; one couple was living out of a trailer near the wreckage of their home, their personal belongings strewn on the ground.

Later at a badly damaged pecan farm outside Valdosta, Georgia, he said the victims of Helene had gone through "hell."

McCormick have proposed statewide teacher pay raises.

"If we had a governor who wanted to lead for education, rather than chop away at it or criticize it, it would make a huge difference in the debate within the legislature," DeLaney said.

How much does Indiana spend on its schools?

When state lawmakers crafted the current two-year state budget during the 2023 sessions, Republicans touted a 5.3% per-student funding increase in the 2024 fiscal year, and another 1.8% jump the following year. The change improved schools' tuition support to \$8.84 billion for tuition support in 2024 and \$9.03 in 2025.

Baked in was more than \$1 billion for a major private school voucher expansion, which grew Indiana's Choice Scholarship by 69% the first year and 14% the second year.

Even so, DeLaney said the new fiscal analysis indicates that Indiana is "spending less money on education in all three categories, as a percentage," referring to earmarks for traditional public, charter and private schools combined.

'We have devalued education, and yes, we've shifted money to charters and vouchers, but the bottom line is, overall, we're spending less money, and we're producing fewer graduates. So, we've got the worst of all possible worlds," DeLaney lamented. "Those who don't like charters should be unhappy. Those who don't like vouchers should be unhappy. But everybody should be unhappy because of this result."

Notably, Indiana spending on Medicaid has also grown during that time. The tab for the 2024-2025 fiscal year came out to \$26 billion, including both federal and state dollars. Still, when the 150-member General Assembly meets again

'We can find the money," DeLaney emphasized.

He said his "number one priority would be getting teacher pay up — which we can do." Currently, the minimum pay for Hoosier educators is set at \$40,000.

Recent data shows the average teacher salary in Indiana was \$58,531 during the 2022-23 academic year. The lowest teacher salary reported that year was \$38,000. The highest was about \$108,000. Total salary costs for all teachers across Indiana totaled more than \$3.6 billion during the 2022-23 academic year, per the Indiana Education Employment Relations Board.

Determining how much it will cost the state to increase pay to \$60,000 per year will help budget writers land on a specific dollar amount of additional K-12 funding needed in the next budget cycle, DeLaney noted.

The main number we've got to look at, if we could only do one thing - add additional revenue to make sure that teacher pay can go up," he said. "The second thing would be to take the pressure off the property taxes for the schools. I don't want our school systems undercut because they're being forced to overuse the property tax system. That's dangerous."

During the most recent 2024 legislative session, budget leader Sen. Ryan Mishler, R-Mishawaka, previewed his own proposal to completely overhaul Indiana's private school vouchers with a grant program that would allow all Hoosier families - regardless of income - to choose where their students get educated.

LOCAL/AREA

OBITUARIES

Joyce Ann Paxson, 61

Joyce Ann Paxson, 61, of Bluffton, passed away at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2024, at her residence in Bluffton.

She was born on Monday, Feb. 25, 1963, in Bluffton. Joyce was a 1981 graduate of Bluffton High School. She previously worked for Keebler/Pretzels in Bluffton, Volt/ YPG in Indianapolis, and for the Clerk's Office in the town of Sheridan. Joyce moved back to Bluffton from Sheridan in 2021 and



was working at Inteva Products. She was living her best life, with some of her happiest times spent with her second family at Geyer's Garage. She also enjoyed watching the Colts football team, visiting Gatlinburg, Tennessee, spending time with her kids and grandkids, her dogs, Sasha, Peyton and Max, and was an avid reader. Joyce was a member of Moose Lodge # 242 in Bluffton.

She will be forever missed by her mother, Judith (Eubank) Ritter of Bluffton; children, Jennifer (Howie) Dougherty of Sheridan, Jessica Paxson of Olympia, Washington, and Nathaniel Paxson of Indianapolis; grandchildren, Kinsley Dougherty and Harper Dougherty; partner, Todd Shady of Bluffton; former husband, Brian Paxson of Sheridan; mother-in-law, Carolyn Sue Paxson of Noblesville; sister-in-law, Karla (Kevin) Vaughn of Pendleton; nephews, Luke (Emily) Vaughn of Muncie, Logan Vaughn of Pendleton; and sister, Patty Taylor of Pennville.

She was preceded in death by her father, Cecil Short; brother, Kenny Short, and father-In-law, Kenneth Dale Paxson.

Family and friends may gather to share and remember from 4-6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 5, 2024, at Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W Windsor St. in Montpelier.

A service to celebrate her life will follow at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 5, 2024, at Walker & Glancy Funeral Home.

Memorial contributions may be made to her children for her granddaughters' college funds (or via PayPal/ Venmo to @JessicaPaxson).

Arrangements are being handled by Walker & Glancy Funeral Home in Montpelier.

Online condolences may be made at www.glancyfuneralhomes.com



The ribbon-cutting photo features Tammy and Steve Clark alongside their family and Chamber Ambassadors. (Photo submitted)

Chamber welcomes The Farmhouse Merc with ribbon cutting ceremony

The Wells County Chamber of Commerce is thrilled to welcome The Farmhouse Merc, a new boutique with deep local ties and a unique journey. Owned by Tammy Clark and her family, the business has transitioned from a popular mobile boutique to a permanent fixture in the community, adding to Bluffton's vibrant shopping scene.

Three years ago, Tammy and her family - including her husband, Steve, daughters Cylee, Celsey and Cheyenne – embarked on an exciting adventure. What started as a mobile boutique traveling to livestock shows across the Midwest, including stops in Michigan and Wisconsin, is now a cherished local shop. Clark shared, "We've loved traveling and meeting new people at events, but we always talked about finding a permanent location. When the previous boutique closed, it felt like the perfect opportunity." The boutique is truly a family business, with all hands on deck to help bring this vision to life. "My daughters and daughter-in-law are all involved, and I think they're just as excited as I am," Clark added. "People keep asking if I'm nervous about today, but it feels natural. This has been our life for the past three years."

Before diving full-time into the world of boutique fashion, Tammy drove a school bus. "Until August, I was still driving the bus. The boutique started as a part-time venture, but it grew into something more. The mobile business became full-time, and it was clear that this was where I wanted to focus my energy," Clark explained.

The Farmhouse Merc features a delightful assortment of boutique clothing and accessories, including costume jewelry, Mix-o-logie perfume, authentic Navajo jewelry, jeans, graphic tees, purses, wallets, shoes, and candles. After years of traveling to livestock shows with her mobile business, Clark has now brought her unique style to a permanent storefront in downtown Bluffton. "I love these clothes, and they reflect my style. It's always been a dream of mine to share that with others," says Clark.

Now open and ready to welcome the community, The Farmhouse Merc brings a charming, rural-inspired boutique to the heart of Bluffton. Tammy and her family are excited to welcome customers, both familiar faces from their travels and new friends in the area. Visit The Farmhouse Merc at 110 N Main St., Bluffton, or connect with them on Facebook. You can also check out their inventory on their website at https://www.thefarmhousemerc.com/.

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City:

Wednesday, 7:13 p.m., 200 block of East Central life game of frogger with Avenue. Report of marijuana smell from residence. Officer observed marijuana smell, but owner denied smoking.

Wednesday, 8:58 p.m., Budget Inn. Domestic altercation. Parties seperated.

County: Wednesday, 12:33 p.m., 9200 West 750 South, Warren. Report of a dog injured by Fed Ex driver.

Wednesday, 1:06 p.m., 60 block of West Washington Street, Poneto. Subject requested to speak to officer regarding property retrieval.

Wednesday, 2:40 p.m., South 300 West and West 950 South, Poneto. Driver and hit a parked 2014 Fiat cited for speeding.

Wednesday, 9:17 p.m.,

Thursday, 9:27 a.m., S.R. 1 and U.S. 224, Ossian. Report of dog playing real traffic.

ACCIDENTS City:

Tuesday, 9:12 a.m., S.R. 1 at the intersection of Water Street. Max E. Hamrick, 67, Willshire, Ohio, was driving a semi northbound on S.R. 1 near Water Street and did not a see a 2021 Chrysler Pacifica driven by Audrey R. Arnold, 17, Bluffton, before attempting to merge into the righthand lane. Damage exceeded \$5,000.

Friday, Sept. 20, 1:49 p.m. Lydia M. Baumgartner, 18, Poneto, was backing a 2015 Chevrolet Impala 500. Damage did not exceed \$1,000 FIRES

Wednesday, 6:20 p.m.,

1730 Brook Ct., Ossian.

Streture fire. Fire out at 6:37

p.m.



Norwell 2025 Homecoming Court

Front row, pictured left to right, Ryland Graft, Karrigan Melcher, Lily Hank, Chloe Borkholder and Colby Winkler. Back row, left to right, Logan Cotton, Drew Graft, Max Babcock, Jase Harmon and Evan Clabaugh. (Photo submitted)

State ranks well in national fiscal report, earns 'B'

North 300 West and S.R. 116, Markle. Caller reported three vehicles blocking traffic. Vehicle was broken down and out of roadway.

Jill Ellis Baughan 'Finding joy' event Oct. 8

"Finding Joy" will be the topic of the inspirational program to be presented by Jill Ellis Bauughan on Tuesday, Oct. 8, at the First Baptist Church, 202 West Cherry St. in Bluffton.

Baughan The Bluffton native will share humor and stories at the free event which will

begin at 6:30 p.m. For further information check out here podcasts at jillbaughan.com

Man sentenced to 180 months in prison for drug trafficking offense

FORT WAYNE – Marcus B. Roberson, 45, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, was sentenced by United States District Court Chief Judge Holly A. Brady after pleading guilty to possessing with intent to distribute methamphetamine, announced United States Attorney Clifford D. Johnson.

Roberson was sentenced to 180 months in prison followed by 10 years of supervised release.

According to documents in the case, during 2021 and 2022, Roberson sold and supplied methamphetamine. In March 2022, a search warrant was served at Roberson's residence where 330 grams of methamphetamine, \$4,500 and a pistol were found. Roberson was previously convicted of a serious violent felony, robbery, in 1998 in Whitley County, Indiana.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, with the assistance of the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Allen County Sheriff's Department, the Fort Wayne Police Department, the Indiana State Police and the Auburn Police Department. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Stacey R. Speith.

Follow us on Twitter at... twitter.com/newsbanner

By NIKI KELLY

Indiana Capital Chronicle At the end of fiscal year 2023, 27 states did not have enough money to pay their bills. Indiana was not one of them

In fact, Truth in Accounting's Financial State of the States report gave Indiana a 'B' grade, ranking it 15th in the nation.

"Indiana, like most other states, improved its financial condition in 2023. This is a positive development, and Truth in Accounting applauds the state's commitment to improving its fiscal solvency. The state increased its money available to pay bills by \$3 billion. This means the state had a Taxpayer Surplus[™] of \$3,600, earning it a 'B' grade," the report found.

year books in June with \$2.6 billion in reserves.

The group analyzes complex Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports, commonly referred to as ACFRs, into simpler explanations.

'Since all levels of government derive their just powers from the consent of the governed, government officials are responsible for reporting their actions and results in transparent and understandable ways to the people. Providing accurate and timely information to citizens and the media is essential to government responsibility and accountability," the report said. "A lack of transparency in financial information, budgets, and financial reports makes it difficult for governments to meet this demo-

The report lauded state

lawmakers for contributing

an extra \$2.5 billion to the

state's legacy teachers' retire-

ment fund; having revenues

exceed expenses; and main-

"market fluctuations in pen-

sion values, coupled with

uncertainty around inflation

and employment, make it

challenging to predict the

future resources needed to

sustain government services

assets available to pay bills,

and its total bills were \$28

billion. The total bills includ-

ed \$6.7 billion in unfunded

pension liabilities and \$170

million in unfunded retiree

\$2.9 trillion in debt and \$2.1

Collectively, states had

health care benefits.

Indiana had \$37 billion in

and benefits."

It did note, however, that

taining its low debt level.

retirement liabilities account for most of the deficit.

The only negative note for Indiana was its delay in filing its annual financial report. According to the Government Finance Officers Association, the standard for states to publish their annual reports is 180 days after the end of the fiscal year. Indiana was tardy at 202 days.

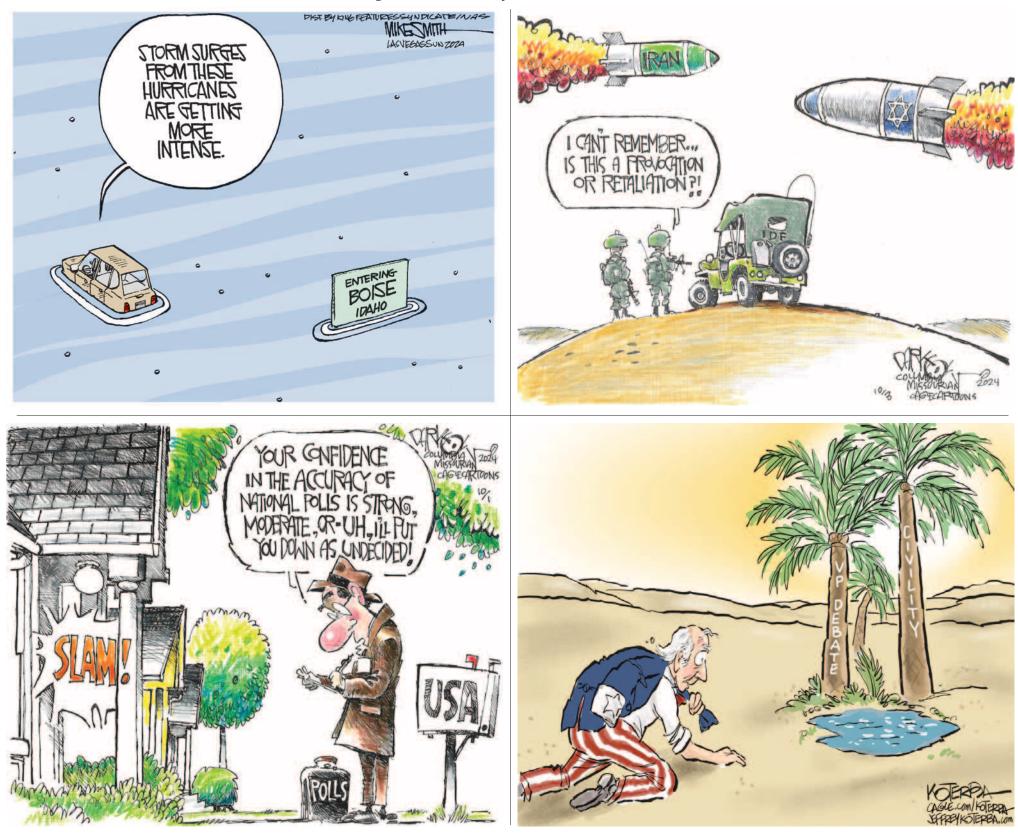
VISITATION & SERVICES David A. Terhune **Calling:** 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday, October 5. Service: 1 p.m. Saturday, October 5 at the funeral home. Thoma/Rich, Lemler **Funeral Home** 308 W. Washington St. 824-3850 www.thomarich.com







The Week That Was - a look back through cartoonists' eyes...



Other Opinions Biden, Medicare, and prescription drug premiums

'Tis the season for election handouts. On Sept. 27, the Biden Administration announced lower Medicare prescription drug premiums, which will naturally be paid for by taxpayers. The political irony is that Biden officials are increasing subsidies to insurers they otherwise vilify to mitigate pre-election harm from the Inflation Reduction Act.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) touted in a press release that average Part D premiums will decline by about \$90 next year while benefits will improve "thanks to the Inflation Reduc-

Trump wants to make (really) legal immigration great again

PALM BEACH, Fla. — In my last column, I shared my interview with Donald Trump on foreign policy. Today, we discuss immigration, specifically his plans to expand *legal* immigration.

I'm a supporter of Trump's policies to crack down on illegal immigration, but not the language he sometimes employs. The problem at our southern border is not that so many people want to come here. It's that so many are coming here *illegally*. And Trump's rhetoric can obscure the fact that he agrees with me about that. So I asked Trump: Is he a strong supporter of legal immigration? "I am," he said. "We need people." Indeed, it has been little noticed, but Trump has promised that, if elected, he will offer permanent residency to every foreign student who graduates from a U.S. university. I wanted to talk to him about this idea, which I think deserves more attention than it is getting. The United States hosted more than 1 million foreign students from virtually every country in the 2022-2023 academic year, and it gave green cards to just over 1 million people in 2022. Trump's proposal would dramatically increase the number of foreigners granted lawful permanent residence in America. "If you spend four years in (Trump has) an college, I think you should get a green card as part of your diploma," he said. "I feel that - and some people in the Republican [Party] don't — but ... one of the biggest complaints I had from people heading up companies [is that foreign students] go to the Wharton School of Finance, they go to Harvard, they go to these different places, and Stanford, and [American businesses] can't recruit because ... they're not allowed to stay in the country. And they want to be able to recruit them and they can't do it. And I'm going to have serious discussions with a lot of people about when you go through four years of college or two years of college, if you're in a junior college. And it'll also be good for colleges, frankly. "There are many cases where these young people go back to India, they go back to wherever they come from, they end up [working for] the same company," he said. "They ended up being the biggest people.... We could have had [them]. ... These [students] go up and they relocate into Canada and other places where they do that. Canada gets a lot of business because we can't guarantee [permanent residency]." This is an entrepreneurial view of immigration that Trump rarely shows to Americans, but it is true to his roots. So I pointed to the black-and-white pictures of his mother and father behind his desk and asked him to tell me his family's immigration story. "My father came from Germany - he was 5 years old through his parents. His father was in Alaska for the gold rush. And he ended up doing little tiny little hotels for the guys that went up. He said, 'I could do better if I do a hotel than look for the gold.' But he died at a fairly young age of pneumonia from Alaska. But very strong guy, very good guy. And [he] moved. His mother lived in Queens — Richmond Hill, which

is sort of [the] German section of Queens.

"My father was a builder. He graduated from high school and did a great job," he continued. "My mother came from Scotland, and she never went back. She came here to work. ... She loved Scotland, had great respect for the queen. Anything with the queen was good. ... And [they were] great parents. ... They were married for many, many decades, and they had a great marriage."

During our interview, Trump handed



Marc

tion Act and other new enhancements." P.S.: Seniors can show their gratitude by voting for Democrats.

Recall how Democrats sought to reduce Medicare drug spending by capping patient out-of-pocket costs at \$2,000 annually and shifting more of the entitlement's cost to insurers. CMS also sweetened benefits with regulatory tweaks. But Democrats failed to appreciate that there's no such thing as a free entitlement expansion.

Insurers projected that Part D premiums would balloon next year, when the \$2,000 cap and other freebies kick in. Providing basic Part D benefits next year is estimated to cost \$179.45 a month on average, up from \$64.28 this year and \$34.71 in 2023, according to CMS.

CMS uses a complicated formula to subsidize premiums, but healthcare analysts projected that premiums would rise by hundreds of dollars. Some insurers warned they might exit the market to avoid losing money. Seniors are notified of the premium spikes before open enrollment begins in mid-October. Talk about a surprise bill.

To head off this self-induced political mess, CMS launched this summer a "demonstration project" to "stabilize" the market that involved boosting payments to insurers. Congress in 1967 allowed Medicare to test new payment models to improve the efficiency of healthcare delivery, but such projects are supposed to be implemented on a small scale.

This Biden project 2025 instead rewrites the IRA to spend money that Congress didn't appropriate to fix Democrats' handiwork. CMS says that nearly all insurers signed up for its program, which is expected to cost about \$5 billion. Voila, CMS says Part D monthly premiums will decline next year by \$7.45 to \$46.50. It's good to be President.

Biden officials may have drawn inspiration from their Obama predecessors, which in 2010 stood up a demonstration project that boosted payments to insurers to prevent Medicare Advantage premiums from spiking owing to cuts Democrats made to the program in ObamaCare. Those subsidies were projected to cost \$8 billion over three years.

The Government Accountability Office wrote in 2012 that the project "dwarfs all other Medicare demonstrations-both mandatory and discretionary-conducted since 1995 in its estimated budgetary impact and is larger in size and scope than many of them." The Biden IRA patch dwarfs that 2012 fix in size, scope and budgetary impact.

Democrats in Congress and the press rightly slammed the Trump Administration in autumn 2020 for floating a demonstration project to send seniors \$200 drug discount cards before the election. But no one cares when a Democrat is abusing executive power and taxpayers to win the senior vote.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL Distributed by The Associated Press me a printout of a Truth Social post he had put out that day. It read (in ALL-CAPS of course): "Our borders must be closed, and the terrorists, criminals, and mentally insane, immediately removed from american cities and towns. deported back to their counties of origin. We want people to come into our country, but they must love our nation, and come in legally and through a system of merit.

While there is much focus on his typically allcaps calls for deportation, I was struck by how this one was paired with an all-caps endorsement of legal immigration. It horrifies many on the left, but the truth is that Trump's hard line on illegal immigration reflects the beliefs of a majority of Americans. His mass deportation pledge has widespread public support. A CBS-YouGov poll in June found that 62 percent of voters supported "a new national program to

deport all undocumented immigrants currently living in the U.S. illegally" - including 53 percent of Hispanics. An Economist-YouGov poll in February found that 56 percent of Americans supported "using military troops to arrest and deport people who are in the U.S. unlawfully." Just 31 percent were opposed. And an Axios poll from April found that 42 percent of Democrats supported "mass deportations of undocumented immigrants."

One of the tragedies of the Biden-Harris border disaster is that the record-breaking flood of unlawful migrants they have let in has depressed support for legal immigration. While a June Gallup poll found 64 percent still say immigration is a good thing, a 55 percent majority now say they want immigration levels reduced — the first time in nearly two decades that a majority have said they want less legal immigration.

That's clearly a reason Trump rarely talks about legal immigration on the stump. He knows it isn't popular with his base, and that many Americans are not open to expanding legal immigration. They won't be as long as the country is in the midst of the worst border crisis since the Mexican-American War.

But just as with the isolationists' misjudgment of Trump, I'm firmly convinced it's wrong to label him a nativist. "Your parents obviously made America a better place," I said to him. "Do you think immigrants make America a better place?"

'Yeah, I think so," he said.

I wish he would say so on the campaign trail. Follow Marc A. Thiessen @marcthiessen on X

The News-Banner (USPS 059-200)

Periodicals Postage Paid at Bluffton, IN 46714. Published every day except Sundays and principal holidays at 125 N. Johnson St., Bluffton IN 46714, Post Office Box 436

Evening News est. 1892 • Evening Banner est. 1899 • Consolidated 1929

News-Banner Publications, Inc. George B. Witwer, Chairman of the Board Doug Brown, President, Publisher Dianne Witwer, Secretary/Treasurer Holly Gaskill, Editor Mark Miller, Opinion Page Editor

Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily represent the views of this newspaper.

Thiessen

entrepreneurial view of immigration that (he) rarely shows to Americans.

DIVERSIONS

The struggle to find in-person therapy

Dear Annie: I read your postings have a small in our local newspaper every day, and I've noticed that you often tell people to seek help from a professional counselor before making big decisions.

I agree this is an important step, but I've found that counselors and psychologists are so busy that they either aren't taking new clients or they only want to do so via a computer. They want to counsel you through Zoom, which is not face-to-face.

During the pandemic, lots of doctors did business this way, but my feeling is you have to get comfortable with a counselor before you start telling them intimate things about yourself. Doing this through a computer isn't my idea of getting anything accomplished. -**Retired But Still Have Feelings**

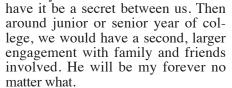
Dear Retired: Virtual therapy has indeed boomed since the pandemic, through services such as BetterHelp and Talkspace as well as through private practices.

For some, it can increase convenience and accessibility, but you're right that it doesn't compare to inperson, face-to-face care. Keep at your search for an in-person counselor. You can find resources on the Psychology Today website under "Find a Therapist." Good luck!

Dear Annie: Is it OK to get engaged at 17? For some context, I am currently 16, and so is my boyfriend. I am graduating high school in 2025 at 17, and my boyfriend is graduating in 2026 at 18. I have always been one to want to get engaged young. Though it is unconventional, I still feel it is right for me.

My boyfriend and I have been together since we were 14. We genuinely do love each other, but we are afraid of what our families would think. Our idea is to hide it. We would

engagement, just us, with minimal costs spent on the ring due to the fact that I don't care about diamond size, but I do care about the intention behind it. We would not tell anyone and



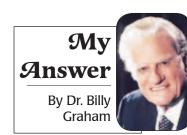
What are your thoughts? - Love Wins

Dear Love Wins: Young love is so powerful, intoxicating and exciting. While I can tell you and your boyfriend are eager to get engaged, I would be willing to bet you are seeking approval like this because, deep down, you know it's not the right thing to do. Anything in life you have to start "in secret" or "hide" should be a sign to you that it is not right.

If you two are meant to be together forever, like you say, there's no harm in waiting until you're older and really ready for this ultimate level of commitment.

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

© 2024 CREATORS.COM



Question: Is anger inherited or learned? Didn't God show anger? -A.I.

Answer: Every human being is capable of demonstrating anger. Think of a tiny baby who exhibits fits of temper before they can even talk. A toddler can fly into a fit of anger and upset the entire household. Husbands and wives react out of anger

before giving any thought to the issue that triggers such a response.

Anger is condemned by the sacred Scriptures

often shattered by fits of violent temper to murder, gossip, etc., it when reason gives is sinful indeed. This is way to venomous why we are instructed to wrath. Friendships are be quick to hear and slow to speak (see James 1:19). often broken by the keen knife of indignation.

Anger is condemned by the sacred Scriptures. It murders, assaults and attacks – causing physical and mental harm. Anger makes us lash out at others, destroying relationships and revealing our true nature.

Jesus said, "Whoever



"Why do you keep letting your beard grow if you're just gonna shave it off anyway?"





"'ONE MORE FOR THE ROAD' NOW MEANS GOING TO THE BATHROOM AGAIN BEFORE LEAVING."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer ACROSS 34 Diminu- DOWN 20 Faux 1 Shred



Dear

Anger breeds remorse in the heart, discord in the home, bitterness in the community, and confusion in the state. Homes are often destroyed by the swirling tornadoes of heated domestic anger. Business relations are

is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment" (Matthew 5:22, NKJV). "Without a cause" points to Ephesians 4:26: "Be angry, and do not sin" (NKJV). Righteous anger is directed at sinful behavior. The Bible teaches us how to handle anger without doing

bitterness eat away inside. Look to Christ's example in all things.

them, and it solves noth-

ing. God alone is per-

fect. Even His anger is

righteous, because it is

directed solely against

evil. Don't let the acids of

(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.

	м			5 PM Washington	5:30 Watch	6 PM Newsw-	6:30 Creflo	7 PM Joseph	7:30 Turning	8 PM TCT Today	8:30	9 PM Jewish	9:30 Life Today	10 PM Robert	10:30 Truths	11 PM Andrew	11:30 Ask the Pas	12 AM	12:30 Prop. Conn		chal eng
VINM (12	2) 11	26	63	With Tony P	erkins	atch	Dollar	Prince	Point			Jesus	with	Jeffress	That	Wommack				17	
CBS NANE 15	5 2	2	15 15		Inside Edition (N)	News at 6 (N)		Wheel of Fortune (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	Survivor			The Summi	it "To the Sum	imit"	Nightcast (N)	(:35) The Lat With Steph		(:35) After Mid. (N)	18 E	
ntenna ANE-2	2 10	5 20		Hawaii Five Laua Na Paio		Hawaii Five Kahakai"		Magnum "D Came Back"	ay the Past	Magnum "N Never Quiet'		Magnum "E Widow"	lack Is the	Magnum P. Before Dying		Magnum P. the Water"	I. "Blood in	Magnum P It All Came			nitie
ABC NPTA 21	1) 4	3	21 21	ABC21 New	s at 5 (N)	ABC21 (N)			Ent. Tonight (N)	To Be Anno	unced			crime mysteri d investigativ		ABC21 (N)	(:35) Jimmy I Live!	Kimmel	(:35) Nightline	19 [
NBC PTA-2 21.	2 7	8	14	Family Feud	25 Words "Gulp!"		NBC News		Family	Brilliant Mi Disembodied		Dateline NE	C Compellin	ig mysteries, p investigations	owerful	News (N)	(:35) Tonight	t Show (N)	(:35) Seth Meyers (N)		alter
MNT (PTA-3 21.	.3 10	9	56 34	Bob Hearts		Modern		Last Man "Spanking"	Last Man "Elfie"	Chicago Fir		Chicago Fir			Seinfeld	The Conners	The Conners	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs		nativ
CW NISE 33	3 8	4	33 33	The Steve W				TMZ (N)	True Crime News (N)	Whose Line (N)	Whose Line (N)	Inside the M	IFL Week 4	Friends	Friends	TMZ (N)	Dish Nation (N)	True Crime News		20 S	entre
PBS IFWA 39	9 13	5	39 39	The Green P "Water Work		PBS News H			Primetime	Washing-	Firing-	VOCES "Thr American Ta		VOCES (N)		Amanpour Company (N	and	Washin- gton Wk	Firing- Hoover	22 3	
PBS 49	93			The Green P "Water Work	lanet	Context		PBS News H		Washing-	Firing-	VOCES "Thr American Ta	eads in the	VOCES (N)		Amanpour Company (M	and	Washin- gton Wk	Firing- Hoover	C	drea
FOX (55		6	55 55	WFFT Fox N		WFFT Fox N	ews at 6	Big Bang	Big Bang	Murder in a				jan State at Oi	regon From A				Neighbor	24 (
CABLE C				(N)		(N)				Town											eatu
LIFE	23	113	108 252	Castle		Castle		Castle		Castle		Castle		(:05) Castle		(:05) Castle		Castle		25 (Cas
FX				(4:00) ♥★★★ Andy	Iron Man 3 Andv							alo, Robert Do		Social "Algo Everybody	prithm Pressu		Social Stud The King	ies The King	Social The King	29 F	
TVLAND	25		106 304	Griffith	Griffith		Griffith	Raymond		Raymond	Raymond	Raymond The Office	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	of Queens The Office	of Queens	of Queens Housewive	of Queens		area
E!	26	142	114 236					"The Coup"		"Initiation"	"Diwali"	The Office	me omce	Scare Tactics (N)				"Allegation	Nation" (N)	30 .	
PARMT	30		241 241	Half Men	Half Men		Half Men	Half Men	Two and a Half Men						Anderson, Le	Movie 3 (20 eslie Nielsen,		?)	Scary Movie (P)		base
ESPN	31	50	140 206	Around (N)	Pardon (L) (N)	SportsCente			Worth, Texas	s. (L) (N)		n Amon G. Ca	rter Stadium	in Fort	SportsCent	er (L) (N)		SportsCent	er (L) (N)	31 k	Kan kid
ESPN2				Football (4:00) Foul Te	UFC Live	ESPN BET Li Life Las		Countdown Sports	WNBA Bask In the			A (L) (N) Warehouse		ketball Playof Warehouse		A (L) (N) Warehouse	NFL Live Games	United UFA	Football 390 - Muav	۴ ا 32	
FSMW	33		418 671	(4.00) Pour re (3:30) \$*★★ F			Basketball	Stars	Spotlight		Par	World Wrestlin		Scare	Anonym. "\		The Anonyr	Thai For Life			quic
USA	34	133	105 242	Kills Jamie L	ee Curtis.	Lucas, Tenoc	n Huerta, Ana	de la Regue	ra.	Entertainment	t display their s	kills as rivalries	play out in t.	Tactics (N)	the Anonym	ous"	You Handle	lt?"	Tactics		orea
DISC			182 278	dolu is			Mountain" (I	N)		Heroes" (N)	Res. "Zeroes		Bering Sea		Outback Op (N)			to Golden H	eroes"		
TLC				1000-Lb. Be The UnXplai		Sister Wives UnXplained		90 Day Fian The UnXpla		90 Day Fian The UnXpla		he 90 Days (The UnXpla		90 Day (N) (:05) The Pro	1000-Lb. Be of Is Out	est Friends (:05) The Un		90 Day Fia (:05) UnXpla		1	2
HIST			120 269	World Benea First 48 "Mu	th Our Feet"	Animal Abilit First 48 "Rir	ies"	"Deadly Cult The First 48	s"	"Monsters A The First 48	mong Us"	First 48 "Sp		There (N) First 48 "Sp		(:05) The Firs	·	Golden Age (:05) The Fir	of Pirates"	12	+
A&E HALL				** Heavta of	Minter (202	0 Damagaal)	l'attau	🛠 Haul Out	the Holly (20	022, Comedy)		🕈 Christma	s on Cherry	Lane (2023, [Drama)	Golden	Golden	Golden	Golden		
APALL .					(:45) 🛠 🛧 Hal	oween II (20	09, Horror) T			\$*★★ Edv		hands (1990,	Fantasy)	Brotherton, Cat Scare	🕈 ★ Winche	Girls ster (2018, H	Girls orror) Jason (Girls Clarke, Sarah	Girls The Ark	15	
CVEV				Halloween Big Bang				Big Bang		Winona Ryde ¥★★★ Get		est, Johnny D niel Kaluuya.	epp.		Snook, Heler en of Thieve		Schreiber, Ge	erard Butler.			
SYFY TBS	43	1	138 245		The Suicide					er (2019, Crin		ert De Niro, Z	azie Beetz,	All Elite Wr Rampage (M	estling:	¥★★★ Wo Pine, Connie	nder Womar	1 (2017, Actio	on) Chris		
		131					ntmare on F	m Street 2:	Freddy's	۶×★★ A N				(:15) **★ A	Nightmare	on Elm Stree	t ('10, Hor)	(:15) The Wa		20	21
TBS			131 254	(3:45) % A Nig	htmare on	₩** A Nig	S) Kim Muore	Mark Datt				nuenkamo, J	JUII JaXOII.	Rooney Mara	a, Nyie Galine	i, Jackle Edile	ridley.	Daryl Dixo		24	+
TBS TNT	44			(3:45) ¥ A Nig Elm Street 3: The Office	Dream W The Office	Revenge ('8 The Office	5) Kim Myers, The Office	Mark Patton The Office	Everybody	Everybody	Family Guy	Family Guy		/ Family Guy							1
TBS TNT AMC	44 45			(3:45) ¥ A Nig Elm Street 3: The Office (4:30) NASCA	Dream W The Office R Love's RV S	Revenge ('8 The Office	5) Kim Myers, The Office Talladega	Mark Patton The Office	Everybody ck's Happy	Everybody	Family Guy	Family Guy		Family Guy se at UNLV Fr					Family Guy TMZ Sports (N)		-
TBS TNT AMC COM FS1 WGN	44 45 47 48 53	64	107 249 150 219 307	(3:45) * A Nig Elm Street 3: The Office (4:30) NASCA Superspeedw Vargas Repo	Dream W The Office R Love's RV S ray in Tallade ort (L) (N)	Revenge ('8 The Office itop 225 From ga, Ala. (L) (N The Hill (L) (5) Kim Myers, The Office Talladega) N)	Mark Patton The Office Kevin Harvi Hour Kansas On Balance	Everybody ck's Happy Recap (L) (N)	Everybody NFL Films Presents Cuomo (L) (I	Family Guy The Joel Klatt Show	Family Guy College Foo Dan Abram	s Live (L) (N)	se at UNLV Fr	om Allegiant (N)	Stadium in La	s Vegas. (L) (N) Dan Abram	TMZ Sports (N) s Live	29	
TBS TNT AMC COM FS1 WGN WE FOOD	44 45 47 48 53 57 59	64	107 249 150 219 307 128 260 110 231	(3:45) * A Nig Elm Street 3: The Office (4:30) NASCA Superspeedw Vargas Repo (4:30) 9-1-1 Diners	Dream W The Office R Love's RV S ay in Tallade ort (L) (N) 9-1-1 Diners	Revenge ('8 The Office stop 225 From ga, Ala. (L) (N The Hill (L) (Diners	5) Kim Myers, The Office Talladega) N) Love After ' Diners	Mark Patton The Office Kevin Harvi Hour Kansas On Balance Exes and Oh Diners	Everybody ck's Happy s Recap (L) (N) No's" Diners	Everybody NFL Films Presents Cuomo (L) (I Love After Diners	Family Guy The Joel Klatt Show N) "Welcome Hc Diners	Family Guy College Foo Dan Abram ome?" (N) Diners (N)	s Live (L) (N) Tia Mowry Diners	Banfield (L) "Tia 2.0" (N) Diners	om Allegiant (N) Love After Diners	Stadium in La Cuomo "Welcome Ho Diners	s Vegas. (L) (me?" Diners	N) Dan Abram Tia Mowry Diners	TMZ Sports (N) s Live "Tia 2.0" Diners	29 32	
TBS TNT AMC COM FS1 WGN WE FOOD BRAVO	44 45 47 48 53 57 59 60	64 153 140	107 249 150 219 307 128 260 110 231 129 237	(3:45) * A Nig Elm Street 3: The Office (4:30) NASCA Superspeedw Vargas Repo (4:30) 9-1-1 Diners (:15) *** 2	Dream W The Office R Love's RV S ay in Tallade ort (L) (N) 9-1-1 Diners Fast 2 Furio	Revenge ('8 The Office Stop 225 From ga, Ala. (L) (N The Hill (L) (Diners us ('03) Tyres	5) Kim Myers, The Office Talladega) N) Love After ' Diners e, Paul Walke	Mark Patton The Office Kevin Harvi Hour Kansas On Balance Exes and Oh Diners r.	Everybody ck's Happy Recap (L) (N) No's" Diners 🛠★ The Fa	Everybody NFL Films Presents Cuomo (L) (I Love After Diners	Family Guy The Joel Klatt Show N) "Welcome Hc Diners	Family Guy College Foo Dan Abram me?" (N) Diners (N) yo Drift ('06)	s Live (L) (N) Tia Mowry Diners Lucas Black.	Banfield (L) "Tia 2.0" (N) Diners Scare (N)	(N) Love After Diners 葉★★ The F	Stadium in La Cuomo "Welcome Ho Diners ast and the	s Vegas. (L) (me?" Diners	N) Dan Abram Tia Mowry Diners Paul Walker	TMZ Sports (N) s Live "Tia 2.0" Diners Vin Diesel.		
TBS TNT AMC COM FS1 WGN WE FOOD	44 45 47 48 53 57 59 60 68	64 153 140	107 249 150 219 307 128 260 110 231 129 237	(3:45) * A Nig Elm Street 3: The Office (4:30) NASCA Superspeedw Vargas Repo (4:30) 9-1-1 Diners (:15) * * * 2 (4:30) * * * * 8 Bluey	E Dream W The Office R Love's RV S ray in Tallade ort (L) (N) 9-1-1 Diners Fast 2 Furio Sing ('16) N Bluey	Revenge (⁷ 8 The Office itop 225 From ga, Ala. (L) (N The Hill (L) (I Diners us (⁷ 03) Tyres latthew McCco Bluey	5) Kim Myers, The Office Talladega) N) Love After Diners e, Paul Walke maughey. Big City	Mark Patton The Office Kevin Harvi Hour Kansas On Balance Exes and Oh Diners r. To Be Anno Big City	Everybody ck's Happy Recap (L) (N) No's" Diners *** The F: unced Big City	Everybody NFL Films Presents Cuomo (L) (I Love After Diners ast and the * Descenda	Family Guy The Joel Klatt Show N) "Welcome Ho Diners Furious: Tok ants: The Ris	Family Guy College Foo Dan Abram Dime?" (N) Diners (N) yo Drift ('06) Friends e of Red	s Live (L) (N) Tia Mowry Diners Lucas Black. Friends ZOMBIES	Banfield (L) "Tia 2.0" (N) Diners Scare (N) Friends (:10) Marvel's	Mallegiant (N) Love After Diners 葉★★ The F Friends Movie	Stadium in La Cuomo "Welcome Ho Diners ast and the Friends Monsters	s Vegas. (L) (me?" Diners Furious ('01) Friends Monsters	N) Dan Abram Tia Mowry Diners Paul Walker Friends (:05) Big City	TMZ Sports (N) s Live "Tia 2.0" Diners Vin Diesel. Friends Big City		
TBS TNT AMC COM FS1 WGN WE FOOD BRAVO NICK DISN	44 45 47 48 53 57 59 60 68 69	64 153 140 30	107 249 150 219 307 128 260 110 231 129 237 170 299	(3:45) ♥ A Nig Elm Street 3: The Office (4:30) NASCA Superspeedw Vargas Repu (4:30) 9-1-1 Diners (:15) ♥★★ 2 (4:30) ♥★★★ Bluey (4:00) ♥ Goos Haunted Ha	: Dream W The Office R Love's RV S ray in Tallade ort (L) (N) 9-1-1 Diners Fast 2 Furio Sing ('16) M Bluey sebumps 2: Iloween	Revenge ('8 The Office itop 225 From ga, Ala. (L) (N The Hill (L) (I Diners us ('03) Tyres latthew McCo Bluey *** Cruell	5) Kim Myers, The Office Talladega) N) Love After ' Diners e, Paul Walke e, Paul Walke Big City a (2021, Corr	Mark Patton The Office Kevin Harvi Hour Kansas On Balance Exes and Oh Diners r. To Be Anno Big City wedy) Emma T	Everybody ck's Happy Recap (L) (N) No's" Diners *** The F- unced Big City hompson, Joe	Everybody NFL Films Presents Cuomo (L) (I Love After Diners ast and the Pescenda el Fry, Emma	Family Guy The Joel Klatt Show N) "Welcome Ho Diners Furious: Tok ants: The Ris Stone.	Family Guy College Foc Dan Abram me?" (N) Diners (N) yo Drift ('06) Friends e of Red **** Bee Geena Davis	tball Syracu s Live (L) (N) Tia Mowry Diners Lucas Black. Friends ZOMBIES tlejuice (198 , Michael Kea	se at UNLV Fr Banfield (L) "Tia 2.0" (N) Diners Scare (N) Friends (10) Marvel's 88, Comedy) A aton.	(N) Love After Diners *★★ The F Friends Movie	Stadium in La Cuomo "Welcome Ho Diners ast and the Friends Monsters The 700 Clu	s Vegas. (L) (me?" Diners Furious ('01) Friends Monsters	N) Dan Abram Tia Mowry Diners Paul Walker, Friends (05) Big City **** Litt Horrors Ric	TMZ Sports (N) s Live "Tia 2.0" Diners Vin Diesel. Friends Big City Ie Shop of k Moranis.		38
TBS TNT AMC COM FS1 WGN WE FOOD BRAVO NICK DISN	44 45 47 48 53 57 59 60 68 69	64 153 140 30 32	107 249 150 219 307 128 260 110 231 129 237 170 299 172 290	(3:45) ¥ A Nig Elm Street 3: The Office (4:30) NASCA (4:30) NASCA (4:30) 9-1-1 Diners (1:5) ¥★★ 2 (4:30) ₹★★ 8 Bluey (4:00) ¥ Goos Haunted Ha Gaga Chron	: Dream W The Office R Love's RV S vay in Tallade ort (L) (N) 9-1-1 Diners Fast 2 Furio Sing ('16) M Bluey sebumps 2: Iloween natica Ball	Revenge (^{'8} The Office istop 225 From ga, Ala. (L) (N The Hill (L) (I Diners us ('03) Tyres latthew McCco Bluey *** Cruell	5) Kim Myers, The Office Talladega) N) Love After Diners e, Paul Walke maughey. Big City a (2021, Com (:55) **** Beetz, Joaqui	Mark Patton The Office Kevin Harvi Hour Kansas On Balance Exes and Oh Diners r. To Be Anno Big City redy) Emma T Joker (2019, n Phoenix.	Everybody ck's Happy Recap (L) (N) No's" Diners *** The F- unced Big City hompson, Joo Crime Story)	Everybody NFL Films Presents Cuomo (L) (I Love After Diners ast and the Pescenda el Fry, Emma Robert De Ni	Family Guy The Joel Klatt Show N Welcome Ho Diners Furious: Tok Ints: The Ris Stone.	Family Guy College Foc Dan Abram me?" (N) Diners (N) yo Drift ('06) Friends e of Red Friends e of Red Friends The Penguin Man"	tball Syracu s Live (L) (N) Tia Mowry Diners Lucas Black. Friends ZOMBIES tlejuice (198 , Michael Kea n "Inside	se at UNLV Fr Banfield (L) "Tia 2.0" (N) Diners Scare (N) Friends (10) Marvel's 88, Comedy) A aton. Real Time V Maher (L) (N	(N) Love After Diners [†] ★★ The F Friends Movie Jec Baldwin, Vith Bill J)	Stadium in La Cuomo "Welcome Ho Diners ast and the Friends Monsters The 700 Clu Industry	s Vegas. (L) (me?" Diners Furious ('01) Friends Monsters b	N) Dan Abram Tia Mowry Diners Paul Walker Friends (05) Big City *** tit Horrors Ric (15) My Bril Story of th	TMZ Sports (N) s Live "Tia 2.0" Diners Vin Diesel. Friends Big City Je Shop of k Moranis. liant Friend: e Lost Child	32 37	38
TBS TNT AMC COM FS1 WGN WE FOOD BRAVO NICK DISN REEFORM	44 45 47 48 53 57 59 60 68 69 70	64 153 140 30 32	107 249 150 219 307 128 260 110 231 129 237 170 299 172 290 180 311	(3.45) ¥ A Nig Elm Street 3: The Office (4:30) NASCA Superspeedw. Vargas Repe (4:30) 9-1-1 Diners (15) ¥ ★ ★ 2 (4:30) ¥ ★ ★ Bluey (4:00) ¥ Goos Haunted Ha Gaga Chron (4:25) ¥ ★ ★ Swan Natali	EDream W The Office R Love's RV S ay in Tallade ort (L) (N) 9-1-1 Diners Fast 2 Furio Sing ('16) N Bluey Leobumps 2: Iloween natica Ball Black e Portman.	Revenge (⁷⁸ The Office itop 225 From ga, Ala. (L) (N The Hill (L) (Diners us (⁷⁰ 3) Tyres latthew MCCC Bluey %** Cruell (¹⁵) %** TF Elijah Wood,	5) Kim Myers, The Office Talladega) N) Love After ' Diners e, Paul Walke naughey. Big City a (2021, Com (55) \$**** Beetz, Joaqu e Last Witch Rose Leslie, \	Mark Patton The Office Kevin Harvi Hour Kansas On Balance Exes and Oh Diners r. To Be Anno Big City eedy) Emma T Joker (2019, n Phoenix. Hunter (20	Everybody ck's Happy : Recap (L) (N) No's" Diners **** The Fi unced Big City hompson, Joo Crime Story) 15, Fantasy)	Everybody NFL Films Presents Cuomo (L) (I Love After Diners ast and the Pescenda el Fry, Emma Robert De Nin ** Red Da Hutcherson,	Family Guy The Joel Klatt Show N) "Welcome Ho Diners Furious: Tok ents: The Ris Stone. ro, Zazie wn ('12) Josh Chris Hemsw	Family Guy College Foc Dan Abram mme?" (N) Diners (N) yo Drift ('06) Friends e of Red ¥★★★ Bee Geena Davis The Penguin Man" Peck, Josh orth. (P)	tball Syracu s Live (L) (N) Tia Mowry Diners Lucas Black. Friends ZOMBIES tlejuice (198 , Michael Kea n "Inside (35) 🛠 🛧 T Jones, Micha	se at UNLV Fr Banfield (L) "Tia 2.0" (N) Diners Scare (N) Friends (10) Marvel's 88, Comedy) A aton. Real Time V Maher (L) (N he Family (20 elle Pfeiffer, R	(N) Love After Diners ¥★★ The F Friends Movie Jec Baldwin, Vith Bill J) D13, Action) T obert De Niro	Stadium in La Cuomo "Welcome Ho Diners ast and the Friends Monsters The 700 Clu Industry ommy Lee	s Vegas. (L) (me?" Diners Furious ('01) Friends Monsters b (25) ?**** Elisabeth Shi	N) Dan Abran Tia Mowry Diners Paul Walker, Friends (05) Big City **** Litt Horrors Ric (15) My Bril Story of th Leaving Las ue, Nicolas C	TMZ Sports (N) s Live "Tia 2.0" Diners Vin Diesel. Friends Big City le Shop of k Moranis. liant Friend: e Lost Child Vegas ('95) age.	32	38
TBS TNT AMC COM FS1 WGN WE FOOD BRAVO NICK DISN REEFORM HBO	44 45 47 48 53 57 59 60 68 69 70 70 301 32	64 153 140 30 32 1	107 249 150 219 307 128 260 110 231 129 237 170 299 172 290 180 311 300 501	(3.45) ¥ A Nig Elm Street 3: The Office (4:30) NASCA Superspeed/w Vargas Rep(4:30) 9-1-1 Diners (15) ¥★ 2 (4:30) ¥★ 2 (4:30) ¥★ 2 (4:30) ¥ ★ 2 Bluey (4:00) ¥ Goos Haunted Ha Gaga Chron (4:25) ¥★ ★ Swan Natalii (4:40) ¥★ ★	: Dream W The Office R Love's RV S ay in Tallade ort (L) (N) 9-1-1 Diners Sing ('16) N Bluey sebumps 2: Iloween hatica Ball Black Portman. The Negoti	Revenge (⁷⁸ The Office itop 225 From ga, Ala. (L) (N The Hill (L) (Diners us (⁷⁰ 3) Tyres latthew MCCC Bluey %** Cruell (¹⁵) %** TF Elijah Wood,	5) Kim Myers, The Office Talladega) NU Love After ' Diners e, Paul Walke naughey. Big City a (2021, Com (55) **** Beetz, Joaqu (55) **** Beetz, Joaqu re Last Witch Rose Leslie, 1 hriller) Kevin	Mark Patton The Office Kevin Harvi Hour Kansas On Balance Exes and Oh Diners r. To Be Anno Big City eedy) Emma T Joker (2019, n Phoenix. Hunter (20	Everybody ck's Happy : Recap (L) (N) No's" Diners **** The Fi unced Big City hompson, Joo Crime Story) 15, Fantasy)	Everybody NFL Films Presents Cuomo (L) (I Love After Diners ast and the Pescenda el Fry, Emma Robert De Nin ** Red Da Hutcherson,	Family Guy The Joel Klatt Show N) "Welcome Ho Diners Furious: Tok ents: The Ris Stone. ro, Zazie wn ('12) Josh Chris Hemsw	Family Guy College Foc Dan Abram mme?" (N) Diners (N) yo Drift ('06) Friends e of Red ¥★★★ Bee Geena Davis The Penguin Man" Peck, Josh orth. (P)	tball Syracu s Live (L) (N) Tia Mowry Diners Lucas Black. Friends ZOMBIES tlejuice (198 , Michael Kea n "Inside (35) 🛠 🛧 T Jones, Micha	se at UNLV Fr "Tia 2.0" (N) Diners Scare (N) Friends (10) Marvel's 88, Comedy) A aton. Real Time V Maher (L) (N he Family (20)	Mallegiant (N) Love After Diners ♥★★ The F Friends Movie Jec Baldwin, Vith Bill () D13, Action) 1 obert De Niro The Godfathe	Stadium in La Cuomo "Welcome Ho Diners ast and the Friends Monsters The 700 Clu Industry ommy Lee	s Vegas. (L) (me?" Diners Furious ('01) Friends Monsters b (25) ?**** Elisabeth Shi	N) Dan Abran Tia Mowry Diners Paul Walker, Friends (05) Big City **** Litt Horrors Ric (15) My Bril Story of th Leaving Las ue, Nicolas C	TMZ Sports (N) s Live "Tia 2.0" Diners Vin Diesel. Friends Big City le Shop of k Moranis. liant Friend: e Lost Child Vegas ('95) age.	32 37	38

	103.		JT					VV I			201	aux		
	Shrea			tive	suffi	Х	1	Cr	ater			bas		
4 (Code	-	35	Eas	ter			pa	rt		21	Fash	ion	
	oreak			bloc	m		2	Alt	ar v	ow	i	con		
	Turing		36	Can		A			ink-t			Char	nel	
	Tooth		00		vers				hol			Repe		
		y	07			>						•	711-	
	ools		31	Sing					evise			ant		
	Nrite			Lau					eado	WS		Vimi		
	Tarbe		40	Pisa					ore-		25 \$	Scol	In-	
13 E	Bistro)		fare	well			ov	er		(drel		
ł	nando	out	41	Wea	aver'	s	7	Gr	eek		26 (Conv	en-	
14	Vabis	0.0			hine			co	nso-		t	tiona	I	
	cooki		42	Ask					nts			Vem		
	Hair-	0		Taj		21			ddis	h_		_eav		
		~ <i>"</i> ~	40	site	IVIAII	ai				511-				
	dress	ers							own			507,		
	chal-		47	Soc					rse			Caes		
	enge	S		SCO					omo			'Darl		
	Tear		48	Rav	V				cald	cu-	ł	Hour	"	
18 E	Eter-			min	eral			lat	ion		á	actor		
r	nities		49	Rou	ind	1	0	De	part	ted	(Gary		
19 [Dorm				ad of	i 1	1	La	vs			Mora		
	alter-			Indi					wn t	the		of		
	native	20	50	Chu				lav				'Oza	rk"	
	Seafo		50	sect		-			xer'	~		Supe		
			- 4							5		mark		
	entré			Cro					nch					
	Shop		6	(out)	1	9	Cr	iticis	sm		secti		
	drean											Fami		
24 (Cana		S	oluti	ion t	ime	: 2	25	min	s.		Medi	ta-	
f	eatur	е	C	LUI	3 5	511	2	С	AL	F	t	tive		
25 (Cowb	ov						A			1	oract	ice	
	Cassi						3	С				Asta		
	Hosp				EMA		T		U			caret		
	area	•					γĪV	/ 1	LL	E		RS		
	Jeter	of	Α		JM		ΞA	Ą	AA	A				
					S [8	S	ΤD			oloye	es	
	paset			EL	ΜA	ΑV	T	_	E E	Т		NYC		
	Kang	a's	D	ULI			- L					airpo		
	kid		AI				1 C 3) E T	D A	M	43 '	'Alle	у —"	
32	Hollov	N			G (_	3 7	E			4 4 [Befo	re	
(quick						<u> </u>	N			45 -			
t	read	s		_		_					1	Moin	es	
				Yes	sterd	ays	an	ISN	/er	10-4				
1	2	3		4	5	6	7			8	9	10	11	
				10			┞							
12				13						14				
15			16				\vdash			17				
							1							

19

36

40

43

42

47

50

26 27

31

48

51

28

44

45

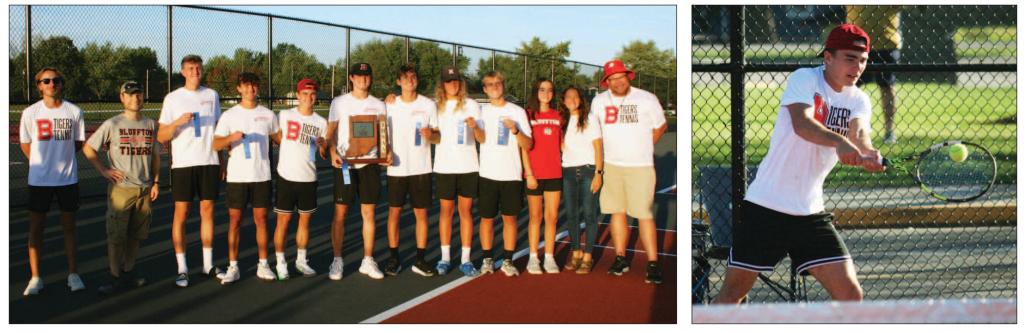
22 23

25

30

33

35



Bluffton won its first sectional championship in boys' tennis since 2015 on Thursday in a 4-1 victory over the Norwell Knights. At left, the team poses with the sectional trophy on their own courts. At right, Nolan Lambert stretches to backhand a shot during his match at No. 1 singles. (Photos by Ryan Walker)

Tigers knock out Knights to win 1st sectional since 2015

By RYAN WALKER

Coach Robert Vanderkolk's prophecy is fulfilled.

A year and one day ago on Thursday, the Tigers' coach predicted a sectional championship after falling 3-2 to Norwell in the title match last year, saying, "You're interviewing next year's sectional champion coach.

On Thursday, his team claimed its first sectional championship since 2015 with a 4-1 victory over the same Norwell squad.

When asked about it, Vanderkolk was at a loss for words. He just laughed. "I don't know.'

The Knights certainly made it a match, leading 3-2 after all the first sets were completed. They had all three singles spots ahead and both doubles were in favor of Bluffton.

"It was great to see the guys just coming and firing on all cylinders," Norwell head coach Noah Tobias said. "I thought they did an amazing job doing that because that's kind of been one of our focus points this year."

The Tigers got on the board first with those doubles teams of No. 1 Coy Lantz and No. 2 Ben Maggard and Kade Abbett, needing only one last spot up 2-0.

Landon Diver of Norwell swept Jacob Ribich next, leaving No. 1 singles between Gavin Reynolds (N) and Nolan Lambert and No. 2 singles between Anthony Hartman (B) and Braylon Troutt.

The No. 2 singles went to a tiebreaker and not shortly after went No. 1 singles.

Both Hartman and Lambert took early leads up by one game each in the tiebreaker, then there was an unfortunate break for the Knights.

Reynolds, a senior, went down with an ankle injury during the third set. Before it, he was neck-and-neck with Lambert with a set one victory.

After taking the full time to recover, he returned to the court to finish the match.

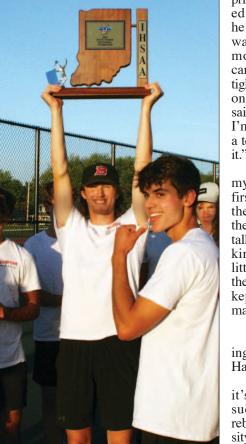
"He probably had his best match of the year," Tobias said. "And I don't think you can say that there's a more resilient player than Gavin because he was in pain, but he knew this was his senior season and he wanted to finish this matchup at all costs. But it pains me that that's how he had to go out, but again, he just did a great job.

Hartman took a 5-2 lead over Troutt and scored three straight times before finally finishing the job for the Tigers. About 10 minutes later, Lambert followed his lead.

The turnaround for Vanderkolk's senior was something he expected from his four-year varsity play-

er. He said that there were not many players he'd rather have than Hartman or Lambert to get the final points of a match, and both of them did it.

"Braylon kicked (Hartman's) butt in the first set," Vanderkolk said. "Anthony and I had a conversation that probably isn't fit to



Dane Schlagenhauf lifts up the sectional trophy proudly.

ference and in the sectional. They will face the winner of the Peru sectional at home on Tuesday.

For the Knights, it's the start of their new direction toward getting back to the sectional championship and winning the thing.

Tobias' Knights graduated four of the

print ... But he respondseven seniors from last year and played a ed just like I knew handful of new varsity members all year. he would. I knew he Next year, the team will lose Reynolds, wasn't afraid of the Diver and Eddie Archbold, but return moment. Yeah, he Troutt, Rylan Heyerly, Aedyn Quintanilla came out tighter than and Dylan Randol. tight in the first set, but "They have been forced to grow this once he relaxed and year so much just in the whole mentality of, said, 'OK, this is what 'OK, I'm supposed to be here in this spot. I deserve this spot. Now, I'm gonna go play I'm supposed to do as a tennis player,' he did my heart out, and I want to do whatever I

"I wasn't playing my best tennis in the first set, went over on the changeover after the first one got over, talked to coach and he kind of gave me the little bit of motivation there, and just kind of kept grinding," Hartman said.

Coach's response? 'Just to keep fighting, in his own way," Hartman said, smiling. For the Tigers,

it's the reward of a successful two-year rebuild. All seven varsity members from the prior season returned and took care of their business in the con-

ch 7-6 (7-3), 6-0 at No. 3 singles. defeated Eddie Archbold and Aedyn Quin-

tanilla 6-2, 6-1 at No. 1 doubles • Kade Abbett and Dane Schlagenhauf (B) defeated Rylan Heyerly and Dylan Randol 6-2, 6-3 at No. 2 doubles.

can to get a win," Tobias said. "And I think

we did that, especially with our younger

players, I think we did that ... It's going to

be a good couple of years for us, and I'm

p.m., and they'll be hungry for it. But now,

it's time to soak in the moment for the first

"The job's not done," Vanderkolk said. "We're going to celebrate the crap out of

this. Have a blast tonight and tomorrow.

My fellow teachers are probably going to

get annoyed with me tomorrow because I'm

going to be hooting and hollering the entire

Individual results:

Reynolds 3-6, 6-3, 6-1 at No. 1 singles. • Anthony Hartman (B) defeated Braylon

Troutt 1-6, 6-4, 6-2 at No. 2 singles.

• Nolan Lambert (B) defeated Gavin

• Landon Diver (N) defeated Jacob Ribi-

• Ben Maggard and Coy Lantz (B)

ryan@news-banner.com

Bluffton's match next week will be at 5

forward to the future right now.'

day in the school building."

time in nine years.

Sports Roundup

Knights sweep Bulldogs in NE8 volleyball action

Norwell will be at Bluffton at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 7.

Knights drill Bruins in boys'

FRIDAY, OCT 4

FOOTBALL: Heritage at Bluffton, 7 p.m.; DeKalb at Norwell, 7 p.m.; Southern Wells at Adams Central, 7 North. 10 a.m. MONDAY, OCT 7 VOLLEYBALL: Norwell at Bluffton, 7 p.m.

tional) Norwell at home vs. Canterbury/Heritage.

VOLLEYBALL: East Noble at Norwell, 7 p.m.; Anderson Prep at Southern Wells, 7

Norwell picked up a Northeast 8 Conference victory at New Haven in volleyball Thursday night.

The Knights swept by scores of 25-22, 25-22 and 25-15. Their record is now 14-10 (2-3 NE8) this season.

Stat leaders: Macie Saalfrank with nine kills, Rebecca Settle and Emma Vachon two aces, Vachon 19 assists, Izzy Anderson and Mekynzi Beck one block and Autumn Lee 12 digs.

Norwell won the junior varsity contest 2-0 (25-17, 25-7) and the freshman match 2-0 (25-20, 25-21).

soccer rout to end season

Norwell defeated Blackford on the road 9-0 in a mercy rule rout for boys' soccer on Thursday.

The Knights' win wraps up the regular season with an 8-8 record.

Kyler Morris scored four goals in the match, while Jase Harmon, Brayden huffman, Eli Randol, Noah Schamerloh and Kale Fuess scored one each. Randol and Schamerloh with assists.

Norwell will face Woodlan at Concordia for the sectional at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 8.

Cincinnati Reds hire Terry Francona as manager

By TOM WITHERS AP Sports Writer

Terry Francona has been hired to manage the Cincinnati Reds, returning to the major leagues a year after he stepped down in Cleveland because of health reasons.

A person familiar with the situation confirmed the move on Thursday night on condition of anonymity because the Reds had not announced the decision

Francona is replacing David Bell, who was fired by Cincinnati in the final days of his sixth season. Bell had a 409-456 record with the Reds.

Francona, who turns 66 in April, played for Cincinnati in 1987. He hit .227 with three homers and 12 RBIs in 102 games.

He had kept a low profile since leaving the Guardians. He returned to Cleveland briefly during the summer to help launch a new restaurant in which he has an ownership stake.

Long one of baseball's most beloved figures, Francona has a 1,950-1,672 record in 23 years as a big league manager with Philadelphia (1997-2000), the Red Sox (2004-2011) and Guardians (2013-2023).

He was slowed by serious medical issues in his final years in Cleveland, but he stayed clear of calling his departure a retirement.

"I never was real concerned about the word retire," he said last year. "I guess when you say retire, it's like, well, you're going home and not doing anything. Don't feel that way either. We'll figure something out that makes sense."

He found that something on the other side of Ohio.

With 1,950 wins, he's 13th on the career list, sandwiched by Casey Stengel (1,905) and Leo Durocher (2,008), two other colorful managers who like Francona endeared themselves to fans and players.

Francona's rise as one of the game's best managers was somewhat unexpected.

Things didn't go particularly well for him in Philadelphia, where he had four straight losing seasons, got constantly booed in a demanding, sports-crazed city and had the tires on his car slashed on fan appreciation day.

He was an unlikely choice for Boston's job, but immediately claimed legendary status by winning the World Series in his first season

The Red Sox overcame a 3-0 deficit in the AL Championship Series and swept St. Louis to end an 86-year championship drought and exorcise the "Curse of the Bambino," a perceived hex on the team after Babe Ruth was sold to the rival New York Yankees.

When his tenure in Boston ended in 2011 amid some controversy, Francona took a year off and worked in broadcasting before going to Cleveland, where his dad spent six seasons and he himself played 62 games in 1988.

Francona took Cleveland to the playoffs seven times in his 11 seasons. The Guardians, then known as the Indians, made it to the World Series in 2016 only to lose to the Chicago Cubs in a seven-game series.

Known as Tito, his late father's name, Francona became a beloved figure in Cleveland with his quick wit and big personality. He could have taken jobs elsewhere but felt a deep connection with the organization after his dad played with Cleveland in the late 1950s and early 60s.

p.m SATURDAY, OCT 5

CROSS CÓUNTRY (coed): Bluffton at the Bluffton Invitational, 10 a.m.; Nor-

TUESDAY, OCT 8 BOYS SÓCCER: (Sectional) Norwell vs. Woodlan at Concordia, 7 p.m.

High School Calendar

well NE8 meet at Huntington

GIRLS SOCCER: (Sec-

p.m WEDNESDAY, OCT 9 VOLLEYBALL: North Side at Bluffton, 7 p.m.; Wes-Del at Southern Wells, 7 p.m.

AUDIO



Michael Jordan's 23XI and a 2nd team sue **NASCAR over revenue** sharing model

By JENNA FRYER APAuto Racing Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) - Two NASCAR teams one of them owned by Michael Jordan - filed a federal antitrust lawsuit against the stock car series and chairman Jim France on Wednesday, claiming the new charter system limits competition by unfairly binding teams to the series, its tracks and its suppliers.

23XI Racing and Front Row Motorsports filed suit in the Western District of North Carolina in Charlotte after two years of contentious negotiations between the privately owned National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing and the 15 charter-holding organizations in the series' top Cup Series.

"The France family and NASCAR are monopolistic bullies," the teams said in the lawsuit, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press. "And bullies will continue to impose their will to hurt others until their targets stand up and refuse to be victims. That moment has now arrived."

NASCAR in early September presented its final offer on what is essentially a revenue sharing model; 13 organizations signed, with most saying they did so under duress or felt threatened into doing so.

But 23XI Racing, the team co-owned by Jordan and veteran driver Denny Hamlin, and the smaller Front Row team refused to sign. They hired Jeffrey Kessler, a top antitrust attorney who has represented the players in all four major professional North American sports, helped push the NCAA toward an era of paid college athletes and won a landmark equal pay settlement for members of the U.S. national women's soccer team.

The lawsuit seeks details from NASCAR and France "related to their exclusionary practices and intent to insulate (Continued on Page 7)



0

SPORTS **Michael Jordan**

(Continued from Page 6)

themselves from any competition." Kessler said he would ask for a preliminary injunction that will enable the two teams to compete in 2025 under the new charter agreement while the litigation proceeds.

The teams said they will seek treble damages for anti-competitive terms that have ruled the sport since the initial 2016 charter agreement.

"Everyone knows that I have always been a fierce competitor, and that will to win

is what drives me and the entire 23XI team each and every week out on the track," said Jordan, the retired NBA superstar. "I love the sport of racing and the passion of our fans, but the way NASCAR is run today is unfair to teams, drivers, sponsors and fans. Today's action shows I'm willing to fight for a competitive market where everyone wins."

A NASCAR spokesman said the series does not comment on pending litigation. NASCAR is based in Daytona Beach, Florida.

Indiana Fever star Caitlin Clark a near-unanimous choice as WNBA's Rookie of the Year

ASS

NEW YORK (AP) – Caitlin Clark has been named the WNBA Rookie of the Year in a near-unanimous vote, giving the Indiana Fever back-to-back winners after Aliyah Boston won the honor last season.

A national panel of sportswriters and sportscasters gave Clark 66 of 67 votes in balloting released Thursday. Chicago Sky forward Angel Reese received the other.

"I am incredibly honored to be named Rookie of the Year, but more than that, I am grateful to everyone that supported me throughout this past season -- my family and friends, my teammates, the Fever organization and everyone that cheered us on all season. I am so proud of what we accomplished and so excited for what the future holds," Clark said in a statement.

Clark, the No. 1 overall pick from Iowa, averaged 19.2 points and a leaguebest 8.4 assists per game while helping the WNBA set attendance records and garner mainstream attention. She struggled a bit

he

every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively

early in the season, but found her groove and was an All-Star starter. The unanimous AP Rookie of the Year led the Fever to the playoffs for the first time since 2016 and a 20-20 record after a 1-8 start.

"I'm a tough grader. I feel like I had a solid year," Clark said after the Fever were eliminated in the first round of the playoffs. "For me, the fun part is like I feel like I'm just scratching the surface and I'm the one that's nit picking every single thing I do. I know I want to help this franchise. ... I know there's a lot of room for me to continue to improve so that's what excites me the most. I feel like I continue to get a lot better."

Clark was not chosen for the U.S. Olympic team - a decision that disappointed her legions of fans - but she showed in the weeks afterward that she might have been helpful. The Fever guard averaged 24.7 points and 9.3 assists in her first 10 games after the Olympic break and led Indiana to an 8-2 record.

		-			
			CE		
N L	T		PF	PA	
31 22					
	ŏ	.250			
1 3	0	.250	52	87	G
		Pct	DF	DΛ	
	0			94	
22	0	.500	85	85	
	-				
		.000	00	109	
νL	Т	Pct	PF	PA	р
31	-			53	
22 13	0				
1 3	Õ	.250	66	87	
We	st	Det	DE	DA	_
	0				D
22	Ő	.500	62	55	
	0	.500	68	50	р
2 2		.500 FRFN(78 CF	97	
Ea	st				
$\frac{3}{2}$					
22	Õ	.500	86	96	
1 3	0	.250	60	84	V
VL	T	Pct	PF	PA	
32	0				L
					V
No	rth				٧
					V
22	0	.500	77	75	Ν
	0	.500	104	89	n
VVE V L		Pct	PF	PA	
31	0	.750	102	85	Ν
022					C
	-				
dav	's G	ames	.0		n
.Y. G	iant	ts 15			n
L.A.	Rai	ms 18			N
I, Ca	roli	na 24			
v.Y. Jack	Jets	9 Wille 20)		
27, 1	Pitts	burgh	, 24		
1, Ġ	reer	n Bay 2	9		
33, P	hila	delphia	116 Iland	12	
42 A	, in Arizo	ona 14	nano	10	
	NCEL123330L123400L1233WL02222CEL122330L22230L01222WL122330110C244 V32211 SV3210 V32211 V42222CEL122330L01222WL122330110C244 V3222 V30210 V3221,3300L01222WL1223301100C44 V3222 V30210 V3221,3300	N CONF East V L T 3 1 0 2 2 0 1 3 0 V L T 3 1 0 2 2 0 1 3 0 V L T 3 1 0 2 2 0 0 4 0 North V L T 3 1 0 2 2 0 0 4 0 V L T 3 1 0 2 2 0 0 4 0 V L T 3 1 0 2 2 0 0 4 0 V L T 3 2 0 0 2 2 0 2 2 0 0 2 0 0 2 0 0 2 0 0 2 0 0 2 0 0 0 0	N CONFERENCE East Y L T Pct 3 1 0 .750 2 2 0 .500 1 3 0 .250 1 3 0 .250 South V L T Pct 3 1 0 .250 South V L T Pct 3 1 0 .250 1 3 0 .250 1 3 0 .250 North V L T Pct 3 1 0 .250 1 3 0 .250 .500 1 3 0 .250 V L T Pct 3 1 0 .750 2 0 .500 2 0 .500 .250 .500 2 0 .500 2 0 .500 .250 .500 <tr< td=""><td>N CONFERENCE East V L T Pct PF 3 1 0 .750 122 2 0 .500 76 1 0 .250 45 1 0 .250 45 1 0 .250 52 South V L Pct PF 3 0 .250 79 2 0 .500 85 3 0 .250 79 2 0 .500 85 3 1 0 .750 2 0 .500 106 W L T Pct PF 3 0 .250 102 2 0 .500 68 2 0 .500 82 2 0 .500 81 2 0 .500 121 2 0<td>NFL UN CONFERENCE East V L T Pct PF PA 3 1 0 .750 122 83 2 3 2 0 .500 76 62 1 3 3 0 .250 45 103 1 3 0 .250 87 South V T Pct PF PA 3 1 0 .750 79 94 2 0 500 85 3 1 0 .750 79 90 0 4 0 000 60 109 North V L T Pct PF PA 3 1 0 .750 75 53 2 0 .500 102 104 3 0 .250 102 104 100 100 92 72 2 0 .500 68 80 2 0 .500 62 55 22 0 .500 68 50 22 0 .500 78 97 L CONFERENCE East Y L T Pct PF PA 3 1 0 .750 121 102 2 0 .500 86 96 2 0 .500 86 96 13 3 .250 73 129 Noth <t< td=""></t<></td></td></tr<>	N CONFERENCE East V L T Pct PF 3 1 0 .750 122 2 0 .500 76 1 0 .250 45 1 0 .250 45 1 0 .250 52 South V L Pct PF 3 0 .250 79 2 0 .500 85 3 0 .250 79 2 0 .500 85 3 1 0 .750 2 0 .500 106 W L T Pct PF 3 0 .250 102 2 0 .500 68 2 0 .500 82 2 0 .500 81 2 0 .500 121 2 0 <td>NFL UN CONFERENCE East V L T Pct PF PA 3 1 0 .750 122 83 2 3 2 0 .500 76 62 1 3 3 0 .250 45 103 1 3 0 .250 87 South V T Pct PF PA 3 1 0 .750 79 94 2 0 500 85 3 1 0 .750 79 90 0 4 0 000 60 109 North V L T Pct PF PA 3 1 0 .750 75 53 2 0 .500 102 104 3 0 .250 102 104 100 100 92 72 2 0 .500 68 80 2 0 .500 62 55 22 0 .500 68 50 22 0 .500 78 97 L CONFERENCE East Y L T Pct PF PA 3 1 0 .750 121 102 2 0 .500 86 96 2 0 .500 86 96 13 3 .250 73 129 Noth <t< td=""></t<></td>	NFL UN CONFERENCE East V L T Pct PF PA 3 1 0 .750 122 83 2 3 2 0 .500 76 62 1 3 3 0 .250 45 103 1 3 0 .250 87 South V T Pct PF PA 3 1 0 .750 79 94 2 0 500 85 3 1 0 .750 79 90 0 4 0 000 60 109 North V L T Pct PF PA 3 1 0 .750 75 53 2 0 .500 102 104 3 0 .250 102 104 100 100 92 72 2 0 .500 68 80 2 0 .500 62 55 22 0 .500 68 50 22 0 .500 78 97 L CONFERENCE East Y L T Pct PF PA 3 1 0 .750 121 102 2 0 .500 86 96 2 0 .500 86 96 13 3 .250 73 129 Noth <t< td=""></t<>

FOOTBALL

Kansas City 17, L.A. Chargers 10 Las Vegas 20, Cleveland 16 Baltimore 35, Buffalo 10 Monday's Games Fennessee 31, Miami 12 Detroit 42, Seattle 29 Thursday, Oct. 3 Atlanta 36, Tampa Bay 30 Sunday, Oct. 6 V.Y. Jets vs Minnesota at London, R, 9:30 a.m. Baltimore at Cincinnati, 1 p.m. Buffalo at Houston, 1 p.m. Carolina at Chicago, 1 p.m. Cleveland at Washington, 1 p.m. ndianapolis at Jacksonville, 1 p.m. liami at New England, 1 p.m Arizona at San Francisco, 4:05 as Vegas at Denver, 4:05 p.m. Green Bay at L.A. Rams, 4:25 p.m. N.Y. Giants at Seattle, 4:25 p.m. Dallas at Pittsburgh, 8:20 p.m. Open: L.A. Chargers, Tennessee, troit, Philadelphia Monday, Oct. 7 New Orleans at Kansas City, 8:15 <u>BASKETBALL</u> **WNBA** Semifinals No. 1 New York 2, No. 4 Las as 0 Sunday, Sept. 29: New York 87, Vegas 77 Tuesday, Oct. 1: New York 88, Las

News-Banner Scoreboard

as 84)

gas 84 Friday, Oct. 4: New York at Las gas, 9:30 p.m. x-Sunday, Oct. 6: New York at Las gas, TBD x-Tuesday, Oct. 8: Las Vegas at w York, TBD No. 2 Minnesota 1, No. 3 Con-clicut 1

cticut 1

- Sunday, Sept. 29: Connecticut 73, nnesota 70 Tuesday, Oct. 1: Minnesota 77, onnecticut 70 Friday, Oct. 4: Minnesota at Con-cticut, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 6: Minnesota at Con-cticut, TBD x-Tuesday, Oct. 8: Connecticut at pnesota TBD

MLB

(Best-of-3)American LeagueDetroit 2, Houston Tuesday, Oct. 1: Detroit 3, Houston 1 Wednesday, Oct. 2: Detroit 5, Hous-

WILD CARD SERIES

ton 2 Kansas City 2, Baltimore 0 Tuesday, Oct. 1: Kansas City 1, Bal-

timore 0 Wednesday, Oct. 2: Kansas City 2,

Baltimore 1 National LeagueNew York 2, Milwau-

kee 1 Tuesday, Oct. 1: New York 8, Mil-

waukee 4 Wednesday, Oct. 2: Milwaukee 5,

- New York 3 Thursday, Oct. 3: New York 4, Mil-waukee 2
- San Diego 2 Atlanta 0 Tuesday, Oct. 1: San Diego 4, Atlanta

0 Wednesday, Oct. 2: San Diego 5,

Atlanta 4 **DIVISION SERIES**

(Best-of-5)

American League New York vs. Kansas City Saturday, Oct. 5: Kansas City (Wacha 13-8) at New York (Cole 8-5), 6:38 p.m. (TBS, Max)

Monday, Oct. 7: Kansas City (Ragans 11-9) at New York (Rodón 16-9), 7:38 p.m. (TBS, truTV, Max) Wednesday, Oct. 9: New York at Kan-sas City, TBD

x-Thursday, Oct. 10: New York at Kan-sas City, TBD x-Saturday, Oct. 12: Kansas City at New York, TBD

Cleveland vs. Detroit Saturday, Oct. 5: Detroit at Cleveland (Bibee 12-8), 1:08 p.m. (TBS, Max) Monday, Oct. 7: Detroit at Cleveland, 4:08 p.m. (TBS, truTV, Max)

Wednesday, Oct. 9: Cleveland at Detroit, TBD

x-Thursday, Oct. 10: Cleveland at Detroit, TBD

land, TBD

p.m. (FS1)

x-Saturday, Oct. 12: Detroit at Cleve-

National LeagueLos Angeles vs. San Diego Saturday, Oct. 5: San Diego (Cease

14-11) at Los Angeles (Yamamoto 7-2), 8:38 p.m. (FS1)

Sunday, Oct. 6: San Diego (Darvish 7-3) at Los Angeles (Flaherty 13-7), 8:03

Tuesday, Oct. 8: Los Angeles at San Diego, TBD x-Wednesday, Oct. 9: Los Angeles at San Diego, TBD

Sunday, Sept. 29: Connecticut 73,

nnesota, TBD WNBA Finals

Thursday, Oct. 10: Game 1, TBD

BASEBALL

MLB Postseason Glance

x-Friday, Oct. 11: San Diego at Los Angeles, TBD Philadelphia vs. New York

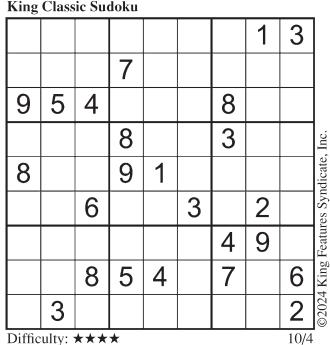
Lottery Numbers

Thursday's Drawings HOOSIER LOTTERY

Cash 5 — 05-13-20-24-38 Cash4Life - 01-05-26-30-46, Cash Ball: 01 Quick Draw Midday — 03-10-12-16-18-23-26-27-31-35-38-39-44-60-65-66-67-69-74-79, BE: 65 Daily Three-Midday — 01-07-03, SB: 02 Daily Three-Evening - 00-04-05, SB: 02 **Daily Four-Midday** — 03-06-03-08, SB: 02 Daily Four-Evening — 05-06-02-08, SB: 02

- **Hoosier Lotto** Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$23.6 million

MEGA MILLIONS Estimated jackpot (for Friday): \$108 million POWERBALL Estimated jackpot (for Saturday): \$295 million



SUDOKU

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

Help Wanted

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.

SERVICES

Services

Washington 42, Arizona 14

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

VISA Master Card DIICOVER

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

NEW WINDOWS FROM Window Nation. Special money saving offer - zero down, zero payments, zero interest for TWO years AND buy 2 windows and get 2 FREE! Offer is valid for select models. Labor not included. Other restrictions apply. Call Window Nation today! 866-553-0725 (I)



Quick Draw Evening — 07-16-20-30-32-34-39-41-43-44-46-48-49-52-59-64-65-76-77-78, BE: 78

Place Your Ad 24/7: GO TO www.news-banner.com AND CLICK ON "Classifieds" OR CALL 824-0224 MON-FRI 8-5 • TOLLFREE 800-579-7476 • FAX 824-0700 WE ACCEPT $ar{l}$ SEE your ad published every day in Wells County homes ... All ads are searchable at classifieds.news-banner.com...

VEHICLES Campers/RV's

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



2 HUGE GARAGE sales in Bell Brook, off Dustman, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 8-1533: Lots of name brand items (Adidas, Nike, Puma Ugg, North Face, Skechers, Sperry), baby, kids, adult clothes, various sizes, tons of shoes, boots, purses (Michael Kors, Kate Spade, Coach), Kors, Kate Spade, Coach), breast pumps w/accesories, baby gates, toys, American Girl salon & spa set, Legos movies, decor, elliptical nomemade pies, cookies. 1510: Hunting, fishing, mater-nity clothes, household items, toys, antiques, much more.

MORGAN 1115 SOUTH TREET, BLUFFTON ESTATE SALE. Furniture (including cabinets, couch dressers, chair, etc) tv, glass ware, heaters, misc, tools cookie jars, chest freezer, air conditioners and collectables Saturday, Oct. 05, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM, In garage, behind the house. Rain or Shine

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

EMPLOYMENT Help Wanted

TOWN OF WARREN, Indiana Hiring Utility Manager An application period for the position of full time Utility Manager is now open 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, represen tation 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 Pack-age available. For information contact Lee Poulson, Manager, Utility at 260-375-3424 0 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 conacts. Please include resume.

Thank you for reading your local newspaper The News-Banner

Services

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)

DIRECTV- ALL YOUR enter-tainment. Nothing on your roof! Sign up for Directv and get your first three months of Max, Paramount+, Showtime, Starz, MGM+ and Cinemax included. Choice package \$84.99/mo. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-888-885-8931 (I)

Public Notices

NOTICE

The City of Bluffton will receive sealed quotes for the clearing of snow from municipally-owned parking lots. A Notice to Bidders and a list of the lots may be obtained from the office of the Clerk Treasurer, 128 East Mar-ket Street, Bluffton IN or online at www.blufftonindiana.net Quotes must be received at the office of the clerk treasurer by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 22, 2024. Quotes will be opened and read aloud at a public meeting of the Board of Public Works and Safety. nb 10/4, 10/12 hspaxlp

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION ESTATE NO.

90C01-2409-EU-000029 In the Wells Circuit Court of Wells

County, Indiana: Notice is hereby given that SUSAN M. PINKERTON was on September 23, 2024, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of JUDY L. PINKERTON, deceased, who died on January 29, 2023

All persons having 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, which-ever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Bluffton, Indiana, on

September 23, 2024. Beth Davis, Clerk WELLS CIRCUIT COURT David N. Baumgartner Attorney for Estate No. 4288-01 Baumgartner Attorneys PC 360 W. Main St Berne, IN 46711 Telephone: (260) 589-3139 nb 10/4, 10/11

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.

DOCKET NO.

90C01-2409-EU-000033 OF WELLS COUNTY, INDIANA Notice is hereby given that Jill administer his estate without Court supervision.

against this estate, whether or not now due, must file those claims in the office of the Clerk of the Wells Circuit Court within three (3) months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is ear-lier, or those claims will be forever

Dated at Bluffton, Indiana, this

Matthew P. Hayes Attorney for Personal Representa-

Attorney No. 32002-02 GORDÓN & ASSOCIATES. P.C. 119 East Oak Forest Drive Bluffton, IN 46714

(260) 824-9377 nb 10/4, 10/11 hspaxlp

SUDOKU ANSWER

		<u> </u>									
Difficulty: **** 10/4											
5	8	G	2	9	٢	6	3	4			
9	3	L	6	4	G	8	٢	2			
F	6	4	2	8	3	G	L	9			
8	2	٢	3	L	7	9	6	G			
4	Z	9	G	ŀ	6	3	7	8			
6	S	3	9	7	8	L	4	L			
Z	9	8	L	3	2	4	G	6			
G	4	7	8	6	L	L	9	3			
3	ŀ	6	4	G	9	5	8	L			

ors, owners. 815 Adams St., Decatur. (Onsite and Online bid-ding) 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+ various skid loader attachments & much more! Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC, 260-724-7402, kiauction.com

OCTOBER 5-OCTOBER 12 - Private Family Collection, seller. other quality artwork, 2006 Pontiac Torrent, 2005 Toyota Highlander, outstanding sterling silver, pewter and other serving pieces, early American primitives, unique furniture, antiques, glassware, early collectibles, taxidermy mounts, household, more! Open houses Oct. 8 and Oct. 10 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 102 S. Jefferson St., Ossian, IN. Sale manager Rod Fetters, 260-557-8451, The Steffen Group Inc., www.steffengrp.com, 260-824-

BIDDING ENDS OCTOBER 6 - (Online Only) - The Estate of Wayne E. Penrod, seller. Artifacts, art, antiques, collectibles, home goods & decor, electronics, tools, furniture, lawn & garden, sports goods, household, & more! Open house Oct. 5 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., 69 W 1st St., Poneto, IN. Sale manager, Isaac Stoller, 260-413-3515, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, www.steffengrp. com 260-824-3006

OCTOBER 6-OCTOBER 13 (Online Only) - Boots Estate, seller. 1993 Ford F150, boat mini bike, wagons, Pyrex, Corningware, antiques, collectibles, glassware, jewelry, advertising, furniture, toys, household, electronics, board games, much more. Open house Oct. 10 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 366 W 300 N., Bluffton. Sale manager Bobby Perry, 260-273-7260, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, www.steffengrp.com, 260-824-3006.

OCTOBER 12 - 9 a.m.-6 p.m. - (Online Only) - The Estate of Robert McNabb, seller. Spectacular 7,700 SF lake front home on 1.23 acres w/200' of lake frontage on Hamilton Lake. Luxury home features 6 bedrooms, 7 baths, expansive entertaining space, 4-car attached garage. Selling absolute at or above 1.4 million dollars. Seller's have over 4.7 million invested in this one of kind lake property. Open house Oct. 12, 9 a.m.-noon, 1180 LN 150 Hamilton Lake, Hamilton, IN. Brandon Steffen, sale manager, 260-426-0633, The Steffen Group Inc., 260-426-0633, www. steffengrp.com.

OCTOBER 13 - 3 p.m. - Multiple consignors, owners. Online only bidding only. 700+ lots! Furniture, Craftsman band saw and radial arm saw, ice maker, banjo, baseball cards, 100+ Pfaltzgraff, tools, pet doors, live traps, collectable glass, Detecto scales, Generac edger, tiller, yard cart, washer, Dryer 50 pc. Ruby Flash & Kings Crown glass and much more! Preview Oct. 10, 3-5 p.m., 812 Elm Street, Decatur, IN. Pick up Oct. 14, 1-6 p.m. & Oct. 15, 9 a.m.-noon. Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.

OCTOBER 13-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 houses Oct. 15 and Oct. 17 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 419 W. Roe St., Ossian. Sale manager Rod Fetters, 260-557-8451, *The Stef-fen 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 houses: Oct. 15, 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. 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.

NOTICE OF UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION IN THE WELLS CIRCUIT COURT

A. Clark was on the 23rd day of September, 2024, appointed per-sonal representative of the estate of DONALD D. MYERS, deceased, who died on the 27th day of August, 2024, and was authorized

All persons who have claims

barred.

23rd day of September, 2024.

Beth Davis Clerk, Wells Circuit Court

Israel extends evacuation warnings in Lebanon, signals wider offensive

By FADI TAWIL and JACK JEFFERY **Associated Press**

BEIRUT (AP) — The Israeli military on Thursday warned people to evacuate communities in southern Lebanon that are outside a U.N.-declared buffer zone, signaling that it may widen a ground operation launched earlier this week against the Hezbollah militant group.

Meanwhile, Israeli forces said they had struck around 200 Hezbollah targets across Lebanon, including weapons storage facilities and observation posts. Strikes continued overnight when a series of massive blasts rocked Beirut's southern suburbs. It was not immediately clear what was targeted or if there were casualties.

Israel told people to leave Nabatieh, a provincial capital, and other communities north of the Litani River, which formed the northern edge of the border zone established by the U.N. Security Council after the two sides fought a war in 2006. Each side accuses the other of violating the resolution.

At least nine Israeli soldiers have been killed in clashes with Hezbollah in southern Lebanon, where Israel announced the start of what it says is a limited ground

incursion earlier this week. The fighting comes as the region braces for Israel's response to an Iranian ballistic missile attack.

Strikes kill and wound first responders

The World Health Organization reported that 28 health workers were killed in the past day in Lebanon, and access to medical care is becoming limited as three dozen health facilities closed in the south and five hospitals were either partly or fully evacuated in Beirut.

The Lebanese health minister said Israeli strikes that hit nine hospitals and 45 health care centers violate international law and treaties.

"International laws are clear in protecting these people - I mean, paramedics," Firas Abiad said. Who gave Israel the right to be the judge and the executioner at the same time?"

The Lebanese Red Cross said an Israeli strike wounded four of its paramedics and killed a Lebanese army soldier as they were evacuating wounded people from the south. It said the convoy near the village of Taybeh, which was accompanied by Lebanese troops, was targeted Thursday despite coordinating its movements with U.N. peacekeepers. There was no immediate comment from the

Israeli military.

Another Lebanese soldier was killed by Israeli fire at an army post in the southern town of Bint Jbeil, according to the Lebanese military, which said it returned fire. A Lebanese security official, who spoke on condition of anonymity according to regulations, said the army post was hit by artillery fire.

An Israeli airstrike on an apartment in central Beirut late Wednesday killed nine people, including seven Hezbollah-affiliated civilian first responders. Israel has been pounding areas of the country where the militant group has a strong presence since late September, but has rarely struck in the heart of the capital.

There was no warning before the strike late Wednesday, which hit an apartment not far from the United Nations headquarters, the prime minister's office and parliament.

Palestinian Health Ministry says 18 killed by Israeli strike in West Bank

The Palestinian Health Ministry said 18 people were killed Thursday in an Israeli strike on the Tulkarem refugee camp in the West Bank. It was the deadliest strike in the occupied territory since the Israel-Hamas war erupted last October.

The Israeli army said the strike killed Hamas' leader in Tulkarem. Hamas condemned the strike but did not confirm if any of its members were killed.

The military said the strike was carried out in coordination with the Shin Bet internal security service, but it gave no details on the target. Tulkarem is a militant stronghold in the northern West Bank. It remained unclear how many people were wounded in the blast.

Violence has flared across the Israeli-occupied territory since the Israeli-Hamas war erupted last October. Tulkarem and other northern Palestinian cities have seen some of the worst violence. Palestinian militant groups are active across the northern West Bank, areas where the Palestinian Authority has a limited foothold.

Fighting escalates in southern Lebanon

The Israeli military said Thursday that its strikes in Lebanon had killed at least 15 Hezbollah fighters

There was no immediate comment from Hezbollah. But if the claim is true, it would mark the latest in a string of assassinations of top Hezbollah officials in recent weeks, including its longtime leader Hassan Nasrallah.

The Israeli military also said Thursday that it had killed a senior Hezbollah militant, Mohammed Anisi, who was involved in the group's development of precision guided missiles. Anisi was killed in an airstrike targeting the group's intelligence branch in Beirut, the army said.

Hezbollah said its fighters detonated a roadside bomb when Israeli forces entered the Lebanese border village of Maroun el-Ras, killing and wounding soldiers. It was not possible to independently confirm the claims made by either side.

So far, ground clashes between Israeli forces and Hezbollah militants have been confined to a narrow strip along the border.

But hundreds of thousands of people have fled their homes, as Israel has warned people to evacuate from dozens of villages and towns in the south, telling them to relocate to areas that are around 36 miles from the border and considerably farther north than the Litani River.

Under U.N. Security Council Resolution 1701, which ended the monthlong 2006 war between Israel and Hezbollah, the militants were to withdraw north of the Litani, and Lebanon's armed forces were to patrol the border region along with U.N. peacekeepers.

Dockworkers' union to suspend strike to allow time to negotiate new contract

By TOM KRISHER ÅP Business Writer

DETROIT (AP) - The union representing 45,000 striking U.S. dockworkers at East and Gulf coast ports reached a deal Thursday to suspend a three-day strike until Jan. 15 to provide time to negotiate a new contract.

national Longshoremen's Association, is to resume working immediately. The temporary end to the strike came after the union and the U.S. Maritime Alliance, which represents ports reached a tentative agreement on wages, the union and ports said in a joint statement.

A person briefed on the agreement said the ports sweetened their wage offer from about 50% over six didn't want to be identified because the agreement is tentative. Any wage increase would have to be approved by union members as part of the ratification of a final

The union went on strike

early Tuesday after its contract expired in a dispute over pay and the automation of tasks at 36 ports stretching from Maine to Texas. The strike came at the peak of the holiday shopping season at the ports, which handle about half the cargo from ships coming into and

risk of shortages of goods on store shelves if it lasted more than a few weeks. Most retailers, though, had stocked up or shipped items early in anticipation of the dockworkers' strike.

bottom up."

The union's membership won't need to vote on the temporary suspension of the strike, meaning that giant cranes should start loading and unloading shipping containers Thursday night. Until Jan. 15, the workers will be covered under the

deal.

work out the language on automation, and I'm sure that what this really means is it gives the parties time to sit down and get exactly the language they can both live with.'

Industry analysts have said that for every day of

a port strike it takes four to six days to recover. But they said a short strike of a few days probably wouldn't gum up the supply chain too badly.

Kohler said the surprise end to the strike may catch railroads with cars, engines

and crews out of position. But railroads are likely to work quickly to fix that.

Just before the strike had begun, the Maritime Alliance said both sides had moved off their original wage offers, a tentative sign of progress.

