

The News - Banner

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2023

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A record breaking Knight

Norwell's Luke McBride breaks school, Well's County scoring record

• Related story, page 6
By RYAN WALKER

Norwell guard Luke McBride made history Friday night on an action-packed 48-46 win over Homestead.

The senior hit an important jumpshot near the left baseline that made him the Knights' all-time leading scorer, passing Darin Archbold with 1,813 points at the time of the shot. McBride knew that that was the one to do it.

"Yeah, I knew coming in it was 14 I needed. I was aware," he said after the game. "I just tried to get to a spot and put up a good shot and that's what I did."

McBride hit the shot at the 5:14 mark in the third quarter. As soon as he hit it, head coach, and also father, Mike McBride used a timeout to honor Luke.

The crowd roared, and public address announcer Jamie Feldheiser announced the feat to the fans while father and son hugged at centercourt. Fellow teammates, especially the six other seniors who have been a part of the journey for a long time, congratulated Luke.

"He had a lot of his best friends out here playing with him and that's a special thing because those kids sacrificed a lot so he could have that opportunity," coach McBride said.

Archbold held first place since 1988, a 35-year record that was also the Wells County boys' scoring record.

"It means a lot," he said. "To be the top Norwell scorer and especially with the great players that we've had here in this program over the years. I just tried to work on my game the best that I could and I was really determined to be the

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Luke McBride became Norwell's all-time leading basketball scorer Friday night beating the previous record of 1,811 points set by Darin Archbold in 1988. McBride now has 1,822 points, which is also the county record. Above, McBride is shown with father and coach, Mike McBride, holding a commemorative ball. At left, he launches the record setter in the third quarter and then if that wasn't enough, below, he sank the winning free throw with less than a second left to play. (Photos by Glen Werling)



Indiana House passes \$43.4B two-year budget

By WHITNEY DOWNARD
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Indiana Republicans passed their \$43.3 billion budget proposal without any Democrat support, with the minority party denouncing the millions earmarked to expand school vouchers.

Nearly half of the budget, 48 percent, goes to K-12 education, which will get a boost of nearly \$2 billion over its current appropriation — of which one-third will go to vouchers.

Democrats denounced the budget for taking funding away from traditional public schools. Under the new proposal, families making up to 400 percent of the federal poverty level, roughly \$220,000, qualify for vouchers.

"We've gotten rid of the whole idea that this is based on poverty or even based on bad schools," Rep. Ed DeLaney, D-Indianapolis, said. "In my view, we've turned the voucher program into an entitlement. A vast, new entitlement for people who are doing pretty darn well in life."

Republicans said it was a matter of school choice and giving more power to parents who wish to control their children's education.

"Ninety percent of parents are saying that the best (option) is a traditional public school," Rep. Jeff Thompson, R-Lizton, said. "But it's important, I believe, that

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Research: Fed's rate hikes likely to cause a recession

By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Can the Federal Reserve keep raising interest rates and defeat the nation's worst bout of inflation in 40 years without causing a recession?

Not according to a new research paper that concludes that such an "immaculate disinflation" has never happened before. The paper was produced by a group of leading economists, and three Fed officials addressed its conclusions in their own remarks Friday at a conference on monetary policy in New York.

When inflation soars, as it has for the past two years, the Fed typically responds by raising interest rates, often aggressively, to try to cool the economy and slow price

(Continued on Page 2)



Living history

Southern Wells hosted its annual wax museum Friday. Sixth grade students studied individual historic figures of their choice and then presented to the lower grades at the school vignettes of living history. Above, Sawyer McEvoy tells the story of Milton Hershey, founder of chocolate candy manufacturer The Hershey Company. At left, Logan Leas brings to life the warrior spirit of Alexander the Great. (Photos by Glen Werling)



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Outside



The sun will be playing peek-a-boo today

Today	Sunday	Monday
High 45	High 52	High 61
Low 31	Low 39	Low 35

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Indiana budget

(Continued from Page 1)
 we put parents in charge.”
 The budget advanced on a 66-29 vote and advances to the Senate for further consideration.

Dems decry education provisions
 Thompson, the primary architect of the measure, said that it created opportunity for Hoosiers and saved taxpayers money in the long run.

“We’re making strategic, one-time investments that are going to affect our citizens for decades and decades to come,” Thompson said. “It sets Hoosiers on a great path going forward with a lot of great opportunities.”

The budget funds a \$1,400 operations “floor” for public and charter schools per student, which increases to \$1,500 in the second year. Additionally, eligibility for vouchers increases from 300 percent of the federal poverty level to 400 percent.

“The budget is unreasonable because the stated promise to provide real, great (increases to the) school funding formula for traditional schools, from our perspective, was not honored,” Rep. Greg Porter, D-Indianapolis, said. “Traditional public schools will receive an average ... of about 6 percent in the first year of the biennium but

vouchers receive about a 70 percent increase.”

Concerns about Kinsey defunding
 House action on Wednesday barred the Kinsey Institute at Indiana University, which researches sexual health, from receiving state funding in the budget.

House Speaker Todd Huston declined to comment on the specific allegation that Indiana University shields sexual predators currently but signaled his distaste for the allegations.

“I think that the introduction, the presentation of that amendment was extraordinarily disappointing,” Huston, R-Fishers, said. “But I think the majority of our caucus just wanted to ensure that no (public) dollars were going to the Kinsey Institute.”

Huston said that discussions were ongoing and didn’t rule out the possibility of restoring funding.

Senate Pro Tem Rodric Bray (R-Martinsville) said that he hadn’t had time to review the amendment’s language.

“I probably need to (spend more time on that) before I can really articulate whether it’s something that we’ll be supportive of or whether we’ll pull back,” Bray said.

House Democrats were much harsher in their con-

demnation.
 “Not long ago, the GOP was driven by ideals of free markets, minimal government and ‘traditional family values.’ Now it has become the party of culture wars,” Rep. Phil GiaQuinta, D-Fort Wayne said in a statement. “A Republican elected official even implied that anyone who has ever voted for a state budget — because of its funding for Indiana University’s research — is complicit in the sexual abuse of children.”

GiaQuinta, whose father also served in the General Assembly, called the Republican party of today ‘unrecognizable’ when compared to previous generations.

“This behavior doesn’t belong on the floor of the House or in the mainstream of our society,” he concluded.

Senate takes cautious approach to House budget
 But the Republican caucus’ leaders appeared to disagree about the approach to tax cuts and tying them to revenue outcomes.

The two chambers reached an agreement last session to cut Indiana’s income tax rate from 3.23 percent to 2.9 percent over seven years only if revenue growth continues and an additional \$1 billion was appropriated to pay down pension debt.

Huston said he trusted the

Senate Republicans, he said that cutting revenue through tax cuts was the only way to reduce spending and stop government growth.

“I’m not sure (the revenue growth) guardrails were ever really practical ... I think they’re just unnecessary,” Huston said.

Bray disagreed that the guardrails weren’t practical or necessary, saying they protected future state revenues from economic downturns.

“We want to do so in a responsible and thoughtful way and I, frankly, think that those guardrails probably won’t stop,” Bray said. “If we see (the economy) dip, we’ll be able to have some flexibility.”

Sen. Ryan Mishler, who chairs the Senate Appropriations Committee, said senators were disappointed by the House’s \$250 million additional contribution to the pre-1996 Teacher Retirement Fund, the state’s only unfunded pension obligation. Previous discussions had that number at \$1 billion.

“I think that should be a non-starter, and it needs to stay at what we agreed to,” Mishler, R-Mishawaka, said.

— — —
This story was provided to the News-Banner by the Hoosier State Press Association’s Information Network.

Weather

Saturday, February 25, 2023
(24-hour observations at 9:24 p.m. Friday)
High: 35; Low: 24; Precipitation: None
Wabash River Level (at the Main Street bridge): 8.50 feet at 10:45 p.m. Friday

Wells County forecast

Today: Partly sunny, with a high near 45. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west in the afternoon.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 31. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 52. West wind around 10 mph.

Sunday Night: Rain, mainly after 1 a.m. Low around 39. Southwest wind 5 to 15 mph becoming southeast in the evening. Chance of precipitation is 80 percent. New precipitation amounts between a tenth and quarter of an inch possible.

Monday: Rain, with thunderstorms also possible after 1 p.m. High near 61. Breezy. Chance of precipitation is 100 percent. New rainfall amounts between a half and three quarters of an inch possible.

Monday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 35. Windy.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 48. Breezy.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 34.

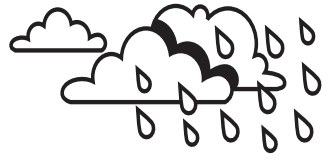
Wednesday: A 20 percent chance of rain after 1 p.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 58.

Wednesday Night: A 30 percent chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 36.

Thursday: A 20 percent chance of rain. Partly sunny, with a high near 47.

Thursday Night: A chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 30.

Friday: A chance of rain. Partly sunny, with a high near 46.



Fed’s rate hikes

(Continued from Page 1)
 increases. Those higher rates, in turn, make mortgages, auto loans, credit card borrowing and business lending more expensive.

But sometimes inflation pressures still prove persistent and require ever-higher rates to tame. The result — steadily more expensive loans — can force companies to cancel new ventures and cut jobs and consumers to reduce spending. It all adds up to a recipe for recession.

And that, the research paper concludes, is just what has happened in previous periods of high inflation. The researchers reviewed 16 episodes since 1950 when a central bank like the Fed raised the cost of borrowing to fight inflation, in the United States, Canada, Germany and the United Kingdom. In each case, a recession resulted.

“There is no post-1950 precedent

for a sizable ... disinflation that does not entail substantial economic sacrifice or recession,” the paper concluded.

The paper was written by a group of economists, including: Stephen Cecchetti, a professor at Brandeis University and a former research director at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York; Michael Feroli, chief U.S. economist at JPMorgan and a former Fed staffer; Peter Hooper, vice chair of research at Deutsche Bank, and Frederic Mishkin, a former Federal Reserve governor.

The paper coincides with a growing awareness in financial markets and among economists that the Fed will likely have to boost interest rates even higher than previously estimated. Over the past year, the Fed has raised its key short-term rate eight times.

The perception that the central bank

will need to keep raising borrowing costs was reinforced by a government report Friday that the Fed’s preferred inflation gauge accelerated in January after several months of declines. Prices jumped 0.6 percent from December to January, the biggest monthly increase since June.

The latest evidence of price acceleration makes it more likely that the Fed will need to do more to defeat high inflation.

Yet Philip Jefferson, a member of the Fed’s Board of Governors, offered remarks Friday at the monetary policy conference that suggested that a recession may not be inevitable, a view that Fed Chair Jerome Powell has also expressed. Jefferson downplayed the role of past episodes of inflation, noting that the pandemic so disrupted the economy that historical patterns are less reliable as a guide this time.

Ukraine marks one-year anniversary of war

By **JOHN LEICESTER, HANNA ARHIROVA and SAMYA KULLAB**
Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukraine’s leader pledged Friday to push for victory in 2023 as he and other Ukrainians marked the somber anniversary of the Russian invasion that upended their lives and Europe’s security.

It was Ukraine’s “longest day,” President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said, but the country’s dogged resistance a year on has proven that “every tomorrow is worth fighting for.”

On a day of commemorations, reflection and tears, the Ukrainian president’s defiant tone captured the national mood of resilience in the face of Europe’s biggest and deadliest war since World War II. Zelenskyy,

who has himself become a symbol of Ukraine’s refusal to bow to Moscow, said Ukrainians proved themselves to be invincible during “a year of pain, sorrow, faith and unity.”

“We have been standing for exactly one year,” Zelenskyy said. Feb. 24, 2022, he said, was “the longest day of our lives. The hardest day of our modern history. We woke up early and haven’t fallen asleep since.”

Ukrainians wept at memorials for their tens of thousands of dead — a toll growing inexorably as fighting rages in eastern Ukraine in particular. Although Friday marked the anniversary of the full-scale invasion, combat between Russian-backed forces and Ukrainian troops has raged in the country’s east since

2014. New video from there shot with a drone for The Associated Press showed how the town of Marinka has been razed, along with others.

The killing continued: Russian shelling killed another three civilians and wounded 19 others in the most recent 24-hour spell, Ukraine’s presidential office said.

Around the country, Ukrainians looked back at a year that changed their lives and at the clouded future.

“I can sum up the last year in three words: Fear, love, hope,” Oleksandr Hranik, a school director in Kharkiv, Ukraine’s second-largest city, said.

Lining up in the capital, Kyiv, to buy anniversary commemorative postage stamps, Tetiana Klimkova

described her heart as “falling and hurting.”

Still, “this day has become a symbol for me that we have survived for a whole year and will continue to live,” she said. “On this day, our children and grandchildren will remember how strong Ukrainians are mentally, physically, and spiritually.”

Although China on Friday called for a cease-fire, peace was nowhere in sight. Ukraine previously rejected a pause in the fighting for fear it would allow Russia to regroup militarily after bruising battlefield setbacks.

Zelenskyy gave qualified support to China’s apparent new interest in playing a diplomatic role, saying: “The fact that China started talking about Ukraine is not bad.”

Record-breaking

(Continued from Page 1)
 best player that I could be and it just means a lot.”
 McBride finished the game with 24 points, the same number on the front and back of his jersey, and led the Knights to a win over Homestead. That was also his last game played in The Castle as it was Senior Night, and he appreciates the support from the com-

munity.
 “It’s a great experience for me,” he said. “Senior Night here, it’s a great atmosphere and over the last few years the crowds always been really supportive, and we’ve always had good turnouts for games, and it means a lot from the support from this team, from the fans, and the students.”

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OBITUARIES

Darrin Scott Byrd, 57

Darrin Scott Byrd, 57, of Bluffton, passed away Sunday, Feb. 19, 2023, at Stillwater Hospice.

He was born March 25, 1965, in Wells County, to Robert Paul Byrd and Loralie Ford Byrd.

Darrin had a passion for cooking and turned it into his career. He attended Norwell High School, class of 1983. He was junior class president. He was a movie and music enthusiast, attending many concerts. Darrin was "quick-witted" and liked to joke.

He is survived by his daughter, Stephanie Byrd (Kyle Mertz) of Bluffton; Quinten



Byrd of Bluffton; his brother, Mark Byrd of Fort Wayne; two nieces and four great-nieces and nephews; and eight grandchildren, Corbyn, Connor, McKinzie, Annabelle, Natalya, Arya, Odin, and Alexa.

He is preceded in death by his father, Robert Paul Byrd, and his mother, Loralie Ford Byrd. He is loved.

No services are scheduled at this time.

Preferred memorials to Stillwater Hospice, 5910 Homestead Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46814.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Advantage Funeral & Cremation Services-Mungovan in Fort Wayne.

Police Notebook

INCIDENTS

City:
Thursday, 3:13 p.m., Bluffton High School, 1 Tiger Trail. Officer requested to speak with a student about inappropriate activity on a school computer.

Thursday, 8:18 p.m., 600 block of Cedar Road, Bluffton Woods mobile home park. Sheriff's deputies served a warrant for arrest on Phillip R. Hochadel, 49, Bluffton, for failure of a sex or violent offender to register, a Level 5 felony. Bond set at \$30,000.

Thursday, 10:24 p.m., residence in the 300 block of East Horton Street. Neighbors shouting at each other. Officers responded. One man was warned for criminal trespassing.

Friday, 9:21 a.m., Praxis substance abuse treatment facility, 1529 W. Lancaster St. Officers requested for a patient refusing to leave. He was permitted to stay until a ride arrived.

Friday, 10:31 a.m., 700 block of West Market Street. Officer assisted a citizen who fell in the street.

County:
Thursday, 6:43 p.m., residence in the 2300 block of North Main Street, Craigville. Caller reported someone banged on the door of her residence and was yelling. They then left but left behind a roll of toilet paper with a vulgar saying on it reading "STFU."

Friday, 12:41 a.m., Ind. 1 at 1200N. An off-duty Wells County Jail confinement officer reported that he was pulled over by a man in a black Dodge Charger who claimed to be a police officer. The man was driving a black Dodge Charger with a spotlight on the corner A-post of the vehicle. The vehicle was bearing a Wells County license plate and it had red and blue lights in the windshield. The man in the vehicle claimed that the confinement

officer was driving 66 mph-55 zone and told him he was "only going to give him a verbal warning." The man reportedly did none of the things a real police officer would do on the stop. He also reportedly had a large colorful neck tattoo and large gauges in both ears. The man was also armed with a gun in a holster on his hip. After giving the "verbal warning" the man left in the Charger. The confinement officer was behind him for a short distance when the Charger pulled over and started following the confinement officer again. The two parted ways in Fort Wayne.

Ossian:
Friday, 5:47 p.m., residence in the 300 block of Greenwood Trail. Report of a man standing in the driveway of the residence who was refusing to leave and kept walking into the caller's garage. Officer spoke with the man who reportedly told the officer "He was just checking the driveway to see if a trash bin would fit," and claimed that he was told do the activity by someone above him. The man was respectful and apologized. He was warned for trespassing.

Friday, 7:41 a.m., TI Automotive, 1200 Baker Drive. Report of a 43-year-old female employee dropped a wooden divider on her foot.

ACCIDENTS
City:
Wednesday, 10:33 a.m., Commerce Drive entrance to Interurban Plaza, 2155 N. Main St. Trey S. Craighead, 19, Bluffton, turned too sharply and drove a 2006 Dodge Charger up and over a landscaping boulder. Damage to the car was estimated at less than \$1,000.
Wednesday, 9:06 p.m., Main Street at Division Road. The traffic light was yellow for Main Street. Justin T. Wygant, 29, Bluffton, was southbound in a 2006

Buick Rainier. Luke E. Case, 44, rural Ossian, was northbound in a 2016 Ford F-150 pickup truck. Wygant turned left as Case entered the intersection. The ensuing crash caused the pickup truck to spin around 180 degrees and come to a rest off the southwest corner of the intersection. No one was injured. Wells County EMS and Bluffton Fire Rescue were both dispatched to the scene. Damage exceeded \$25,000.

Thursday, 9:14 a.m., Main Street north of Capri Court. Both vehicles were southbound on Main Street. Lorena C. Steffen, 87, Bluffton, changed lanes in her 2012 Chevrolet Captiva Sport and collided with a 2020 Ford Escape in the adjacent lane driven by Chad W. Reynolds, 49, Wolcott. Damage exceeded \$2,500.

County:
Thursday, 12:23 p.m., Meyer Building, 2570 N. Main St., Craigville. Jason D. Dettmer, 51, Fort Wayne, was driving a 2020 International tractor-trailer combo, registered to Central Transport LLC, Evansville, through the lot at Meyer's and clipped an open-sided building awning with the top of the trailer. Damage exceeded \$2,500.

ARRESTS
Elizabeth Jeanne Haney, 58, Uniondale; possession of a Schedule I or II controlled substance, a Class A misdemeanor; and possession of drug paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor. Bond set at \$2,000.

Colton Luke Norris, 21, Bluffton; criminal trespass. Bond set at \$1,500.

Zolan Riverwind Wetzel, 22, Bluffton; failure to a sex or violent offender to register, a Level 6 felony. Bond set at \$5,000.

Samantha Jo Burns, 23, rural Craigville; intimidation, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond set at \$5,000.

Wells Court Docket

Wells Superior Court Criminal Cases

James DW Morris, 35, Bluffton, pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct, a Class B misdemeanor.

Sentenced to 180 days in the Wells County Jail, with all but two days suspended — credited as time served, and placed on probation for 363 days.

Ordered to report to a batterer intervention program. His probation may terminate early upon his completion of the program. Ordered to pay court costs and probation fees.

One count of domestic battery committed in the presence of a child, a Level 6 felony, was dismissed.

Morris was charged with battering a female at the Bluffton residence they shared in an argument over child custody June 17, 2022.

Terry Smith Jr., 33, Bluffton, pleaded guilty to operating a vehicle with a Schedule I or II controlled substance or its metabolite in his body, a Class C misdemeanor.

Ordered to pay a \$200 Countermeasures fee and court costs of \$185.50.

As part of a plea agreement, charges of possession of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor; driving while suspended, a Class A infraction; and failure to signal lane change or turn, a Class C infraction, were all dismissed.

On Nov. 9, 2020, while on patrol a sheriff's deputy spotted a vehicle ahead of

him fail to signal a turn from 100E to 100N. He pulled the vehicle over.

During the course of speaking with Smith, the deputy discovered that Smith had a suspended driver's license. Smith reportedly admitted to the deputy he was in possession of marijuana and handed the deputy a pack of cigarettes that contained two hand-rolled marijuana cigarettes. Smith admitted to having smoked marijuana earlier in the day, although he passed field sobriety tests.

Zackery Allen McDowell, 27, Bluffton, violated probation by being arrested in Bartholomew County for failing to register as a sex offender; by using alcohol Sept. 28, 2022, and alcohol and THC — the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana — Oct. 11, 2022; testing positive for alcohol use Nov. 12, 2022; using cocaine and alcohol Dec. 13; and failing to comply with the counseling requirement of his sentence.

Ordered to serve 120 days in the Wells County

Jail. Upon completion of his term of incarceration, his probation will terminate as unsuccessful.

McDowell was originally sentenced Nov. 29, 2021, on one count of failure of a sex or violent offender to possess identification, a Level 6 felony.

Contract to withhold prosecution/pre-trial diversion entered for Tamara S. Slater, 44, Bluffton, charged with driving while suspended with a prior conviction for the same offense, a Class A misdemeanor; possession of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor; possession of drug paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor; operating a motor vehicle without insurance, a Class A infraction; and operating a motor vehicle with a fictitious license plate, operating a motor vehicle with an expired license plate; and failure to change name or address on driver's license, all Class C infractions.

The duration of the contract is 12 months. If Slater

(Continued on Page 10)

Bluffton Parks & Rec News & Notes



By Brandy Fiechter

Destination Recreation

Wow! We had so much fun last weekend at the Mother/Son Nerf War and the Daddy-Daughter Dance. It was a very long day for us, but worth it when you saw the smiles on everyone's faces. Special thanks to our volunteer crew, who, between everyone's time, put in about 60 hours of work.

The Earth Day 5K is coming back this year and will be held on Saturday, April 22, at 9 a.m. Enjoy a no-frills, no-fuss, inexpensive 5K race while we care for the planet. In honor of Earth Day, we will recycle old event shirts & SWAG by giving them away until they're gone. No plastic water bottles, no new race bibs, and no extra waste for this event. We will be giving away live plants for the overall and age group awards. Registration is OPEN at <https://raceroster.com/events/2023/71581/earth-day-5k>.

We started a new event called **Restful Yoga** with Debi on Thursday nights at the Washington Park Pavilion at 6:45 p.m. This restorative yoga class allows you to hold poses for 3 to 5 minutes using blankets, bolsters, and blocks. It is DEEP relaxation for the body and mind, with tension-relieving exercises. Bring your yoga mat, blanket, and bolster if you have one. The cost is \$5.

Join us for our special **Toddler Time Post Office Tour** on Thursday, March 2. Come to the City Gym by 11 a.m.; we will walk over together and arrive by 11:15 to see a behind-the-scenes look at the mail room. This is a FREE drop-in event.

The Bluffton City Gym is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 11-noon for you to bring your tots and burn off some energy until the end of March. This free drop-in program allows young children to play with others their age in a large open space. Balls will be available in the storage closet at the East end of the gym when we hear the children arrive. Please note that this is not a staff-facilitated event, and parents are responsible for their children.

If your child enjoys building with Legos, don't miss your chance to sign them up for the **Lego Tower Challenge** on March 7th from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Bluffton City Gym. This is a FREE event for kids ages 7 and up who will face off in a team-building challenge to see who can build the tallest and most stable Lego Tower. You must pre-register for this event by emailing events@blufftonindiana.gov or calling 824-6069.

We have a lot to be thankful for this week. We want to thank the First Bank of Berne and AdamsWells Internet-Telecom-TV for supporting Rock Steady Boxing Bluffton AND the Bluffton Parks Wellness Events. They are helping to keep our community moving.

We also want to thank the Huggins-Mann Pretzels Legacy Fund, which blesses our department with unrestricted donations each year to help us tackle our never-ending list of projects.

We want to thank the following for their generous donations to support the Kehoe Concert Series: PROFED Credit Union who will be a Title Sponsor for the season and to National Oil & Gas, Inc.; Bluffton Roofing Co.; Honegger, Ringer & Co., Inc.; Phil & Sue Swain, and the Howard & Beverly Rich Endowment Fund. Donations are still being accepted at the Wells County Foundation until March 15 if you want to help support this series.

The Lancaster Park Project is out to bid. Anyone interested in submitting for this project can find the information at <https://distribution.easternengineering.com/View/MultiPlanroomJobList.aspx> or review it in the office of the Construction Manager, James S. Jackson Company. A pre-bid meeting is scheduled for 2 p.m. at James S. Jackson Company, 304 West Market St. Ste. 100, Bluffton, IN 46714, on Feb. 28, 2023.

Have a great week!

Indiana lawmakers discard immigrant driving cards proposal

By TOM DAVIES Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Indiana lawmakers have sidelined a proposal that would have allowed immigrants living in the country illegally to obtain state-issued cards giving them permission to drive.

A state Senate committee had endorsed the bill in early February. But it failed to advance through another committee before a deadline this week for action.

The bill aimed to establish driver privilege cards that are already issued in several other states. The proposal would have had Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles issue the cards to immigrants who pass the state's driving test, have paid Indiana taxes in the past year, submitted to a fingerprint background check and provide proof of auto insurance.

Immigrant advocates cheered the Homeland Security and Transportation Committee's support for the bill after similar proposals introduced over the past decade were never taken up in the Republican-dominated Legislature. The bill, however, didn't gain Senate

Appropriations Committee approval, which was needed because of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles' estimated \$1.4 million cost to develop the new license.

VISITATION & SERVICES

Harold D. Wheeler

Calling: 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. Sunday, February 26.
Service: 2 p.m., Sunday, February 26 at the funeral home.

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Getting older in more ways than one

There's no question that I am increasingly

earning the classification of an "old guy." Many of my friends are five or 10 years older and will scoff at that. They often remind me that I still don't have a clue. Maybe that's why I hang around them. But I digress already.

The point is, at 72, I seem to be feeling those aches and pains just a little more with each passing month. I did not understand 99 percent of the Super Bowl commercials. And I am also, it seems, increasingly qualified to be considered an "old Republican."

I have heard that this may date back to when Richard Lugar lost his re-election bid 10 years ago, but the latest chapter of how things are changing started when our Congressional Representative, Jim Banks, declared his candidacy for the Indiana U.S. Senate seat that Mike Braun is vacating in order to run for governor. There was immediate speculation that former Gov. Mitch Daniels was also going to run. I followed the news mostly in the national media while traveling; the Wall Street Journal opined that such a race would be "a productive exercise" — it would be a contest between the "old Republicans" and the "new Republicans."

Although we were not home to witness them, I understand there were some TV commercials that cast Daniels in a negative light, saying — among other things — that at his age (73), it might be time to retire. Daniels, as you may remember, made it one of his principles to never run a negative ad against his political opponents. That's one irony, the other being that these same folks have no problem with their preferred candidate for president in 2024 being 78 years old by the time he would ascend to the throne. But again, I digress.

The ad was paid for by the Club for Growth, an Indiana-based political action committee led by David McIntosh who later wrote a letter-to-the-editor rebuttal to the WSJ that distorted Daniels' record only in the manner that used to be reserved for Democratic opponents. Welcome to, apparently, the new Republican Party.

I prefer the old. It fought for balanced budgets and responsible spending. It once eliminated Congressional earmarks that allows senators and representatives to get federal money spent on pet projects in their home districts that will help them get re-elected. The practice was voted back in by a secret-ballot vote more than a year ago.

The old party stood for family values and something called open government. I've made repeated requests over the past two weeks or more to Banks' Congressional and re-election offices as to how he voted on earmarks in November 2021. No response yet. Not even a "none of your business." Which is what I take no response to mean.

Another digression: As I was doing my final tweaks to this column Friday afternoon, George Will's column arrived in my email. I could not help but chuckle at one of his timely side-notes: "Affability can ruin a Republican's reputation with the party's surly base."

As you are probably aware, Daniels has decided not to run. The state-level contributors to our Opinion page have ruminated on that sufficiently, his reasons being instructive as to the declining relevancy and effectiveness of Congress itself as well as the state of the "new" Republican Party — indeed, the state of our union. Last week on this page, one of our conservative national columnists reflected on how the "MAGA world attack" on Daniels should be an early "alarm bell" for the Republican Party. I will not re-hash their conclusions.

I have been an unabashed Daniels fan since his tenure, during which I was fortunate to have a number of one-on-one conversations. While not agreeing with everything he did, his record of actually accomplishing things in Indianapolis and at Purdue is remarkable. He was my write-in candidate in the past two presidential elections when I could not in good conscience vote for what our political parties determined to be their best candidates.

Meanwhile, I have become less and less a fan of Jim Banks. I believe Jim Banks is a good person, but he has become an even better politician. He knows which way the Indiana Republican wind blows and it blows towards the altar of Donald Trump.

Equally troubling is the trickle-down tendencies of this "new" Republican Party to the state and even our local levels, characterized for example by a) the state party's nomination of a secretary of state candidate — who was subsequently elected — with whom comparisons can be made to the George Santos fiasco and b) those online references back in January that Bluffton shouldn't be so inclusive, which would then mean it is desired to be exclusive. And without having "insider" information but rather as a citizen just paying attention, it appears that the "new" is making an effort to push out, or at least marginalize, the "old."

If the 2022 mid-term election taught us anything, it is that the Republican Party needs to move on from 2020, which is an ironic thing to say about something tagged to be "new."

That is part of the topsy-turvy world we live in, a world which may give us the same presidential choices in 2024 that we had in 2020. That would mean another write-in vote. Because I'm old.

miller@news-banner.com

Saturday's Sub



Mark Miller



What Ron DeSantis got right — and wrong — on Ukraine

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) is a professed admirer of Ronald Reagan and is launching his national book tour with a speech at the Reagan presidential library next month. That's good because not since the 1980s has the world needed Reaganite leadership more.

Here at home, President Joe Biden's disastrous policies have unleashed the worst inflation in four decades, while abroad an expansionist Russia has invaded one of its neighbors — and a "no limits" partnership between Moscow and Beijing threatens the peace and stability of the free world. Many hope DeSantis will be the leader who can pull the country out of its malaise and make it "Morning in America" again. Which is why the governor's "Fox & Friends" interview on Monday on Ukraine was so disappointing. DeSantis' first foray into foreign policy as a potential 2024 standard-bearer was less than fully Reaganesque.

Let's start with what he got right. DeSantis said: "I don't think any of this would have happened [in Ukraine], but for the weakness that the president showed during his first year in office, culminating, of course, in the disastrous withdrawal in Afghanistan." His critique of the reason Vladimir Putin invaded is spot-on: After Biden's unconditional surrender to the Taliban in 2021, the Russian tyrant decided he could get away with seizing Ukraine on the watch of a weak U.S. president.

DeSantis went on: "I think it would behoove them to identify what is the strategic objective that they're trying to achieve, but just saying it's an open-ended blank check, that is not acceptable." DeSantis is right that Biden has not identified a "strategic objective" in Ukraine. The president has said that the United States will support Ukraine for "as long as it takes." While that might sound resolute, things are actually taking much longer than necessary because Biden is fecklessly slow-rolling military aid to Ukraine.

Biden waited more than nine months to give Ukraine just one Patriot air-defense system, allowing Putin to shell 214 schools and 683 hospitals and clinics, by CBS News's count, causing untold civilian deaths. Kyiv had to beg for months for advanced artillery, tanks and armored vehicles. And Biden still refuses to give the Ukrainians the longer-range missiles and F-16 fighters they need to push Russia out of the territory it has unlawfully seized. This refusal is a recipe not for victory but for a protracted stalemate.

It is one thing if by his blank-check statement DeSantis means that the United States needs a clear

strategy to bring the war to a successful conclusion. But it is something else if he is saying that the time has come to pull the plug on further aid, as some on the neo-isolationist right advocate.

When asked about Biden's surprise visit to Kyiv, DeSantis had an un-Reaganesque response: "While he's over there, I think I and many Americans are thinking to ourselves: OK, he's very concerned about those borders halfway around the world. He's not done anything to secure our own border here at home. We've had millions and millions of people pour in, tens of thousands of Americans dead because of fentanyl, and then, of course, we just suffered a national humiliation of having China fly a spy balloon clear across the continental United States."

DeSantis is right that Biden's failure to secure our southern border is a disgrace, as was his weak response to China's brazen incursion into U.S. airspace. But it does not follow from Biden's failure to secure our border and skies that we should not support the Ukrainian people in their courageous fight for freedom. We need a president with the focus and energy to do both.

DeSantis declared: "These things can escalate, and I don't think it's in our interests to be getting into a proxy war with China, getting involved over things like the borderlands or over Crimea." Actually, the real escalation risk comes not from helping Ukraine defend its borders but from a failure to do so. If the Russian invasion of Ukraine was a failure of deterrence, as DeSantis correctly claims, how much bigger a deterrence failure would it be if China saw Putin succeed in Ukraine? A Russian victory would make it more, not less, likely that China invades Taiwan. If we want peace in the Pacific, we need to stop Putin in Ukraine.

Too many so-called conservatives today are emulating the Democrats of Reagan's time — embracing defense cuts, opposing aid to freedom fighters, and wringing their hands that standing up for liberty could provoke our enemies and unleash World War III. We need a leader who will embrace the Reagan Doctrine, restore Reagan's policies of peace through strength, and make clear that this new cold war will end the way the last one did: "We win, they lose."

Is Ron DeSantis that leader? He'll have another chance to tell us on March 5 at the Reagan library.

Marc A. Thiessen is on Twitter, @marcthiessen.



Marc Thiessen

Biden's push to radicalize the federal bureaucracy

It's the most radical act President Joe Biden has undertaken that almost no one is talking about.

He issued an executive order last week to basically create a five-year plan for the implementation of diversity, equity, and inclusion across a huge swath of government agencies.

In a push for so-called equity so shockingly far-reaching that, not so long ago, a "woke" diversity officer wouldn't have attempted it at even the most progressive liberal arts college, Biden is pushing to make the federal government a frank instrument of a racialized radicalism.

Least there be any mistake, Section 4 of the order is titled, "Embedding Equity into Government-wide Processes." The administration's policy, according to the order, is "to advance an ambitious, whole-of-government approach to racial equity and support for underserved communities."

For the uninitiated, equity might sound benign, but it is different from traditional notions of equality. It involves tilting the playing field on the basis of race and other characteristics and seeking equal outcomes no matter what. It's as if Biden has made the "anti-racist" writer Ibram X. Kendi the head of his Office of Personnel Management.

The new order, like so much of the left's projects in 21st century America, is equally sinister and parodic.

The heads of federal departments



Rich Lowry

and agencies are commanded to establish Agency Equity Teams within 30 days. This edict runs all the way from the most prestigious and powerful departments, such as Treasury and Defense, to NASA and the National Science Foundation.

Biden does not actually call for five-year plans in his latest order — it's more urgent than that.

Agency heads will have to submit an annual "Equity Action Plan" to a newly created White House Steering Committee on Equity, which, if we want to continue the Soviet analogy, will be the DEI equivalent of Gosplan.

It is to be led by the assistant to the president for domestic policy, who is none other than controversial former Barack Obama official Susan Rice.

Agency heads, by the way, are ordered to "prioritize and incorporate strategies to advance equity" into "individual performance plans for senior executives."

Indoctrination within the government will continue apace, the agency equity teams "shall support continued equity training and equity leadership development for staff across all levels of the agency's workforce."

There's an amusing Orwellian rhetorical tic in the order's references to "equity for all." At one point the edict says that the "term 'equity' means the consistent and systematic treatment of all individuals in a fair, just, and impartial manner."

It then goes on to list all the specific groups who deserve to be treated

"equitably," beginning with "Black, Latino, Indigenous and Native American, Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander persons and other persons of color."

All of this is insidious. The federal bureaucracy is already known for its Democratic leanings, so getting it to embrace the latest left-wing fashion shouldn't be a heavy lift. Regardless, with a nomenklatura empowered from on high to insist on this priority, anyone who is not on board will be intimidated into staying silent, or simply leave for another job.

Obviously, some of the departments and agencies involved are enormously powerful, and their workings shouldn't be skewed by ideology. Is the Department of Justice, for instance, supposed to try to adjust the FBI's arrests to achieve greater demographic balance?

These entities aren't private colleges that students are voluntarily attending, knowing that they are in for indoctrination. They are meant to serve the public at large. Biden is changing, or at least distorting their missions, and diverting some portion of their resources to a goal never authorized — or imagined — by Congress.

This shouldn't stand. Every Republican running for president should promise to tear up this ideological infrastructure root and branch on day one.

It's bad enough that the federal government is a blundering behemoth, but if Joe Biden gets his way, Leviathan is about to become thoroughly and determinedly "woke."

Rich Lowry is on Twitter @RichLowry

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Call to Worship

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APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH - NORTH
630 E. Dustman Rd.
9:45 & 11:45 a.m. - Worship.

ASBURY CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST
8013 W.-1100S.-90,
Montpelier
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:30 - Worship.

BETHEL
(Independent Bible)
4500E-300S, Bluffton
9 a.m. - Sunday School.
10 a.m. - Worship.

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMS
6114E-750N, Ossian
bethlehemossian.org
9 a.m. - Divine Service.
10:15 - Adult Bible Class,
Youth Bible Class & Sunday School.
11:30 - Voice of Bethlehem on 92.7 FM.

BLUFFTON CHURCH OF GOD
327 W. Cherry St.
10 a.m. - Sunday School.
11 a.m. - Worship.
6 p.m. - Service.

BOEHMER UNITED METHODIST
3467 S 600 W,
Liberty Center
boehmerumc.org
9:30 a.m. - Worship.
10:45 - Sunday School.

CALVARY LUTHERAN, ELCA
1532 N. Main St.
9 a.m. - Worship.

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BLUFFTON WESLEYAN CHAPEL
(Independent Holiness Church)
1309 W. Washington St.
blufftonwesleyan.net
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:30 & 6:30 p.m. - Worship.

CHESTER CENTER
900S-300W, Poneto
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:30 - Worship.

CHRISTIAN NEW LIGHT
1011 W. Washington St.
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:30 - Worship.
6 p.m. - Praise & worship.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
735 S. Marion St.
10 a.m. - Bible Study.
10:45 - Worship.

COVENANT CHAPEL
3550 S. SR 1
mycovenantchapel.org
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:15 - Worship.
(Children's Church for ages 6-12).

DILLMAN UNITED BRETHREN
8888S-1100W-90,
Warren
9 a.m. - Worship.
10 a.m. - Sunday School.

DOMESTIC CHURCH OF CHRIST
9 a.m. - Sunday school.
10 a.m. - Church service.

EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST
1204 W. Cherry St.
9:30 a.m. - Worship.
10:40 a.m. - Sunday School.

FAIRVIEW CHURCH OF GOD
5511 W. Yoder Rd., Yoder
fairviewlife.com
9 a.m. - Sunday School.
10 a.m. - Worship.

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST
210 W. Townley
fbc-bluffton.com
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:30 - Worship.

FIRST BAPTIST
202 W. Cherry St.
fbcbluffton.com
10:15 - Worship.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF OSSIAN
1001 Dehner Dr.
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:30 a.m. - Worship.
6:30 - Service.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST
909 W. Spring St.
FCCfamily.com
9:30 & 11 a.m. - Worship.

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
1515 Clark Ave.
blufftonnazarene.org
9 a.m. - Sunday School.
9-10 a.m. - Free ESL classes.
10:15 - Worship.
6 p.m. - Service.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
215 E. Dustman Rd.
firstpcbbluffton.org
9:30 a.m. - Children/youth & Adult Sunday School.
10:30 - Worship.

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF BLUFFTON
301 W. Cherry St.
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:30 - Worship.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
325 W. Washington St.
9:30 a.m. - Worship.
10:45 - Sunday School.

FORGIVEN CHURCH
1409 S. Main St.
forgivenonline.org
9 a.m. - Worship.

Time to Take a Devotional Break

THINGS SIN WILL ALWAYS DO

Several weeks ago, our pastor referenced the life of Samson when he shared this message. Samson's birth and mission was that of a Nazirite, dedicated to the divine work of beginning to rescue God's people from the oppression of the Philistines (Judges 13:5). In his capacity as God's holy servant, Samson was never to cut his hair or to drink wine. As he grew through early life into adulthood, God moved in his life, and Samson ultimately served as Israel's judge for a period of twenty turbulent years.

Few individuals today are given such specific guidance as they seek to follow after Christ. The salvation covenant made possible by the death of Jesus is based solely on our faith in His sacrificial death for us, replacing the rules and regulations of Old Testament sacrifices. However, the lure of sin that often distracted Samson from his mission is just as powerful in our lives today, and its outcome can impact us forever.

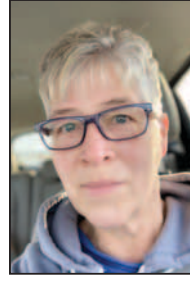
First, **sin will take you further than you want to go.** Much like today's society, life in Samson's time was one in which "every man did what was right

in their own eyes. (Judges 21:25)" Hundreds of years after the life of Samson, the apostle Paul said that even when he wanted to do right, his sinful nature led him far away (Romans 7:19). Disobedience to God's guidance will always take us further from Him.

Secondly, **sin will keep you longer than you want to stay.** The definition of sin is "missing the mark," and this means that our refusal to accept God's rulership in our lives will darken our spiritual eyes, keeping us blindly groping for our version of the Truth - sometimes for a lifetime.

Finally, **sin will cost you more than you are willing to pay.** The excitement and pleasure of following our own path presents only the illusion of freedom, while we still remain in bondage to Satan's domination. Eventually, the wages of sin takes our very soul, separating us from God forever (Romans 6:23).

Sin can and will never keep its promises. Instead, as in the life of Samson, it seeks to destroy and separate mankind from his Creator. Jesus has already paid the price for sin. Don't let it charge you twice!
mpaxson99@yahoo.com



by Martha Paxson

Praise & Worship

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN (EVANGELICAL)
123 S. Jefferson St., Ossian
www.OssianChurch.com
8:45 a.m. - Sunday school.
10 a.m. - Worship.

GRACE BAPTIST
1621 S. 350 E.
Stogdill Rd. Ext.
gbcbuffton.com
9 a.m. - Sunday School.
10 a.m. & 6 p.m. - Worship.

HARVEST TIME BIBLE
11015S-600E, Keystone
9:10 a.m. - Prayer.
10 a.m. - Worship.

HOPE MISSIONARY
429 E. Dustman Rd.
hope4thefamily.com
8 a.m., 9:30 & 11 a.m. - Service at Main Campus.
9:30 & 11 a.m. - Service, north campus, Ossian.

KEYSTONE CHURCH
10556S-200W
9:30 a.m. - Worship.
10:30 - Sunday School.

LANCASTER CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST
4510 E 400N, Craigville
9 a.m. - Sunday School.
9:40 - Fellowship.
10 a.m. - Worship.

LIBERTY CENTER COMMUNITY CHURCH
8:45 a.m. - Choir practice.
9 a.m. - Coffee, donuts, conversation.
9:30 - Worship w/infant nursery & children's church.
10:45 - Sunday School.

LIFE COMMUNITY
428 S. Oak St.
lifecommunity.net
10:30 a.m. - Service (Children's programs available).

LIBERTY CENTER BAPTIST
3071 W. Cherry St.
8:30 a.m. - Pastor/Deacon's Prayer.
9 - Sunday School.
9:55 - Fellowship.
10:15 - Worship.

LIVING FAITH MISSIONARY
17718 Bluffton Rd., Yoder
10 a.m. - Worship.
11:30 - Sunday School.

LIVING WATER UNITED CHURCH
6486 S 700E, Bluffton
8:45-9 a.m. - Prayer.
9 a.m. - Sunday School.
10 a.m. - Worship.

MARKLE CHAPEL HILL SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
470 E. Morse St.
Saturday: 9:30 a.m. - Worship.
10:45 - Sabbath School (Bible study).

MARKLE CHURCH OF CHRIST
455 E. Morse St.
marklechurch.org
9 a.m. - Adult Bible study groups.
10:30 - Worship.
Children's & student programming both hours.

MARKLE UNITED METHODIST
145 W. Morse St.
9 a.m. - Sunday Service.
10 a.m. - Worship.

M McNATT UNITED METHODIST
9221 W 800S-90,
Montpelier
8:30 a.m. - Coffee fellowship.
9:15 - Worship.

MURRAY MISSIONARY
1117 N. Washington St., Murray
murraymc.org
9:30 a.m. - Worship.
11 a.m. - Sunday School.

NEW BEGINNING
2187 W. SR 218
10 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:30 - Worship.

NEW HOPE LUTHERAN
(Missouri Synod)
8824 N. SR 1, Ossian
newhopelutheran-ossian.webs.com
9 a.m. - Sunday School & Adult Bible study.
10 a.m. - Worship.

NOTTINGHAM
1100 S. SR 1
9:30 - Sunday School.
10:30 & 6 p.m. - Worship.

OSSIAN CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
302 N. Metts St.
ossiannaz.org
9:15 a.m. - Bible study.
10:30 - Service.

OSSIAN UNITED METHODIST
201 W. Mill St.
ossianumc.org
9 a.m. - Worship, Worship child care nurse.
10 a.m. - Fellowship.
10:15 - Adult Sunday School.

PARK COMMUNITY
617 S. Bennett St.
blog.parkub.org
10 a.m. - Connection.
11 a.m. - Worship.

PETROLEUM COMMUNITY CHURCH
3625 E. 2nd St.
9 a.m. - Worship.
10:30 - Sunday School.

PONETO BAPTIST
Grape Street
8:30 a.m. - Sunday School.
9 a.m. - Worship.

PONETO UNITED METHODIST
36 E. Walnut St.
9 a.m. - Worship.
10 a.m. - Fellowship.
10:15 - Sunday School.

RIVER OF HOPE
1224 W. Central
11 a.m. - Worship & the Word.

RIVER OF LIFE
927 N. Main St.
10:30 a.m. - Worship.

SIX MILE
4790 SE SR 116
9 a.m. - Sunday School.
10 a.m. - Worship.

SONLIGHT WESLEYAN
2350 S. SR 1
sonlightwesleyan.org
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School.
10:30 - Worship.
Nursery & Children's classes available during Sunday School & Worship.

SOUTHERN WELLS COMMUNITY CHURCH
9450 S 300 W, Poneto
9 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship.

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC
1300 N. Main St.
Saturday: 7:45 a.m. - Prayer.
8 a.m. - Mass.
8:30 - Rosary.
4 p.m. or by appointment - Confessions.
5 p.m. - Mass.
Sunday: 7:30 & 10 a.m. - Mass.

ST. LUKE CHURCH
4960W-100N, Decatur
stlukechurch.in
9 a.m. - Worship.
10:15 - Sunday School.

ST. MARK EV. LUTHERAN
16933 Thiele Rd.
stmarkfw.org
8:45 a.m. - Sunday School.
10 a.m. - Worship.

TOWER LIFE CENTER
11811 N. Wayne St., Zanesville
towerlifecenter.com
9:30 a.m. - TLC Groups.
10:30 - Worship.

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN (NALC)
5912 N. Sugar St., Uniondale
10 a.m. - Worship.
10:15 - Children's Sunday School.

TURNPOINTE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
500 W. Logan, Markle
turnpointechurch.com
9:30 a.m. - Fellowship.
10 a.m. - Adult & Children's Worship.

UNIONDALE UNITED METHODIST
5867 N. Main St.
www.uniondaleumc.com
9 a.m. - Worship.

UNIONTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST
11419 N-200W, Ossian
9 a.m. - Sunday School.
10 a.m. - Worship.

VERA CRUZ FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER CCCU
2771 SE Mulberry St., Vera Cruz
9-10 a.m. - Sunday School.
10-10:30 - Fellowship.
10:30 - Worship.

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH
205 S. Adams St., Monroe
9 a.m. - Worship.
10:15 - Discipleship for adults & children.

ZANESVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF GOD
11984 N. Marzane Rd.
9 a.m. - Bible Class.
10 a.m. - Worship.

ZANESVILLE UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST
3092 W. Broadway
9 a.m. - Sunday School.
10 a.m. - Worship.

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• Drop information at 125 N. Johnson St. in Bluffton

McBride hits free throws with 0.8 left to defeat Spartans

By RYAN WALKER

Norwell escaped in dramatic fashion over Homestead Friday night on Luke McBride's pair of free throws with 0.8 seconds left for a 48-46 victory.

"(This win) It's going to give us a ton of confidence," head coach Mike McBride said after the game. "There's a lot of confidence because, you know, that's a great basketball team, and they're going to compete at the 4A sectional and potentially regional here coming up."

The win by the Knight's (20-3) over a Fort Wayne power club came after Norwell's first real speed bump of the season. Norwell had narrowly defeated Jay County on the road by one point and lost to Concordia by 10 at home.

In those two games, a team that specializes in shooting from beyond the arc, shot eight of 40 (20 percent). Surprisingly enough, the team struggled to find a scoring rhythm, but that narrative changed quickly Friday night.

Despite missing five straight shots to start the game, the Knights got on the board with a triple from Luke McBride to tie it at four. A minute later, Jake Parker nailed a three to take the lead.

What happened in the last three minutes of the first quarter was a three-point clinic. Norwell got four straight that started with McBride, who hit two in a row. Ashton Federspiel made the third one at 1:03, and Cohen Bailey set the roof off with a corner triple on the next possession.

By the end of the first quarter, Norwell had a commanding 19-6 lead.

"We got off to a really good start defensively No. 1 because we held them down to start the game, and

then offensively, we took good shots, and we were able to knock their shots in," McBride said.

Unfortunately, the Knights' six threes ended up being only six of their seven for the night, allowing for Homestead to slowly but surely inch closer.

To begin the third, Luke McBride was just three points away from breaking the all-time scoring record in Norwell school history and Wells County.

At the 7:06 mark, he tied Darin Archbold with 1,811 points, and just under two minutes later, the senior drove toward the lane, went near baseline on the other side of the court, and nailed a mid-range jump shot to take the 35-year-old record.

"It means a lot," Luke said. "To be the top Norwell scorer and especially with the great players that we've had here in this program over the years. I just tried to work on my game the best that I could, and I was really determined to be the best player that I could be, and it just means a lot."

Norwell had an 11-point lead when he hit the shot, but there was still a hungry Homestead bunch that was ready to spoil the party.

John Parent hit a three a minute later, followed by another by Jake Sermersheim to cut into the lead. The Spartans held the ball for the final shot in the third quarter, which paid off by a made and one by Kyron Kaopuiki. The lead was down to seven points heading into the final period.

Homestead continued its slow march back to get within striking distance. The clock read 28 seconds remaining when Alex Graber hit his only shot in the game, but a big one that tied the Spartans with the AP Class 3A Knights.

Norwell elected not to use a timeout and let the offense roll for a potential game-winner. McBride, at the top of the key, drove past his man and went towards the basket with four seconds left, avoiding two swiping hands just past the free-throw line. By the time he went up for a shot near the left block, three Spartan defenders crashed in and prevented a made bucket, but a foul with 0.8 remaining gave the Knights a chance to seal the game.

McBride hit the pair of free throws under intense pressure. Trying not to put a damper on a record-breaking night at home, Senior Night, and a 13-year drought since Norwell last beat Homestead was on the line.

"Luke made a really good play," Mike McBride said. "He went like he was going to take the shot, but they kind of lifted up, so he hesitated, and off the hesitation, he was able to punch through a seam, and as he went up, you can see he got hit on the arm, and that got him to the free throw line."

The Spartans' final heave down the court was deflected by Parker, and the Knights finished off the regular season on a high note. With the sectional looming, the real work begins now.

"What's key is that we've got an experienced group of guys that can recognize 'OK, this isn't the end. We've got more work to do. Now the postseason work starts,'" he said.

Norwell's first-round matchup at Peru High School starts at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 1, against Northwestern.

Homestead won the junior varsity game 50-42. Kaedyn Quintanilla scored 15 points to lead the Knights and Adam McBride added



Norwell's Luke Graft (left) goes up for a shot near the basket over Homestead's Tucker Day (right) in the Knights' 48-46 win at The Castle. (Photo by Glen Werling)

10. sports@news-banner.com

NORWELL 48, HOMESTEAD 46, At Norwell High School
HOMESTEAD (17-7): Will Jamison 9-17 4-8 23, John Parent 4-7 0-2 10, Jake Sermersheim 2-5 0-0 6, Kyron Kaopuiki 1-5 0-0 3, Grant Leeper 1-1 0-0 2, Alex Graber 1-3 0-0 2, Tucker Day 0-0 0-0 0, Nic Gallagher 0-0 0-0 0.

TOTALS: 18-38 4-11 46.
NORWELL (20-3): Luke McBride 6-12 9-10 24, Cohen Bailey 3-4 0-0 7, Ashton Federspiel 2-3 0-0 5, Jake Parker 1-5 1-2 4, Gavin Hoepfner 1-1 0-0 3, Luke Graft 1-3 1-3 3, Lleyton Bailey 0-4 2-2 2, Brody Bolyn 0-1 0-2 0.
TOTALS: 14-33 13-19 48.
Homestead 6 8 16 16 — 46
Norwell 19 10 8 11 — 48
 Three-point FG: Homestead 4-11 (Parent 2-5, Sermersheim 2-5,

Kaopuiki 1-4, Jamison 1-6, Graber 0-1), Norwell 7-14 (McBride 3-6, Hoepfner 1-1, Parker 1-1, C. Bailey 1-1, Federspiel 1-1, L. Bailey 0-3).
 Rebounds: Homestead 13 (Leeper 3, Sermersheim 3, Day 2, Jamison 1, Kaopuiki 1, Parent 1, Graber 1), Norwell 24 (McBride 8, Graft 6, Parker 4, C. Bailey 3, L. Bailey 2, Bolyn 1).
 Turnovers: Homestead 5, Norwell 10.
 Fouls: Homestead 18, Norwell 16.
 Fouled Out: None. Technicals: None.

High School Calendar

SATURDAY, Feb. 25

No events scheduled.

MONDAY, Feb. 27

No events scheduled.

TUESDAY, Feb. 28

BOYS BASKETBALL: (sectional) Southern Wells vs. Canterbury at Southwood, 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, Mar. 1

BOYS BASKETBALL: (sectional) Bluff-

ton vs. Manchester at South Adams, 6 p.m.; Norwell vs. Northwestern at Peru, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, Mar. 2

No events scheduled.

FRIDAY, Mar. 3

No events scheduled.

SATURDAY, Mar. 4

No events scheduled.

Tigers drop season finale on the road against Cowan

By RICK SPRUNGER

WABASH — It's tough to win a game when the other team shoots 60 percent.

But that's pretty much what Southwood did in an 83-54 regular season-ending win over Bluffton Friday night.

The Knights (10-12) were actually one bucket away from 60 percent, finishing 36-for-61 for a white-hot .590 percentage.

"Well, yeah," said Bluffton coach Karl Grau after the game, "but that's because so many of their shots were layups off our turnovers."

That, too, is true.

Bluffton committed 26 turnovers, most of them of the live-ball variety, that Southwood turned into numerous runouts.

The Tigers didn't shoot all that bad themselves, connecting on 22 of 46 shots for a solid .479 — but they didn't shoot enough times due to all of those turnovers.

Southwood scored the first seven points of the game and then played Bluffton on roughly even terms for the rest of the first half, taking a 32-23 lead into the locker room at halftime.

It was still just 42-32 midway through the third quarter after a run of seven straight Bluffton points on a pair of free throws and a baseline jumper by Hunter Wenger, and a three-pointer by Kaden Grau.

But that was when South-

wood really began to run away and hide.

Will Winer scored from underneath, then swiped the ball at midcourt and cashed in a pair of free throws.

Grau answered with another three.

But Cole Winer hit a layup, Bryce Wilcox put back an offensive rebound, Lehner got another steal and layup, and Winer buried a three from the corner to make it 54-35 in front of a wound-up Southwood crowd on Senior Night.

Tucker Jenkins silenced the crowd momentarily with another Bluffton three.

But a rebound bucket by Winer to end the period, a Wilcox putback to start the fourth quarter, and yet another steal and layup by Lehner made it 60-38 and had the Knights feeling it.

"I think frustration had a lot to do with it," said the elder Grau later. "We weren't making cuts quick enough to get where we needed to be, and guys were getting frustrated and just throwing the ball. Things just snowballed on us, particularly in the second half. We needed to be a little more patient."

Southwood placed all five starters in double figures.

Cole Winer scored a game-high 22 points, followed by Lehner with 17, Will Winer with 11, and Dylan Stout and Jason Oprisek each with 10.

Jenkins was the only

Bluffton player in double figures with 18.

Southwood made it a clean sweep with a 54-37 victory in the junior varsity game and a 45-32 win in the C-team contest.

Bluffton's jayvees were led by Declan Greiser with 12 points while Kade Abbett, Nolan Lambert, and Ben Maggard each added six, Jordan Fear five, and Cameron Williams two.

The Tiger C-teamers got 10 points from Trey Bustos, eight from Eli Bertsch, six from Marshall Gerber, three apiece from Coleson Teeple and Owen Lesh, and two from Landon Daniel.

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SOUTHWOOD 83, BLUFFTON 54
at Southwood High School
BLUFFTON (2-19): Sam Baumgartner 1-4 0-0 2, Kaden Grau 3-11 0-0 8, A.J. Strevler 3-7 1-2 8, Hunter Wenger 3-8 2-4 8, Tucker Jenkins 8-11 0-2 18, Fletcher Wenger 0-0 0-0 0, Eli Garrett 0-1 0-0 0, Nolan Lambert 0-0 0-0 0, Declan Greiser 2-2 0-0 5, Kaleb Green 1-1 0-0 2, Hutch Craighead 1-1 0-0 3. **TOTAL:** 22-46 3-8 54.
SOUTHWOOD (10-12): Will Winer 4-7 3-6 11, Nathan Lehner 8-14 1-3 17, Dylan Stout 5-10 0-0 10, Jason Oprisek 5-7 0-1 10, Cole Winer 8-13 2-2 22, Jaret Denney 1-2 0-0 2, Bryce Wilcox 3-6 0-0 6, Caleb Wyatt 1-1 2-3, Randy Boone 1-1 0-0 2, Griffin Chambers 0-0 0-0 0. **TOTAL:** 36-61 7-14 83.
Bluffton 12 11 15 16 — 54
Southwood 19 13 24 27 — 83
 Three-point shooting: Bluffton 7-21 (Baumgartner 0-1, Grau 2-8, Strevler 1-5, H. Wenger 0-2, Jenkins 2-2, Garrett 0-1, Grieser 1-1, Craighead 1-1), Southwood 4-15 (Lehner 0-5, Stout 0-1, C. Winer 4-8, Denney 0-1).
 Rebounds: Bluffton 23 (H. Wenger 6, Jenkins 5), Southwood 29 (Wilcox 9, C. Winer 5).
 Turnovers: Bluffton 26, Southwood 15. Personal fouls: Bluffton 10, Southwood 7. Fouled out: None. Technical fouls: None. Junior Varsity: Southwood 54, Bluffton 37.
 C-team: Southwood 45, Bluffton 32.

LaVine, DeRozan lead Bulls to victory over the Nets

By MATT CARLSON
 Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Zach LaVine scored 32 points on 12-of-17 shooting and the Chicago Bulls drubbed the Brooklyn Nets 131-87 on Friday night to snap a six-game skid.

Chicago held Brooklyn to a season low in points; its previous worst was 92 in a loss to Boston in December. The Nets lost by their biggest margin this season, one point worse than a defeat by the Celtics on Feb. 1.

Nikola Vucevic and Andre Drummond each had 13 points and 10 rebounds for the

Bulls. All-Star DeMar DeRozan and Patrick Williams each scored 17 points.

The Bulls, who moved within 1 1/2 games of 10th place and the final play-in spot in Eastern Conference, stormed ahead early and never slowed down.

"I think that's what we have to do from here on out and throw everything at these last 22 games because we understand where we are," LaVine said. "We have to put that type of energy into it."

UP NEXT

Bulls: Host Washington on Sunday.

Cowan's size, three-pointers too much for Southern Wells

By ANDREW FEEBACK

COWAN — The Cowan Blackhawks proved to be a tough matchup in multiple ways for the Southern Wells Raiders Friday night, and the visiting Raiders came out on the wrong end of a 75-52 contest to end the regular season.

Cowan knocked down 10 shots beyond the arc, compared to just one by Southern Wells, and the Blackhawks fed off the post play of 6-9 center Cole Duncan.

Duncan wasn't Cowan's top scorer in this game, but he chipped in 13 points, grabbed 15 rebounds, blocked a handful of shots, and altered more.

"We thought their size would give us problems," coach Joel Roush said. "We really worked to combat that, and it wound up being the three-point shooting that hurt us more. We let (Timmy Watson) get loose a few times, and he's a really good shooter."

The Blackhawks (10-12) scored the last 15 points of the first half to take a 39-15 lead at the break. The Raiders (6-15) had pulled within 24-15 with 4:32 to play in the half, but failed to score

again before intermission.

A five-point edge in the third quarter helped the Raiders make a bit of a push, with an 11-0 run cutting the lead to 49-34.

"I think we figured out we still have to attack the basket downhill regardless of whether the big kid is in the game or not," Roush said. "We just had to play off his reaction. I think we tried to force things a bit when he was in there, and we didn't attack him enough off the dribble to make him commit. At least that way, we'd be getting a look that we normally get and a look that we want."

Southern Wells got three straight baskets early in the fourth quarter to pull within 60-44 but came no closer.

Chandler Oswalt and Jensen Nusbaumer both had 14 points for the Raiders. Timmy Watson scored 24 for Cowan, including six three-pointers. Mason Kidd and Bradley Terrell each had 10.

The Raiders will open sectional play at 7 p.m. Tuesday evening against Fort Wayne Canterbury. The game will take place at Southwood High School.

"They've got two really

good players, and we've got to slow them down enough so we can win," Roush said.

The Raider JV team capped off its season with a 55-50 overtime win. Bryar Gearheart scored 19 points, while CJ Reber added 16.

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COWAN 75, SOUTHERN WELLS 52
at Cowan High School
SOUTHERN WELLS (6-15): Kedrick Sonnigen 2-9 0-2 5, Nick Lozoya 0-3 0-0 0, Andrew Aker 1-5 1-2 3, Jensen Nusbaumer 7-10 0-0 14, Bryar Gearheart 0-0 0-0 0, Evan Pennington 4-9 0-1 8, Tucker Worster 0-0 0-0 0, Chandler Oswalt 4-12 6-7 14, CJ Reber 0-1 0-0 0, Tristen Worster 0-0 0-0 0, Gage Roberts 1-1 0-0 2, Quinton Mullins 0-0 0-0 0, Perrin Gates 3-10 0-1 6. **TOTALS:** 22-60 7-13 52.
COWAN (10-12): Mason Kidd 4-10 0-0 10, Timmy Watson 8-14 2-3 24, Luke Garrett 0-0 0-0 0, Blaine Marlatt 4-4 1-1 9, Clark Trimble 0-1 1-2 1, Logan Walker 0-0 0-0 0, Griffin Smith 2-5 0-0 6, Cole Duncan 5-9 3-4 13, Bradley Terrell 4-7 2-2 10, Victor Garrett 1-1 0-0 2, Jayden Terry 0-0 0-0 0, Gentry Groves 0-0 0-0 0. **TOTALS:** 28-51 9-12 75.
So. Wells 9 6 23 14 — 52
Cowan 14 25 18 18 — 75
 Three-point Goals: Southern Wells 1-13 (Sonnigen 1-2, Oswalt 0-5, Aker 0-2, Nusbaumer 0-1, Lozoya 0-1, Pennington 0-1, Reber 0-1), Cowan 10-19 (Watson 6-11, Smith 2-3, Kidd 2-4, Trimble 0-1).
 Rebounds: Southern Wells 26 (Sonnigen 9, Gates 7, Oswalt 2, Pennington 2, Lozoya 2, Nusbaumer 2, Roberts 1, Aker 1), Cowan 32 (Duncan 15, Victor Garrett 5, Walker 3, Smith 3, Kidd 2, Luke Garrett 1, Marlatt 1, Terrell 1, Terry 1).
 Turnovers: Southern Wells 11, Cowan 15. Fouls: Southern Wells 15, Cowan 12. Fouled out: Gates, Marlatt. Technicals: Marlatt.
 JV: Southern Wells 55, Cowan 50, OT.

News-Banner Scoreboard

BASKETBALL

High School

Friday Boys' Scores

Adams Central 72, Lakewood Park 46
Anderson 82, Thrival Indy 60
Argos 54, Elkhart Christian 41
Austin 84, Crothersville 48
Avon 61, Danville 49
Benton Central 61, Logansport 48
Bloomfield 47, Barr-Reeve 39
Bloomington North 68, New Albany 51
Blue River 80, Frankton 48
Borden 62, Salem 41
Bremen 35, Culver 32
Brownstown 66, Orleans 41
Carroll (Flora) 67, Eastern (Greentown) 39
Cass 44, Lafayette Catholic 34
Centerville 57, Cambridge City 51
Central Noble 62, Fairfield 36
Chesertown 64, Gary West 48
Clinton Central 72, Frontier 69
Clinton Prairie 49, N. Newton 43
Covenant Christian (DelMotte) 45, Heritage Christian 35
Covington 58, Crawfordville 55
Cowan 75, Southern Wells 52
Crown Point 76, Lowell 30
E. Central 48, Greensburg 44
E. Chicago Central 64, Griffith 57
Eastern (Pekin) 60, S. Central (Elizabeth) 40
Eastern Hancock 74, Hagerstown 24
Eastside 47, Churubusco 24
Evansville Mater Dei 67, Dubois 66, OT
Evansville Memorial 62, Washington 59
Evansville Reitz 83, Evansville Bosse 67
Frankfort 61, Delphi 56
Ft. Wayne Concordia 59, Columbia City 55
Goshen 66, Glenn 41
Greencastle 44, N. Montgomery 42
Hammond Central 64, Valparaiso 59
Heritage 49, Madison-Grant 44
Hobart 44, Wheeler 32
Illiana Christian 72, Hanover Central 63
Indian Creek 50, S. Putnam 37
Indpls Ben Davis 70, Indpls Tech 54
Indpls Park Tudor 85, Providence Cristo Rey 40
Indpls Ritter 60, Tri-West 55
Indpls Riverside 78, Indiana Deaf 44
Indpls Roncalli 51, Indpls Brebeuf 49
Jac-Cen-Del 49, S. Ripley 40
Jay Co. 44, Belmont 43
Jeffersonville 55, Castile 48
Jennings Co. 75, Franklin 49
Knox 47, Triton 37
Kokomo 72, Huntington North 36
Kouts 65, Tri-Township 30
LaPorte 85, S. Bend Clay 45
LaVille 79, Lighthouse CPA 67
Lafayette Harrison 51, Lebanon 48
Lake Central 75, McCutcheon 46
Lakeland 56, Angola 39
Lakeland Christian 47, Whitko 43
Linton 75, Evansville Central 55
Maconaquah 80, Rochester 31
Manchester 51, Mississinewa 40
Marion 85, Ft. Wayne Snider 75
Milan 70, Union Co. 50
Mishawaka 63, S. Bend St. Joseph's 60, OT
Mishawaka Marian 58, Tippecanoe Valley 53
Monroe Central 55, Randolph Southern 41
Mt. Vernon (Fortville) 56, Yorktown 48
Muncie Central 59, New Castle 41
Munster 68, Whiting 52
N. Central (Farmersburg) 62, Owen Valley 47
N. Daviess 62, Sullivan 44
N. Judson 48, Kankakee Valley 47
New Palestine 61, Greenwood 31
NorthWood 61, Elkhart 30
Northfield 65, Tri-Central 49

Southeast Division				GB
W	L	Pct		
Miami	32	28	.533	—
Atlanta	30	30	.500	2
Washington	28	31	.475	3½
Orlando	25	35	.417	7
Charlotte	18	43	.295	14½
Central Division				GB
W	L	Pct		
Milwaukee	42	17	.712	—
Cleveland	38	25	.603	6
Chicago	27	33	.450	15½
Indiana	26	35	.426	17
Detroit	15	45	.250	27½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				GB
Southwest Division				
W	L	Pct		
Memphis	35	23	.603	—
Dallas	32	29	.525	4
New Orleans	30	30	.500	6
San Antonio	14	46	.233	22
Houston	13	46	.220	22½
Northwest Division				GB
W	L	Pct		
Denver	42	18	.700	—
Minnesota	31	31	.500	12
Utah	30	31	.492	12½
Oklahoma City	28	30	.483	13
Portland	28	31	.475	13½
Pacific Division				GB
W	L	Pct		
Sacramento	33	25	.569	—
L.A. Clippers	33	28	.541	1½
Phoenix	32	28	.533	2
Golden State	30	30	.500	4
L.A. Lakers	28	32	.467	6

College

Friday, Feb. 24

EAST

Canisius 66, St. Peter's 53
Iona 80, Mount St. Mary's 68
Le Moyne 77, St. Michael's 74
Marist 81, Manhattan 58
NYU 70, Brandeis 57
New Haven 69, American International 51
Niagara 76, Fairfield 68
Rider 69, Siena 66
Xavier 82, Seton Hall 60
SOUTH
Arkansas St. 64, Louisiana-Monroe 61
E. Kentucky 56, Jacksonville 52
Florida Gulf Coast 89, Austin Peay 71
Georgia Southern 73, Appalachian St. 64
Jacksonville St. 92, North Alabama 83
James Madison 90, Georgia St. 69
Liberty 73, Queens (NC) 53
Lincoln (Pa.) 53, Fayetteville St. 49
Lipscomb 98, Stetson 91, OT
Louisiana-Lafayette 74, South Alabama 64
North Florida 79, Bellarmine 67
Old Dominion 71, Marshall 67
Troy 95, Coastal Carolina 74
VCU 73, Richmond 58
Winston-Salem 45, Virginia Union 44
SOUTHWEST
Kennesaw St. 72, Cent. Arkansas 56
Southern Miss. 79, Texas St. 69
FAR WEST
Colo.-Colo. Springs 70, CSU-Pueblo 47
Colorado Mines 93, Adams St. 59
Colorado St. 84, Wyoming 71
Fort Lewis 80, Metropolitan St. 61
Regis 80, N.M. Highlands 76
Seattle 65, Grand Canyon 54
UC Riverside 54, Hawaii 52
UNLV 54, Air Force 53

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	43	17	.717
Philadelphia	39	19	.672
Brooklyn	34	25	.576
New York	34	27	.557
Toronto	29	31	.483

Southeast Division				GB
W	L	Pct		
Miami	32	28	.533	—
Atlanta	30	30	.500	2
Washington	28	31	.475	3½
Orlando	25	35	.417	7
Charlotte	18	43	.295	14½
Central Division				GB
W	L	Pct		
Milwaukee	42	17	.712	—
Cleveland	38	25	.603	6
Chicago	27	33	.450	15½
Indiana	26	35	.426	17
Detroit	15	45	.250	27½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				GB
Southwest Division				
W	L	Pct		
Memphis	35	23	.603	—
Dallas	32	29	.525	4
New Orleans	30	30	.500	6
San Antonio	14	46	.233	22
Houston	13	46	.220	22½
Northwest Division				GB
W	L	Pct		
Denver	42	18	.700	—
Minnesota	31	31	.500	12
Utah	30	31	.492	12½
Oklahoma City	28	30	.483	13
Portland	28	31	.475	13½
Pacific Division				GB
W	L	Pct		
Sacramento	33	25	.569	—
L.A. Clippers	33	28	.541	1½
Phoenix	32	28	.533	2
Golden State	30	30	.500	4
L.A. Lakers	28	32	.467	6

Thursday's Games

Denver 115, Cleveland 109
Orlando 108, Detroit 106
Boston 142, Indiana 138, OT
Toronto 115, New Orleans 110
Philadelphia 110, Memphis 105
Utah 120, Oklahoma City 119, OT
Sacramento 133, Portland 116
Dallas 142, San Antonio 116
L.A. Lakers 124, Golden State 111
Friday's Games
New York 115, Washington 109
Milwaukee 128, Miami 99
Atlanta 136, Cleveland 119
Chicago 131, Brooklyn 87
Charlotte 121, Minnesota 113
Golden State 116, Houston 101
Oklahoma City at Phoenix, late
Sacramento at L.A. Clippers, late p.m.
Saturday's Games
Toronto at Detroit, 12 p.m.
Indiana at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Miami at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
New Orleans at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Denver at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Boston at Philadelphia, 8:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Utah, 9 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Phoenix at Milwaukee, 1 p.m.
Brooklyn at Atlanta, 3 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Dallas, 3:30 p.m.
Washington at Chicago, 3:30 p.m.
Toronto at Cleveland, 6 p.m.
Sacramento at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Golden State, 7:30 p.m.
Houston at Portland, 9 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Denver, 10 p.m.
Monday's Games
Detroit at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Miami at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Boston at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando at New Orleans, 8 p.m.

HOCCY

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

GP	W	L	OTPs	GF	GA
Boston	57	44	8	5	93216 123
Toronto	59	36	15	8	80202 157
Tampa Bay	57	36	17	4	76206 169
Buffalo	57	30	23	4	64213 199
Detroit	57	28	21	8	64179 181
Florida	61	29	26	6	64210 213

HOCCY

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

GP	W	L	OTPs	GF	GA
Boston	57	44	8	5	93216 123
Toronto	59	36	15	8	80202 157
Tampa Bay	57	36	17	4	76206 169
Buffalo	57	30	23	4	64213 199
Detroit	57	28	21	8	64179 181
Florida	61	29	26	6	64210 213

Metropolitan Division				GP	W	L	OTPs	GF	GA
Carolina	57	39	10	8	86196 148				
New Jersey	58	38	15	5	81201 157				
N.Y. Rangers	58	33	16	9	75193 160				
N.Y. Islanders	62	30	25	7	67179 174				
Pittsburgh	57	27	21	9	63182 185				
Washington	60	28	26	6	62178 177				
Philadelphia	60	23	27	10	56161 195				
Columbus	58	18	35	5	41146 214				
WESTERN CONFERENCE				GP	W	L	OTPs	GF	GA
Central Division									
Dallas	58	30	16	12	72188 152				
Winnipeg	59	35	23	1	71183 155				
Minnesota	59	32	21	6	70172 164				
Colorado	56	32	19	5	69178 156				
Nashville	56	28	22	6	62163 169				
St. Louis	58	26	28	4	56178 212				
Arizona	58	20	29	9	49158 205				
Chicago	57	20	32	5	45143 206				
Pacific Division				GP	W	L	OTPs	GF	GA
Vegas	58	35	18	5	75190 163				
Los Angeles	60	33	19	8	74203 201				
Edmonton	59	32	19	8	72225 196				
Seattle	58	32	20	6	70202 184				
Calgary	59	27	20	12	66192 184				
Vancouver	58	23	30	5	51199 236				
San Jose	59	18	30	11	47176 219				
Anaheim	59	18	34	7	43149 248				

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.
Thursday's Games
Minnesota 2, Columbus 0
New Jersey 4, Los Angeles 3, OT
Edmonton 7, Pittsburgh 2
Buffalo 6, Tampa Bay 5, OT
Anaheim 4, Washington 2
Detroit 4, N.Y. Rangers 1
Vancouver 3, St. Louis 2, OT
Vegas 4, Calgary 3, OT
Boston 6, Seattle 5
Nashville 6, San Jose 2
Friday's Games
Montreal 5, Philadelphia 2
Toronto 2, Minnesota 1, OT
Carolina 4, Ottawa 0
Buffalo 3, Florida 1
Los Angeles 3, N.Y. Islanders 2
Colorado 5, Winnipeg 1
Saturday's Games
Edmonton at Columbus, 12:30 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Washington, 1 p.m.
Pittsburgh at St. Louis, 3:30 p.m.
Anaheim at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Boston at Vancouver, 7 p.m.
Ottawa at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Detroit, 8 p.m.
Calgary at Colorado, 10 p.m.
Dallas at Vegas, 10 p.m.
Chicago at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Washington at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Columbus at Minnesota, 2 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Winnipeg, 3 p.m.
Los Angeles at N.Y. Rangers, 5 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh, 6 p.m.
Nashville at Arizona, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Seattle, 7 p.m.
Monday's Games
Detroit at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Boston at Edmonton, 8:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Vegas at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Chicago at Anaheim, 10 p.m.

HOCCY

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

GP	W	L	OTPs	GF	GA
Boston	57	44	8	5	93216 123
Toronto	59	36	15	8	80202 157
Tampa Bay	57	36	17	4	76206 169
Buffalo	57	30	23	4	64213 199
Detroit	57	28	21	8	64179 181
Florida	61	29	26	6	64210 213

HOCCY

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

GP	W	L	OTPs	GF	GA
Boston	57	44	8	5	93216 123
Toronto	59	36	15	8	80202 157
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HOCCY

NHL

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Buffalo	57	30	23	4	64213 199
Detroit	57	28	21	8	64179 181
Florida	61				

The Classifieds

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Now Seeking: Contracted Evening Swimming Lesson Instructor

Contracted Swimming Lesson Instructor position opening at the Arthur & Gloria Muselman Wellness Pavilion. Evening hours and flexible schedule. Previous teaching experience preferred; must enjoy teaching children; must be comfortable in water. Next available teaching opportunity would be May & June 2023.

Application deadline: March 22, 2023

Interested applicants may send resumes to:
Briana Eicher, Director
Arthur & Gloria Muselman Wellness Pavilion
1201 Emmental Drive | Berne, IN 46711
brianae@swissvillage.org

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted

PART TIME HANDYPERSON needed for yard work and miscellaneous jobs, 565-3780.

AMERICA'S BEST VALUE Inn & Suites, 100 Charles Deam Court, Bluffton, has an immediate opening for housekeeping, full and part-time positions available, hourly rate of \$10+. Apply in person.

HELOISE HINT: When getting ready to apply to jobs. Review your online presence. Make sure there's nothing inappropriate on your social media profiles. Some employers do check your social media. Email HELOISE@Heloise.com.

Help Wanted

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WANTED: A DEPENDABLE driver to work and haul Amish crew. Company will furnish van. Call 260-450-3649.

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Help Wanted

BLUFFTON POLICE DEPARTMENT Now Hiring! The Bluffton Police Department is accepting applications for the position of police officer. Applicant must be 21 years of age by close of application date, but less than 40; have a high school diploma; two-year college degree or equivalent (60 hours), or three years of work experience in police related field or an ILEA Basic graduate or equivalent. Must provide college transcripts. Applicant must possess and maintain a valid Indiana driver's license and responsible work experience. Applicant must pass a background investigation, written test, physical agility test, oral interview, voice stress examination, required statewide baseline physical and psychological examination and drug test. Applications will be picked up at the Clerk-Treasurer's Office, 128 E Market St, Bluffton, IN, between the hours of 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday or online at blufftonindiana.net. If you have questions about the application process, you may call the Bluffton Police Department at 260-824-3320, Kyle Randall, Chief of Police. Last day to accept applications will be March 31, 2023

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

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Attorney
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Mar. deadline is Tues., Feb. 21!

THE NEWS-BANNER IS looking for a part-time accounts receivable/payable position to fill an immediate opening. Excel, Quickbooks experience preferred. Send resume to Doug Brown, dougb@news-banner.com or PO Box 436, Bluffton, IN 46714.

SAF-T-LITE - LOOKING for individuals that want to work. See the products you'd be making at www.saftlite.com. Multiple positions, locally owned business, 1st shift hours, competitive pay, benefit package, family friendly environment. Contact us, jobs@saftlite.com, (260) 824-3440, apply in person, 1336 W Wiley Ave., Bluffton, (EAP2)

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Saf-T-Lite, a small, locally-owned business, is looking for individuals that want to work. We have a job to do and need to get it done. So, if that's you, come see us. Want to see the products you'd be making? Go to www.saftlite.com

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Please contact us at jobs@saftlite.com; call 260-824-3440; Apply in person at 1336 W. Wiley Ave., Bluffton.

CDL CLASS A DRIVER Looking for more than a steering wheel holder. I need a professional. You would interact with our customers east of the Rockies. We make milk runs out and back. You won't be dropping off a load and heading to another state to pick up something else. It's out and back. If you like driving, but not the typical trucking company nonsense, this is for you! RE-BA Transport is the private fleet for Smith Brothers of Berne. Home weekends and possibly during the week. Insurance is based on a manufacturing model and better than the typical trucking company. Stop pay/ overnight pay/ Hotel plan/ yearly performance bonus up to \$2K/ paid vacation/ etc... Call 260.589.2131 for more info!! May train the correct individual.

DUE TO RETIREMENT following more than 20 years of service. The United Way of Wells County is seeking qualified candidates for the position of CEO. This position requires a professional who is focused on achieving results in an environment of rapid change. Successful candidates are innovative problem-solvers who can handle multiple projects simultaneously without direct oversight and are able to engage quickly with others. Previous non-profit management and fundraising experience is required. If this sounds like you, please submit your resume, salary requirements, and letter of interest to dougb@news-banner.com no later than March 1, 2023. For information on the programs and services of the organization, please visit our website unitedwaywells.org.

FOR SALE

Pets

HELOISE HINT: Owning a pet can be expensive. If you are worried about paying potential vet bills, you may want to check out pet insurance. Be aware that coverage and policies can differ. Get more information from your vet. Write to Heloise, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001.

Public Notice

REQUEST FOR BOT PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Bluffton, Indiana, by and through its Board of Public Works and Safety, hereinafter referred to as the Owner, will receive sealed proposals for:

CITY OF BLUFFTON BID PACKAGE E NEW BIOSOLIDS FACILITY (WW PROJECT 8A)

Proposals may be forwarded by registered mail addressed to the Owner in care of the Board of Public Works and Safety, City Hall, 128 East Market Street, Bluffton, IN 46714 or delivered in person to the proposal opening and will be considered by the Owner at an open public and regular scheduled Board of Works & Safety Meeting called to receive and open such proposals, provided the same shall have been received not later than 4:30 pm, local prevailing time, on March 14, 2023 at the City Hall, 128 East Market Street, Bluffton, IN 46714. Proposals received after the opening process has begun will be returned unopened. Proposals shall be submitted in an enclosed opaque sealed envelope, marked "BID PACKAGE E - NEW BIOSOLIDS FACILITY (WW PROJECT 8A)". Proposals will be evaluated, and it is the intent that an award of contract be made within ninety (90) days of the date of receiving proposals.

This Project involves the development, design and construction of a new Biosolids Facility in Bluffton, Indiana and will use the Build Operate Transfer (BOT) deliver method to the Owner (per IAC 5-23-3-1). Offeror to develop, design and construct a new Biosolid Facility within the existing Bluffton wastewater treatment plant facility. Additionally, Offeror to assist Owner and Owner's Engineer in the design, selection of sludge drying processes and equipment, and assist in start-up and operation of the new facility. Offeror to show experience in the implementation, construction, and operation of biosolid facility construction, operation, and management.

The BOT Offeror, its Contractors and Sub-Contractors are required to pay not less than the Federal Wage Scale published by the U.S. Department of Labor. Project will be funded by a loan through Indiana Finance Authority and administered by the Indiana State Revolving Fund (SRF). All

BOT Offerors and contractors, and sub-contractors must meet requirements for a SRF funded project. The project construction fees shall include General, Construction, Process, Mechanical, Electrical, Installation, Labor, Materials, Tools, Equipment, Taxes (both Federal and State), Permits, Licenses, Insurance, Service Costs, and so forth, incident to and required for the construction of the facilities.

Each Offeror is responsible for inspecting the Project Site and for reading and being thoroughly familiar with the Contract Documents and Specifications. The failure or omissions of any Offeror to do any of the foregoing shall in no way relieve the Offeror from any obligation with its Proposal.

Each Proposal shall be accompanied by a Certified Check or acceptable Bidder's Bond made payable to the Owner, in a sum of not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount of the highest aggregate proposal, which check or bond will be held by the Owner as evidence that the Bidder will, if awarded a contract or contracts, enter into the same with the Owner upon notification from him to do so within fourteen (14) days of said notification.

Approved Performance and Payment Bonds guaranteeing faithful and proper performance of the work and materials, to be executed by an acceptable surety company, will be required of each Offeror at the time of contract execution. The bond will be in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price and must be in full force and effect for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of written acceptance of and final payment of the work. Failure to execute a contract and to furnish a Performance and Payment Bond as hereinafter set out will be cause for forfeiture to the Owner of the amount of money represented by the Certified Check or Bidder's Bond, as and for liquidated damages.

Project will be funded by a loan through Indiana Finance Authority and administered by the Indiana State Revolving Fund (SRF). BOT Offeror and its contractor(s) and sub-contractors must comply with the current Consolidated Appropriations Act and all requirements of the SRF Loan Programs, the Indiana Finance Authority and State of Indiana which include, among others, the following:

1. OEE-1 (Certification of Non-segregated Facilities)

2. OEE-2 (Notice to Labor Unions or Other Organizations of Workers Nondiscrimination In Employment)

3. Davis-Bacon Act and related laws and regulations apply for wages.

a) A copy of the applicable Davis-Bacon wage determination will be included in all contracts and subcontracts for work.

b) A copy of the wage determination and the Davis-Bacon poster (WH-1321) will be posted at all times by the contractor and subcontractors at the Project site in a prominent and accessible place where it can be easily seen by workers.

c) All contracts and subcontracts for work will include terms and conditions similar to those provided in Attachments A-D in the Project Manual.

4. Project includes U.S. EPA Green Project Reserve Components (GPR), contracts to include and provide portion of their bid allocated to GPR components.

5. Contract to include "Suspension and Debarment" provisions, terms, and conditions as noted in Attachment E of the Project Manual.

6. Successful Offeror and owner-contractor agreement is subject to compliance to the H.R. 3547 "Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014", commonly referred to as the "American Iron and Steel" act and provision.

No proposals shall be withdrawn after the opening of proposals without the consent of the Owner for a period of ninety (90) days after the scheduled time of receiving same.

Starting Wednesday, February 22, 2023, Project Request for Proposal and documents (drawings and project manual) can be purchased through ARC, 455 Fernhill Ave., Fort Wayne, IN 46805, Phone (260) 483-8066, fortwayne_orders@e-arc.com. Request for Proposal documents and preliminary drawings are available for viewing at the office of the Engineer, DLZ Indiana, LLC, 825 S. Barr Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802; and the Owner, City Hall, 128 East Market Street, Bluffton, IN 46714.

CITY OF BLUFFTON BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY, By: /s/ Tami Runyon, Clerk Treasurer

nb 2/18, 2/25
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9	5							7
			1	5				2
2		4	5					
	9			4	1			
6			4	2				
				9	6	3		
4	2	6						
	8	2			3	1		
		7		6				

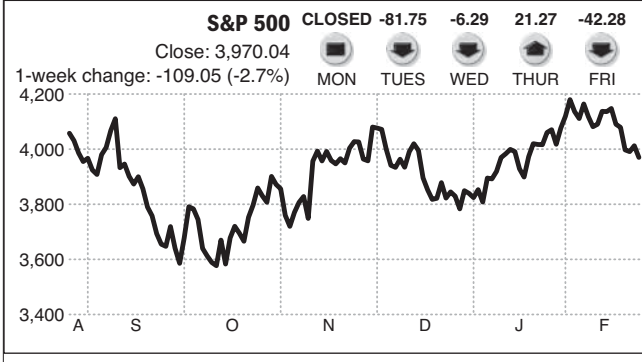
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2-25

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

WEEKLY DOW JONES AND S&P 500



STOCK MARKET INDEXES

52-Week High	Low	Name	Last	Wk Chg	%Chg	YTD %Chg	12-mo %Chg
35,492.22	28,660.94	Dow Jones Industrials	32,816.92	-1009.77	-2.99	-1.00	-3.65
16,728.57	11,946.21	Dow Jones Transportation	14,629.01	-506.86	-3.35	+9.24	-3.80
1,077.08	823.64	Dow Jones Utilities	928.44	-25.17	-2.64	-4.03	-1.05
17,034.91	13,278.56	NYSE Composite	15,464.46	-375.70	-2.37	+1.85	-5.86
14,646.90	10,088.83	Nasdaq Composite	11,394.94	-392.33	-3.33	+8.87	-16.79
4,637.30	3,491.58	S&P 500	3,970.04	-109.05	-2.67	+3.40	-9.46
2,780.91	2,185.93	S&P MidCap	2,600.68	-65.44	-2.45	+7.01	-2.29
46,793.61	34,917.15	Wilshire 5000	39,690.74	-1128.82	-2.77	+4.25	-10.32
2,138.45	1,641.47	Russell 2000	1,890.49	-55.87	-2.87	+7.34	-7.37
16,360.71	11,517.23	Lipper Growth Index	12,858.97	-433.33	-3.26	+7.18	-16.51

STOCK EXCHANGE HIGHLIGHTS

NYSE GAINERS (\$2 OR MORE)				NYSE LOSERS (\$2 OR MORE)				NYSE ACTIVES (\$1 OR MORE)			
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
BrdkDla pf	3.15	+75	+31.3	Carvana A	8.01	-3.36	-29.6	FordM	2425849	11.88	-1.01
Mantlowc	18.10	+3.74	+28.0	Wayfair	37.43	-14.36	-27.7	Palatir	2217087	8.09	-1.11
QuadGrph	5.17	+91	+21.4	ZipRecruit	17.35	-6.46	-27.1	AMC Ent	2069740	6.09	+2.96
Nable	12.26	+2.13	+21.0	UnyStw	29.61	-10.06	-25.3	SwstnEngy	1403280	5.56	+5.59
RangeRs	28.26	+4.86	+20.8	AnywHRE	6.18	-1.98	-24.3	BkofAm	1356529	34.21	-1.14
AMC Ent	6.20	+96	+18.3	CrosTim	20.33	-6.36	-23.8	Alibaba	1325017	89.00	-11.01
Inv Insur	15.04	+2.28	+17.9	CazooGp rs	2.49	-7.6	-23.4	Transon	1317965	6.75	-2.6
TeekyTnk	43.32	+5.72	+15.2	F45 Train	2.19	-6.0	-21.5	ItauUnH	1026690	4.89	-2.6
ComfSt	146.81	+19.18	+15.0	CURO Gp	3.23	-85	-20.8	AT&T Inc	1097406	19.24	-2.0
Archrock	10.94	+1.39	+14.6	CntyHlt	6.30	-1.64	-20.7	Carnival	1082489	10.59	-7.0

NASDAQ GAINERS (\$2 OR MORE)				NASDAQ LOSERS (\$2 OR MORE)				NASDAQ ACTIVES (\$1 OR MORE)			
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
OceanBio A	9.99	+6.01	+151.0	FulcrThr	5.66	-6.51	-53.5	Tesla s	6587213	196.88	-11.43
AtlasLith n	14.75	+7.53	+104.3	Alpine n	2.24	-1.81	-44.7	Nvidia	2621841	232.86	+18.98
BrdgAero n	7.90	+3.68	+87.2	OKYO Ph n	2.08	-1.66	-44.4	Intel	2583921	25.14	-2.11
Genelux n	10.86	+4.29	+65.3	Bandwith	15.34	-10.65	-41.0	BedBath	2271457	1.53	-2.8
Semanx A	2.98	+99	+49.7	IntuitMch A	24.00	-16.70	-41.0	AMD	2203640	78.09	-3.74
OrbPIIV un	14.15	+4.62	+48.5	TC BioPh rs	4.50	-2.95	-39.6	Amazon s	2189587	93.50	-5.70
DrbRobot	6.27	+1.92	+44.1	Nft Game n	2.32	-1.49	-39.1	Apple Inc s	2134810	146.71	-3.80
Meihua	35.80	+9.79	+37.6	Aemeste rs	2.64	-1.68	-38.9	WindTrH rs	1920569	6.90	-1.5
PxyisOnc	2.26	+5.7	+33.7	CVFR	10.88	-6.32	-36.7	LucidGrp	1435081	8.51	-2.42
BonNatLe	2.07	+52	+33.5	PrestoAut n	2.36	-1.23	-34.2	Alphat A s	1421341	89.13	-5.22

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Name	Div	Last	Wk Chg	Wk %Chg	YTD %Chg	Name	Div	Last	Wk Chg	Wk %Chg	YTD %Chg
AFLAC	1.68	68.57	-80	-1.2	-4.7	iShEMkts	.59	38.30	-1.38	-3.5	+1.1
AMC Ent	...	6.20	+96	+18.3	+52.3	iShiBxHYB	5.09	74.17	-39	-0.5	-7.9
AT&T Inc	1.11	19.24	-20	-1.0	+4.5	Intel	.50	25.14	-2.47	-8.9	-4.9
AMD	1.60	78.09	-41	-0.5	+20.6	IBM	6.60	130.57	-4.45	-3.3	-7.3
Alibaba	...	89.00	-11.01	-11.0	+1.0	Inv QQQ	1.16	291.85	-9.31	-3.1	+9.6
Alphat A s	...	89.13	-5.22	-5.5	+1.0	Kroger	1.04	43.75	-2.5	-0.6	-1.9
Amazon s	...	93.50	-3.70	-3.8	+11.3	LincNat	1.80	31.86	-1.96	-5.8	+3.7
AEP	3.32	90.43	-1.98	-2.1	-4.8	Lowes	4.20	201.54	-11.21	-5.3	+1.2
Apple Inc s	.92	146.71	-5.84	-3.8	+12.9	LucidGrp	...	8.51	-2.42	-2.1	+24.6
ApidMatl	1.04	111.31	-3.87	-3.4	+14.3	McDnids	6.08	263.68	-6.31	-2.3	+1
Arkinova	.78	38.44	-3.42	-8.2	+23.0	Microsoft	2.72	249.22	-8.84	-3.4	+3.9
BP PLC	1.44	39.70	-3.2	-0.8	+13.7	MulinAuto	...	23	-0.4	-13.8	-18.9
BkofAm	88	34.21	-1.14	-3.2	+3.3	NL Inds	.28	7.09	-0.6	-0.8	+4.1
BedBath	68	1.53	-28	-15.5	-39.0	NiSource	1.00	27.82	+6.8	+2.5	+1.5
BrMySq	2.16	70.18	-9.3	-1.3	-2.5	NorfolkS	5.40	224.77	-3.38	-1.5	-8.8
CampSp	1.48	53.13	+7.8	+1.5	-6.4	Nucor	2.04	162.53	-5.54	-3.3	+23.3
Caterpillar	4.44	236.17	-11.62	-4.7	-1.4	Nvidia	...	232.86	+18.98	+8.9	+59.3
Chevron	6.04	162.41	-4.4	-0.3	-9.5	Palantir	...	8.09	-1.11	-12.1	+26.0
Cisco	1.56	48.48	-2.29	-4.5	+1.8	PepsiCo	4.60	175.96	-3.2	-0.2	-2.6
Citigroup	2.04	50.18	-1.24	-2.4	+10.9	Pfizer	1.60	41.75	-1.46	-3.4	-18.5
CocaCola	1.84	59.84	-2.8	-0.5	-5.9	PrUlIPO	...	21.77	-2.27	-9.4	+25.8
ContxtLog	...	51	-24	-32.4	+4.5	ProShSP	...	15.57	+4.1	+2.7	-2.9
DxSOXBr rs	...	22.43	+1.22	+5.8	-43.2	PShOQQQ	...	39.79	+3.50	+9.6	-26.3
DyBiotBl	...	6.26	-1.33	-17.5	-11.5	SprDJIA	3.98	328.12	-10.17	-3.0	-1.0
DxSOXBI	...	14.31	-1.19	-7.7	+48.0	S&P500ETF	4.13	396.38	-10.88	-2.7	-3.6
Disney	...	100.30	-4.92	-4.7	+15.4	SwstnEngy	...	5.56	+5.9	+1.9	-5.0
Eaton	2.92	173.25	-1.99	-1.1	+10.4	SPDR FncI	.46	35.66	-7.3	-2.0	+4.3
ElliLilly	4.52	321.64	-6.76	-2.1	-12.1	StuDynam	1.04	118.50	-6.47	-5.2	+21.3
ExelaTc rs05	-0.1	-19.7	-40.2	Tesla s	...	196.88	-11.43	-5.5	+59.8
ExxonMbl	3.64	110.75	-5.3	-0.5	-4	Trancon	...	6.75	-2.6	-3.7	+48.0
FardyFuln56	-0.3	-5.1	+92.1	US NGas	...	8.49	+7.3	+9.4	-39.8
FordM	60	11.88	-1.01	-7.8	+2.1	VascuBio	...	1.4	+0.0	+1.5	+15.8
FrankElec	90	95.19	-1.21	-1.3	+19.4	VerizonCom	2.61	38.74	-1.48	-3.7	-1.7
FrtmMcM	30	39.89	-1.85	-4.4	+5.0	WallMart	2.28	142.47	-3.97	-2.7	-4.5
GenElec	.32	83.55	+5.1	+6.0	+28.4	WalbBoots	1.92	35.80	-9.6	-2.6	+2
HP Inc	1.05	29.22	-.94	-3.1	+8.7	WellsFargo	1.20	151.31	-3.61	-2.3	-3.6
HomeDp	8.36	296.66	-21.29	-6.7	-6.1	WestMFC	2.80	46.62	-8.7	-1.8	+12.9
ShChinaLC	.87	27.91	-1.62	-5.5	-1.4	WindTrH rs	...	6.90	-1.5	-2.1	-18.8

MONEY RATES

	Last	Pvs Week
Prime Rate	7.75	7.75
Discount Rate	5.25	5.25
Federal Funds Rate	4.50-4.75	4.50-4.75
Treasuries		
3-month	4.84	4.82
6-month	5.10	5.02
5-year	4.19	4.06
10-year	3.95	3.84
30-year	3.93	3.90

CURRENCIES

	Last	Pvs Day
Australia	1.4865	+0.01
Britain	1.1946	1.2019
Canada	1.3607	1.3549
Euro	.9477	.9437
Japan	136.43	134.64
Mexico	18.3991	18.3682
Switzerland	.9405	.9337

British pound expressed in U.S. dollars. All others show dollar in foreign currency.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Name	Total Assets Obj (\$Mln)	NAV	Total Return/Rank 4-wk	12-mo	5-year	Pct Load	
American Funds AmrcnBaA m	MA	94,267	28.92	-2.7	-5.6/B	+5.5/B	5.75
American Funds CptlncBlDrA m	IH	62,775	63.37	-2.5	-2.7/B	+4.0/B	5.75
American Funds EuroPacGrA m	FG	20,454	51.16	-4.3	-8.1/C	+1.3/D	5.75
American Funds FdmTlnvsA m	LB	58,789	62.17	-2.0	-4.9/B	+6.9/E	5.75
American Funds GrfAmrcA m	LG	104,119	52.88	-0.8	-12.7/C	+7.3/D	5.75
American Funds IncAmrcA m	AL	77,950	26.67	-2.2	-2.0/A	+5.4/B	5.75
American Funds InvCmrcA m	LB	68,391	42.44	-1.7	-4.4/B	+6.9/E	5.75
American Funds NwPrspctvA m	WG	51,124	49.82	-1.8	-9.2/B	+7.3/B	5.75
American Funds WAMTlnvsA m	LB	72,576	51.70	-2.4	-1.6/A	+8.5/C	5.75
Davis NYVentureA m	LB	4,362	23.83	-1.1	-7.5/D	+4.3/E	4.75
Dodge & Cox StkI	LV	70,773	223.61	-0.9	-1.2/D	+8.8/A	NL
Fidelity 500IdxInPrm	LB	373,802	138.00	-1.0	-5.9/C	+9.5/A	NL
Fidelity Contrafund	LG	87,364	12.52	-0.3	-12.0/B	+8.0/C	NL
Fidelity TmktIdxInPrm	LB	68,423	110.67	-0.7	-6.3/D	+9.0/B	NL
Fidelity Advisor EquityGrowthA m	LG	1,434	13.27	-0.6	-10.1/B	+11.5/A	5.75
Fidelity Advisor GrowthOppsA m	MG	2,721	96.31	+0.8	-18.6/E	+13.5/A	5.75
George Putnam BalA x	LA	1,171	19.80	-1.5	-6.5/C	+6.1/A	5.75
INVESCO MnStrA							

Wells Court Docket

(Continued from Page 3)
successfully completes the terms of the contract, the charges against her will be dismissed.

Ordered to successfully complete a driver improvement program and pay court costs and user's fees.

While patrolling Wabash Street Jan. 11, a Bluffton police officer decided to check on a license plate on a 2014 Ford Fusion ahead of her patrol car and discovered that the plate actually belonged to a 2000 Mitsubishi Gallant.

After pulling the vehicle over and speaking with Slater, the officer discovered that the only proof of insurance that Slater had for the vehicle had expired in 2021. The officer also discovered that Slater's driver's license was indefinitely suspended for failing to file insurance, failing to comply and failing to pay.

The officer then discovered that Slater reportedly had failed to change

the address on her driver's license.

Slater was placed into custody and taken to the Wells County Jail. As she was being booked in, jail staff allegedly found in Slater's purse a black smoking bowl containing a burned leafy substance with the odor and appearance of marijuana and a bottle containing "shake," a slang term for crumbs of marijuana.

Note this Slater is not Tammy Slater, the chief executive officer of the Wells County Foundation.

Dane Jonathon Miller, 39, New Haven, pleaded guilty to unlawful possession of a hypodermic syringe, a Level 6 felony.

Sentenced to 547 days in prison. The sentence is to be served consecutively with a 547-day term for his plea of guilty in a separate case to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony.

While the aggregate term is 1,094 days, he was cred-

ited for 376 days spent in confinement awaiting disposition of his case.

Assessed court costs of \$185 in each of the cases.

As part of a plea agreement, two counts of possession of a narcotic drug, both Level 6 felonies, were dismissed.

A passerby became concerned about the welfare of Miller after witnessing him walking north on Ind. 1 at 1:25 a.m. Jan. 21, 2022. The temperature was just 15 degrees at the time.

A deputy located Miller near 400N. Miller said he was walking home to New Haven. The deputy agreed to give him a ride but explained he needed to pat him down first.

During the pat down, the deputy discovered a cylindrical object meant to hold candy, but inside the cylinder the deputy found a small plastic bag containing a white powdery substance that appeared to be methamphetamine. Underneath that

was a small plastic bag containing two Oxycodone pills, a prescription pain killer for which Miller reportedly did not have a prescription.

When Miller was being booked into the Wells County Jail, jailers reportedly discovered a small container with a pill labeled for acetaminophen and oxycodone, a prescription painkiller for which Miller reportedly did not have a prescription.

The deputy also noted in his report that Miller had an abscess on his arm which Miller claimed to the deputy came from an infection that developed from "shooting methamphetamine."

Next, at 8:30 a.m. Feb. 4, 2022, Bluffton police, Bluffton Fire Department first responders and Wells Coun-

ty EMS were dispatched to the Airplane Express convenience store, 407 N. Main St., on a report of an unresponsive man in a men's room stall.

Miller was the man.

He was issued the anti-opiate Narcan and came around. A hypodermic syringe was found by an officer in Miller's pocket.

Reginald Lenor Freeman, 59, Bluffton, pleaded guilty to possession of cocaine, a Level 6 felony.

Sentenced to 545 days in prison. Credited for 114 days spent in confinement awaiting disposition of his case.

Ordered to pay \$185 in court costs.

As part of a plea agreement, one count of posses-

sion of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor.

For violating probation from an Aug. 12, 2021, conviction for operating a motor vehicle with an alcohol concentration equivalency of .08 percent or more with a prior conviction for the same offense, Freeman was ordered to serve an additional 545 days in prison. For that violation he received zero jail time credit.

Wells County Probation, with the assistance of the Bluffton Police Department, searched Freeman's Morgan Street residence Dec. 21, 2022, and discovered marijuana in a kitchen cabinet and a white powdery substance on a TV stand in Freeman's bedroom that was purported to be cocaine.

Public Sale Calendar

BIDDING STARTS CLOSING FEBRUARY 26 STARTING AT 2 P.M. EST - Michael Kolter, estate-owner. Lifetime collector online only auction! 1,000+ lots antique/vintage items including 500+/- bottle collection, cast iron banks, post card collection, Decatur, IN memorabilia, tools & 100's of wood planes, various sizes, & much, much more! Pickup Feb. 27, 1-5 p.m. & Feb. 28, 9 a.m.-noon, 815 Adams Street, Decatur. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, kjauction.com, 260-724-7402.

FEBRUARY 26-MARCH 5 - (Online Only Auction) - Richard Martarano, seller. 2008 Gulf Stream SuperNova 6400 RV, 2019 Ford diesel F-250SD Lariat Black Widow Edition, 1994 John Deere 750 diesel compact tractor, 3-PT equipment, Artic Cat 500 ATV, "Harley Davidson" tool chest, name brand power & hand tools, riding lawn mowers, electric go kart, new heavy duty pool pumps and supplies. Preview: March 2 from 3 p.m.-6 p.m., 102 S. Jefferson St., Ossian. Pat Carter, sale manager, *The Steffen Group Inc.*, 260-824-3006.

LOTS CLOSING MARCH 9 STARTING AT 10 AM EDT - Allen Acres Inc., Kandy Villanueva. Tractor, harvest equipment, planting equipment, tillage, application equipment, farm support items. Inspection: Feb. 25 & March 8, noon-4 P.M., 2413 E. Shafer Road Warren, IN. From Warren, travel north on St. Rd. 5 to CR 900S (Salmonie School), turn right (east) go 2 miles to CR 300E, turn right (south) go .3 miles to Shafer road, turn right (west) go .6 miles to farm on left. *Merit Auctions*, www.meritauctions.com, 833-273-9300.

MARCH 10 - 9 a.m. EST - Secured creditors & various consignors, owners. 815 Adams Street, Decatur. Live & online truck & equipment auction! Over 500+ lots! Off lease day cabs and sleepers, trailers, variety of trucks, group of 3/4 ton & 1 ton pickup & utility trucks, SUV's, motor-

cycles, directional bore machines, forklifts, skid steers, shop & construction equipment, 75+ skid steer attachments, 40' container loads of brand new items, more! Preview March 9, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. *Krueckeberg Auction & Realty LLC*, 260-724-7402, kjauction.com.

MARCH 11 - 10:30 a.m. - Robert Clifton, owner. 2092 E 500 S, Bluffton. From intersection of SR 1 & SR 116 on south side of Bluffton, travel 3 1/2 miles south on SR 1 to CR 500 S, then west approx. 1 1/2 miles. Online bidding available. Tractors, combine, corn head, grain platform, grain cart, semi, hopper bottom trailer, seed tender truck, pickup. Inspection March 10, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Auction managers: Arden Schrader, 260-229-2442, Al Pfister, 260-760-8922, *Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc.*, SchraderAuction.com, 800-451-2709.

MARCH 13 - 6 p.m. ET - Eloise A. Hamrick Trust, farm. Adams County 4-H Park, dining hall, 160 W. Washington Street, Monroe. Property location: 6 miles east of Monroe, IN, Adams County, Blue Creek Township. 78+/- total acres, productive farmland, 62.2+/- tillable acres, 15+/- woods, 0.8+/- non-tillable acres. Soil types: Blount silt loam, Pewamo silty clay, Morley silty clay loam. WAPI: 145.5 corn bu., 44 soybeans bu. Rick Johnloz: 260-827-8181, *Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management*, 800-424-2324, halderman.com.

MARCH 16 - 8 a.m.-6 p.m. ET - online Only - Spaulding Farms LLC, farm. Property location: 3508 E 500 N, Montpelier, IN. 23.57+/- total acres, 22+/- tillable, 1.57+/- other, Blackford Co., Harrison Twp. Soil types: Blount-Glynwood, Pewamo silty clay. WAPI: 141.3 corn bu., 43.5 soybeans bu. Contact us today! Scott Shrader, 765-348-6538, Rick Johnloz, 260-827-8181, *Halderman Real Estate & Farm Management*, 800-424-2324, halderman.com.

Workers dig by layers in search for 47 missing at China mine

By NG HAN GUAN
Associated Press

ALXA LEAGUE, China (AP) — Work crews trying to find 47 people missing after a collapse at an open-pit mine in northern China have had to change their excavation methods to avoid causing more landslides, state media reported Friday.

Six people have been confirmed dead and six injured people have been rescued at the mine in Inner Mongolia's Alxa League as of Thursday night, broadcaster CCTV said.

With a large collapsed area at the mine, the digging done by backhoes and bulldozers can risk more collapses. The crews are excavating by layers and making trapezoid-shaped descents to carry on their search from both sides of the mountain in an adjustment of their rescue plans, the report said.

On Friday, heavy machines were seen working on the top level of the collapsed site, searching for trapped vehicles and missing persons.

"It is very challenging to conduct rescue work," Li

Zhongzeng, head of Alxa League in Inner Mongolia, told CCTV. "Rescue workers from everywhere, including those in neighboring regions, are rushing to the site."

The initial cave-in of one of the pit's walls occurred at about 1 p.m. Wednesday, burying people and mining trucks below in tons of rocks and sand. A brief video of the collapse posted on the website of the Beijing Times showed a massive wall of reddish dirt or sand rushing down a slope onto mining vehicles moving below.

A subsequent landslide about five hours later halted rescue efforts before they resumed Thursday.

CCTV said 1,160 rescuers were currently at the scene. They were seen using heavy machines, shovels and rescue dogs in their search for miners.

Chinese President Xi Jinping has called for an "all-out" search-and-rescue effort.

Wang Xiangxi, minister of emergency management, said authorities should investigate the disaster and hold accountable anyone

who was responsible for it.

Authorities in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region also issued an urgent notice asking all districts to perform safety checks and eliminate any hidden risks, according to a local state newspaper. It said every level of the government must learn lessons from the collapse and start planning inspections on open-pit mines in the region immediately. Those who do not comply with the request and cause accidents will be held accountable, it added.

On Friday, security remained tight at a checkpoint between Inner Mongolia and the neighboring region of Ningxia, with two police officers in yellow vests checking vehicles that were trying to get past what one of them called a "restricted" area.

Some trucks were turned away from proceeding further, but others including one emergency services vehicle driving very fast with a siren blaring and a truck carrying rescue supplies were let in. The checkpoint appeared quieter compared to a day ago.

Online Directory

Check out these websites of local & area companies and businesses.

Bobcat of Fort Wayne Two Brothers GENERATOR PROB. SALES & SERVICE bobcatoffortwayne.net	ABOVE BEYOND Vehicle Reconditioning abovebeyondrecon.com
JC'S GARAGE DOOR SALES & SERVICE jcsgaragedoor.com	Daniel's JEWELERS daniels-jewelers.net
KELLY'S COLLISION CENTER, INC. Owners: Quality Only 820 W. Washington Street, Bluffton kellysautocollision.com	The McM Family Memorial Chapel A Tradition of Care thegmcfamily.com
3 RIVERS 3riversfcu.org	Myers FUNERAL HOMES A Friend of the Family myersfuneralhomes.com
STEFFEN GROUP REAL ESTATE & AUCTIONS steffengroup.com	FISHER'S GARAGE DOORS fishersgaragedoors.com
Riverstone DENTAL riverstonedental.net	Bluffton Tire bluffontire.com
HERITAGE POINTE COMMUNITIES www.lifeatheritage.org	STEFFEN Financial Group steffinancial.com
INNOVATIVE CONCEPTS AUDIO VIDEO SECURITY NETWORKING icav.us	HIDAY AUTOMOTIVE GROUP hidaymotors.com
Edward Jones EdwardJones.com	MOSER & SON Heating & Air Conditioning 219 E. Perry St. Bluffton Find Us On Facebook
Lengerich MEATS lengerichmeats.com	Jerry Flack & Associates jerryflackinsuranceandinvestments.com
LaFontaine Center A RHF Community lafontainecenter.org	State Farm Erin Daugherty 260.827.0527 www.MyBlufftonSFAgent.com myblufftonsfagent.com
Still Waters FAMILY DENTISTRY stillwatersfamilydentistry.com	bi-countyservices.com bi-countyservices.com
Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home thomarich.com	HOME COURT HOME CARE homecourthomecare.com



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Ghosted and grifted?

Dear Annie: Over the years, I've reconnected with a high school friend who I've known since grammar school. Each connection throughout the years has been different until this last one where there was an instantaneous spark that truly synchronized us on so many levels, including talks about the near and far future, as well as expressing our feelings for one another, until I was ghosted. He cut off contact and has ignored me completely with no explanation.

I know this tactic has become widely used, but my confusion comes from not knowing what triggered it. We hadn't a single disagreement or argument. In fact, that last day we talked, he was receiving a shipment on my behalf that he has also since been unresponsive regarding, outside of the scope of our relationship, and I really don't know how to read this.

Ghosting's fine. Not being interested in me is fine. But how about common courtesy to return what does not belong to him so that nothing is connected between us? Especially since he's displayed all the signs that tell me he's just not interested, which I've come to accept and bow out of gracefully. — Stranger in Paradise

Dear Stranger: You're absolutely right. It's not a crime for this man to have lost romantic feelings for you, however, he has no right to keep what doesn't belong to him.

Send him another text or email asking to meet to get your package with a few dates that work for you. Mention that you've taken his silence to mean the relationship is over and your intention is simple: you just want your possessions back, period.

If he continues blowing you off, consider how far you're willing to go for this shipment. Depending on what it is, you might be better off cutting your losses. If not, you can reach out to your local police department and inquire about what kind of recourse you have. (You might also confirm with the delivery company that the item in question was successfully delivered to him to begin with.)

Dear Annie: This is in response to "Crippling Anxiety," who was struggling and overwhelmed by day-to-day

life with anxiety. I, too, have dealt with severe anxiety my entire life, even as a child, but I didn't know what it was. I felt something must be terribly wrong with me, with this nameless dread and these oppressive feelings. I had to literally name all the things that were all right in my life just to hopefully fall asleep, even at 7 years old.

Finally, in my 30s, I was able to give those feelings their name: anxiety. For me, medication has been a godsend. I have no side effects, just a welcome break from the dreadful stress that would bubble up inside. Certain times of year, depending on the season, I will still have those anxious episodes. They don't last very long, and I am able to tell myself, "This is just something that happens. It will pass." And it does, every single time. Everyone is different, and what helped me may not work for everyone, but do not give up! I will be on this medication for the rest of my life, and for me, it works. It is a blessed relief. Others, including my husband, really don't understand anxiety, and that's OK. I get you, and you are not alone! — Been There

Dear Been There: I appreciate you sharing your journey and sending such encouragement to "Crippling Anxiety." A handful of other readers sent in their stories of gratitude and relief at finding the right method for living with their anxiety, many of which included medication. With the help and guidance of a good doctor, "Crippling" and others may find that same peace of mind.

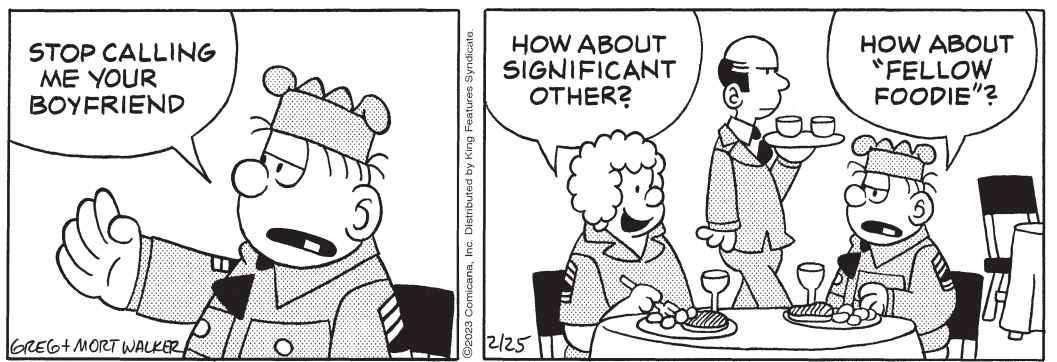
"How Can I Forgive My Cheating Partner?" is out now! Annie Lane's second anthology — featuring favorite columns on marriage, infidelity, communication and reconciliation — is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit <http://www.creatorspublishing.com> for more information. Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com. © 2023 CREATORS.COM

Dear Annie

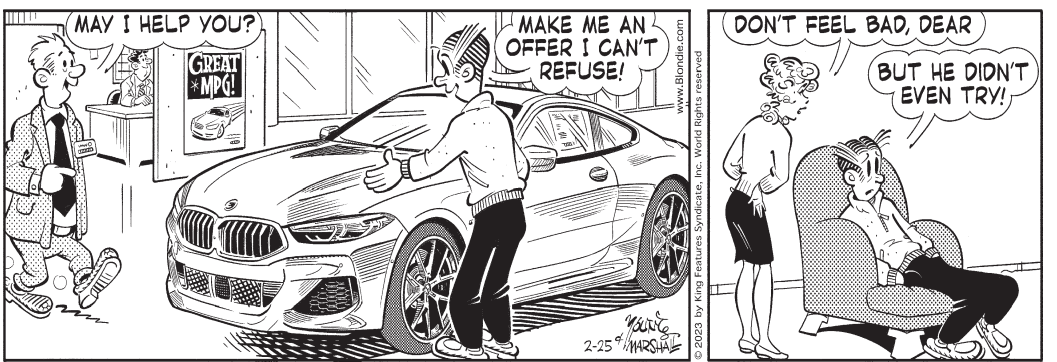
by Annie Lane



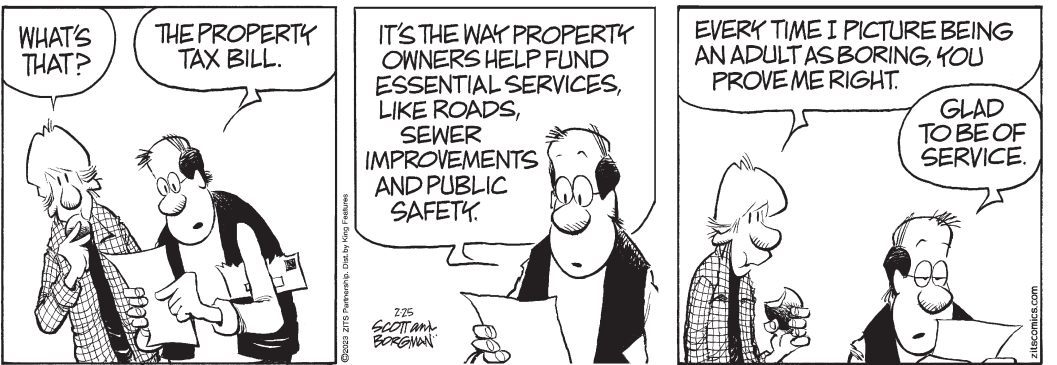
BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



ZITS



CRANKSHAFT



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

The LOCKHORNS



My Answer

By Dr. Billy Graham



A true Christian spirit desires to spend eternity with God in Heaven

He wants us to serve Him here and tell as many people about Him as possible so that they, too, can look forward to Heaven and the glory of God Himself.

At the same time, we mustn't shirk our responsibilities in this life. God intends for us to live full lives, to take care of ourselves and our families, and be responsible. But it also pleases God that His children would long for His heavenly home that He is preparing for us; not as a place of escape, but as a place where we will enjoy His presence forever.

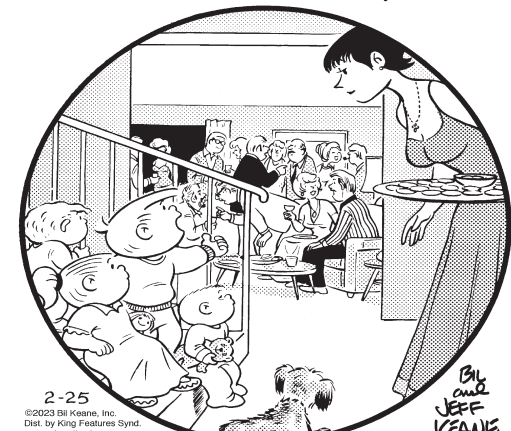
Heaven will be a place in which its citizens will be freed from the fears, insecurities, and disap-

pointments that plague us in the present life. We will be free from financial pressures that burden us down here; free from the fear of personal harm. There will be no fear of personal failure. Our relationship with God will be intimate and direct.

There is a song that says, "But until then my heart will go on singing, until then with joy I'll carry on, until the day my eyes behold that city, until the day God calls me home."

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

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"Can we stay up till Uncle Bob starts his argument?"

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ACROSS

1 Casse- singer
role base Shawn
5 Sphinx 37 French site vineyard
9 Embassy 38 — Mae (Whoopi's "Ghost" role)
12 Now, in a memo
13 First 39 Ranch visitor
14 Prefix 42 Mosquito barrier
15 Invitation 44 Canape spread
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43 Fashion magazine
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49 Buck-eyes' sch.

Yesterday's answer 2-25

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02/25	M	A	D1	D2	5 PM	5:30	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM	12:30	
WINM (12)	11	26	63		Let's Take A Fishing Outside Story	A Fishing Story	Solomon's Porch	Julie & Friends	Parent Compass	CURE America	TCT Today	Sue Thomas F.B. Eye	Pacific Garden Mission	48 Hours	Spiritual Authority	BillyGraham-TV	Daily Faith With Philip Cameron			
CBS WANE (15)	2	2	15	15	4:00 Basketball Auburn at Kentucky (L) (N)	WANE 15 News (N)	WANE 15 News (N)	Wheel of Fortune	Black History	Image Awards The 54th NAACP Image Awards honoring film and television. (L) (N)					Nightcast (N)	(35) IN Focus (N)	(35) Magnum P.I. "Killer on the Midnight Watch"			
Antenna WANE-2 (15)	106	20			Law-SVU "Trick-Rolled at the Moulin"	Law-SVU "Trick-Rolled at the Moulin"	Law-SVU "Post-Graduate Psychopath"	Law-SVU "What Can Happen in the Dark"	Law-SVU "Wolves in Sheep's Clothing"	Law & Order: SVU "Making a Rapist"	Law & Order: SVU "Terrorized"	Law & Order: SVU "Making a Rapist"	Law & Order: SVU "Terrorized"	Law & Order: SVU "Making a Rapist"	Law & Order: SVU "Terrorized"	Law & Order: SVU "Making a Rapist"	Law & Order: SVU "Terrorized"	Law & Order: SVU "Making a Rapist"	Law & Order: SVU "Terrorized"	
NBC WFTA (21)	4	3	21	21	8:30 NHL Hockey	ABC21 (N)	ABC World News (N)	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	NBA (L) (N)	NBA Basketball Boston Celtics at Philadelphia 76ers From Wells Fargo Center in Philadelphia. (L) (N)			Law & Order: SVU "Making a Rapist"	Law & Order: SVU "Terrorized"	Law & Order: SVU "Making a Rapist"	Law & Order: SVU "Terrorized"	Law & Order: SVU "Making a Rapist"	Law & Order: SVU "Terrorized"	
NBC WPTA-2 (21)	7	8	14		PGA Tour Golf	News (N)	NBC News (N)	Family Feud	Family Feud	The Wall "Tammy and Doug"	Weakest Link			SNL "Dakota Johnson; Alabama Shakes" (N)	News (N)	Saturday Night Live "Woody Harrelson; Jack White" (L) (N)				
MNT WPTA-3 (21)	10	9	56	34	Boundless	Chicago Fire "Don't Hang Up"	Chicago Fire "Don't Hang Up"	Chicago Fire "Good Dr. Two-Ply (or Not Two-Ply)"	Good Dr. "Two-Ply (or Not Two-Ply)"	9-1-1 "The New Abnormal"	The Rookie "True Crime"			*** Legacy of Blood (1971, Horror) Luke Demergue, John Russell, John Carradine.	*** Guarding Tess (1994) Nicolas Cage, Austin Pendleton, Shirley MaLaure.	Kickin' It: With Byron Allen				
CV WISE (33)	8	4	33	33	LIV Golf Series Mayakoba, Day 2 (L) (N)	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Good Dr. "Two-Ply (or Not Two-Ply)"	Masters of Illusion (N)	Masters of Illusion (N)	Animals Animals	Funnist Animals	The Liquidator	Electric Church	ACL 8th Annual Hall (N)	NOVA "New Eye on the Universe"				
PBS WFWA (39)	13	5	39	39	Great Rick Steves: Why We Travel	Daniel O'Donnell From Castlebar, Ireland	Les Miserables: The Staged Concert for redemption and revolution.	Les Miserables: The Staged Concert for redemption and revolution.	Les Miserables: The Staged Concert for redemption and revolution.	Les Miserables: The Staged Concert for redemption and revolution.	Les Miserables: The Staged Concert for redemption and revolution.	Les Miserables: The Staged Concert for redemption and revolution.	Les Miserables: The Staged Concert for redemption and revolution.	Les Miserables: The Staged Concert for redemption and revolution.	Les Miserables: The Staged Concert for redemption and revolution.	Les Miserables: The Staged Concert for redemption and revolution.	Les Miserables: The Staged Concert for redemption and revolution.	Les Miserables: The Staged Concert for redemption and revolution.	Les Miserables: The Staged Concert for redemption and revolution.	
PBS WIPB (49)	3				John Denver's Rocky Mountain High															
FOX WFFT (55)	6	6	55	55	MLS Soccer New York City FC at Nashville SC From GEODIS Park in Nashville, Tenn. (L) (N)	Hoops (L) (N)	College Basketball Indiana at Purdue From Mackey Arena in West Lafayette, Ind. (L) (N)							Big Bang	Big Bang	Special Forces "Survival"	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men		

Local Roundup

Bluffton Board of Works to meet Tuesday afternoon

The Bluffton Board of Public Works and Safety will meet at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, in the meeting room on the first floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St.

- Topics on the agenda include:
- Water adjustment at 1323 W. Cherry St.
 - Personnel matters, brought to the board by Police Chief Kyle Randall and Utilities Supervisor Jon Oman.
 - Consideration of a contract for Brooks Construction for a Community Crossings matching grant project.
 - City business, brought to the board by Chandler Gerber.
 - Frey software and project updates, brought to the board by Josh Hunt.

Northern Wells school board will meet Tuesday

The board of the Northern Wells Community Schools will meet at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, at Norwell High School, 1100E. U.S. 224.

- Topics on the agenda include:
- Superintendent's report, including recognition of Norwell High School swim team state qualifiers, Norwell Middle School NE8 conference champions, and Ossian Elementary School Grade 5 Bill of Rights Day finalists.
 - Preschool Path to Quality and On My Way PreK plan.
 - An update of the NMS project, presented by Dylan Markley of Weigand Construction.
 - Personnel matters — One request for leave, one resignation, and seven hiring recommendations.
 - Acceptance of a donation.
 - Permission to advertise NHS baseball building bids.
- A strategic planning work session will

begin immediately following the regular board meeting.

Bluffton Parks Board will meet Thursday evening

The board of the Bluffton Parks and Recreation Department will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 2, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, 128 E. Market St.

- Topics on the agenda include:
- Treasurer's and superintendent's reports.
 - Activities reports.
 - Donation reports.
 - A juvenile matter discussion.
 - Facility and event requests.
 - Summer hiring.

Area Plan Commission will meet Thursday evening

The Wells County Area Plan Commission will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 2, in Room 105, the multi-purpose room on the lower level of the Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St.

- Topics on the agenda include:
- A request for a zoning change, from R-2 to R-3 (concerning residential zoning density) at 1131 S. Morgan St. in Bluffton. CLAD LLC is making the request.
 - Discussion of violations at 2706 S Hoosier Highway, 1026 S. Scott St. in Bluffton, 11520N-750E in Jefferson Township, 3024 S. Main St. in Liberty Center, 3038 S. Main St., in Liberty Center, 1599 SE Ind. 116 in Lancaster Township, 6059 S. Ind. 1 in Nottingham Township, 5777 W. Oak Road in Rockcreek Township, 17815 Wayne St. in Zanesville, and 5822 S. Meridian Road in Liberty Township.
 - Updates on the county's comprehensive plan, revitalization efforts, and housing study.

Feds seek to limit telehealth prescriptions for some drugs

By AMANDA SEITZ and LINDSAY WHITEHURST
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Biden administration moved Friday to require patients see a doctor in person before getting attention deficit disorder medication or addictive painkillers, toughening access to the drugs against the backdrop of a deepening opioid crisis.

The proposal could overhaul the way millions of Americans get some prescriptions after three years of relying on telehealth for doctor's appointments by computer or phone during the pandemic.

The Drug Enforcement Administration said late Friday it plans to reinstate once longstanding federal requirements for powerful drugs that were waived once COVID-19 hit, enabling doctors to write millions of prescriptions for drugs such as OxyContin or Adderall without ever meeting patients in person.

Patients will need to see a doctor in person at least once to get an initial prescription for drugs that the federal government says have the most potential to be abused — Vicodin, OxyContin, Adderall and Ritalin, for example. Refills could be prescribed over telehealth appointments.

The agency will also

clamp down on how doctors can prescribe other, less addictive drugs to patients they've never physically met. Substances like codeine, taken to alleviate pain or coughing, Xanax, used to treat anxiety, Ambien, a sleep aid, and buprenorphine, a narcotic used to treat opioid addiction, can be prescribed over telehealth for an initial 30-day dose. Patients would need to see a doctor at least once in person to get a refill.

Patients will still be able to get common prescriptions like antibiotics, skin creams, birth control and insulin prescribed through telehealth visits.

The new rule seeks to keep expanded access to telehealth that's important for patients like those in rural areas while also balancing safety, an approach DEA Administrator Anne Milgram referred to as "expansion of telemedicine with guardrails."

The ease with which Americans have accessed certain medications during the pandemic has helped many get needed treatment, but concerns have also mounted that some companies may take advantage of the lax rules and be overprescribing medications to people who don't need them, said David Herzberg, a historian of drugs at the University of Buffalo.

"Both sides of this ten-

sion have really good points," said Herzberg. "You don't want barriers in the way of getting people prescriptions they need. But anytime you remove those barriers it's also an opportunity for profit seekers to exploit the lax rules and sell the medicines to people who may not need them."

U.S. overdose deaths hit a record in 2021, about three-quarters of those from opioids during a crisis that was first spun into the making by drug makers, pharmacies and doctors that pushed the drugs to patients decades ago. But the grim toll from synthetic opioids like fentanyl far outstripped deaths related to prescription drugs that year, according to Centers for Disease Control Data. Fentanyl is increasingly appearing on the illicit market, pressed into fake prescription pills or mixed into other drugs.

The proposed rules deliver a major blow to a booming telehealth industry, with tech startups launching in recent years to treat and prescribe medications for mental health or attention deficit disorders. The industry has largely benefitted from the reprieve on in-person visits for drugs brought on by the pandemic, although some national retailers stopped filling drug orders generated by some telehealth apps over the last year.

Flotsam found off New York may be from SS Savannah

By KAREN MATTHEWS
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A chunk of weather-beaten flotsam that washed up on a New York shoreline after Tropical Storm Ian last fall has piqued the interest of experts who say it is likely part of the SS Savannah, which ran aground and broke apart in 1821, two years after it became the first vessel to cross the Atlantic Ocean partly under steam power.

The roughly 13-foot square piece of wreckage was spotted in October off Fire Island, a barrier island that hugs Long Island's southern shore, and is now in the custody of the Fire Island Lighthouse Preservation Society. It will work with National Park Service officials to identify the wreckage and put it on public display.

"It was pretty thrilling to find it," said Betsy DeMaria, a museum technician at the park service's Fire Island National Seashore. "We definitely are going to have some subject matter experts take a look at it and help us get a better view of what we have here."

It may be difficult to identify the wreckage with 100 percent certainty, but park service officials said the Savannah is a top contender among Fire Island's known shipwrecks.

Explorers have searched for the Savannah for over two centuries but have not found anything they could definitively link to the famous ship. The newly discovered wreckage, though, "very well could be" a piece of the historic shipwreck, said Ira Breskin, a senior lecturer at the State University of New York Maritime College in the Bronx. "It makes perfect sense."

Evidence includes the 1-to-1.3-inch wooden pegs holding the wreckage's planks together, consistent with a 100-foot vessel, park

service officials said in a news release. The Savannah was 98 feet, 6 inches long. Additionally, the officials said, the wreckage's iron spikes suggest a ship built around 1820. The Savannah was built in 1818.

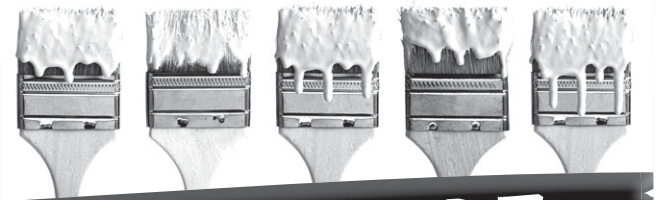
Breskin, author of "The Business of Shipping," noted that the Savannah's use of steam power was so advanced for its time that the May 24, 1819, start of its transatlantic voyage is commemorated as National

Maritime Day. "It's important because they were trying to basically show the viability of a steam engine to make it across the pond," he said.

Breskin said a nautical archaeologist should be able to help identify the Fire Island wreckage, which appears likely to be from the Savannah. "It's plausible, and it's important, and it's living history if the scientists confirm that it is what we think it is," he said.

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