



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Road work

County road 275 South between U.S. 27 and county road 100 West was closed briefly around noon Wednesday to allow Jay County Highway Department crews to work on road repairs. The highway department was also working on county roads 100 West, 200 North, 700 West and 350 South.

Town moves to limit leaks

New meters will allow for faster detection

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review
REDKEY — The town is cracking down on leaks. Redkey Town Council approved a resolution Tuesday for monitoring and responding to excess residential water usage. Council also agreed to begin the process of formally creating a town park board. Redkey has been installing new “smart” water meters across town. The technology has the ability to record water usage in 15-minute increments for residential properties, and it automatically notifies town employees when a meter records abnormal readings. Utility worker Seth Fugiett explained the town will attempt to contact the resident in the event their meter begins showing a continuous flow of more than three gallons an hour. If the town can’t reach the resident and the high usage continues, the water department will turn off the resident’s water to prevent leaks, water damage or high bills.

“It’s just going to save a lot of headache, a lot of hassle,” said Fugiett. “We have the technology to be able to give you guys notice.” Once the system has flagged a residential water meter measuring continuous water usage at more than seven gallons per hour within 48 hours, the water department will shut off the meter. There will be a \$50 reconnect fee before service is restored. Per the resolution, customers using the new meters also won’t be granted adjustments for leaks.

Council members Brenda Beaty, “Watermellon” Jim Phillips, Jenny Staver, Floyd Life and Byron Daugherty approved the resolution. They also introduced an ordinance to establish Redkey Park and Recreation Board, which will consist of four members who live in town.

According to the ordinance, the board will have the following powers and duties: •Exercising general supervision of the parks department •Establishing rules for the use of parks and recreational facilities in Redkey •Preparing and submitting an annual budget •Accepting gifts, donations and grants for park purposes •Contracting for services, facilities and improvements •Acquiring, holding and disposing of property for park and recreation purposes

See Limit page 2

Foundation awards summer grants

Local organizations will be receiving financial support for their initiatives.

The Portland Foundation announced more than \$200,000 in grants through its summer grant cycle and Teacher Creativity Mini Grants this week.

John Jay Center for Learning received the largest of the grants, awarded \$50,000 for the purchase of equipment for a medical simulation lab.

Arts Place received three grants totaling \$30,000, including \$15,000 for its Arts in the Parks program. It will also get \$7,500 each of its 2026 Hudson Family Park Amphitheatre Summer Concert Series and the purchase of new curtains for Hall-Moser Theatre. Dunkirk Historical Society was

More than \$200,000 will go toward local projects

awarded \$25,000 for restoration and installation of the old First State Bank clock at Webster Depot Park.

Jay Community Center received a total of \$25,000 — \$15,000 for senior programming and \$10,000 for its Boys and Girls Club after-school programs.

The foundation awarded \$20,000 on a \$1 to \$1 match to Dunkirk

Beautification Committee for the construction of a pickleball court. Portland Lions Club will receive \$15,000 for a new deep fryer for its stand at Jay County Fairgrounds, and Firefly Children and Family Alliance will get \$10,000 for supplies for Family Resource Center. Also awarded were \$5,265 to Jay County Wrestling Club for a new mat, and \$5,000 each to Pennville

Pumpkin Festival for the 2025 event and West Jay Community Center for replacement of the gym floor.

Other grants included \$3,000 each to Jay County Historical Society for the Portland Arch Bridge Historical State Marker project and Jay County Robotics for fields and game elements; \$2,500 to Jay-Randolph Development Services for health and safety supplies; \$2,200 to Portland Rockets Baseball Booster Club for tarps; and \$1,68 to Jay County Pee Wee Football for shoulder pads.

Teacher Creativity Mini Grants, which are awarded up to \$300 for learning experience teachers feel are important but fall outside the school budget, were as follows:

See Grants page 2

Trump warns of ‘economic war’

By JENNIFER A. DLOUHY and ANNMARIE HORDERN
Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON — resident Donald Trump warned of “an economic war” if he cannot get Russia’s Vladimir Putin and Ukraine’s Volodymyr Zelenskyy to end their conflict, saying he had “very serious” consequences in mind if the fighting continues.

“It will not be a world war, but it’ll be an economic war, and an economic war is going to be bad. It’s going to be bad for Russia, and I don’t want that,” Trump said at a meeting with his cabinet members Tuesday at the White House.

Trump’s comments came in response to a question about whether there was a timeline for Putin to agree to bilateral talks with Zelenskyy before the U.S. president would impose threatened sanctions.

“It’s very serious what I

President pushes for end to conflict

have in mind, if I have to do it,” Trump said, citing the war’s death toll, which he said numbered in the thousands each week.

Trump vowed to end Russia’s war in Ukraine on his first day in office but has found the conflict stubbornly difficult to resolve, even in the aftermath of a historic Aug. 15 summit between Trump and Putin in Anchorage seen as potentially helping deliver a breakthrough.

Trump’s shuttle diplomacy with Putin and Zelenskyy raised the pos-

sibility of the warring leaders’ first in-person talks since Russia carried out a full-scale invasion of its neighbor more than three years ago.

Yet more than a week after that Alaska summit, there’s been no meeting scheduled between the two leaders. The White House previously said it believed Putin had agreed to a meeting with Zelenskyy and that planning was underway, though the Kremlin never confirmed the commitment.

While Putin would be ready to meet Zelenskyy when an agenda for that summit is ready, “this agenda is not ready at all,” Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov told NBC on Friday.

Trump has repeatedly threatened sanctions and other “consequences” for Moscow as well as for the countries whose purchases of Russian crude are helping to bankroll its war effort.



Tribune News Services/Getty Images/Andrew Harnik

U.S. President Donald Trump, right, greets Russian President Vladimir Putin as he arrives at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson on Aug. 15 in Anchorage, Alaska. Trump warned Tuesday of economic consequences if the Russia-Ukraine war is not brought to an end.

Deaths

Berniece Henschen, 85, Ossian
Details on page 2.

Weather

The high temperature was 71 degrees Tuesday in Jay County. The low was 54. There is a 30% chance of rain tonight with a low in the lower 50s. Expect a high in the upper 60s on Friday. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Portland Plan Commission will meet at 6:15 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 4, in council chambers at Portland Fire Station, 1616 N. Franklin St., and will discuss carbon sequestration facilities. Jay County Plan Commission will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11, at Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.

Coming up

Saturday — Coverage of Fort Recovery’s football game at Allen East.

Wednesday — Results from the JCHS football game at New Castle.



Obituaries

Berniece Henschen
April 29, 1940-Aug. 24, 2025
M. Berniece Henschen, 85 of Ossian, passed away on Sunday evening, Aug. 24, 2025, at Coventry Meadows in Fort Wayne. Berniece was born on April 29, 1940, in Jay County to Carl and Reba (Bond) Taylor. She graduated from Pennville High School in 1958. She was an owner of Grider's Flooring, worked for Glover & May Shoes and Jay County High School, and was a telephone operator for several places in Fort Wayne.

After high school, Berniece was married and raised her children in Portland, Indiana. On Nov. 1, 1985, Berniece and Lynn Henschen were married at First United Methodist Church of Bluffton. At that time, the couple moved to Waynedale, Indiana, where they lived for 18 years. Lynn built a new home for them in Ossian, where they were still living. Survivors include her hus-



band, Lynn Henschen of Ossian; their children Mark (Elizabeth) Grider of Prichard, Wyoming, Kelli (Tim) Shores of Poneto, Gary (Deb) Grider of Hartford City, Mitch (Karen) Grider of Millroy, Indiana, Steve (Leesa) Henschen of Fort Wayne, David (Katie) Henschen of Fort Wayne and Denise (Daren) Snyder of Oceanside, California. She was a loving grandma to 17 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren. She will be remembered by her siblings, Phylis (Tim) Upp of Pennville, Frank (Kathy) Taylor of Fort Wayne and Caroline (Bobby)

Wines, Daisy Shuba and Jennifer Wall, all of Portland. Visitation will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 29, 2025, at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Funeral services will take place at 1 p.m. on Friday at the funeral home with Pastor Bill Garver officiating. Burial will follow at Oak Lawn Cemetery in Ossian. Memorials may be made to Stillwater Hospice or Coventry Meadows and can be sent to the funeral home. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the

Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends may share condolences with the family at thomarich.com.
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The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services. There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

CR almanac				
Friday 8/29	Saturday 8/30	Sunday 8/31	Monday 9/1	Tuesday 9/2
71/45	72/48	75/49	79/53	80/56
Friday looks to be mostly sunny with the temperature high around 71 degrees.	Saturday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with a low around 48.	Mostly sunny on Sunday, when the low may hit around 49 degrees.	Labor Day's weather looks like mostly sunny skies with a high around 79.	Tuesday will be mostly sunny with highs in the upper 70s or low 80s.

Lotteries	
Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$850 million	Daily Three: 7-1-2 Daily Four: 3-2-2-3 Quick Draw: 1-7-10-11-14-20-23-25-27-28-29-31-34-53-60-63-71-75-78-79
Mega Millions 7-12-30-40-69 Mega Ball: 17 Estimated jackpot: \$277 million	Ohio Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 6-4-4 Pick 4: 4-2-4-9 Pick 5: 5-1-2-6-5 Evening Pick 3: 8-4-5 Pick 4: 4-7-1-7 Pick 5: 6-7-3-5-8 Rolling Cash: 8-15-16-18-22 Estimated jackpot: \$120,000
Hoosier Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 1-9-5 Daily Four: 4-5-6-5 Quick Draw: 2-6-12-13-19-20-21-22-23-28-32-33-38-42-49-50-53-56-58-76 Evening	

Markets	
Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.01 Sept. corn4.06 Oct. corn3.95	Sept. beans10.25 Wheat 4.87
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.12 Sept. corn4.12 Oct. corn4.02	ADM Montpelier Corn.....3.87 Sept. corn3.87 Beans10.21 Sept. beans10.19 Wheat4.81
The Andersons Richland Township Corn3.93 Sept. corn3.93 Beans10.25	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.00 Sept. corn4.00 Beans10.00 Oct. beans9.95 Wheat4.67

Today in history

In 1955, 14-year-old Emmett Till was brutally murdered in Money, Mississippi, for allegedly flirting with a white woman four days prior. Till's death spurred civil rights movements and shed a light on segregation in the south.
In 1963, around 200,000 marched to Washington, D.C., in the civil rights movement best known for its famous "I Have a Dream" speech from Martin Luther King Jr.
In 2018, Fort Recovery High School's volleyball team swept rival Jay County Patriots 25-15, 25-13, 25-23 at Fort Site Fieldhouse. Fort Recovery (5-0) jumped on the Patriots early in the opening set thanks to a Paige Jutte kill, back-to-back Brooke Gaerke kills and a Hannah Knapke ace. Jay County pulled to within two, 9-7, but a Paige Fortkamp kill, Jutte kill, Kierra Wendel ace and Madi Rammel kill made it 13-7. The Patriots never fully recovered.
— The CR

Citizen's calendar	
Tuesday 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Meridian St. 7 p.m. — Pennville Town Council, town hall, 105 N. Washington St. 7 p.m. — Salamonina Town Council, Schoolhouse Community Center.	Monday 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, Jay County Courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 4 p.m. — Jay County Public Library Board of Trustees, community room, library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. 6 p.m. — Jay County Country Living Advisory Board, living facility, 1194 E. 200 North, Portland. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.
Thursday 5:15 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.	

Limit ...
Continued from page 1
Council will appoint the park board members. Pursuant to Indiana Code, there must be no more than two members of the same political party. (Pete Olson, government advisory director with Civitas Strategies, noted the town must attempt to follow that rule unless it can't find qualifying members, after which it could be categorized as a non-politically affiliated board.)
The ordinance also calls for establishing a park fund within the town's budget. Plans are to formally vote on the matter at town council's September meeting.
In other business, council members:
•Approved an agreement with Sara Grady for her services related to recording town board meetings, uploading the recordings online and maintaining the town's website. Grady has been recording board meetings at no cost to the town since June 2024. As outlined in the new agreement, she'll be paid \$400 a month for recording regular meetings, editing and uploading the recordings online, conducting routine website updates and administering the town's Google account. Grady will be paid \$75 per special meeting using her services, \$30 per hour for website content uploads beyond routine work and \$40 per hour for emergency website support or Google administrator issue resolutions.
•Discussed protocol for the number of trash toters a residence may use. Plans are for the town to provide one trash toter per residence, with additional toters to be provided by Best Way Disposal for an extra \$5 monthly. (Additional toters that are not paid for may be removed by the trash service.) Council discussed implementing the procedure at the end of the year in order to allow time to notify residents.
•Reviewed a proposed set of rules and duties for council members and elected officials. Olson explained it should serve as a "living, breathing document" to help ensure success moving forward. "The goal here is to have an orderly council meeting that makes it easier for you all to get your process going and flowing better," Olson said.
•Learned town marshal Alex Heath — he's currently attending Indiana Law Enforcement Academy — recently brought on Jonathan Filomeno as a reserve officer.
•Heard Redkey Community Development, a newly formed group working to become a nonprofit organization, has been coordinating volunteer efforts across town. The organization will host a movie night with several showings of "Back to the Future," food trucks, cornhole and other activities from 4 to 10 p.m. Oct. 24 at the old fire station.
•Were informed Miller Pipeline paid \$2,500 in dumping fees to the town in July.
•Learned there are a little more than 100 new water meters left to install. Fugiett anticipates the remaining equipment should be installed before winter.
•Heard a quarterly report from

Jay County Development Corporation executive director Ceann Bales, who shared an economic overview of Jay County. The county has shifted from a 3% to 4% unemployment rate in recent months. Average wages have increased 2.3%, she explained. Gross domestic product increased by 6.2% in 2023. "That means wealth is growing in Jay County," said Bales.
•Learned eight new signs have been placed around Redkey Elementary School and signs reminding semis to follow state routes have been placed around town entrances. Two of three street signs stolen earlier this year have also been replaced.
•Heard plans to replace the locks from the former concession stand building at Morgan Park, with council members noting Redkey Junior League officials and other park officials haven't had access to the building for some time.
•Were informed Beaty reached out to Delta High School and Jay School Corporation to recruit high schoolers looking for volunteer hours. Beaty plans to work with volunteers to scrape and paint fire hydrants from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays in September.
•Heard Redkey Fire Department Board meets from 7 to 8 p.m. the first Monday of each month, with the meeting open to the public after 8 p.m. (September's meeting will fall on Sept. 8 instead in observance of Labor Day.)
•Made \$287.75 in water bill adjustments.

Grants ...
Continued from page 1
•\$300 to Erin Ransom (East Jay Elementary School) for alternate seating
•\$300 to Erin Himan (General Shanks preschool) for programs and classroom events
•\$295.85 to Abby Sutter (East Jay) for flexible seating
•\$293.94 to Lexi Pease (East Jay) for flexible seating
•\$289.25 to Beth Mathewson (East Jay) for speech-language therapy materials
•\$282.96 to Julie Szymczak (Jay County Junior-Senior High School) for portable printers, a portable scanner and a large display clock
•\$224.99 to Lana Hilty (Jay County Christian Academy) for "Think Model Learn" math centers
•\$76 to Jennifer Johnson (West Jay Elementary School) for classroom items
The next grant application deadline will be in January.

SERVICES
Friday O'Conner , Janice: noon, Doan and Mills Funeral Home, 790 National Road West, Richmond. Henschen , Berniece: 1 p.m., Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home, 308 W. Washington St., Bluffton.
Saturday Shilt , Donald: 11 a.m., Tribute Funeral Homes, 1000 N. Broadway St., Greenville, Ohio. Ford , Nancy: Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.
Service listings provided by PROGRESSIVE DEL TORO OFFICE PRODUCTS 120 N. Meridian St. Portland, Indiana 47371 (260) 726-9201 progressiveofficeproducts.com

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Join for overdose awareness memorial

Let the light shine brighter than the silence.

Jay County Drug Prevention will host an overdose awareness memorial, Brighter Than the Silence, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Friday at Hudson Family Park in Portland.

Friday's event marks the first of its kind for the coalition, with plans for guest speakers, a memorial walk and a lantern release on the pond. For more information, contact the coalition at (260) 251-3259 or visit the office at 100 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Incredible insects

There's a whole world of incredible insects to investigate.

Homeschool students from 6 to 12 years old are invited to learn more about insects from 10 a.m. to noon Thursday, Sept. 4, at Limberlost State Historic Site.

For more information, contact Rachel Moorman-Minton at (260) 368-7428 or email rmoormanminton@indianamuseum.org.

Also, Limberlost will offer a bird walk hike along the Wabash River at Rainbow Bottom from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Sept. 6. The cost is \$5 per person.

Nominations open

The Robert Cooper Audubon Society is accepting nominations for its conservation awards.

Among the awards are the Robert H. and Esther L. Cooper Conservation Award, the chapter's highest honor, for contributions to conservation of and appreciation for the natural environment. Other awards are for conservation education, public service, development or preservation of habitat and conservation practices for an individual 18 or younger.

Nominations can be emailed to admin@cooper-audubon.org. The deadline is Sept. 20.

Hope Fest

It's all about hope.

Hope Fest, a health fair with vendors and games, is slated for noon to 5 p.m. Sept. 6 at Jay County High School.

The event will feature free health screenings, local resources, inflatables, archery tag, men's

haircuts, food, door prizes and a petting zoo from noon to 3 p.m. A free concert, featuring Nicky Gracious, JTruth, REDEEMED, 1 Cut, Clean Slate and Mallory Be., will be from 1 to 5 p.m.

To learn more, contact Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition at (260) 251-3259.

2005 reunion

It's been 20 years since the Class of 2005 graduated.

Jay County High School Class of 2005 will celebrate its 20th anniversary with a reunion at 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 20, at Portland Elks Lodge, 126 W. High St. Tickets are \$25 per person and include dinner and dessert catered by Mrs. P's Kitchen. There will also be a cash bar available.

To reserve a spot, call or text Jenae Horn Blasdel at (260) 251-2439.

Series continues

The Muncie Three Trails Music Series continues this weekend.

Its next concert, a performance by Jennie Devoe, opens at 7 p.m. Saturday at Canan Commons, 600 S. Walnut St., Muncie.

Father finds himself between family feud

DEAR ABBY: My daughter, "Violet," lives about two hours away. She and her mother (my wife) do not get along. Violet was always a rebellious, independent wild child, as well as the source of a lot of family problems. Violet and I also were estranged until we recently reconciled.

Yesterday, she sent me an email inviting me to lunch to celebrate my birthday. When I told my wife about the invitation, she responded, "Do what you want" in a tone and with a facial expression which said: "Go ahead, but if you do, you'll be sorry."

I have tried to reconcile these two women I love without success. My wife tells me she loves Violet but doesn't like her,

although she would like to have a better relationship with her. Violet tells me she blames her mother for her PTSD (her unofficial diagnosis) and wants nothing to do with her.

So do I go to lunch with my daughter and incur the wrath of my wife for what she would consider a betrayal, or do I decline the invitation from my daughter and risk alienating her again? — IN THE MIDDLE IN NEW JERSEY



DEAR IN THE MIDDLE: Your wife is wrong to attempt to use you to punish her troubled daughter. It would benefit all three of you if Violet were properly diagnosed. Before having that birthday lunch, ask your doctor if he or she can give you the name of some doctors who specialize in diagnosing and treating PTSD. During the lunch, tell Violet you love her, but this split in the family isn't good for any of you, which is why you are giving her the names of doctors who can help her work through her trauma. An alternative to that might be family counseling for the three of you.

.....

DEAR ABBY: I reconnected with my high school first love. Unfortunately, both of us were married. His wife didn't win her battle with cancer and passed away. I eventually got a divorce. All through this time, we were intimate, spending as much time together as we could. (We live in different cities.)

It has been eight months since we reconnected, and I'm ready for a relationship. I know he's nowhere near healed or close to ready to be in another relationship. This is the third time in our lives we have been brought together and couldn't "be" together. I don't know whether to let go or to wait. Please help. — ONE WHO GOT AWAY

DEAR ONE: Perhaps the

third time will be the charm because you are now both single. While you may have to wait for this man to finish grieving for the wife to whom he was unfaithful, it may be time for an honest conversation about your feelings for him and whether he's on the same page. It is important you both figure out whether this is the real thing or just another attempt to resurrect a teenage romance.

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Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Community Calendar as space is available. To submit an item, email news@thecr.com.

Today

CELEBRATE RECOVERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

LAWYERS IN LIBRARIES — Free and confidential consultations with a lawyer are available from 10 a.m. to noon at Jay County Public Library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. Consulting is available on topics including divorce, custody, guardianship, tenant-landlord issues, bankruptcy, debt collection, estates and immigration. Those interested in participating should sign up in advance at the library, 315 N. Ship St.,

Portland, or by calling (260) 726-7890.

SMART RECOVERY — A group for those struggling with addiction that focuses on motivation, coping with cravings, managing thoughts, feelings and behavior, and living a balanced life meets at 11 a.m. each Thursday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

MISSISSINNEWA CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION — Meets at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 28, at Jay County Historical Society. Elwanda Hanson will be speaking on Women Veterans. Any questions, please call Regent Kathy Selman at (260) 251-1694 or Sue Sommers at (260) 726-2678.

DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP — Meets at 5:30 p.m. at Persimmon Ridge Rehabilitation Centre, 200 N. Park St., Portland.

JAY COUNTY CANCER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. the first Thursday of the

month at Jay County Cancer Society's office, 227 N. Meridian St., Portland. Open discussion for cancer patients, survivors, family members or anyone interested in helping with the group. For more information, contact Linda Metzger at (260) 726-1844.

Friday

PAST RECOVERY SERVICES — Peer Addiction Support Team recovery support group meets at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. each Friday at the Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition office at 100 N. Meridian St., Portland. To learn more information, please call (260) 251-3259.

Saturday

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.

GOODYEAR FAMILY REUNION — Will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 30, at Greek's Pizzeria, 1607 N. Meridian St., Portland. Please remind other family members.

Sunday

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. each Sunday at Fellowship Baptist Church,

289 S. 200 West, Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

Monday

PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.

PING PONG — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 1 p.m. the first Monday of each month at Portland Place, 430 W. Lafayette St. For more information, call (800) 589-1121.

EUCHRE — Will be played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., Dunkirk.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 4:30 p.m., with the meeting at 5 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church, 323 S. Meridian St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5924.

THE LIFE CENTER — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy, as well as help with the needs of the family. The center is located at 1209 S. Shank St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins accepted.

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Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

The objective is to fill a nine-by-nine grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine three-by-three boxes (also called blocks or regions) contains the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each.



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European allies come to the rescue

New York Daily News
Tribune News Service

It's not often that you have eight European leaders, including one whose country is at war, descend on Washington in as close to an unplanned snap visit as you can get. Let's hope that the White House visit convinced the White House resident of the importance of the moment.

Monday afternoon, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy was joined by the leaders of Germany, France, Italy, the U.K., Finland, the European Commission and NATO in a surprise summit following President Donald Trump's Alaska meeting with Russian despot Vladimir Putin.

Trump seems to have understood the Oval Office meeting as him, the genius dealmaker, convening the allies after a successful rendezvous with the Russian

Guest Editorial

adversary, bringing everyone together in advance of brokering the peace deal that will win him the Nobel Peace Prize.

Whatever it takes; and that perception was likely reinforced by the heavy praise heaped on him, though of course he doesn't grasp that his NATO counterparts have internalized the fact that flattery is the only language Trump will listen to. That and English, which fortunately they all speak well enough to have been able to tag team off each other without translators in bringing Trump around on

not selling out Europe to an imperialist Russia, something European leaders probably did not expect to have to be doing 80 years after the end of World War II.

In actuality, this was more like the adults rushing to stop a toddler who had announced his intention to put a fork in the light socket before any further damage could be done. They certainly all watched in horror as Trump accomplished little but once again parroting Putin talking points after rolling out the red carpet for his admired authoritarian on U.S. soil, a meeting at which the Ukrainians were not represented.

This after having spent days talking about the possibility of ceding Ukrainian territory as part of some sort of agreement, and chastising Ukraine — invaded unprovoked by a much

larger neighbor — of starting the war itself.

At least this frenzied intervention by our European friends does seem to have yielded some success, primarily in the form of Trump agreeing to some form of U.S. security guarantees for Ukraine, which are likely to be the only thing that actually incentivizes Putin to back off and stay back when a peace deal is reached. Something akin to NATO's core Article 5 on joint defense comes to mind.

The problem is that such guarantees are only really worth anything if they're credible; it is fundamentally a threat, and threats are meaningful when the target has reason to believe there will be follow-through.

Unfortunately, we can't say that we expect Trump to stick to this message discipline. Given everything that we've seen so far in this

administration, odds are that shortly Trump will be insisting that Ukraine handle its own affairs or that the U.S. will only provide security guarantees in exchange for some kind of pay or materials deal; either that or he'll simply back off from the position altogether.

Even if he then comes around again, every time Trump wobbles on dead-serious international commitments, including support for the NATO alliance itself, it saps at their ultimate credibility and therefore makes them less potent.

We guarantee this: neither Trump nor any of us want to live in the world in which Putin believes he is not going to face consequences for his aggressive expansionist agenda. Trump made the commitments, now prove us wrong by sticking to them.



Trump, Sanders could send us to decline

By MICHAEL J. HICKS

One great irony of our times is that the claims of economic decline that animate both the MAGA movement and the Democratic Socialists of America are indistinguishable from one another.

Both camps argue that, for more than a half-century, wages are stagnating, younger generations are falling behind and malevolent economic forces are robbing families of prosperity and hope. These narratives are poignant, easy to make and wholly false.

As of the beginning of this year, real wages, household income and manufacturing output had all reached historic peaks. American homes doubled in size, highway deaths were cut in half and crime hit post-war lows.

American productivity has surpassed Europe's, and China remains decades behind us in prosperity — roughly where America was a century ago.

Even in the one area in which the data suggest America has

Michael J. Hicks



gone backward — life expectancy — the decline can be attributed to fentanyl and related drug use by a tiny share of the population. For everyone else, the post-war period has seen Americans live more than 10% longer — a stunning achievement.

Still, I think there are two reasons why someone who isn't closely watching economic data or accustomed to fact-checking politicians might find something compelling in the false claims of Sen. Bernie Sanders and President Trump.

The first reason for economic pessimism: It takes longer for young people to acquire the education needed for today's economy. This delays financial independence and family formation,

creating anxiety. However, it's part of broader economic changes that have been going on for over 300 years.

Jobs today require more formal education than jobs a half-century ago. The result is that young people spend more time in college and more time paying for it. They start families later but earn more over their lifetimes.

The trade-offs are worth it. Taking a construction job at age 18 pays better than becoming a physician — until about age 30 when the physician's earnings explode. College graduates see their wages grow over a lifetime, while high school graduates peak in their early 30s.

Still, for young people investing in their education, it may seem like life is passing them by. That feeling is as old as formal schooling itself.

The second reason for economic pessimism is the broad divergence of regional economies over the past four decades. Before 1980, poor places tended to grow faster than rich

places over time. No place was really left behind for long.

For a half-century now, poor places in America have stagnated while rich places surge ahead. The income gap between America's richest and poorest cities has grown by 50% since 1969. Regional inequality is now worse than it's been in generations.

In 1969, Muncie and Nashville had nearly identical incomes — about 83% of the national average. Today, Muncie has fallen to 66% while Nashville has risen to 110%. The pattern repeats across America.

The difference across places is as stark today as any time in American history. These differences are almost entirely explained by the share of college graduates in the town.

These two trends may make it appear that the U.S. is in worse shape now than it was a half-century ago. That just isn't true.

The poorest American city in 1969 was McAllen, Texas. It is still the poorest city today, but the inflation-adjusted average income has more than doubled.

The average resident of America's poorest city is twice as well off as they were in 1969. Again, this is a stunning achievement.

It is a pity so many folks have embraced the nonsensical (and largely indistinguishable) economic arguments of Sanders and Trump. All the MAGA and DSA claims of national decline are rooted in false evidence, but that does not mean we've been spared their damaging policies.

Trump's tariff mania, loved by both MAGA and the DSA, has reduced factory production off its peak and pushed us into a manufacturing recession that will drag the remainder of the economy with it.

Want to guess which places will bear the brunt of these bad policies?

.....

Hicks is the director of the Center for Business and Economic Research and the George and Frances Ball distinguished professor of economics in the Miller College of Business at Ball State University. Email him at mhicks@bsu.edu.

The Commercial Review

US PS 125820

HUGH N. RONALD (1911-1983), Publisher Emeritus
JOHN C. "JACK" RONALD (1948-2022), Publisher Emeritus



The Commercial Review is published daily except Sundays, Mondays and four holidays (New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas — holidays are observed on Tuesday when they fall on a Monday) by The Graphic Printing Co. Inc., 309 W. Main St., Portland, Indiana 47371. Periodical postage paid (USPS 125820) at Portland, Indiana. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Commercial Review, 309 W. Main St., P.O. Box 1049, Portland, Indiana 47371 or call (260) 726-8141.

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VOLUME 152—NUMBER 84
THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2025

www.thecr.com

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—Thomas Jefferson

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phone number, services and
website or email address.
All services are Sunday,
unless otherwise indicated.

**Asbury United
Methodist**
204 E. Arch St., Portland
Josh Arthur
(260) 726-8464
Services: 9:30 a.m., 11
a.m.
asburyministries.org

**Bellefountain
United Methodist**
440 S. 600 East
Pamela Freeman
Services: 9 a.m.

Bluff Point Friends
80 E. 650 South
Services: 10 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Boundary St. Paul
Corner of Treaty Line
Road and county road 300
East
Ava Gannon
(260) 726-2373
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Bryant Wesleyan
209 S. Hendricks St.
Paul VanCise
(260) 997-6231
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6
p.m.
bryantwesleyanchurch.com

**Calvary United
Methodist**
301 N. Main St., Dunkirk
Susan Durovey-Antrim
(765) 499-0368
Services: 10:30 a.m.
susan.duroveyantrim@in.umc.org

Christ Chapel
2535 Wabash Road, Fort
Recovery
(419) 733-1469
christchapelfr.com

**Church of
the Living God
(Miracle Missions)**
8472 S. 800 East, Union
City
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

**Church of God
of Prophecy**
797 N. Creagor Ave., Por-
tland
Nanette Weesner
(260) 766-9334
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
nanybell@yahoo.com

**Church of the
Brethren**
Floral and Chicago
avenues, Portland
Kevin McClung
(260) 729-7295
Services: 10 a.m.

**Church of
the Living God**
South Broad Street,
Dunkirk
Services: 7 p.m., 7 p.m.
Friday

Collett Nazarene
450 South, 1 mile west of
U.S. 27
Billy Stanton
(260) 251-2403
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6
p.m.

Cornerstone Baptist
211 E. Main St., Portland
Wayne Ward
(260) 726-7714
Services: 10 a.m.

**Cornerstone Church of
Pennville**
190 W. Main St., Pennville
David Davidson
(260) 202-9718
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Dunkirk Nazarene
226 E. Center St.,
Dunkirk
Tom Fett
(765) 768-6199
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6
p.m.

Evangelical Methodist
930 W. Main St., Portland
Steve Arnold
(260) 251-0970
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6
p.m.

**Fairview United
Methodist/Jay County**
2875 E. 200 South
Pamela Freeman
Lay leader: Beth Stephen
(260) 726-9184
Services: 10:15 a.m.

Faith Community
9560 W. 200 South,
Dunkirk
Mark Acree
(260) 251-0987
Services: 10 a.m.

Family Worship Center
200 E. Elder St., Portland
Ronald Willis
(260) 726-4844
Services: 11 a.m., 6:30
p.m. Wednesday
thefamilyworshipcenter.org

Fellowship Baptist
289 S. 200 West
Hugh Kelly
(260) 726-8873
Services: 9 a.m., 11 a.m.
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
[pastorkelly@fbc-port-](mailto:pastorkelly@fbc-portland.com)
land.com

First American Baptist
427 S. Main St., Dunkirk
Dan Coffman
(765) 768-7157
Services: 10:40 a.m.,
5 p.m.

First Church of Christ
1049 Union City Road,
Fort Recovery
David J. Nicholson
(419) 375-2860
Services: 10:30 a.m.
fccfrecovery.org

**First Community
Baptist**
341 S. Meridian St., Red-
key
Everett Bilbrey Jr.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
Services: 10:30 a.m. and 6
p.m.; 7 p.m. Wednesday

First Free Will Baptist
12369 W. 600 South,
Dunkirk
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Services: 10:50 a.m., 6
p.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday

First Presbyterian
402 N. Ship St., Portland
Rev. M. Rex Espiritu
(260) 726-8462
Services: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 10:15 a.m.
firstpcportland.org

**Fort Recovery Church
of the Nazarene**
401 E. Boundary St., Fort
Recovery
(419) 375-4680
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Kids vision and teen
ministries: 6 p.m. Wendes-
day
frnaz@frontier.com

**Fort Recovery
United Methodist**
309 E. Boundary St., Fort
Recovery
Rev. Carol McKay
(304) 617-0101
Services: 9 a.m.

**Full Gospel
Lighthouse Tabernacle**
468 E. Washington St.,
Dunkirk
Robert Thomas
(765) 348-4620
Services: 6:30 p.m., 6:30
p.m. Thursday

**Geneva First
United Methodist**
100 W. Line St., Geneva
Barry McCune
(260) 368-7655
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Geneva Nazarene
225 Decatur St., Geneva
(260) 525-8609
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
Sunday school: 9 a.m.
Prayer meeting: 6 p.m.
Wednesday

Gilead Church
County road 650 North,
one-quarter mile east of
Balbec
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Hickory Grove
Church of the
Brethren**
Indiana 1 and Indiana 26
Earl Doll
(260) 731-4477
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**High Street
United Methodist**
435 High St., Geneva
Rev. Joseph Hampton
(260) 368-7233
Services: 9 a.m.

Holy Trinity Catholic
7321 E. Indiana 67,
Bryant
Fr. Peter Logsdon
Fr. Martin Sandhage
Services: 8 a.m., 4:30 p.m.
Saturday

**Hopewell of
Life Ministries**
County road 200 South, 2
miles east of Indiana 1
Rev. Ruth Funk
(260) 251-8581
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6
p.m.

**Immaculate
Conception Catholic**
506 E. Walnut St., Port-
land
Fr. Peter Logsdon
Fr. Martin Sandhage
(260) 726-7055
Services: 5:30 p.m. Satur-
day, 10:30 a.m. Sunday

Kingsley Full Gospel
4030 S. 700 East, Dunkirk
Stuart Phillips
Services: 9:30 a.m. and 6
p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

**Mary Help
of Christians**
403 Sharpsburg Road,
Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
(419) 375-4153
Services: 4:30 p.m. Satur-
day, 9 a.m.

**Mount Tabor
Community Church**
216 W. Pleasant St.,
Dunkirk
Scott McClain
(765) 768-7273
Services: 9:30 a.m.

**Mount Zion
United Methodist**
County roads 600 East
and 200 North
Rev. Darrell Borders
(260) 726-4786
Services: 9 a.m.

**New Beginnings
Holiness Church
of Blaine**
4017 W. 200 South
Randy Smith
(260) 251-2406
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
nbholiness.com

**New Covenant
Fellowship**
1238 W. 450 South
Chuck Myers
(260) 251-0063
Services: 10:30 a.m.

New Life Ministries
415 S. Helen St., Portland
Dr. Kay Fairchild
(260) 223-2961
Services: 4 p.m.
drkayfairchild.com

**New Mt. Pleasant
United Methodist**
5905 S. Como Road
Neil Butcher
(765) 499-7838
Services: 9 a.m.

**Noble Congregational
Christian**
1964 N. 800 East
Aaron Huey
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Oak Grove
United Methodist**
829 S. Indiana 1
Neil Butcher
(765) 760-9085
Services: 10:45 a.m.

Pleasant Hill
9945 N. 800 East, Union
City
Bruce Bryan
(765) 964-3664
Services: 9 a.m., 6 p.m.
mypleasanthillchurch.org

**Portland Church of
Christ**
1217 W. Votaw St., Port-
land
Bob Graham
(260) 726-7777
Bible class: 9:15 a.m.
Services: 10:20 a.m.
Bible School: 6 p.m. Wed-
nesday
portlandcoc.com

**Portland First
Church of Nazarene**
920 S. Shank St., Portland
Steve Cecil
(260) 726-8040
Services: 10:45 a.m.

Portland Friends
226 E. Main St., Portland
Herb Hummel
(260) 202-9732
Services: 10 a.m.
Sunday school: 9 a.m.

**Praise Chapel
Church of God**
4527 E. 1000 North (Jay-
Randolph county line)
Rev. Josh Canfield
(765) 584-7045
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Redeemer Lutheran
Malin and Elm streets,
Bryant
Father Dan Layden
(260) 997-6787
Services: 9:30 a.m.

**Redkey Faith
Ministries**
9811 W. Indiana 67, south-
west of Redkey
Rev. Craig and Robin
Cotherman
(765) 369-2920
Services: 10 a.m.
RedkeyFaith.org

**Redkey Faith
Christian**
Union and Malin streets
Jeff Hammers
(765) 468-6172
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

**Redkey United
Methodist**
122 W. Main St.
Lori McIntosh
(765) 369-2085
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Redkey Church
of the Nazarene**
801 W. High St.
Fred Stevens
(765) 369-2676
redkeynaz.org
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6
p.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

River of Life
722 W. Main St., Portland
Susan Hathaway
(260) 729-1095
Services: 10:30 a.m.

The ROCK
1605 N. Meridian St., Por-
tland
Matt Ransom
(260) 726-7474
Services: 10 a.m.
matt@therockjc.org

**Salamonia
Church of Christ**
3900 S. 600 East
Bruce Phillips
(260) 335-2017
Services: 9 a.m.

**Second Chance
at Life Ministries**
228 S. Meridian St., Port-
land
Dave Keen (260) 251-8792
Mike Eads (260) 703-0733
Services: 10:30 a.m.

St. Joseph Catholic
1689 St. Joe Road, Fort
Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 7:30 a.m. Sun-
day

St. Mary's Catholic
346 S. Broad St., Dunkirk
Rev. Kevin Hurley
Services: 5 p.m. Saturday,
5:30 p.m. Thursday

St. Paul Catholic
517 Meiring Road, Fort
Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 11 a.m. Sunday

St. Peter Catholic
1477 Philothea Road, Fort
Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 9 a.m. Sunday

Sugar Grove Nazarene
3984 N. 550 West, Portland
Pastor Mike Heckman
(615) 517-1017
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Bible study: 6 p.m. Wed-
nesday

Sugar Grove Church
County roads 600 South
and 1150 West, Dunkirk
Scott McClain
Services: 9 a.m.

Temple Baptist
17920 Indiana 167,
Dunkirk
John Elam
(765) 768-7708
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Services: 11 a.m. and 2
p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday
7pillarsdirector@gmail.com
templebaptistin.com

**The Church
at Westchester**
4487 E. 400 North
(260) 726-6311
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Services: 10:35 a.m.
churchatwestchester.org

Trinity Lutheran
301 N. Wayne St., Fort
Recovery
Robin Owen
(419) 375-4498
Services: 9 a.m. (contem-
porary service, fourth Sun-
day)
pastorrobino@gmail.com

**Trinity ArchBridge
Church**
323 S. Meridian St., Por-
tland
Dan Vore
(260) 726-8391
Sunday school: 9 a.m.
Services: 10:15 a.m.
portlandtrinity.com

Union Chapel
6200 N. 375 West, Bryant
Interim Pastor Chris
Kruchkow
(260) 849-0687
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6
p.m.

**Union Chapel Church
of the Nazarene**
County road 900 North
(Jay-Wells county line)
Fred Stevens
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6
p.m.

Walnut Corner
County roads 200 North
and 500 West
Steve Rogers
(260) 251-1113
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

**West Walnut
Church of Christ**
204 W. Walnut St., Port-
land
Gil Alicea
(260) 726-4691
Services: 10 a.m.
[westwalnutchurchof-](http://westwalnutchurchof-christ.org)
christ.org

**Zion Evangelical
Lutheran Church**
Robin Owen
218 E. High St., Portland
(260) 726-8832
zionlutheranportland@gm.ail.com
Services: 10:30 a.m.

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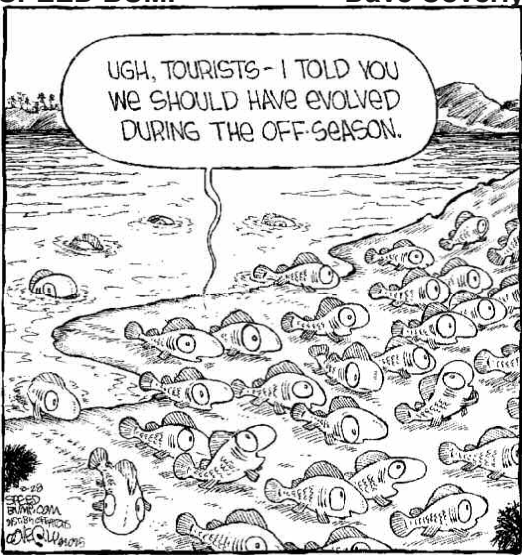
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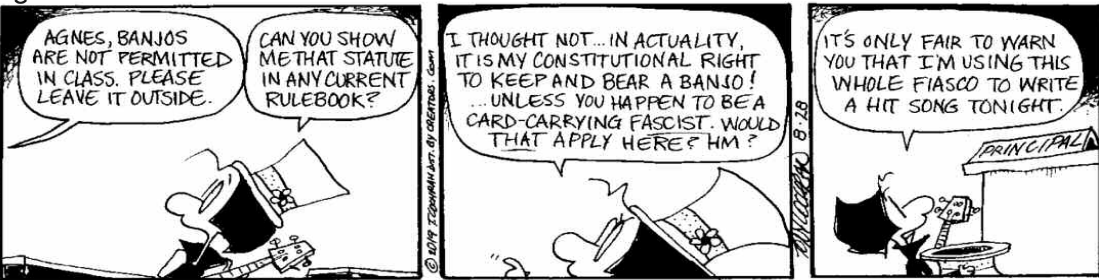
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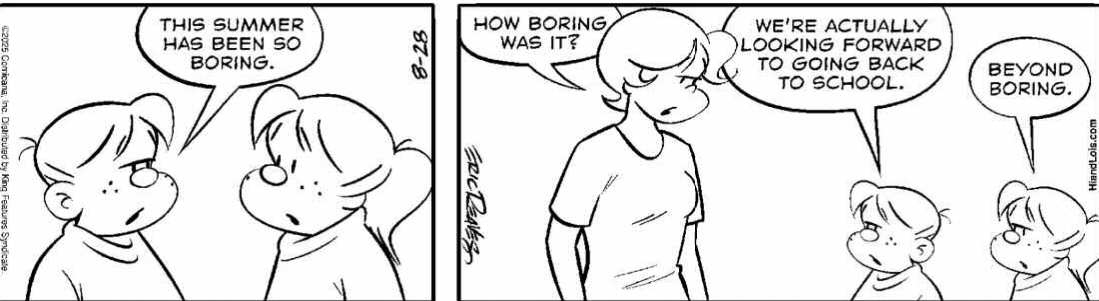
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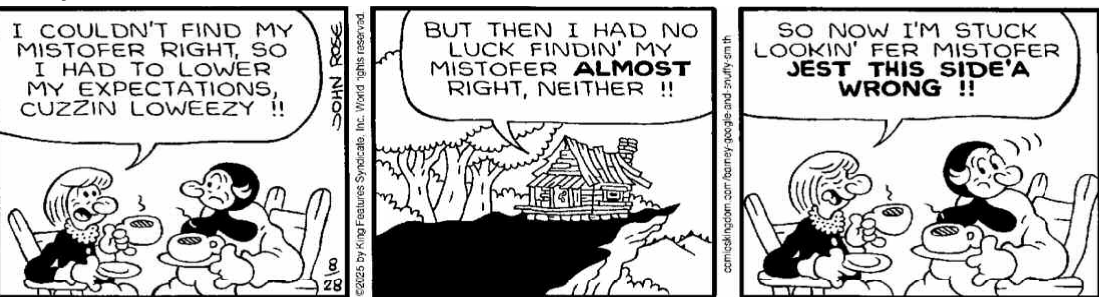
Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Bridge is a game of probabilities

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q 10 8 3
♥ A 7 6
♦ K 7 4
♣ 8 3 2

EAST
♠ K J 9 2
♥ 5 2
♦ 10 9 8
♣ A K 7 6

SOUTH
♠ A 6 4
♥ K Q J 9
♦ A Q J 5 2
♣ 4

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♥ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 4 ♥

Opening lead — queen of clubs.

Most hands played by declarer are of a simple sort. They do not require specialized knowledge or heavy thinking for the best result to be obtained. Since these types of hands are so numerous, the player who consistently fares well on them, avoiding potential pitfalls along the way, is well on the way to becoming a first-rate declarer.

Consider this deal where South went down in a contract he should have made. West led a club and continued with a second club, ruffed by declarer.

South then drew three rounds of trump, hoping the opposing trumps were divided 3-3. When East showed out on the third heart, the jig was up. West ruffed the third diamond lead and cashed three club tricks, and declarer finished down two.

What South had done, in effect, was to pin all his hopes on a 3-3 trump division, about a 1-in-3 proposition. Instead of settling for such a low-percentage probability, declarer should have sought a way to add to his chances by catering to a possible 4-2 trump division, which occurs in about 48 deals out of 100.

To this end, South should refuse to trump the second club lead, and also the third club lead if the defenders continue the suit. On these clubs, declarer discards two spades, at which point the defense collapses. South takes the next ten tricks regardless of what the defenders do.

By adopting this method of play, South makes the contract whenever the opposing trumps are divided 3-3 or 4-2. He increases his chances of making four hearts from 36% to 84%, and goes from being a 2-1 underdog to a 5-1 favorite.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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8-28

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WDTSPZCBTBS, UAZ ZPLZ FBC TY

ZPC YVLDTCD ZCDDTCD.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT DID THE MUSIC CONDUCTOR SHOUT WHEN ALL THE PLAYERS WERE ON PITCH? "TONALLY AWESOME!"

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals T

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

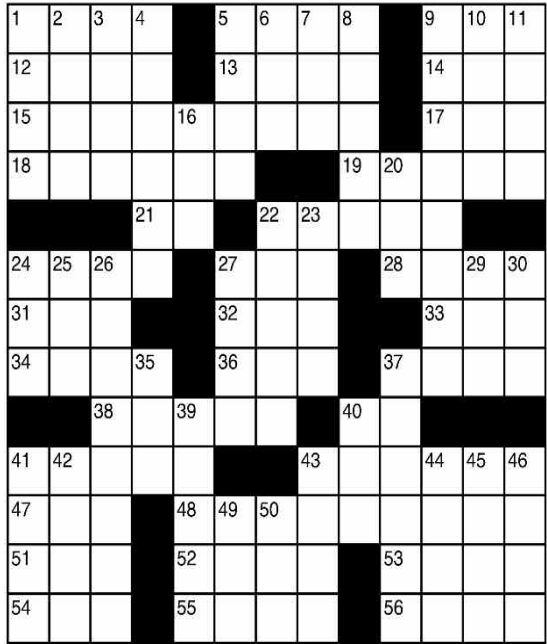
1 Cleveland team, for short
5 Rum cake
9 Irate
12 Peter Fonda role
13 "Amores" poet
14 Brit. record label
15 Legendary 49ers wide receiver
17 Sinbad's bird
18 Breathing need
19 High nest
21 UFO pilot
22 Like poor losers
24 LAPD alerts
27 Wagerers' site (Abbr.)
28 Exam for MBA hopefuls
31 "Didn't I tell you?"
32 Scot's refusal
33 Yale grad
34 Angelic instrument

DOWN

1 Stephen King pooch
2 "Roots" author
3 Quite
4 Suit fabrics
5 Née
6 Bird (Pref.)
7 Pen name
8 "It's —" ("Agreed!")
9 Robin Hood's band
10 Mine, to Marcel
11 Vegas cubes
16 Even so
20 Heart chart (Abbr.)
22 Step
23 Taxi alternative
24 Fire sign?
25 Pot pie morsel
26 Fruity picnic dessert
27 "My treat"
29 Cleric's tunic
30 Spasm
35 Lobbyists' org.
37 Used a hair accessory
39 Direct (to)
40 Accept, as an excuse
41 Song-writer
42 Warning sign
43 Actor
44 Cowboy's neckwear
45 Brewer's kiln
46 Fr. holy women
49 Clean air org.
50 Stimp's pal

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterdays answer 8-28



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Beating ...

Continued from page 8

“I just think it was huge because, we talked about when we lost to Delta, it’s not often when we walk out feeling like we were the better team that night (and lost),” said JCHS coach Amy Dillon. “I can’t say that I felt like practice was great last night ... one thing we talked about was a video my husband and I watched about that you shouldn’t be focusing on the scoreboard and the win. You really should be focused on winning in practice and just taking care of the next play.

“I think a lot of times we get hung up on calls and hung up on things that are not going our way.

“I felt like tonight we did a lot better at that and just taking care of the next ball.”

Jay County (2-1) played its best volleyball when running its 5-1 lineup with Paisley Fugiett distributing the ball, which it ran during the first, third and fourth sets.

When Fugiett was running the offense alone, she dished out 27 assists to Hallie Schwieterman, who had a team-high 11 kills, Brenna Schmiesing (nine kills), Mya Kunkler (seven), Maria Hemmelgarn (six) and Elizabeth Barnett (three).

“I feel like we have a team where, we’re stacked,” said Fugiett, who had four kills of her own as well. “When we’re all on, we are all on and most of the time we’re not all off. If somebody’s off, we have somebody else to step in and take their turn to put it down for us.”

While the Patriots had a



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

JCHS junior Carley Trinidad receives a serve during the fourth set of the Patriots’ four-set win over Winchester on Tuesday. Outside of a rough second set, the back row serve received well, only allowing two aces in 53 attempts (3.8%).

more cohesive offense during the sets they ran a 5-1, it started on the defensive end.

During the second set, JCHS gave up four of the six Golden Falcon (5-2) aces, made a fifth error on another serve receive, suf-

fered three ball handling errors and the sole center line violation of the match.

The one bright spot of the Patriots’ defense in the second set was that it only gave up five kills. Four of those kills belonged to Auden Huimmel, who led

all attackers with 16 put downs.

“I told them before that she was going to get kills and we’ve just got to accept that and not worry about it when she does,” Dillon said. “If our block isn’t in position and our defense

can’t get in position, we just have to fix that. I think our block did a better job at getting on her towards the end of that match.”

While Lilyana Mayberry supported Hummel’s efforts at the net with nine kills herself, Jay County’s

height bothered the Golden Falcons, leading to a 5.3% hitting percentage on 34 kills and 27 attack errors.

Barnett led Jay County with 20 digs, followed by 17 from libero Lani Muhlenkamp. At the net, Hemmelgarn led with four blocks, followed by Kunkler with two.

In the first set, the Patriots jumped out to an 8-1 lead, that included three aces, and Winchester never fully recovered.

The teams traded points in the third until a run of four points on a Schmiesing kill, a Kunkler block, an ace from Fugiett and a Schwieterman kill, jumped JCHS ahead 14-6. It finished off the set with five straight points for the 13-point victory.

The final set was played the closest as there was only a three-point difference or less until a pair of kills by Kunkler and Hemmelgarn and a Schwieterman ace put the Patriots up 21-18 late.

Along with picking up a quality win over a team that returned its entire rotation that went on a run to the Class 2A semi-state tournament, the victory erased the bitter taste that the Delta loss left in the Patriots’ mouth.

“It really brings our confidence back,” Fugiett said. “Losing to Delta was not fun at all. We really wanted that.

“I think we came in here today being like, ‘They can beat us, but we’re going to fire back and we’re going to have confidence and we’re going to play as a team.’ And I think that’s what we did.”

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today

Jay County — Girls golf at South Adams – 4:30 p.m.; Girls soccer vs. Coldwater – 5 p.m.; Boys soccer at Delta – 6 p.m.; Volleyball vs. Muncie Central – 6 p.m.; JV girls soccer vs. Coldwater – 6:30 p.m.; JV boys soccer at Delta – 8 p.m.; Junior high cross country vs. Belmont – 5 p.m.; Junior high tennis vs. Blue River Valley – 5 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Boys golf at New Knoxville – 4 p.m.; Volleyball vs. Marion Local – 5:30 p.m.; Middle school football at Minster – 5 p.m.

Friday

Fort Recovery — Football at Allen East – 7 p.m.

TV schedule

Today

11:30 a.m. — U.S. Open tennis (ESPN)
2:15 p.m. — MLB: Pittsburgh Pirates at St. Louis Cardinals (FDSN Indiana)
5 p.m. — U.S. Open tennis (ESPN2)
5:30 p.m. — College football: Boise State at South Florida (ESPN)
6 p.m. — College football: Ohio at Rutgers (BTN)
8 p.m. — College football: Buffalo at Minnesota (FS1)
9 p.m. — College football: Miami (OH) at Wisconsin (BTN); Nebraska at Cincinnati (ESPN)

Friday

6:30 a.m. — Formula 1: Dutch Grand Prix

(ESPN2)
11:30 a.m. — U.S. Open tennis (ESPN)
6 p.m. — U.S. Open tennis (ESPN2)
6 p.m. — Horse racing: Saratoga Live (FS1)
6:40 p.m. — MLB: St. Louis Cardinals at Cincinnati Reds (FDSN Indiana)
7 p.m. — College football: Western Michigan at Michigan State (FS1)
8 p.m. — College football: Auburn at Baylor (FOX); Georgia Tech at Colorado (ESPN)
10:30 p.m. — College football: Central Michigan at San Jose State (FS1)

Local notes

Outing announced

The Adams Health Network Foundation will host the 12th Annual Golf Classic on Sept. 12 at

Wabash Valley Golf Club.

There will be two shotgun starts at 7:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Breakfast, snacks and beverages will be provided, as well as a lunch in between flights.

The event raises funds for healthcare scholarships and local health initiatives in Adams County.

The deadline to register is Aug. 22. To register visit adamshospital.org/foundation. For more information, email kim.tormbley@adamshealthnetwork.org.

Chamber to host

Jay County Chamber of Commerce will host its golf outing on Sept. 19 at 9 a.m.

Participation costs \$250 per team with lunch included. A \$20 team mulligan golf ball can be purchased as well.

Sponsorships can be purchased as well. A

lunch sponsorship will cost \$500, while a gold sponsorship will go for \$450. Hole sponsorships cost \$100 for members and \$150 for non-members.

The deadline to register is Sept. 12. For more info, call (260) 726-4481 or email amanda@jay-countychamber.com.

Next race set

The next race in the Adams County Challenge series is the Adams Memorial/Keklonga Greenway Gallup at 4:30 p.m. Aug. 23.

The race begins at the Riverside Center in Decatur. Registration forms can be found at adamscounty5kchallenge.com.

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To have an event listed in “Sports on tap”, email details to sports@thecr.com

<div>90 SALE CALENDAR</div> <div>2 DAY PUBLIC AUCTION Located: Bubb Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN August 30, 2025 AT 9:30 A.M. August 31, 2025 AT 12:30 P.M. LONGABERGER BASKETS, POTTERY, WROUGHT IRON & ACCESSORIES This 2 day auction offers an extensive Longaberger collection. Basket series include All American, Autumn Reflections, Christmas, Collectors Club, Easter Series, Father's Day, May Series, Mother's Day, Plaid Gathering, laundry, hamper, compote, and checkerboard are a very small sample of the 600+ baskets to be sold. Pottery include cannister set, cookie jars, crocks, planters, bowls, mugs and casserole. Wrought iron to include corner stand, quilt rack, bakers stands, treasures stand, snowman to name just a few. Live and online bidding will be offered on the first 150 lots each day. Live bidding only on the remaining basket lots each day. Visit Hi Bid for a listing of the items to be sold Live and On Line each day or contact the Auction Company. Pictures are available on Auction Zip - #12957. Auctioneers Note: Doors will open at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday and 11:00 a.m. on Sunday for preview. JUDY FULLER Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112 Kaden Khayyata AU12400069</div>	<div>90 SALE CALENDAR</div> <div>PUBLIC AUCTION Located: 1702 W Tyson Road, Portland IN SATURDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 6, 2025 9:30 A.M. REAL ESTATE Tract 1 - 2 story home with approximately 2,048 square feet of living space situated on approximately 1.75 acres. 1st floor features include kitchen with floor to ceiling cabinets, dining room, living room, bedroom, full bathroom, and enclosed front porch. 2nd floor includes 3 bedrooms and 1 half bathroom. Home is connected via an enclosed area to a 2 car garage with approximately 895 square feet and includes a pull down stairway accessing attic storage. Property also offers a 48' x 56' pole building with front and rear overhead doors, enclosed shop/office area, concrete floor, and 100 amp electrical service. Tract 2 - One acre bare lot located just west of the home on Tyson Road. Tract 3 - Forty-seven +/- acres of bare land located within the city limits of Portland. This property offers the rare opportunity to purchase land in Portland with both agricultural and commercial opportunities. Tract 4 - Combination of Tracts 1 and 2. Tract 5 - Entire package which includes house, pole barn and 50 acres. OPEN HOUSE: SUNDAY AUGUST 10, 2025 FROM 1:00 P.M. TO 3:00 P.M. For more information or private showing contact GARY LOY, Auctioneer and (260) 726-5160 or KIM LOY, Real Estate Broker at (260) 726-2700. THE ESTATE OF MAX</div>	<div>90 SALE CALENDAR</div> <div>& BERNICE MCCLURG Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112 Kaden Khayyata AU12400069</div> <div>PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 20th, 2025 TIME 9:00 A.M. LOCATED: 2641 E 1100 S. Montpelier IN. TRACTORS - CRAWLER 1968 JD 4020 D. w/ Quad-shift, Front weights, 4900 hours. 1967 JD 2510 w/ Front weights, 6800 hours. Case 1030 Tractor w/ 3600 hours. New Holland GT-122A Lawn Tractor w/ deck and blade. Wheelhorse 14HP Garden Tractor. JD 450-B Crawler Loader. TRUCKS-MOTORCYCLES-FARM EQUIPMENT . 1968 Chevy C50 Single Axel Dump Truck. 2000 Chevy S10 ZR2 4x4 93,000 Miles. 1985 Chevy C30 Utility Truck w/ Boom Lift and Snow Plow. 2021 Harley Davidson 1200 Model 48 w/ 2300 Miles. 2009 Kawasaki KLX 250 S Dirt Bike w/ 708 Miles. JD 55-A 3 Bottom Plow. Oliver 565 4 Bottom Plow. JD 7' Cycle Bar Mower. JD 4 Row Cultivator. New Idea 2 Row wide Picker. . JD 24T Square Baler. Kelly 18i Backhoe Bucket. 30 Ton Hyd Press. Lincoln 225 Welder. . Merry Mac Shredder Chipper. Rabbit Cages. TOYS-ANTIQUES JD, Oliver, Massey Ferguson, AC, Massey Harris Toy Tractors. . (2) 110 lb Anvils w/ Stands. Corn Sheller. Misc Slate. (4) Steel Wheels. Radio Flyer Wagon. OWNER: James M Rob-</div>	<div>90 SALE CALENDAR</div> <div>bins. Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos. SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE AC31800004 AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587</div> <div>PUBLIC AUCTION THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 4th, 2025 TIME 4:30 P.M. LOCATED: 506 N George St. Ridgeville, IN GUN -GUN SUPPLIES-AMMO Taurus 357 Mag 6 Shot Revolver (3 Screw). 45 Cal ACP Pistol. H & R Sportsman 22 Cal 9 Shot Revolver. Ammo Reloader. Tumbler. Large Lot of Lead. Large Lot of Gun Supplies. TRAILER-TILLERS-SHOP EQUIPMENT 5' X 8' Single Axel Utility Trailer. Stihl Mini Tiller. Craftsman Rear tine Tiller. Dewalt Power Miter Saw. Delta Bandsaw. . Router w/ Stand. Roller Stand. Double Arbor Buffer. Fishing Poles and Supplies. . Consew Industrial Sewing Machine. Sentry Small Safe. ANTIQUES-HOUSE-HOLD-MISC Toys and Miniatures. Primitive Tools. Cross Cut Saws. Banjo. Marlboro Sign. Marlboro Top Ornate Sofa Table w/ End Tables and Coffee Tables.Laser Printer. 2 and 4 Drawer Filing Cabinets. Large Lot of Hardware. OWNER: Friends Firearms by Flora Friend. Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos. SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL</div>	<div>90 SALE CALENDAR</div> <div>ESTATE AC31800004 AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587</div> <div>100 JOBS WANTED</div> <div>AMISH CREW LOOKING FOR any work. No job is too big or small. Pole barns, roofing, remodeling. 260-849-2489.</div> <div>110 HELP WANTED</div> <div>TJ EXPRESS SERVICE, LLC is seeking 3 CDL-A truck drivers to join the team! Multiple 53' van trailers and a 48' flatbed spots available. 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Slocum's Salvage</div>	<div>250 PUBLIC NOTICE</div> <div>Public Notice NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO APPROVE THE TOWNSHIP'S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers of Pike Township, Jay County, Indiana, that the Board of the Pike Township Trustee will meet on September 9, 2025, at the Bluff Point Schoolhouse, 077 E 650 S, Portland, IN, at 6:00 p.m. to consider the adoption of the Township's Capital Improvement Plan. Taxpayers appearing at the meeting shall have the right to comment. The Capital Improvement Plan as adopted will be referred to the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF). Tammy Horn Pike Township Trustee CR 8-26-2025-HSPAXLP</div> <div>Public Notice 2381 E 200 N PORTLAND on 9/16/2025 @ 10:00AM 2005 CHEVROLET 1GNDT13S252287081 \$2,220.00 CR 8-26-2025-HSPAXLP</div> <div><div>✓ Out The CR Classifieds www.thecr.com</div></div>
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Penrod, Beiswanger scored in 3-2 win at New Castle, see story below

JC girls soccer plays host to Coldwater today, see Sports on tap

Sports

Beating some birds

Patriots take down Golden Falcons in four sets

By ANDREW BALKO
The Commercial Review
WINCHESTER — While there are plenty of similarities in Eagles and Falcons, they aren't actually closely related. Despite both being birds of prey, Eagles share a similar genome to hawks and vultures, while Falcons have genetic similarities with parrots. Another similarity between the Eagles and Golden Falcons are the strength in their volleyball programs. But another difference is when the Patriots hosted the Eagles, they lost a five-set heartbreaker, but when they traveled south, they took down the Golden Falcons in four. Jay County High School's volleyball team shook some of the bad taste Delta left in its mouth by taking down the Winchester Community Golden Falcons 25-21, 18-25, 25-12, 25-19 on Tuesday at Winchester Field House. See **Beating** page 7



Brenna Schmiesing of the Jay County High School volleyball team elevates to attack over the block effort of Molly Barker (left) and Lilyana Mayberry during Tuesday's 25-21, 18-25, 25-12, 25-19 win. Schmiesing had nine kills, tying Mayberry for the third most in the match behind Auden Hummel (16) and Hallie Schwieterman (11).

Youth beat NCHS

NEW CASTLE — Elias Mueller has dominated the pitch in the Patriots' first two games of the season. When they made the trip southwest, a different trio of players stepped up to take down the Trojans. Two freshmen and a sophomore combined to lift the Jay County High School boys soccer team over the New Castle Trojans 3-2 Tuesday. Jay County (2-0-1) drew first blood as Jacoby Penrod drove downfield and got the ball past Luke Mendoza in the goal midway through the first period. The Patriots slipped up in the closing minutes of the first half, fouling New Castle (2-2) in the box. Evan Millikan got the penalty kick past Peyton Yowell, who made four saves on the day, to knot the game up 1-1 at the intermission. JCHS immediately righted the ship coming out of the break as Rockland Beiswanger assisted Penrod in the first 30 seconds to reclaim a 2-1 advantage. However, the lead didn't last as Brayden Malek found Quentin Tafoya to retie the game. The winning goal came with 14 minutes remaining as Brody Collins headed a ball to Beiswanger for the score. The defense held on the rest of the way to stall out the Trojans for the victory.

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