



# Bellefontaine Examiner WEEKENDER

Vol. 133 • No. 156

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2024

1 DOLLAR

## LOCAL PLAYOFFS

Lakers, Tigers advance to Round 2



SATURDAY  
▼ 34 ▲ 59



SUNDAY  
▼ 39 ▲ 66

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## Letters lead to prison sentence for rape

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

MARYSVILLE — A Bellefontaine man was sentenced to an indefinite prison term of 27 to 31 years after pleading guilty in Union County Common Pleas Court to multiple counts of rape, strangulation and extortion, the Union County Prosecutor's Office reports.

Tobias Johann Hilz, 41, coerced his ex-girlfriend into unwanted sexual acts and extorted money from her, using threats

to contact child protective services and publicly release intimate photos and videos he had taken of her. He also threatened to destroy her belongings unless she complied with his demands.

In addition to sexual violence, Hilz physically assaulted the woman, causing visible injuries from strangulation, the prosecu-



HILZ

tor's office reports in a release.

Critical evidence in the case included a series of letters and text messages written by Hilz, which he intended as a confession and a commitment to stop contact with the victim.

In these messages, Hilz admitted to "threatening, manipulating, blackmailing, and instilling fear" to stay close to the victim, despite her "begging and crying for her freedom." His con-

See SENTENCE on P2

## GENERAL ELECTION PREVIEW



Logan County Children's Services, located at 1855 W. State Route 47, Bellefontaine, has proposed a renewal levy that appears on the Nov. 5 ballot. (EXAMINER PHOTO | MANDY LOEHR)

## Children's Services requests renewal of current levy funds

BY MANDY LOEHR  
EXAMINER STAFF WRITER

Early voters and Logan County residents making their way to the polls Tuesday, Nov. 5, for the General Election have one lone county-wide issue this year to decide on the ballot — a 2.15-mill renewal levy for Logan County Children's Services.

The five-year levy would generate approximately \$2.6 million per year for general operating expenses of LCCS. The 2.15 mills amounts to \$75 for each \$100,000 of the Logan County Auditor's appraised value of property.

LCCS Executive Director Erica James made an important distinction for this levy — it is a renewal, with no new money. In the spring, LCCS proposed a replacement levy on the March Primary Election, which was narrowly defeated by eight votes.

If approved by voters for the Nov. 5 ballot, the renewal levy would first come due in calendar year 2025.

James, who began her director role at LCCS on June 27 following about 16 years of social work experience, said much of the levy funding is utilized by children's services for purchased care costs, which involves residential care, foster care and group home expenses.

"It's our biggest expense and serves our most vulnerable and highest-need kids," said James, a Logan County native who began her career as a child welfare worker at LCCS for six years.

For instance, the executive director noted that for some high-need youths, the cost for care can run between \$600-\$1,000 a day.

While some children who are in agency custody are eligible for IV-E funding (and then also federal and state funds to pay for purchased care), there are many youths who fall outside of the eligibility guidelines for IV-E funds and local funding must be utilized for purchased care for these children, James said.

Across the state, purchased care costs currently are escalating due to various factors, including the shortage of foster homes and also relating to the additional requirements that have recently been placed upon group homes and residential care facilities and the more qualified staff that they need to hire, the LCCS director noted.

In addition, levy funds are utilized for drug screening costs for families served; along with psychological assessments that are ordered; food and other supplies to meet a child's needs in an emergency situation; and local contracts, including with Logan County Family Treatment Court, the Logan County Sheriff's Office for a deputy on duty for 25 hours a week, the Logan County Prosecutor's Office for legal services and as a funding member of the Logan County Family and Children First Council.

James said she is both honored and excited to return to her roots as the executive director of Logan County Children's Services.

"We want to create community spaces where we can engage in conversations," James said this week, noting that she and her staff have recently met with area school district officials, local law enforcement and staff at the Logan County Libraries.

See RENEWAL on Page 2

## Halloween howdy howdy howdy



ABOVE: Rose and Ed Bailey of Michigan, center, dressed as Mr. and Mrs. Potato Head, trick-or-treat with their local children and grandchildren along Brookwood Drive in Bellefontaine Thursday evening, Oct. 31, all dressed as characters from Disney and Pixar's Toy Story, including Rex, Stinky Pete, Bo Peep, Buzz Lightyear, Woody, Jessie and Slinky the Dog. Fellow family members from Bellefontaine and Marysville, pictured from the left, are Wayne Hughes, Justin Alloway, Melissa Hughes, Leslie Everett, kneeling with her daughters Hadley and Marleigh, Larry Everett and joining together as Slinky, friends Charley Hughes and Grace Hedges. The family said they pick a theme each year for their Beggar's Night costumes and enjoy the annual candy-gathering and dress-up tradition together. (EXAMINER PHOTO | MANDY LOEHR)

## Halloween pumpkin



ABOVE LEFT: The wind and rain may have slowed things down a bit, especially as night rolled in, but kids in costumes still roamed the streets of Bellefontaine during trick or treat on Thursday, Oct. 31. A jack-o-lantern and other revelers approach a house on Irving Avenue. (EXAMINER PHOTO | SHARYN KOPF)

## Young officer on duty



ABOVE RIGHT: A young "police officer" catches the bad guy, and scores some candy Thursday evening, Oct. 31, during Beggar's Night during a visit by officers of the Bellefontaine Police Department and volunteers with the BPD Citizens Police Academy Alumni, who were handing out treats along Whispering Pines. (BPD PHOTO)

## Georgia officials agree to spend \$100 million on Hurricane Helene aid for farms and forestry

ATLANTA (AP) — Georgia's state government is diverting \$100 million to spend on loans to farmers and cleanup after Hurricane Helene.

The Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission voted unanimously Friday to spend the money, which had been set aside for construction projects or paying off existing debt.

Officials last month estimated that the storm, which caused extensive damage in the eastern half of the state after a Sept. 26 landfall in Florida, caused \$6.46 billion in economic losses in the state's agriculture and forestry industries.

Cotton, pecan and chicken farmers took severe losses, as did owners of private timberlands. Lt. Gov. Burt Jones and others have called the damage a "generational loss."

The Georgia Development Authority, a state agency that lends money to farmers, will get \$75

million to provide disaster relief loans to farmers and associated businesses in the agricultural industry. The other \$25 million will be spent to clean up timber losses and other debris, said Garrison Douglas, a spokesperson for Gov. Brian Kemp.

Because Georgia has been flush with surplus cash, it has been paying for construction projects using cash, instead of the traditional method of selling bonds to borrow money. The \$100 million was being held for future spending, but it hadn't been allotted to any project that is already underway, Douglas said.

Because Georgia ended last year with a \$2 billion surplus, lawmakers may be able to replace the \$100 million when they amend the current budget during the 2025 legislative session that begins in January.

See AID on Page 3

## U.S. employers added just 12,000 jobs last month as hurricanes and strikes sharply reduce payrolls

WASHINGTON (AP) — America's employers added just 12,000 jobs in October, a total that economists say was held down by the effects of strikes and hurricanes that left many workers temporarily off payrolls. The report provided a somewhat blurry view of the job market at the end of a presidential race that has pivoted heavily on voters' feelings about the economy.

Last month's hiring gain was down significantly from the 223,000 jobs that were added in September. But economists have estimated that Hurricanes Helene and Milton, combined with strikes at Boeing and elsewhere, had the effect of pushing down net job growth by tens of thousands of jobs in October.

Friday's report from the Labor Department also showed that the unemployment rate remained at 4.1% last month. The low jobless rate suggests that the labor market is still fundamentally healthy, if not as robust as it was early this year. Combined with an inflation rate that has tumbled from its 2022 peak to near pre-pandemic levels, the overall economy appears to be on solid footing on the eve of Election Day.

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## ABE MARTIN



"When we look around about us it don't seem possible that women used to milk cows, rock cradles an' make bread."

Written prior, 1931, by Kin Hubbard, a world-famous newspaper humorist and father of late T.E. Hubbard, former Examiner owner/publisher

## New coffee shop goes up in a jiffy

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Almost as fast as its coffee products will soon help wake people up in the morning, a new Biggby Coffee drive-thru location was erected in Bellefontaine Wednesday, Oct. 30, in a matter of hours.

City resident and U.S. Air Force veteran Dwight Preston and his brother, Johnathon Kelley of Marysville, own the city's newest coffee shop, located at 170 Augusta Drive, and anticipate it will open some time in mid-January.

Work crews with the Alpena, Mich.-based BCubed Manufacturing, LLC, began assembling the 349 square-foot prefabricated, sectional structure about 8 a.m. and performed the final walkthrough of the completed building at 4 p.m., co-owner Preston said.

While there will be no



Owners of the new Biggby Coffee drive-thru in Bellefontaine, brothers Dwight Preston, left, and Johnathon Kelley, center, take the keys to their new building Wednesday from BCubed Manufacturing project manager Trevor McConnell. (BIGGBY COFFEE PHOTO)

inside dining at the location, plans are to add patio seating and a walk-up window for customers, Preston noted.

BCubed works with Biggby franchises and their modular drive-thru facilities

come pre-wired and pre-plumbed, according to the firm's website.

Jeremy LeVan with LeVan's Excavating of West Liberty is performing the excavation, concrete and asphalt work for the project.

## SENTENCE

Continued from Page 1

fession also revealed his anger and intent to punish her for leaving him, including threats to have her children removed from her care.

The investigation was conducted by the Richwood Village Police Department. Former Logan County Common Pleas Court Judge Mark O'Connor sentenced Hilz to prison, ordered restitution of \$3,200, and mandated that he register as a Tier III sex offender upon his release.

"Hilz's conduct was abhorrent and highlights the darkest forms of power and control. Through calcu-

lated manipulation, threats, and violent acts, Hilz sought to dominate and terrorize his victim, depriving her of the freedom, safety and dignity that every individual deserves. His use of threats and intimidation, coupled with physical abuse, is a chilling reminder of the lengths some individuals will go to exert control over another human," the Union County Prosecutor's Office said in the release.

"No one should ever feel compelled to live in fear or forced to make impossible choices to protect themselves or their loved ones from harm. The survivor showed immense bravery by coming forward, provid-

ing the evidence needed to hold her abuser accountable. Her courage, along with the diligent work of the Richwood Village Police Department, has ensured that justice was served.

"Our office remains steadfast in our commitment to protecting victims of abuse and holding people who commit such vile acts accountable. Cases like this reinforce our resolve to prosecute abusers who seek to exert power and control over others to the fullest extent of the law. This case reflects our determination to keep our community safe and send a clear message: this behavior will never be tolerated."

## RENEWAL

Continued from Page 1

"It is a job of the community as a whole to keep kids safe, and the best way to do that is together."

Following James' initial stint at Logan County Children's Services as a child welfare worker, she

began working at OSU Wexner Medical Center in Columbus, where she worked as a medical social worker for almost three years, addressing the social and emotional needs of patients.

She then expanded her expertise at the Educational

Service Center of Central Ohio, serving as an EPSEA Liaison and Coordinator for the past seven years. In this role, she strengthened partnerships with Franklin County Children's Services, providing academic and social-emotional support to youths in care.

## MRH providers bring careers to life for third-graders

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

The Logan County Collaborative's "3E" Initiative brought excitement and career exploration to Benjamin Logan Elementary School Tuesday, Oct. 29, as local health professionals from Mary Rutan Health visited 3rd-grade classrooms.

This unique initiative, supported by Honda, is designed to connect students with diverse career pathways through engaging storytelling and real-life role models.

The classroom visits featured Niki Thomas from Mary Rutan Cardiology and Michelle Hamm from Mary Rutan Respiratory. Both professionals shared stories about their careers, providing students with a first-hand look into the world of healthcare.

These presentations allowed young students to envision potential futures in medical fields, inspiring curiosity and offering a glimpse into the vital work of health providers within the community.

The 3E Initiative, a collaborative effort of businesses, educators, public officials, and community members, aims to inspire students by introducing them to various professions at an early age. The pro-



Benjamin Logan Elementary third-graders listen to a story and career presentation Tuesday. (BENJAMIN LOGAN PHOTO)

gram's goal is to foster career exploration by inviting local professionals to read stories related to their fields, making career pathways accessible and relatable.

"The 3E Initiative gives our students a meaningful opportunity to connect with community role models," said a representative of Benjamin Logan Schools. "We are grateful to Mary Rutan Health and all participating professionals who

are helping students explore the wide range of career opportunities available to them."

The Logan County Collaborative remains committed to enriching students' educational experiences by building community connections and supporting early career exploration. For more information on the 3E Initiative or to get involved, contact the Logan County Chamber of Commerce.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

YOUR GUIDE TO AREA HAPPENINGS

### ELECTION DAY MEALS

• **First United Presbyterian Church** — 117 N Main St., Bellefontaine, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Election Day Luncheon and Bazaar, meal options include chicken & noodles, mashed potatoes; Soup & Sandwich (BBQ or shredded chicken) plus, salad & pie. Dine in, pick up or delivery. Cost \$12/meal. [www.bellefontainepres.com](http://www.bellefontainepres.com) to order online



• **Philadelphia Lutheran Church** — 5506 Township Road 201, Bellefontaine, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 5, dine-in and carry-out available, orders of five meals or greater can be delivered; menu: shredded chicken or sloppy joe sandwiches, chili or potato soup, homemade pies; cost is donation.

• **Rushsylvania United Methodist Church** — 152 Rush St., Rushsylvania; chicken and noodle curbside pick-up supper, serving begins at 4:30 p.m., menu includes: chicken and noodles, mashed potatoes, green beans, cinnamon applesauce, roll, assorted pies; all for a donation.

• **West Mansfield Methodist Church** — 212 E. Center St., West Mansfield; b 4 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 5; shredded pork or shredded chicken sandwiches, soups: potato, broccoli, vegetable beef or chili, and desserts; free will donation; carry-outs available.

### VETERANS DAY EVENTS

• **Indian Lake Schools** — 12:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 11, Indian Lake area veterans and their guests are invited to a day of celebration and recognition at Indian Lake High School; a full lunch will be served, followed by an assembly; make reservations with your name, branch of service and guests who will be attending, no later than Nov. 4, you may call the school at (937) 686-8851 ext. 4215 or the high school office with your information.

• **Riverside Schools** — Monday, Nov. 11, annual Veterans Day Breakfast and Assembly, breakfast in the cafeteria starts at 8 a.m., followed by assembly in the gymnasium at 9 a.m.; guests are asked to park in the east parking lot by the high school gym, enter through the high school gym doors to sign in; musical performances and a guest speaker are planned; all veterans and their spouses are welcome.

• **Bellefontaine City Schools' Veterans Day Field of Honor** — Nov. 8-15, at Blue Jacket Park.

### LOCAL NOTES

#### Craft show planned for Nov. 9

Wake Up the World Ministries' annual craft show takes place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9, at the First Church of God, 1000 E. Brown Ave, Bellefontaine, featuring gift shopping opportunities and concessions.

One hundred percent of the amount collected from the vendor set-up fee goes toward buying Christmas gifts for children through Logan County Children's Services.

Contact Heather at (937) 441-5168 or e-mail, [kenzy32309@embarqmail.com](mailto:kenzy32309@embarqmail.com).

#### Team conducts wreath fundraiser

Support the Benjamin Logan Cross Country Team by purchasing a holiday wreath. These large wreaths, sourced from Wenger's Wintergreens, are \$35 each and will stay fresh throughout the holiday season.

Orders are due Wednesday, Nov. 13, and will be delivered to the school the last week of November.

Prepayment is required for pick-up or delivery. To place an order, contact Kevin Butler at [butlerk@benjaminlogan.org](mailto:butlerk@benjaminlogan.org) or reach out to any BL Cross Country Athlete.

#### Les Fons' Cabaret show set for Nov. 15, 16

Bellefontaine High School's showchoir, Les Fons, will present "The Sound of the 60's," its annual Cabaret show at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 15 and Saturday, Nov. 16.

Tickets are \$5 online through the BCS box office, <https://www.bcs-k12.org/athletics/bcs-box-office>, or at the door.

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## OBITUARIES

### Peter A. Hurley

Peter A. Hurley, 73, of Bellefontaine, passed away at 5:50 a.m. on Wednesday, October 30, 2024, at Champaign Residential in Bellefontaine. He was born in Springfield, Ohio on September 6, 1951, to the late Ray E. and Susan "Sue" M. (Jenkins) Hurley.

Peter is survived by his sisters, Jennifer Hollon and Amy (John) King; several nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews; and special friend and caregiver of 23 years, Julie Wireman.

Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Marcus R. Hurley; and brothers-in-law, Ron Hollon and Steve Davis.

After graduating from Ludlow Ross Training Center, Peter spent his entire career working for RTC Industries until retiring. He spent many years participating in the Special Olympics as a member of the bowling and relay teams. Peter was an avid Cincinnati Reds fan, and idolized Pete Rose. He had the amazing ability to recall sports statistics and was also a fan of the Cincinnati Bengals. Peter loved to listen to the radio, and he made sure to always have one with him. He was a huge fan of music. Anyone who knew Peter knew joy and his laughter was infectious. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

A visitation will be Wednesday, November 6, from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Eichholtz Daring & Sanford Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 321 N. Main Street, Bellefontaine. Funeral service will be on Wednesday, November 6, beginning at 11 a.m. at the funeral home. Burial will follow in Garwood Cemetery in East Liberty.

The family requests attendees wear Cincinnati Reds or Bengals attire in memory of Peter.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Special Olympics of Ohio, 921 Eastwind Drive, Suite 120, Westerville, Ohio 43081.

Eichholtz Daring & Sanford Funeral Home & Cremation Center, Bellefontaine, is honored to serve the Hurley family and encourages anyone to share a fond memory or message of condolence at [www.edsfh.com](http://www.edsfh.com).

### David M. Wickerham

David M. Wickerham, 93, of Bellefontaine, passed away peacefully on Thursday, October 24, 2024, at the Campbell Place senior living community. He was born in Springfield, Ohio on May 23, 1931, to the late Cecil and Mary (Kennedy) Wickerham.

He is survived by his children: David M. Wickerham II, Dana Wickerham, and Dawn (Paul) Scott Jr, step-son: Jeff (Paulette Leeper) Hendricks. Grandfather of Paul Scott III, Kipp (Ayaka) Hendricks and Great Grandfather of Yavoi and Toki Hendricks. He is also survived by sister, Zelma Carter and nephew Perry (Kathy) Allison.

David was a proud United States Air Force Veteran who served in the Korean War. Following his service, he started as a machine operator at the Westinghouse Electric small motor plant in Bellefontaine -eventually advancing to serve as a production supervisor until the plant closure in 1985. He was a longtime member of The American Legion and VFW in Bellefontaine. David's interest in following the Cincinnati Reds, Ohio State Buckeyes, and Cleveland Browns is something he shared with his children that they carry on to this day. In his leisure time, he also enjoyed playing golf and spending time with family.

The family would very much like to thank all those at Campbell Place who took such great care of Dad the last few years of his life.

David's wish was to be cremated and there will be a private inurnment at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Harold Kerr American Legion Post #173, 120 Colton Ave, Bellefontaine, OH 43311.

Eichholtz Daring & Sanford Funeral Home & Cremation Center, Bellefontaine, is honored to serve the Wickerham family and encourages anyone to share a fond memory or message of condolence at [www.edsfh.com](http://www.edsfh.com).

## Jobs

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The government did not estimate how many jobs were likely removed temporarily from payrolls last month. But economists have said they think the storms and strikes caused up to 100,000 jobs to be dropped. Reflecting the impact of the strikes, factories shed 46,000 positions in October.

In a cautionary sign for future hiring, though, temporary job placement firms lost 49,000 jobs last month. Companies often take on temporary workers before committing to full-time employees. On the other hand, healthcare companies added 52,000 jobs in October, and state and local governments tacked on 39,000.

The employment report for October also revised down the government's estimate of the job gains in August and September by a combined 112,000, indicating that the labor market wasn't quite as robust then as initially thought.

"The big one-off shocks that struck the economy in October make it impossible to know whether the job market was changing direction in the month," Bill Adams, chief economist at Comerica Bank, wrote in a commentary. "But the downward revisions to job growth through September show it was cooling before these shocks struck."

Still, economists have noted that the United States has the strongest of the world's most advanced economies, one that has

proved surprisingly durable despite the pressure of high interest rates. This week, for example, the government estimated that the economy expanded at a healthy 2.8% annual rate last quarter, with consumer spending helping drive growth.

Yet as voters choose between former President Donald Trump and Vice President Kamala Harris, large numbers of Americans have said they are unhappy with the state of the economy. Despite the plummeting of inflation, many people are exasperated by high prices, which surged during the recovery from the pandemic recession and remain about 20% higher on average than they were before inflation began accelerating in early 2021.

With inflation having significantly cooled, the Fed is set to cut its benchmark interest rate next week for a second time and likely again in December. The Fed's 11 rate hikes in 2022 and 2023 managed to help slow inflation without tipping the economy into a recession. A series of Fed rate cuts should lead, over time, to lower borrowing rates for consumers and businesses.

In the meantime, there have been signs of a slowdown in the job market. This week, the Labor Department reported that employers posted 7.4 million job openings in September. Though that is still more than employers posted on the eve of the 2020 pandemic, it amounted to the fewest openings since January 2021.

And 3.1 million Americans quit their jobs in September, the fewest in more than four years. A drop in quits tends to indicate that more workers are losing confidence in their ability to land a better job elsewhere.

Even so, with the unemployment rate and the number of people seeking unemployment aid each week still uncommonly low, Americans as a whole continue to enjoy unusual job security.

"The cooling of the jobs market is still ongoing," said Sarah House, senior economist at Wells Fargo. "Overall, the jobs market — it's not falling apart, but it's too early to say that conditions have stabilized."

For employers, a softer job market is easing the labor shortages that left many of them struggling to find and keep workers over the past few years.

Jon Abt, co-president of Abt Electronics in Chicago, said it has become somewhat easier to hire, and his company has felt less pressure to raise wages this year. Still, finding qualified installers and service technicians remains a challenge.

The electronics retailer, which employs 1,750, including 200 part-timers, runs its own training program, works with trade schools to find workers and also receives applicants by referral. If the job market deteriorates further, Abt said, "it will be easier to find quality people we are looking for."

## CHIEFTAIN NHS INDUCTION



The Bellefontaine High School National Honor Society inducted 21 new members Wednesday night, Oct. 30, in a ceremony at the BHS Auditorium. The new inductees are Isabel Beck, Claire Brown, Ava Dolan, Max Fissel, Kaeleigh Flora, Caitlin Haley, Lorenz Henry, Ava Kunze, Elliott Lang, Emma Merrin, Harper Penhorwood, Adison Postle, Rylie Reames, Thessaly Reminder, Kayla Sellars, Natalie Snapp, Reagan Standley, Chloe Stolly, Patrick Stolly, Reid Varner and Addison Wical. High school juniors and seniors must complete an application and write an essay to be considered for induction. Other requirements include a 3.5 cumulative grade point average and a minimum of 6 hours of community service each year in high school. Students must also demonstrate the four pillars of NHS — Character, Scholarship, Leadership, and Service. The featured speaker was former BHS music teacher Stacy Calton, who shared her life experiences with the new inductees. Calton detailed recent adversity in her life, including her father's sudden passing in 2021 and her cancer diagnosis last year. She challenged each student to have a positive attitude, especially during trying times. (BCS PHOTO)

## Patio party



Saucy Sows Meats & Sweets, a meat shop, deli and specialty store outside of DeGraff at 13 State Route 235, now invites customers to enjoy lunch or a snack or donuts on their newly-installed patio. According to owner Denise Scherer, pictured standing beside a table of customers, she and her husband, Scott Scherer, originally planned to build an enclosed vegetable stand next to their store. "But," Denise said, "we've had so many people ask us to put tables and chairs out here so they could have lunch. I think it's a perfect fit because there's nothing else out this way." The four-year-old business will expand again in Spring 2025, when they'll add a food truck serving lunch and dinner three days a week — Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Denise stated they already have the truck and plan to put the menu together soon. To celebrate the new patio, Saucy Sows set up a Der Dutchman truck outside on Thursday, Oct. 31, where people could purchase fresh donuts and hot coffee. (EXAMINER PHOTO I HOLLIE S. HUBBARD)

## Aid

Continued from Page 1

The state did not spend similar money after 2018's Hurricane Michael. Helene's damage to agriculture has been estimated as more than twice as costly as Michael. The earlier storm was followed by a federal fight over aid that delayed help to farmers. Georgia itself spent more than \$470 million on loans and recovery after Michael.

"This is something we learned we could do," Douglas said of the \$100 million. Kemp and other state leaders say they will consider additional relief both when the General Assembly meets in January, as well as through administrative measures before then.

"We'll continue to work with stakeholders on all levels to direct resources and support to the hard-working Georgians devastated by this storm," Kemp said in a statement Friday.

Kemp, Georgia state House Speaker Jon Burns and others have been urging Congress to act quickly on a relief package for Hurricanes Helene and

Milton. They are asking Congress to give block grants to states that the states can then give to farmers for recovery purposes. Burns is urging similar block grants that states could spend to repair damaged infrastructure and help private business-

es and citizens. "This measure will provide necessary financial relief to farmers and foresters as we continue to work alongside our federal partners to secure every available asset and resource for the Georgians impacted by this disaster," Burns said in a statement.

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## FUNERAL 101

[ CASKETS ]

**Q:** Mom says she wants a simple casket. But what is simple?

**A:** Simple can be a wood casket with an ivory velvet interior. Simple can be a blue metal casket with a blue interior. Tell Mom that simple can be difficult to decide.

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EICHHOLTZ  
DARING & SANFORD  
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# Entertainment

## At 50, Hello Kitty is as 'kawaii' and lucrative as ever

TOKYO (AP) — Hello Kitty turns 50 on Friday. Befitting a pop icon at midlife, the bubble-headed, bow-wearing character's fictional birthday has brought museum exhibits, a theme park spectacle and a national tour. And that's just in Japan, her literal birthplace but not the one listed in her official biography.

Confused? Welcome to the party. If there's one thing about Hello Kitty, it's that she's proven adaptable and as much a study in contrasts during her long career. She — and Kitty is a she, according to the company that owns her — may have been conceived as a vessel for the feelings of others, but some women see an empowering symbol in her mouthless face.

"Shrewd" is how Mika Nishimura, a design professor at Tokyo's Meisei University, describes the way Hello Kitty conquered the worlds of commerce, fashion and entertainment. As a tabula rasa open to interpretation, the non-threatening creation was the perfect vehicle for making money, she said.

"American feminists have said she doesn't say anything and acquiesces to everyone. But in Japan, we also see how she may appear happy if you're happy, and sad if



The 50th anniversary Hello Kitty dolls with Los Angeles Dodgers uniform are sold at a shop Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2024 in Tokyo. (AP PHOTO/EUGENE HOSHIKO)

you're feeling sad," Nishimura told The Associated Press. "It's a product strategy that's sheer genius. By being so adaptable, Kitty gets all those collaborative deals."

The character's semicentennial is evidence of that. Sanrio, the Japanese entertainment company that holds the rights to Hello Kitty's name and image, kicked off the festivities a year ago with an animation account on TikTok, Roblox games and an avatar for the social networking app Zepeto.

There have been anniversary editions of merchandise

ranging from pet collars, cosmetics and McDonald's Happy Meals to Crocs and a Baccarat crystal figurine. A gold coin pendant with the image of Hello Kitty holding the number 50 is selling for about 120,000 yen (\$800), while a Casio watch costs 18,700 yen (\$120).

But first, more on the origin story.

Unlike Mickey Mouse and Snoopy, Hello Kitty didn't start as a cartoon. A young Sanrio illustrator named Yuko Shimizu drew her in 1974 as a decoration for stationery, tote bags, cups and other small

accessories. The design made its debut on a coin purse the next year and became an instant hit in Japan.

As Hello Kitty's commercial success expanded beyond Asia, so did her personal profile. By the late 1970s, Sanrio revealed the character's name as Kitty White, her height as five apples tall and her birthplace as suburban London, where the company said she lived with her parents and twin sister Mimmy.

"The main theme of Hello Kitty is friendship. When I first created it, I made a family of which Kitty was a part. But then Hello Kitty started to appear in other settings as the character grew," Shimizu told the BBC in June. "Sanrio put a lot of effort into building the brand into what it is today."

At some point, Sanrio designated Kitty's birthday as Nov. 1, the same as Shimizu's. Her background was embellished with hobbies that included playing piano, reading and baking. Her TV appearances required co-stars, including a pet cat named Charmmy Kitty that made its debut 20 years ago.

But Hello Kitty's 40th birthday brought an update that astonished fans. Sanrio clarified to a Los Angeles museum curator that Kitty,

despite her feline features, was a little girl. A company spokesperson repeated the distinction this year, renewing debate online about the requirements for being considered human.

"She is supposed to be Kitty White and English. But this is part of the enigma: Who is Hello Kitty? We can't figure it out. We don't even know if she is a cat," art historian Joyce S. Cheng, a University of Oregon associate professor, said. "There is an unresolved indeterminacy about her that is so amazing."

Part of the confusion stems from a misunderstanding of "kawaii," which is Japanese for "cute" but also connotes a lovable or adorable essence. Sanrio recruited Shimizu and other illustrators to create "kawaii" characters at a time when cute, girlish styles were popular in Japan. But the word is used often in Japanese society, and not only to describe babies and puppies.

An elderly man, something as innocuous as an umbrella, a subcompact car or a kitchen utensil, or even a horror movie monster can get labeled "kawaii." By Western standards, the idea may seem embarrassingly frivolous. But it's taken seriously in Japan,

where the concept is linked with the most honorable instincts.

The complexity of "kawaii" may help explain Hello Kitty's enduring appeal across generations and cultures, why Canadian singer-songwriter Avril Lavigne released a song titled "Hello Kitty" a decade ago, and why Britain's King Charles wished Hello Kitty a happy 50th birthday when he hosted Japan's Emperor Naruhito and Empress Masako at Buckingham Palace in June.

Although Hello Kitty may seem to embody the self-sacrificing woman stereotype, it's revealing that three women have served as the character's chief designers at Sanrio. Yuko Yamaguchi, who has held the role since 1980, is credited with keeping the character both modern and timeless, giving Kitty black outfits or false eyelashes as trends dictated but never removing the bow from her left ear.

"Hello Kitty, this cultural object, has something to tell us about the history of women in East Asia, and how East Asian women modernized themselves and became professional citizens in a modern society," the University of Oregon's Cheng said.

## COMICS

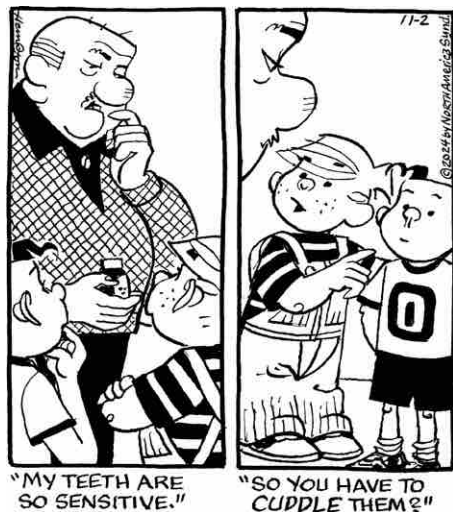
### MODERATELY CONFUSED

Jeff Stahl



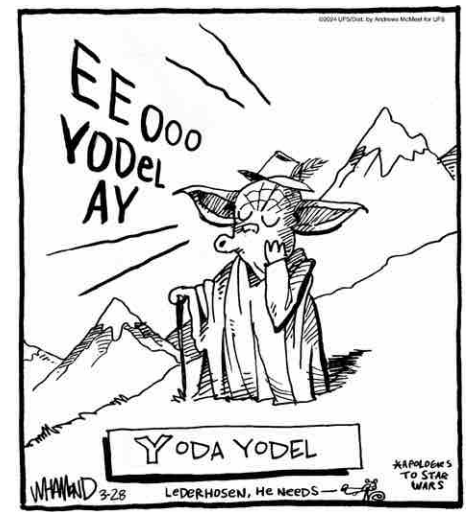
### DENNIS THE MENACE

Hank Ketcham



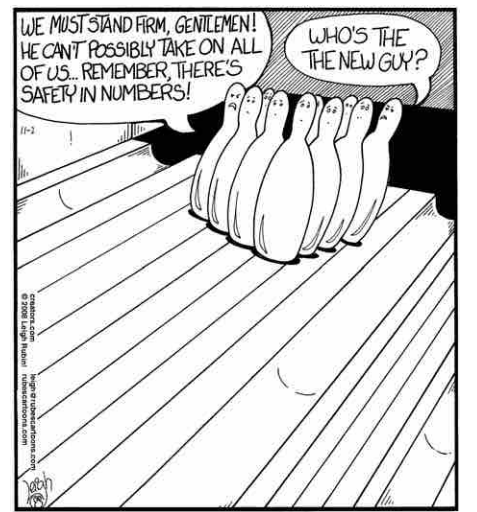
### REALITY CHECK

Dave Whamond



### RUBES

Leigh Rubin



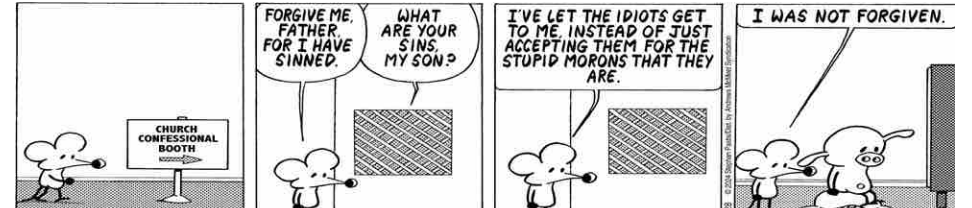
### PEANUTS

Charles Schulz



### PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

Stephan Pastis



## CROSSWORD

Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Pitch in
  - 5 Chest muscles, briefly
  - 9 Lass
  - 12 Mine, to Henri
  - 13 Needing a massage
  - 14 "Born in the —"
  - 15 Test tube
  - 16 Molt
  - 17 Tatter
  - 18 Designer Gucci
  - 19 Plant seeds
  - 20 Dines
  - 21 FDR project
  - 23 Select, with "for"
  - 25 Tiny village
  - 28 Mal de mer
  - 32 Iberian nation
  - 33 Golf great Sam
  - 34 Shoe part
  - 36 Will subject
  - 37 Haw's partner

- 38 "Uh-huh"
- 39 "SNL" segment
- 42 "Ulalume" writer
- 44 Carrier's partner
- 48 Humorist
- 49 Use a rotary phone
- 50 Wife of Jacob
- 51 Shock partner
- 52 "Laugh-In" comic Johnson
- 53 Folklore monster
- 54 Country star
- 55 Optimum
- 56 Faucets

- DOWN**
- 1 —
  - Nagila"
  - 2 Pianist
  - Gilels
  - 3 Laundry unit
  - 4 Gas stove
  - flame
  - 5 Volkswagen model
  - 6 Canyon
  - come-back
  - 7 Mull over
  - 8 Pink Floyd's Barrett
  - 9 Mentor
  - 10 Now, in a memo
  - 11 Trails

- 20 Air show
- dare-devil
- 22 Event location
- 24 Old hat
- 25 White House monogram
- 26 Mil. address
- 27 "Sheesh!"
- 29 Salty expanse
- 30 Chow down
- 31 Citric beverage
- 35 Realm
- 36 Shoelace hole
- 39 Smack a baseball
- 40 Fuzzy fruit
- 41 Thing
- 43 Stable diet
- 45 Star in Lyra
- 46 Virgil or Wyatt
- 47 "— Gotta Have It"
- 49 Bit of eye cream

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 11-1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13				14			
15				16				17			
18				19				20			
			21	22			23	24			
25	26	27					28		29	30	31
32								33			
34					35		36				
			37				38				
39	40	41			42	43		44	45	46	47
48				49				50			
51				52				53			
54				55				56			

### NON-SEQUITUR

Wiley Sequitur



## SUDOKU

KING FEATURES

	2			9	1	5	
	9		1	2	7	8	
	1		8				
					2		
1		9		6	2	3	4
4					6		8
2	6			7		8	
7			6				
				1			3

Difficulty: ★★★★★

Answer to previous puzzle

3	7	6	2	1	4	8	5	9
9	4	1	5	8	6	2	3	7
8	5	2	7	3	9	4	6	1
5	2	9	8	7	3	1	4	6
7	6	3	4	9	1	5	8	2
1	8	4	6	5	2	7	9	3
2	9	7	3	4	8	6	1	5
4	3	5	1	6	7	9	2	8
6	1	8	9	2	5	3	7	4

Difficulty: ★★★

## Horoscopes

ROYAL STARS | FROM KING FEATURES SYNDICATE By Georgia Nicols

**Moon Alert:** Avoid shopping or making important decisions from 9:30 p.m. to 10:45 p.m. PDT today. After that, the Moon moves from Scorpio into Sagittarius.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Saturday, Nov. 2, 2024. You have humanitarian values. You also have strong instincts. Music might play a role in your world. This is a wonderful year to socialize and enjoy life. Your creativity and zest for life are strong! Let your guard down and loosen up a bit. Old friends might reappear.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ This will be a productive day for you, especially if you look at financial matters or how you are dealing with shared responsibilities, perhaps at home. You also might be excited about travel plans or publishing and legal matters. Romance with someone "different" might blossom. Tonight: Explore!  
**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ Someone might surprise you today. You might feel sympathetic to a friend or a member of a group, which is why you might lobby on their behalf or look for ways to help them. Meanwhile, you can benefit from the wealth and resources of someone else. (What goes around, comes around.) Tonight: Check your finances.  
**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ You're keen to work and boost your earnings today. However, some of you also might be spending money today — big-time. Bosses and people in authority might look upon you favorably, which is why this could be the day to ask for permission or approval.

(Who knows?) Tonight: Cooperate.  
**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ Many options are open for you today. This can be a productive day for you, especially related to sports and the arts. However, you will also enjoy socializing, being on a vacation and enjoying fun activities with kids. A work-related romance could begin. Tonight: Get organized.  
**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ Your focus on home, family and your private life is strong today. You might take care of someone or feel sympathetic to the needs of a family member. Something unexpected might take place, which causes you to rethink things or go in a new direction. Tonight: Socialize!  
**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ This is a busy day full of errands, appointments, discussions with others, time spent with siblings and relatives, plus involvement with friends and groups. Be careful you don't spread yourself too thin. You will also enjoy fixing up your digs and entertaining at home. Tonight: Relax.  
**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Be aware of financial matters today. For example, you might have moneymaking ideas. Conversely, you might have ideas about spending money, especially on something elegant or luxurious. (You have good taste.) Enjoy schmoozing with daily contacts today. People are happy to see you. Tonight: Conversations.  
**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ Today you feel invigorated and energetic, which is why you might help a family member or work on behalf of a charitable agency dealing with other countries. This is because you have a strong concern for the welfare of others today, especially children. Tonight: Check your money and belongings.  
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Although you want privacy or to be low-key today, with both Mercury and Venus now in your sign, you also feel social and friendly! You might work to benefit animals or people who need your help. Tonight: You win!  
**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★★ You are popular today! In part, this is because people sense that you feel sympathetic to their needs and you are willing to listen to their problems. And it's true. If you can help someone today, you will. You also might enlist a third party like a friend or partner to work with you. Tonight: Solitude.  
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ You're high-viz today, which means people notice you more than usual, plus they seem to know personal details about your private life. Nevertheless, you make a great impression on others, especially younger people. If you can, you will use your influence to help someone today. Tonight: Friendships.  
**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ Today you want to do something different. Obviously, if you can travel, this would be ideal. Nevertheless, your idealism is also aroused, which means if you can help someone today, you will. You also might speak up on behalf of someone in need, especially by talking to someone in authority. Tonight: You're admired.

**BORN TODAY**  
 Actor David Schwimmer (1966), singer-songwriter k.d. lang (1961), actress Marisol Nichols (1973)

Find more Georgia Nicols horoscopes at georgianicols.com.

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# CLASSIFIEDS

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**CRISIS HOTLINE**  
Call and give operator first name and brief comment about service needed.  
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TCN's Soteria Shelter  
937/404-2365  
TCN's New Directions Outreach Office  
937/593-5777

FOR INFORMATION Concerning American Red Cross Blood Services Program, call 650-5000.

**NEW PATH**  
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937-592-7734

**POISON CONTROL CENTER**  
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**LOGAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY/ HISTORY CENTER CUSTODIAN/JANITOR**  
Position will be responsible for the cleaning & maintenance of the Logan County History Center facility and grounds. Must have high school diploma/GED. The position will be 16 hours per week. Competitive compensation based on experience. Qualified applicants must submit a resume and cover letter by 5:00 pm on November 8, 2024, to Todd McCormick, Curator/Director, Logan County Historical Society, 521 E. Columbus Ave., Bellefontaine, OH 43311. For more information email historycenter@loganhistory.org

**LOGAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY/ HISTORY CENTER BOOKKEEPER**  
Position will perform all tasks of LCHS/LCHC bookkeeping including paying bills, payroll, filing reports, etc. Must have high school diploma/GED. Position will be up to 10 hours per week. Competitive compensation based on experience. Qualified applicants must submit a resume and cover letter by 5:00 pm on November 8, 2024, to Todd McCormick, Curator/ Director, Logan County Historical Society, 521 E. Columbus Ave., Bellefontaine, OH 43311. For more information email historycenter@loganhistory.org.

**ADEA RULINGS**  
The Bellefontaine Examiner does not knowingly accept help wanted advertisements in violation of the Age Discrimination Employment Act. The ADEA prohibits arbitrary age discrimination of persons age 40 or over and applies to employers with 25 or more employees, employment agencies and labor organizations. Advertising containing such terms as "young", "boy", or "girl" or designating a certain age such as "age 35 to 55" or other similar specification indicates discrimination against employment of older persons and are considered in violation of the act. Information about the Act may be obtained by calling or writing the U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division.

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## TRUCKS

FIRM. Call or text TJ at 937-407-0205.

**1940 CHEVY P/U**, disassembled, all sheet metal, glass, frame, no eng/trans, build it your way. \$5500 cash. Call 937-414-7984 leave message.

## MOTORCYCLES

**2008 HARLEY DAVIDSON SPORTSTER 1200FI**, less than 19k miles, lots of extras, nice bike. Asking \$5000 firm, cash. Call 937-414-7984 leave message.

## WATERCRAFT

**STARCRAFT 18 ft. alum. boat**, big Mercury 4 cyl. IO, new fish finder, bimini top, custom cover, needs driver's seat rebuilt, old but solid w/single axle steel frame trailer. \$3500 firm, cash. Call 937-414-7984 leave message.

## LAWN & GARDEN

Need your grass cut?  
Call Cool Stripes  
937-935-6837

**YARD MACHINE 20hp Briggs & Stratton, 42" cut**, needs battery & safety start switch. \$250 cash. Call 937-414-7984 leave message.

## FOR RENT

3 Bdrm For Rent, washer/dryer hook-up. Water & trash inc. Off-Street parking, \$1150 mo. 937-441-1070

APTS., ROOMS, HOUSES starting at \$400.00. Call or Text 937-407-2126, 441-2243.

**NOTICE**  
Housing advertisements published in this newspaper are subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise discrimination based on race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age (including children), handicap or familial status. This also includes limitation to number of persons desired. The Bellefontaine Examiner will not knowingly accept advertising which is in violation of the law.

## STORAGE

ALL AMERICAN Storage. Monthly rentals. Free locks. Behind Harbor Freight. 592-9100.

## REAL ESTATE

**PUBLISHERS NOTICE**  
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in the newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

## FINANCIAL

**NOTICE LENDING OPPORTUNITIES**  
Borrow Smart. Contact the Ohio Division of Financial Institutions' Office of Consumer Affairs BEFORE you refinance your home or obtain a loan. BEWARE of requests for any large advance payment of fees or insurance. Call the Office of Consumer Affairs toll free at 1-866-278-0003 to learn if the mortgage broker or lender is properly licensed. (This notice is a public service of the Bellefontaine Examiner.)

## LEGALS

**NOTICE**  
The Bellefontaine Examiner does not knowingly accept Help Wanted ads from employers covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act if they offer less than the legal minimum wage or fail to pay at least time and one-half for overtime hours.

**SPECIAL MEETING**  
Tri-Valley Fire District will be meeting on November 4, 2024 at 4:15pm at the Zanesfield, Ohio Fire House. This meeting is to discuss the repair/replacement of the 2005 Ford Ambulance.  
Nov. 2, 2024

**LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT**  
The Village of Belle Center, Ohio is the owner of property described as follows: Being Permanent Parcel No. 39-022-06-10-001-000 and being 0.134 acres, more or less, located in VMS 9972, and part of Lot 161 of the Village of Belle Center, Ohio and further

## LEGALS

being located in the Village of Belle Center, the Township of Richland, the County of Logan and the State of Ohio. The property is described by metes and bounds legal description in OR 1421, Pages 4494-4496 of the Logan County recorder's Office. The Village of Belle Center, Ohio will accept sealed bids for the property which must be delivered to the Village Fiscal Officer located at 101 Keller Ave., Belle Center, open Monday to Thursday 8am to 2 pm, on or before the 23rd day of November 2024. The property will thereafter sell to the highest bidder who makes a bid of at least the minimum acceptable bid price, which is in the amount of \$15,000.00, but additionally, the successful bidder shall be required to pay the cost of legal advertising for this sale.  
Oct. 19, 26; Nov. 2, 9, 16, 2024

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
Logan County Ohio Court of Common Pleas Case No. CV 23 08 0234 - CIVISTA BANK V. ADMIN. OF THE ESTATE OF CHRISTINE COOPER., et al. Randall L. Barcus, Potential Heir of Christine Cooper fka Christine Rice, whose last known address is 8890 Township Road 239 # 30, Lakeview, Ohio 43331; Unknown Spouse of Randall L. Barcus, whose last known address is 8890 Township Road 239 # 30, Lakeview, Ohio 43331; Christine Steffes, Potential Heir of Christine Cooper fka Christine Rice, whose last known address is 13411 Eagle Path, Lakeview, Ohio 43331; Unknown Spouse of Christine Steffes, whose last known address is 13411 Eagle Path, Lakeview, Ohio 43331; Michael Barcus, Potential Heir of Christine Cooper fka Christine Rice, whose last known address is 5350 Camelot Dr., Apt. 26, Fairfield, Ohio 45014; and Unknown Spouse of Michael Barcus, whose last known address is 5350 Camelot Dr., Apt. 26, Fairfield, Ohio 45014; and otherwise whose addresses are unknown, will take notice that on August 8, 2023, the undersigned, Civista Bank, filed its complaint in the Logan County, Ohio Court of Common Pleas, 101 S Main St., Room 205, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311, alleging that the defendants named above have or may claim to have an interest in the following described real property to wit:

**Permanent Parcel No. 43-005-13-02-001-000 & 43-005-13-02-001-001**  
Address: 11387 Kootenay Path, Lakeview, Ohio 43331  
A copy of the full legal description may be obtained from the Logan County Auditor's Office, 100 S. Madriver Street, Room 103, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311. The undersigned plaintiff alleges that it is the holder of a certain promissory note secured by a mortgage against said real property. The plaintiff further alleges that it is entitled to the foreclosure of said mortgage. The undersigned plaintiff prays that the defendants named above be required to answer and set up his or her interest in said real property, or be forever barred from asserting the same, for foreclosure of said mortgage, the marshaling of liens, and the sale of said real property, and the proceeds of said sale applied to the payment of the plaintiff's claim in the proper order of its priority and for such other and further relief as is just and equitable. The above-named defendants shall have twenty-eight (28) days from the date of this publication to appear or respond in this matter.  
CIVISTA BANK  
By Jeffrey J. Madison, Esq., Park Street Law Group, LLC, 612 Park Street, Suite 300, Columbus, Ohio 43215; (614) 569-4951; Attorney for Plaintiff.  
Oct. 19, 26; Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2024

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS LOGAN COUNTY, OHIO THE HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK Plaintiff vs. KRISTIN MARIE CARMAN Defendants CASE NO. CV 24 09 0295 Judge: Kevin P. Braig**

**LEGAL NOTICE IN SUIT FOR FORECLOSURE OF MORTGAGE**  
Defendant Jane Doe(s), Name(s) Unknown, the Unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, beneficiaries of Mark A. Carmean and their unknown spouses and creditors; and the unknown spouse of Mark A. Carmean, if any, whose current address is unknown, will take notice that on September 23, 2024 the Plaintiff, The Huntington National Bank, filed its Complaint in the Court of Common Pleas of Logan County, Ohio, in Case No. CV 24 09 0295, seeking foreclosure of its mortgage lien in the following described real estate to wit: Property Address: 110 Ravin Place, West Liberty, OH 43357. Situated in the Village of West Liberty, Township of Liberty, County of Logan, and State of Ohio, to-wit: Being Lot Number Six Hundred Thirty-Eight (638) as the same is known and designated on the recorded plat of said Village, Plat Book 4, Volume D, Page 93, in Section 27, Town 5, Range 13, being in the Hosteller Allotment to said Village. **Parcel No.: 20-144-16-02-003-000**  
The above named Defendants are required to answer the Plaintiff's Complaint within twenty-eight (28) days after the last date of publication of this notice, which shall be published once a week for three consecutive weeks. In the event that the above-named Defendants

## LEGALS

fail to respond in the allotted time, judgment by default can be entered against them for the relief requested in the Plaintiff's Complaint without further hear-

## LEGALS

ing. Last date of Publication is November 16, 2024. The Law Office of Sarah A. Okrzyński, LLC

## LEGALS

PO Box 18638  
Erlanger, KY 41018  
Ph: 859-360-2250  
Fax: 888-803-3259  
foreclosure@saolawoffice.com  
Nov. 2, 9, 16, 2024

**BELLEFONTAINE EXAMINER**

**BETTER WAY TO SAVE**

**CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE**

<b>• BELLEFONTAINE'S BEST CAR WASH</b>	
\$14 ("BEST" Car Wash) .....	<b>\$9</b>
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\$10 .....	<b>\$7</b>
\$20 .....	<b>\$13</b>
<b>• CLANCY'S (SIDNEY)</b>	
\$6 .....	<b>\$4</b>
<b>• DONATOS PIZZA, SUBS, SALADS</b>	
\$10 .....	<b>\$7</b>
<b>• DONUT SHOP &amp; BAKERY (RUSSELLS PT.)</b>	
\$10 .....	<b>\$7</b>
\$20 .....	<b>\$13</b>
<b>• EASTON WATER</b>	
\$30 .....	<b>\$18</b>
*NOTE: (Limit 2-per purchase)	
<b>• INDIAN LAKE ROLLARENA</b>	
\$6 (Fri & Sat 7-10:30 p.m.).....	<b>\$4.50</b>
<b>• KIRKMONT CENTER HABITAT HOUSE</b>	
\$100 (Good for (1) night rental) .....	<b>\$70</b>
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## Eagles' rushing attack derails Bellefontaine

BY MATT HAMMOND  
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Chaminade-Julienne dictated the tempo with its ground and pound offense Friday and Bellefontaine was unable to do much about it.

C-J, taking advantage of a huge offensive line and a talented array of running backs, ran for 434 yards as the visiting Eagles pulled away for a 44-28 victory over Bellefontaine in a Division III, Region 12 first-round playoff football game.

"We made some plays early and we were able to get a lead," said Bellefontaine head coach Jason Brown. "But they were able to flip the momentum to their side, and when a team like that gets momentum, it can be tough to stop."

The Eagles came in with a record of 5-5, but that is deceiving because they play a tough schedule as a member of the Greater Catholic League Coed Conference.

Also, C-J employs a double-wing, double-tight end offense that is a rarity in the current era of wide open spread offenses.

"I felt like we got a really good look from our scout team defense in practice this week," said Brown. "The thing you can't emulate is

their size ... but our guys fought like crazy. We just weren't able to make enough plays."

Bellefontaine jumped out to a 21-10 lead in the second quarter, but the Eagles rattled off 28 straight points to take control of the game.

"We were a play or two away on either side of the ball from being able to get the momentum back, but we just struggled to make those plays when we needed them," said Brown.

The Chiefs close the 2024 campaign with an 8-3 record.

Making the defeat even tougher to swallow for Brown was he had to say goodbye to a stellar senior class led by Ohio State-bound quarterback Tavien St. Clair.

"We are so grateful to the senior class for everything they have done for our program, school and community," said Brown. "They have been a rising tide and they have given us so much. They have been part of some historic success here and have pushed the bar higher. I wish that whole group nothing but success as they move forward."

Bellefontaine, which had to play without standout wide receiver Braylon Newcomb because of a disciplinary suspension, was held to 256 total yards, including just 32 rushing yards on 18 attempts.

See CHIEFS on Page 7



Bellefontaine's Spencer Stolly returns a kickoff during Friday's home playoff game against Dayton Chaminade-Julienne. (EXAMINER PHOTO | TONY BARRETT)

## Lakers knock off MAC's Tigers

BY MIKE FRANK  
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Indian Lake got a second chance to battle the mighty Midwest Athletic Conference and took full advantage of it Friday night.

The Lakers, who opened the season with a 37-0 loss to MAC member Anna, earned some redemption with a 19-7 victory over Versailles in the opening round of the Division V, Region 20 playoffs.

The Tigers finished sixth out of 10 teams in the MAC,

which is widely considered to be the best small school football division in Ohio.

"The nice part is we got a bunch of guys that are locked in," said Indian Lake coach Jonn Rapp. "What we're putting out there, they're picking up, so then we're allowed to grow and progress instead of being stuck. It's making our defense that much better for it."

Indian Lake improves to 9-2 on the season. The Lakers advance to face Preble Shawnee (10-1) next Friday in the regional quarterfinal round. Preble

Shawnee blanked Pleasant 28-0 in its first-round game.

Most of the first half Friday was a scoreless draw before the Lakers drove down and scored with just a couple minutes left in the second period.

In the third and fourth quarters, the Lakers defense had four takeaways, forcing two fumbles and making two interceptions.

The two fumbles led to a pair of scores, while the second interception sealed the win.

See LAKERS on Page 7



Indian Lake's Drake Cosby powers through a Versailles defender during Friday's home playoff game. (EXAMINER PHOTO | MIKE FRANK)



West Liberty-Salem's Josiah Stidham runs toward the end zone in Friday's playoff win over Arcanum at WL-S. (EXAMINER PHOTO | NATE SMITH)

## WL-S fights off Trojans to move on

BY NATE SMITH  
EXAMINER STAFF WRITER

A den of Tigers collected in the end zone Friday as West Liberty-Salem ran past visiting Arcanum-Butler 41-26 Friday in a Division V Region 20 first-round playoff game.

The win is the eighth in a row for WL-S (10-1) and marks the fourth 40-plus point scoring output in their last five games.

The Tigers host Miami East next week in a regional quarterfinal game.

Five different players found the end zone Friday for WL-S as part of a scoring outburst that featured touchdowns on both sides of the ball, and a pair of scoring runs from Josh Wilcoxon.

The Tigers offense scored on three of their first four offensive possessions en route to a 21-0 lead midway through the second quarter.

WL-S jumped out to a big lead in the first 12 minutes of the game, and then had to withstand a pesky Trojans comeback

that closed the gap to nine points early in the third quarter.

"I thought we played really well for the first quarter-and-a-half, but we weren't as sharp as we needed to be in the second half and let them hang around," WL-S head coach Dan McGill said.

The Tigers set the tone early with an 11-yard touchdown run by Josh Wilcoxon in the first quarter, followed by a successful extra point by Gideon Cole, giving WL-S a 7-0 lead.

See WL-S on Page 7

## Pirates don't have any answers for Cavaliers in playoff loss

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

An early scoring barrage proved too much for Riverside to overcome Friday in a 44-13 loss to Lehman Catholic in a Division VII Region 28 first-round playoff game.

The Pirates finish the 2024 season 4-7.

The Cavaliers scored the opening first 20 points on Friday and wasted little time scoring first. The Cavaliers recovered a

Riverside fumble a minute into the game and paid the turnover off with a 19-yard touchdown pass to go ahead 7-0.

The Cavaliers scored again minutes later with a 31-yard touchdown pass to go ahead 14-0 following a successful PAT.

Lehman returned to the air for their third TD in the first quarter, a 23-yard strike that pushed the lead to 20-0.

The Pirates got on the

board at the 3:11 mark in the opening quarter. A 46-yard touchdown run by Gunner Carpenter drew the Pirates to within 20-7.

That momentum was shortlived though, as the Cavaliers found the end zone again late in the first half on a 16-yard scoring run that made the score 26-7 to halftime.

The Cavaliers left no doubt after halftime.

See PIRATES on Page 7



Riverside's defense brings down a Lehman ball carrier during Friday's playoff game in Sidney. (PHOTO COURTESY OF KYLIE JEAN PHOTOGRAPHY)



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# SPORTS

ONLINE @ [examiner.org/sports](http://examiner.org/sports)



Bellefontaine's Ayden Clary fends off a Chaminade-Julienne defensive player during Friday's home playoff game. (EXAMINER PHOTO | TONY BARRETT)

## Chiefs

Continued from Page 6

It was a back-and-forth first half Friday.

The Eagles, who advance to play London in the regional quarterfinal round, landed the first blow as they opened the game with a 13-play, 75-yard scoring drive that was capped by a 2-yard TD run by Aiden Lowery.

The extra-point kick gave the visitors a 7-0 lead at the 6:57 mark of the first quarter.

It took Bellefontaine just two offensive plays to answer with a touchdown of its own.

Spencer Stolly took a short swing pass from St. Clair and found a crease in the Eagles' defense, sprinting 67 yards for a touchdown. Alex Crabill booted the extra point to knot the score at 7-7 with 5:53 left in the first period.

C-J regained the lead with 1:06 left on the first-quarter clock when Lee Turner drove a line drive kick just over the crossbar for a 41-yard field goal that gave the Eagles a 10-7 advantage.

But Spencer Stolly and the Chiefs had another quick response.

On the ensuing kickoff, Stolly initially struggled to pick up the ball. But he patiently found the handle and then raced through a hole in the C-J coverage team, going 91 yards for a touchdown that put BHS up 14-10.

Bellefontaine extended the lead to 21-10 on a 1-yard St. Clair keeper with 8:30 left in the first half.

The tide started to turn from there, though.

On the Eagles' next possession, facing a third-and-four in their own territory, they caught Bellefontaine off guard with a perfectly thrown pass from Jaiven Manley to Ethan Stacey for a 65-yard touchdown, which cut the BHS lead to four points at 21-17.

Bellefontaine was forced to punt on its following possession, and the Eagles followed with a 12-play, 77-yard drive.

Manley capped it by tossing a 9-yard strike to Lowery in the corner of the end zone to put C-J in front 24-21 with 28 seconds remaining until the break.

Bellefontaine could not get anything going coming out of the locker room in the third quarter as the Chiefs went three-and-out on the first possession of the second half.

After a short punt, the Eagles took over on their own 45-yard line and cranked out a seven-play, 55-yard scoring drive that was finished off by a 1-yard burst from 5-8, 240-pound fullback Nydrell Wright. That pushed the C-J lead to 30-21 with 7:39 left to play in the third quarter.

A fumble on Bellefontaine's next series turned the ball over to the Eagles at the BHS 46-yard line.

C-J needed just two plays to find the end zone. Lowery had a 31-yard run and Stacey followed with a 15-yard scamper for a touchdown, pushing the Eagles' lead to 38-21.

Bellefontaine cut into the Eagles' cushion on the first play of the fourth quarter when St. Clair scrambled for a 10-yard touchdown that pulled the Chiefs to within 10 at 38-28.

But the Chiefs were unable to put any more points on the board, and the Eagles iced the game with a 5-yard TD run by Lowery with 5:51 remaining.

In his final game as a Chieftain, St. Clair went 16-of-29 through the air for 224 yards.

Spencer Stolly had three catches for 96 yards, Ayden Clary made six grabs for 57 yards, Kaiden Foulk had two receptions for 27 yards, Jacob Salyer had three catches for 26 yards and Carter Caudill added one catch for 14 yards.

The Eagles had three 100-yard rushers. Lowery had 146 yards on 18 carries, Stacey rushed for 144 yards on 23 attempts and Wright tacked on 109 yards on 15 rushes.

## Pirates

Continued from Page 6

A 47-yard touchdown pass less than a minute into the third quarter extended Lehman's lead to 32-7.

The Pirates found the end zone in the third quarter. An 11-yard TD pass from Gavin Orsborne to Justin Mazariegos made the 32-13 with 4:21 to go in the

third quarter.

The Cavaliers scored the last two touchdowns of the game. A 34-yard TD pass late in the third quarter and a 7-yard touchdown run midway through the fourth quarter rounded out the scoring.

Orsborne completed 13 of 21 passes for 128 yards and a touchdown for

Riverside. Carpenter rushed 16 times for 137 yards. Landon Purtee caught nine passes for 106 yards.

Braylon Dunn and Ryder Arnett each had five tackles to lead the Pirates defensively. Jorden Dunham intercepted two passes for the Pirates defensively as well.

## Lakers

Continued from Page 6

Madden Lillard and Bryce Burton had the recoveries, with Burton and Quest Clay picking off Versailles.

Lillard also did his share leading the offense. He completed 13 of 27 passes for 154 yards and two touchdowns. He also had 14 carries for 46 yards rushing.

Drake Cosby ran 17 times for 41 yards and Noah Shirk gained 39 yards on 10 attempts.

Clay pulled in six catches for 65 yards, one of which was a 3-yard score. Burton pulled in three for 36 yards, with a 16-yard TD. Brodey Reisinger made four catches for 53.

"Games like this, maybe fans don't enjoy them as much," said Rapp. "But as a coach, I kind of enjoy it more because it is tougher. It's harder. And so you really kind of see what your kids are made of when their backs are against the wall. It shouldn't be super easy all the time.

"It's nice to see we've got a bunch of guys when (the other team) is pushing back and it's not always easy, that they don't just take it. We'll push right back," Rapp said.

For the Tigers, their season comes to a close with a record of 5-6.

Quarterback Ethan Wilker completed 15-of-29 throws for 149 yards, with one touchdown. Chase Monnin had that score, which measured 29 yards, and five catches for 70 yards in all. Ben Subler caught four balls for 43 yards.

Subler ran four times for 61 yards. The Lakers' defense held Versailles to just 106 yards on the ground.

The first three drives for each team all resulted in punts or turnovers on downs and a scoreless opening period.

The Tigers started from their own 29 early in the second quarter. A big completion to James Schmitmeyer gained 14 yards and got near midfield. But the Lakers held after that and forced a punt.

Starting from the 18, Lillard broke loose for a 17-yard run, followed by Cosby gaining 11, then Lillard another 11 to cross midfield. Facing third and long,

Lillard connected with Burton for 24 yards and a first down at the 21. After three short runs, the Lakers went for it on 4th-and-5 from the 16. Burton pulled in a throw over the middle for the score with 2:08 to play in the second quarter. The point-after try was blocked, leaving it 6-0.

One more drive for Versailles came up empty, and Indian Lake killed the final seconds to send it to intermission.

It remained a one-score game until Versailles' second drive of the third ended after three plays on a fumble by Wilker. Lillard pounced on it at the Tigers' 47.

Indian Lake mixed runs by Shirk with a 12-yard throw to Reisinger. Facing another fourth down at the 30 yard line, Lillard completed a pass to Clay for a 29-yard catch down to just shy of the goal line. Shirk then punched it in with nine seconds to go in third quarter, and the PAT made it 13-0 for the hosts.

Burton snagged a throw by Wilker over the middle to end the ensuing Tigers' possession. Indian Lake couldn't convert that one, but then Burton recovered a fumble by Wilker at the Tigers' 26.

The Lakers converted on third down with a pass to Reisinger, then hit Clay on a quick strike in the front corner of the end zone on yet another fourth down. That made it 19-0 with just six minutes to go. The PAT try was blocked.

Versailles quickly answered and broke up the shutout with the score by Monnin less than a minute later.

Indian Lake then drained time and forced Versailles to use its final two timeouts before turning it over on downs with three minutes to go.

Versailles' last chance had them complete four passes, but the final one was grabbed by Clay to seal the victory.

"It's a continuous build with the coaches and the players and the community and the student body," said Rapp. "It keeps growing and getting bigger and bigger. Everybody has a little bit of a hand in this."

## WL-S

Continued from Page 6

The Tigers converted a fourth-and-12 play inside Arcanum territory to set up their first touchdown.

Josiah Stidham broke free for a 25-yard touchdown run to push the WL-S lead to 14-0 early in the second quarter. They extended their lead to three possessions following a 49-yard scoring rush from Nick Shifflet that made the score 21-0.

Arcanum started to find its footing in the latter stages of the second quarter, as the Trojans put points on the board late in the half with a 4-yard run by MJ Macy. The Tigers still held a 21-6 advantage at halftime.

The Trojans showed resilience in the third quar-

ter, recovering an onside kick to begin the second half. Arcanum narrowed the gap with a 49-yard touchdown pass from Bishop Cartwright to Lucas Miller to draw to within 21-12.

However, WL-S responded with a 5-yard touchdown run by Wilcoxon, keeping the Tigers ahead by two possessions at 28-12, following Cole's PAT.

The Tigers defense sealed the game in the fourth quarter. A 3-yard fumble recovered for a touchdown pushed WL-S ahead 34-18. Jacob Evans intercepted a pass and returned it eight yards for a touchdown that made the score 41-18.

Arcanum added one more late score on a 12-yard pass from Cartwright to Miller to round out the scoring.

"(Arcanum) grabbed some momentum before halftime and was able to make plays in the second half to keep the game close," McGill said. "We didn't finish drives as well as we needed to and were sloppy at times, but I'll take an ugly win over a pretty loss anytime."

The Tigers rushed for 335 yards to the Trojans' 115. Wilcoxon led the charge with 163 yards and two touchdowns on 18 carries, while Shifflet added 92 yards and a score. Four different WL-S receivers caught passes, including Jack Bahan and Reese Oder who caught five passes for 40 yards, and four passes for 38 yards, respectively.

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FRIDAY NIGHT

BELLEFONTAINE EXAMINER

Examiner Photos: NATE SMITH, MIKE FRANK and TONY BARRETT

FLASH PLAYOFFS EDITION



Bellefontaine's John Hoffman attempts to pull down Eagles running back Nydrell Wright in a first-round playoff game Friday.



Jacob Salyer heads upfield after a catch Friday.



Josh Wilcoxon looks upfield for additional yards Friday in the Tigers' win over Arcanum.



Madden Lillard carries the ball for Indian Lake Friday.



Quest Clay works his way through defenders during Indian Lake's win Friday.



Bellefontaine's Tavien St. Clair runs past a defender Friday.

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