



NEW ERA FOR CCS
Calvary Christian opens new gym with win for boys basketball



FORECAST
▲ 23
▼ 13



Mary Rutan Health to expand healthcare services at Indian Lake



Mary Rutan HEALTH

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Officials from Mary Rutan Health announced the acquisition of the former Rite Aid building at 120 W. Main St. in Russells Point.

Mary Rutan Health has acquired the former Rite Aid building at 120 W. Main St., Russells Point, which will be transformed into a comprehensive healthcare center. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

This 10,000-square-foot facility will soon be transformed into a comprehensive healthcare center, offering a wide range of services to better serve the Indian Lake community.

Design and remodeling activities will begin in the coming weeks, with a projected opening in the latter part of 2025.

Once operational, the facility will provide expanded services, including primary care, pharmacy, laboratory services, and various specialty care

offerings.

"Our new location in Russells Point marks an exciting step forward in our mission to provide high-quality, accessible healthcare to the communities we serve," said Chad Ross, president and CEO of Mary Rutan Health.

"We are eager to bring these expanded services to the Indian Lake area and further strengthen our presence as a trusted healthcare partner in this vibrant community."

The new facility underscores Mary Rutan Health's ongoing commitment to meeting the region's evolving needs. By offering a broader range of services in a convenient location, this investment ensures that Indian Lake residents will have access to comprehensive care close to home.

Mary Rutan Health looks forward to serving the community in this new capacity and will share updates on the facility's progress in the coming months.

THE LATEST ON THE WEATHER



Workers clear the plaza at the Capitol as snow falls ahead of a joint session of Congress to certify the votes from the Electoral College in the presidential election, in Washington, Monday, Jan. 6, 2025. (AP PHOTO/J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE)

Snow, ice and frigid temperatures make for a dangerous winter mix around the US

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A major winter blast of snow, ice, wind and plunging temperatures in the U.S. stirred dangerous travel conditions from central and southern states all the way to the East Coast early Monday, prompting schools and government offices in several states to close.

Over the weekend, at least 600 motorists were stranded in Missouri, authorities said. Hundreds of car accidents were reported in Virginia, Indiana, Kansas and Kentucky.

Winter weather often causes flight delays and cancellations. While airlines can't control the weather, they are required in the U.S. to provide refunds to customers whose flights are canceled.

Here's the latest: Winter storm blamed for boil-water advisory in Virginia's capital

A weather-related power outage has caused a malfunction in the water system of Virginia's capital city, officials said Monday afternoon.

Richmond officials asked citizens in the city of more than 200,000 people to refrain from drinking tap water or washing dishes and brushing their teeth without boiling the water first. The city also asked residents to conserve their water.

City officials said they're working around the clock to bring the system back online.

"Our top priority is the health and safety of our

residents and neighbors," Mayor Danny Avula said in a news release.

Roads are still treacherous in Kansas, governor says

The Kansas Highway Patrol has reported nearly 200 crashes from Saturday morning through Monday morning, two of them deadly.

On Saturday, a tractor-trailer jackknifed in the ice in the western part of the state, killing a pickup truck's driver. And two others died Sunday when an SUV rolled down an embankment in Wichita.

Gov. Laura Kelly closed state offices in the Topeka area through Tuesday, and many school districts followed suit.

"Although crews are making progress, the roads remain hazardous," Kelly said in a news release.

A third person has died in a storm-related traffic accident

A fatal accident in North Carolina is being blamed on the winter storm that's moving through the East Coast.

Police in Winston-Salem say a vehicle lost control on an icy overpass along U.S. Route 52 and hit several trees early Monday. The driver was pronounced dead at the scene.

At least two other people have died in weather-related traffic accidents in Virginia and West Virginia. The accidents were among hundreds reported across Virginia,

See WINTER on P3

Minneapolis agrees to overhaul police training and force policies

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Minneapolis City Council on Monday approved an agreement with the federal government to overhaul the city's police training and use-of-force policies in the wake of the murder of George Floyd.

The deal incorporates and builds on changes the Minneapolis Police Department has made since Floyd, a Black man, was killed by a white officer in 2020, prompting a national reckoning with police brutality and racism.

The 171-page agreement, filed in federal court shortly after the council voted 12-0 to approve it, says the

department will require its officers to "promote the sanctity of human life as the highest priority in their activities." It says officers must "carry out their law enforcement duties with professionalism and respect for the dignity of every person." And it says they must not allow race, gender or ethnicity "to influence any decision to use force, including the amount or type of force used."

The agreement, known as a consent decree, will put the department under long-term court supervision. It had been under negotiation since the Department of Justice issued a

scathing critique of the city's police in June 2023.

Department officials alleged that police engaged in systematic racial discrimination, violated constitutional rights and disregarded the safety of people in custody for years before Floyd was killed. The report was the result of a sweeping two-year investigation that confirmed many citizen complaints about police conduct. It found that Minneapolis officers used excessive force, including "unjustified deadly force," and violated the rights of people engaged in constitutionally protected speech.

Man behind New Year's attack visited New Orleans before, recorded video with smart glasses, FBI says

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The man responsible for the truck attack in New Orleans on New Year's Day that killed 14 people visited the city twice before and recorded video of the French Quarter with Meta smart glasses, an FBI official said Sunday.

Shamsud-Din Jabbar also traveled to Cairo and Canada before the attack although it was not yet clear whether those trips were connected to the attack, Deputy Assistant Director Christopher Raia said at a news conference. Federal officials believe Jabbar, a U.S. citizen and former U.S. Army soldier, was inspired by the Islamic State militant group to carry out the attack.

Police fatally shot Jabbar, 42, during an exchange of gunfire at the deadly crash of the rented pickup truck on Bourbon Street, famous worldwide for its festive vibes in New Orleans' historic French Quarter.

Federal investigators so far believe Jabbar acted alone, but are continuing to explore his contacts.



The Federal Bureau of Investigation released photos of surveillance footage that shows Shamsud-Din Jabbar an hour before he drove a truck down Bourbon Street, New Orleans, early Jan. 1, 2025. (FEDERAL BUREAU OF

"All investigative details and evidence that we have now still support that Jabbar acted alone here in New Orleans," said Raia. "We have not seen any indications of an accomplice in the United States, but we are still looking into potential associates in the U.S. and outside of our borders."

Lyonel Myrthil, FBI special agent in charge of the New Orleans Field Office, said Jabbar traveled to Cairo in the summer of 2023 and then to the Canadian province of Ontario a few days later.

"Our agents are getting answers to where he went, who he met with and how those trips may or may not tie into his actions here," Myrthil said.

Suspect recorded video with smart glasses while plotting attack, the FBI says

Jabbar had also traveled to New Orleans twice in the months preceding the attack, first in October and again in November. On Oct. 31,

See ATTACKER on Page 2

What to know about the glasses the attacker used

NEW YORK (AP) — The man who drove a truck into a crowd of people in New Orleans on New Year's Day, killing 14, had previously scouted the French Quarter and recorded video with his Meta smart glasses, the FBI said.

On Oct. 31, Shamsud-Din Jabbar recorded video with the glasses as he cycled through the French Quarter and plotted the attack, said Lyonel Myrthil, FBI special agent in charge of the New Orleans field office. Jabbar also wore the glasses, which are capable of livestreaming, during the attack, but did not activate them.

A spokesperson for Meta, the parent

See GLASSES on Page 2

NEWS

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ABE MARTIN



"Miss Germ Williams says peroxide blondes ort t' be tagged like oleo margarine."

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

■ BELLEFONTAINE BEAT POLICE & FIRE

Teen charged after caught on video striking canine

A teenage defendant has been charged with animal cruelty after video evidence was provided to the Bellefontaine Police Department showing the suspect striking a dog multiple times.

Josiah Dooley, 18, of Bellefontaine was charged with cruelty to animals, a second-degree misdemeanor. Officers were dispatched to Saturday, Jan. 4, to an apartment in the 800 block of east Sandusky Avenue around 10:30 p.m. in response to a dog complaint.

Upon arrival, Officers spoke with the complainant, who provided video evidence of the suspect hitting the canine several times.

The video footage reportedly showed Dooley walking toward the dog on a balcony, striking it multiple times, walking away, returning to the dog, picking it up and appearing to bite it. The footage then showed Dooley punching the dog in the face and head multiple times. A copy of the video was provided to law enforcement for evidence.

When officers spoke with Dooley at the apartment, he admitted to being upset because the dog had bitten him during rough play, which he believed was caused by stepping on the dog's foot or tail. Dooley was counseled about his actions and issued a citation for cruelty to animals.

A copy of the report will be sent to the Logan County Dog Warden for further review.

BMS Robotics team earns Excellence Award

BY THE EXAMINER STAFF

Bellefontaine Middle School's Robotics teams had an outstanding performance at the VEX robotics competition in Mount Vernon on Friday, Jan. 3.

Team 7965B "It's Whatever," made up of Greyson Huffman, Max Miranda, Charlie Moreland and Chloe O'Choke went undefeated throughout the event until their final match, where they faced a tough loss due to a disqualification.

Despite this setback, the team's exceptional performance earned them the top prize Excellence Award, recognizing their achievements in design, programming and teamwork.

Additionally, Teams



Bellefontaine Middle School Robotics Team members, from the left, Max Miranda, Greyson Huffman, Charlie Moreland and Chloe O'Chocke display their Excellence Award. (BCS PHOTO)

7865F "Banana Boys" and 7865X "X-Force" advanced to the semifinals as an alliance pair, showcasing great strategy and collabora-

tion. Team 7865G "We Lost the Marker" also performed admirably, making it to the quarterfinals.

Attacker

Continued from Page 1

Myrthil said Jabbar used glasses from Meta, the parent company of Facebook, to record video as he rode through the French Quarter on a bicycle as "he plotted this hideous attack." He said Jabbar was also in New Orleans on Nov. 10.

He also wore the glasses capable of livestreaming during the attack, but Myrthil said Jabbar did not activate them.

When asked about the glasses, a Meta spokesperson declined comment to The Associated Press.

The FBI released Jabbar's recorded video from the planning trip to New Orleans as well as video showing him placing two containers with explosive devices in the French Quarter at around 2 a.m. shortly before the attack. One of the containers, a cooler, was moved a block away by someone uninvolved with the attack, officials said.

Joshua Jackson, New Orleans special agent in charge, said Jabbar privately purchased a semiautomatic rifle on Nov. 19 from an individual in a legal transaction in Arlington, Texas.

"This was a chance encounter," Jackson said. "There's no way this individual knew that Jabbar was radicalized or had any sort of awareness that this attack was imminent."

Security a prime concern ahead of other major events

Police have used vehicles and barricades to block traffic at Bourbon and Canal streets since. Other law enforcement agencies helped city officers provide extra security, said Reese Harper, a New Orleans police spokesperson.

The first parade of the Carnival season leading up to Mardi Gras in March is scheduled Monday evening. New Orleans also will host the Super Bowl on Feb. 9.

In a previous effort to protect the French Quarter, the city installed steel columns known as bollards to restrict vehicle access to Bourbon Street. The posts normally retract to allow deliveries to bars and restaurants. But they stopped working reliably after being gummed up by Mardi Gras beads, beer and other detritus.

When New Year's Eve arrived, the bollards were gone. New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell acknowledged the city remains uncertain as to whether the new bollards it is installing in the French Quarter would be

able to stop a similar vehicle attack.

"The thorough assessment that I am asking for will determine whether they are strong enough," Cantrell said. "I can't say with surety that's the case but an expert will be able to do so, and we'll respond accordingly." Cantrell said she requested that Homeland Security upgrade Mardi Gras to the highest Special Event Assessment Rating to receive more federal support for security and risk assessments.

President Joe Biden planned to travel to New Orleans with first lady Jill Biden on Monday to "grieve with the families and community members impacted by the tragic attack."

After signing the Social Security Fairness Act, Biden was asked Sunday by journalists what his message would be to the families he will meet. He responded, "I've been there. There's nothing you can really say to somebody that's just had such a tragic loss, my message is going to be personal if I get to get them alone."

The two explosive devices that Jabbar placed were recovered by federal officials undetonated. ATF Special Agent in Charge Joshua Jackson credited New Orleans police for responding quickly before the devices could be set off. He said both were equipped with receivers and a transmitter was recovered in Jabbar's truck.

Glasses

Continued from Page 1

company of Facebook, declined to comment.

Here's what the glasses are capable of:

What are Meta glasses?

Meta glasses, made in partnership with Ray-Ban, are frames with a built-in camera, speakers and artificial intelligence that can be controlled with your voice, buttons and some simple gestures. Some functions, such as listening to music or interacting with Meta's AI assistant, require the device to be either paired with a phone or able to access the internet.

The wearable does not have a display built into the lens, unlike some past industry attempts at building augmented-reality smart glasses. However, Meta has said it is working on a pair of glasses that will give users a fully holographic experience.

What the glasses can do

One of the glasses' main selling points is the ability to capture images and video using the onboard camera, then upload those files to Instagram or Facebook. You can also livestream, but only to Meta's compatible social platforms.

You can also use the glasses to make audio and video calls, message people or listen to music.

The camera also allows Meta's AI assistant to see what you're seeing, allowing it to translate text into multiple languages (spoken back to you, or shown on a paired phone app), and answer simple questions, such as searching the nearest landmark to your location. The glasses are largely a hands-free experience so you will be talking to your device — and it will reply.

What the glasses can't do

The glasses currently cannot perform complex tasks that other digital assistants might be able to, like booking you a reservation at a restaurant or giving you turn-by-turn directions, so there isn't a no display. And there's no display in the lens, so you're not a viewfinder for framing photos or video.

There are also visual indicators built into the system that allow bystanders to know when you're shooting video or taking photos. This LED privacy indicator stays on while you use the camera functions. According to Meta, you can't disable this light to be more discreet in your actions.

■ LOCAL NOTES

Winter weather delays Monday's city trash collection

City of Bellefontaine Utilities Department officials report the winter weather conditions Monday, Jan. 6, have delayed all Monday trash collections. Residents on Monday's schedule will be picked up next week on their regular scheduled route. Only Monday routes this week will be suspended. Normal collection routes will run Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday as regularly scheduled.

Citizen Corps council meets Jan. 13

Logan County Citizen Corps Executive Council meets at 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 13, at the EMA Office, 1855 W. State Route 47, Bellefontaine. All volunteers are welcome to attend for updates.

Community Recovery Team meets Jan. 21

Logan County Community Recovery Team meets at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 21, at Logan County Job and Family Services, 1 Hunter Place, Bellefontaine.

AARP free tax prep begins Feb. 6 at senior center

The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide will be offering free in-person tax preparation at the Logan County Friendly Senior Center, beginning Feb. 6 and continuing through April 9.

Appointments are available beginning at 9 a.m. and continuing through 3 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at the center, 934 S. Main St., Bellefontaine.

Free tax preparation is offered to individuals of any age, especially those age 50 and older who cannot afford paid tax preparation.

Call (937) 593-1511 to schedule an appointment.

Rushsylvania Planning Commission sets 2025 schedule

The Rushsylvania Planning Commission plans to meet every third Monday of the month for the year 2025, with the exception of January's meeting, which will take place Jan. 27.

All meetings will take place at 6:30 p.m. in the village council chambers for the purpose of discussing potential zoning ordinance changes and any other matters that may come before the commission.

Benjamin Logan College Credit Plus Program meetings slated for Jan. 23, 30

Benjamin Logan Schools announces the opportunity for students in grades 7 through 12 to earn college credits through Ohio's College Credit Plus (CCP) program.

This initiative allows eligible students to enroll in college courses and apply these credits towards their high school graduation requirements at no cost. The program is designed to promote rigorous academic pursuits and expand college access.

All interested students and their parents are invited to attend an informational session at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 23, or 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30, in the high school auditorium.

While attendance is optional for those who have previously participated in the program, it is mandatory for new entrants. Attendance is strongly encouraged for students planning to take courses off-campus, regardless of previous participation.

The CCP program offers courses online, on campus and at Benjamin Logan High School, providing flexible options to fit diverse educational needs and schedules.

For further inquiries, contact the High School's Guidance Office at (937) 592-1666.

McDonald's is the latest company to roll back diversity goals

(AP) — Four years after launching a push for more diversity in its ranks, McDonald's is ending some of its diversity practices, citing a U.S. Supreme Court decision that outlawed affirmative action in college admissions.

McDonald's is the latest big company to shift its tactics in the wake of the 2023 ruling and a conservative backlash against diversity, equity and inclusion programs. Walmart, John Deere, Harley-Davidson and others rolled back their DEI initiatives last year.

McDonald's said Monday it will retire specific goals for achieving diversity at senior leadership levels. It also intends to end a program that encourages its suppliers to develop diversity training and

to increase the number of minority group members represented within their own leadership ranks.

McDonald's said it will also pause "external surveys." The burger giant didn't elaborate, but several other companies, including Lowe's and Ford Motor Co., suspended their participation in an annual survey by the Human Rights Campaign that measures workplace inclusion for LGBTQ+ employees.

McDonald's, which has its headquarters in Chicago, rolled out a series of diversity initiatives in 2021 after a spate of sexual harassment lawsuits filed by employees and a lawsuit alleging discrimination brought by a group of Black former McDonald's franchise owners.

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WINTER

Continued from Page 1

West Virginia, Indiana, Kansas, North Carolina and Kentucky.

The winter storm has contributed to at least 2 deaths in traffic accidents

In Virginia, a 32-year-old man died Sunday night in Wakefield, south of Richmond, after his truck ran off a road and struck a tree. Police said, among other contributing factors, the man was driving too fast for the wintry conditions on the roadway.

In West Virginia, a driver lost control of her vehicle and it struck a concrete median Sunday on Interstate 77 south of Charleston. A tractor-trailer then struck the woman and another vehicle that stopped to help. The driver, Alexis Vega, 25, of Cleveland, Ohio, later died at a hospital. State police Lt. L.T. Goldie Jr. said the weather was a factor in the accident.

Kansas reopens interstates but cautions drivers of icy roads

The Kansas Department of Transportation says it has reopened the final stretch of Interstate 70 that was closed because of blizzard conditions.

The department said other highways in the state also are reopening, but it urged drivers to go slow and be careful because some stretches remain icy and snow packed.

West Coast faces much different weather threat

As the eastern U.S. shivers under a polar vortex, some on the West Coast face a very different weather threat: dry conditions conducive for wildfires.

Winds will whip up and humidity levels will drop in Southern California this week, raising the risk for fires in parched areas still recovering from a recent destructive blaze, forecasters warned Monday.

"Scattered downed trees and power outages are likely, in addition to rapid fire growth and extreme behavior with any fire starts," the weather service office for Los Angeles said on the social platform X.

Recent dry winds, including the notorious Santa Anas, have contributed to warmer-than-average temperatures in Southern California, where there's been very little rain so far this season.

Biden's trip begins, unusually, inside a hangar

In a move reminiscent of secret presidential trips to war zones,

President Joe Biden's trip to New Orleans and Los Angeles on Monday began inside a hangar, rather than on the tarmac as is customary, due to the inclement weather.

Air Force One was sheltered from the snow inside a secure hangar at the airbase outside of Washington, as Biden departed during an early afternoon lull in the snowfall.

In another change from normal procedures, reporters were not permitted to take photos or video of Biden boarding the plane due to Air Force security policies inside the hangar.

Hundreds of calls for service in Maryland

By midday Monday, state troopers in Maryland had responded to at least 475 calls for service, including 123 reported crashes and 156 unattended vehicles since 1 a.m., Maryland State Police said in a social media post.

Olympic athlete enjoys a ski on National Mall during snowstorm

A Team USA athlete who competed in the 2018 and 2022 Winter Olympics got to cross-country ski on the National Mall during a rare snowstorm Monday.

Two-time Olympian Clare Egan recently moved to Washington D.C. in 2024 and thought "my skiing days were maybe behind me."

That was until Washington D.C. was hit with more than 5 inches of heavy, wet snow.

Egan and a friend then strapped on their skies.

"This is awesome. Best snow day ever," Egan told the AP.

Egan competed in the biathlon, which combines cross-country skiing with rifle shooting.

Ice-coated trees down power lines in eastern Kentucky

In eastern Kentucky, ice-coated trees downed power lines and blocked roads. During the outage peak, about half of the electric customers in Magoffin County were without power, said Matt Wireman, the county judge-executive.

By midday Monday, about 20% of customers still lacked power, he said.

"Our (power) lines are hanging with icicles inches long," Wireman said.

Road crews in the Appalachian county faced a backlog of rural roads that needed to be cleared of downed trees.

Warning centers were set up for people lacking power at home,

though residents typically take refuge with relatives or neighbors.

The race was on to clear roads and restore power ahead of bitter cold temperatures expected later in the week.

Hundreds of flights disrupted around the U.S.

The winter storm brought chilly misery for airline passengers across the United States on Monday with thousands of flights canceled or delayed, especially around the nation's capital.

According to tracking platform FlightAware.com, more than 800 flights were canceled or delayed in and out of Reagan National Airport and Dulles International Airport near Washington, D.C., which saw several inches of snow with more in the forecast as President-elect Donald Trump's victory was set to be certified.

More than 300 flights were impacted at Baltimore-Washington International Airport.

So far, Chicago O'Hare International had 730 flights called off or postponed.

Truckers pulling off the roads outside Cincinnati

A Kentucky truck stop was jammed with big rigs forced off an icy and snow-covered Interstate 75 on Monday just outside Cincinnati.

"It was too dangerous. I didn't want to kill myself or anyone else," said Michael Taylor, a long-haul driver from Los Angeles who was carrying a load of rugs to Macon, Georgia.

He saw numerous cars and trucks stuck in ditches and stopped beneath an overpass to clear ice from his windshield wipers before finally pulling off the interstate. "It was crazy. I know when it's time to get off the roads," he said.

Bad weather causes vehicle crashes in Indiana, Virginia

By mid-Monday morning, there were 259 crashes and 271 reports of vehicles sliding off roadways statewide in Indiana, according to a post by the Indiana State Police on the social media site X.

The State Police Indianapolis District reported 151 crashes, including 12 with injuries. Troopers also assisted on more than 100 vehicles that were disabled or stuck in the snow.

In Virginia, state police said they responded to 248 crashes in the span of seven hours Monday, although police noted that not all of the accidents may be related to the storm.

■ OBITUARIES

William Ray Kennedy

William Ray Kennedy, 92, of Belle Center, passed away at 8:58 a.m. on Thursday, January 2, 2025, at Mary Rutan Hospital in Bellefontaine. He was born in Logan County, Ohio on September 3, 1932, to the late William Earl and Olive (Shape) Kennedy. On September 11, 1971, William married Shirley Jane (DeRossett) Kennedy, and she preceded him in death on March 6, 2023.



He is survived by his daughter, Tammy (Ernie) Holycross of Kenton; son, John (Christine) Kennedy of Kenton; 13 grandchildren; numerous great grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Along with his wife and parents, William was also preceded in death by a daughter, Pam Wilson; son, Fred Justice; grandson, Alex Grooms and siblings, Dorothy Simpson, Maxine Simpson, Majorie Stevens, Robert E. Kennedy, and John W. Kennedy.

William was a veteran of the U.S. Army and served during the Korean War. His years of work included painting Cadillac ambulances at Miller-Meteor in Piqua, International Car in Kenton, and retiring from Ben Logan Schools Maintenance.

A private burial will take place in Fairview Cemetery in Belle Center.

Eichholtz Daring & Sanford Funeral Home & Cremation Center, Belle Center, is honored to serve the Kennedy family and encourages anyone to share a fond memory or message of condolence at www.edsfh.com.

■ DEATH NOTICES

■ FULLERTON, Byron Ivan, 88, of Belle Center, passed away on Friday, January 3, 2025, at Logan Acres Care Center in Bellefontaine.

The family requests that memorial contributions may be made to Logan Acres Activity Fund, 2739 County Road 91, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311 or First United Presbyterian Church, 117 S. Main Street, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311. Condolences to the Fullerton family can be made at www.edsfh.com.

TODAY IN ENTERTAINMENT HISTORY:

“The Twist” hit #1 again

In 1954, Muddy Waters recorded "Hoochie Coochie Man" in Chicago.
In 1955, singer Marian Anderson made her debut with the Metropolitan Opera in New York.
In 1962, "The Twist" by Chubby Checker hit number one on the pop charts for a second time. It had previously hit number one in 1960 for seven weeks.
In 1963, singer Gary "U.S." Bonds sued Chubby Checker for \$100,000, claiming that Checker plagiarized his hit "Quarter To Three" for Checker's song "Dancin' Party." The suit was settled out of court.
In 1970, neighbors of New York landowner Max Yasgur sued him for \$35,000 for property damage caused by people who attended the Woodstock festival. An estimated 450,000 people attended the three-day event.
In 1992, singer Debbie Gibson made her Broadway debut in "Les Miserables" (lay mihz-uh-AH'-bluh). She played the part of Eponine (EH'-puh-neen).

TikTok creators left in limbo while awaiting decision on potential platform ban

BY JONATHAN LANDRUM JR. AND HALELUYA HADERO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Will TikTok be banned this month?

That's the pressing question keeping creators and small business owners in anxious limbo as they await a decision that could upend their livelihoods. The fate of the popular app will be decided by the Supreme Court, which will hear arguments on Jan. 10 over a law requiring TikTok to break ties with its Chinese-based parent company, ByteDance, or face a U.S. ban.

At the heart of the case is whether the law violates the First Amendment with TikTok and its creator allies arguing that it does. The U.S. government, which sees the platform as a national security risk, says it does not.

For creators, the TikTok doomsday scenarios are nothing new since President-elect Donald Trump first tried to ban the platform through executive order during his first term. But despite Trump's recent statements indicating he now wants TikTok to stick around, the prospect of a ban has never been as immediate as it is now with the Supreme Court serving as the final arbiter.

If the government prevails as it did in a lower court, TikTok says it would shut down its U.S. platform by Jan. 19, leaving creators scrambling to

redefine their futures.

"A lot of my other creative friends, we're all like freaking out. But I'm staying calm," said Gillian Johnson, who benefited financially from TikTok's live feature and rewards program, which helped creators generate higher revenue potential by posting high-quality original content. The 22-year-old filmmaker and recent college graduate uses her TikTok earnings to help fund her equipment for projects such as camera lens and editing software for her short films "Gambit" and "Awaken! My Neighbor."

Johnson said the idea of TikTok going away is "hard to accept."

Many creators have taken to TikTok to voice their frustrations, grappling with the possibility that the platform they've invested so much in could soon disappear. Online communities risk being disrupted, and the economic fallout could especially be devastating for those who mainly depend on TikTok and have left full-time jobs to build careers and incomes around their content.

For some, the uncertainty has led them to question whether to continue creating content at all, according to Johnson, who says she knows creators who have been thinking about quitting. But Nicla Bartoli, the vice president of sales at The Influencer Marketing Factory, said the creators

she has interreacted with have not been too worried since news about a potential TikTok ban has come up repeatedly over the years, and then died down.

"I believe a good chunk think it is not going to happen," said Bartoli, whose agency works to pair influencers and brands.

It's unclear how quickly the Supreme Court will issue a decision. But the court could act swiftly to block the law from going into effect if at least five of the nine justices deem it unconstitutional.

Trump, for his part, has already asked the justices to put a pause on the ban so he could weigh in after he takes office. In a brief — written by his pick for solicitor general — Trump called the First Amendment implications of a TikTok ban "sweeping and troubling" and said he wants a "negotiated resolution" to the issue, something the Biden administration had pursued to no avail.

While waiting for the dust to settle in Washington, some creators are exploring alternatives ways to promote themselves or their business, encouraging users to follow them on other social media platforms or are investing more time producing non-TikTok content.

Johnson says she is already strategizing her next move and exploring alternative opportunities.

While she hasn't found a place quite like TikTok, she's begun to spend more of her time on other platforms, such as Instagram and YouTube, both of whom are expected to benefit financially if TikTok vanishes.

According to a report by Goldman Sachs, the so-called creator economy, which has been fueled in part by TikTok, could be worth \$480 billion by 2027.

Because the opportuni-

ty to monetize content exists across a range of platforms, a vast amount of creators have already diversified their social media presence. However, many TikTok creators have credited the platform — and its algorithm — with giving them a type of exposure they did not receive on other platforms. Some say it has also boosted and provided opportunities for creators of color and those from other marginalized

groups.
Despite fears about the fate of TikTok, industry analysts note creators are generally avoiding making any big changes, like abandoning platform, until something actually happens.
"I'm anxious but also trying to be hopeful in a weird way," said Brandon Hurst, who credits TikTok with rescuing his business from obscurity and propelling it into rapid growth.

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Indian Lake downs Harding

BY MIKE FRANK
 EXAMINER SPORTS WRITER

It was a certified victory with lots of tension. Indian Lake battled its way to a 48-45 win over Marion Harding in non-league girls basketball play on Monday at home. The Lady Lakers have won four in a row and are now 9-4 on the season. Harding built a lead through the first period and maintained it in a low-scoring second to lead by five at the break. But Indian Lake found its rhythm at both ends in the second half. They scored 16 in the third quarter, matching the total for the first two periods. They stayed just in front through the fourth to get the victory. "We decided to change things up a little bit on the defensive side," said Indian Lake coach Yasmyn Inskeep. "What we always talk about is our defense leads to our offense."

She added that, "We made adjustments on the offense to try to get the ball in the high post, and get a high-low look and pound it on the inside. That opened things up for our guards, which was really beneficial for us." Carly Strayer led Indian Lake with 14 points, and Rya Pequignot had 11, with eight by Mackenzie Dixon. For Harding (5-6), Aniya Mitchell had 18 points. Karee Whitaker added seven. After Harding scoring to open the contest, a pair of free throws by Strayer and a three-pointer by Alivia Kinney got Indian Lake a 5-2 lead. Three scores in quick succession by Harding came due to pressure forcing turnovers and stops. After a score by Strayer, Mitchell answered with a three for the Presidents near the midpoint of the quarter. There was plenty of back and forth over the next few minutes, but only a free throw for each side in the scoring department. With 2:03 to play, Altstaetter drew a whistle. She hit the first free throw. Harding committed lane violations twice on the second shot attempt. The third time was the charm for Altstaetter, spinning around and through. A layup and a jumper by Mitchell gave Harding a 16-10 advantage heading to the second. Another score by Whitaker pushed that lead to eight for the visitors. After a couple free throws by Pequignot, Dixon hit a shot with 4:35 to go for the first field goal in about seven and a half minutes of game action. Kinney would set up a

score by Strayer late in the half. With just 11 points total in the period, Harding took a 21-16 lead into the break. A putback by Altstaetter on the opening possession was followed by a trey in the corner by Altstaetter, tying the game. Harding pulled ahead by four, but scores from Strayer and Pequignot evened it again and led to a Harding timeout with 2:20 to go. Pequignot had another 1-hand drive to put the Lakers ahead for the first time since the early stages. The pace and the scoring continued to fly along. Pequignot nailed a three-pointer at the third-quarter horn for a 32-30 edge. Indian Lake nurtured that small lead through the first few minutes of the fourth quarter. A steal and score by Mitchell was followed by a three from Kailyn Simmons made it 39-37 Harding. Strayer made consecutive shots at the other end to regain the lead. Harding had a chance to tie with 3:50 left, but Rahnya Brownridge only made one of two free throws. Whitaker then fouled out with two minutes still left. A bank shot and two free throws by Dixon got the cushion back up to five with just under 90 seconds to go. Indian Lake got one more by Dixon and two by Strayer in the home stretch to keep ahead. They made 15 of 22 in the game, and six of eight in the fourth. "One thing we work on every day in practice is foul shots," said Inskeep. "We talk about how you have to make your foul shots because you never know late in the game how that's going to play out for you. That's one thing these girls do really really well." In the junior varsity contest, Indian Lake won 32-22. Getting 10 points apiece were Haley Metzger and Terra Beltz. Indian Lake (4-1 Central Buckeye Conference, 9-4) will host Kenton Ridge on Wednesday and Shawnee on Saturday. Game time Wednesday is 6 p.m. for the junior varsity. Saturday's game will be one half of JV play at 2 p.m., followed by varsity at 3.

	INDIAN LAKE 48,	HARDING 45
PRESIDENTS	16	5 9 15 - 45
LAKERS	10	6 16 16 - 48
HARDING (5-6)		
Kailyn Simmons 2 0-0 6; Aniya Mitchell 8 0-1 18;		
Talyah Thomas 10-0 2; Raha Smith 0 0-0 0;		
Alicy Hayes 2 2-2 6; Jada Hayes 0 0-2 0;		
Rahnya Brownridge 0 4-6 4; Karee Whitaker 3 1-2 7;		
Teah Price 0 0-0 0; Shelby Duran 10-0 2;		
TOTALS 17 7-13 45.		
INDIAN LAKE (9-4)		
Alivia Kinney 2 0-0 5; Rya Pequignot 4 2-2 11;		
Carly Strayer 5 4-4 14; Courtney Altstaetter 13-6 5;		
Kennedy Schwabauer 12-4 5; Mackenzie Dixon 2 4-6 8;		
TOTALS 22 8-14 60.		



Calvary Christian played the first game in the new gymnasium as the Spartans boys basketball team took on Ansonia. They won the game 58-37. (PHOTO BY RYAN HYDE)

Spartans win on new court

BY SHARYN KOPF
 EXAMINER STAFF WRITER

Calvary Christian School enjoyed a significant milestone on Saturday, Jan. 4, when students, staff, friends and families gathered for their first pair of basketball games in the school's new gym at 1673 CR 9, Bellefontaine. The night started with a junior varsity game, which was a loss, but ended on a high note as the varsity Spartans tamed the Ansonia Tigers in a 58 to 37 victory. Senior Zeeke Wylie led the team with 17 points, two

rebounds and three steals. Also making their mark were Christian Rogan—16 points, two rebounds and three steals; Philip Davie—10 points, five rebounds, three steals and four assists; Daniel Young—nine points, five rebounds and one steal; and Evan Schmidt—six points, six rebounds, four assists and three steals. But the highlight of the night was finally playing on their official gym floor. "While the planning started three years ago, this facility has been a dream for decades," Ryan Hyde, head

of school, said. "We're thrilled to begin a new era ... and we're giving God all the glory as we've seen the series of miracles that got us to this point." When students left the old Rush CCS campus for a month-long Christmas break in December, it was the end of a 45-year era. This week the staff and anyone willing to help finishes moving everything into the new school, and classes are scheduled to resume on Tuesday, Jan. 21. To find out more about CCS, call 937-599-4879 or email ccs@calvary-bellefontaine.org.

Watson setback clouds future

BY TOM WITHERS
 ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEREA — Deshaun Watson's future as Cleveland's quarterback is more uncertain. Browns general manager Andrew Berry said Monday that Watson suffered a setback in his recovery from an Achilles tendon rupture, and the team doesn't know if or when he'll be available in 2025. "We'll know more in the next couple days or weeks," Berry said. Watson has played in only 19 games since signing a fully guaranteed five-year, \$230 million contract with Cleveland in 2022. The deal has been a collective failure as Watson hasn't played well when he's been healthy. Berry opened his season-ending news conference with the unexpected update on Watson, who made just seven starts this season as the Browns (3-14) stumbled after making the playoffs a year ago. Berry said the Browns learned about Watson's new medical situation during player exit meetings on Sunday, when the 29-year-old brought it up to team doctors. Berry emphasized that it's too early to know what it means to Watson and the team going forward. It's not yet known if surgery will be necessary. Watson had his Achilles repaired

on Oct. 25. He has been splitting time in Ohio and Florida during his recovery. Watson has not spoken to the media since getting hurt. "One thing I have learned from this year, I don't want to rule out anything with a major injury," Berry said. "We are still collecting all the information. Then obviously our focus is making sure that he can get as healthy as possible." Berry said the team should know more on Watson in the coming days. The team recently restructured his contract to get future salary-cap relief and flexibility. Watson went 1-6 as a starter this season before injuring his Achilles on Oct. 20. He was among the NFL's lowest rated quarterbacks at the time and his injury led to the Browns starting three more quarterbacks after playing five in 2023. Last season, Watson suffered a season-ending injury to his right throwing shoulder and underwent major surgery. The Browns signed free agent Joe Flacco, who revived his career while leading Cleveland to a wild-card berth. The Browns thought they ended their long search for a franchise QB when they signed Watson, who was a three-time Pro Bowler in Houston. But injuries and his subpar play have put the team in the same spot it was

in three years ago. Berry didn't outline any specific plans to improve the team's quarterback play. Cleveland will have the No. 2 overall pick in this year's draft and could select a young quarterback to develop. The Browns also are expected to sign a veteran free agent to either start next season or act as a "bridge" QB. "That room will look different next year," Berry said. Dorian Thompson-Robinson is the only quarterback under contract next season. Jameis Winston signed a one-year deal as a free agent with Cleveland and could be an option. Winston sparked a stagnant offense after Watson got hurt — he passed for 497 yards in a loss at Denver — but wound up being benched after throwing eight interceptions in a three-game span. Berry said he was personally "embarrassed" by the team's regression this season. The Browns began what will be another busy offseason on Sunday by firing offensive coordinator Ken Dorsey and offensive line coach Andy Dickerson. Berry feels the Browns still have a solid core of players to contend and he doesn't see the necessity for a complete rebuild. Berry said he expects defensive star Myles Garrett to stay with the Browns and retire with the team.

JUNIOR HIGH

Bellefontaine and Indian Lake met in junior high girls basketball on Monday night, with Bellefontaine winning both games. The eighth grade Lady Chiefs won 32-19. They were led by Mia Brown, with 11 points and Lexey Brown with nine. Each had six rebounds as well. Paxton Stewart had eight points, eight rebounds and three steals. Cameo Greene had four points and three steals. Other contributors were Allie Myers, Rylee Crabtree, Leila Hammond and Annie Clem. For Indian Lake, Claire Tidwell had seven points and eight rebounds. Addison Headings had 4, Laura Metzger 3, Makayle Clary 3, and Kyler Carruthers 2.

In the seventh grade game, Bellefontaine defeated Indian Lake 27-7. For Bellefontaine, Alexis Hogan had 10 points. Kennedy Hairston and Gianna Davis combined to score 15 points and collect 10 rebounds. Also contributing were Annie Galloway, Brookelyn Oaks, Kilyn Slayback and Samantha Bricker. Indian Lake got four points by Headings and three by Abby Bihn. Teighan Mackesy got five rebounds. **Calvary Christian falls** The Calvary Christian junior high girls lost to St. John's Lutheran 19-14 on Monday. Madelyn Carter had 10 points and Caroline Moore had the other four. Eden LeCrone made four steals on defense.

Bellefontaine boys defeat Indian Lake The Bellefontaine junior high boys got wins over Indian Lake on Monday night. The Chieftains won the seventh grade game 38-33. Colson Garver had nine and Sennett Stolly eight for Bellefontaine. Indian Lake got 14 points by Hall. Bellefontaine got a narrow 41-40 win in the eighth grade game. Tyrin Johnson poured in 28 points and Gavin Perez had nine for the Chiefs. Indian Lake leaders were Lillard with 15 and Hurley with 12 points. **WL-S sixth grade girls win** The West Liberty-Salem sixth grade girls basketball team got wins over Triad and Indian Lake

this weekend. They defeated Triad 24-19. Zoey Richardson had 14 points. Izzy Jones and Chloe Staten had key scoring late, while Mariah Fish and Iris Meister provided good defense. The win over Indian Lake was 20-16. Staten had 12 points, Richardson added four, with two each by Jones and Kennedy Logwood. Ava Prater and Quinn Moore had several key defensive plays. **WL-S fifth grade boys win** West Liberty-Salem defeated Triad 32-8 and Indian Lake 23-10 this weekend in fifth grade boys basketball. Against Triad, Braxton Loudon had 10 points and Isaac Fallon had seven. Other scoring: Jack Troyer 4, Maddux Dobberstein 4, Parker Knight 4,

Ozzy Anders 2 and Brantley Eickhoff 1. In the game with the Lakers, Loudon had nine, Fallon six, Jackson Barth 4, Anders 2 and Dobberstein 2. **Chiefs fifth graders win** Bellefontaine defeated Indian Lake 38-13 in fifth grade boys action Saturday. Scoring for the Chiefs: Jonathan Harvey 10, Dustin Rogan 9, Teran Benton 4, Austin Bland 4, Teran Johnson 4, Kyndrik Shazier 3, Krew Frey 2, and Jakyson Johnson 2. Bellefontaine then faced Graham on Sunday and won 44-2. Scoring for the Chiefs: Theo Vigansky 12, Drayden Lyburt 10, Harvey 6, Bland 6, Rogan 4, Shazier 4, Kyler Vollrath 2.

CES 2025 is upon us

What can we expect from the annual show of all things tech?

NEW YORK (AP) — CES, the annual trade show of all things tech, is upon us.

The multi-day event, organized by the Consumer Technology Association, kicks off this week in Las Vegas — where swaths of the latest gadgets and advances across industries like personal tech, transportation, health care, sustainability and more are set to be on display. And, like last year, artificial intelligence is everywhere you look.

CES 2024 saw more than 138,000 attendees, according to the CTA, and organizers expect to see at least that amount again for this year's show. Over 4,500 exhibitors, including 1,400 startups, are also anticipated across 2.5 million net square feet of floor space this week.

"These are the people getting together, focusing

on solving some of the world's biggest problems — and magic occurs." Gary Shapiro, CEO and vice chair of the CTA, told The Associated Press ahead of this week's show.

Formerly known as the Consumer Electronics Show, CES brings attendees and exhibitors from around the globe, with Shapiro noting that organizers expect some 50,000 attendees to come from outside the U.S. Beyond an array of startups, big-name companies set to make appearances this year include Nvidia, Delta Air Lines, Honda, Volvo, Panasonic and L'Oréal.

There may be some increased security this year. CES 2025 arrives less than one week after a highly decorated Army soldier fatally shot himself in a Tesla Cybertruck packed with explosives before it burst into flames



LiberLive showcases their stringless guitar at 2025 CES Unveiled, Sunday, Jan. 5, 2025, in Las Vegas. (AP PHOTO/JACK DEMPSEY)

outside of President-elect Donald Trump's hotel in Las Vegas — not far from much of the trade show's planned event space. Shapiro said that organizers regularly work with officials for event safety and that "modest" changes were made in response to recent events, but couldn't go into further detail.

The AP spoke with Shapiro about what to expect for CES 2025. The conversation has been edited for clarity and length.

CES 2025 is here. What are the main themes we can expect this week?

CES 2025 will be an exceptional leap forward in terms of innovation and technology, with a focus on a variety of themes important to the future of humanity. Over 4,000 companies will be here, on literally miles and miles of exhibit space. And they'll be showing solutions to fundamental human problems — like access to food, clean air, clean water and mobility, as well as health care technology.

We also have newer categories. We're seeing more technology for the disability community, for example. Products that can serve people with disabilities had a large presence last year, and we expect that to be even bigger this year. Overall, the show is serving humanity and using technology and innovation to fill in gaps where we need a lot more work.

AI is everywhere again this year. Are there any specific trends we should

keep an eye out for?

Generative AI is affecting virtually every area. Just about every major exhibitor will be talking about AI in one form or another at CES this week. For businesses, the focus is more on enterprise and productivity. But for individuals, it's about personalization.

We'll see exhibitors, such as PC companies, focusing on personalization in new products for the PC and laptop marketplace. And then there's AI being used in mobility — and not just in features for cars and self-driving. It's for all sorts of vehicles, including agricultural products from companies like Caterpillar and John Deere.

What kind of oversight is there for the gadgets and products we'll see at CES this week?

The industry representing the companies involved welcomes government regulation. The government's job is to say this is what is unsafe. And so the companies know what is legal and what is not. At the same time, a big challenge is if government stops innovation — so the question is for every country is finding that balance.

How could policies from the incoming Trump administration — like proposed tariffs on foreign goods — impact consumer products like those seen at CES?

We expect the Trump administration to take a much more pro-business approach that favors innovation, including a focus



Lili showcases a reading light and monitor with adjustable frequency to help people with dyslexia during 2025 CES Unveiled, Sunday, Jan. 5, 2025, in Las Vegas. (PHOTO BY JACK DEMPSEY)

on all sorts of energy sources, which is very important. But tariffs are taxes. And we know that they are inflationary and paid for by consumers.

If we go forward with the proposals that the President-elect has indicated he may put in place, there would be severe impacts on the prosperity of the U.S. It depends on how exactly these tariffs are adopted but under some of the proposals, we estimate a range of a 30 to 50% price increases for basic products like PCs, cell phones, laptops, tablets, smartwatches and all sorts of different products that consumers get a great value on today. That means that fewer people will be able to access these products. And, of course, other countries may then retaliate against U.S. exports. We don't want to go in that direction.

Are there any increased safety precautions CES is taking following last week's Cybertruck explosion?

CES has always focused on safety. There's a lot of

things we can't talk about, but suffice it to say, we work with federal, state, local and facility officials for lots of planning. We've made some modest changes given the recent events, but we're always trying to do it better.

CES also arrives a month after the fatal shooting of UnitedHealthcare's CEO. Have companies made any additional security requests for their attending executives?

I think companies are excited to come here. And any requests we've gotten have been extremely isolated.

Having top executives here, especially after COVID, is very special. People are focused on coming to Las Vegas and having this opportunity to meet face-to-face and finding the serendipity and discovery that happens when you're making these business connections in person. That's why trade shows like CES and others are such important events for the world.

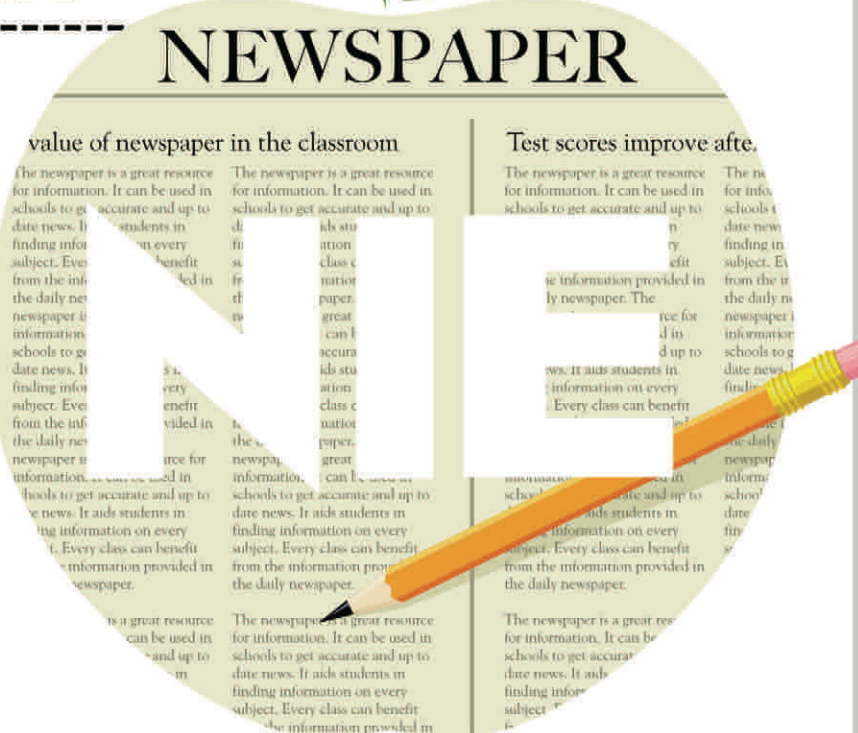


Bosch showcases the Revol Intelligent Crib, which monitors the baby's vital signs and can automatically rock if the baby is crying, during 2025 CES Unveiled, Sunday, Jan. 5, 2025, in Las Vegas. (AP PHOTO/JACK DEMPSEY)

Learning Comes to Life IN THE NEWSPAPER



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