Page 6

**Events at Fort Wayne** 

# City's new Christmas lights are almost halfway funded

By JONATHAN SNYDER

A committee dedicated to fundraising for new Bluffton Christmas lights has collected approximately \$37,000 of their \$80,000 goal.



Above is the Christmas tree design.

A \$15,000 grant from the Wells County Foundation has significantly boosted the fundraising efforts toward that goal. They have also applied for an additional \$30,000 grant, but it has yet to be

Committee members found three new LED light structures that they plan to use across downtown, intending to replace the older style of lights used since 1999. The original lights were expected to last only five years, committee member Brenda Jackson stated.

In addition to the lights, rewiring the rooftop bulbs is a priority. Committee member Tim McCormick added that the new lights could make the rooftop bulbs look very dim in comparison.

The new structures are also significantly lighter and easier to put up. Electric Department Supervisor Brad Penrod stated that the

(Continued on Page 2)



Pictured are the new light styles the Christmas Light Committee have chosen. Above is the wreath design and at right is the snowflake. All lights are located on Market Street next to the Courthouse. (Photos by Jonathan Snyder)



# County considers next steps with jail delays

By HOLLY GASKILL

While there has been reported progress in final items to the Wells County Jail's renovation, the Board of Commissioners may take further action to complete the

The jail's renovation project began in 2021 and was largely completed in 2023. Since then, multiple finishing items, like regulating heating and cooling, have remained incomplete. In March, the county told contractor Ameresco they would hold a final payment of \$40,000 as a contingency.

During the commissioners' meeting Monday, Sheriff Scott Holliday reported that representa-(Continued on Page 2)

# County, city continue work on economic development

**By HOLLY GASKILL** In an update Monday, County Attorney Ted Storer said the county and city of Bluffton continue to work on an interlocal agreement for economic development.

Storer said he re-sent a proposal from this summer to the city's attorney, Tony Crowell, for review. The interlocal agreement will outline terms for supporting and guiding a new Economic Development Commission housed under the Mayor's Office.

This agreement follows the mid-October hiring announcement of Jessica

Beste, a Bluffton resident, as the department's director. Beste also began in the role in October. Wells County had not had an economic development director since April when the partnership with the Wells County Chamber of Commerce ended.

The parties have stated their intention to eventually create a new nonprofit entity for the Economic Development Commission, but more specific plans have not been given. Commissioner Jeff Stringer stated the groups will meet Friday — the first time with Beste as director.

holly@news-banner.com

# **Indiana National Guard** leader Lyles is set to retire

By LESLIE BONILLA MUÑIZ **Indiana Capital Chronicle** 

Maj. Gen. R. Dale Lyles will retire from his role leading the Indiana National Guard in January, Gov. Eric Holcomb's office announced Monday.

That's also when the state's next governor is scheduled to take office; Holcomb is

"Serving as adjutant general has been the honor of my life, and I'm grateful to Gov. Holcomb and the women and men who proudly serve our fellow Hoosiers in the Indiana National Guard for the privilege of leading this dynamic team," Lyles said in a news release.

He has led the guard since being appointed by Holcomb in 2019.

"Whenever disaster struck or duty called, General Lyles and our trained and ready Hoosier Guardsmen leapt into action and met every moment in stride," Holcomb said. "It was on his watch and because of his focused leadership that we simultaneously modernized and mobilized the Indiana National Guard here at home and abroad."

Over the last five years, the news release notes, the guard has met its assigned federal missions, responded to an increasing number of state and local missions, boosted talent attraction and retention, invested in its armories and more.

While leading Indiana's forces, Lyles also worked on national recruitment and retention efforts. Lyles graduated

(Continued on Page 2)

# Two adults, one child injured in S.R. 116 crash

Two individuals were airlifted to Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne after a crash on State Road 116 in Bluffton last Wednesday.

According to a press release from the Wells County Sheriff's Department, a vehicle was traveling west on S.R. 116 on Wednesday around 3:59 p.m. and swerved to avoid a vehicle turning into a driveway at the address of a 4320 SE S.R. 116 in Bluffton. The vehicle collided with a vehicle traveling east.

Both drivers and an eight-yearold passenger were transported to Lutheran Hospital with unknown injuries. The first vehicle's driver male, 41 —was airlifted from the scene. The 68-year-old female driver of the second vehicle was transported by ambulance to Lutheran Hospital with unknown injuries. The second vehicle's eight-year-old passenger was transported to Bluffton Regional Medical center and later airlifted to Lutheran Hospital.

All names were withheld in the press release, pending investigation and notification to the families involved. The WCSD, Bluffton Police Department and Wells County EMS responded to the scene.

# Mike Lautzenheiser named volunteer of the year

The Wells County Foundation has announced that Michael Lautzenheiser, Jr. has been selected as the recipient of the 2024 Bette A. Erxleben Volunteer of the Year award. Individuals selected to receive this award have made outstanding, sustained and unselfish broad-based contributions to community service in Wells County.

Lautzenheiser is an experienced community planner and geographic information systems manager with a demonstrated history of working in government administration for the past 18

Lautzenheiser's leadership extends well beyond his career. He has served as the president of Bluffton NOW! for the past nine years, a role in which he has been instrumental in revitalizing Downtown Bluffton. Lautzenheiser is also president of Wells County Trails and has led the way in connect-



Lautzenheiser Jr.

ing people and places one trail at a time throughout Wells County and beyond. He has been involved in the Forgotten Children Worldwide

Project Management team for the past 11 years. As a member of Hope Missionary Church,

(Continued on Page 2)

# U.S. gives Israel a 'fail' grade on improving aid to Gaza so far

By MATTHEW LEE **AP Diplomatic Writer** 

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Biden administration is stepping up criticism of Israel for not doing enough to improve humanitarian conditions in Gaza as a 30-day deadline looms for Israeli officials to meet certain requirements or risk potential restrictions on military assistance.

State Department spokesman Matthew Miller on Monday gave Israel a "fail" grade in terms of meeting the conditions for an improvement in aid deliveries to Gaza laid out in a letter last month to senior Israeli officials from Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin.

He said there were still roughly nine days until the deadline expires, but that limited progress so far has been insufficient.

"As of today, the situation has not significantly turned around," Miller told reporters. "We have seen an increase in some measurements. But if you look at the stipulated recommendations in the letter — those have not been met."

A day before the U.S. election, the Biden administration called out its close ally, with support for Israel a key issue for many voters and the humanitarian crisis for Palestinians also a factor for many in the race. Former President Donald Trump and Vice President Kamala Harris have been competing for Muslim and Arab American voters and Jewish voters in battleground states like Michigan and Pennsylvania.

(Continued on Page 2)

# Local/Area

Obituaries.....3 Police Notebook . . . 3

Opinion Justin Peeper . . . . . 4

Also...

Sports. . . . . . . . 6-7 Classifieds . . . . . . 2a Diversions . . . . . . 3a



Cloudy and warm with strong south winds

Today		Thursday
High 77	High 63	High 61
Low 51	Low 41	High 61 Low 38
3.6 11	D 0	

More Weather on Page 2



Follow us on Facebook! Go to www.facebook.com/ newsbanner

**Place Your Classified** Ads 24/7

TUESDAY **November 5, 2024** 

Vol. 96 No. 4



2883 E.S.R. 124 • Bluffton | 104 Bellmont Rd. • Decatur 260-824-4929 • 260-724-2434 • www.experttrans.com How to contact us: 824-0224 or 1-800-579-7476

On the Web: www.news-banner.com twitter.com/newsbanner



# LOCAL/NATION

# **Christmas lights**

(Continued from Page 1) new lights will hook onto brackets.

"That would save a lot of time during the season," McCormick said. "Right now, the old lights, it takes two guys per light to hang them because of the weight of them. And by the way you hang them, this should eliminate that."

According to McCormick and Jackson, community feedback indicates a combination of three proposed lights is preferred. However, no decision has been made and the lights

will not be available for the upcoming year. McCormick and Jackson are hoping that the lights will be ready for

"We are still in the very early stages of this," McCormick said. "But we also talked about just doing Main Street with the snowflakes and then the side streets, mixing them up with the wreath and the Christmas tree (designs).'

Out of over 660 votes so far, the snowflake design has been the overwhelming leader with 450 votes cast in favor of that design. The wreath design had 131 votes and the Christmas tree design had 81 votes. Jackson is also hoping for an opening ceremony for the lights to return in 2025.

"We are talking about having a Christmas opening ceremony here to light up the new lights and make a big presentation of them," Jackson said. "We are hoping by doing this, we can really get the downtown merchants involved in it and ... they can play off of it as well, starting in Christmas season 2025.'

The committee plans to purchase the lights from GP Designs, which is offering a 40% discount if they can purchase the lights during January or February of next year. The committee plans to add another golf outing fundraiser and a golf cart parade throughout 2025 to help earn funds. Jackson also stated that the Wells County Foundation is handling all the money for the lights and any donation checks must be made out

jonathan@news-banner.com

# Weather

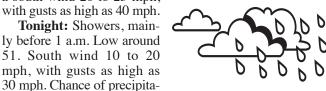
Tuesday, November 5, 2024 (24-hour observations at 9:50 p.m. Monday) High: 72; Low: 63; Precipitation: 0.23 inches of rain Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 1.15 feet at 9:45 p.m. Monday

# Wells County forecast

Today: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 77. Breezy, with a south wind 20 to 25 mph,

Tonight: Showers, mainly before 1 a.m. Low around 51. South wind 10 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. Chance of precipita-

tion is 80%. New precipita-



tion amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible. Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 63. West wind around 5 mph.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 41. North wind around 5 mph

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 61.

becoming calm.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 38.

Friday: Sunny, with a

high near 63. **Friday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 39.

Saturday: Partly sunny, with a high near 61. Saturday Night: Showers. Low around 48. Chance of precipitation is 80%.

Sunday: Showers likely. Partly sunny, with a high near 64. Chance of precipitation is 70%.

Sunday Night: A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 47.

# Jail delays

(Continued from Page 1)

tives had been working remotely on the HVAC issue, but that he wanted to see "boots on the ground" for the problems. Commissioner Blake Gerber suggested placing a deadline of Thanksgiving, then Commissioner Jeff Stringer said the county could complete the work and bill Ameresco accordingly.

On Monday, Holliday reported 82 inmates housed in the jail - 36 were pre-trial holds for the Circuit Court, 24 pre-trial holds for the Superior Court, 20 from the Department of Correction, and three Level 6 felons.

Also Monday, Stringer stated the Highway Department's new garage building encountered a roof leak, but wellness credit. Stringer and Gerber said project manager Conor Jackson would see the item fixed.

The commissioners also reviewed a contract for small structure inspections with USI Consultants. County Attorney Ted Storer recommended the fouryear contract be amended for year-toyear renewal and USI rep Beth Johnson noted that the contract outlined a four-year schedule. They agreed to review the contract and present it at an upcoming meeting.

They later approved a health insurance renewal 2;0 with the Physicians Health Plan of Northern Indiana with a 0% increased cost to the county. The county will also receive a \$70,000

were in favor; Commissioner Mike Vanover was absent.

In a quarterly update on the Wells County Public Library, board of trustees member Matt Yergler said the library currently has 14,292 cardholders -54% of the population. "Sometimes a family just has one, so we're reaching well over half the population," Yergler said.

Yerlger also reported high numbers in all areas of circulation — at the close of the third quarter, the library has circulated nearly as many physical materials as all four quarters in 2023.

holly@news-banner.com

# **Indiana National Guard**

(Continued from Page 1) from the Indiana Military Academy in 1994 and earned his commission. He's served in the Indiana Army National Guard for decades, including post-9/11 deployments to Bosnia and Afghanistan. He has worked in numerous other military roles,

"The Indiana National Guard has given me the

according to the news

opportunity to earn three degrees, work locally and globally, and serve something greater than self everything the next generation is seeking," Lyles said.

Holcomb credited Lyles for fostering a "culture of high standards, success and stability" throughout the chain of command.

"I know his patriotic duty to serve burns as bright today as it did when he first raised his hand and took the oath to serve his nation and his Hoosier neighbors,' added Holcomb, who bid Lyles and his family "my best in the next journey ahead."

The next governor will appoint Lyles' successor.

Republican U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, Democrat Jennifer McCormick and Libertarian Donald Rainwater are vying for the role.

Indiana has about 12,000 guard soldiers and airmen. They can assist in domestic operations, like relief efforts following severe weather, but are also trained for federal operations, including overseas deployments.

The guard also operates Army National Guard armories and units across the state, training facilities at Camp Atterbury and Muscatatuck Urban Training Center and Air National Guard wings in Fort Wayne and Terre Haute.

# .autzenheiser

(Continued from Page 1) he has worked with the Upwards Program as a league director for the flag football and soccer teams. He also coached and maintained the playing fields. He regularly serves as an usher on Sunday mornings and has helped in the preschool Sunday School class.

Lautzenheiser's servant's heart is evident through his active leadership in a variety of volunteer roles.

honored at the annual Volunteer of the Year luncheon hosted by The Wells County Foundation, Inc. on Thursday, Nov. 21, noon at Lighted Gardens. The luncheon is open to the community but reservations are required. Luncheon is \$15. Reservation deadline is Tuesday, Nov. 14. Call the Foundation office to make reservations today, 260-824-8620.

Lautzenheiser will be

# Aid to Gaza

(Continued from Page 1)

Among other conditions, Austin and Blinken's letter from mid-October said that Israel must allow in a minimum of 350 trucks a day carrying desperately needed food and other supplies for Palestinians besieged by more than a year of war between Israel and Hamas. By the end of October, an average of just 71 trucks a day were entering Gaza, according to the latest U.N. figures.

"The results are not good enough today," Miller said. "They certainly do not have a pass. ... They have failed to implement all the things that that we recommended. Now, that said, we are not at the end of the 30-day peri-

He would not say when asked what the U.S. would do when the deadline comes up next week, just that "we will follow the law.

Blinken spoke Monday with Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, urging additional steps to "substantially increase and sustain

humanitarian aid" to civilians in Gaza, according to a State Department readout of their call.

Similarly, Austin has been reinforcing "how important it is to ensure that humanitarian assistance can flow and flow faster into Gaza" in calls with Gallant, said Maj. Gen. Pat Ryder, Pentagon press secretary.

The Israeli military body in charge of humanitarian aid to Gaza, known as COGAT, said it had evacuated 72 patients from hospitals in northern Gaza to other medical facilities Monday and had brought medical supplies as well as fuel, food, water and units of blood.

The head of UNICEF, the U.N. agency for children, said over the weekend that "the entire Palestinian population in North Gaza, especially children, is at imminent risk of dying from disease, famine, and the ongoing bombardments."

Miller also said the U.S. is looking into a decision by the Israeli government to end an agreement facilitating the work of the U.N. agency for Palestinian refugees, known as UNRWA, which is the main aid provider in Gaza

It followed the passage of Israeli laws last week to sever ties with UNRWA, a move that Blinken and Austin opposed in their letter.

The Israeli Foreign Ministry said in a statement Monday that it has notified the U.N. of the cancellation of an agreement dating back to 1967 that facilitates UNRWA's work. It said UNRWA "is part of the problem in the Gaza Strip and not part of the solu-

Israel alleges that UNRWA has been infiltrated by Hamas, which the agency denies and says it takes measures to ensure its neutrality.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres reiterated that UNRWA is essential and there is no alternative to its work in the Palestinian territories, spokesman Stephane Dujarric said.

At the same time, Miller said the U.S. is "deeply concerned" by a recent escalation in attacks by Israeli settlers on Palestinians in the West Bank, including several cars being torched overnight just a few kilometers (miles) away from the Palestinian Authority's headquarters and attacks on Palestinians harvesting olives, their livestock and other property.

"These violent actions cause intense human suffering for Palestinians and they threaten Israel's security," Miller said. "It is critical that the government of Israel deter extremist settler violence and take measures to protect all communities from harm in accordance with its international obligations."

He noted that the U.S. has since the beginning of the year imposed sanctions against Israeli groups and people implicated in violence against Palestinian civilians and warned of more to come.

# The BEER SBOURBON THURSDAY -Dollar Off Drinks (Excludes Pop) WEDNESDAY - KARAOKE FRI. & SAT. - Live Music

Follow us on **If** for our Events.

123 S Johnson ST. • 824-0455

This Saturday Night Nov. 2nd 8 pm-12 am - Mt. Dewe Boys Friday Night Nov. 8th 9 pm-1 am - IZS Saturday Night Nov. 9th 8 pm-12 am - Jaul Break Weekly Drink Specials and Events! Sundays Biscuits & Gravy 9am - until GONE!

Friday & Saturday Bands



# North Korea fires a barrage of ballistic missiles toward the sea ahead of U.S. election

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) -North Korea fired a barrage of shortrange ballistic missiles into the sea on Tuesday, its neighbors said, as it continued its weapons demonstrations hours before the U.S. presidential election.

Japanese Defense Minister Gen Nakatani said at least seven North Korean missiles flew as far as 250 miles with a maximum altitude of 100 kilometers 60 miles. He said they landed in the waters between the Korean Peninsula and Japan.

"North Korea's actions, including a series of repeated missile launches, threaten the peace and safety of Japan, the region and the international community," Nakatani said.

South Korea's military also detected several missile launches by North Korea and subsequently boosted its surveillance posture. The North Korean missiles could be used to target key facilities in South Korea, including U.S. military bases there.

The launches came days after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un supervised a flight test of the country's newest intercontinental ballistic missile d esigned to reach the U.S. mainland. In response to that launch, the United States flew a long-range B-1B

bomber in a trilateral drill with South Korea and Japan on Sunday in a show of force. That drew condemnation from Kim's powerful sister Kim Yo Jong, who on Tuesday accused North Korea's rivals of raising tensions with "aggressive and adventuristic military threats."

South Korean officials have said that North Korea was likely to dial up its military displays around the U.S. presidential election to command the attention of Washington. South Korea's military intelligence agency said last week that North Korea has also likely completed preparations for its seventh nuclear test.

Outside officials and analysts say North Korea eventually hopes to use an expanded nuclear arsenal as leverage to win concessions such as sanctions relief after a new U.S. president

There are widespread views that Kim Jong Un would prefer a win by Republican candidate Donald Trump. with whom he engaged in high-stakes nuclear diplomacy in 2018-19, seeing him as a more likely counterpart to give him what he wants than Democratic candidate Kamala Harris. During campaigning, Harris said she won't "cozy up to tyrants and dictators like Kim Jong Un who are rooting for

North Korea claimed that the Hwasong-19 it tested on Oct. 31 was "the world's strongest" ICBM, but experts say the solid-fuel missile is too big to be useful in war. Experts say North Korea has yet to acquire some critical technologies to build a functioning ICBM, such as ensuring that the warhead survives the harsh conditions of atmospheric re-entry.

Tensions between the Koreas are at their highest point in years as Kim has repeatedly flaunted his expanding nuclear weapon and missile programs, while reportedly providing Russia with munitions and troops to support President Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine.

On Monday, U.S. State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller told reporters that as many as 10,000 North Korean soldiers were in Russia's Kursk region near Ukraine's border and were preparing to join Moscow's fight against Ukraine in the coming days. If they engage in combat, it would be North Korea's first participation in a large-scale conflict since the end of the 1950-53 Korean War.





LADIES DIAMOND WEDDING RING - LADIES DIAMOND CLUSTER FASHION RING - LADIES DIAMOND EARRINGS - SAPPHIRE NECKLACE W/ MATCHING EARRINGS - COSTUME JEWELRY - HOWARD MILLER CHINA CABINET - QUALITY **CHERRY FINISH CHINA CABINET - 2019 GE WINDOW STYLE AIR CONDITIONER** COLLECTIBLES - GLASSWARE - VINTAGE SILVERPLATE FLATWARE SETS NUMEROUS COLLECTIONS OF MARBLES - ANRI ITALY WOOD - CARVED FIGURINES - HOME DECOR - HOLIDAY DECORATIONS - HOUSEHOLD

**VIEW COMPLETE CATALOG AT STEFFENGRP.COM SALE MANAGERS: BOBBY PERRY (260.273.7260) AND PATRICK CARTER (260.273.8294)** SELLERS: ESTATE OF ELIZABETH (CARTER) AESCHLIMAN & OTHERS

AUCTION PREVIEW & ONLINE BIDDING ASSISTANCE: TUES, OCT 29<sup>TH</sup> (3PM - 6PM) & THURS, NOV 7<sup>TH</sup> (3PM - 6PN



Follow us on Twitter at...

twitter.com/newsbanner

### **OBITUARIES**

# James "Jim" Allen Lantz, 74

James "Jim" Allen Lantz, 74, of rural Decatur, took his final dispatch from home to his new heavenly home, on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 3, 2024.

Jim was born in Wells County on May 18, 1950, to Daniel and Gladys (Bertsch) Lantz. He married Kathy Myers in Bluffton on Oct. 16, 1971; she survives.

Having been a born-again Christian, Jim was a member of the Apostolic Christian Church. He graduated from Adams Central

High School in 1968 and was a life-long truck driver, including Mersman Tables, Case Leasing, Energy Products, Kaehr Excavating, Phelps Dodge, Air Products, National Oil and finally Lehman Feed Mill. Jim was also a farmer and mechanic for many in the surrounding

Jim's favorite pastimes were his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. It was rare for him to ever miss an event where he could cheer them on or an opportunity to teach and encourage them. He was such a blessing to them and constantly checking their oil. His family is not sure how their vehicles will continue without him.

In addition to his wife Kathy, of 53 years, Jim is survived by a son, Chad (Stephanie) Lantz of Bluffton; a daughter, Cybil (Joe) Dunnuck of Uniondale; nine grandchildren, Garrett, Daphne, Phoebe and Bridget Lantz, Madison (Wade) Lundeen, Sadie (Jacob) Buffenbarger, Aubrey Dunnuck, Ethan (Shaylee) Dunnuck and Andrew Dunnuck; and great-grandchildren, Brynn and Adler Lundeen, Ezra Buffenbarger and Baby Girl Dunnuck (due in April). Jim is also survived by two sisters, Rose Pfister and Mary Lantz, both of Bluffton; and three brothers, John (Sue) Lantz, Dan Jr. (Charlene) Lantz and Steve Lantz, all of Bluffton.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents.

Visitation will be Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024, from noon until 8:00 p.m., at Goodwin - Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton. Services will be held on Friday, Nov. 8, at 10:30 a.m., at the Apostolic Christian Church East, with one hour of visitation prior to the service at the church. Chad Gerber and Brent Kaehr will officiate. Burial will follow at the Apostolic Christian Cemetery in Adams County.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Online condolences may be shared at www.goodwincaleharnish.com.

# Mary Ann Monce, 86

Mary Ann Monce, 86, of McNatt, Jackson Township Wells County, Indiana, passed away on Nov. 2, 2024, at 7:03 a.m. at Parkview Hospital in Huntington.

Mary Ann was born May 21, 1938, to the late Joseph E. and Mary L. (Harris) Mitchell in Wells County. She was a 1957 graduate of Lancaster High School in Wells County. Mary Ann married Jack Dean Monce on Aug. 31, 1958; Jack passed away on June



Mary Ann, alongside her husband, Jack, were the owners and operators of the former Monce Hardware in Warren and McNatt General Store for many years, retiring in 2018. She poured her heart and soul into her store and always welcomed the people of Jackson Township and surrounding areas with open arms. The McNatt General Store was a place where people could come together for a hot meal, a place that provided all the essentials locally, and as Mary Ann once said it wasn't just a place, "It was our life." She loved to take drives in her van, visit with people, sit on her porch and cook. In her free time, she enjoyed working word search books, crocheting and keeping up her garden tomatoes and flowers. Mary Ann was a devoted member of the Church at McNatt and being involved in the church was very important to her.

Loving survivors include her daughter Jackie (Russell) Alford; grandchildren, Sara (Cory) Day, Jacob Alford and Kenny Alford; great-granddaughters Cora Day and Mazie Day; sister, Becky (Rick) McCarty; nieces and nephews Tammy (John) Brenner, Connie (Dale) Gretel and Ryan (Kristine) Mitchell.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; daughter Glenda Jane Monce (2009); sister, Martha Jane Mitchell (1958); and brother John R. Mitchell

Family and friends may gather to share and remember at Glancy-H. Brown & Son Funeral Home, located at 203 N. Matilda Street, Warren on Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024, from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Funeral services for Mary Ann will be held at Glancy-H. Brown & Son Funeral Home on Friday, Nov. 8, 2024, at 11 a.m.; with viewing starting at 10 a.m. Pastor Dan Tucker will be officiating and Pastor Bill Van Haften assisting. Burial will follow in Elm Grove Cemetery in Bluffton, Indiana.

Memorial contributions may be made to The Church at McNatt, 9183 W. 800 S.-90, Warren, Indiana 46792.

# Women in Leadership conference is Nov. 12

Wells County Women in Leadership will host its third-annual EmpowerHER conference on Tuesday, Nov. 12.

The all-day conference features a variety of events and speakers, including talks from Rachel Rauch of Eiro Wellness, Melahni Ake of Everyday Leaders LLC, and Courtney Delks of Compete Training Acad-

**Obituary Policy** The News-Banner and Ossian Journal publishes "basic" obitu-

aries free of charge for "local" deaths. "Basic" obituaries will

include the deceased's name, age,

community of record, date and

place of death, basic genealogical

information, the date, time and

location of calling hours and services and the name of the funeral

If additional information and/

Area funeral homes will pro-

or a photo is desired to be includ-

ed, or if the deceased does not

meet the definitions of a "local"

vide details on the policy and will

coordinate obituary publication.

person, there is a charge.

home handling arrangements.

emy. Learn and discuss rest and growth, everyday techniques to managing life, and how to lead with authentic-

8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Timber Ridge in Bluffton. Registration costs \$50 and includes breakfast and lunch. RSVP at wellscoc.chambermaster. com/eventregistration/register/2687.

The conference is from

260-449-5144 Fall Cleanup

FOREVER GREEN LAWN CARE G LAND MANAGEMENT LLC Owen B. President forevergrnland@gmail.com Active Military LOCALLY OUT

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

**Police Notebook** 

### **INCIDENTS**

City:

Wednesday, 3:52 p.m., 4285 SE S.R. 116. Twovehicle crash. Possible serious injuries. Lutheran Air responded. Report to follow.

Wednesday, 9:05 p.m., 100 N and 100 E. Vehicle in westbound lane with no lights creating traffic hazard. Vehicle towed.

Wednesday, 9:28 p.m., 500 block of Eastmoor Drive. Caller advised they had received notifications that an Apple Airtag has been following him. Told to search vehicle and contact if one was found.

Thursday, 3:17 a.m., 16 Garden Lane. Found dogs.

Thursday, 3:32 p.m., 924 N Main St. Vehicle being towed rolled into another vehicle. Both vehicles then towed.

Thursday, 9:19 p.m., 100 block of West South Street. Report of runaway juvenile. Located at 1:36 a.m. the following day.

Friday, 8:56 a.m., 1000 block of West Market Street. Report of animal attack.

Friday, 9:23 a.m., 600 block of West Wabash Street. Report of property damage accident.

Friday, 2:34 p.m., Hoosier House. Noise complaint. Friday, 5:39 p.m., 1100 block of Wildwood Lane.

Juvenile issue.

Friday, 6 p.m., 600 block

Friday, 6:18 p.m., Oak and Wabash Street. Parking problem. Vehicle moved.

Saturday, 7:07 a.m., Walmart. Parking problem. Saturday, 9:39 a.m.,

Wabash and Johnson streets. Citation issued for disregarding lighted signal. Saturday, 9:59 a.m., 200

block of South Union Street. Report of loose pitball. Dog was locked back up.

Saturday, 3:45 p.m., Oak and Wabash streets. Truck hit street sign. Report to follow. Saturday, 5:15 p.m.,

Walmart. Customer reportedly threatening cashiers. Saturday, 10:40 p.m.,

YMCA. Citation issued for driving while suspended. Sunday, 1:55 a.m., S.R.

driver detained. Sunday, 3:25 a.m., 100 N and 450 E. Citation issued

124 and Main Street. Drunk

Sunday, 11:05 a.m., Main Street and Harvest Road. Citation issued for 46 in a 30 mph zone.

for expired plates.

Sunday, 6:41 p.m., Kroger. Crash report to follow.

Monday, 10:17 a.m., Main Street and Capri Court. Citation issued for expired plates.

Wednesday, 8:57 p.m., 100 N and 100 E, Bluffton. Vehicle died in roadway.

Wednesday, 9:17 p.m., of South Dougherty Street. Mulburry Street, Bluffton. speeding.

Report of loud crying in the area. Resident advised they had found their dog dead in a tragic accident.

Thursday, 7:54 a.m., Freeman's. Woman requested to retrieve items from vehicle still under investigation for crash. Deputy recorded the items collected.

Thursday, 8:16 a.m., 800 block of SE S.R. 116, Bluffton. Trespass warning.

Thursday, 4:19 p.m., U.S. 224 and 450 E, Ossian. Report of an intoxicated driver. Driver said the vehicle was having mechanical issues and left at property per owner's request.

Friday, 7:06 a.m., Adams and Cherry streets, Bluffton. Semi truck died.

Friday, 7:11 a.m., S.R. 218 and 300 W, Bluffton. Two-vehicle crash. Report to follow.

Friday, 1:28 p.m., S.R. 218 and 200 West, Bluffton. Driver cited for speeding.

Friday, 4:41 p.m., Wells County Jail. Warrant served to Aaron Shorts.

Friday, 10:47 p.m., 4500 E 1050 N, Ossian. Driver detained for driving while suspended with a prior conviction. Driver released from custody after officer noted the conviction was in Ohio, which does not meet Indiana

Friday, 11:38 p.m., North 300 West and S.R. 124, 2900 block of Southeast Bluffton. Driver cited for County Jail. Warrant served.

statute guidelines.

Saturday, 9:55 a.m., 1200 N and S.R. 1, Ossian. Driver

cited for left of center. Saturday, 2:58 p.m., 4800 W 100 N, Bluffton. Caller

reported subjected burning tires. No burning tires found. Saturday, 5:47 p.m., 1000 North Washington Street, Bluffton. Officer requested

for custody exchange. No

issues. Saturday, 9:18 p.m., 700 South and South 200 East, Bluffton. Car vs. deer. Deer walked away.

Sunday, 12:33 a.m., 500 W and 600 N, Markle. Report of an altercation over

Sunday, 1:00 a.m., 300 W and 800 N, Markle. Car vs. deer. Deer took off.

Sunday, 10:33 a.m., Arby's. Report of stolen vehicle.

Sunday, 2:56 p.m., 1000 N 100 W, Ossian. Car vs. deer. Deer still alive.

Sunday. 5:32 p.m.. 2400 S 200 E, Bluffton. Caller reported a drone hovering over his property while shooting guns. Officer advised there are no current laws against this.

Sunday, 6:14 p.m., Meridian Road and 400 S, Bluffton. Car vs. deer.

Monday, 7:55 a.m., 6900 N S.R. 1, Ossian. Subject surrendered deceased father's firearms.

Monday, 8:17 a.m., Wells (Continued on Page 1A)

# First Bank of Berne adds Joe Davis to team

First Bank of Berne is excited to announce the addition of Joe Davis as its new Corporate Trainer. Davis, who holds a Bachelor's Degree from Indiana University Fort Wayne, joins the bank with a passion for fostering growth and development within the organization. Although new to the banking industry, Davis is eager to make an impact and help FBB's employees enhance their

skills, advance their careers, and further support the community.

Davis is a graduate of Bishop Luers High School and resides in the local area with his wife Emily and their two sons, Judah and Levi. In his free time, Davis enjoys spending quality time with his family and is an active mem-



Joe Davis

ber of the community. He has served as an emcee for numerous fundraising events supporting education, theater, show choir, and sports

"I chose to pursue a career as a Corporate Trainer at FBB because of my strong passion for fostering growth and development within others," Davis said. "I was drawn to FBB's commitment to excellence and its focus on nurturing talent

in an environment that prioritizes community engagement and support."

Davis is particularly enthusiastic about the impact FBB has on the local economy, contributing to the success of businesses and the overall community. "What I enjoy most about working locally is knowing that our work here at FBB makes a tangible impact on our customers and the community. It's rewarding to be part of an organization that truly cares about its people and the businesses it serves."

With less than a year of experience in banking, Davis has already found a home at First Bank of Berne. He has enjoyed building relationships with the FBB team and is looking forward to continuing his work in an environment that values personalized service and a deep commitment to the com-

"Investing in our team is essential for our growth, and hiring a new corporate trainer reflects our commitment to excellence. This addition will not only enhance our employees' skills but also strengthen our service to the community we proudly serve." said Kent Liechty, President & CEO of First Bank of Berne.

# Ossian Rotary to host Air National Guard base veteran

At its regular weekly meeting on Thursday, Nov. 7, Ossian Rotary will hear from retired Senior Master Sergeant Nancy Buck, who currently resides in Bluffton with her husband Brian. Nancy is a native of Three Rivers, Michigan, who moved to Wells County from Fort Wayne almost 30 years ago.

Nancy will describe her time with the 122nd Fighter Wing, home of the Blacksnakes, and over 2,200 military members and their respective units in the Fort Wayne area. The mission of the 122FW is to maintain well trained, adaptable airmen and highly maintained F-16 aircraft available immediately for combat operations and combat support anywhere in the world. During peacetime operations, they take pride in assisting local authorities with rescue and relief operations in the event of a natural disaster or other emergency, while protecting the citizens of Indiana and their property. The vision of the 122nd Fighter Wing is to be America's premier fighter wing delivering unrivaled combat operations in support of our nation's defense.

Nancy will share infor-

mation concerning her long military career as we celebrate Veterans' Day. During her career, she was responsible for ensuring supplies for aircraft and base operations were kept in stock, working with aircraft parts depots to request assistance with getting parts not readily available, as well as budgeting for the locally stocked assets and for aircraft maintenance parts. She most enjoyed the time she spent deploying with family members.

Nancy will tell of her most important aspect of being a veteran, which is continuing to attend and support veteran functions when possible. In addition, she will share about her family military connec-

Anyone is welcome to

attend Ossian Rotary this Thursday morning, at 7:30 at First Baptist Church of Ossian, 1001 Dehner Drive, for this program. For more information, please contact Matthew Gullion, Ossian Rotary President, at mwgullion@ gmail.com.



Working for you.

**Paid for by Committee to Elect Scott Elzey** 

WE HELP YOU GET SOCIAL SECURITY, MEDICARE AND MEDICAID READY!



MEDICAID OPTIONS AVAILABLE MARKETPLACE ANNUAL ENROLLMENT IS NOV 1<sup>ST</sup> -DEC 15<sup>TH</sup>

The Price Tag is the Same Everywhere Consider Local for Better Service MEDICARE ANNUAL ENROLLMENT OCT 15 TO DEC 7 CALL US

WHEN YOU HAVE PROBLEMS AND YOU WILL HAVE PROBLEMS YOU WILL HAVE US TO COUNT ON MEDICARE SUPPLEMENTS - MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLANS - PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLANS.

Life Insurance - Long Term Care Insurance - Investments - Individual and Small Group Health - Dental - Vision - Hearing - Cancer Insurance

Folks on Medicare A and B and Diabetic can get **FREE** Nice Looking Diabetic Shoes Every Year from Us We Do FREE Information/ Education Seminars In Your Business (Again Former Teachers)

WE CAN MEET: IN OUR OFFICE - IN YOUR HOME - IN A FAVORED LOCATION

In the 1882 Building at Main & Market with the mural on the outside wall • 260-824-1618

# Buckle up for a long election-night ride

Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise.

Benjamin Franklin is credited with that saying in his publication "Poor Richard's

Most weeknights I find myself following Franklin's proverb, as it's rare for me to still be up at 10 p.m. My days tend to start around 4:30 a.m., which means my yawning

really kicks in by 9 p.m. most nights. Tonight, however, will be an exception. I'll be drinking a Coke — maybe two with a bowl of buttery and salty popcorn nearby as the polls around Indiana and the United States close

and results start to come in. Our living room TV will provide one source of information while I'll be using my MacBook Air and iPhone to follow other news outlets as the night goes on.

Justin

Peeper

Jen wasn't on board with my idea of taking the TV off the wall in our bedroom to move it to the living room so I could have two going at the same time. She's already told me her plan is to be in the bedroom watching a Hallmark Christmas movie while I'm in full news fanatic mode tonight.

I'll be as glued to the TV and the news as sports fans are when they walk into a pub and see a plethora of monitors on the wall on football Sundays or during the first couple weeks of March Madness.

On the state level, the race between Democrat Jennifer McCormick, Republican Mike Braun and Libertarian Donald Rainwater to be Indiana's next governor is one that I'll be watching with great interest. This race appears to be much closer than most predicted even a couple of months ago.

And it goes without saying that the second race I'll be watching into the wee hours of Wednesday morning is between Democrat Kamala Harris and Republican Donald Trump. Both are locked in a razor-thin contest.

Several other local, state and national contests have my attention as well but not as much as the race for our nation's next president and for Indiana's next governor.

My wife and I tried to vote early a couple of times last week but the long lines deterred us. It's encouraging to see so many people around the country showing up at the polls to vote in this year's election — one in which much is at stake. I'm not too disappointed, however, that we didn't get to vote early this year. While it has been convenient some years to go to one of the vote-early centers, I'd rather vote on Election

There's just something special about casting your ballot on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November — especially when you show up just before 6 a.m. and hear the poll worker declare aloud that the polls are now open.

A few of our friends have sons and daughters who are 18 this year and will be able to vote for the first time. It has been fun to see their enthusiasm and civic engagement these past few weeks, as it reminded me of how excited I was the first time I could vote in a presidential election.

I turned 18 in 1998 and cast my first vote for president in 2000 in the contest between Republican George W. Bush and Democrat Al Gore. I haven't missed a general election since

Deciding who to cast my ballot for today was an easy task for me; I hope the majority of Hoosiers and Americans have done enough of their own research like I have to make today's decision at the polls just as easy and well-informed.

It's going to be an exciting night of news albeit a long one. Too bad we couldn't "fall back" on election night to take advantage of that extra hour of sleep that I know I'll probably need Wednesday morning.

jdpeeper2@hotmail.com

# Letters to the Editor

# **Norwell High School has (among** other things) an academics problem

On Sunday, Oct. 13, 49 members of the Norwell High School junior class were inducted into the school's chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) — an academic honor second only to commencement itself. The induction ceremony which took place in the high school auditorium and lasted less than 30 minutes and quite sadly, featured the following:

• No personally-written speeches nor introductory nor concluding words from the NHS sponsor. In fact, the only individuals who spoke at all were Senior members of the society who read scripted, prepared words, highlighting only the key tenants of the NHS;

• An absolutely terrible microphone system which was barely audible even for myself who was sitting no more than seven rows back and has perfect hearing;

• Absolutely no representation from school administration: superintendent or assistant superintendent; nor any of the five members of the school board; assistant principal; nor any of the four guidance counselors. For the record, Principal Kam Meyer was in attendance as his daughter was among the

49 initiates. Yes, to say the NHS induction left something to be desired is a gross understatement — the words "appalling and embarrassing" would seem more appropriate. What was supposed to be a very significant, memorable event highlighting the academic accomplishments of 49 Norwell Junior students was treated as an after-thought at best. In speaking with other disgruntled parents, one said to me: "You know, it's sad, but we have just come to expect that from Norwell." Yes, very sad,

indeed. Fast forward two days to

Tuesday, October 15, when the school board convened their October meeting. Throughout the meeting's entirety, no mention was made of the 49 students inducted into NHS, although other singular students were recognized by name. Again, shameful over-

What's more, each member of the board and the superintendent himself, were emailed a memo titled: "Open Letter re the Current State of the Norwell Community School System and Areas of Concern" earlier that afternoon. Other members of the community, be them parents and business leaders alike, also received said memo, in which special consideration was given to the NHS Induction, in that the school leaders should be focused on celebrating academic accomplishments, not just athletic. The poor quality of the sound system, I believe, is not a minor thing. The point being, as I wrote:

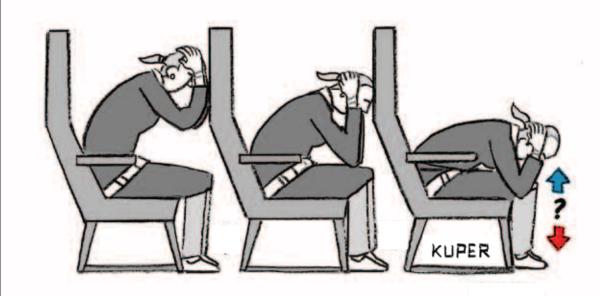
"I guarantee such overall lack of regard or attendance or concern for facility equipment would never happen on the football field."

Judging by the board's lack of recognition or even the slightest of commendations to the inductees, either the board and/or our superintendent: 1) Did not bother to read the memo; or, 2) Simply did not care enough to recognize the inductees — not even as a group, let alone by name who, by their own determined academic pursuits, put in the work and drive and focus to achieve such a significant

Yes, it seems Norwell H.S. has a definite "academics problem," saying nothing of "leadership and priorities" problems

> BENJAMIN C. WAGNER rural Bluffton

# ELECTION PREP



# Voters have faced the worst presidential choice in U.S. history

Of this mercifully truncated presidential campaign we may say what Samuel Johnson said of Milton's "Paradise Lost": No one ever wished it longer. Why prolong this incineration of the nation's dignity?

Donald Trump, a volcano of stray thoughts and tantrums, is painfully well known. There is nothing to know about Kamala Harris, other than this: Her versatility of conviction means that she might shed her new catechism as blithely as she acquired its progressive predecessor.

The Democratic Party's reckless disingenuousness regarding the president's frailty persisted until, in 90 June minutes, the truth became public. Then, with the nimbleness of those without the ballast of seriousness about anything other than hoarding power, his party foisted on the electorate a Play-Doh candidate. Her manipulators made her malleability into her platform. Prudence is a virtue, so do not fault her handlers for mostly shielding her from public interactions more challenging than interviews with grammar school newspapers.

Her sole notable decision as a candidate has been the choice of a running mate whose self-description ("knucklehead") is more astute than his flippancies about serious matters (the electoral college is icky, socialism is "neighborliness," etc.) and his self-celebratory fictions about his past. Tim Walz's achievement during his pirouette in the spotlight has been to make his counterpart, JD Vance, resemble Aristotle.

Or perhaps one of the Brothers Grimm: Vance's scary fairy tales (he calls them "stories") about kitten-cooking Haitians, etc., are, he says, intended to be didactic. They might be if he, a bristling porcupine of certitudes, candidly demarcated

his fictions from reality. The 2024 campaign has revealed the recklessness of Joe Biden's 2020 choice of a running mate. Trump, who is 78 and who is not a martyr to the strictures of healthy living, was as reckless in choosing Vance.

Many of the nation's 59 prior presidential elections have been choices between mediocrities, with some scoundrels thrown in (and into office). This year's choice is, however, the worst ever.

This measured judgment is validated by pondering, one by one, previous elections. To understand how far the nation has defined mediocrity down, consider the campaign's pitiless exposure of the candidates' peculiar promises and reprehensible silences.



George

On foreign policy, Trump and Harris have different styles of being incomprehensible. He is pithy, promising to settle Russia's war against Ukraine "in 24 hours," details someday. She is loquacious, as when explaining the Middle East to CBS's "60 Minutes": "The work that we have done has resulted in a number of movements in that region by Israel that were very much prompted by, or a result of, many things, including our advocacy for what needs to happen in the region ... We're not going to stop pursuing what is necessary for the United States to be clear about where we

stand on the need for this war to end ...' He will not say Vladimir Putin is an enemy. She will not say Israel has a right to fight as fiercely against genocidal enemies next door as the United States fought in World War II against enemies oceans away.

Trump and Harris are, however, crystal clear and completely agreed about the national debt, which increased \$1.8 trillion in the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30: They promise to do nothing about

the main problem, entitlement (Social Security, Medicare) spending.

When Trump said "no tax on tips," Harris, perhaps admiring the artful pander, said: Me, too! They also agree on repealing one of his good presidential deeds the cap on deductions of state and local taxes from federal income tax liabilities. This would be a tax cut disproportionately for high-earners in high-tax blue states.

Trump and Harris also agree that American democracy is a papier-mâché shambles. He says elections are "rigged." She says democracy's protectors (the Constitution, Congress, the courts, the people) are so flimsy that only she can prevent Trump from demolishing what George Washington founded and

Abraham Lincoln preserved.

Amazingly, although both candidates have constantly caused normal people to wince, neither's voice has been the most embarrassing this year. That award goes to the Idaho Republican who, in a public forum, told a Native American to "go back where you came from." Let's do go back to where we come from: the nation's founding of a limited government.

Whomever wins, both parties should be penitential about what they have put the country through. And both should begin planning 2028 nomination processes that will spare the nation a choice that will be greeted, as this year's has been, by grimaces from sea to shining sea.

# Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Nov. 5, the 310th day of 2024. There are 56 days left in the year. Today is Election Day in the United States.

Today's highlight in history: On Nov. 5, 1872, suffragist Susan B. Anthony defied the law by casting a vote in the presidential election; she was later arrested and charged with "knowingly voting without having a lawful right to vote." Found guilty at trial, she was fined \$100, which she refused to pay.

Also on this date:

In 1605, the "Gunpowder Plot" failed as Guy Fawkes was seized before he could blow up the English Parliament.

In 1912, Democrat Woodrow Wilson was elected president, defeating Progressive Party candidate Theodore Roosevelt, incumbent Republican William Howard

Periodicals Postage Paid at Bluffton, IN 46714.

Taft and Socialist Eugene V. Debs.

In 1940, President Franklin D. Roosevelt won an unprecedented third term in office as he defeated Republican challenger Wendell L.

In 1968, Republican Richard M. Nixon won the presidency, defeating Democratic Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey and American Independent Party candidate

George C. Wallace. In 1994, George Foreman became the oldest heavyweight boxing champion at age 45, knocking out Michael Moorer in the 10th round of their title bout.

In 1996, President Bill Clinton won a second term in the White House, defeating Republican candidate Bob Dole.

In 2006, Saddam Hussein was convicted and sentenced by the Iraqi High Tribunal to hang for

crimes against humanity.

In 2009, a shooting rampage at the Fort Hood Army post in Texas left 13 people dead; Maj. Nidal Hasan, an Army psychiatrist, was later convicted of murder and sentenced to death. He has not yet been executed.

In 2017, a gunman armed with an assault rifle opened fire in a small South Texas church, killing more than two dozen people; the shooter, Devin Patrick Kelley, was later found dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Art Garfunkel is 83. Singer Peter Noone is 77. TV personality Kris Jenner is 69. Singer Bryan Adams is 65. Actor Tatum O'Neal is 61. Actor Judy Reyes is 57. Actor Sam Rockwell is 56. Musician Jonny Greenwood (Radiohead) is 53. Golfer Bubba Watson is 46.

The News-Banner

Published every day except Sundays and principal holidays at

125 N. Johnson St., Bluffton IN 46714, Post Office Box 436

**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

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

# Gloria decides to go deer hunting with Daniel's dad

Editor's Note: This is a column that describes deer hunting. Among the Amish, self-sufficiency is valued and securing a year's supply of deer meat on one's own to feed the family through the winter is considered a celebratory and fun occasion. Every bit of the deer is used and not wasted and the hunts are not for sport, but to secure a legitimate food source. Children are involved as a teaching tool about meat preparation, butchering, and preservation, all valued skills in Amish culture. -Kevin Williams, Editor

It was 3:15 p.m., the children had just come home from school, emptied their lunch buckets, and we were having a snack together when I spoke with Daniel's dad. He asked if he could take one of the children with him on the buddy stand on the back side of our chestnut field. "Sure, they'd love that. Someone will be ready

Though I had never before had any motivation to go bow hunting, I had this urge to be the one to go out for a round of bow hunting before dark. I had landowner tags which come annually. Turning to Julia I said, "I'd almost have an urge to go...

love it. I'll stay home with the time till I got a shot at it. children."

I smiled at her sweetness. "But I've never shot a bow in

my life," I reasoned.

"Aw Mom, it's not that hard..." The other children were on board with the idea, especially with the thought of playing at the Nissleys after supper.

As Dad Yoder came in across the yard I slipped into my Crocs, en it is not hard to see why God ered right away. "Let's do it." I

The Amish Cook

"I just seems right to go hunting in Crocs, as that is what Daniel would do, "I smiled. The one-third mile trek to the edge of the woods

was quickly covered. We miss not having Daniel to provide meat for the family, but the memories of him taking the children and myself with him on many hunts still linger close in our

It just seemed right to have Daniel's dad now here and helping pick up where Daniel left off.

From the buddy stand, I gazed over the growing chestnut trees where the deer would come out and graze in the green grass.

"They're likely to come out on your side," Daniel's Dad said, pointing to my left. I watched and waited as my mind went back eight years ago when I first spent time in the woods to hunt. I had never been a hunter, but that year Daniel had set his heart on his wife also hunting at least once; I couldn't say no. That first morning God had sent a buck which 'Oh Mom, do, please go, you'd Daniel stopped for me the third

> Several years later he got another irresistible urge to have his wife go again. I can't say I looked forward to it, but you know, why not fill hubby's dream? That morning on opening season I had a buck and doe soon after the season opened. It was nothing but a blessing from the Almighty.

Now that Daddy went to heav-

arranged it the way he did.

by Gloria Yoder

The children and I are forever grateful that Mom also knows what it's like to go hunting-not only that, we made those memories as a couple!

My rambling thoughts were interrupted by movement by the edge of the woods. "There's a deer," I whispered, "...and another

Incredible was the relief and joy after I knew I had it. The words kept ringing through my head, "He (meaning God) knows, He knows.

I called Julia and told her about it and instructed her to bring the children back to help take the deer home. As they came closer, the children called out, "Mama! Mama! Mama!"

Later when we were all in the house Julia said, "After you went back in the field we knelt in a circle and prayed that you would get a deer and that it would not go farther than 50 yards, and also that it would not run in the woods so we could easily get it."

God had answered every bit of that prayer. Needless to say, I was in awe.

Now I had never skinned a deer, but since Daniel's Dad also had a deer to cut up that night I told him we can get it. I weighed my options, we were having warm weather, it really should be butch-

told the children. When our neighbor Mrs. Nissley heard of our plans, she was quick to offer to join us. You can only imagine the laughter and exclamations as we processed that deer with the help of little hands on all sides. With her three children nine youngsters were helping us make memories.

I kept telling myself, "This is so amazing, this morning I had no idea I would go hunting, and by there's another deer being put in the freezer."

POOR MAN'S STEAK 1 pound hamburger

1 cup milk

1 /4 teaspoon pepper 1 cup cracker crumbs

1 teaspoon salt

1 small onion, chopped 10 1 /2 ounce cream of mush-

**Instructions** 

Mix all ingredients except mushroom soup.

Shape into a loaf. Refrigerate overnight.

Slice and roll in flour. Fry until browned.

Put into roaster.

Dilute with soup with 1 soup

Pour over meat. Bake at 350 for 1 hour.

# **Zanesville News**

Well I have lived long enough to celebrate 88 years of life. I have been blessed with those many years although there has been lots of blessings but still lots of sickness and heartache as we all know in

Robin and I just returned from Myers Funeral Home in Markle to pay tribute to long time rural Zanesville resident Tom Walton. He

this lifetime.

passed away Oct. 20. He was a great guy.

Annette Wall Best and possibly Peggy Bushee McKeeman, who I do not have a current address for, are the only two still living in the East Union Class of

For information on what is going on in town and at the three churches, you can get a lot of information on their Facebook pages. I, however, have to rely on daughter Robin to tell me. You can, however, text me with news and dates on my cell phone, 260-417-8982.

by Melba Edwards

I have reported that the Zanesville Lions Library is closed. At the next town meeting I will ask permission to take over the Little Library in front of the Zanesville Town Building and I will put books in it when some are taken out.

# Senior dinner to salute veterans

A Senior Citizen's Dinner will be hosted by the New Hope Lutheran Church in Ossian on Thursday, Nov. 7, at 11:30 a.m.

Theme for the day will be a "Salute to Our Veterans" with the program to be presented by Arlene Stoller. Attendance prizes will be given.

A free will offering will defray the costs. For reservations please call or text 260-415-1462 or 250-223-

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



MENT

The BOB&TOM Show

Local (located on-site)...

impartial... ★ Free...

Confidential... Knowledgeable...

In-person or virtual...

Navicating Medicare

Make an appointment with a SHIP Counsalor today! (800) 452-4800

# A Talk with Tego



Oliver is a 41/2-month-old, domestic short hair male.



Ollie is a 41/2-month-old male.





# many cats and kittens to choose from!

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

**Tego's Tips:** The Wells County Animal Shelter has



# **Happenings at Fort Wayne's riverfronts**

Fall activities at parks beside Fort Wayne's rivers

information call 824-6063.

will include: **Headwaters Ice Rink** 

The Ice Rink at Headwaters Park will open for the season on Saturday, Nov. 23rd at 12 noon.

Hours will be from 4 to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and noon to 9 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

(Closed Thanksgiving.) Admission \$6 for age 3 and older and free to those 2 and younger. Skate rental is \$3 and spectator parking is free. For scheduled updates check out fortwayneparks.

# **Dance Promenade!**

Latin dance fundamentals (salsa, bachata, cha cha and rhumba), open to all ages, will be taught on

# **Al-Anon support** group meetings in **Bluffton**

Support for friends and family who have a problem drinker in their lives. The support group meets every Monday from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Caylor-Nickel Foundation Family YMCA, located at 550 W. Dustman Rd in Bluffton.

the Wednesdays of Nov. 6, 13, 20, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Park Foundation Pavilion at Promenade Park. Register in advance to 260- $42\overline{7}$ -6000. Fee \$12 at the

**Sunday Sweat** 

Kickboxing and Yoga will be held at the Park Foundation Pavilion at Promenade Park on the 2nd Sunday of the month (Nov. 10). Kickboxing is from 9 to 10 a.m. and Yoga is from 10:13 to 11:30 a.m. A free

**Sunday Heritage Concert** 

On Sunday, Nov. 10, 2 p.m. the American Legion Band will offer a Veteran's Tribute at the Park Foundation Pavilion at Promenade Park in Fort Wayne.

Be prepared before the next power outage.



# It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase\* - valued at \$535.

Call 866-953-2203 to schedule your free quote!

GENERAC





# LIN'S LOCK & KEY, INC.



# Commercial - Business - Home - Industrial

Electronic Locks - Keypads • Safes Handicap openers • Camera Surveillance

1132 S. Clark Ave. - Bluffton Lin Harrold, CML • (260)824-3533 Cell 827-7632 CERTIFIED MASTER LOCKSMITH

Thanks for voting me #1 Travel Agency! Let me help you plan your next adventure!



# **Specializing in:**

• Theme Parks • All Inclusive Cruise Lines Resorts

Complimentary concierge services for all of your travel planning needs.

**Stephanie Hiday -** *Travel Specialist* 260-417-7656 s.hiday@magicalvacationplanner.com



# SPORTS

# Raiders' Powell earns 1st team all-ACAC, Tigers' Schreiber and Drayer make list as well

Bluffton and Southern Wells combined for three selections on the ACAC volleyball all-conference list.

Raiders' freshman Abbie Powell earned first team honors and took the conference by storm. She was first in the ACAC in kill percentage (0.544), blocks (77), second in kills 387 and fourth in aces (75).

Tigers' senior Maryn Schreiber was on

the second team. She was fifth in hitting percentage 0.244 and fourth in kills 268.

Tigers' senior Marly Drayer received an honorable mention and finished fourth in the conference with 410 digs to finish her career with 1,433.

South Adams was the champion of the conference, while both the Tigers and the Raiders finished 6th and 7th.

# **High School Calendar**

**TUESDAY, NOV 5** 

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Norwell at Tippecanoe Valley, 7:30 p.m.; Southern Wells at Northfield, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOV 6
No events scheduled.
THURSDAY, NOV 7

GIRLS BAŚKETBALL: Southern Wells at Cowan, 7:30 p.m. FRIDAY, NOV 8

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Cathedral at Norwell, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOV 9

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Warsaw at Norwell, 7:30 p.m.; Canterbury at Bluffton, 7 p.m.; Southern Wells at Union City, 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, NOV 11
No events scheduled.
TUESDAY, NOV 12
No events scheduled.

# No. 14 Purdue in win over Texas A&M-Corpus Christi

By MARK AMBROGI Associated Press

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. (AP) — Fletcher Loyer scored 21 points to lead five players in double figures as No. 14 Purdue beat Texas A&M-Corpus Christi 90-73 on Monday night.

Also scoring in double figures were Trey Kaufman-Renn with 15 points, Myles Colvin with 14, Daniel Jacobsen with 13 and Braden Smith with 12. Kaufman-Renn had nine rebounds and Smith had 15 assists.

Owen Dease scored 20 for the Islanders. Garry Clark added 14 points.

The Boilermakers led 49-33 at halftime, but the Islanders got as close as three points in the second half before Purdue pulled away. Texas A&M-Corpus Christi shot 54% in the second half to get back fint the game.

The Boilermakers shot 56% for the game compared to 45% for the Islanders.

Purdue hung its 2024 NCAA Final Four day.

banner with the national finalist prior to the game. The Boilermakers made the Final Four in 1980 and 1969, finishing runner-up

### **TAKEAWAYS**

Purdue: The Boilermakers weren't able to put away the Islanders until the final six minutes. The Boilermakers were hurt by 16 turnovers, seven more than Texas A&M-Corpus Christi. Smith committed six of those turnovers.

## **KEY MOMENT**

After Clark's 3-pointer narrowed Purdue's lead to 70-67 with 6:43 remaining, Loyer fed Jacobsen for an alley-oop that woke up the crowd. Purdue held a 20-6 edge the rest of the game.

# UP NEXT

Texas A&M-Corpus Christi: Hosts Dallas Christian on Friday.

Purdue: Hosts Northern Kentucky on Friday.

# White eager to return home with 2nd stint as Indiana Fever coach

By MICHAEL MAROT AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Stephanie White is coming home to win again.

Yes, after collecting Indiana's prestigious Miss Basketball Award in high school and leading Purdue to the 1999 NCAA title, after playing on the Indiana Fever expansion team and serving as an assistant coach during the franchise's 2012 championship run, White has decided she has some unfinished business to complete in her second stint as Indiana's head coach.

She can't wait.

So three days after Indiana hired White, she returned to Gainbridge Fieldhouse and received a rousing reception from her homestate fans with some of her new players, including Caitlin Clark, in the crowd.

"It's going to be really hard for me to not get emotional today, but you know, I think all of these familiar faces in the building here, this is coming home for me," White said Monday during her reintroductory news conference. "It has been such an experience with this franchise for nearly 25 years, from Day 1, and the opportunity to come home and lead this young, exciting team is really exciting."

# WHY NOT?

The 47-year-old White returns to Indiana as a far more experienced coach than the one who left in 2016 just two seasons into her head coaching career with a record of 37-31. She spent the next four-plus seasons as Vanderbilt's head coach, compiling a 46-83 mark before taking a year off and eventually returning to the WNBA with the Connecticut Sun.

There, she went 55-25 and led the Sun to the league's semifinals in both seasons, earning the head coaching slot for the 2023 WNBA All-Star Game before winning the 2023 WNBA Coach of the Year Award.

But when Indiana fired Christie Sides amid rumors about White's interest in returning to Indiana, White and the Sun agreed to part ways — opening the door for her return to the Fever.

It didn't take long for the sides to reach a deal and now White, who honed her communication skills as a broadcaster, takes over one of the league's most entertaining teams, featuring back-to-back rookies of the year in Clark and Aliyah Boston.

White already has some notion of how she wants to run the Fever.

"They're an exciting team to watch and I think offensively, we can be more creative. I think we can utilize certain players in different ways," White said as Clark and Boston watched. "I'm a forward-thinking, outside the box kind of coach. I like to challenge them on a number of levels, and they are a high basketball IQ team, so I want to give them the freedom to make plays."

But it's not just strategy that has White eager to get started.

She believes the league's highest-drawing team in both attendance and television ratings can hang another title banner, or multiple banners, while helping women's basketball reach a level former players, such as White, once used to think was possible only in their dreams.

Fever officials believe White's presence — on and off the court — will help keep the momentum building just two months after Indiana clinched its playoff berth since 2016.

"We're looking forward and this is about the next phase in the next era of kind of what we're building here," said Kelly Krauskopf, president of basketball and business operations for the Fever. "When I had the opportunity to talk to her, it was like fortuitous or something. I couldn't even believe the timing of the opportunity. I look forward to seeing how Stephanie can communicate with (the players) and work with them and put them in a position to be successful."

And White believes she can get the job done and add yet another chapter to her long list of accomplishments in this basketballrich state.



Southern Wells' Abbie Powell (middle) spikes the ball past Bluffton's Maryn Schreiber (right) during a regular season conference match during the season. Both are award recipients in the ACAC. (News-Banner file photos)



At right, Tigers' Marly Drayer celebrates during a point in the ACAC Tournament. She received honorable mention in the ACAC.

# Colts will look to find answers on offense during Week 10

By MICHAEL MAROT AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Coach Shane Steichen has tried everything to jump-start the Indianapolis Colts' anemic offense.

He's thrown deep passes. He's tried to create headaches for defenses with the dual running threats of quarterback Anthony Richardson and running back Jonathan Taylor. He's even changed quarterbacks.

So far, not much has worked and after Sunday night's 21-13 loss at Minnesota, Steichen and the Colts are scratching their heads and scrambling again to find solutions.

"I always look at myself first. I'm the head coach, I oversee it all," Steichen said. "So I've got to go back and grind at it and keep working to put these guys in the best position going forward. I look at down-and-distance stuff, a whole bunch of different things, what we're calling, how we're calling it, formation, scheme, everything."

What's next is anybody's guess.

It was just last week when Steichen determined 39-year-old quarterback Joe Flacco provided Indy (4-5) with a better chance of making the playoffs, so he benched Richardson, the No. 4 overall pick in the 2023 draft.

Flacco didn't fare much better Sunday when he threw for 179 yards, was intercepted once and lost a fumble on a botched handoff. He certainly wasn't the only one to blame in a game that the Colts managed just 227 total yards and 13 first downs while they struggled to sustain drives and came up with a field goal on their only real scoring drive.

Those are certainly not the numbers Indy anticipated after drafting Richardson as its next franchise quarterback and giving receiver Michael Pittman Jr. and Taylor lucrative contract extensions. The Colts also have the NFL's highest-paid offensive line.
Yet here they are, barely averaging 20

points per game.
"We've got to get more consistent in

everything we do, and we've got to have great preparation throughout the week," Steichen said. "We've got to put our guys in position to make plays and we're going through that process right now."

All the problems have done is raise more

questions. Could Richardson reclaim his starting job? Would Steichen give up his play-calling duties? Might there be a surprise deal before Tuesday afternoon's deadline?

For now, Steichen sounds more commit-

ted to finding answers than making changes
— and figuring out how to change directions before they host Buffalo next weekend.

"Yeah, he'll be the starter," Steichen said

"Yeah, he'll be the starter," Steichen said when asked about Flacco. "We've got a lot of football left, got a lot of faith and trust in our football team. We're going to go put in the work this week to go beat Buffalo."

# WHAT'S WORKING

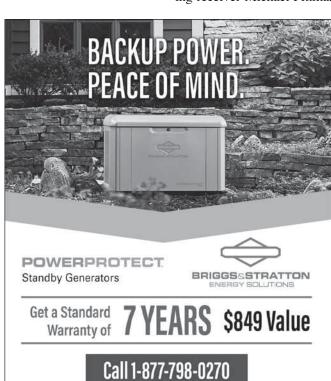
Defensive tackles. In his second game back from a sprained ankle, Pro Bowler DeForest Buckner provided a key presence for Indy's defensive interior line. Buckner and Grover Stewart created chaos for the Vikings, combining for three sacks including a key strip-sack.

# WHAT NEEDS WORK

Getting Taylor and Pittman more touches. Indy gave its two top playmakers three-year extensions for a total of \$112 million over the past year. But Taylor had only 13 carries for 48 yards and one catch for 11 yards Sunday while Pittman had one catch for 14 yards. Indy needs more productivity out of both.



Requires high speed internet. Maximum internet speed of GMbps per stream recommended for uplimal viewing. See details





\* See Representative for full warranty details. \*One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. TSubject to redit approval. Call for details. AR 366201923, AR ROC 544007, CA 10155795, CH 116057520, CH 126056678, N C 1272281, ID REC-516N, LA 559564, NA 176447, NO MHCH11225, NI 26200172, 26230318, 26230318, 262303129, 262303129, 26230318, 2623031

# **News-Banner Scoreboard**

## **FOOTBALL**

#### **NFL**

Pct PF PA

AMERICAN CONFERENCE East W L T 7 2 0

	Dullalo	- /	_	U	.//0 200 1/3							
	N.Y. Jets	3	6	0	.333 171 183							
	Miami	2	6	0	.250 124 187							
	New Englar	nd2	7	0	.222 141 217							
South												
		W	L	Т	Pct PF PA							
	Houston	6	3	0	.667 201 200							
	Indianapolis	3 4	5	0	.444 188 193							
	Tennessee	2	6	0	.250 140 213							
	Jacksonville	2	7	0	.222 195 252							
North												
		W	L	Т	Pct PF PA							
	Pittsburgh	6	2	0	.750 187 119							
	Baltimore	6	3	0	.667 283 219							
	Cincinnati	4	5	0	.444 236 227							
	Cleveland	2	7	0	.222 148 213							

W L T Pct PF PA
Kansas City 8 0 0 1.000 203 147
L.A. Chargers 3 0 .625 159 101
Denver 5 4 0 .556 183 161
Las Vegas 2 7 0 .222 168 251 Las Vegas 2 7 0 .222 168
NATIONAL CONFERENCE

**W** L Washington 7 Philadelphia 6 .778 263 189 .750 199 155 5 7 .375 171 225 N.Y. Giants 2 South W L T Pct PF PA .667 221 216 Atlanta .444 259 243 .222 147 293 Tampa Bay 4 Carolina 2 New Orleans 2 7 0 .222 207 229 **W** L T 7 1 0 Pct PF PA .875 258 148 .750 209 150 Detroit Minnesota 0 6 .667 230 194 .500 172 148 Green Bay 6 6 3 4 4

Chicago West West

W L T Pct

Arizona 5 4 0 .556

L.A. Rams 4 4 0 .500

San Francisco4 4 0 .500

Seattle 4 5 0 .444

Thursday's Games

N V lets 21 Houston 13 .556 207 214 .500 170 194 .500 210 182 .444 210 221 N.Y. Jets 21, Houston 13 Sunday's Games

Atlanta 27, Dallas 21 Baltimore 41, Denver 10 Buffalo 30, Miami 27 Carolina 23, New Orleans 22 Cincinnati 41, Las Vegas 24 Cincillial 41, Las Vegas 24 L.A. Chargers 27, Cleveland 10 Tennessee 20, New England 17, OT Washington 27, N.Y. Giants 22 Arizona 29, Chicago 9 Philadelphia 28, Jacksonville 23 Detroit 24, Green Bay 14 L.A. Rams 26, Seattle 20, OT Sunday Night Football: Indianapolis at Minnesota, 8:20 p.m. Open: Pittsburgh, San Francisco
Monday's Games

Kansas City 30, Tampa Bay 24, OT
Thursday, Nov. 7

Thursday Night Football: Cincinnati at Baltimore, 8:15 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 10 N.Y. Giants vs Carolina at Munich,

Atlanta at New Orleans, 1 p.m. Buffalo at Indianapolis, 1 p.m. Denver at Kansas City, 1 p.m. Minnesota at Jacksonville, 1 p.m. New England at Chicago, 1 p.m. Pittsburgh at Washington, 1 p.m. San Francisco at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m. Tennessee at L.A. Chargers, 4:05

p.m. N.Y. Jets at Arizona, 4:25 p.m. Philadelphia at Dallas, 4:25 p.m. Sunday Night Football: Detroit at Houston, 8:20 p.m.
Open: Cleveland, Las Vegas, Green

Bay, Seattle Monday, Nov. 11 Monday Night Football: Miami at L.A. Rams, 8:15 p.m.

# **BASKETBALL**

## **NBA**

**EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division** Boston 3 .500 New York 3 4 5 4 3 4½ Brooklyn .500 Toronto .286 Philadelphia 1 4 .20 Southeast Division .200 **L** 3 5 5 GB W .375 .375 Orlando .333 .286 1½

ton 2 4 33 e 2 5 26 Central Division Washington L Pct 0 1.000 GB **W** 8 Cleveland 4½ 5 4½ Chicago Detroit .429 .375 Indiana 3 4 429 Milwaukee 1 6 143 WESTERN CONFERENCE 6½ Southwest Division

W L Pct

4 3 .571

on 4 3 .571

ntonio 3 3 .500 GB Dallas ½ 1 Houston San Antonio

.500 .429 1 1½ New Orleans Northwest Division
W L Pct GB L Pct 0 1.000 3 .571 3 .500 Oklahoma City 7 Minnesota 4 Denver 3 3 3½ 5 5 Utah .143 Pacific Division W L GB 1 1 Golden State Phoenix 6 5 .857 3 .571 3 .571 4 .333 I A Lakers acramento

Boston 123, Atlanta 93 Detroit 115, L.A. Lakers 103 Brooklyn 106, Memphis 104 Sacramento 111, Miami 110 Utah 135, Chicago 126 Houston 109, New York 97 Minnesota 114, Charlotte 93 Oklahoma City 102, Orlando 86 Portland 118, New Orleans 100 Indiana 134, Dallas 127 Toronto at Denver, late Philadelphia at Phoenix, late San Antonio at L.A. Clippers, late

Tuesday's Games No games scheduled. Wednesday's Games
Detroit at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Orlando at Indiana, 7 p.m. Golden State at Boston, 7:30 p.m. New York at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m. Cleveland at New Orleans, 8 p.m. L.A. Lakers at Memphis, 8 p.m. San Antonio at Houston, 8 p.m. Chicago at Dallas, 8:30 p.m. Miami at Phoenix, 9 p.m. Oklahoma City at Denver, 9 p.m. Philadelphia at L.A. Clippers, 10 p.m.

Toronto at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

Thursday's Games Minnesota at Chicago, 8 p.m. Portland at San Antonio, 8 p.m. Utah at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.

# College

Men's scores

Monday, Nov. 4 EAST Boston College 69, The Citadel 60 Harvard 79, Marist 66 Maryland 79, Manhattan 49 Penn St. 108, Binghamton 66 Pittsburgh 96, Radford 56 Seton Hall 57, St. Peter's 53 St. John's 92, Fordham 60 Syracuse 86. Le Moyne 82 Villanova 75, Lafayette 63 West Virginia 87, Robert Morris 59 SOUTH Clemson 91, Charleston Southern

Coastal Carolina 60, W. Michigan

Duke 96, Maine 62 Florida 98, South Florida 83 Florida St. 74, N. Kentucky 62 Georgia 83, Tennessee Tech 78 James Madison 88 Ohio 78 Kentucky 103, Wright St. 62 Louisville 93, Morehead St. 45 Memphis 83, Missouri 75 Miami (Ohio) 77, Appalachian St. 63 Miami 113, Fairleigh Dickinson 72 Mississippi 90, LIU 60 Mississippi St. 95, West Georgia 60 Southern Miss. 77, Bowling Green 68 Tennessee 80, Gardner-Webb 64 UCF 64, Texas A&M 61 Vanderbilt 102, Md.-Eastern Shore 63 Virginia Tech 83, Delaware St. 60 Wake Forest 64, Coppin St. 49 MIDWEST

Butler 72, Missouri St. 65 Cincinnati 109, Ark.-Pine Bluff 54 Dayton 87, St. Francis (Pa.) 57 DePaul 80, S. Indiana 78 Detroit 91, Cleary Cougars 52 FAU 97, Indiana St. 64 Fort Wayne 99, Bluffton 47 IUPUI 100, lu Columbus Crimson

Illinois 112, E. Illinois 67 Iowa 89. Texas A&M Commerce 67 Iowa St. 83, MVSU 44

Kansas 87, Howard 57 Marquette 102, Stony Brook 62 Michigan 101, Cleveland St. 53 Michigan St. 81, Monmouth (NJ) 57 Nebbases 97, Tong Dio Control Nebraska 87, Texas Rio Grande

Northwestern 90, Lehigh 46 Oakland 75, Defiance 52 Purdue 90, Texas A&M-CC 73 Wisconsin 85, Holy Cross 61 Xavier 78, Texas Southern 69 SOUTHWEST

Arkansas St. 80, Akron 75, OT Houston 97, Jackson St. 40 SMU 96, Tarleton St. 62 TCU 105, Florida A&M 59 FAR WEST

Colorado 76, E. Washington 56 Stanford 85, Denver 62

## Women's Scores Monday, Nov. 4 EAST

Boston College 85, Lafayette 55 Boston U. 60, Northeastern 48 Buffalo 80, Troy 78 Maryland 74, UMBC 32 Penn St. 90, Bucknell 68 Rutgers 85, Manhattan 79
St. John's 80, St. Peter's 39
SOUTH
Alabama 115, New Orleans 53

Auburn 65, S. Illinois 31 Clemson 78, Jackson St. 44 Duke 89. Radford 36 Florida 82, FAU 54 Florida St. 119, North Florida 49 Georgia 76, NC Central 52 Georgia 76, NC Central 52 Georgia 76, NC Central 52 Georgia 76, NC Central 53 Kentucky 98, SC-Upstate 43 LSU 95, E. Kentucky 44 Liberty 77, Valparaiso 58 Memphis 89, MVSU 78 Miami 78, Stetson 53 North Carolina 83, Charleston South-

South Carolina 68, Michigan 62 UCLA 66, Louisville 59 Vanderbilt 102, Lipscomb 50 Virginia 104, American 68 Virginia Tech 99, UNC-Wilmington

# Wake Forest 102, Queens (NC) 40

MIDWEST
Akron 81, Georgia St. 73
Ball St. 60, Old Dominion 46
Bellarmine 88, Indiana-Southeast 56
Bowling Green 71, Southern Miss. 67 Coastal Carolina 65, Cent. Michigan

2 Georgia Southern 82, Ohio 70 Indiana 82, Brown 60 Iowa St. 96, Chicago St. 56 Kansas St. 92, Green Bay 45 Miami (Ohio) 75, Appalachian St. 48 Minnesota 89, CCSU 48 Nebraska 88, Omaha 48 Netro Pages 105, Mescalburt 64 Nebraska 88, Omaha 48
Notre Dame 105, Mercyhurst 61
S. Indiana 100, Brescia 49
Texas St. 75, E. Michigan 71
Toledo 71, Marshall 68
W. Kentucky 71, Indiana St. 59
W. Michigan 61, Arkansas St. 52
SOUTHWEST

Fairfield 81, Arkansas 67 Oklahoma 76, Southern U. 44 Oklahoma St. 96, Ark.-Pine Bluff 43 SMU 77, NC A&T 64 FAR WEST

Air Force 94, Regis 64

ership and operation."

Illinois

American Star in Agri-

Schafer's research SAE

science: Lizzie Schafer,

Taylorville FFA, Taylorville,

began in an agreement with

Schafer Stock Farm to use

numerous recipient cows,

elite donor females, cows

with calves, and their facili-

ty and equipment in order to

conduct bovine reproductive

and cattle health research.

Her findings have been uti-

lized by Angus cattle pro-

ducers in Illinois to increase

the production of IVF calves

and achieve above-average

successful embryo transfer pregnancies.
"I've seen firsthand how

my projects can assist other

producers and recognize

the importance of sharing

my findings," said Schafer.
"This experience has helped

me decide on a career

choice in bovine science and

instilled a passion to share

my research results with

others. My ultimate goal is

to help impact our world by

feeding our growing popula-

tion with quality beef that is

a degree in Animal Science

from Kansas State Univer-

sity to help feed our grow-

ing population with quality

beef that is environmentally

friendly.

Schafer plans to pursue

environmentally friendly."

Arizona 73, Texas-Arlington 54 Boise St. 87, E. Oregon 57 Colorado 56, Wyoming 50 Colorado St. 52, San Francisco 47 Oregon 93, Cal Baptist 63 Utah 105, S. Utah 52 Washington 95, Seattle 53

Washington St. 83, E. Washington

# **HOCKEY**

NHL Sunday's Games N.Y. Rangers 5, N.Y. Islanders 2 Winnipeg 7, Tampa Bay 4

Carolina 4, Washington 2 Boston 2, Seattle 0 Minnesota 2, Toronto 1, OT Chicago 4, Anaheim 2 Edmonton 4, Calgary 2

Monday's Games
Los Angeles 3, Nashville 0
New Jersey 3, Edmonton 0
Tuesday's Games Boston at Toronto, 7 p.m. Calgary at Montreal, 7 p.m.

Ottawa at Buffalo, 7 p.m. Philadelphia at Carolina, 7 p.m. Pittsburgh at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30

Los Angeles at Minnesota, 8 p.m. Tampa Bay at St. Louis, 8 p.m. Utah at Winnipeg, 8 p.m. Seattle at Colorado, 9 p.m. Vancouver at Anaheim, 10 p.m. Columbus at San Jose, 10:30 p.m. Wednesday's Games Nashville at Washington, 7 p.m. Detroit at Chicago, 8 p.m. Vegas at Edmonton, 8:30 p.m.

Thursday's Games
Buffalo at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Calgary at Boston, 7 p.m.
Montreal at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Ottawa, 7 p.m. Nashville at Florida, 7 p.m. Pittsburgh at Carolina, 7 p.m Philadelphia at Tampa Bay, 7:30

Chicago at Dallas, 8 p.m. Colorado at Winnipeg, 8 p.m. Utah at St. Louis, 8 p.m. Minnesota at San Jose, 10:30 p.m. Vancouver at Los Angeles, 10:30

AFTER



YOUR LOCAL FOUNDATION REPAIR AND WATERPROOFING EXPERT.

# OUR SERVICES - Cracked or Bowing Walls - Sump Pump

Betting Foundations Waterproofing
 & Encapeulation Concrete Leveling - Sagging Floors Craw Space Repairs

ACT NOW! и**р то \$600 off**\* Offere can't be combined.



BEFORE



# WINDOW NATION **EXCLUSIVE MONEY SAVING OFFER FOR 2 YEARS BUY 2 WINDOWS GET 2 FREE!** SERVICE SATISFACTION 1500+

96% 99.5%

"Other Astron Teconomic Confectional Metab. (Wheney, Whiteen Competer contained with an explosional location state.

Strong The man recognition of the fact of the confection of the competition of the confection of the confection

# Call (866) 553-0725

# Make the smart and ONLY CHOICE when tackling your roof!

# LIMITED TIME Offer!



FREE ESTIMATE 1.866.781.6023



To Your Home - Farm - Business

Gasolines - Heating Oils • Pure 1-K Kerosene • Super Diesel Fuel - Oils Bio - Soy Diesel - Ethanol • Competitive Prices!





can be!

Do you have a service or product for area farmers? and find out how affordable our AG SERVICES DIRECTORY

# Monday's Games Cleveland 116, Milwaukee 114 Golden State 125, Washington 112

# **Agriculture**

# Meet the 2024 American Star Award recipients

By AGDAILY

The National FFA Organization has announced the winners of its 2024 top achievement awards: American Star Farmer, American Star in Agribusiness, American Star in Agricultural Placement, and American Star in Agriscience.

Winners were announced on the stage of Lucas Oil Stadium during the sixth General Session of the 97th National FFA Convention & Expo in Indianapolis late last

The American Star Awards represent the best of the best among thousands of American FFA Degree recipients. The award recognizes FFA members who have developed outstanding agricultural skills and competencies by completing a supervised agricultural experience program. A required activity in FFA, an SAE allows members to

#### learn by doing. **American Star Awards**

Members can own and operate an agricultural business, intern at an agricultural business, or conduct an agriculture-based scientific experiment and report the results.

Other requirements to achieve the award include demonstrating top management skills, completing key agricultural education, scholastic, and leadership requirements, and earning an American FFA Degree, the organization's highest level of student accomplishment.

A panel of judges interviewed four finalists in each category and selected the

### winners. 2024 National FFA

**Star Award winners** American Star Farmer: Paul Oliver, Tattnall County

FFA, Reidsville, Georgia Growing up amidst the fields and activity of his family farm and swine operations, Oliver developed a deep passion for agricultural life from an early age. After he began establishing his own farming operation in 2018 as his SAE, he found success quadrupling the size of his breeding stock, acquired a 135-acre farm, and turned an unmanaged pecan orchard into a thriv-

ing business. His initial swine operation grew from 25 gilts and a boar to more than 100 during the Covid-19 pandemic

with more time at home to work and increased demand for pork. During that time he also acquired 14 Hereford cows and a Black Angus bull, whose profits allowed him to purchase an adjacent farm featuring 55 acres of mature pecan trees and a pond to diversify his operations.

"Balancing the demands of school with the responsibilities of hog farming proved challenging in the early years, but my passion and dedication never wavered," says Oliver. "I seized the opportunity to purchase cattle and land. These new ventures have deepened my appreciation for the strong work ethic instilled by my parents and grandparents. I am grateful for the ability to diversify my income while continuing to derive fulfillment from daily work on the land that holds familial significance."

American Star in Agribusiness: Landon Haney, Arcanum-MVCTC FFA Chapter, Clayton, Ohio

The lessons, experience, and mentorship that FFA exposed Landon Haney to helped him launch and grow his own successful business, Haney's Mowing and Landscaping, LLC, and launch his career in high school. What began as completing small lawn care and leaf cleanup jobs has turned into a 7-person operation offering hardscaping, drainage solutions, gravel grading, sod and seeding, and snow removal.

"The experience of starting a business from scratch has impacted my future because I know now that there is no limit on what I can accomplish in my life," says Haney. "Becoming a business owner allows me to be a well-rounded individual in society and learn multiple types of skill sets."

He hopes to continue growing the business and transition from owner/operator to manager of a larger operation with many more employees.

American Star in Agricultural Placement: Wylie Schwebach. Moriarty FFA Chapter, Moriarty, New Mexico

Since starting at his family's business, Schwebach's LLC, in 2018, Schwebach has increasingly mastered more complex duties and gained leadership experience while identifying and solving inefficiencies. Due to his knowledge of maintenance and repair, Schwebach has saved the farm 48 percent on transportation

costs, labor costs, and time. A resident of Moriarty High School and member of the Moriarity FFA chapter, Schwebach showed leadership on his 2,500-acre irrigated farm in central New

Mexico as part of his SAE. 'My personal growth in each position contributed to my understanding of the importance of each job duty and how it all adds to the operation," said Schwebach. "These qualities are of value

in my pursuit of farm own-FreedomCare

for you - and get paid! Funded by Medicaid, choose FAMILY

or FRIENDS as your paid caregiver. ★★★★ Your caregiver gets paid weekly!

Be a Hoosier! You must live in the State of Indiana. Live with a Caregivert You must live in the same : (either their own home or the home of the Participant).

Have Medicald and Get on a Walver: Bo eligible for Mo have Medicald and meet the financial requirements for the PathWa

Find out if you are eligible today. CALL 844.563.4012







David Moss Bluffton, IN 46714 (260) 824-1528 cell (260) 358-6046

> **Hy-Line** North America, LLC

**Printing Solution** 

Hy-Line.

1029 Mill Site Dr. Warren 375-2180



260-758-3121

1440 S. ADAMS ST., BLUFFTON, IN ATFERRELL.COM

Kerry Gentis, Manager Bluffton, IN (260) 824-0418



260-565-3679 dehoffinsulation.net



Forbes '

Huntington (260) 356-6264 Portland (260) 999-5030 ProResources.com



Remember

WHENYOU COULDN'T BE ON THE INTERNET AND PHONE AT THE

Dial-up days are long over. Enjoy fast, reliable fiber interne

m TWN Communications

FIBER INTERNET | DIGITAL PHONE | STREAMING TV





Get fiber-ready or sign up for service! 833.727.5563 twncomm.com/heartland

\*Services provided by TWN Communications. Not available in all areas. Restrictions terms, and conditions apply. Taxes, regulatory, surcharges and other charges are applicable. Call for details or visit us at www.twncomm.com/heartland for additional information and terms and conditions of services.



WELLS CO. AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLY, INC. 643 N. Main St., Bluffton, **260-824-4460** 

**WARREN AUTOMOTIVE** 128 N. WAYNE ST., WARREN | 260-375-3401



# Fiber Optic Internet - 1 Gig Available

Serving Warren & Liberty Center Warren • 260-375-2111 • citznet.com

# Veterans November 11, 2024

# to Our **Veterans & Military**

# 8 ways to honor veterans

Millions of people make considerable sacrifices to protect the freedoms of their fellow citizens. According to the Pew Research Center and data from the Department of Veterans Affairs and the U.S. Census Bureau, there are currently more than 18 million living veterans in the United States. The 2021 Census counted 461,240 veterans in Canada, according to Veterans Affairs Canada.

The term "veteran" refers to a person who served in the active military, naval, air service, or space service and was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable. In the U.S., there are actually five types of protected veterans, according to the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974. Under VEVRAA, a veteran may be classified as a disabled veteran, recently separated veteran, active duty wartime or campaign badge veteran, or Armed Forces service medal veteran.

Veterans deserve respect and admiration all year long, but also get their own holiday each November. Veterans Day celebrates veterans' patriotism and willingness to sacrifice and serve. This Veterans Day, people can consider these eight unique ways to honor the veterans in their community.

1. Attend events. Organize or participate in local Veterans Day celebrations, such as parades and ceremonial events.

2. Get involved with veterans' affairs. Support veterans by volunteering with organizations that assist them, such as the VA, local veteran's groups, VA hospitals, or charities dedicated to veteran services.

3. Petition for veteran speakers. Reach out to schools, scout troops or other groups and arrange opportunities for veterans to share their stories and contributions. Learning about the sacrifices these men and women made can heighten individuals' appreciation for veterans.

4. Support the families of veterans. Reach out to veterans' families, who also must make sacrifices and concessions. Anything from shopping, babysitting, doing chores, or making a meal can help the families of veterans.

**5. Make a donation.** If finances allow, make contributions to reputable charities that provide services for veterans like those that offer mental health counseling or job placement services. If there isn't a charity that fits with your vision, begin

6. Hire veterans to work. If you are a business owner or hiring manager, consider hiring veterans for open positions at your company. It can be challenging to re-enter the workforce after service, so make it known that your firm welcomes

7. Offer personal acknowledgements. Take the time to speak to veterans and thank them for their service. If possible, when dining out, ask the server if you can pay for the meal of a veteran who also is dining that day.

8. Don't forget the fallen veterans. Although Memorial Day is designed to honor those who lost their lives through military service, people still can honor the fallen veterans on Veterans Day by sharing stories or placing flags at veteran

Veterans Day is celebrated on November 11, marking an opportunity to express one's gratitude and support for the scores of veterans who have served honorably.

Berne Ready Mix

Berne, IN 46711

(260) 589-2880 www.bernereadymix.com

**Count on Our Concrete!** 155 E. Buckeye Street

# **Wells County** Veterans' Service **Office**

223 W Washington St. **Suite #102** Bluffton, IN 46714

Mon-Thurs: 8am-1pm Phone: (260) 824-6403 Fax: (260) 824-9942

Email: veterans@wellscounty.org **Dewey Randall Service Officer** 



"COME FOR THE JOB, STAY FOR THE CAREER" 1111 S. Adams Street Bluffton, Indiana 46714 827-2007



(260)638-4123 GEIVERUS VAVIEDON **DELLINO LANCEDON** 

> Mon-Wed 9-5pm Thurs-Fri *9-6pm* Sat **8-1pm**

# Kemper Flooring Inc

More...than just floors!

Backsplashes, Custom Showers,
Quartz Countertops, Fireplaces, Floors,
and NOW OFFERING FURNITURE!

Ceramic, Porcelain, Luxury Vinyl Plank, Hardwood, Carpet

1525 Hillcrest Drive, Ossian (260) 622-7465 • www.kemperflooring.com



**Locally Owned and Operated Since 1922** Douglas L. Cale & Mitchel P. Harnish

3220 St. Rd. 124 East, Bluffton • 824-3852



123 Harvest Road. Bluffton, IN 46714

# Collier's 🛬 COMFORT SERVICES INC.

Heating • Air Conditioning • Geothermal

260-622-6622

www.ColliersComfort.com

# How to help aging veterans

According to data from the Department of Veterans Affairs, surveys from the Pew Research Center and the U.S. Census Bureau, there were more than 18 million living military veterans in the United States by the end of 2023. Seventy-two percent of those veterans are age 50 and older, and many served during wartime.

260 589 2451

**CHEMICAL • FERTILIZER • FEED • GRAIN** 

Military personnel make significant sacrifices to protect the freedoms Americans enjoy each day, and it's vital that those efforts are never forgotten, even if it's been decades since service personnel have been on active duty.

Thirty-seven percent of living veterans are age 70 and older, and these brave individuals must face the challenges of aging as well as some, including chronic injuries, that might be traced to their time in the military. That makes helping aging veterans an especially worthy endeavor, and those interested in doing just that can consider the following ideas.

 Offer your expertise free of charge. Working professionals can help aging veterans by providing advice or services free of charge or at steep discounts. For example, accountants can offer to prepare and file aging veterans' tax returns free of charge or, if the returns are complicated, at steep discounts. Financial advisors can visit a local veterans hall or home and speak to members or residents about managing money after retirement. • Invite veterans over for special

events or gatherings. The Department

Markle • 758-2121 | Huntington • 356-2400

www.myersfuneralhomes.com

of Veterans Affairs reports that veterans who served in the last 30 years make up the largest number of living veterans. Though there are still plenty of veterans who served prior to 1994, they may no longer have extensive social networks as more and more aging veterans pass away. Social connections are vital to long-term health, and researchers at the Center for Healthy Aging at Penn State University found that adults between the ages of 70 and 90 who reported more frequent, pleasant social interactions exhibited improved cognitive performance in the ensuing days. Individuals who want to help aging veterans can invite them over for special events, such as game watches, holiday gatherings or even weekly family meals.

• Pitch in around the house. Whether they suffered injuries during their time in the service or not, many aging veterans face the same physical limitations as others approaching or past retirement age. Offer to help aging veterans around the house. Mobility issues can make it hard to mow a lawn, tend to a garden or clean the interior of a home. Such tasks are made much easier when others pitch in, and these gestures can be a great way for families to show their appreciation to the brave individuals who protected the freedoms Americans enjoy each day.

There's no shortage of ways to help aging veterans, many of whom could use a helping hand as they navigate their golden years.



**nb-digital.com** | 800.579.7576

# WILSON-CONFER **Chiropractic Center**

Dr. Sarah Confer & Dr. Margaret Confer

9900N 100W-90 Markle, IN 46770

260-638-4479

# Committed to Serving You Better! 2883 E State Road 124



Bluffton, IN 46714 (260) 824-4929

**More Than Just Transmissions** Heating/AC - Tune-Ups - Brakes **Computer Diagnostics and More!** 

In Bluffton since 1979

**Get Ready** 



#1 Best Heating & **Cooling Co.** 

**#1 Best Plumbing** Service

(260) 824-1126 mrkoolbluffton@gmail.com

610 N. Main St. Bluffton, IN 46714

# **Police Notebook**

(Continued from Page 3)

#### ACCIDENTS

**County:** Thursday, 6:59 a.m., C.R. 100 E at the intersection of CR 900 N, Ossian. Rande Cronk, 71, Ossian, was driving a 2015 Chevrolet Silverado northbound on C.R. 100 E and was fatigued after getting done with a long shift and swerved after he thought he hit a deer. Joshua Gerber, 46, Ossian, advised that Cronk had clipped Gerber's 2014 Ram 1500 side mirror and ran the vehicle off the roadway. Gerber followed Cronk nearly two miles before Cronk stopped and the parties waited for law enforcement. Damage did not exceed \$1,000.

Friday, 2:39 a.m., C.R. 100 E near 950 N, Ossian. Chelsea Bickford, 34, Markle, was driving a 2023 Chevrolet Tahoe northbound on C.R. 100 E when the rear tire blew out and Bickford lost control of the vehicle. The Tahoe entered

the ditch on the east side of the road and continued through the property of 9775 N 100 E before stopping back on the road. Damages exceeded \$2,500. Vehicle towed

Friday, 7:10 a.m., C.R. 300 West and S.R. 218, Liberty Center. Derek Rockwell, 18, Liberty Center was stopped at the stop sign when his Buick Riviera was struck by a Chevrolet Malibu driven by Sarah Okey, 30, Craigville. Damages did not exceed \$1,001.

Saturday, 9:10 p.m., C.R. 200 E at the intersection of 700 S, Nottingham Township. Lilly A. Gartin, 16, was driving a 2005 Pontiac G6 southbound on C.R. 200 E and struck a deer. Damage exceeded \$5,000.

Sunday, 1 a.m., C.R. 300 W at 800 N, Bluffton. Nathaniel W. Heckman, 46, Markle, was driving a 2020 Chevrolet Blazer and struck a deer. Damage exceeded

\$2.500

Sunday, 2:56 p.m., C.R. 100 W south of 1100 N, Zanesville. Janice M. Braun, 59, Markle, was driving a 2022 Toyota Sienna northbound on C.R. 100 W and struck a deer. Damage exceeded \$1,000.

# FIRES

Wednesday, 2:29 p.m., Lancaster and Adams Streets, Bluffton. Grass fire.

Wednesday, 3:52 p.m., 4285 SE S.R. 116, Bluffton. Two-vehicle crash. Lutheran Air requested for

Wednesday, 6:31 p.m., 610 W Spring St., Bluffton. Report of natural gas.

Thursday, 12:07 p.m., 1390 S Adams St., Bluffton. Fire alarm. Bluffton Fire Department responded. Fire under control at 12:32

Thursday, 12:43 p.m., 924 N Main St., Bluffton. Structure fire. Bluffton, Libtery Township and Ossian fire departments responded. Fire "mostly" out at 12:47 p.m. Advised of city burn ordinance

Thursday, 2:42 p.m., 323 W Miller St., Bluffton. Report of natural gas smell. Unable to locate.

Saturday, 7:25 p.m., 3287 E 200 S, Bluffton. Grass fire. Bluffton Fire Department responded. Under control at 8:12 p.m.

Sunday, 7:31 pm., 5743 N 450 E, Ossian. Report of burning in backyard. Bluffton Fire Department responded. Made contact with homeowner.

Mondy, 10:57 a.m., Christian Care Retirement Community. Fire alarm. Resident cooking on the stove set off alarm.

## **ARRESTS**

Travis Glean Avey, 41, Ossian; criminal mischief, a Class B misdemeanor, and theft, a Class A misdemeanor. Booked and released.

Gage Isaac Matthew Hilty, 23, Fort Wayne; child molesting, a Level 1 felony, and sexual misconduct with a minor, a Level 4 felony. Bond set at \$100,000.

Andrew Carson Williams, 63, Fort Wayne; possession of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor. Booked and released.

Marcus Frank James Randall, 18, Bluffton; operating a vehicle without receiving a license, a Class C misdemeanor. Bond not set

Escases Landaeta Osman Angel, 35, Bluffton; domestic battery, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond not set.

Aaron George Shorts, 28, Calumet Park, IL.; invasion of privacy, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond not set.

Bryon Edward Gordon, 43, Markle; probation violation, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond not set.

# Decatur man dies in ATV accident

On Saturday, Nov, 2, the Adams County Sheriff's Office responded to a dispatch of a personal injury ATV accident, on Adams County Road 500 W in Preble Township.

Paul E. Ruble of rural Decatur was found to have been operating a 2001 Yamaha Raptor 660 RVC. It was found that sometime during the overnight, prior to the dispatch, Ruble had operated the ATV, traveling west in an area of the yard at his residence and the back of the vehicle began going in a sideways motion. The vehicle came into contact with a concrete driveway, causing it to flip. Ruble was partially thrown from the vehicle as well as partially pinned under it and the crash caused him to impact the concrete driveway. During the investigation it is believed that alcohol may have contributed to the crash. Postcrash investigation, medical testing, will be conducted by the Adams County Coroner's office

Ruble was found by his wife during the early morning hours when she discovered that he had not returned home yet. It's believed that Ruble's accident had occurred a length of time prior to being discovered and he wasn't found for some time after the accident, as there was an accumulation of frost on the ATV. The accident was immediately called in upon discovery of it. Upon arrival of Adams Memorial EMS, Ruble was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Adams County Deputies were assisted at the scene by The Adams County Coroner's Office, Adams County EMS and the Preble Fire Department.

The investigation was turned over to the Adams County Coroner's Office and is still ongoing.

# Courtroom of relief: FBI recovers funds for victims of scammed banker

WICHITA, KANSAS (AP) — Sobs of relief broke out in a federal courtroom in Kansas on Monday as dozens of people whose life savings had been embezzled by a bank CEO learned that federal law enforcement had recovered their money.

In August, former Kansas bank CEO Shan Hanes was sentenced to 24 years after stealing \$47 million from customer accounts and wiring the money to cryptocurrency accounts run by scammers. Prosecutors said Hanes also stole \$40,000 from his church, \$10,000 from an investment club and \$60,000 from his daughter's college fund and lost \$1.1 million of his own in the scheme. Deposits were "jettisoned into the ether," said prosecutor Aaron Smith.

Hanes' Heartland Tri-State Bank, drained of cash, was shut down by federal regulators and sold to another financial institution. Customers' savings and checking accounts amounting to \$47.1 million were insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., which paid off their losses.

But there were still 30 shareholders of the community-owned rural bank Hanes helped found — including his close family friends and neighbors — who thought they lost \$8.3 million in investments: well-planned retirements were upended, funds for long-term eldercare gone, education funds and bequests for children and grandchildren zeroed out.

On Monday the share-holders stood to cheer federal Judge John W. Broomes in Wichita after he told them, one at a time, that they'd be paid back in full. The FBI recovered the funds from a cryptocurrency account held by Tether Ltd. in the Cayman Islands.

During an earlier sentencing hearing, these victims had called Hanes a "deceitful cheat and a liar," and "pure evil."

Margaret Grice came to court Monday figuring she'd get \$1,000 back. Instead, she learned she'd be recovering

almost \$250,000, her entire 401(k).

"I'm just really thrilled."

"I'm just really thrilled," she said. "I can breathe."

Prosecutors said Hanes, who was the CEO of Heartland Tri-State Bank in Elkhart, Kansas, lost the money in a scam referred to as "pig butchering," or the way pigs are fattened before slaughter. In the scam, a third party gains a victims' trust and, over time, convinces them to invest all of their money into cryptocurrency, which immediately disappears. U.S. and U.N. officials say these schemes are proliferating, with scammers largely in Southeast Asia increasingly taking advantage of Americans.

Hanes started buying what he thought was \$5,000 in cryptocurrency in late 2022, communicating with someone who had reached out on WhatsApp, according to court records. A few months later he transferred over his church and investment club funds. Records show the scam accelerated in the summer of 2023, when Hanes wired \$47.1 million out of customer accounts in 11 wire transfers over just eight weeks. Each transfer, he thought, was necessary to end the investment and cash out, court records said.

# Boeing machinists hold contract vote that could end 7-week strike

SEATTLE (AP) — Unionized factory workers at Boeing were voting Monday whether to accept a contract offer or to extend their strike, which has lasted more than seven weeks and shut down production of most Boeing passenger planes.

A vote to ratify the contract on the eve of Election Day would clear the way for a major U.S. manufacturer and government contractor to resume airplane production. If members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers vote for a third time to reject Boeing's offer, it would plunge the aerospace giant into further financial peril and uncertainty.

In its latest proposed contract, Boeing is offering pay raises of 38% over four years plus ratification and productivity bonuses. IAM District 751, which represents Boeing workers in the Pacific Northwest, endorsed the proposal, which is slightly more generous than one the machinists voted down nearly two weeks ago.

Union officials said they achieved all they could though bargaining and the strike, and that if the current proposal is rejected, future offers from Boeing might be worse. They expect to announce the result of the vote late Monday.

Boeing says average annual pay for machinists is \$75,608 and would rise to \$119,309 in four years under the current offer.

Pensions were a key issue for workers who rejected the company's previous offers in September and October. In its new offer, Boeing did not meet their demand to restore a pension plan that was frozen nearly a decade ago.

If machinists ratify the contract now on the table, they would return to work by Nov. 12, according to the union.

The workers got their last paychecks in mid-September, a few days after the strike started, and are likely facing more pressure on their personal financial well-being.

Bernadeth Jimenez, who has worked in quality assurance at the Boeing plant in Everett, Washington, since 2022, said she voted "yes" on Monday after voting against previous company offers. She was satisfied with the proposed wage increases, and said she never expected a pension anyway — she's putting money in a 401(k) plan.

Theresa Pound isn't ready. The 16-year company veteran said she voted "no" just as she did on the two earlier offers that went to a vote.

"Adding 3% (to the previous offer) doesn't change anything for my future. It still doesn't solidify that when I retire I'm going to have a comfortable living, and that's the bottom line," she said. "Instant gratification is not going to save me."

Both Jimenez and Pound have husbands who also work at Boeing, and both couples anticipated the strike and worked overtime before it started. Still, money is getting tight.

"We're making it by the best we can," Pound said. "We're going to run out soon, but it's not going to be a stopping point for me to say, 'Well, I'm out of money. I need to go back.' I'm going to find other ways to make it work."

There were fewer pro-strike protesters in Everett than during the Oct. 23 vote.

At a union hall in Renton, also near Seattle, signs warning against campaigning had been moved from inside to outside, and there was no table with workers handing out "Vote No" material, like the last time. A small knot of workers gathered around a burn barrel to talk and keep warm. The mood was subdued.



Paid Time Off!

Wellness Pavilion Discount!

# I AM RUNNING FOR NORWELL SCHOOL BOARD IN LANCASTER TOWNSHIP FOR OUR COMMUNITY'S CHILDREN.

My name is Jeremiah Tomlin, and I am running for Norwell School Board. Our children are so important to each of us. With your vote, I promise to be accountable and accessible to this community. More than that, I promise to lead with integrity. With Christian values at the forefront of my decisions, I will use common sense, be a good steward of tax dollars, and will work tirelessly to incorporate your good ideas to make Norwell the best version of itself.

My daughters will be students here for twelve more years. I believe we would all agree on the same basic desires during those years and beyond — a positive, safe, and education-first experience where our kids can learn and grow together. I want them to have the best teachers, bus drivers, coaches, and mentors throughout their years with Norwell Community Schools.





VOTE TOMLIN FOR NORWELL

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** 





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

King Classic Sudoku

1	2		3						
4				8	1		2	9	
	8		6	2			1		
7		3				2	8	5	, Inc.
8	5 4			7	3				dicate
	4			9			3		es Syn
				3	8	9	6		Featur
	1	8	9		2				©2024 King Features Syndicate, Inc.
	3	6	1		7				©2024

# **EMPLOYMENT**

Difficulty: ★★

# **Help Wanted**

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

**EXTREME AUTO OF Bluffton** needs a part time office employee. Three days per week, approximately 20 hours. Light general office duties, errand running, and miscellaneous. duties. Perfect for retired or semi retired individual. Valid drivers license required. Call 260-827-0882.

# This Week's Garage

**GIGANTIC GARAGE SALE** November 7 & 8, 9-5, November 9, 9-2, sack sale, Forgotten Children Worldwide, 650 N. Main Street, Bluffton. Last sale in 2024. Everything must go to make room for March 2025 "new" sale items. Gift 2025 "new" sale items. Gift with purchase/donation of \$20. Curio cabinets, like-new wicker chairs, winter coats, "new" Christmas decor, DVDs 10/\$1, plus much more. Follow Us on Facebook.

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

# **Lottery Numbers**

**Monday's Drawings** HOOSIËR LOTTERY

55-59, Cash Ball: 04

Quick Draw Midday —

Daily Three-Midday —

02-00-09, SB: 03

07-01-09-09, SB: 02

Daily Four-Evening — 09-02-03-06, SB: 03

mated jackpot (for Wednes-

day): \$27.7 million **MEGA MILLIONS** 

Tuesday): \$303 million

ball: 21; Power Play: 10X

# SUDOKU ANSWER

	9	تار	<u> </u>	٠	4	111	• 11	43	•
	S/11						**	ւ։Հվյո	Dittic
©202	2	G	8	7	Þ	l	9	3	6
4 King	3	Þ	L	7	9	6	8	l	9
©2024 King Features Syndicate, Inc.	L	9	6	8	ε	9	Þ	Z	2
res Syr	7	ε	l	9	6	8	7	7	9
ndicate	9	6	Þ	ε	7	7	L	9	8
, Inc.	ç	8	7	9	l	7	3	6	7
	7	l	G	6	7	9	Z	8	3
	6	7	3	l	8	Z	ς	9	7
	0	,	a	+	С	C	۵	7	1

## **Help Wanted**

**LOOKING FOR DRIVER** to haul Amish, some evenings and weekends. Call (260)

# NOW BURING

THE NEWS-BANNER IS look-Bluffton, IN 46714

## FOR SALE

## **Hot Deals!**

HOUSE on Sunday, November 10th from 1-3 pm. 419 Wabash St. Bluffton, IN

Lovely well maintained 1 and 260-519-1430

Billie.Shively@exprealty.com https://billieshively.exprealty.co

# **SERVICES** <u>Services</u>

# MARV'S CONSTRUCTION

Room additions, fix old saggy floors, all types remodeling. Redo bathrooms, old foundation repairs. Mary Schwartz: 260-525-8877.

## **Services**

WE ACCEPT

#### **ADVERTISE YOUR** SERVICES!

A 20 word. line classified in the Bluffton News-Banner for two months is \$97. Contact the of-fice at 125 N. Johnson St., 260-824-0224 or submit online to www.news-banner.com and click on classifieds.

#### Services

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

## VEHICLES

## Campers/RV's

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

# Read and recycle this newspaper



**BIDDING ENDS NOVEMBER** 10 - (Online Only) - Estate of Elizabeth (Carter) Aeschliman & others, seller. Ladies diamond wedding ring, ladies diamond cluster fashion ring, ladies diamond earrings, Sapphire necklace w/matching earrings, costume jewelry, Howard Miller china cabinet, quality cherry finish china cabinet, 2019 GE window style air conditioner, collectibles, glassware, vintage silverplate flatware sets, numerous collections of marbles, Anri Italy wood carved figurines, home decor, holiday decorations, household. Open house Nov. 7, 3-6 p.m., 117 W. Craig St., Ossian. Sale managers Bobby Perry, 260-273-7260, Patrick

Steffen Group, 260-824-3006, www.steffengrp.com.
BIDDING CLOSES NOVEM-

BER 12 - 6 p.m. Al Grogg's Custom Exhaust Shop, seller. Harley Davidson fully custom Roadster, dirt track race car, paved track race car, Lingenfelter 9:1 racing engine, race car parts, tool cabinets, racing suspension parts, engines, quick change rear end, fuel cells, Snap-On collector clocks, frame straightener, Simplicity 7117 tractor w/ snow blower and weights, Simplicity 4211 hydrostatic, valve grinder, 3 wheel electric convalescent trike (nearly new), tools, vintage auto scanners, oscilloscope, radio and TV signal generators, engine hoists, box grader, race car frame, boat trailer, commemorative clocks, torch sets, more. Full list at Town-countryauctions. com, click Fliers. Preview 1441 W. Lancaster St., Bluffton, daily until auction closes, Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday 9 a.m.-noon, or by appointment, 260-824-4835. Pick up noon-7 p.m. Nov. 14. *Town* and Country Auctioneers/Real-tors, 260-223-7352, Shaw Real Estate & Auction, Inc., 260-824-2116

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

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

com, 260-724-3499. SOFT CLOSE STARTS NOVEMBER 17 - 6 p.m. -Herman Family farm & Elite **Tooling, owner.** Online real estate auction. 47+/- acres, log home, machine shop, dog kennel, 2 ponds, CNC lathes, mill, machinist tools, Ferris mower, mowers, skid loader, 1960 Harley Davidson topper. Open house Nov. 9, 10 a.m.-noon, Nov. 12, 4-6 p.m. *Green Auction*, SoldonGreen.com, 260-

NOVEMBER 25 - 6 p.m. - Christopher & Kellie Pierce, owner. Held at Krueckeberg Auction Complex, 815 Adams Street, Decatur. Real estate & land auction! Tract 1: 2 bed, 1 bath, 948 sq. foot home, full basement, 40'x90' bank barn, 30'x20' barn, grain bin, wooded, tillable, 6.5+/- acres. Tract 2: 4+/- acres tillable frontage on Hoagland Rd. Tract 3: 4+/- acres tillable frontage on SR 101 & Hoagland Rd. Tract 4: 42.5+/- acres tillable frontage on SR 101 & Hoagland Rd. To be sold in individual tracts or any combinations. Open House Nov. 11, 5-6 p.m., 21015 Hoagland Rd., Monroeville, IN. *Krueckeberg Auction* & *Realty LLC*, 260-724-7402, Kjauction.com.

DECEMBER 3 - Starts at 6 p.m. - Blackford Golf Club (Lort Services, Inc.), owner. Held at Blackford County Fairgrounds, Hartford City, IN. Online bidding available. 105+/- acres offered in 7 tracts or any combination. Currently a golf course, potential farmland, recreational land, development potential, personal property available, Blackford Co. Inspections Nov. 16, 10 a.m.-noon, Nov. 19, 3 p.m.-5 p.m., 1605 W. Water St., Hartford City. Auction mgr. Al Pfister, 260-760-8922, Šchrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc., schraderauction.com, 800-451-2709.

Two miles northeast of Gas, IN, near intersection of E 300 S and S 550 E, Mill Township, Grant County. 81.59+/- total acres, tillable, woods, recreational land, potential building sites. Tract 1: 27.59+/- acres, 18.4+/- tillable, 8+/- woods, 1.19+/- non-tillable. Tract 2: 54+/- acres, 28.91+/- tillable, 23.34+/- woods, 1.75+/- nontillable. Rick Johnloz, 260-827-8181, Emma Barr, 260-494-0992, Jason Johnloz, 260-273-9177, Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management, 800-424-2324 halderman.com

## Public Notice

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Circuit/Superior Court of Wells County, Indiana, in Cause No. 90D01-2402-MF-000006 wherein Specialized Loan Servic-R Zickafoose, et al., were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest hid. at public sale to the highest bid-der, on the 11th day of December, 2024, at the hour of 1:00PM or as soon thereafter as is possible, at Wells County Sheriffs Office, 1615 W. Western Avenue, Bluffton, IN 46714, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Wells Coun-

ty, Indiana. T H E FOLLOWING **DESCRIBED REAL PROPERTY** SITUATED IN WELLS COUNTY,

INDIANA, TO-WIT:
THE SOUTH HALF OF LOT NUMBER TWO (2) AS KNOWN AND DESIGNATED ON THE RECORDED PLAT OF BABERS ADDITION TO THE TOWN OF UNION STATION (NOW UNION-DALE).

THE SOUTH HALF OF LOT NUMBER ONE OF BABER'S ADDITION TO UNION STATION, NOW UNIONDALE BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS, COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST COR-NER OF LOT NUMBER ONE, THENCE RUNNING WEST 165 FEET, THENCE NORTH 33 FEET, THENCE EAST 165 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 33 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING ONE HALF LOT ACCORDING TO THE RECORD-ED PLAT OF BABER'S ADDI-TION TO UNION STATION, NOW UNIONDALE.

ALSO, NORTH HALF OF LOT NUMBER TWO OF BABER'S ADDITION TO UNION STATION, ADDITION TO UNION STATION, NOW UNIONDALE, BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS, COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT NUMBER 2, THENCE SOUTH 33 FEET, THENCE WEST 165 FEET; THENCE EAST 165 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING ONE HALF LOT ACCORDING TO THE RECORD. ACCORDING TO THE RECORD-ED PLAT OF BABERS ADDI-TION TO UNION STATION, NOW UNIONDALE.

SUBJECT TO ALL HIGH-WAYS, RIGHTS OF WAY, EASE-MENTS, ZONING AND SUBDIVI-MIENTS, ZUNING AND SUBDIVI-SION CONTROL ORDINANCES, CONDITIONS, AND RESTRIC-TIONS OF RECORD. More commonly known as: 5970 N Main Street, Uniondale, IN

Parcel No. 90-04-02-500-012.000-018

Together with rents, issues,

income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisement "Subject to all liens, encum-

subject to all fields, enculinguates and easements of record not otherwise extinguished in the proceedings known as Cause No. 90D01-2402-MF-000006 in the Circuit/ Superior Court of the County of Wells, Indiana,

Plaintiff Attorney: Matthew C. Gladwell (30493-

Christopher J. Arlinghaus (31680-15) Aaron Rodgers (28418-84)

Reisenfeld & Associates LLC 3962 Red Bank Road Cincinnati, OH 45227 Voice: (513) 322-7000

Facsimile: (513) 322-7099 Scott Holliday, Sheriff of Wells County Township 5970 N Main Street,

Uniondale, IN 46791 Street Address SHERIFF FILE NO. SERVICE DIRECTED TO: The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the

accuracy of the street addressed published herein This communication is from a debt collector.

This is an attempt to col-

lect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that

nb 10/22, 10/29, 11/5

Cash 5 — 31-35-41-42-

**Cash4Life** — 13-38-44-

04-05-07-08-16-17-27-31-41-46-53-57-59-61-65-71-73-75-77-80, BE: 77

07-05-00, SB: 02 Daily Three-Evening —

Daily Four-Midday —

**Quick Draw Evening** 01-02-04-11-23-24-29-36-39-40-43-46-48-51-59-60-61-71-76, BE: 46

**Hoosier Lotto** — Esti-

Estimated jackpot (for

**POWERBALL** 06-18-33-48-53 Power-

S/11		Dittjenltλ: ★★						Dittic	SCHEBOLL TODAL.	ı
2	G	8	7	Þ	l	9	3	6	FREE ESTIMATES	
3	Þ	L	7	9	6	8	l	ç	260-223-5884	l
L	9	6	8	ε	9	7	L	7		<u> </u>
Z	3	l	S	6	8	7	7	9		_
9	6	†	ε	7	7	L	G	8	We Carry Prevagen and CBD Oil	S
ç	8	7	9	ļ	7	ε	6	7	R Warren Pharmacy	3
7	L	G	6	7	9	Z	8	3	(260)375-2135	
6	7	3	l	8	7	9	9	7	Nature's Sunshine Distribute	)1
8	L	9	Þ	G	ε	6	7	L	222 N. Wayne St., Warren • 1-800-895-703.  Terry Daniels, Pharmacist • Melinda Daniels, RN	
									Torry Burnetey Trum municipal Tricommuni Burnetey Tu t	

# **Help Wanted**

11/5

EARLY MORNING DRIVER needed to deliver papers to post offices and stores in southern part of county. Must have reliable transportation. Call Natasha or Doug, (260) 824-0224, for more informa-

November

ing 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.,

# HOUSE FOR SALE OPEN

1/2 story 3-bedroom and 2bath home with an attached 2car garage located in the heart of Bluffton. This home has a newer furnace, heat pump, water heater, and garage doors, and some new windows, clean and freshly painted. Come and make it yours today! \$220,000.00

# Carter, 260-273-8294, The





As a resident of the Wells County community for decades, Attorney, Gerret I. Swearingen, has devoted his legal Nursing Home and In Home Healthcare.

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

As your guide through the "Medicaid Planning"

-OSSIAN-1645 Hillcrest Dr., Suite 2A

Ossian, IN 46777

• Estate Planning & Deeds Special Needs Trusts

 Medicaid Planning In-Home Healthcare Durable Power of Attorney • Wills, Living Wills, &

(260) 888-9256 FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION!



Life Planning

· Safe Money Ideas

# **Home Remodel and Repair** Locally Owned

Retirement Advisors

Repair Bowed Basement Walls Foundations repaired Floor joist repair or replaced Concrete • Doors Windows • Painting

Tile • Small Jobs Welcome Text me at 260-301-1269 Jim Baker r GARAGE DOOR

### AMISH CREW will do roofing, siding, remodeling, pole barns. Specializing in redoing

(The) HIBEAWAY

old barns. Free estimates.

Call 260-438-2508

BEER SBOURBON THURSDAY -**Dollar Off Drinks** 

(Excludes Pop) WEDNESDAY - KARAOKE

FRI. & SAT. - Live Music Follow us on f for our Events. 123 S Johnson ST. • 824-0455

• Pole Barns

Grarages

Vinly Siding

# **Primary Contracting, LLC**

SALES & SERVICE

Owner: James Fisher • Sales: Carl Fisher

50 Years of Combined Experience

Call us at **824-3262** 

All makes & models • broken springs & cables

Specializing in Building & Remodeling OWNER: Edwin Wickey Call for Spring Scheduling Today!

 Metal Roofing Poly Decks Storm Damage Free Estimates - 260-223-4276

# **LAWN CARE** MOWING YARD CLEANUP

LANDSCAPING STONE / GRAVEL

WEED CONTROL SCHEDULE TODAY!

# Zap Electric, Inc. 260-824-2927 Commercial-Industrial-Residential 24 Hr. Emergency Service

Charles Miller-Electrican
1233 W. Cherry St., Bluffton
Estimates 記 COUNTRY

PLACE Apartments 408 Countryside Drive, Ossian 1 & 2 Bedrooms Laundry Facilities On-Site All Ground-level Private Entrances Equipped Kitchen <sup>260</sup> 622-6429

**Virtual Tours Offered** 

OssianApartments.com

TDD: 7-1-1

1 t

# Sure-Flo Seamless Gutters 5" & 6" Continuous Gutters Leaf Protection Systems Large Color Selection - FREE Estimate

260-888-5062

•Safety Lighting •Clean Units

•24 Hr. Access

 Video Cameras www.a1-ustor.com After hours & Saturdays Call 273-9678 or 824-4782 In Monroe at corner of

PER ISSUE YOUR BUSINESS IN YOUR BUSINESS IN Call 824-0224 or 622-4108 Every Day! Nov. deadline is Tues, Oct. 22!

# www.seamlessgutter.net A-1 U-Stor Safe & Secure Self Storage 824-1846

U.S. 27 and S.R. 124 Office at 1180 N. Main, Bluffton

DECEMBER 9 - 4 p.m.- 6 p.m. ET - (Online) - Crandall Farm, seller. Property location:

# Struggling to reconnect with son

Dear Annie: We used to have an ing unconditional excellent relationship with our son, and he has a daughter who is now 19 years old. Seven years ago, he met a divorced woman whom we initially liked, but judgmental accepover time, things changed drastically. tance toward your Since this new relationship began, our son's bond with his daughter has deteriorated to the point where they hardly see each other anymore, simply because, according to them, they're always "too

While we've managed to maintain a wonderful relationship with our granddaughter, things with our son have become strained, largely due to his new wife, who has become very controlling. She clearly dislikes us, and as a result, our relationship with him has virtually collapsed.

Recently, our son had a breakdown, and we're not allowed to see him at all. This has deeply hurt us, and his daughter is heartbroken as well. It's painful to watch her suffer, knowing she's lost her connection with her father, and we're unsure how to help.

How can we possibly repair this broken relationship with our son when his wife seems determined to keep us at a distance? Is there any way we can support him through this difficult time without alienating him further or creating more tension? We are desperate for advice on how to rebuild our family ties before it's too late. — Heartbroken Par-

Dear Heartbroken: This is an incredibly difficult situation for everyone involved. The hard truth is that the only person who can truly help your son is your son himself; he has to want the help and be ready to accept it. In the meantime, continue reaching out to your daughter-in-law from a place of pure love and concern for your son's wellbeing, and for the sake of your granddaughter.

While it's understandable to feel that she is controlling (which I don't doubt she may be), placing blame on her won't help your son or granddaughter in the present moment. What can help is show-

Dear love and support Annie for your son, while practicing nonby Annie Lane daughter-in-law.

This approach

may give your

son the emotional

space he needs to heal and, ulti-

mately, reconnect



with his family. Dear Annie: I am a 64-year-old woman who got divorced after 35 years of marriage. After two years of "kissing frogs," I believe I've finally found my prince. He's a kidney dialysis patient, and we've been together for over a year. We love each other deeply.

Recently, he told me he was on the waiting list for a kidney transplant, but to our dismay, he's since learned that he no longer qualifies and will have to remain on dialysis for the rest of his life. I'm heartbroken for him, as he's 67 and comes from a family with longevity. At the same time, I find myself confused and uncertain about our future together, knowing that this will significantly affect our life as a couple.

I love him, but I'm struggling with what this means for us in the long term. How can I be the best support for him while also considering how this will change our life together? I'm torn between my feelings for him and the practical realities we'll have to face. Any advice would be appreciated. — Concerned in WA

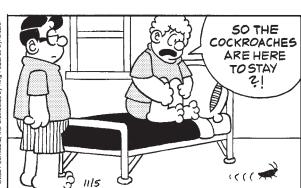
Dear Concerned: Congratulations on finding your prince. While he has this health issue, he is still your prince, and that means you love him. Focus on continuing your support of him and getting him the best medical care. At the end of the day, wouldn't you rather live with your prince who has a health problem than a fit-as-a-fiddle frog?

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

© 2024 CREATORS.COM

## **BEETLE BAILEY**





## **BLONDIE**







## **ZITS**

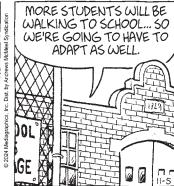






# **CRANKSHAFT**





By Bil Keane



# **My** Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham

Question: My spirit is troubled. A close friend of mine knows I'm a Christian yet she keeps talking about wanting to sow seeds today that will give her a better opportunity in the next life. While she can't explain how it happens, she believes emphatically that there is a next life. I don't know if she is reincarnation is not true, wanting to argue with me, and I guess I don't want to offend her. Why am I afraid to confront her folly about reincarnation? N.L.

Answer: Many today find the idea of reincarnation attractive – the belief that after we die, we come back to Earth again as a different person. The

# Reincarnation is not true

Bible says, "As much as depends on you, live peaceably with

all [people] (Romans 12:18, NKJV). How is this done when faith in Jesus Christ is different from every other religion? The Bible tells us to speak His truth, and the truth is that there is life after death, but not as another being, but transformed.

The Bible is clear that and the life we are leading now is the only one we will ever live. Once we die, we go into eternity – either to Heaven to be with God forever or to that place the Bible calls Hell, where we will be separated from God and His blessings forever.

What difference should this make? It gives urgency to our lives right now. If you are ever going to trust Christ for your salvation, if you are ever going to live for Him – the time is now. The Bible says, "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2, NKJV). This truth should give us a greater burden for those who don't know Christ. When people tell us about their beliefs, they are often wanting to know what we think about them. This is a tremendous open door to be a witness for Him.

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

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

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"My teacher said my only homework was to make sure you and Daddy voted!"

# The LOCKHORNS



"LEROY SELDOM VOTES SO HE CAN CRITICIZE WHOEVER'S IN OFFICE."

# 

IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

Place Your Ad 24/7/365! www.news-banner.com

## **CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer** ACROSS

**38** Deserve

group

42 Inventor

Whitney

clogger,

at times

48 Mao -

-tung

**49** 1003, in

50 Dryer

**51** Blue

**52** Piggy

bank

opening

weapon

Solution time: 22 mins.

fuzz

old Rome

40 Sports

43 Pipe

Sisters hit) **14** Hoppy brew

pals?

**9** "So

5 Calendar

squares

there!'

12 From the

Excited"

(Pointer

top

13 "—

15 Hydropower producer

17 Fish-fowl insert **18** Pro

votes **19** Milk dispenser 53 Slender 21 Social

division 24 Help in a heist

26 Window casings, trim, e.g. **30** NPR's Shapiro

25 Allows

31 Wartime riveter 32 Tri-

umphed 33 Toil away

#### 35 Big party DOWN 1 Furry foot 22 Aviation winner **2** — bind 3 Retrieve A.J. prefix 23 Prepared 37 Donny-4 Workout brook wear in a wok

5 Ten-cent

mono-

gram

Oرin H

9 Small

10 Lotion

**11** Frau's

16 Deli

20 Lawn

USUBERED

L E I S B I N G E

T BLOB

ORE DEAC

mate

bread

coating

wiper

additive

on it!" piece 6 "Lucky 26 Castle Jim" defense author 27 Medit. 7 Designer

nation 28 Memory method 8 Like salt 29 Leg joint

**24** "Put —

31 Beats 34 Japanese pond carp

35 Like does and mares **37** Big

mouth 38 Citi Field squad

39 "Frozen" snow aueen

40 Sextet half 41 Revise

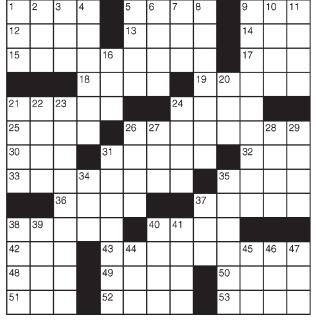
44 Have the flu

**45** Bit of

advice **46** Away from

WSW 47 Num-

bered rd. Yesterday's answer 11-5





# Many retailers offer 'returnless refunds': Don't expect them to talk about it

#### By HALELUYA HADERO **AP Business Writer**

It's one of the most under-publicized policies of some of the biggest U.S. retailers: sometimes they give customers full refunds and let them keep unwanted items too.

Returnless refunds are a tool that more retailers are using to keep online shoppers happy and to reduce shipping fees, processing time and other ballooning costs from returned products.

Companies such as Amazon, Walmart and Target have decided some items are not worth the cost or hassle of getting back. Think a \$20 T-shirt that might cost \$30 in shipping and handling to recover. There are also single-use items, such as a package of plastic straws, that might be difficult to resell or medicines that could be unsafe to market again.

Analysts say the companies offering returnless refunds do it somewhat sporadically, typically reserving the option for low-cost objects or ones with limited resale value. But some online shoppers said they've also been allowed to keep more pricey products.

Dalya Harel, 48, received a return-free refund recently after ordering a desk from Amazon that cost roughly \$300. When the desk arrived, she noticed it was missing some key pieces and would be impossible to put together, Harel said. She couldn't request a replacement and have it within a reasonable time for the office of her New York lice detection removal service because the item was out of stock.

Harel, who routinely buys towels and other products from Amazon for her business, said her team reached out to the company's customer service line. She was pleasantly surprised to hear she would get a refund without having to send back the desk.

#### A mysterious process

While the retail practice of letting customers keep merchandise and get their money back is not exactly a trade secret, the way it works is shrouded in mystery. Companies are not keen to publicize the circumstances in which they issue returnless refunds due to concerns over the potential for return fraud.

Even if brands don't provide details about such policies on their websites, returnless refunds are expanding in at least some retail

Amazon, which industry experts say has engaged in the practice for years, announced in August that it would extend the option to the third-party sellers who drive most of the sales on the e-commerce giant's platform. Under the program, sellers who use the company's fulfillment services in the U.S. could choose to offer customers a traditional refund for purchases under \$75 along with no obligation to return what they ordered.

Amazon did not immediately respond to questions about how the program works. But publicly, it has pitched returnless refunds more directly to international sellers and those who offer cheaper goods. Items sold in an upcoming section of Amazon's website, which will allow U.S. shoppers to buy low-cost goods shipped directly from China, will also be eligible for returnless refunds, according to documents seen by The Associated Press.

In January, Walmart gave a similar option to merchants who sell products on its growing online marketplace, leaving it up to sellers to set price limits and determine if or how they want to par-

China-founded e-commerce companies Shein and Temu say they also offer returnless refunds on a small number of orders, as does Target, the online shopping site Overstock and pet products e-tailer Chewy, which some customer said had encouraged them to donate unwanted items to local animal shelters.

Wayfair, another online retailer cited by some customers as offering returnless refunds, did not reply to a request for comment on its policies.

# Deciding who

is eligible - and when Overall, retailers and brands

tend to be careful about how often they let customers keep items for free. Many of them are deploying algorithms to determine who should be given the option and who should not.

To make the decision, the algorithms assess multiple factors, including the extent to which a shopper should be trusted based on prior purchasing - and returning - patterns, shipping costs and the demand for the product in the customer's hands, according to Sender Shamiss, CEO of goTRG, a reverse logistics company that works with retailers like Walmart.

Optoro, a company that helps streamline returns for Best Buy, Staples and Gap Inc., has observed retailers assessing the lifetime value of a customer and extending returnless refunds as a type of unofficial, discreet loyalty benefit, according to CEO Amena Ali.

The king of online retail appeared to verify the process works that way.

In a statement, Amazon said it offers returnless refunds on a "very small number" of items as a "convenience to customers."

The company also said it's hearing positive feedback from sellers about its new program that authorized them to tell customers they could keep some products and still be reimbursed. Amazon said it was monitoring for signs of fraud and setting eligibility criteria for sellers and customers. It didn't provide additional details on what that encompassed.

#### Online shopping and the cost of returns

Some retailers also are stiffening the liberal return policies they long employed to encourage online orders. Shoppers who enjoyed making purchases on their computers or cellphones became accustomed to loading up their digital shopping baskets with the intent of returning items they ended up not liking.

Shopping online also grew significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic, when homebound consumers reduced their trips to stores and relied on sites like Âmazon for everyday items. Retail companies have talked in recent years about returns becoming more expensive to process due to the growing volume, rising inflation and labor costs.

Last year, U.S. consumers returned \$743 billion worth of merchandise, or 14.5% of the products they purchased - up from 10.6% in 2020, according to the National Retail Federation. In 2019, returned merchandise was valued at \$309 billion, according to loss prevention company Appriss Retail.

Last year, roughly 14% of returns were fraudulent, costing retailers \$101 billion in losses, according to a joint report from the National Retail federation and Appriss Retail. The problem spans from low-level forms of fraud such as shoppers returning already worn clothing - to more complicated schemes by fraudsters who return shoplifted merchandise or items purchased on stolen credit

To deter excessive returns, some retailers, including H&M, Zara and J. Crew, started charging customers return fees in the past year. Others have shortened their return windows. Some shopping sites, such as the Canadian retailer Ssense, have threatened to kick frequent returners off their platforms if they suspect abuse of their policies.

However, retailers don't all view frequent returners in the same way. Such customers could be seen as "good returners" if they purchase - and keep - many more items than they send back, Ali said.

# Ex-police officer is found guilty in the 2020 shooting death of Andre Hill

#### By JOHN SEEWER **Associated Press**

A former police officer was convicted of murder Monday in the shooting of Andre Hill, a Black man who was holding a cellphone and keys when he was killed.

Officer Adam Coy, who served nearly 20 years with the Columbus police force, shot Hill four times in a garage nearly four years ago. Coy, who is white, was fired after the shooting. He told jurors that he thought Hill was holding a silver revolver that turned out to

"I thought I was going to die," he testified. It was only after he rolled over Hill's body and saw the keys that he realized there was no gun, Coy said tearfully. "I knew at that point I made a mistake. I was horrified."

Coy, who was partially blocked from view by his grim-faced attorneys, did not visibly react to the verdict but muffled cries could be heard in the courtroom when it was announced. Prosecutors asked that the former officer be sentenced immediately. Frank-

1/26/11/

lin County Judge Stephen McIntosh instead set a sentencing date of Nov. 25.

Coy, who is undergoing cancer treatments for Hodgkin lymphoma, was devastated, said defense attorney Mark Collins, who slightly shook his head "no" when the verdict was read and later promised to appeal.

Police body camera footage showed Hill coming out of the garage of a friend's house holding up a cellphone in his left hand, his right hand not visible, seconds before he was fatally shot by Coy. Almost 10 minutes passed before officers at the scene began to aid Hill, who lay bleeding on the garage floor. He was pronounced dead at a hospital.

Weeks after the December 2020 shooting, the mayor forced out the police chief after a series of fatal police shootings of Black men and children. Columbus later reached a \$10 million settlement with Hill's family, the largest in city history. The Columbus City Council also passed Andre's Law, which requires police officers to render immediate medical attention to an injured suspect.

Prosecutors said Hill, 47, had followed the officer's commands and was never a threat to Coy, who now faces at least 15 years in prison. The jury also found him guilty of reckless homicide and felonious assault.

"We're taught, 'Do what the cops tell you to do and you can survive that encounter," Franklin County assistant prosecutor Anthony Pierson said during closing arguments. "That's not what happened here."

Shawna Barnett, one of Hill's sisters, hoped the jury's decision would a send message that violence from police won't be tolerated.

"It's been way too long, but I'm glad it's over," she said. "It's time to stop. It's time to make everything

Brian Steel, president of the police union in Columbus, said he was shocked by the murder conviction and said it would cause ripple effects for officers in Ohio and beyond.

"Your split-second decision can now be led to murder," he said. "It is absolutely insane."



Lift-Chair &

915 N. Main St., Ste. D • Bluffton 260.353.1099 • themandfstore.com





Over 20 Major Brands of Tires • Since 1963

1308 S. MAIN ST., BLUFFTON • 824-0418 Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:30-5:00 WWW.BLUFFTONTIRE.COM

# Hope Lights a Tree



Hope Lights a Tree remembrance and tree lighting ceremony is conducted annually on December 6 at 7p.m. at the Angel of Hope

This unique program is a wonderful opportunity to honor a special person from your life and to know that you are supporting something positive in our community.

For information about how to participate, visit our website or call the Foundation office.

The Wells County Foundation, Inc. 222 W. Market Street Bluffton, IN 46714 260-824-8620

