



Analysis: World absorbs historic wartime oil disruptions

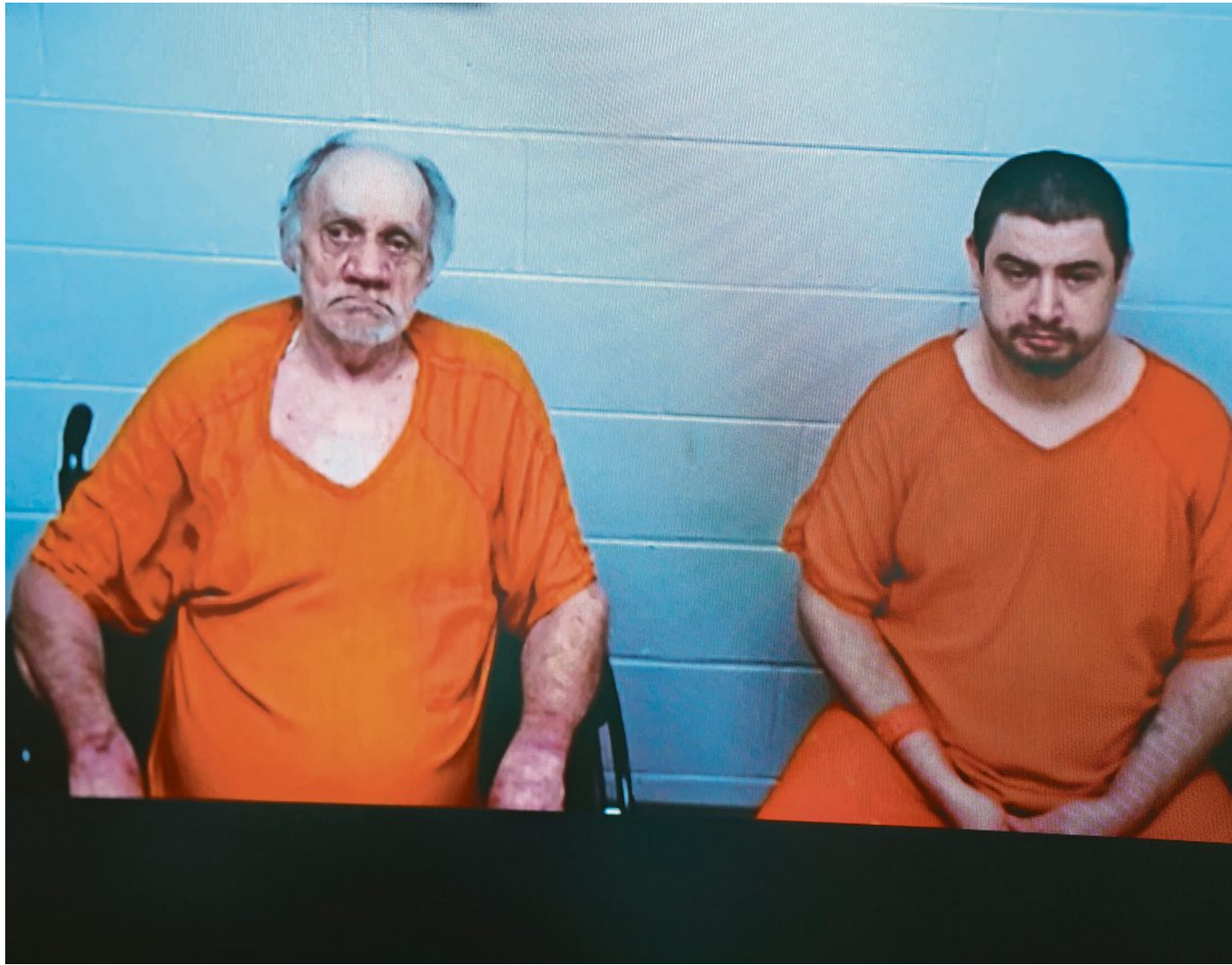
BUSINESS, 6A

Chillicothe Gazette

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Gary L. Siders Sr. and Gary L. Siders Jr. appear via Zoom in the Vinton County Court of Common Pleas in McArthur July 1. Four adults face a total of 16 charges of child endangerment after children were found in "deplorable" conditions June 30. The arraignment was held in Judge Laina Fetheroff Rogers. DORAL CHENOWETH/COLUMBUS DISPATCH



Home on the 100 block of Ohmer Street in Hamden, Vinton County, where state and county authorities say they rescued 16 children living in deplorable conditions, and arrested four adults on June 30 in Hamden. SAMANTHA MADAR/COLUMBUS DISPATCH

Ohio is reviewing if welfare tips were made on Siders

Laura A. Bischoff
State Bureau
USA TODAY NETWORK

Editor's Note: If you suspect child abuse or neglect in Ohio, report it by calling (855) OH-CHILD (855-642-4453) to be connected to your county's children services or law enforcement office. Reports can be anonymous.

State authorities are reviewing child welfare agency records for reports involving the family involved in a southeastern Ohio child endangerment case, according to the Ohio Department of Children and Youth.

"As with all child fatality or near-fatality cases, DCY has begun its review of reports involving this family while they have been living in Ohio," said Jodi Norton Trimble of the Ohio DCY. "Our hearts go out to these children, the officers and officials who handled this investigation and arrest, the medical teams who are caring for several of these children, and the Vinton County community overall. This is a tragedy that reaches beyond this family."

The scope and timetable for the review have yet to be determined.

Four adults have been charged in connection to the case: Gary Siders Jr., Gary Siders Sr., Christina Siders and Elizabeth Siders. Each face 16 counts of felony child endangerment.

The state sent experts to Vinton County to help place the 16 children

See SIDERS, Page 2A

What public records reveal about the Siders family

Bethany Bruner
Columbus Dispatch
USA TODAY NETWORK

Publicly available records provide minimal information about four adults accused of keeping 16 children in conditions likened to a third-world country and abusing them for years.

Gary Siders Sr., 73, Gary Siders Jr., 36, Elizabeth Siders, 33, and Catherine Siders, 67, are each facing 16 counts of felony endangering children in Vinton County Common Pleas Court.

The charges accuse the Siders of child endangerment involving the children, who range in age from about 18 months old to 18 years old.

The filings against the Siders do not detail specific allegations. Each charge is connected to a specific child, who is identified by their initials and date of birth.

The language used by prosecutors to

Ohio Attorney General Andy Wilson and Vinton County officials said the children are believed to have lived in an approximately 12-foot by 12-foot space inside the five-room, wood-frame home where they've spent the majority of the last four years.

detail the charges is language taken straight from the Ohio Revised Code.

Ohio Attorney General Andy Wilson and Vinton County officials said the children are believed to have lived in an approximately 12-foot by 12-foot space inside the five-room, wood-frame home where they've spent the majority of the last four years.

Did anyone track the Siders children being born?

Wilson said there were no indicators

that any of the 16 children were born inside the Ohmer Street home. He said third-party information helped them to confirm birth dates, but he did not specify what that information was.

Birth certificates are not visible publicly on Ohio Department of Health websites statewide.

Wilson said the family is believed to have been living in Vinton County for about four years. He also said the family had moved around southeastern

See RECORDS, Page 2A

Upcoming book to tell the journey of Appalachian hiker

Shelby Reeves
Chillicothe Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK

Hiking the Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine is a month-long journey that takes hikers through more than 2,100 miles of wilderness.

Those brave enough to attempt this trek have to prepare for blisters, hills, valleys, varying temperatures and more, but many say it is worth it when you reach the end.

At least that is what Ross County native Jeff Lewis says.

Lewis spent his childhood in Ross County and it was during this time, at a summer camp, where he first heard about people hiking the trail. He went on to build a life in non-profit leadership and moved away, but the thought of the trail kept coming back to him. Eventually, after feeling like he was stalling in life, he decided to take the leap and

See BOOK, Page 2A



Jeff Lewis is seen here celebrating as he reached the end of the Appalachian Trail after a five-month journey. PROVIDED BY JEFF LEWIS

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